

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Statement

Wednesday, November 21, 2007/Kartika 30, 1929
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour. I am thankful to you for your cooperation.

Q. No. 81—Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan'

[Translation]

Use of Thorium as Fuel

+

*81. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thorium can be used as a fuel for generation of atomic energy in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the estimated quantity of Thorium available in the country at present, state-wise;

(d) whether the government has formulated any scheme for generating nuclear power through Thorium;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the capacity of power projects which can be established in the country by using Thorium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

[English]

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While Thorium by itself is not a fissionable material, on irradiation in a reactor, it can be converted to Uranium-233 which can be used to produce nuclear energy. India has vast resources of Thorium and thus it offers an enormous energy source to meet our future requirements. Utilization of Thorium for energy production in the long run is one of the most important objectives of our atomic energy programme.

(c) Estimated reserves of Monazite which contains about 8% Thorium, in different states are as follows:

State	*Resources (in million tonnes)
Andhra Pradesh	3.73
West Bengal and Jharkhand	1.45
Kerala	1.37
Tamil Nadu	1.84
Orissa	1.82
Total	10.21*

*inclusive of indicated, inferred and speculative reserves.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. India has formulated a three stage nuclear power programme to optimally use its modest uranium and vast thorium resources. Large scale thorium utilization is contemplated in the third stage of this programme, where Uranium-233 bred in Fast Breeder Reactors of the second stage, will be used together with thorium.

The government has taken a number of steps to develop appropriate technologies for the utilization of thorium. A few of the major steps are:

(1) Setting up the research reactor Kamini at Kalpakkam using Uranium-233 fuel obtained

from irradiated thorium. The reactor has been operating since 1997. The fuel for the reactor is bred, reprocessed and fabricated indigenously.

- (2) Irradiation of thorium fuel bundles in research reactor at Trombay and in Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) has been carried out.
- (3) Design and development of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) using thorium based fuel. This reactor will serve as a technology demonstrator.

(f) Around 150,000 GW-yr electricity potential exists in India using domestic thorium through the route of breeder technology.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an irony that on the one hand the Government have accepted that India has huge reserve of thorium which can be converted into Uranium-233 on irradiation in a reactor which can be used for the generation of atomic energy. Thus, on the one hand the Government are claiming that thorium is available as alternative means of atomic energy and on the other hand Government are compromising with interests of the country and are succumbing to America pressure. The statement of the Chairman of the National Nuclear Power Corporation of India has been published in the newspapers in which he has stated that country's

[English]

resource of natural Uranium support is 10,000 MW.

MR. SPEAKER: Put your supplementary, please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': On the one hand the Minister is saying this and on the other hand he is saying that sufficient quantity of uranium is available in the country. The Government in their reply have stated that the country have a monazite reserve of 10.21 million metric tonnes in various States of the country that contains about 8 per cent thorium in it.

I Would like to know from the Government about the other such available substances that contain thorium. Besides, I would also like to know the quantity of thorium available in the country and its potential of atomic energy generation?

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, the hon. Member has said a lot of things and placed a lot of questions. Let me, at the outset, say that India has limited resources of natural Uranium. We have plenty of resources of Thorium. As a matter of fact, we have the second or third largest reserve of Thorium in the world. But the problem is that Thorium by itself is not a fissionable material. Thorium can be used to produce power only indirectly. Only naturally fissionable material available in the world is Uranium-235, which we are producing in Jharkhand.

That is why when we launched our Nuclear Energy Programme, Dr. Homi Bhabha very carefully charted a 3-phase programme to utilise Thorium in the third phase. We have now completed our first phase using natural Uranium, which is available within the country, and that is used in Pressurised Heavy Water reactors.

What the CMD of the Nuclear Power Corporation said was that using Indian natural Uranium resources, we can reach a programme of 10,000 megawatt. Currently, we have a nuclear energy capacity of 4,200 megawatt. This can be taken to 10,000 megawatt for 40 years. After that, our natural Uranium will be over. Therefore, in order to get to the Thorium cycle, we need a second stage, which is the fast breeder reactor stage. The first one is being built at Kalpakkam. We expect that to start in a few years' time.

Unless we have a sufficient quantity of fast breeder reactors, which breed more Plutonium than they consume - Plutonium is also a fissionable material. It is a manmade material. We cannot go on to the third phase. It is a very calibrated programme. I would like to dispel, this impression, that the Government of India is not going ahead with the Thorium programme although we have plenty of Thorium resources.

I would like to clarify, Sir, that we definitely intend to use Thorium; but Thorium cannot produce electricity by itself. It has to be first converted into fissionable isotope, Uranium-233 which can be done in a fast breeder reactor. Therefore, unless we build sufficient capacity of fast breeder reactors, which we have just started building, we cannot go on to generating electricity from Thorium. Our ultimate objective is to be energy independent of the fossil fuels by using Thorium, of which we have plenty of resources. I agree with the hon. Member that we have plenty of Thorium but it cannot be used today.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is a very exhaustive answer.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply is quite exhaustive but there are many contradictions in it. On the one hand the hon'ble Minister is saying that as per the statement of CMD, Nuclear Power Corporation of India the country has a potential to generate 10 thousand megawatts of Power...*(Interruptions)* We have Uranium...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': I am asking question only. But, I must point out that there are contradictions in the reply of the Minister.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You need not comment on his reply. You put a question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': I am drawing the attention of the Minister towards that contradiction. I am not making any comment. On the one hand the situation in this and on the other, instead of utilizing and alternatives available with us, we are

compromising with our national interests. I would like to know from the Government that as per my knowledge thorium test was conducted in the country some 30 years back. In this test thorium was used and after the test we are capable of enriching Uranium 233 and generating atomic energy...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know the reasons why this system was not developed by the Government during the last 30 years. Why did not the Government develop such a system where we could have depended on it when our Uranium reserves would finish after 40 years?

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, I would like to dispel this allegation that we have not done anything about the Thorium programme. I have said repeatedly that in order to produce energy through Thorium indirectly, we need sufficient quantity of Plutonium which can only be produced through the Uranium that we have, when we run a 10,000 megawatt programme on natural Uranium that we have. We generate Plutonium by reprocessing waste fuels. Therefore, we have to build sufficient quantities of Plutonium which we will consume in the second phase in the fast breeder reactor. Only then, can we start integrating Thorium.

About the technology for the use of Thorium, the complete R and D has been done in India. We can use it. But we cannot cut short the cycle of building a very large fast breeder reactor programme. Unfortunately, physics is like that. It is not the lack of wanting by the Government of India. It is a very well-crafted three-stage programme by Dr. Bhabha. We are on to it and ultimate energy independence will come when we go on to the Thorium cycle which will take a number of years. Unfortunately, we cannot do it tomorrow. We have to build a very large capacity of fast breeder reactors which we are going to do.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know how many physicists are here. But, I would like to undertake some courses on this Plutonium, Uranium and Thorium.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: We would like to invite them to BARC.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good. I will do that.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the hon'ble Minister in his reply has admitted that there is huge reserve of Thorium in the coastal area of Kerala and other coastal States. An envisioned project of Kamini has also been set up in Kalpakkam for using these Thorium reserves. It is a fact that the reactor is successfully operating. The international community has also shown its interest in it and has expressed the view that the use of thorium is safer than uranium and we can produce it in huge quantities. The hon'ble Minister in his statement has stated that we have potential to generate nearly one lakh fifty thousand gigà Watt of power every year. The international community is also saying that thorium is available in this area. Why the Government are not using this alternate fuel to generate nuclear energy and why not necessary action is being taken by the Government in this regard? Our several costal areas including Setu-Samudram and the area of Kerala have huge reserves of thorium. Huge thorium reserves are available in these areas. So, I would like to know as to what is the proposed plan of the Government in this regard. I would also like to know about the future course of action evolved by the Government to check the declining trend in the power generation on account of delay in the execution of project and to commission the project expeditiously.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, I would like to repeat that the Indian scientists, no matter how hard they try, cannot change the laws of physics. It is basic physics that in order to consume Thorium and convert Thorium to a fissionable Uranium-233 isotope, which does not occur naturally, it is a manmade isotope, we need plenty of Plutonium, which also does not occur in nature. Plutonium is also a manmade fissile matter, which is only possible to be made through the first stage. We have certain reserves of Plutonium. I have repeatedly said that unless we have sufficient quantity of Plutonium, which we will use in our fast breeder

programme along with naturally occurring Uranium-238 isotope, we cannot go on to Thorium programme. The technology of Thorium programme is completely developed by us. We have indigenously developed that technology, but the problem is availability of Plutonium which can only be generated gradually. In the fast breeder programme, we generate Plutonium.

Please believe me and I would like to assure the House through you, Sir, that we will not delay even one day to start the Thorium programme. The moment we can do it, we will do it because that is the only way we can achieve some kind of energy independence.

I will give you some numbers also. The current production of electricity in the country is about 700 billion units from all sources—coal, water etc.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us have a discussion one day. On the main discussion, we will do this. Members are interested more in political Thorium.

SHRI FRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, I will just end with one sentence. When we have the Thorium programme, we can generate electricity from Thorium of about 13 lakh billion units compared to 700 billion units that we are producing today. So, there is plenty of capacity.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: Sir, while I appreciate the steps taken by the Government to develop appropriate technologies for utilisation of domestic resource of Thorium, may I request the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to enlighten the House about the progress of work at Kalpakkam and Trombay in regard to generation of electricity on commercial basis, that is, when we may be going to get the technologies as developed in research reactor Kamini, pressurised heavy water reactor and advanced heavy water reactor using our domestic Thorium as the reactor fuel, transferred to operating units for generation of electricity on commercial basis?

MR. SPEAKER: This is such a long question!

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: When are you going to get it?

MR. SPEAKER: In which year?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, there are two scenarios. One scenario is when we have the international cooperation, for which the Government of India is trying at various levels and also trying to persuade the House to allow us to go for international collaboration, which will give us enough Uranium. In that scenario, the speed up may be much faster. If we do not get international collaboration and we are not able to import Uranium, then we have limited resources of Uranium. That has to be understood. Our technology, whether it is Kamini Research Reactor or the Advanced Heavy Water Reactor that we are planning which will start using Thorium, is completely on track and on schedule. But unfortunately, unless we have sufficient quantity of Plutonium, we cannot go to a major commercial programme. That is the limitation.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: Am I to understand that there is no time schedule of the Government for using domestic Thorium?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It will happen as soon as possible.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have taken 15 minutes on this question.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, the hon'ble Minister has twice stated that thorium is not a tenable material. In order to make it tenable material thorium is required to be upgraded to plutonium 233.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that Uranium is available in natural form. The maximum quantity of such uranium is of uranium 237 isotope type which is enriched and converted to Uranium 235 or 233 in nuclear reactor. This uranium is further used for the generation of atomic energy. I would like to submit that power is generated through nuclear energy and the nuclear base of the reactors are further used to make nuclear bomb. Under the recently

concluded deal the Government will talk to NSG and talks would be held for supply of uranium only. However, there is no mention of utilization of uranium in this agreement. I would like to know whether there is any provision regarding the use of thorium in the recent deal with USA or we will have to always depend on others for nuclear fuel.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is too complicated for me.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, I do not want to correct some of the facts that the hon. Member has stated here, but he is right in a way that what we get naturally is a mix of Uranium-238 and Uranium-235. Only Uranium-235 is a fissionable isotope, and Uranium-238 is not. Uranium-238 isotope is a fertile material from which you can produce Plutonium. I do not want to get in more details.

Kindly allow me to clarify that India is one country that is deficient in Uranium, but we have got sufficient Thorium resources. Most of the nuclear capable countries have large stocks of Uranium. Hence, they have not looked at the Thorium option like we have. I would like to take this opportunity to assure the House that Indian Thorium utilization technology is perhaps more advanced than any other country in the world. We do not require Thorium technology from anybody, but what we require is the basic Uranium, which we have in limited quantity. Therefore, the only purpose of going in for international collaboration is that our nuclear programme—or which we have completely developed indigenous technology—can be taken further. The nature has not endowed us with large Uranium resources, and they are only limited to about 70,000 tonnes and they will exhaust one day. Therefore, in order to convert Uranium to Plutonium, and then use Thorium is going to be a long cycle.

The hon. Member who asked the previous supplementary asked about the timeframe. We have the exact timeframe based on Indian programme completely, and another timeframe—if the House permits—for international collaboration in the field of nuclear energy.

[Translation]

Closure of Coal Mines

*82. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to close down 60 Underground Mines as reported in the *Business Standard* dated November 5, 2007;

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

(c) the total number of workers working in the mines, company-wise and the scheme formulated for the rehabilitation of the affected workers; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for production and supply of the requisite quantum of Coal in the event of closure of these mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO):

[English]

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The news item that appeared in the *Business Standard*, Kolkata on 5th November, 2007 seems to be in reference to the Apex Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meeting held on 03-11-2007, where information with respect to loss making underground mines was shared with the Apex JCC members. No decision has been taken regarding closure of mines as reported. Measures proposed to step up coal production include opening of new projects and optimization of capacity of existing coal mines by adopting various methods such as mechanization, systems improvement etc.

[Translation]

SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Mr. Speaker, Sir the

hon'ble Minister stated that in the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 3-11-2007, the information with regard to loss making underground mines was shared with the Members and it was told that no decision has been taken for the closure of any of the mines. However, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that miners of the Tapinsoth and Lahio collieries of the CCL located in Hazaribagh are being paid wages for the last one and a half years without any work. Besides, 18-19 underground mines, Kunji Incline, Kandra mine, 2-A mine, No-2 mine, No. 4 mine of the Lohapatti Colliery of the Munidih (Mahuda Group) of Western Jharia area of Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Bhurungia Chanak and Ranidih incline of Bhurungia project, Nagda incline of Bhatdih colliery and Muruldih collieries have long been closed. As per my information, these mines have been closed because of demand for domestic coal and local sale.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that if no decision with regard to the closure of these collieries has been taken, then when these collieries are likely to be opened?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has mentioned about a lot of mines.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Yes, Sir. The companies are losing very heavily because of underground mining. Especially, in 2006-2007, we have incurred a loss of Rs. 3,067 crore. Still, we have not closed the mines. Closure of mines is entirely different, and suspending the production is entirely different.

Hon. Member mentioned about one mine which is situated in Hazaribagh. It was suspended from January, 2006. The reason is, earlier, coal was extractable under development method. Now, to avoid the damage to the surface, CCL has requested DGMS to extract coal under partial exploitation method, but the DGMS did not give the permission, and the workers are idle.

In the JCC meeting which was held just a couple of weeks back, it was agreed to give an option to the workers to choose their place of work in the nearby

mines otherwise, the Company would exercise the option and post them at suitable places.

Regarding other mines which the hon. Member has mentioned, BCCL and ECL are under revival package. There are 26 unviable mines in ECL out of which operations in four mines have already been suspended before revival package was approved, and five more mines were identified for suspension of operations. Out of these, three were suspended now, and two more are remaining. Regarding the balance 17 mines, it was decided to make efforts to increase the production.

Regarding BCCL, the Member referred to some underground mines. Forty-one underground mines are incurring losses of more than Rs. 1,000 per tonne. The manpower deployed in these mines is 33,000. Company is incurring a loss of Rs. 500 crore, still no mine was closed. Operations in some mines have already been suspended. It is proposed to close 17 mines within the next four years after consultations with the ICC.

[Translation]

SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that if there is no decision to the closure of mines, then what is the date of their revival and whether some more collieries are likely to be closed in future?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it already.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: I have already answered it. There will be a revival and rehabilitation package, and despite some mines being closed, I assure the House that no retrenchment will take place.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister's reply that there is no decision with regard to the closure of mines, appears to be in contravention of what has been stated by him right now that there are 26 mines are in the list of mines to be closed out of which seven have already been closed. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister

the total number of underground mines and the number out of these in which operations have been suspended for maintenance work and the number of underground mines in which accidents leading to causality of workers have taken place between 2001 and 2007? Lastly, I would like to know what development measures have been taken for the underground mines which are being closed one after the other?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not repeat the question. You have to put a very specific question. Repetition does not make it any stronger.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: There are 468 mines in total with CIL. In that, the number of underground mines is 283, and mixed are 36. As to the steps we are taking, we are going for mechanization through introduction of continuous miners, long wall technology, side discharge loaders, long haul dumpers, universal drilling machines, etc. All this new technology is being adopted. At present, 190 underground mines were mechanized and we will take up mechanization of another 94 underground mines in the Eleventh Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has stated right now that BIFR has agreed to transfer 17 mines in private hands so that Eastern Coalfields Limited and BCCL could be removed from BIFR package. Outsourcing was allowed there. In this regard, he said that profit could be utilized to develop underground mines as envisaged in the BIFR package.

Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister how many underground mines have been developed with the profit received therefor?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: BIFR package.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: BIFR package is there. Actually whatever we are losing in underground and whatever benefits and profit we are getting out of

opencast, we are spending it for the requirement of underground mines. So, actually the losses we are incurring on the underground mines are compensated by the opencast. So, we are spending the amounts from opencast for underground.

MR. SPEAKER: Through other mines.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Better quality coal is available if you go deeper and most of the...

MR. SPEAKER: The Question concerns closure of mines.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I am coming to the 'closure'.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come closer to the question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There are a large number of underground mines in ECL and BCCL. A percentage of mines, although small are there in sea shell. Best quality coal is available in ECL. But there is a proposal which is now being discussed with the unions in ECL to close down about 60 underground mines where for several years we have been asking for a mine-wise study of those mines because coal deposit is there and we want to increase the production. Today the Eastern Coalfields is producing 30 million tonnes of coal. In order to increase the production not only the existing mines have to be operated but also some new projects are to be sanctioned. What is happening with ECL and BCCL is that while on one hand the underground mines are being closed or work in those is being suspended, on the other no new project is being sanctioned.

MR. SPEAKER: How does that arise from the Question?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I would like to know from the Minister whether in order to increase the production of good quality coal the Government will consider sanctioning new projects in ECL particularly underground mines. Today China is producing 60 per cent of its coal from underground mines whereas we are neglecting underground mines in our country.

MR. SPEAKER: To relate to the main question, "Would the Government reopen any closed mines?"

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Is the Government considering steps to sanction new underground mine projects to increase the production of better quality coal?

MR. SPEAKER: I seek your cooperation, Mr. Acharia. Please cooperate with the Chair. Is the Government going to reopen closed mines for better production? That is the only relevant part. The question does not arise.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Not only reopen the closed mines, but sanction new mines.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Actually we have increased the production target. In the 11th Plan the target is 54 million tonnes from underground. Actually I have taken a review meeting in January and I gave the target of 75 million tonnes. Coal India had prepared feasibility reports for 66 million tonnes and they are going to reach 75 million tonnes.

MR. SPEAKER: No. 83, Shri Vijoy Krishna—Not present.

Shri Kailash Nath Singh Yadav.

**Survey on Health Facilities for
Rural People**

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*83. **SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:**

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carried out any survey on the prevailing health facilities and availability of infrastructure for the rural people of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the parameters fixed for such survey and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the initiatives taken by the Union Government to improve the primary health care system and medical

facilities for the people living in the rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India undertakes "periodic nationwide surveys for assessing the impact of the health care interventions and programmes. In addition, a Facility Survey in the country has been conducted by the Government in two phases (1998-99 and 2003-2004), which assessed the existing situation of the health care facilities available in the government health care establishments at different levels in India in terms of infrastructure, staff, supply and equipment in respect of 591 districts.

The Survey covered various facility parameters at the District Hospital, FRUs, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres e.g:

- Status of the infrastructure (building, staff quarters, supply of water and electricity, toilet and phone facilities, vehicle availability etc.
 - Availability of facilities (Operation Theatre, Labour Room, OPD, basic Laboratory, beds etc.)
 - Staff position (Medical Officers, Health Supervisors and Assistants, Multipurpose workers, Pharmacists, Lab. Technician, Computer clerks etc.)
 - In-service training and practice status (type of training received by Medical Officers and Paramedical staff)
 - Availability and functioning status of equipments (refrigerator, ILR, deep freezer, vaccine carriers, X-ray machine, examination table, weighing machine, BP instrument, stethoscope, autoclave, oxygen cylinders, labour room table, OT table etc.)
- Availability of kits equipment and drugs (by kit type, newborn care equipments)
 - Stock of contraceptives, vaccines and drugs etc.

The key results of the Facility Survey conducted in 1999 and 2003 are annexed at Annexures I to III.

(c) The Government has initiated comprehensive health sector reforms to improve Primary Health care system and provide medical facilities to citizens in rural areas. The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is the main vehicle for these reforms. NRHM is a flag ship programme of the Government. It is being operationalized throughout the country, with special focus on 18 states which includes 8 Empowered Action Group States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa and Rajasthan), 8 North-East States, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. The main aim of NRHM is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population. NRHM seeks to strengthen the Public Health delivery system at all levels.

The Sub-centre and PHCs are proposed to be revitalized through 39 better human resource management, clear quality standards, better community support and an untied fund to enable local planning and action. The Indian Public Health Standards define structural, personnel, equipment and management standards and have been finalised for District Hospitals, CHCs, PHCs and SCs.

All the facilities are also being provided untied funds to enable the local management committee to carry out locally relevant initiatives for better service delivery. At the level of the Sub Centre, untied funds are to be managed in the joint account of ANM and the Gram Pradhan. The Hospital Management Committees (Rogi Kalyan Samitis) at various levels are being set up as registered societies with Panchayati Raj Institutions representation. These societies are also being given funding support under the NRHM to allow local action.

Annexure-I
Per Cent of Health Care Establishments having Specific Major Facilities in India

Sl. No.	Infrastructure Facility	District Hospitals		FRU		CHC	
		1999	2003	1999	2003	1999	2003
1.	Own Building	98.0	97.0	98.0	94.7	96.0	91.0
2.	Maintenance at least once in three years	72.0	40.1	60.0	39.9	51.0	37.7
3.	Sources of Water—Water Pipe	72.0	58.7	50.0	49.1	46.0	43.9
4.	Over head tank	87.0	90.5	82.0	80.8	71.0	70.0
5.	Electricity in all parts of the hospital	98.0	96.7	96.0	94.3	92.0	91.8
6.	Operation Theatre	98.0	99.5	93.0	93.7	86.0	87.6
7.	Separate aseptic labour room	44.0	44.4	36.0	33.3	28.0	31.0
8.	Generator functional	86.0	91.7	71.0	86.9	52.0	84.3
9.	Telephone Facility	96.0	96.7	80.0	74.8	62.0	62.2
10.	Vehicles on Road	91.0	89.9	73.0	56.8	61.0	57.4
11.	Gynaecology/Obstetric OPO facility	80.0	73.7	63.0	53.8	43.0	36.0
12.	Privacy during examination	72.0	92.6	53.0	89.3	36.0	85.8
13.	Facility for counselling	64.0	78.7	48.0	69.1	32.0	63.9
14.	Separate toilets with running water	50.0	67.3	77.0	62.6	23.0	55.0
15.	Facility for sterilising instruments	72.0	87.5	54.0	82.9	39.0	80.0

16. Linkage with district blood bank	66.0	67.5	17.0	27.2	9.0	15.8
17. Regular blood supply	60.0	60.5	12.0	27.7	8.0	10.5
18. Quarters for obstetrician/gynecologist	38.0	40.1	23.0	28.5	15.0	21.0
19. Quarters for FMO(Residential Medical Officer)	56.0	47.1	48.0	42.2	47.0	44.0
20. Quarters for Nurse	67.0	67.5	66.0	66.8	65.0	71.0
21. Personal computer	21.0	47.7	2.0	14.7	2.0	2.0
Total Surveyed	210	370	760	1862	866	1625

Annexure-II**Per Cent of PHC having Specific Major Facilities in India**

		1999 Percentage	2003 Percentage
1	2	3	4
	Own building/Rent free	92.0	89.2
	Water source at least with well	62.0	66.5
	Electricity available	82.0	66.4
	Labor room	48.0	48.4
Infrastructure	Laboratory (Facility for basic laboratories services)	46.0	45.6
	Telephone	20.0	19.8
	Toilet facility	79.0	52.3
	At least one bed	69.0	71.3
	Vehicle functional	29.0	22.8
Supply	Kit G (IUD Insertion)	48.0	50.0
	Kit I (Normal delivery kit)	46.0	50.5
	Essential obstetric care drug kits	21.0	32.2
Stock on the day of Survey	Nirodh	56.0	59.1
	Oral Pill cycles	61.0	58.4
	IUDs	59.0	56.3
	BCG	57.0	45.2
	OPT	63.0	48.5
	OPV	63.0	49.1
	Measles	62.0	48.1
	DT	49.0	35.4
	TT	61.0	48.8

1	2	3	4
	IFA (Large)	33.0	57.4
	IFA (Small)	40.0	50.2
	Vitamin A solution	40.0	50.9
	ORS packets	64.0	71.2
Staff (Filled)	Medical Officer	88.0	78.2
	Medical Officer (Female)	20.0	15.5
	Health Assistant (Male)	34.0	81.0
	Health Assistant (Female)	53.0	85.3
	MPW Femal	91.0	89.6
	Laboratory Technician	39.0	65.0
Equipments (Available)	Infant weighing machine	74.0	64.4
	Deep freezer	65.0	53.0
	Vaccine day carrier	87.0	68.1
	BP instrument	76.0	87.8
	Labor room table	53.0	55.0
	Steam sterilizer drum	59.0	69.8

Source: Facility Survey India 1999 and 2003.

Annexure III

Per Cent of Sub-Center having Specific Major Facilities in India-2003

1	2	3
Infrastructure	Government building	45.2
	Water at least with well*	78.8
	Electricity	43.1
	Toilet facility	73.6
	ANM having own moped	11.9

1	2	3
Regular Supply**	Lubricant Nirodh pieces	96.3
	Oral Pills	96.6
	IUDs	96.0
	IFA (Large)	97.5
	IFA (Small)	94.9
	Vitamin A solution	96.7
	ORS packets	92.9
Stock on the day of Survey	Lubricant Nirodh pieces	72.7
	Oral Pills	78.5
	IUDs	63.8
	IFA (Large)	88.8
	IFA (Small)	84.5
	Vitamin A solution	82.6
	ORS packets	83.3
Staff in Position or Manpower***	Health Worker (Male)	67.7
	Health Worker (Female)	95.1
Received of Kit	Kit A Drugs	96.9
	Kit B Drugs	95.2
	Kit C Equipment	26.0
Equipments (Functional)****	Examination Table	89.4
	Infant Weighing machine	86.7
	BP Instrument	65.9
	Stethoscope	79.5
	Pressure Cooker	86.0
	Hemoglobinometer	75.1
	Reagent strips for urine test	88.3

1	2	3
	Speculum	95.7
	Medicine Chest	83.3
	Vaccine day carrier	99.4
	Examination table	89.4

*Tap water is not included

**Regular supply is from stock on the day of survey

***Staff is position is from number of health facility having sanction post

****Equipment functional is from availability of equipment

Note: Sub-Centres were not covered in the first phase of the facility survey conducted in 1999

Source: Facility Survey India-2003

[Translation]

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether there are sufficient number of pucca buildings to set up Primary Health Centres in rural areas of all the States? If not, what are its reasons?

[English]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Earlier, in fact in 1991, we had a National Health Policy to start these Sub-Centres, Primary Health Centres, and Community Health Centres, based on the population ratio. After our Government had taken over in 2004, the Prime Minister instructed me and my Department, not to focus much on population and that it should rather be a need-based one. So, to start a Sub-Centre, earlier the basis was like this—for every 3,000 population in a hill area or in a difficult area and 5,000 in a plain area, you could start a Sub-Centre. For a Primary Health Centre, it was between 20,000 and 40,000 and for a Community Health Centre, it was between 80,000 and 1,20,000.

Now, under the National Rural Health Mission, we are now dispensing with the population based aspect and it is a need-based or patient-based one. Under this Mission, firstly we are upgrading all the Sub-Centres, all the Primary Health Centres, all the Community Health

Centres and all the District Headquarter-Hospitals in the country. Secondly, every year we are giving them a new number, based on the State's requirement; every year, they give a Programme Implementation Plan; according to each State Government's requirement, we are giving them new Centres as well.

[Translation]

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir are special doctors available in Health Centres of rural areas at present? If not the total shortage of such doctors, state-wise and what measures are being taken to meet the shortage?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, specialists are not going to Rural Health Centres!

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Under this Scheme, all over the country, in the Primary Health Centres, only non-specialist doctors are there, but in a Community Health Centre, that is, a taluka or a sub-division hospital, we have specialists under each State Government's category.

In fact, the National Rural Health Mission is a seven-year programme, two years in the 10th Plan and five years in the 11th Plan; I could say that this is one

of the Flagship Programmes of the UPA; and again I could say that this is one of the biggest programmes ever in India's health sector where we are upgrading all the Centres.

Before this Mission, there were only approximately 3,500 specialists in the primary health care areas. After the National Rural Health Mission is introduced, in just two years' time, nearly we have 7,000 specialists like gynaecologists, anaesthetists, physicians, surgeons, etc. working in the primary health care area. But definitely we need more specialists. That is why, we are now asking the States to take them on a contract basis and empower them. In fact, if the doctors are not going there, we are going to increase the number of nurses, paramedics, the auxiliary nurse mid-wives and then, the ASHA, the health workers in each village .

MR. SPEAKER: Doctors have interest in private sector.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a major problem in the villages. Does he conduct any inquiry in this regard since whenever we go and conduct any survey, we find that doctors write the requirement of medicines that they are giving medicines to such and such number of patients. The people in rural areas are so poor and scared that they never dare to challenge a doctor that they do not get medicine. Mostly 12 doctors are posted in a district hospital. But do you know that only two doctors visit those hospitals in two shifts and stay there only for two-three hours, and draw Rs. five thousand by signing for the entire month?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are right.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Many a time, I have complained about this at the district level, written to them, but all of them are part of a chain and they don't care about these things. If you go to the interior areas, you can see that if two doctors are assigned duties there. They go there once in a month only to

collect their payments and irrespective of the fact whether they are nurses or the compounders, they are given payments. Are you aware of all these facts? Three to four times I have seized medicines with expiry dates and brought in to the notice of DM, but no one was suspended after any of the complaints. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are right, we shall have a proper discussion, I will allow a discussion on this matter.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: I think if there are 50 hospitals in district, then there is one or two CS and gynecologist and they set up their own private clinics beside the civil hospital and treat the patients there by taking Rs. 50, Rs. 500 as fees...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You may please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Please carry out a comprehensive confidential enquiry into this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a Question Hour. I have given you an opportunity to put a question.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I share the concerns of the hon. Members.

MR. SPEAKER: I also share their concerns.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: This is precisely why we have launched the National Rural Health Mission. The hon. Member has said that the surveys have been done discreetly. They have definitely not been done discreetly. We have a limited sample survey. We got two types of surveys; DLHF and NFHL surveys where we periodically from time to time assess the health status, parameters and the services provided.

Second survey is done to assess the infrastructure. We are trying to do that for each district.

The concern of the hon. Member is well taken. In fact, time and again we have been instructing the State Governments as they are responsible for the employment and maintenance of doctors. Under the National Rural Health Mission we have asked the State Governments to set up the Rogi Kalyan Samitis. These are literally the patient-welfare societies or the hospital-management committees. Under the National Rural Health Mission, all these local body representatives are being part of this mission right from the district level, through the panchayat level to the village level. In each village, we are setting up Village Health and Sanitation Committee. With your permission I would like to have a Half-an-Hour Discussion on National Rural Health Mission to enlighten all the Members as to what is happening; what we are trying to do and how there has been a large transformation of the infrastructure and health care. In fact, in the last two years of the launch of the National Rural Health Mission we have been having a lot of success stories in this Mission.

MR. SPEAKER: I would also expect appropriate notices from the hon. Members for a proper discussion in this regard. Sooner the notices come, sooner the discussion will be held.

SHRI KIREN RIJU: I appreciate the hon. Minister's statement that it will not be done only on the basis of population but it will be need-based. That is the correct approach. But the issue is how you are going to meet up the deficiencies of doctors and the staff, particularly in rural India. A list from my State is also pending with your Ministry. I have met your Secretary and the Additional Secretary also but the file is not moving and the hon. Minister is also not easily available. So, how you are going to take your portal in the House down to the ground?

MR. SPEAKER: He is busy with his work.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I am busy going especially to Northeast.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed him because he comes from Northeast.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Absolutely, yes, Sir. After Independence, first time ever there has been upsurge of activities in the health sector in Northeast and I am sure the hon. Member is conscious about that. He has been appreciative of the fact. Wherever I have gone to Northeast, all the Members of Parliament, the Members of the Assembly, the Chief Minister are so appreciative of the fact that there have been a lot of activities in Northeast.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There will be a half-an-hour discussion on this subject.

[English]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: All the facilities in Northeast have been upgraded right from the sub-centre to the primary health centre, community health centre. Even major medical colleges...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: The hon. Member has asked as to what are we going to do about the manpower. Definitely we are planning towards health human resources for the next 40 years for every year. When we say health human resource it is not just doctors but also nurses, para-medics, para-medics of emergencies and trauma concept and things like that. Under the National Rural Health Mission each village is having an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA). We are planning to have 6,20,000 ASHAs in all 6,20,000 villages in India. Till date nearly about 447,000 ASHAs have been put in place. They have been given a seven days training squad for 28 days a year. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There should be no running commentary please.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In each village we

are having Village Health and Sanitation Committee. I urge the hon. Members to play a vital role in having the Village Health and Sanitation Committee set up in their respective constituencies in all villages. Each of these Committees will be given Rs. 100,000 each year— it is not in a panchayat but in each village—so that Members could empower them to have more sanitation and nutrition programme in every village. We are also giving additional manpower, additional ANM to each sub-centre. We are providing three nurses to each Primary Health Centre. We have asked the State Governments to fill up all the vacancies for doctors, specialists, nurses ANMs and para-medics and we are also thinking of giving one mobile medical unit to each of the district initially and then to each block.

MR. SPEAKER: I think you should inform all the hon. Members about what all are available. Please write to them also. I will allow a discussion as soon as notice comes.

[Translation]

Illegal Coal Mining

*84. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining operations are being carried out in various coal fields in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the value of the illegally extracted coal during the last three years;

(d) the details of number of such cases detected during the last three years, State-wise and company-wise;

(e) the action taken by the Government against the people found guilty; and

(f) the impact of this action on illegal mining?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d): Due to the nature of illegal mining carried out at different places in the country, it is not possible to specify the exact quantum and value of the coal so mined.

However, following the raids conducted by the security personnel of the concerned coal companies and joint raids with law and order authorities of the concerned State Governments, the details of quantity of coal recovered and value thereof (approximate) during the last three years are as under:

Company	State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Qty. recovered (Approx) (te)	App. Value (Rs. in lakh)	Qty. recovered (Approx) (te)	App. Value (Rs. in lakh)	Qty. recovered (Approx) (te)	App. Value (Rs. in lakh)
Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	West Bengal/	1331.97	10.640	2458.00	24.084	2389.00	23.890
	Jharkhand	0.00	0.000	23.00	0.230	1139	11.39
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	Jharkhand/	22.50	0.391	637.31	10.392	63.00	0.969
	West Bengal	98.00	1.571	2.00	0.02	0.00	0.000
Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)	Jharkhand	428.00	4.860	532.50	5.655	404.00	4.040
Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL)	Uttar Pradesh/	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
	Madhya Pradesh						
Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	Maharashtra/	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
	Madhya Pradesh	144.00	1.440	26.50	0.275	38.50	0.405
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL)	Madhya Pradesh/	815.00	8.150	33.00	0.380	481.31	6.312
	Chhattisgarh	140.65	1.410	9.50	0.095	60.00	0.840
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL)	Orissa	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
North Eastern Coalfields (NEC)	Assam	600.00	7.200	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
Total		3580.12	35.662	3721.81	41.131	4574.81	47.846

(e) and (f) FIRs are lodged by the units/Areas/Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) officials of the coal companies whenever cases of illegal mining of coal are detected. After lodging of FIRs, prosecution cases are launched and contested by the State Governments/Police.

In addition, the following measures are taken to address the issue of illegal mining:

- (i) At the initiative of Government of India, Joint Action Committee involving State Governments and coal companies are formed to take effective steps for prevention of illegal mining. Task Force at State and District levels are formed in problem areas which review the action on regular basis.
- (ii) Further, coal companies also undertake preventive measures such as filling up of rate holes, digging trenches, erection of concrete walls, fencing with barbed wire, dumping of overburden, deployment of security and intensive patrolling of the areas etc.
- (iii) A committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Minister or State for Coal to address the problem of illegal mining of coal.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Sir, the coal mafia, acting in collusion with Coal India Ltd. and officials of the State electricity Board, purchase clean and high quality coal at lower rates in the garb of rejected and defective coal and sell it in the market at many times higher than the rates at which they had purchased it...(Interruptions).

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, the reply to this question was to be given by the Prime Minister. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has been duly authorized. This happens. Every Hon'ble Prime Minister, over the years, has done it. Generally he is present on every

Wednesday. Such issues may not be taken up. He has always been present on Wednesday. I have seen it.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: When the House is in session, the Prime Minister is going aboard ...(Interruptions). [English] Sir, during this period, the Prime Minister is going out for seven days. [Translation] In all the session is only for 14 days and out of these the Prime Minister is going abroad for seven days.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not raise this issue. He has informed me and I have permitted him.

Shri Harikewal Prasad, please put your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Sir, the coal mafia's practice of buying clean and high quality coal in the name of rejected coal and selling it in the market at many times at higher rates is going on for the last several years. The Ministry of coal is also aware of it, but no action is taken in this regard. As a result, Central and State Governments have to suffer losses to the tune of crores of rupees. The most surprising fact is that the Central empowered Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had submitted a report about the supply of four lakh tones of good quality coal in the name of defective coal in the year 2003-04. The said report was overlooked. During the same year, on eighth February, the mining department of Chhattisgarh had seized four trucks carrying good quality coal being sent in the name of defective coal. This incident was hushed up due to political reasons.

Through you, I would like to know from the Minister whether any guidelines have been issued by his Ministry to return both good and bad quality coal to the concerned parties after the cleaning is done by the washery. If so, the action taken against Aryan Coal Company for openly violating the Agreement letter signed with the Ministry of Coal.

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask only one question, you cannot ask three questions at the same time.

[English]

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, whatever captive blocks are allocated to the companies, they are not supposed to sell any coal in the outside market except for their end use. This coal is meant for generation of power or production of steel or cement.

The hon. Member has mentioned about the rejects. As per law rejects are allowed to be sold but for that one has to seek permission of Government as provided for in the Coal Nationalization Act. This is so because rejects are not useful either for production of cement, or for production of any other thing like steel.

The hon. Member has raised a particular issue and I would request him to me the details of the specific case. I would definitely look into the matter.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has said certain things, but he has tried to evade the points which I wanted to know.

Through you, I would like to know whether the government propose to conduct an enquiry into this matter by any parliamentary Committee through CBI? If so, the action being taken in this regard and the mode of enquiry?

[English]

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, if the hon. Member gives me the details of the case, then only I can reply.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your information? The Hon'ble Minister has promised about taking action. Please give him the particulars.

SHRI BANSAGOPAL CHOUDHURY: Sir, I have one information. Please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the

Minister in his reply has stated that an enquiry would be conducted. It has come to the notice that through large scale illegal mining, coal mafia is selling coal in the market. All the coal which come to many areas of Jharkhand and to my area and the adjacent State Bihar are brought through Golden papers which is brought there by trucks on fake documents. I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Ministry to prevent the practice of selling of coal obtained through large scale illegal mining?

[English]

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, this is a general question.

MR. SPEAKER: How will you prevent it? Is it by sending them to jail, I believe?

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: We have to do it. We have some cases of illegal mining and every year, there are such cases and they are prosecuted. To discuss with the hon. Members, I have convened the Coal Consultative Meeting on the 19th of December.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure that the hon. Members will send the particulars to the hon. Minister including Shri Choudhury. You can send the particulars to him and I am sure that he will take action. If action is not taken, then you can bring it here.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 85—Shri Ravi Prakash Verma—Not present.

Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivajirao.

Guidelines for Creating Wildlife Habitats

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*85. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any guidelines for creating critical wildlife habitats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has also prepared any scheme for relocation of all villages from protected areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the protected areas will be brought within the ambit of the Forest Rights Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Guidelines have been issued to State Governments on 25th October, 2007 for identification of critical wildlife habitats.

(c) and (d) Under the centrally sponsored schemes of 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' and 'Project Tiger', there is a provision for providing financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories for relocation of villages from inside protected areas.

(e) The Protected Areas are within the ambit of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Sir, since the identification of critical wildlife habitats is very essential in the context of our depleting wildlife, the question of time frame and basic guidelines about identification assume significance. Will the hon. Minister throw some light on these two aspects?

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: Sir, the guidelines contain scientific criteria for identifying critical wildlife habitat and the process to be followed by the State Governments and the Government of India. As envisaged in Section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) 1972 and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, delineation of Critical Wildlife Habitats, both in Tiger Reserves and Protected Areas, are required for the sustenance of a viable population of wild animals and are to be declared by the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests after a process of consultation by Expert Committees.

With the aim of maintaining viable population of

tiger and other faunal and floral species to conserve biodiversity and life support ecological systems in natural wilderness areas, the following criteria would be followed:

A minimum inviolate space of 800 to 1000 square kilometres should be maintained as the inviolate area to support a viable population of tiger in tiger landscapes, based on tiger life history parameters, territory sizes and populations viability analysis. The time limit for this is one year but it is only after the receipt.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Sir, I want to know whether any critical wildlife habitats have already been identified by the States or not. If so, what are the steps being taken by the States for relocation of villages situated in these habitats? What is the assistance provided by the Centre to the States for the relocation?

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: We have already identified 273 villages and in addition some have already been relocated, that is, there are 80 relocated villages from tiger populated villages and the others there are 23. We have now identified 1487 villages in tiger reserves including these 273 villages. Then, we have also a plan for giving Rs. 1 lakh for the relocation and we propose to increase it.

[Translation]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask a question to the Hon'ble Minister. Forest Dwellers Act was passed in the year 2006. The provision regarding critical wild life habitat was part of the said Wild Life Act.

In today's scenario, once the act has come into vogue, the rules should have been notified, but there is no sign of it. It is not know whether these rules will be framed or not or if they are framed, in what form it will be framed? In spite of that, efforts are on to enact or extend Critical Wild Life Act, provision of which has been made under this act, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the reason for initiating the process before notifying the rules of the Act. If the process is

started under this, will they follow the spirit of the Act or not and by when the rules to be framed under this Act be made public and the same will be implemented?

[English]

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: Sir, at present we are dealing with "critical wildlife habitat". At the same time I want to mention that the Ministry of Environment and Forests can identify the critical wildlife habitats, taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Committee and make this information public. Such notifications will be in English and in the official language of the State concerned. As far as the notification of rules is concerned, it is done by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, there are two aspects of this question. One is that many rare species of wild animals are gradually becoming extinct. About the forests of Gir, news are being published that animals are being poisoned by the citizens and many of the lions are being killed there. The same situation is prevailing in many areas of India. On the other hand agitations are on in the country that the tribals should have the right over forests and land. In this regard, demonstrations were taken out by all the political parties in Delhi. Taking both these scenarios into account, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister as to what is the name of the Expert Committee based on whose scheme of proceedings people residing in those critical areas are to be relocated, the proceedings of which Committee, Government of India want to implement in order to relocate the habitats?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Which Expert Committee and on what basis?

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: Sir, at present, the protected areas come within the purview of Wildlife Protection Act 1972. We take care to protect the wildlife. The Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 would automatically come within the ambit of the Scheduled Tribes and

Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Creating critical wildlife habitats from identified critical areas involve vesting of rights with the affected people and a statutory consultation process involving relocation. So, after relocation, definitely the wild animals will be safeguarded. Now also we have taken care of them.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, the word "critical" is a flexible one. It cannot be based on a particular criterion. It depends on what emerges at that point.

MR. SPEAKER: Your expertise is not understood by others.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: At the moment, by popular demand, about 2,000 monkeys have been picked up and relocated in a place called Asola. Asola has been designated as wildlife habitat. However, over the years nothing has been done. There are no trees. So, there is no habitat there. There is a village in the middle of Asola, which has been ordered by the High Court to be relocated.

Since we have put 2,000 monkeys there without creating any facility to look after themselves, what is being done to relocate that village and to upgrade this critical area?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not think it comes under this Question.

Mr. Minister, do you have any knowledge about Asola? If you do not have, please write to her.

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: I will send the information to the hon. Member.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Sir, the concept of "critical wildlife habitat" is something new. It is an integral part of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The Expert Committee has given its Report, but the rules have not been notified as yet. This is part of that Bill.

The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that he had sent instructions to the State Governments to start identifying critical wildlife habitats. How can he implement one part of the Act when the rules are not made? The entire Bill has to be done as a whole.

So, I would like to know from the Minister whether he would immediately withdraw the instructions given to the State Governments not to start doing this job until the rules are fully notified and also to ensure that people are not dispossessed of their lands before the identity of the rights is made in these areas.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants that the rules should be framed.

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: As I have already mentioned, it has to be implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. But, at the same time, the Ministry of Environment and Forests may identify the critical wildlife habitats taking into account the recommendations of the Expert Committee and make this information public.

Sir, guidelines for identification of critical wildlife habitats have been issued to facilitate speedy implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forests Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, once the same is notified.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, he only wanted to know about the rules.

SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Sir I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the scheme for relocation of villages also includes the removal of such villages which are on the periphery of the reserved forests. Now, in this context, the State of Uttarakhand had written a letter to the Central Government that 42 villages which are on the periphery of the *Gobind Pashu Vihar* should be removed from the sanctuary itself. So, instead of reallocating the villages, you can redraw the boundaries of the sanctuaries.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, have you got any information on this question?

SHRI S. REGUPATHY: Sir I do not have any

information. However, I will collect the information and send it to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 86—Dr. Rajesh Mishra—
not present.

Shri J.M. Aaron Rashid—not present

Q. No. 87—Shri Pannian Ravindran

**Supply of Medicines to
CGHS Dispensaries**

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*87. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received complaints that many pharmaceutical firms and also many local chemists have stopped supply of medicines to the dispensaries under CGHS in various parts of the country, particularly in Kerala;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to restore the supply at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Pharmaceutical firms have not stopped supply of medicines to any dispensary in CGHS.

However, Authorised Local Chemists in CGHS Thiruvananthapuram had stopped supply of medicine to dispensaries in that city due to non-payment of bills w.e.f. 29-10-2007. Now the Chemists have resumed supply of medicine to these dispensaries in Thiruvananthapuram w.e.f. 7-11-2007. No such complaints have been received from other CGHS cities.

SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN: Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, stopping supply of medicines due to non-payment of bills is a common complaint against CGHS and poor employees particularly retired employees are sufferers. In such an event they have to wait for reimbursement for long time. So what steps are being taken to ensure that the payment to the suppliers is made regular and supply of medicines through dispensaries is not disrupted?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, firstly, if there is any specific instance, the hon. Member could bring it to my notice and definitely we will take action.

Secondly and most importantly, during the last two years, we have completely restructured the entire CGHS. We have computerized it not only for payments for the patients or relatives but also even the chemists and the hospitals. All these have been computerized and we are in the process of fully computerizing it. So, in a year's time, the entire facilities will be computerized and there will not be many complaints.

Sir, in the last year and a half, I am sure all the hon. Members of Parliament would have been happy about this facility of CGHS because there have been a lot of improvements. I have been getting fewer and fewer complaints subsequently in the last few months.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pannian Ravindran, please put your second supplementary.

SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN: No, Sir.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, the statement which the hon. Minister has given says that only in Trivandrum this has happened and it was due to non-payment of bills. The hon. Minister has said that the whole process is computerized and being perfected. Why in Trivandrum the non-payment of bill has happened and people were put to difficulties? So, if anybody is found to be responsible for that, would the hon. Minister promise to the House that action will be taken against them?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already promised.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In Trivandrum, in fact, there was a disruption of service only for eight or nine days and this was due to an administrative issue within the facilities

Sir, when you go inside, there is some personal animosity and all that which we are taking care of. We have already ordered an inquiry and this has been rectified. This is just one individual issue. We have rectified it.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a very short space in Kolkata and surrounding areas for CGHS dispensaries and it is causing immense hardships to the patients, particularly the old and retired persons?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Now, the Department of Personnel and Training is piloting a health insurance programme for CGHS patients, the pensioners and other beneficiaries and I am sure once that comes, there is going to be a lot more services provided and CGHS also will be operating on those lines.

12.00 hrs.

Subsequently, we are improving the services of CGHS, modernising it and giving more facilities. I am sure, the question put by the hon. Member of Parliament does not pertain to a few months. Once all the facilities come, I am sure, nobody is going to be put to any hardship.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Emission of Greenhouse Gases

*86. **DR. RAJESH MISHRA:**

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to oppose

the suggestions received from various international bodies for imposing restrictions in order to check the emission of greenhouse gases in various sectors;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to adopt a new policy on global warming and climate change for presenting it during the Bali round of International negotiations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government has not received any formal suggestions from international bodies for imposing various restrictions in order to check the emissions of greenhouse gases in various sectors. However in various international fora representatives from developed countries have been advocating involvement of developing countries to check emissions of greenhouse gases. In this context, the Indian position on the issue is that as a developing country, India is not expected under the UN Convention on Climate Change to take on mitigation commitments. However, our GHG emissions are among the lowest in per capita terms and account for only 4% of the world's emissions. Nonetheless, India attaches great importance to issue of climate change. India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is engaged constructively and productively with the international community to preserve and protect the environment. India is determined that India's per-capita GHG emissions would not exceed those of developed countries even while pursuing policies of development and economic growth.

Even though, India as a developing country does not have any mitigation commitments, nevertheless, a sustainable development path is being followed through a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change. which include *inter alia* the following:

- (i) ensuring energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency

- (ii) promoting use of renewable energy
- (iii) power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme
- (iv) use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- (v) fuel switching to cleaner energy
- (vi) afforestation and conservation of forests
- (vii) promotion of clean coal technologies
- (viii) reduction of gas flaring
- (ix) encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- (x) environmental quality management for all sectors

Eradication of Polio

*88. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted about the effectiveness of the Polio Immunisation Programme that has been undertaken throughout the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of States where the programme is not effective; and

(c) the steps taken to have a special focus on the problem States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is working closely with the Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP) and National Polio surveillance Project (NPSP) to work out strategies for polio eradication in Uttar Pradesh. Several rounds of OPV vaccination campaigns with monovalent and trivalent vaccines have been carried out in Uttar Pradesh in 2006 and 2007. Understanding the level of immunity or areas where immunity gaps persisted despite vaccination campaigns, is crucial to the success of polio eradication in Uttar Pradesh.

Enterovirus Research Centre (ERC) of ICMR has been closely analyzing the available data in collaboration with NPSP and other experts. ICMR is taking up two studies to evaluate population immunity (to understand immunity gaps):

- (1) determine prevalence of poliovirus antibodies in children in Moradabad district and
- (2) determine prevalence of poliovirus antibodies in non-polio AFP cases in children up to 5 years in 24 districts of Western Uttar Pradesh.

The studies are being funded by the Government of India with logistic support from Uttar Pradesh Government and NPSP. ICMR is coordinating the studies and Enterovirus Research Centre (ERC) of ICMR will carry out testing of samples. Results of the study on prevalence of antibodies in children of two different age groups in Moradabad district will be available in about 6 months. The first study has been initiated with effect from 1st November, 2007, with technical and logistic support from National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP) and the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

The annual strategy for polio eradication is decided on the basis of the recommendation of the Indian Expert Advisory Group (IEAG) consisting of National experts and International experts from World Health Organization (WHO), United Nation's Children Fund (UNICEF), Centre for Diseases Control (CDC) Atlanta. The IEAG reviews the polio epidemiological situation two times a year and recommend the suitable strategies for the country. The National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP) of WHO provides technical support for high quality Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance and assists the Government in microplanning, training and monitoring of polio immunization campaign.

Polio Immunization Programme has been effective in all States of India as polio transmission was stopped in 33 of the 35 states/UTs, after the initiation of the programme. It is taking more time in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to achieve zero transmission due to factors like high population density and poor sanitation. In order to

achieve the goal of zero transmission at the earliest, the strategy in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has been modified to have greater number of polio immunization campaigns with monovalent vaccine type 1 (mOPV 1) which has better efficacy against type 1 poliovirus than the trivalent vaccine (tOPV) being used earlier as per recommendation of IEAG. As a result of this strategy, there has been a significant decline in the number of cases caused by the most virulent strain of poliovirus type 1 (P1). The endemic region of western Uttar Pradesh has reported only five type 1 polio cases this year. The core districts of Moradabad and J.P. Nagar, the epicenter of the outbreak last year, have not had a single case of P1 for the last one year.

The number of cases caused by other surviving strain of Poliovirus Type 3 (P3) has risen this year. This rise is consistent with the immunization strategy recommended by the IEAG focusing on Polio Type 1 virus through the use of more efficacious monovalent type 1 polio vaccine since April, 2005. The immunization strategy has been focusing on curtailing Polio Type 1 virus and keeping Polio Type 3 virus in check because P1 circulates more widely, has been responsible for international spread and has the propensity to cause large outbreaks.

(c) Increased programmatic focus has been given to the endemic and vulnerable States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for ensuring highest quality of Supplementary Immunization Activity (SIAs). The following actions have been taken in these states:—

- 9 supplementary Immunization rounds have been implemented in endemic State of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar between January and October 2007. One more round is planned to be implemented in these states in November/December 2007.
- Monovalent Oral Polio Vaccines which are more effective than trivalent vaccines are being used in these States.
- Involvement of religious leaders, Panchayats and celebrities for community awareness and

mobilization of the community for accepting vaccination.

- Involvement of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) and Anganwadi workers in the vaccination teams for mobilizing and administering polio drops to the children.
- Increased deployment of community mobilization coordinators in Western Uttar Pradesh for mobilization and participation of the community.
- Focusing on the most vulnerable younger children. Newborns are being tracked in endemic states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and followed up for immunisation in every campaign.
- Immunizing children in transit and of migratory population:
 - a. All major transit points have been identified and are being covered by transit teams with sufficient vaccinators working in shifts and round the clock wherever necessary.
 - b. Vaccination is carried out at major congregations and fairs (melas), haats and bazaars.
- Trains linking endemic area with other parts of the country identified for vaccination in moving trains. 450 teams are deployed in running trains in addition to the teams at the railway platforms.

[English]

AIIMS-Type Super Speciality Hospitals

*89. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalized the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the proposed six AIIMS type super speciality hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the present status of each of these hospitals;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the construction work of these hospitals are likely to begin, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) In so far as construction of medical college and hospital complex is concerned, the Design DPR Consultants have been selected for all the six sites. DPR would be available by May-June, 2008.

In so far as construction of housing complex is concerned, the bid process for selecting the turnkey developer was carried out for all sites. However, only 2 bids were received, of which one was found responsive. The work has been awarded to developer (M/s. Rajasthan State Road Development Corporation) for Jodhpur. The work relating to construction of housing complex at Rishikesh and Patna has been entrusted to HLL and, for Bhubaneswar and Raipur to HSCC, on nomination basis. For Bhopal site, housing complex work would be awarded alongside with the hospital-medical college work.

The state-wise progress regarding construction of AIIMS like institutions is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	AIIMS like Institutions	Likely date for starting construction work	Likely date for completion of construction work
1	2	3	4
1.	Jodhpur	December, 2007	End 2010

1	2	3	4
2.	Bhubaneswar	February, 2008	End 2010
3.	Rishikesh	February, 2008	End 2010
4.	Patna	February, 2008	End 2010
5.	Raipur	February, 2008	End 2010
6.	Bhopal	July, 2008	End 2010

**Compensation for Delay in Revision of
Coal Royalty Rates**

*90. SHRI BHAILAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken five years time to revise the Royalty rates of Coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of total loss suffered by the State Governments due to this delay, State-wise and year-wise for the last five years;

(d) whether the Government proposes to compensate the State Governments for the losses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (e) Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 empowers the Central Government to enhance or reduce the royalty rates in respect of any mineral by notification in the Official Gazette with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification. The proviso to Section 9(3) of the Act prevents the Central Government from enhancing the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of three years. The Act does not mandate any specific time frame for revision of rates of royalty. The royalty rates on coal and lignite were revised w.e.f. 01-08-2007. Royalty rates are revised after taking into consideration the interests of all stakeholders

and the overall economic scenario in the country. As such, the question of loss to the State Governments on this account does not arise.

Shortage of Trained Nurses

*91. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of trained nurses in the country, particularly in the Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this fact was highlighted at the International Neo-Natal Conference held in New Delhi in September, 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the main recommendations/suggestions made by the Conference on the issue; and

(f) the concrete measures taken by the Government to meet the shortage of nurses, particularly in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (f) As per the Bajaj Committee recommendations of Nursing Staffing norms, 10.43 lakhs Nurses would be required by 2012. With the existing training capacity, 6.84 lakhs Nurses are expected to be trained by 2012. However, the position of Nurses in the Central Government Hospitals is satisfactory.

This aspect was discussed in the 6th International Neo-Natal Nurses Conference organized by National Neonatology Forum on September 15-18, 2007.

The highlights/recommendations and suggestions made by the Conference are indicated below:

- The acute shortage of nurses particularly of specialized nurses in new born care need to be addressed urgently.
- There is even greater shortage and virtually non existence of neonatal nursing cadre in rural India.
- Nurses should be recruited, trained and posted at PHC and above to provide care at birth, essential newborn care and care of sick neonates. There should be atleast two or three nurses dedicated to newborn care at PHC, 5-6 at FRU/CHC and 10-12 nurses at District Hospitals which is ideal.
- It is advisable to use every nursing personnel at PHC to be involved in newborn care not only at the health facility but also at the community level.
- Nurses in charge at level II units at District hospitals should be a trained neonatal nurse with Post Basic Diploma in Neonatal Nursing or at least B.Sc Nursing graduate.
- Creation of a Cadre of Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, to begin with at Institutional Level and gradually employed at Special Care New born Units at District Hospitals.
- The nurses involved in maternal, newborn and child health should be encouraged to participate in various national and international conferences/workshop to update their knowledge and to acquire confidence and improve self esteem. This would also help them to acquire a leadership for further training and advocacy. The organizers of the conference thank government

of India and also State government for taking the initiative of encouraging and fully supporting the nurses to participate in this International Conference.

The measures taken by the Indian Nursing council to promote for Opening of additional Nursing Educational Institutions to meet the shortage of nurses are as follows:—

- Syllabus for Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) Training and B.Sc (N) programme has been revised. The components of Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) have been incorporated in the revised syllabus.
- One year Post Basic Diploma in Neonatal Nursing Programme has been developed to train specialized Neo-natal Nurses.
- Relaxed student patient ratio. The ratio has been reduced from 1:5 to 1:3.
- Relaxed norms for teaching faculty to start B.Sc.(N) Programme.
- At least 2 M.Sc.(N) faculty to be available.
- Qualification and Experience has relaxed.
- Relaxation for opening M.Sc(N) programme. Super speciality Hospital can start M.Sc.(N) without having under graduate programme.
- Admission for Nursing allowed for married candidates.
- Age increased for Teaching Faculty up to 70 years.
- Maximum of 100 seats will be given to those parent hospitals with 300 beds without insisting on Medical College.

Government of India under NRHM has approved one additional ANM at the sub-centre level and three

posts of Staff Nurses at PHC and 2 additional posts of Staff Nurses at CHC level to provide 24 x 7 Midwifery Services to the rural population.

The Government of India has proposed the following steps in the XI five year plan to bridge the gap by taking further following steps:—

- (i) Establishment of Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) and General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) schools in those districts which are not having both these training programmes.
- (ii) Establishment of post graduation Nursing (M.Sc Nursing) Institutions.
- (iii) Renewal of registration once in every 5 years linked with Continuing Education.
- (iv) Establishment of Regional Institute of Excellence with the objective of improving the standard on all India basis and provide opportunity to access high quality Nursing Education through out, the country.
- (v) Strengthening of State Nursing Councils.
- (vi) Strengthening of Nursing Cells at the State level.

Priority has been given under NRHM for Strengthening of Nursing Education and Service in the rural area.

Pollution by Cement Industries

*92. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cement Industries cause pollution by emitting Carbon Dioxide;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The cement industry in its various

processes emits suspended particulate matter (SPM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) besides carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is produced during the calcination process. The emission of CO₂ depends on the type of production processes, their efficiency, fuel used etc.

The steps taken to control pollution from the cement industry include:

- Notification of emission standards for cement industry.
- The adoption of Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection (CREP) for 17 categories of industries including cement.
- Regular monitoring for compliance of environmental standards.

Container Handling by Ports

*93. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Ports, particularly the Eastern Coastal Ports are failing to match the global shipping trend in containerization:

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

(c) the details of the growth of container handling in various ports in the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether a high powered committee has been set up to look into the issue of containerization in India:

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the said committee; and

(f) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Some Major Ports of Eastern Coast have yet to attain their potential level of container handling capacity. Dedicated capacities for handling containerized cargo

is available in eight (8) Major Ports in India, namely, Kolkata Port (both at Kolkata Dock Systems and Haldia Dock Complex), Visakhapatnam, Chennai, Tuticorin Port in the east and Cochin, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru and Kandla Ports in the west. There are 29 container berths in the Major Ports out of which 12 are in the Eastern Coast. The total capacity of container terminals stands at 88.08 MTPA of which the capacity at Eastern Coast is 30.70 MTPA. In Kolkata Port, these certain limitations are due to inadequate draft, tidal behaviour of the river, lock size restrictions, inadequate backend integration for rail dispersal of cargo, modern berth and modern container handling facilities.

Augmentation of capacity for handling container traffic is an on going process keeping in view the demand of Maritime Trade. It is the endeavour of the Government to develop the necessary infrastructure in ports for handling the container traffic as part of the overall development of ports keeping in view the demands of Maritime Trade. It is planned to augment the capacity for handling container traffic in the major ports to a level of 223.54 MTPA per annum by March, 2012, i.e., end of 11th five-year Plan period.

(c) The details regarding growth of the container handling in various ports in last three years are.

Container Traffic: 2004-05 to 2006-07

(Figures in 000s)

Ports	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
Kolkata	2357	(159)	3234	(203)	4003	(239)
Haldia	2029	(1280)	1911	(110)	1918	(110)
Paradip	31	(2)	45	(4)	31	(2)
Visakhapatnam	635	(45)	630	(47)	799	(56)
Chennai	9864	(617)	11757	(735)	14166	(886)
Tuticorin	3205	(307)	3428	(321)	4011	(377)
Cochin	2315	(185)	2488	(203)	2949	(227)
New Mangalore	136	(9)	149	(10)	265	(17)
Mormugao	117	(10)	105	(9)	127	(13)
Mumbai	2571	(219)	2145	(156)	1580	(138)
J.N.P.T.	28747	(2371)	33777	(2667)	40810	(3298)
Kandla	2754	(181)	2311	(148)	2778	(178)
Total	54761	(4233)	61980	(4613)	73437	(5541)

Note: Figures in brackets are TEUs and rest are tonnage.

(d) to (f) Ministry of Shipping has not set up any high powered Committee to look in to the issue of containerisation in India.

Evaluation of RTI Act

*94. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to conduct a detailed evaluation of the Right to Information (RTI) Act as reported in *The Times of India* dated October 26, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to engage external consultancy service to evaluate the Right to Information Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said evaluation is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (e) The Government has decided to conduct study, through an independent agency, for evaluation of the implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The process of selection of agency to undertake the study has not yet been completed.

[Translation]

Health Schemes for Poor People

*95. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:

SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any

health scheme for the poor people living below the poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria for identification of the beneficiaries;

(c) the names of the States where the said scheme has been implemented;

(d) the names of the States where the scheme is not working satisfactorily and the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of funds allocated to each State under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(f) the details of achievement made by the Government in this regard; and

(g) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for implementation of the said scheme throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The Government has formulated and launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) throughout the country with special focus on 18 high focus states namely the eight EAG states (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Orissa and Rajasthan), eight North Eastern states and states of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

The main aim of NRHM is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population.

The NRHM envisages improvements in range and quality of hospital care, decentralization of programme to district level to improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence and effective utilization of resources. The NRHM further aims to provide overarching umbrella to the existing National programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, Malaria, Blindness, Iodine deficiency, Filariasis, Kala Azar, T.B., Leprosy and Integrated disease Surveillance. Further, it addresses

the issue of health in a sector-wide manner addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health. The initiatives under NRHM are benefiting the weaker sections including the poorer and minority community.

(d) The NRHM is an initiative for undertaking comprehensive correction in the Public Health delivery system. Since the launch of NRHM, considerable progress has been made. The Institutional Framework of the NRHM has been established and operationalised in various States and Districts. Health Missions have been constituted in all States/UTs. The expected target of selection and positioning of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), has been far exceeded. 5.42 lakh ASHAs have been selected and 3.34 lakh ASHAs have been positioned in villages after orientation training. Merger of societies has been completed at the state level and at the district level. The state wise achievement of some of the critical activities under NRHM is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(e) and (f) The details of funds allocated and releases made thereafter to each state under NRHM during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(g) The detailed steps are being taken by the Government for implementation of the said scheme throughout the country are as follows:

- Promote access to improved health care at

household level through the female health activist (ASHA).

- Strengthening existing (PHCs) through better staffing and human resource development policy, clear quality standards, better community support and an untied fund to enable the local management committee to achieve these standards.
- Preparation and implementation of an inter sector District Health Plan prepared by the District Health Mission, including drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition.
- Integrating vertical Health and Family Welfare programmes at National, State, District and Block levels.
- Technical support to National, State and District Health Mission, for public health management.
- Promotion of public private partnerships for achieving public health goals.
- Mainstreaming AYUSH—revitalizing local health traditions.
- Effective and visible risk pooling and social health insurance to provide health security to the poor by ensuring accessible, affordable, accountable and good quality hospital care etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	2007-08	935	0	0	935	0
5.	Total No. of Monthly Health Days held less in the state	2928383	1387228	30542	1509917	696
	2007-08	1507110	692653	83831	730552	74
6.	No. of SCs where Joint Account with has been Operationalised	109899	45407	6080	58185	227
7.	No. of SCs with additional ANMs	10143	4237	2315	3404	1878
8.	Total No. of PHCs functioning on 24x7 basis	9395	1978	1129	6163	125
9.	No. of PHCs where three staff nurses are positioned	2753	62	243	2416	32
10.	No. of CHCs selected for upgradation to IPHS	2730	1240	213	1243	34
11.	No. of CHCs where facility survey has been completed	2129	981	205	931	12
12.	Total Number of centres upgraded as FRUs	612	268	14	309	21
	SDH					
	CHC	806	271	86	435	14
	PHC	59	20	12	27	0
13.	No. of contractual manpower positioned till date	2489	1943	37	499	10
	Specialist	4318	2721	131	1311	155
	Doctors					
	SN	13864	6218	1505	6124	17
	ANIM	22448	14405	3349	4153	541
	Others	2721	1234	194	1265	28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6.	No. of SCs where Joint Account with has been Operationalised	45407	2125	8026	10366	0	1560	4692	8686	6165	2071	1716
7.	No. of SCs with additional ANMs	4237	0	726	2125	0	0	15	957	414	0	0
8.	Total No. of PHCs functioning on 24x7 basis	1978	0	337	63	426	23	192	785	0	95	57
9.	No. of PHCs where three staff nurses are positioned	62	0	32	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	7
10.	Total No. of CHCs selected for upgradation to IPHS	1240	60	96	325	66	49	113	100	348	36	47
11.	Total No. of CHCs where facility survey has been completed	961	18	96	290	66	26	113	169	148	15	40
12.	Total Number of centres upgraded as FRUs											
	SDH	268	0	36	40	0	7	0	110	18	15	42
	CHC	271	0	18	15	0	7	64	56	51	32	28
	PHC	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	2	0
13.	No. of contractual manpower positioned during 2007-08											
	Specialist	1943	0	76	0	1533	0	231	75	0	13	15
	Doctors	2721	0	226	690	0	0	1477	0	0	0	128
	SN	6218	0	188	3976	0	56	714	577	480	125	102
	ANM	14405	1315	1425	2911	1092	13	4725	2119	414	71	320
	Others	1234	0	27	816	0	0	0	91	21	206	73

High Focus States—NE

National Rural Health Mission

Status as on 1st November 2007

Sl. No.	Action Point	Total	Assam	Arunachal Pradesh	Manipur	Mizoram	Nagaland	Sikkim	Meghalaya	Tripura
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Number of VHSC Constituted and Operational (as reported by state)	9011		1194	1512	366	1278	402	3840	419
2.	No. of Rogi KaiYan Samitis registered									
	DH	79	21	13	7	8	7	4	6	13
	CHCs	180	93	28	16	0	1	4	28	10
	PHCs	1159	839	71	72	0	4	0	99	74
	05-06	10673	9058	1615	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	No. of ASHA selected during (including ASHA to be selected in tribal areas)									
	06-07	29702	16342	1228	3000	737	1278	450	5438	1229
	2007-08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	40375	25400	2843	3000	737	1278	450	5438	1229
4.	Total Number of Link workers other than ASHA selected									
	2005-06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2006-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007-08	0								
5.	Total No. of Monthly Health Days held till date in the state									
	2006-07	30542	16260	28	4501	366	11	0	2250	7126
	2007-08	83831	64972	14	976	0	0	568	6179	11122

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6. No. of SCs where Joint Account with has been Operationalised		6080	4592	169	224	0	334	135	86	540
7. No. of SCs with additional ANMs		2315	1694	50	190	180	120	26	17	38
8. Total No. of PHCs functioning on 24x7 basis		1129	759	52	20	96	117	24	8	53
9. No. of PHCs with 3 staff nurses are positioned		243	149	0	7	52	0	0	6	29
10. Total No. of CHCs selected for upgradation to IPHS		213	103	31	14	9	21	2	24	9
11. Total No. of CHCs where facility survey has been completed		205	93	31	16	9	18	4	24	10
12. Total Number of centres upgraded FRUs	SDH	14	2	9	0	1	0	0	0	2
	CHC	86	39	1	4	18	0	7	16	1
	PHC	12	2	0	0	8	0	2	0	0
13. No. of contractual manpower positioned during 2007-08	Specialist	37	33	0	1	0	1	0	2	0
	Doctors	131	56	0	5	0	36	0	7	27
	SN	1505	1371	0	78	0	20	17	19	0
	ANM	3349	2827	0	223	63	115	26	65	30
	Others	194	0	0	152	0	13	0	11	18

Non High Focus States—Large

National Rural Health Mission

Status as on 1st November 2007

Sl. No.	Action Point	Total	Punjab	Haryana	Andhra Pradesh	West Bengal	Goa	Karnataka	Gujarat	Tamil Nadu	Maha-rashtra	Kerala
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Number of VHSC Constituted and Operational (as reported by state)	104534		4589	21916			15218	10742	12618	24000	15451
2.	No. of Rogi Kaiyan Samitis registered											
	DH	179	20	22	18	15	2	24	23	29	26	0
	CHCs	1975	126	91	176	346	2	206	273	385	370	0
	PHCs	6834	0	369	1397	922	5	1679	745	1036	681	0
3.	No. of ASHA selected during											
	05-06	0			0			0	0	0	0	0
	06-07	9529			8500			0	1029	0	0	0
	2007-08	6411			0			0	0	0	5969	442
	Total	15940		0	8500	0	0	0	1029	0	5969	442
4.	Total Number of Link workers other than ASHA selected											
	2005-06	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2006-07	64477		6966	55400	2111	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007-08	935								0		935
5.	Total No. of Monthly Health Days held till date in the state											
	2006-07	1509917	6275	7618	432870	1875	0	82443	344604	512124	122090	18
	2007-08	730552		14291	386000		0	47171	154373	128031		686

Statement-II**Statewise Allocation and Releases under NRHM for 2005-08**

Sl. No.	State Name	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases	Allocation	Releases (in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
High-Focus Non-NE							
1.	Bihar	39821.50	28510.41	59921.44	47091.56	68070.16	18211.15
2.	Chattisgarh	11799.96	10027.54	17457.98	16574.84	22522.77	7946.00
3.	Jharkhand	15769.48	12677.15	22920.47	18916.48	26292.30	2346.91
4.	Madhya Pradesh	28076.37	28617.07	41309.59	46279.84	54404.54	42850.06
5.	Rajasthan	26426.54	31433.78	40790.74	45548.91	54818.48	36268.50
6.	Orissa	19672.15	20931.96	28467.66	23563.93	34520.41	14654.81
7.	Uttar Pradesh	74669.32	89302.12	114270.03	110925.73	145942.48	73664.69
8.	Uttarakhand	5185.93	5526.31	7188.80	4896.57	8443.95	2777.19
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5180.34	6687.83	6582.67	5455.22	8676.75	1680.09
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4358.22	5768.55	5935.93	7794.67	6769.91	2144.41
Total (High focus Non-NE)		230959.81	239482.71	344845.31	327047.75	430461.75	202543.81
High-Focus NE							
1.	Assam	24797.21	13920.07	51322.36	37128.04	64227.58	19589.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2637.96	2586.52	3188.31	5022.22	4339.43	1374.44
3.	Manipur	3362.81	2513.52	5375.46	3803.37	6668.09	1753.11
4.	Meghalaya	3215.47	1844.03	5287.10	3672.90	6227.19	817.79
5.	Mizoram	3121.08	2552.14	2847.83	6042.99	3669.85	1366.26
6.	Nagaland	3041.52	2667.66	4914.02	4333.69	5618.81	2092.86
7.	Tripura	5058.88	2339.46	6634.68	3854.15	8814.36	3637.84

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8. Sikkim		791.98	940.45	1450.89	2594.96	1796.27	703.80
Total (high focus NE)		46026.91	29363.86	81020.65	66452.32	101361.58	31335.47
Total-High Focus		276986.72	268846.57	425865.96	393500.07	531823.33	233879.28
Non-High Focus							
1. Andhra Pradesh		27760.49	35360.28	42005.98	41318.16	59783.51	31577.18
2. Goa		635.09	589.71	949.11	427.70	1338.47	180.82
3. Guajrat		30682.30	33987.75	31847.89	30335.04	38057.86	14596.45
4. Haryana		6933.18	8204.00	11769.25	12943.49	13759.89	1255.43
5. Karnataka		18756.41	18941.56	29829.03	27874.30	39595.32	2559.13
6. Kerala		11738.02	10918.90	17721.08	18885.29	21857.20	5237.53
7. Maharashtra		31071.63	33190.48	51294.55	35332.14	67114.17	36587.74
8. Punjab		7509.28	9263.24	12844.46	16971.56	16196.89	4373.74
9. Tamil Nadu		21273.35	23769.67	33855.17	36081.23	43315.55	24393.92
10. West Bengal		27728.90	28782.56	43326.24	43146.14	54019.71	14116.61
11. Andaman and Nicobar Island		563.07	547.95	910.30	986.65	609.14	435.62
12. Chandigarh		328.60	275.45	636.57	531.43	734.93	145.24
13. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		202.91	139.84	346.20	284.80	377.78	25.53
14. Daman and Diu		146.59	161.94	360.35	356.31	343.47	22.10
15. Delhi		3136.07	3202.71	5724.73	5127.69	7920.46	3753.27
16. Lakashdweep		121.68	147.61	247.20	173.06	224.53	2.80
17. Puducherry		267.46	400.34	528.63	608.31	998.15	23.91
Total (non-high focus)		188855.03	207883.99	284196.74	271383.30	366247.03	139287.02
Grand Total		465841.75	476730.56	710062.70	664883.37	898070.36	373166.30

*[English]***AIDS Awareness Programme**

*96. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aids Control Programme (NACO) could not make much impact on the awareness of AIDS prevention in many States including Tamil Nadu and Pondichery;

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

(c) whether the funds released under NACO have not been utilized by the States satisfactorily;

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

(e) the concrete measures taken by the Union Government for effective implementation of NACO in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) As per the national behavioural sentinel surveillance

survey, 2006, conducted to know the impact on awareness and behavioural sex practices among general population, it was observed that awareness about sexual mode of transmission of AIDS has increased from 62% in 2001 to 74% in 2006 and awareness of two methods of prevention of HIV transmission (Consistent condom use and having one faithful uninfected sexual partner) has increased from 39% in 2001 to 57% in 2006. The awareness level about two methods of prevention among high risk population i.e. female sex worker has also shown increase from 65.7% to 81.0%. Statewise comparative figures including Tamil Nadu and Pondichery are given in the enclosed Statement-I where an increase in awareness levels were also recorded.

(c) and (d) The utilization of funds by the States were satisfactory in 2006-2007 with an overall utilization rate of 97%. The statewise utilization of funds released under NACO is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) Phase III of the National AIDS Control Programme has been formulated to control the spread of HIV by up scaling targeted interventions among the high risk groups, behaviour change communication for improved awareness, expanding, counseling and testing services, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and mainstreaming of HIV intervention strategies.

Statement-I**State-wise comparison of Awareness of HIV/AIDS Prevention**

S.No.	State/Group of State	Awareness of Sexual Mode of Transmission		Awareness of Two Methods of HIV Prevention	
		2001	2006	2001	2006
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	85.1	83.5	50.6	62.5
2.	Assam	64.7	87.6	18.0	58.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Bihar	—	41.5	—	39.9
4.	Chattisgarh	—	57.2	—	38.9
5.	Delhi	85.5	89.5	71.2	66.6
6.	Goa + Daman and Diu	91.8	90.8	66.0	70.2
7.	Gujarat + DNH	54.7	75.4	43.3	67.3
8.	Haryana	78.3	84.4	61.3	72.9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	88.2	84.9	69.9	79.1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	79.5	76.1	61.7	58.6
11.	Jharkhand	—	61.8	—	43.3
12.	Karnataka	78.4	78.5	46.7	41.5
13.	Kerala + Lakshadweep	97.7	96.6	61.8	85.2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	60.2	—	53.5
15.	Maharashtra	80.7	88.7	45.7	65.4
16.	Manipur	88.7	87.5	62.2	66.8
17.	Orissa	62.4	75.3	23.9	44.6
18.	Other North Eastern States	70.9	85.1	34.7	55.4
19.	Punjab + Chandigarh	89.0	85.5	71.8	68.5
20.	Rajasthan	59.0	62.9	43.2	53.5
21.	Sikkim	70.6	57.4	47.7	36.8
22.	Tamil Nadu + Pondicherry	75.0	85.3	51.9	62.9
23.	Uttar Pradesh	—	72.6	—	66.3
24.	Uttaranchal	—	78.3	—	70.5
25.	West Bengal + Andaman and Nicobar Islands	52.1	74.6	21.4	36.9
26.	Bihar+Jharkhand	39.1	51.4	25.0	33.8
27.	Madhya Pradesh + Chhattisgarh	53.6	59.1	38.3	42.0
28.	Uttar Pradesh + Uttaranchal	47.0	75.0	35.5	64.2
	All India	61.6	74.3	39.2	57.1

Statement-II*Funds released to the States along with the expenditure for last three years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	Release during 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05	Release during 2005-06	Expenditure 2005-06	Release during 2006-07	Expenditure 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1692.45	1058.22	500.00	752.81	7079.55	7958.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	285.50	203.96	280.00	52.15	448.20	525.42
3.	Assam	1214.50	720.59	915.60	771.30	1351.30	1320.80
4.	Bihar	1079.50	460.54	450.00	1134.54	1475.75	637.58
5.	Goa	163.50	139.47	275.00	164.49	415.00	219.26
6.	Gujarat	565.00	384.01	300.00	270.40	1471.09	3015.97
7.	Haryana	266.00	220.42	0.00	187.25	615.00	436.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	423.50	249.89	300.00	89.80	603.90	652.57
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	279.50	72.45	50.00	34.03	420.70	238.07
10.	Karnataka	1664.50	1033.63	1175.00	754.07	3414.45	2554.35
11.	Kerala	553.00	399.42	300.00	246.44	1521.98	1636.07
12.	Madhya Pradesh	855.50	231.33	100.00	111.40	790.50	901.61
13.	Maharashtra	1625.50	1086.39	1700.00	1089.79	3984.57	3721.28
14.	Manipur	1847.75	709.08	1483.94	1002.64	2134.53	1771.31
15.	Meghalaya	15.50	76.19	25.00	29.32	10.10	85.79
16.	Mizoram	571.50	323.58	680.00	409.87	885.40	841.93
17.	Nagaland	1065.25	761.85	1200.36	676.08	1625.01	1643.67
18.	Orissa	430.00	186.05	225.00	233.76	909.20	1273.06
19.	Punjab	371.50	120.20	0.00	163.95	713.90	549.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Rajasthan	867.50	438.23	575.00	383.32	946.30	689.26
21.	Sikkim	179.00	131.33	196.00	137.13	330.40	244.97
22.	Tamil Nadu	2043.50	771.41	2987.00	1526.39	5449.66	4668.36
23.	Tripura	221.00	144.22	172.00	89.43	398.25	150.90
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1070.80	495.84	0.00	638.03	2361.12	2331.44
25.	West Bengal	2028.00	1124.57	1150.00	1315.45	3620.72	4232.91
26.	Delhi	604.00	573.63	1150.00	421.82	1355.60	1413.54
27.	Pondicherry	114.00	98.52	75.00	267.45	319.00	199.35
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	180.50	123.34	50.00	116.48	228.00	63.77
29.	Chandigarh	228.50	203.03	225.00	287.51	411.55	326.85
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	76.00	30.20	25.00	49.59	100.60	86.34
31.	Daman and Diu	101.00	81.78	75.00	55.11	130.20	156.06
32.	Lakshadweep	29.50	24.06	25.00	20.84	41.80	22.21
33.	MDACS	775.00	760.92	725.00	524.94	1603.43	1501.03
34.	Ahm'bad MC	208.30	125.18	25.00	53.09	260.37	476.25
35.	Chennai MC	157.45	259.68	525.00	564.87	678.00	382.89
36.	Uttaranchal	298.00	74.81	200.00	110.04	529.60	77.55
37.	Chhattisgarh	429.50	111.29	600.00	477.32	475.90	553.93
38.	Jharkhand	256.00	189.67	150.00	221.18	582.00	600.66
		24837.00	14198.98	18889.90	15434.08	49692.63	48161.58

Policy to Check Pollution in Cities

97. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any

revised policy to check the increasing air and water pollution in the cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the revised policy is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the details of the Source Apportionment Studies undertaken in various cities along with the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The National Environment Policy, 2006 seeks to address the task of mitigation of air and water pollution in the cities taking into account the existing plans and programmes.

To abate and control air and water pollution, various steps have been initiated including the following:

- Emission and effluent standards have been notified for various categories of industries under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.
- The ambient air quality is monitored at 339 locations in 108 cities/towns under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP).
- Action plans for improvement of Air quality have been prepared and implemented for 16 cities.
- Cleaner fuels have been introduced for control of vehicular pollution as per Auto Fuel Policy.
- Source Apportionment Studies for suspended particulate matter (SPM) and respirable suspended particulate matter (RSPM) have been initiated for ascertaining contribution from various sources in six cities, namely, Delhi, Kanpur, Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore and Chennai through various institutions.
- The water quality is monitored at 1037 locations in the country under the National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP).
- For controlling water pollution emanating from Small Scale Industries units, a centrally sponsored scheme for establishment of

Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) is under implementation.

Six-Laning of NH

*98. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:

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

(a) the details of the stretches of the National Highways converted/proposed to be converted into six-lane, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and spent there from for the said purpose; and

(c) the time by which the works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) (i) The stretches of National Highways under National Highways Development Project where 6-laning has been completed at an aggregate cost of Rs. 749.32 crore are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(ii) The stretches of National Highways under National Highways Development Project which are under implementation for 6-laning are given in the enclosed Statement-II which also gives the total cost of those projects as Rs. 3232 crore and expenditure upto 31st October, 2007 as Rs. 1524.18 crore. Likely completion dates are indicated for individual projects.

(iii) The stretches of National Highways under National Highways Development Project identified to be taken up for 6-laning are given in the enclosed Statement-III. These are expected to cost around Rs. 42590 crore and have been targeted for completion by 2013.

Statement-I**List of Six Lining Projects Completed on NHDP**

Sl No	Stretch	NH No.	Length (km)	State	Completion Date	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crores)
1.	Six-laning of Kamaspur to Haryana/Delhi Border (NS/2) lan 44.3-km 29.3	1	15	Haryana	November, 2001	42.39
2.	Avathi village to Nandi Hills cross and six-laning of Devanhalli-Meenukunte (NS-10) km 524-km 527 and km 535-km 539	7	7	Karnataka	July, 2001	35.2
3.	Mahapure (near Jaipur)—Kishangarh (6-lane) km 273.5-km 363.885	8	90.38	Rajasthan	March, 2005	671.73
Total Length			112.38			749.32

Statement-II**List of Six-Laning Projects under Implementation on NHDP**

(Status as on October 31, 2007)

Sl. No.	Stretch	NH No.	Length (km)	State	Likely Completion Date	Total Project Cost (in crores)	Cumm. Exp. (in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Delhi-Gurgaon Section (Access Controlled 8/6 lane) km 143-km 42	8	27.7	Delhi (9.7 km)/ Haryana (18 km)	December, 2007	710	658.43
2.	Vadodara to Bharuch Package BOT-I (Six lane) (km 108.7 to km 192)	8	83.3	Gujarat	July, 2009	660	104.17
3.	Bharuch to Surat Package BOT-II (Six lane) 6 laning	8	65	Gujarat	July, 2009	492	65.88
4.	Panipat to Panchi Gujran (Six laning work) (NS-89/HR) km 86.00-km 66.00	1	20	Haryana	October, 2008	109	16.45
5.	Six laning of Panchi Gujran to Karnaspur (Sonepat) (NS-17/HR) km 66.00 to km 44.30	1	21.7	Haryana	March, 2008	84	64.37
6.	Six laning of Bangalore-Hosur Section of NH-7 km 18.750 to 33.130	7	14.38	Karnataka	July, 2008	110	12.57
7.	Construction of Elevated Highway and from Silk board junction to electronic city junction (km 8.765 to 18.750) on BOT	7	9.98	Karnataka	July, 2008	450	412.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Construction of Access Controlled Highway from km 10/0 to km 29/50 of Bangalore Nelamangala Section of NH-4 on BOT	4	19.5	Karnataka	November, 2009	445	1.55
9.	Nandi Hills Cross to Devanhalli and Six laning of Meenukunte to Habbal (NS-24(KN))	7	25	Karnataka	November, 2007	172	188.36
	Km 539-556 and km 527-km 535						
Total Length			286.56			3232	1524.18

Statement-III*List of stretches identified for 6-laning under NHDP*

Sl. No.	NH	Stretches for Six lanning	Length (in km)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	5	Chilikaluripet-Vijayawada-Elluru-Rajamundri	270
2.	5	Tada-Nellore Bypass	130
3.	5	Vishakapatnam-Ankapalli-Rajamundri	200
4.	5	Srikakulam-Vishakhapatnam	100
5.	5	Nellore-Chilikaluripet	184
6.	5	Ichapuram-Srikakulam	140
Bihar			
1.	2	Aurangabad-Barwa Adda (Bihar Portion)	70
2.	2	Varanasi-Aurangabad (Bihar Portion)	140
Gujarat			
1.	NE-1	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway	95
2.	8A	Samaikhiali-Gandhidham	58
3.	8	Surat-Dahisar (Gujarat portion)	120
4.	8	Vadodara-Surat	148
5.	8	Udaipur-Ahmedabad (Gujarat portion)	140
Haryana			
1.	8	Gurgaon-Kotputli-Jaipur (Haryana portion)	65
2.	1	Panipat-Jalandhar (Haryana Portion)	116
3.	2	Delhi-Agra (Haryana Portion)	74
Karnataka			
1.	4	Bangalore-Tumkur	65

1	2	3	4
2.	4	Hubli-Chitradurga	200
3.	4	Chitradurga Bypass-Tumkur Bypass	145
4.	7	Bangalore-Krishnagiri (Karnataka portion)	55
5.	4	Belgaum-Hubli	110
6.	4	Kagal-Belgaum	77
Kerala			
1.	47	Vadakkancherry-Thrissur Section	30
Madhya Pradesh			
1.	3	Indore-Dewas	55
Maharashtra			
1.	3	Pimpalgaon-Nasik-Gonde	60
2.	4	Kalamboli-Mumbra	20
3.	4	Satara-Kagal	133
4.	4	Pune-Satara	145
5.	8	Surat-Dahisar (Maharashtra portion)	125
Orissa			
1.	5A	Chandikhol-Paradeep	77
2.	5	Chandikhol-Jagatpur-Bhubaneswar	70
3.	5	Balasore-Chandikhol	140
4.	5	Bhubneshwar-Ichchapuram	165
Punjab			
1.	95 and 21	Ludhiana-Chandigarh	82
2.	1	Panipat-Jalandhar (Punjab Portion)	184
Rajasthan			
1.	8	Gurgaon-Kotputli-Jaipur (Rajasthan portion)	165
2.	79A, 79 and 76	Kishangarh-Udaipur	315

1	2	3	4
3.	8	Udaipur-Ahmedabad (Rajasthan portion)	95
Tamil Nadu			
1.	5	Chennai-Tada	50
2.	7 and 4	Krishnagiri-Poonamalee	240
3.	7	Bangalore-Krishnagiri (Tamil Nadu portion)	40
Uttar Pradesh			
1.	58	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh Border-Meerut	46
2.	3	Agra-Etawah Bypass	125
3.	2	Etawah-Allahabad	310
4.	2	Allahabad Bypass-Varanasi	160
5.	2	Varanasi-Aurangabad (Uttar Pradesh portion)	50
6.	24	Hapur-Moradabad	110
7.	24	Delhi-Hapur	60
8.	2	Delhi-Agra (Uttar Pradesh portion)	106
9.	3	Agra-Gwalior	85
West Bengal			
1.	4 and 6	Dhankuni-Baleshwar	240
2.	2	Barwa Adda-Panagarh (WB portion)	20
3.	2	Panagarh-Dhankuni	135
Jharkhand			
1.	2	Barwa Adda-Panagarh (Jharkhand portion)	100
2.	2	Aurangabad-Barwa Adda (Jharkhand Portion)	150

Linking of Villages through Satellite

*99. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to provide links to various Panchayats in the States through the Gramsat;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the villages identified for this purpose, State-wise;

(c) the funds earmarked for each village, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which the villages in the States are likely to be linked through Gramsat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Department of Space initiated Experimental Gramsat Programme in 1998 to facilitate training of panchayat level functionaries and to promote developmental activities mostly in remote areas. As a part of Gramsat programme, Satcom networks have been established at District/Block/Panchayat level as below:—

State	No. of Locations	
	Districts/ Blocks	Panchayats
Madhya Pradesh	518	1012
Orrisa	350	1166
Karnataka	176	—
Gujarat	550	250
Rajasthan	2	17
West Bengal	320	—
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	—

Satcom networks were not set up at village level under Gramsat programme. However, villages coming under the above mentioned Panchayats will get benefited by these facilities. The programmes were tailored to meet the requirements of individual States.

(c) Department of Space has not earmarked village-wise funds for Gramsat programme.

(d) Based on the experience of GRAMSAT TDCC, tele-medicine, tele-education and remote sensing

applications, ISRO has established Village Resource Centres (VRC). VRCs provide integrated services comprising of tele-education, tele-medicine, natural resources information and skill development. At present 291 VRCs have been established in States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Puducherry. These centres are established based on the requirement and interest shown by various State and Central Government departments/institutions/NGOs etc.

Independent Regulatory Authority for Road Development Projects

*100. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industry experts have called for the formation of an independent regulatory authority to govern road development projects in the country;

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

(c) whether FICCI has released a Report enumerating the reasons for delay in the completion of road construction projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the suggestions outlined in the said Report; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the suggestions made in the report for development of roads in the country?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Supreme Court Directives on
Setusamudram Project**

575. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has issued any directions or made any remarks against any State Government in connection with Setusamudram Canal project; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Special Purpose Vehicle

576. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to float a new Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for funding infrastructure projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any infrastructure projects have been identified for funding by the proposed SPV; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial allocation for each project and the targeted date for their completion, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Department of Economic Affairs, vide their Office Memorandum No. 9/49/07-Infra dated 16-11-2007 have informed that "A committee chaired by Shri Deepak Parekh has made a number of recommendations for

financing Infrastructure. One of the recommendations is to use a small part of the foreign exchange reserves without the risk of monetary expansion. The Committee has suggested the establishment of a wholly-owned overseas subsidiary of India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) to borrow funds from the RBI and lend to Indian companies implementing Infrastructure projects in India, or to co-finance their External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) for such projects, solely for capital expenditure outside India. Government is examining the legal and regulatory aspects of setting up the overseas subsidiary or SPV but the final decision has not yet been taken. Therefore the question of projects being identified for funding does not arise."

[Translation]

Cruelty to Animals

577. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of cruelty inflicted on animals during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons convicted in this regard during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the provisions made by the Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960 was enacted by the Central Government to prevent infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering on animals. Prevention of Cruelty falls in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and hence the appropriate law enforcement machinery are the State Governments/Local Authorities. Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), the statutory body under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, addresses all the State Governments to enforce the provisions regarding cruelties to animals and to book the offenders suitably. The cases as reported by State Governments/Union Territories during the last three years are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Name of the State/ Union Territory	Number of cases pertaining to Cruelty to animals during the years			Number of convictions-during the years		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Andhra Pradesh	66	29	71	51 (for 2005)	24 (for 2006)	113 (upto Aug. 07)
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	1	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	84	51	65	14	15	14
Chandigarh	0	2	1	0	3	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	0	0	1
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	1389	1572	1826	1389	1570	1838
Goa	10	2	11	8	2	0
Haryana	90	152	255	46	97	185
Himachal Pradesh	21	20	6	8	0	0
Kerala	123	100	79	46	24	19
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Punjab	0	2	1	0	2	1
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tirupura	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	1541	1296	1127	4265	3338	3037
Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	13918	9078	17092	207	160	178

Widening of NH in Orissa

578. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Orissa regarding widening and increasing the number of lanes of National Highways passing through the State during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken till date by the Union Government on the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. During last three years, 27 proposals were received from the State Government of Orissa for widening and increasing the number of lanes of National Highways (NHs) passing through the State. All the 27 proposals were sanctioned. The year-wise details of the same are as follows:

Year	No. of proposals		Sanctioned	
	Received	Sanctioned	Length in km	Amount in Rs. in crore
2004-05	9	9	84.70	41.44
2005-06	4	4	30.90	14.44
2006-07	14	14	116.06	140.09

Cultivation of Herbal Crops

579. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote the cultivation of herbal crops in view of the increasing demand of Ayurvedic medicines in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) National Medicinal Plants Board has been set up by Government to coordinate the development of the medicinal plants sector. The Board has implemented Contractual Farming Scheme under which financial assistance @ 30% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 9.00 lakhs, is provided to farmers/growers for cultivation of identified medicinal plants. Besides, National Horticulture Mission, Department of

Agriculture and Cooperation also supports the cultivation of medicinal plants under their scheme. National Horticulture Board is implementing a Scheme viz. "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management" under which back ended capital investment subsidy not exceeding 20% of the total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakh per project is admissible. For the North-Eastern/Tribal/Hilly Areas, maximum limit of subsidy is Rs. 30.0 lakh per project. The financial assistance for hi-tech cultivation of herbal crops is also covered under the scheme.

[English]

Investments Potential of IT Industry in NER

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

(a) whether in a sectoral summit by the DONER in September this year, an assessment was made about the investment potential of the IT industry in the North-East;

(b) if so, the estimated assessment about the investment made so far in the IT industry in the North-Eastern Region (NER) and potential for further investment opportunities in the Region; and

(c) the steps recommended by the sectoral summit and the response of the Union Government thereto

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATIRAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The 7th Sectoral Summit of the North Eastern Council was held at Kohima, Nagaland on 31st July and 1st August 2007 to discuss issues pertaining to 'Information Technology, IT-enabled services and Telecommunications' in the NER. In the Summit, it was recognised that the North-East Region is rich in English-speaking and educated manpower which forms the backbone of the ITeS-BPO industry in the country. As the personnel costs of the IT industry in the rest of the country are going up, the NER, with comparatively low wages, should be in a position to attract IT companies. It was also indicated that the IT industry should take advantage of this highly talented resource. However, no specific assessment was made about the investment potential of the IT industry in the North Eastern Region.

(b) Recognizing the potential of the Region, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOD) with Mis National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) for administering the Assessment of Competence Test for 20,000 undergraduate youth of the Region. This will be a certification and benchmarking programme for employment in the IT-industry. Rs. 3.5 crore have been sanctioned for this programme. Besides this, the Ministry of DoNER is also providing funds to the unemployed youth of N.E. States in IT skills through the Department of Electronics

Accreditation to Computer Courses (DOEACC) and other Government institutions. The North Eastern Council, in the current financial year, has allocated Rs. 7.50 crore for IT and IT-related services in its budget. It has already released approximately Rs. 3.10 crore till date.

(c) The following conclusions with regard to the IT sector were arrived at during the 7th Sectoral Summit:

- The North-East States should endeavour to develop themselves into preferred IT destinations by creating an enabling environment with appropriate policy intervention and PPP models.
- The IT industry should not be misled by the false portrayal of the North-East as a Region beset with terrorism and insurgency. The fact is that large swathes of the Region have an impeccable law and order situation. The Ministry of DoNER and the NE States should take appropriate measures to dispel such a notion from the minds of potential investors.
- Quality infrastructure should be created to position the Region as an attractive and viable destination for the IT industry.
- The States should give the highest importance to the use of IT to lift the quality of life of their people, particularly in the rural areas.
- The States should take appropriate measures for the promotion of local entrepreneurship in IT. A scholarship-based system of identifying, nurturing and promoting IT talent should be introduced.
- The North-East Region should position itself to become the back office for the Southeast Asian and East Asian countries.
- The IT industry is likely to have a much lower attrition rate in the Region as the people are generally attached to their heritage. The States and NASSCOM may highlight this crucial aspect which is becoming a major concern of the industry.

- The State Governments are unable to find resources for running the Community Information Centres (CICs) and are requesting the extension of the *status-quo* for a few more years. Further, questions were raised regarding the viability of converting the CICs into Common Service Centres (CSCs) at many places. It was agreed that the Department of Information Technology should take into account the concerns of the states before taking a final decision.
- The DOEACC, an autonomous society of the Department of Information Technology, has centres at Aizawl, Imphal, Tezpur (with extension centres at Guwahati and Kohima). Such centres should be established in all the States of the Region.
- The Government should work towards a One India Plan for Bandwidth so that the North-East States do not suffer from this handicap.
- The IT and Higher Education Departments in the NE States should extend requisite support to NASSCOM for the NASSCOM Assessment of Competence in IT Skills. They should remain fully involved with the whole process since it has long-term implications for employment, training and modification of curriculum. NEC and North Eastern Regional Educational Council should sensitize the Vice-Chancellors of Universities and College Principals for orienting eligible students towards appearing in the National Assessment of Competence (NAC).

There is a plan to set up an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) at Dimapur to cater to the needs of the North Eastern Region for which the Government of Nagaland has agreed to provide land.

Multi-Modal Treatment for Cancer Patients

581. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Government of Tamil Nadu for setting up a multi-modal treatment of Cancer patients in the Government Medical College Hospital in Kanyakumari;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) A grant of Rs. 3.00 crore is provided to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for Development of Oncology Wing under the National Cancer Control Programme. A proposal seeking financial assistance for Medical College Hospital in Kanyakumari under the scheme from Government of Tamil Nadu is yet to be received by this Ministry.

[Translation]

Construction of Flyover on NH-2 between Delhi and Faridabad

582. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of Badarpur Flyover on NH-2 between Delhi and Faridabad has been pending for the last seven years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to start the construction work of this flyover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The project of Badarpur flyover was approved by Ministry on 01-03-2005 and by National Highways Authority of India Board on 12-04-2005. The project is pending for two and half years as clearances from Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC) and Department of Archeology Government of Delhi took

considerable time and could be obtained by NHAI in July/August 2007. The acceptance of Government of NCT of Delhi on State Support Agreement was received only in November 2007. NHAI had been vigorously pursuing the matter with the concerned departments/agencies for early clearances. Now that the clearances have been obtained, efforts are being made to expedite the tendering process and to commence the work early. Bids for pre-qualification of concessionaires have already been invited.

[English]

**Funds for Strengthening
PR Institutions**

583. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made any assessment that it required Rs. 4,000 crores for strengthening of PR Institutions in the country;

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

(c) whether any assessment has been made as to how much money is required for development of PR System in backward districts of the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The effective implementation of Panchayati Raj requires that transfer of powers and responsibilities to Panchayats in pursuance of the devolution of functions upon them should be matched by the concomitant transfer of funds and functionaries so as to ensure the effective performance of the transferred responsibilities. The funds transferred would include those in respect of schemes

entrusted to the Panchayats for planning and implementation, block grants recommended for transfer to the Panchayats by the Central and State Finance Commissions and other untied funds. The Ministry has been pursuing the obtaining of funds through loans and grants from external agencies in order to strengthen Panchayati Raj across the country. The Ministry has adopted a three pronged approach for supplementing the resources for the strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions:

(i) Funding and technical support for the Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS):

The PEAIS is sought to be implemented across the country as a national programme through which States that are able to show better performance in implementing Panchayati Raj and Panchayats at all levels that are able to show better performance in practising transparency and being accountable to citizens, would receive incentive grants. The performance of the States and Panchayats would be independently assessed using a devolution index developed for the purpose. The PEAIS is envisaged to be Government of India led funding support, to which the World Bank and other donors could produce supplementation with additional funds. World Bank and donor funding will be subsidiary to GOI funding. The PEAIS was approved for 2006-07 as a Central Sector Scheme for the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, with a total allocation of Rs. 10 crore. A proposal for enlarging the financial allocation of the existing PEAIS to about Rs. 4000 crore through obtaining funds from Central budgetary resources as well as the World Bank is under preparation.

(ii) States-specific budgetary and technical support for Institutional strengthening and capacity building of Panchayats:

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is lending its support to proposals sent by States for fully implementing the empowerment and strengthening of Panchayats. A State specific project for Panchayat strengthening is under implementation in Karnataka. Proposals received from

Kerala, West Bengal and Bihar have been formally forwarded to the World Bank and details of such State-specific projects for these States are now being worked out.

(iii) Technical Assistance:

The Ministry has obtained approval for securing technical assistance from the World Bank, for Panchayati Raj related institutional reforms and action research.

(c) and (d) The requirement of funds for Panchayats in backward districts of the country including those in Andhra Pradesh would depend upon the extent of devolution of functions to the Panchayats under the relevant Panchayati Raj Legislation and the activity mapping undertaken by the State concerned. Devolution of funds would also necessitate that each State Government includes a PRI component in its State budget, which indicates the allocation of funds to the Panchayats to match legislative devolution and activity mapping. Andhra Pradesh had committed that it would create a Panchayat sector in its budget in the financial year 2006-07 in the joint statement of conclusions signed between the Chief Minister and the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj in April 2006. The State has so far not undertaken this exercise.

The PEAIS scheme envisages that all States, including Andhra Pradesh would be eligible to receive funds under it, if it shows progress in respect of the criteria stated out in the devolution index.

Construction of CGHS Dispensary

584. SHRI K.S. RAO:

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 4607 dated May 9, 2007 regarding construction of new CGHS dispensaries and to state:

(a) whether the construction of some CGHS dispensaries which were suspended due to resource crunch in 2006-07 has been taken up;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds sanctioned for 2007-08 and released so far towards the construction of these dispensaries (dispensary-wise); and

(d) the dates fixed for completion of this project (dispensary-wise) alongwith the dates by which these dispensaries are likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An amount of Rs. 500.00 lakh has been sanctioned under Major Head-4210-Capital Outlay on Medical and Public Health. Out of this amount, the dispensary-wise funds released for construction of building is as under:—

(i) Shalimar Bagh	Rs. 80.00 lakh
(ii) Yojana Vihar, Dilshad Garden, watch and ward etc.	Rs.128.75 lakh

(d) CPWD has estimated that the construction could be completed 18 months after approvals from all sources are received.

Funds Provided to NGOs through Centrally Sponsored Schemes

585. PROF. M. RAMADASS:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the centrally sponsored schemes for Union Territories;

(b) the details of the funds sanctioned to the Union Territory of Pondicherry through centrally sponsored schemes during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the funds are also being provided to the Non-Governmental Organisations for carrying out centrally sponsored schemes:

(d) if so, the details of the amount released to the Non-Governmental Organisations in the Union Territory of Pondicherry during the same period alongwith the name of the Non-Governmental Organisations;

(e) whether the progress of the work made by these NGOs have been monitored by the Government:

(f) if so, the details of the works carried out by these NGOs:

(g) whether some NGOs have been found to be committing frauds; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The National Service Scheme (NSS) is the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of this Ministry under which two types of programmes are conducted namely (i) Regular Activities and (ii) Special Camping Programme. Under Regular Activities, students are expected to work as volunteers for 2 years, rendering community service for a minimum of 120 hours per annum. A camp of 10 days' duration is conducted every year in the adopted villages on a specific theme under Special Camping Programme.

(b) Funds sanctioned to the Union Territory of Puducherry (Pondicherry) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of NSS during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Regular Activities	Special Camp
2004-2005	Rs. 6,91,554.00	Rs. 7,21,875.00
2005-2006	Rs. 11,05,704.00	Rs. 10,50,000.00
2006-2007	Rs. 2,90,000.00	—

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (h) Do not arise.

National Urban Health Mission (NUHM)

586. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) on the lines of NRHM;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of NUHM;

(c) whether any cities/towns have been identified under NUHM on pilot basis; and

(d) if so, the details of cities/towns identified in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To address the health concerns of urban poor specially those residing in slums of towns/cities with population of 1 lakh and above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Strengthening of Panchayati Raj

587. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to grant more powers to Gram Pradhans for strengthening the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide "Gram Pradhan Nidhi" for Gram Pradhans for the development of villages on the lines of "MPLADS";

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the other steps being taken to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER

OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The full details of the steps taken to strengthen Panchayati Raj in the country are to be found in the three-volume, + 2500 page report—*The State of the Panchayats—A Mid-term Review and Appraisal* placed on the Table of both Houses of Parliament in 23 November 2006. The Institute of Rural Management at Anand (IRMA) have now been commissioned to undertake an independent evaluation and their Report is expected by the first quarter of next year.

Panchayati Raj Institutions can only be strengthened through the actual transfer of the functions devolved upon them in the State Panchayati Raj Acts with the concomitant transfer of funds and functionaries to perform these functions. The basic constitutional objective of empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions is to enable them to function as institutions of self-government. Article 243 G of the Constitution provides for devolution of powers and responsibilities upon Panchayats at the appropriate level, subject to such conditions as may be specified therein, with respect to—

- (a) the preparation of plans for economic development and social justice;
- (b) the implementation of schemes for economic development and social justice as may be entrusted to them including those in relation to the matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule.

However effective devolution to Panchayats requires that they function democratically. The emphasis, therefore, is on the strengthening of Panchayats as institutions as a whole, rather than on the empowerment of the chairperson alone. Therefore empowerment of

Panchayats should be accompanied by institutionalizing their democratic functioning.

In order to evolve a national consensus on the strengthening of Panchayati Raj, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj convened Seven Round Tables of State Panchayati Raj Ministers with the Union Minister for Panchayati Raj between July and December 2004. The Round Tables identified through consensus, the effective devolution of functions, finances and functionaries to the Panchayats as a key priority in Panchayati Raj reform. The Second Round table held at Mysore resolved that for the effective implementation of entrusted schemes, Chairpersons must act as Chairpersons-in-council. Subject-related Standing Committees of the Panchayat must be activated so that all elected members of the Panchayat participate in managing all aspects of implementation, from conception to approval, from the calling of tenders to the finalization of vendors and from supervision of on-going works to certifying the issue of utilization certificates. The Gram Sabha should be involved in every stage of the process. These steps would facilitate participative decision-making and instill a sense of collective responsibility in the Panchayat.

The Constitution empowers State legislatures to authorize the Panchayats to levy and collect taxes and for making grants-in-aid to Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the States. It also mandates that States shall set up State Finance Commissions to review the financial position of the Panchayats and make recommendations on the distribution of tax proceeds between the State and the Panchayats. In furtherance of these Constitutional provisions, the endeavor of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj is to ensure that funds are devolved to Panchayats in a largely untied fashion, to match the devolution of activities to them. Fund transfers to Panchayats should be without delay or diversion, through providing a separate Panchayat sector window in the budgets of State Governments. Such funds would be utilized in accordance with the collective and participative decisions of the Panchayat concerned as a whole and not be exclusively placed with the Gram Pradhans of the Panchayats.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is continuously and closely engaging with the Central Ministries administering the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to ensure that definite roles are assigned to Panchayats at all levels in implementing these schemes. The Ministry has also been holding workshops and conferences in collaboration with Planning Commission to ensure that Planning by all three levels of Panchayats becomes the core of district planning. The Backward Regions Grant Fund programme is implemented on the basis of participative plans prepared from the Grass roots level upwards by the Panchayats at all levels and Urban Local bodies in urban areas, which are then consolidated by the District Planning Committee into the draft development plan of the district.

[Translation]

**Setting Up of Community
Health Centres**

588 SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides financial assistance for setting up of a Community Health Centre for the population of one lakh as per Indian

Public Health Standard under National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has released the fund to the States in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), it is envisaged to set up Community Health Centres (CHCs), phase-wise, as per 2001 population. The population norm followed is 1,20,000 for plain areas and 80,000 for hilly/tribal/difficult areas. State/UT Governments are required to incorporate their requirement of funds for up-gradation/setting up of CHCs in their annual Programme Implementation Plan under NRHM.

(c) to (e) Funds out of State Health Plan Outlay are utilized, inter-alia, for setting up of CHCs by the State/UT Governments. State-wise allocation and expenditure of the Outlay during 10th Plan is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Health-State Plan Outlays and Expenditure

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/UT	X Plan	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Outlay	Expenditure								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh	133024.00	24309.00	22008.16	40995.00	35362.36	40995.44	31427.72	43269.24	33964.48	53574.24	53574.24
Arunachal Pradesh	23129.06	2181.00	2181.01	2201.00	2099.23	2781.35	3185.00	1828.82	1478.36	1970.00	3850.00
Assam	57069.00	8648.00	8194.35	1682.00	7882.00	6529.00	6529.00	5687.00	4203.54	21399.00	21399.00
Bihar	07920.00	13703.00	10731.11	13699.00	12343.11	14182.02	14389.78	12721.80	15426.00	13700.00	13822.00
Chhattisgarh	43418.00	6935.00	5550.00	8083.00	8083.00	15076.00	12462.52	14287.44	10035.86	33249.90	25165.69
Goa	13135.00	1895.00	1888.48	3175.00	2568.54	3521.33	3149.21	4132.99	4579.65	4495.00	4495.00
Gujarat	116616.00	21387.00	15192.32	25221.00	21472.13	25294.00	25294.00	43494.00	43494.00	45994.00	45994.00
Haryana	96062.00	6280.00	2233.22	7800.00	5757.51	7124.00	5843.76	10200.00	10000.50	11450.00	1450.00
Himachal Pradesh	78772.00	13414.00	12905.15	19517.00	18066.07	18295.79	19734.27	18476.60	19629.56	19948.92	19948.92
Jammu and Kashmir	79666.00	13000.00	12861.04	14864.00	13752.90	16330.87	17748.78	21061.70	21954.04	21864.25	21864.25
Jharkhand	65000.00	11575.00	6498.00	9700.00	6339.98	14040.00	13371.59	15000.00	14020.07	26800.00	16225.00
Karnataka	153052.00	19247.00	17715.31	13974.00	19189.66	18011.51	15731.51	33239.29	26602.68	34098.61	48151.64
Kerala	40840.00	7135.00	7916.65	9748.00	5170.31	10130.00	6813.87	10035.00	10196.62	9650.00	9650.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Madhya Pradesh	71533.00	14016.00	14520.93	18105.00	15444.43	20298.09	17763.95	20587.00	20747.97	16961.91	23193.47
Maharashtra	110666.00	40740.00	21632.92	76435.00	33244.78	18663.93	31192.05	77874.10	35138.73	88228.54	88228.54
Manipur	8173.00	1415.00	304.23	2280.00	940.96	1915.91	789.52	499.00	558.20	2837.00	3215.00
Meghalaya	18000.00	3020.00	3219.79	3550.00	3773.09	4042.00	4071.31	4484.00	4676.31	4750.00	4750.00
Mizoram	12370.00	2860.00	2725.99	2975.00	4185.67	3000.00	2950.10	3480.00	3378.10	4000.00	4102.06
Nagaland	7965.00	1548.00	1562.14	2383.00	2514.00	2207.15	2114.87	2263.00	1991.93	2363.00	2578.00
Orissa	52139.00	12777.00	7283.09	21694.00	9256.11	11739.19	10281.41	14348.19	7659.27	4052.20	3002.20
Punjab	53081.00	9298.00	6483.49	10450.00	5971.99	7508.93	2133.32	2743.13	1247.13	5019.10	5019.10
Rajasthan	56892.00	12778.00	4034.19	8236.00	5434.80	10811.56	9736.64	18605.59	15384.70	20615.60	21822.16
Sikkim	8000.00	1600.00	1408.04	1606.00	1454.87	2210.00	2200.56	1840.00	1984.87	1690.00	1790.00
Tamil Nadu	70000.00	10440.00	14285.27	16314.00	15963.39	19400.66	17402.60	26874.17	39745.00	46564.75	38074.55
Tripura	25072.00	1480.00	1407.34	2013.00	2243.86	2535.36	3040.42	2662.21	4831.84	6459.60	8376.42
Uttar Pradesh	240543.00	27826.00	25950.00	33927.00	19745.93	33009.00	38352.82	85421.00	91526.63	188763.00	189570.00
Uttaranchal	38767.00	4286.00	5768.50	7359.00	6302.53	8759.31	9978.76	8790.92	17710.21	18600.00	18600.00
West Bengal	103618.00	27898.00	14137.89	21193.00	18590.41	23739.80	15392.06	40207.80	25440.14	44289.63	38482.68
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11400.00	2050.00	2119.64	2150.00	2312.26	2390.00	2382.96	3321.00	2832.22	3657.00	3657.00
Chandigarh	22426.00	3803.65	3944.93	3111.00	3546.75	3477.00	3355.33	3392.00	2983.27	3587.00	3587.00

Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1225.00	238.00	269.57	266.00	301.67	343.00	403.20	400.00	561.27	470.00	470.00
Daman and Diu	1750.00	194.15	217.68	228.00	282.85	290.00	301.03	350.00	462.84	414.00	424.50
Delhi	238150.00	33970.00	33043.43	42692.00	38942.11	53775.00	46989.16	60600.00	543336.37	69120.00	76160.30
Lakshadweep	901.30	275.20	232.33	227.00	264.90	225.00	166.73	242.00	236.70	178.00	178.00
Pondicherry	16360.00	3272.09	3000.21	3205.00	3259.04	4160.00	4196.59	5635.00	5665.74	9485.00	12681.40
Total	2176734.30	370494.09	293426.40	457051.00	352063.20	426812.20	400876.40	618053.99	554684.80	840299.30	843552.12

Source: States Plan Division, Planning Commission

[English]

Extension of National Waterways

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

(a) whether Extension of National Waterways-3 is under the consideration of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal/suggestion for development of "Smart Waterways"; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Kottapuram-Kollam stretch of the West Coast Canal alongwith Champakara canal and Udyogmandal canal were declared as a national waterway (NW-3) in 1992. A proposal for upgradation of Kollam-Kovalam and Kottapuram-Kasargode stretches of West Coast Canal as National Waterway (as extension of National Waterway No. 3) was formulated by Inland Waterways Authority of India. However, it was decided that the proposed extension of NW-3 beyond Kottapuram in North and Kollam in South should be considered after the existing National Waterway No. 3 is made fully functional.

In a Memorandum submitted by the Chief Minister of Kerala to the Hon'ble Prime Minister in August, 2005, ten 'Missions' presented by the Hon'ble President during his address to the State Assembly were mentioned. One of these 'Missions' was 'Smart inland waterways'. The components suggested under 'Smart Inland Waterways' are mentioned in the Statement. Under this Mission most of the action is to be taken by the State Government. The component which relates to Central Government is about the upgradation of Kollam-Kovalam and Kottapuram-Kasargode stretches of West Coast Canal as National Waterway. As stated in preceding paragraph, extension of NW-3 may be

considered once the existing National Waterway becomes fully operational.

Statement

Important Components of 'Smart Inland Waterways'

- o Upgradation of Kollam-Kovalam and Kottapuram-Kasargode stretches of West Coast Canal as National Waterway and establishing smart waterway network from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargode.
- o Making full use of existing canals and river systems for transportation, commerce and tourism.
- o Modern boats and barges etc suitable for Kerala conditions—tie up with international institutions for latest design and construction technologies—the Kerala State Council for Science and Technology would need to take the lead.
- o Navigational aids, controls, regulations.
- o Jetties and landing stations.
- o Safety related infrastructure.
- o Environmental protection and waster disposal—setup mechanism to ensure the environmental quality standards of the waterways.
- o Adoption of fast track mode of land acquisition.
- o Speed up the inland waterway component of the World Bank supported KSTP project.
- o Develop synergies with Tourist Development focusing on cruises and facilities on bank.
- o Develop a symbiotic relationship with traditional fisherman so that their legitimate interests are protected.
- o Follow a two stage approach with the first stage making the existing canals fully functional and the second stage up grading the existing

waterways and filling up gaps to achieve national and international standards.

- o Establishing a regulatory authority network of expert institutions like NATPAC, CWRDM and CESS to provide R and D and technical backup.
- o Follow the empowered committee approach for project approval and implementation.

Tiger Conservation and Protection

590. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned Rs. 4 crore for Tiger conservation alongwith setting up of Tiger Protection Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the amount will be spent; and

(d) the extent to which the Tiger Reserves have been able to provide protection to the Big cat and prevent them from falling prey to the poachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Additional funding support to the tune of Rs. 409.90 lakhs has been provided to 17 Tiger Reserves for deployment of Tiger, Protection Force under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Project Tiger" during current financial year.

(c) and (d) The Tiger Protection Force is being created for strengthening of field protection. The said Force would comprise of ex-army personnel and local people. The professional expertise of ex-army personnel, and knowledge of the tract available with the local people would complement the efforts of the field staff to strengthen protection. The recent All India tiger estimation figures relating four States indicate that the status of tiger in tiger reserves does not show a significant change.

[Translation]

Ban on Manufacturers of Spurious Drugs

591. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study in regard to trading of spurious drugs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban the manufacturers of spurious drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Sir, However, 2 pilot exercises have evaluated the extent of counterfeit drugs in the country—one by the office of Deputy Drugs Controller, [DDC (I)], Western Zone and the other is by an independent forum known as SEARPharm on "Extent of spurious (counterfeit) medicines in India" which is still under progress.

In the study conducted by DDC (1)—West Zone, samples were drawn from brands alleged to be counterfeited from the States located in the Western Region. A total of 3246 samples were drawn in the exercise. The results of samples tested revealed 5 as counterfeit and 2 not complying to the standards (counterfeit drugs do comply with standards).

The survey carried out by SEARPharm has collected 10743 samples of 56 brands from 15 states. The extent of suspected counterfeiting is 3.1%. The percentage of substandard drugs is 0.3%.

Drugs Inspectors appointed by the State Governments also carry out regular sampling of drugs from various places to assess the quality of drugs moving in the market. As per information available from

State Drugs Control Organizations 0.288%, 0.292% and 0.267% of samples were reported to be spurious during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively.

(c) and (d) All manufacturing and sale of drugs is controlled under the various provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder. The manufacture of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity generally indulged in by unlicensed manufacturers and when they are detected, action is taken as per law.

A bill has already been introduced in the Parliament to provide stricter penalties, provision for special courts for speedy trial of drug related offences, compounding offences authorizing the Police also to file prosecution for drugs related offences and making all such offences cognizable and non-bailable.

[English]

**Recruitment of Personnel on
Contract Basis**

592. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Departments/Agencies and Central Public Sector Enterprises have personnel on contract basis in different posts/grades;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the policy of reservation is not applicable in respect of appointments made on contract basis;

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard;

(e) whether the Government proposes to bring forward a legislation to provide job reservation to SCs/STs in contract appointments made by Government Departments/Public Sector Enterprises; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Information is not centrally maintained.

(c) to (f) Reservation to SCs and STs in services is provided when the appointments are made by direct recruitment or promotion. If appointments made to any grade have all the ingredients of direct recruitment, policy of reservation would apply even if the appointment is termed as on contract basis.

Indian Workers in Gulf

593. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian workers employed in the Gulf countries feel insecure as reported in "The Times of India" dated November 5, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to sign a contract with Qatar and other Gulf countries regarding labour laws in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

However, there were two recent incidents in UAE where about 4300 workers of Pauling Middle East Company on 28-10-2007 and about 35,000 workers of Arabtec Construction Company on 1-11-2007, had gone on strike demanding increase in salary etc. Such instances are rare in UAE. However, on the intervention of the Indian Mission, the problem has been resolved. In respect of Pauling Middle East Company except 159 workers of many nationalities, who were detained for indulging in violence, all others were released. Of these

159 detained, 90 were Indians, all of whom have since been deported to India. In respect of Arabtec Company all the workers have gone back to work with the intervention of the Indian Mission and the local Government except 500 workers of many nationalities who were detained for various reasons.

(c) and (d) In December, 2006 the Government signed an MOU with the United Arab Emirates and in April, 2007 with Kuwait. An additional Protocol with Qatar to update the 1985 agreement was signed on 20th November, 2007. MOU with Malaysia has been initialed. Efforts are on to sign MOU with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Yemen. Negotiations have been completed with Oman.

[Translation]

Global Study on Indian Rivers

594. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE
PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Wildlife Fund has conducted global study in regard to Indian rivers and has expressed concern on the process of drying of these rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the steps taken in this regard by the Government so far; and

(d) the success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In a report entitled "World's top 10 rivers at risk", the World Wildlife Fund, an International Non-Government Organisation (NGO), has listed the river Ganga as one of the World's ten rivers facing risk. The Central Government is not aware of the data-base and the methodology adopted by the said NGO for making this Report. The report profiles the

biodiversity of river Ganga, and perceives over extraction of water for agriculture and excessive water diversions affecting natural flows as major threats to the river. The Report does not consider other Indian rivers as facing danger of getting dried up.

(c) and (d) The flows of river Ganga are being monitored by Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Water Resources at various places on regular basis. There is no apparent reduction in the available water in river Ganga at its terminal point at Farakka Barrage even during the critical season. The CWC has formulated a Plan for water resources development in the country that envisages inter-linking of rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water in the country. Under the National River Conservation Plan of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, various works are undertaken for pollution abatement in major rivers including Ganga through interception and diversion of sewage for its treatment and construction of Sewage Treatment Plants and Low Cost Sanitation. The National Environment Policy, 2006 also advocates an integrated approach for management of river basins by the concerned river authorities, ensuring maintenance of adequate flows, adherence to water quality standards throughout their course in all seasons and protection of land resources.

Review of National Mental Health Programme

595. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to review the contents of the National Mental Health Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to post more psychiatrists in the hospitals to provide better care facilities to the patients; and

(d) the patient-psychiatrists ratio in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to re-strategise the National Mental Health Programme in 11th Five Year Plan to cover the areas of suicide prevention, stress management, school mental health etc. and also to create infrastructure for production of quality manpower/training of personnel etc. for effective delivery of mental health services.

(c) and (d) capita practicing psychiatrists work out to 1 Psychiatrist per 4,50,000 population approximately, as assessed during the mental health resources survey carried out in May, 2002. The shortage of psychiatrists and mental health professional is being addressed in the re-strategised National Mental Health Programme for the 11th Five Year Plan by having short-term training for general health care personnel. Also more teaching institutes on the pattern of NIMHANS are being planned at regional level so that adequate number of psychiatrists is available.

[English]

Negligence by Doctors

596. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases have surfaced pointing to the negligence of the doctor at the time of operation in Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the guilty doctors for their negligence; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) In so far as three Central Government Hospitals viz. Safdarjung, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and Smt. S.K. Hospital are concerned,

no case of negligence of doctors at the time of operation has been established. However, all preventive measures are taken to ensure that all the Doctors/technicians in the Operation Theatre are always alert to avoid any negligence.

Indo-Afghanistan Agreement on Health Care and Medicine

597. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Afghanistan have entered into any agreement in the field of Healthcare and Medicine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred by the Government in the said project so far; and

(d) the details of progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) An Agreement on cooperation in the field of healthcare and medical science was signed between the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan on 28th August, 2005. Under this Agreement, the areas of cooperation, inter-alia, include, Family Welfare, Public Health and Nutrition, Communicable Diseases, Medical Research, Indigenous Systems of Medicine, Medical Equipment and Pharmaceutical Products, Hospital Management and Nursing and Midwifery. As provided in the Agreement, a Working Group from the Indian side has been constituted to further elaborate the details of cooperation and to oversee its implementation.

[Translation]

Closure of Nuclear Power Generation Units

598. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nuclear Power Corporation of India has shut down certain units of the atomic power plants and stopped generation of nuclear power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including names of such units/plants and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these units/plants are likely to commence their operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Nuclear Power Corporation of India has 16 nuclear power reactors (4020 MWe) in operation. Out of these 3 reactors (640 MWe) are currently under shut down.

(b) Narora Atomic Power Station-Unit 1 (NAPS-1) (220 MWe) is under shut down for En-mass Coolant Channel Replacement, Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-Unit 2 (RAPS-2) (200 MWe) is shut down for feeder replacement and Kaiga Generating Station-Unit 3 (KGS-3) (220 MWe) is shut down for generator maintenance jobs.

(c) The expected time for commencement of operations is:

NAPS-1	Dec 2007
RAPS-2	Jun 2008
KGS-3	Jan 2008

[English]

Polluting City

599. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Guwahati City has emerged as the most polluting city in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The levels of the Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) in ambient air is one of the indicators of air pollution in the cities. Even though, the monitored ambient air quality data in Guwahati indicates that it is not the most polluted city in the country, the Assam Pollution Control Board has initiated various steps to abate the pollution, which inter-alia include regular monitoring of air and water quality at number of locations, installation of pollution control devices by the industry, organizing camps for free pollution check for vehicles to lessen the pollution load from the vehicles etc.

[Translation]

Setting Up of Primary Health Centres In Backward Villages

600. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up Primary Health Centres/Family Welfare Centres in all the villages, particularly backward villages of the country;

(b) if so, number of the villages where Primary Health Centres have not been set up so far, State-wise;

(c) the funds provided by the Union Government for setting up of new Primary Health Centres as on date, during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(d) the number of Primary Health Centres targeted to be set up during the next financial year and the funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Under National Rural Health mission, it is envisaged to set up Sub-centres, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) as per 2001 population norms. The population norm/followed is 30,000 population in general areas and 20,000 in tribal/hilly/desert areas.

(b) As against the requirement of 26022 PHCs, 22669 PHCs are functioning in the country at present

with shortfall of 4803 PHCs as per 2001 Population norms as on March, 2006. State/Ut-wise status of shortfall is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Funds out of Health State Plan Outlays are utilized, inter-alia, for setting up of PHCs by the State/UT Governments. State-wise allocation and expenditure of the Health Outlay is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Shortfall in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) as per 2001 Population in India (as on March, 2006)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Population in Rural Areas	Tribal Population in Rural Areas	PHCs		
				R	P	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55401067	4646923	1924	1570	354
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	870087	606278	39	85	*
3.	Assam	23216288	3154546	826	610	216
4.	Bihar	74316709	717702	2489	1641	348
5.	Chhattisgarh	16648056	6264835	659	518	141
6.	Goa	677091	190	22	19	3
7.	Gujarat	31740767	6866637	1172	1072	100
6.	Haryana	15029260	0	500	408	92
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5482319	237060	186	439	*
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7627062	1054488	271	374	*
11.	Jharkhand	20952088	6500014	806	330	476
12.	Karnataka	34889033	2934530	1211	1679	*
13.	Kerala	23574449	350019	791	909	*
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44380878	11446448	1670	1192	478
15.	Maharashtra	55777647	7486537	1984	1800	184

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Manipur	1590820	705912	64	72	*
17.	Meghalaya	1864711	1682670	90	101	*
18.	Mizoram	447567	430883	22	57	*
19.	Nagaland	1647249	1544022	80	84	*
20.	Orissa	31287422	7698358	1171	1279	*
21.	Punjab	16096488	0	536	484	52
22.	Rajasthan	43292813	6717810	1555	1713	*
23.	Sikkim	480981	101909	17	24	*
24.	Tamil Nadu	34921681	551143	1173	1252	*
25.	Tripura	2653453	967997	104	73	31
26.	Uttaranchal	6310275	240209	214	222	*
27.	Uttar Pradesh	131658339	95828	4390	3660	730
28.	West Bengal	57748946	4136366	1993	922	1071
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	239954	28456	8	20	*
30.	Chandigarh	92120	0	3	0	3
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	170027	127410	7	6	1
32.	Daman and Diu	100856	11188	3	3	0
33.	Delhi	944727	0	31	8	23
34.	Lakshadweep	33683	32209	1	4	*
35.	Pondicherry	325726	0	10	39	*
India		742490639	77338597	26022	22669	4803

Notes: The requirement is calculated on the basis of final total and tribal population of Census, 2001 in rural areas using the prescribed norms. All India shortfall is derived by adding state-wise figures of shortfall ignoring the existing surplus in some of the states.

R: Required;

P: In Position;

S: Shortfall;

* Surplus

Statement-II
Health-State Plan Outlays and Expenditure

Rs. in lakhs

State/UT	X Plan	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Outlay	Expenditure								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh	133024.00	24309.00	22008.16	40995.00	35362.36	40995.44	31427.72	43269.24	33964.48	53574.24	53574.24
Anunachal Pradesh	23129.06	2181.00	2181.01	2201.00	2099.23	2781.35	3185.00	1828.82	1478.36	1970.00	3850.00
Assam	57069.00	8648.00	8184.35	1682.00	7882.00	6529.00	6529.00	5687.00	4203.54	21399.00	21399.00
Bihar	17920.00	13703.00	10731.11	13699.00	12343.11	14182.02	14389.78	12721.80	15426.00	13700.00	13622.00
Chhattisgarh	43418.00	6935.00	5550.00	8083.00	8083.00	15076.00	12462.52	14287.44	10035.86	33249.90	25165.69
Goa	13135.00	1895.00	1888.48	3175.00	2568.54	3521.33	3149.21	4132.99	4579.65	4495.00	4495.00
Gujarat	116616.00	21387.00	1519232	25221.00	21472.13	25294.00	25294.00	43494.00	43494.00	45994.00	45994.00
Haryana	96062.00	6280.00	2233.22	7800.00	5757.51	7124.00	5843.76	10200.00	10000.50	11450.00	11450.00
Himachal Pradesh	78772.00	13414.00	12905.15	19517.00	18066.07	18295.79	19734.27	18476.60	19629.56	19948.92	19948.92
Jammu and Kashmir	79666.00	13000.00	12661.04	14864.00	13752.90	16330.87	17748.78	21061.70	21954.04	21864.25	21864.25
Jharkhand	65000.00	11575.00	6498.00	9700.00	6339.98	14040.00	13371.59	15000.00	14020.07	26800.00	16225.00
Karnataka	153052.00	19247.00	17715.31	13974.00	19189.66	18011.51	15731.51	33239.29	26602.68	34098.61	48151.64
Kerala	40840.00	7135.00	7916.65	9748.00	5170.31	10130.00	6813.87	10035.00	10196.62	9650.00	9650.00

Madhya Pradesh	71533.00	14016.00	14520.93	18105.00	15444.43	20288.09	17763.95	20587.00	20747.97	18861.91	23193.47
Maharashtra	110666.00	40740.00	21632.92	76435.00	33244.78	18663.93	31192.05	77874.10	35198.73	88228.54	88228.54
Manipur	8173.00	1415.00	304.23	2280.00	940.96	1915.91	789.52	499.00	558.20	2837.00	3215.00
Meghalaya	18000.00	3020.00	3219.79	3550.00	3773.09	4042.00	4071.31	4484.00	4676.31	4750.00	4750.00
Mizoram	12370.00	2860.00	2725.99	2975.00	4185.67	3000.00	2950.10	3480.00	3378.10	4000.00	4102.06
Nagaland	7965.00	1548.00	1562.14	2383.00	2514.00	2207.15	2114.87	2263.00	1991.93	2363.00	2578.00
Orissa	52139.00	12777.00	7283.09	21694.00	9256.11	11739.19	10281.41	14348.19	7659.27	4052.20	3002.20
Punjab	53081.00	9298.00	6483.49	10450.00	5971.99	7508.93	2133.32	2743.13	1247.13	5019.10	5019.10
Rajasthan	56892.00	12778.00	4034.19	8236.00	5434.80	10811.56	9736.64	18605.59	15384.70	20615.60	21822.16
Sikkim	8000.00	1600.00	1408.04	1606.00	1454.87	2210.00	2200.56	1840.00	1984.87	1690.00	1790.00
Tamir Nadu	70000.00	10440.00	14285.27	16314.00	15963.39	19400.66	17402.60	26874.17	39745.00	46564.75	38074.55
Tripura	25072.00	1480.00	1407.34	2013.00	2243.86	2535.36	3040.42	2662.21	4831.84	6459.60	8376.42
Uttar Pradesh	240543.00	27826.00	25950.00	33927.00	19745.93	33009.00	38352.82	85421.00	91526.63	188763.00	189570.00
Uttaranchal	38767.00	4286.00	5768.50	7359.00	6302.53	8759.31	9978.76	8790.92	17710.21	18600.00	18600.00
West Bengal	103618.00	27898.00	14137.89	21193.00	18590.41	23739.80	15392.06	40207.80	25440.14	44289.63	38482.68
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11400.00	2050.00	2119.64	2150.00	2312.26	2390.00	2382.96	3321.00	2832.22	3657.00	3657.00
Chandigarh	22426.00	3803.65	3944.93	3111.00	3546.75	3477.00	3355.33	3392.00	2983.27	3587.00	3587.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1225.00	238.00	269.57	266.00	301.67	343.00	403.20	400.00	561.27	470.00	470.00

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Daman and Diu		1750.00	194.15	217.68	228.00	282.85	290.00	301.03	350.00	462.84	414.00	424.50
Delhi		238150.00	33970.00	33043.43	42692.00	38942.11	53775.00	46989.16	60600.00	54336.37	69120.00	76160.30
Lakshadweep		901.30	275.20	232.33	227.10	264.90	225.00	166.73	242.00	236.10	178.00	178.00
Pondicherry		16360.00	3272.09	3000.21	3205.00	3259.04	4160.00	4196.59	5635.00	5665.74	9485.00	12681.40
Total		2176734.30	370494.09	293426.40	457058.00	352063.20	426812.20	400876.40	618053.99	554684.80	840299.30	843552.12

Source: States Plan Division, Planning Commission

[English]

Increasing Cases of Arthritis and Osteoporosis

601. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of Arthritis and Osteoporosis diseases are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the exact number of persons affected by such diseases;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide special treatment to such patients in Government hospital/Dispensaries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) As per information received from Indian Council of Medical Research, there is no time trend data available in the country to show that the cases of arthritis and osteoporosis are increasing. However, the increase in longevity in life span is expected to increase the cases of musculoskeletal disorders including arthritis and osteoporosis. The ICMR has initiated recently a multicentric task force project to study the magnitude and impact assessment of selected musculoskeletal disorders in adults in the community with a focus on osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and spinal disorders.

(e) and (f) All facilities to treat the patients of arthritis and osteoporosis diseases are available in the Safdarjang Hospital and Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital with adequate infrastructure.

Declining Population of Tigers

602. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of tiger population in the country during the last three years and the current year till date, State-wise, project-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): The All India estimation of tiger is carried out once in every four years. The State-wise and reserve-wise tiger estimation figures pertaining to the last such estimation, as received from States, are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II. The All India estimation of tiger using the refined methodology as approved by the Tiger Task Force is ongoing.

Statement-I

Population of Tigers in the Country as Reported by the States

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2001-02**
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	192
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	61***
3.	Assam	354
4.	Bihar	76
5.	Chhattisgarh	227
6.	Delhi	Nil
7.	Goa	5
8.	Gujarat	Nil
9.	Haryana	Nil
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil
12.	Jharkhand	34

1	2	3	1	2	3
13.	Karnataka	401	25.	Tamil Nadu	60
14.	Kerala	71	26.	Tripura	NR
15.	Madhya Pradesh	710	27.	Uttaranchal	251
16.	Maharashtra	238	28.	Uttar Pradesh	284
17.	Manipur	Nil	29.	West Bengal	349
18.	Meghalaya	47			
19.	Mizoram	28		Total	3642
20.	Nagaland	23 [^]			
21.	Orissa	173		NR-Not reported by State.	
22.	Punjab	Nil		* Tiger census was not carried out.	
23.	Rajasthan	58		** Under compilation/vetting	
24.	Sikkim	NR		*** Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.	
				**** Figures included in undivided State.	
				[^] Entire state not covered.	

Statement-II*Population of Tiger in the Reserves as Reported by the States*

Sl. No.	Name of Reserve	2001-02
1.	Bandipur (Karnataka)	82
2.	Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh)	56
3.	Bhadra (Karnataka)	35
4.	Bori-Satpura-Pachmari (Madhya Pradesh)	35
5.	Buxa (West Bengal)	31
6.	Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	137
7.	Dampha (Mizoram)	4
8.	Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	76*
9.	Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	29
10.	Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	127
11.	Kalakad (Tamil Nadu)	27

Sl. No.	Name of Reserve	2001-02
12.	Manas (Assam)	65*
13.	Melghat (Maharashtra)	73
14.	Nagarjunasagar (Andhra Pradesh)	67
15.	Namdhapa (Arunachal Pradesh)	61
16.	Nameri (Assam)	26
17.	Pakhui (Arunachal Pradesh)	—
18.	Palamau (Bihar)	32
19.	Panna (Madhya Pradesh)	31
20.	Periyar (Kerala)	36
21.	Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	40
22.	Pench (Maharashtra)	14
23.	Ranthombore (Rajasthan)	35
24.	Sariska (Rajasthan)	22
25.	Simlipal (Orissa)	99
26.	Sunderbans (West Bengal)	245
27.	Tadoba (Maharashtra)	38
28.	Valmiki (Bihar)	53
Total		1576

*Under compilation/vetting

N.R.-Not reported by the State

Measure for Safety of Tigers

603. SHRI SURESH ANGADI:

SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether two tigers were found dead in the Jim Corbett National Park recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the safety of tigers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Mortality of a tigress and a tiger on 31-10-2007 and 1-11-2007 respectively has been reported. The State authorities have taken action for investigating the cause of death.

(d) Steps taken by the Government of India for conservation of wild animals including tigers are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The steps taken by the Government for conservation of wild tigers are as below:—

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of anti-poaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of anti-poaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.
3. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4-09-2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
4. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control

Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6-6-2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.

5. In principle approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.

Financial steps

6. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

7. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
8. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
9. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, which contains directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

*[Translation]***Contaminated Polio Vaccines**

604. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the presence of insects in vaccines meant for Polio eradication programme has been confirmed;

(b) the States where such type of vaccines have been distributed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Yes Sir. In certain isolated case ego Batch No. K042 manufactured by M/s Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL), Bulandshahar (Uttar Pradesh) during February 2005.

(b) The vaccine was distributed to Punjab during March 2005. The State reported about insect like thing in the vaccine vial on April 2006.

(c) The consignee was asked immediately to stop the use of Oral Polio Vaccine of Batch No. K-042.

(i) The samples was sent to Central Drugs Laboratory (CDL), Kasauli and was reported as substandard quality since an insect was observed on physical examination microscopically and visually.

(ii) At the time of grant and renewal of manufacturing license, team comprising of State and Central Drugs Control officer along with an expert from CDL, Kasauli carry out an in-depth inspection and based on their observations and recommendations, State Licensing Authority grants/renews the license after obtaining the necessary approval from Central Licensing Approving Authority (CLAA).

*[English]***Setting Up of Regional Cancer Centre at Shillong**

605. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work of the Regional Cancer Centre at the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong has started;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of beds for which provision has been made in this centre and the progress made in this regard alongwith the number of beds provided at present;

(d) the budget allocation for it alongwith the details of budget allocation and expenditure during the last three years;

(e) whether construction work has been completed and equipment have been procured; and

(f) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, the project for construction of Regional Cancer Centre at the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong is at formulation stage.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

Increase in Cancer Cases

606. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned the Coastal Health Project submitted by the State Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) No proposal seeking financial assistance for treatment of cancer under Coastal Health Project of State Government of Kerala has been received in the Ministry.

[Translation]

Binda Colliery at Bhandaria

607. SHRI GHURAN RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted for opening new Binda Colliery at Bhandaria in Gadwa District of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Occurrence of only thin seams of coal have been reported from the regional exploration conducted by Geological Survey of India (GSI) and there is no plan to open Binda colliery at present.

Progress of NH Projects in Rajasthan

608. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

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

(a) the details of the National Highway (NH) projects in progress in Rajasthan;

(b) whether upgradation of NH in the above State is under consideration;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government is maintaining the Kota-Bara division of NH-76 in Mahua town area and Bharatpur Urban area of NH-II; 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) to (c) Upgradation of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process and works are being taken up in a phased manner depending upon inter-se priority, traffic volume and availability of funds. The details of major projects (each work costing Rs. 5.0 crore and above) under implementation in the State of Rajasthan are given in Statement-I. The details of NHs proposed for upgradation in the State of Rajasthan under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase III and NHDP Phase V are given in Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Kota-Baran Section of NH 76 is being maintained in traffic worthy condition through the civil work contractor carrying out the 4 laning work of the stretch. The Mahua Town and Baratpur Urban areas on Agra-Jaipur Section of NH 11 are also being maintained in traffic worthy condition by the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) concessionaires for the 4 laning works on these sections, as part of their contractual obligations.

Statement-I
Details of NHDP and Other Projects under implementation in Rajasthan

Sl. No.	NH No.	Name of work	length (in km)	Project Cost (Rs. in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
On East West Corridor					
1.	76	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-II) Km 579 to Km. 509	70	349.59	Under implementation
2.	76	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-10) Km 509 to Km 449.15	59.85	430.21	—do—
3.	76	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-9) Km 449.15 to Km 408	43.15	359.43	—do—
4.	76	Kota Bypass (RJ-4) Km 408 to Km 381	25	250.39	—do—
5.	76	Chambal Bridge (RJ-5)	1.4	281.31	—do—
6.	76	Kota to Chittorgarh (RJ-8) Km 381 to Km 316	65	528.44	—do—
7.	76	Kota to Chittorgarh (RJ-7) Km 316 to Km 253	63	503.66	—do—
8.	76	Chittorgarh Bypass Km (RJ-6) 253 to Km 213	40	447.90	—do—
9.	76	Gogunda to Udaipur (RJ-3) Km 104.74 to km 73	31	288.06	—do—
10.	76	Bekaria to Gogunda (RJ-2) Km 74 to Km 30	44	530.90	—do—
11.	76 and 14	Swaroopgang to Bekaria (RJ-I) Km 29 Km 0 (NH 76) and Km 264 to Km 249.7 (NH 14)	43	243.11	—do—
12.	14	Palanpur to Swaroopgang (Rajasthan 42 Km and Gujarat 34 Km) Km 264 to Km 340	42	498.00	—do—

1	2	3	4	5	6
Projects other than National Highway Development Project (NHDP)					
13.	79, 76	Chittorgarh bypass Km 159 to Km 213	30	133.03	—do—
On North South falling 9 Km in Rajasthan)					
14.	3	Dholpur-Morena section MP/Raj border including Chambal Bridge Km 51 to Km 61 (NS-/RJ-MP/I)	9	232.45	—do—
On NHDP Phase III					
15.	11	Agra-Uttar Pradesh Border—Bharatpur (17.756 to 63/0) (Falling 20.25 Km in Rajasthan)	20.25	195.00	—do—
16.	11	Bharatpur-Mahaua Km 63 to Km 120	57	250.00	—do—
17.	11	Mahaua-Jaipur Km 120 to Km 228	108	483.00	—do—

List of ongoing National Highway Original works each costing more than 5.0 crore

Sl. No.	NH No.	Name of work	Length (in Km.)	Amount of sanction (Rs. in lakh)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	11-A	Construction of missing link from Km. 32/0 to 42/0 of NH-11A (Dausa-Manoharpur section)	10.00	1468.97	In progress
2.	11-A Ext.	Construction of High Level bridge across river Morel at Km. 63 on Dausa-Lalsot-Kothun on NH-11 A Extn.	bridge	1189.09	-do-
3.	11-A	Construction of (Dausa-Manoharpur road Km 42/0 to 52/0 on NH-11-A	10.00	1308.22	-do-
4.	112	Strengthening in Km 50/0 to 70/0 on NH-112 (Bar-Bilara-Jodhpur-Balotra-Barmer road)	20.00	728.01	-do-
5.	11-A	Construction of Missing Link from Km 52/0 to 62/250	10.250	1131.74	-do-
6.	112	Widening of existing road to two lane from Km 269/0 to 289/0 on NH-112	20.00	788.00	-do-
7.	NH-15 (BKN-JSL)	Strengthening in Km 110/0 to 130/0 on NH-15 (Bikaner-Jaisalmer road)	20.00	610.99	-do-
8.	113	Strengthening and widening in Km 200/0 to 213/500 on NH-113 (Nimbahera-Pratapgarh-Banswara Dahod section)	13.30	794.60	-do-
9.	15 (BKN-JSL)	Strengthening and widening in Km 48/0 to 68/0 on NH-15 (Bikaner-Jaisalmer section)	20.00	551.04	-do-
10.	112	Strengthening of existing pavement from Km 70/0 to 90/0 on NH-112 (Bar-Bilara-Jodhpur-Balotra-Barmer road).	20.00	709.46	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	90	Widening to 2-lane with Geometric Improvement from Km 30/0 to 60/0 on NH-90 (Baran Aklera road)	30.00	1325.75	At award stage
12.	90	Strengthening of existing pavement from Km 353/0 to 373/0 on NH-12 (Jaipur-Jabalpur road)	20.00	613.60	At award stage
13.	116	Widening to 2-lane from Km 8/0 to 24/0 on NH-116 (Tonk Sawaimadhopur road)	20.00	844.40	In progress
14.	114	Strengthening weak 2-Lanes from Km 11/0 to 36/0.	25.00	786.66	At award stage
15.	15(BKN-JSL)	Widening to 2 lane with Geometric Improvement from Km 280/0 to 306/0.	26.00	847.18	-do-
16.	65 (Fatehpur-Ambala)	Strengthening of weak 2-Lanes Km 95/0 to 118/0.	23.00	844.34	-do-
17.	65 (Fatehpur-Pali)	Widening to two lane and Geometric Improvement km 129/0 to 141/0 NH 65 (Fatehpur-Pali section)	12	592.47	-do-
18.	116	Widening of two lane pavement on Tonk Swai Madhopur road from km 39/0 to km 59/0 on NH-116 ("0" at Tonk)	20.0	972.88	-do-
19.	65 (Fatehpur-Ambala)	Detailed Estimate for strengthening weak 2 lane pavement Churu town to Dhani Laxmangarh in Km 38/0 to 56/0 on NH 65 (Fatehpur-Ambala Section)	18	602.53	-do-

Statement-II*Details of NHs proposed for upgradation in Rajasthan under NHDP Phase III*

Sl. No.	Stretches	NH	Length (in km)
1.	Jaipur-Reengus-Sikar	11	95
2.	Jaipur-Tonk-Kota-Jhalawad	12	328
3.	Beawar-Pali-Pindwara	14	246
4.	Kishangarh-Ajmer-Beawar	8	82
Total			751

Details of NHs proposed for upgradation to 6-lane in Rajasthan under NHDP Phase V

Sl. No.	Stretches	NH	Length (in km)
1.	Gurgaon-Kotputli-Jaipur (Rajasthan Portion)	8	165
2.	Kishangarh-Udaipur	79A, 79 and 76	315
3.	Udaipur-Ahmedabad (Rajasthan Portion)	8	95
Total			575

Funds for Inter-State Bridges and Roads

609. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

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

(a) the details of financial assistance provided to various State Governments including Gujarat for construction of economically important inter-State bridges and development of roads during each of the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) whether a meeting of the Transport Ministers of States was held recently to discuss better inter-State road connectivity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) State-wise details of funds provided, during the last three years and in the current year, to the State of Gujarat and other States under the scheme of Economic Importance and Inter-State Connectivity are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Statement

Details of Funds Allocated during the last Three Years and in the Current Year under the Scheme of Economic Importance and Inter-State Connectivity

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Funds Allocated in (Rs. in Crore)			
		2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.01	14.91	5.83	5.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.91	5.21	3.87	6.38
3.	Assam	16.63	10.73	12.24	6.38
4.	Bihar	2.00	6.71	3.22	3.15
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.96	2.96	0.50	2.00
6.	Gujarat	4.46	22.00	12.15	6.40
7.	Haryana	7.00	8.64	2.82	6.62
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	2.00	2.09	2.05
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.000	1.30	0.99	1.73
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.94
11.	Karnataka	8.50	11.86	27.09	23.32
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.25	2.68
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4.48	6.55	8.83	12.81
14.	Maharashtra	2.76	9.52	5.57	20.71
15.	Manipur	0.10	0.55	1.54	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	0.30	0.51	2.46	0.72
17.	Mizoram	1.00	6.09	0.34	2.92
18.	Nagaland	2.95	3.97	3.68	5.75
19.	Orissa	4.10	8.70	17.03	12.08
20.	Punjab	0.00	5.20	5.03	2.83
21.	Rajasthan	0.50	7.28	7.31	5.91
22.	Sikkim	3.42	8.27	4.68	12.70

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.16
24.	Tripura	1.86	0.84	1.47	1.97
25.	Uttarakhand	6.17	8.93	6.87	6.38
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6.70	8.50	12.85	6.65
27.	West Bengal	0.00	0.82	7.60	5.70
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.000	0.00	1.00
29.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.50	0.50	2.00
30.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	2.40	2.00

*[English]***Pending Petitions**

610. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge backlog of petitions under Right to Information Act (RTI) pending for disposal with the National Commission as well as State Commissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the number of such petitions pending for disposal; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down such backlogs for effective implementation of RTI Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The Central Information Commission had received 11,714 complaints and appeals up to 30-09-2007, of which 7816 had been disposed of by that date, leaving 3898 to be decided. The information in respect of State Information Commission is not centrally maintained.

(c) Additional Posts have been created for the Commission.

*[Translation]***Funds for National Family Welfare Programme**

611. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount allocated and released for National Family Welfare Programme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise, year-wise;

(b) whether some State Governments, particularly Chhattisgarh have not received the allocated funds under the programme; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The State-wise and year-wise grant-in-aid allocated and released under National Family Welfare Programme during 2004-05 to 2006-07 and during current year 2007-08 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Though the allocation of grant-in-aid is communicated to the respective States but its release is subject to fulfillment of certain financial conditions viz. unspent balances lying with the States of the earlier releases, submission of Utilization Certificates, quarterly Statement of Expenditure (SOE), Audited Statement of Expenditure (ASE).

Accordingly, the release of grant-in-aid is decided keeping in view above financial conditions.

Statement

State-wise Grant-in-aid Allocated and Released during the last Three Years (2004-05 to 2006-07) and during 2007-08 (as on date)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Allocated*	Released	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26351.68	24158.82	27083.36	28047.53	37887.64	34848.70	54570.04	27584.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1038.30	757.66	1593.99	2171.97	2129.68	4141.85	2990.40	918.80
3.	Assam	10136.55	7926.63	21028.11	11845.00	46034.89	32031.05	59077.00	15813.46
4.	Bihar	24901.28	20479.71	35230.01	23386.60	54752.90	32508.44	62555.84	14315.41
5.	Chhattisgarh	9718.19	9122.29	9093.75	7462.10	14304.16	11608.15	19035.92	6855.90
6.	Goa	418.98	354.02	478.10	434.29	689.23	183.39	860.00	89.69
7.	Gujarat	17405.73	22184.26	30690.67	27699.84	28533.06	24905.55	33867.12	13012.06
8.	Haryana	7051.53	6549.39	7130.80	7712.41	10857.78	10590.12	12791.16	898.01
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4743.26	4060.30	4493.35	5685.44	5323.71	6836.94	6309.44	2041.72
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4369.76	3383.18	5475.87	6529.16	5963.81	4513.81	8070.20	1368.20
11.	Jharkhand	10639.57	10383.63	13161.81	11660.12	18372.99	12712.26	21850.24	1132.00
12.	Karnataka	17492.76	15960.61	19030.04	17447.49	27524.74	22592.85	36426.56	10406.06
13.	Kerala	10343.15	9075.00	11519.53	10118.65	16278.68	14673.61	20283.28	4256.64
14.	Madhya Pradesh	23306.91	21517.15	25662.59	24302.37	36902.83	37698.67	49701.04	40628.78
15.	Maharashtra	25302.60	23497.86	32087.20	31776.89	46953.65	26862.36	61888.44	33340.58

(Rs. in lakhs)

16. Manipur	1724.74	335.93	2984.26	2406.50	4576.73	3074.26	5615.84	1587.63
17. Meghalaya	1271.95	784.15	2308.92	1340.52	4291.92	2768.72	5145.28	606.00
18. Mizoram	1367.16	1396.42	2335.11	2045.41	2037.47	4409.15	2717.56	1101.50
19. Nagaland	938.62	890.98	2189.23	2385.81	3828.41	3272.44	4463.44	1795.74
20. Orissa	13770.47	12732.25	15196.84	18583.32	22266.56	17469.20	28743.92	11662.57
21. Punjab	6259.31	5750.50	7602.59	8689.04	11769.12	12992.58	15091.72	4001.22
22. Rajasthan	24530.79	22303.34	25438.64	29344.95	37834.62	38544.62	50559.40	33283.51
23. Sikkim	649.90	662.02	819.49	942.57	1195.95	2302.14	1589.08	652.81
24. Tamil Nadu	18260.39	17660.44	20499.30	21914.50	30478.96	29821.72	40055.16	20321.62
25. Tripura	1249.77	1015.78	3223.33	2041.00	5565.27	2891.73	7463.56	3254.67
26. Uttar Pradesh	55836.94	53272.68	74636.10	78571.10	107301.86	86211.20	137508.36	55694.52
27. Uttarakhand.	4570.24	3119.00	4508.98	4629.76	6441.05	3725.53	7565.28	2520.14
28. West Bengal	18703.52	16781.23	26550.41	26304.12	38867.02	34540.80	48500.20	12332.10
Total	342354.05	316115.23	432052.38	415478.46	628963.69	518731.84	805295.48	321481.87

*[English]***Decentralisation of Powers**

612. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to set up a permanent central institute to monitor and expedite the process of decentralisation of power through panchayati raj system and empower the local self-Government institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any such institution controlled by certain State Governments is working in the country at present; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) At present, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has no plan to set up a permanent Central Institute to monitor and expedite the process of decentralisation of power through Panchayati Raj system and empower the Local Self-Government institutions in the country.

(c) and (d) The State Institutes of Rural Development which are the training institutes of State Governments, are providing training to the elected representatives of the three tiers of Panchayats.

*[Translation]***Forest Cover in the Country**

613. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise average forest-cover in terms of percentage and the origin of the important rivers in the country;

(b) whether the environment development of these areas is connected with Comprehensive National Environment Development programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the State-wise number of sanctioned projects of the forest development agencies on the national level and the number of projects pending for approval; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The state-wise forest cover in terms of percentage as per the State of Forest Report 2003, published by the Forest Survey of India is as under:

State/UT	Geographic Area (GA)	% of forest cover
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	275,069	16.15
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	81.22
Assam	78,438	35.48
Bihar	94,163	5.90
Chhattisgarh	135,191	41.42
Delhi	1,483	11.46
Goa	3,702	58.24
Gujarat	196,022	7.63
Haryana	44,212	3.43
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	25.78
Jammu and Kashmir	222,236	9.57
Jharkhand	79,714	28.50
Karnataka	191,791	19.00
Kerala	38,863	40.08
Madhya Pradesh	308,245	24.79
Maharashtra	307,713	15.23

1	2	3
Manipur	22,327	77.12
Meghalaya	22,429	75.08
Mizoram	21,081	87.42
Nagaland	16,579	82.09
Orissa	155,707	31.06
Punjab	50,362	3.14
Rajasthan	342,239	4.62
Sikkim	7,096	45.97
Tamil Nadu	130,058	17.41
Tripura	10,486	77.18
Uttar Pradesh	240,928	5.86
Uttaranchal	53,483	45.74
West Bengal	88,752	13.91
Andaman and Nicobar	8,249	84.42
Chandigarh	114	13.16
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	45.82
Daman and Diu	112	7.14
Lakshdweep	32	71.88
Pondicherry	480	8.33
Total	3,287,263	20.64

The origin of the important rivers in the country are given below:—

Indus	—	Kailash range in Tibet
Jhelum	—	South Eastern parts of Kashmir in Verinag
Chenab	—	Bara Lacha Pass in Lahul

Ravi	—	Rotang Pass in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh
Beas	—	In Tibet
Sutlej	—	Southern slopes of Kailash range near Manasarovar
Ganga	—	Gangotri glacier in Uttarakhand
Yamuna	—	Bundar Poonch glaciers in Uttarakhand
Brahmaputra	—	Manasarovar lake
Narmada	—	Amarkantak Hill in Madhya Pradesh
Tapi	—	Eastern Satpura Range in Madhya Pradesh
Godavari	—	Trimbakeshwar in Maharashtra
Krishna	—	Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra
Cauvery	—	Talakaveri (Western Ghats), Karnataka
Mahanadi	—	Satpura range in Central India

(b) and (c) There is no such programme in the name of Comprehensive National Environment Development Programme.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining lands. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. As on 31-03-2007, 729 FDA projects were approved out of 750 project proposals received from the States. The State-wise details of FDA project proposals approved under NAP as on 31-03-2007 are given in the enclosed Statement. The remaining proposals could not be considered for approval in view of non-availability of funds as well as their suitability as per guidelines of the Scheme.

Statement

Number of Forest Development Agency Project proposals approved as on 31-3-2007

Sl. No.	State	No. of FDA Project proposals Approved upto 31-3-2007
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31
2.	Chhattisgarh	32
3.	Gujarat	21
4.	Haryana	18
5.	Himachal Pradesh	30
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	31
7.	Karnataka	45
8.	Madhya Pradesh	51
9.	Maharashtra	45
10.	Orissa	40
11.	Punjab	10
12.	Rajasthan	33
13.	Tamil Nadu	32
14.	Uttar Pradesh	58
15.	Uttrakhand	38
16.	Goa	3
17.	Jharkhand	32
18.	Bihar	10
19.	Kerala	24
20.	West Bengal	17
Total (Other States)		601

1	2	3
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	19
22.	Assam	29
23.	Manipur	14
24.	Nagaland	18
25.	Sikkim	7
26.	Tripura	13
27.	Mizoram	21
28.	Meghalaya	7
Total (NE States)		128
Grand Total		729

*[English]***Rural Health Schemes**

614. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes pertaining to Rural Health under progress in Karnataka and in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of assessment of the benefits accrued to the rural people as a result thereof;

(c) the details of schemes which have not been successful in these States; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is an umbrella scheme for delivery of healthcare in rural areas. It covers strengthening of public health institutions, provision of

voluntary health workers, untied fund, annual maintenance grant, inter-sectoral convergence, provision of mobile medical units, public participation in running of institutions etc. alongwith Reproductive and Child Health Programme and Disease Control Programmes for the rural areas.

(b) to (d) The State of Karnataka has set up 15218 Village Health and Sanitation Committees (VHSCs) has upgraded 78 District and Sub-distt. Hospitals (DH and SDHs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) to First Referral Units (FRUs), been able to set up 399 twenty four hour PHCs, has appointed 759 auxiliary nurse mid-wives (ANMs) and staff nurses and 55 doctors and specialists on contract. Similarly, the State of Andhra Pradesh has set up 21916 VHSCs, 193 FRUs, 1320 twenty four hour PHCs, 1087 contractual ANMs and Staff Nurses, 169 contractual doctors and specialists. The State has also appointed 63900 link workers under NRHM, as on October, 2007.

**Funds Allocated from Backward
Region Grant Fund**

615. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to each district from Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) during 2007-08 and the funds actually disbursed therefrom till date; and

(b) the reasons for the poor disbursement of funds from BRGF?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme includes three components, namely: (i) releases to those districts which have not received their total entitlement under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY); (ii) funds for capacity building of Panchayati Raj institutions and (iii) untied developmental grants. The total amount available for disbursement under the Backward Regions Grant Fund

Programme during 2007-08 is Rs. 4760 crore. Of this amount, Rs. 250 crore is reserved for capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions. The remainder is the untied development grant, which also funds the erstwhile RSVY schemes. An amount of Rs. 1188.96 crore has been released so far during 2007-08. Details of releases under all the three components are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The main constraints in the drawal of funds under Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) have been the backlog of releases to be made under the erstwhile Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana and the necessary time taken in the preparation of district plans from the grass roots level upwards through Panchayats and Municipalities and consolidated by the District Planning Committees, on which the BRGF proposals are to be based. A National Workshop of Zila Parishad Presidents, Chief Executive Officers of Zila Panchayats and officials from the State Governments was held at Delhi on 13-14th October 2007 during which steps to be taken to expedite the drawal of funds under the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF) were discussed with the participants. The State High Powered Committees in two States namely, Rajasthan and Orissa have approved the district plans in the last week. The State High Powered Committees in three more States namely, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh are scheduled to approve a number of district plans in the coming week, thus expediting the pace of releases under the programme.

Statement

Abstract of Releases in 2007-08

		Amount (Rs. in crore)
	A	585.00
	B	34.30
	C	569.66
Total		1188.96

A. Backward Districts Initiative-Release of Funds to RSVY districts

Sl. No.	State/District	As on 17-11-2007										Cumulative Expdr. reported by State Govts.	UCs received
		Total amount released to be released	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Total Amount released	9	10	11		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
1. Andhra Pradesh (10)													
	Adilabad	45.00	12.50	2.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	37.50	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	
	Chittoor	45.00	5.00	2.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	30.00	20.35	20.35	20.35	20.35	
	Karimnagar	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	45.00	34.65	34.65	34.65	34.65	
	Khammam	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	19.50	19.50	18.01	18.01	
	Mahabubnagar	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50	15.19	15.19	15.12	15.12	
	Medak	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	15.00	37.50	29.99	29.99	29.99	29.99	
	Nalgonda	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50	14.95	14.95	14.95	14.95	
	Nizamabad	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	21.65	21.65	20.45	20.45	
	Vijainagar	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50	14.28	14.28	14.28	14.28	
	Warangal	45.00	12.50	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	45.00	34.62	34.62	34.62	34.62	
	Total	450.00	40.00	72.50	37.50	82.50	90.00	322.50	232.17	232.17	229.42	229.42	
2. Arunachal Pradesh (1)													
	Upper-Subansiri	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	0.00	22.50	14.65	14.65	14.65	14.65	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Nawadah	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	21.36	19.49
	Patna	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.60	27.60
	Purnea	45.00		7.50		15.00	7.50	30.00	19.59	19.59
	Rohitash	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	27.44	21.24
	Samastipur	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50		22.50	25.87	19.57
	Sheohar	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50		22.50	12.14	7.55
	Supaul	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	21.63	19.78
	Vaishali	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.07	27.07
	Total	945.00	0.00	157.50	135.00	232.50	60.00	585.00	447.13	387.97
5. Chhatlegarh (8)										
	Bastar	45.00	15.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	0.00	45.00	36.07	37.98
	Bilaspur	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.51	34.51
	Dantewada	45.00	15.00	7.50	7.50	15.00		45.00	34.57	34.57
	Jaspur	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	43.09	43.09
	Kanker	45.00		7.50	15.00	22.50		45.00	35.62	35.62
	Kawardha/ Kabirdham	45.00	5.00	2.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.69	34.69
	Rajnandgaon	45.00	5.00	10.00		15.00	15.60	45.00	35.08	35.22
	Sarguja	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	36.67	36.67
	Total	360.00	40.00	57.50	90.00	127.50	45.00	360.00	206.67	206.02

6. Gujarat (3)										
Dahod	45.00	5.00	2.50	7.50	15.00	0.00	30.00	19.90	19.90	19.90
Dangs	45.00	12.50	10.00	7.50	15.00		45.00	34.64	34.64	34.64
Panchmahals	45.00		7.50		7.50	7.50	22.50	12.23	11.37	11.37
Total	135.00	17.50	20.00	15.00	37.50	7.50	97.50	66.77	65.91	65.91
7. Haryana (1)										
Sirsa	45.00	0.00	7.50	15.00	22.50	0.00	45.00	34.53	28.38	28.38
8. Himachal Pradesh (2)										
Chamba	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.88	34.88	34.88
Sirmaur	45.00		15.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	45.00	27.03	27.03	27.03
Total	90.00	5.00	25.00	15.00	30.00	15.00	90.00	55.41	55.41	55.41
9. Jammu and Kashmir (3)										
Doda	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	37.50	28.40	28.40	28.40
Kupwara	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	22.49	22.49	22.49
Poonch	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50		22.50	15.00	12.94	12.94
Total	135.00	5.00	25.00	22.50	22.50	15.00	90.00	65.89	63.83	63.83
10. Jharkhand (16)										
Bokaro	45.00	5.00	2.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	28.11	28.11	28.11
Chatra	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	37.23	35.01	35.01
Dhanbad	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50	7.50	45.00	37.50	34.69	34.69
Garhwa	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50	7.50	45.00	34.67	34.67	34.67
Giridih	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	19.98	19.98	19.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Godda	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.06	27.06
	Gumla	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50		45.00	34.79	34.79
	Hazaribagh	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50	7.50	45.00	36.12	36.12
	Koderma	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	19.51	19.51
	Latehar	45.00	5.00	10.00	15.00	15.00		45.00	34.58	34.58
	Lohardagga	45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	15.00		45.00	35.04	35.04
	Palamu	45.00	5.00	2.50	15.00	22.50		45.00	45.00	34.60
	Ranchi	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	35.28	35.23
	Saraikela	45.00		7.50	7.50	30.00		45.00	34.63	34.63
	Simdega	45.00	7.50	15.00		22.50		45.00	34.85	34.85
	West Singhbhum	45.00		7.50		30.00		37.50	27.22	27.22
	Total	720.00	37.50	120.00	142.50	315.00	52.50	667.50	521.57	506.09
	11. Karnataka (4)									
	Bidar	45.00	5.00	2.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	22.24	21.95
	Chitradurg	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	21.57	21.57
	Davengere	45.00		7.50		15.00		22.50	12.90	12.90
	Gulbarga	45.00	7.50	7.50		7.50	7.50	30.00	19.55	19.54
	Total	180.00	12.50	25.00	15.00	37.50	22.50	112.50	76.26	75.96
	12. Kerala (2)									
	Pallakad	45.00	15.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	0.00	45.00	38.34	36.00

Wayanad	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	22.50	12.59	36.00
Total	90.00	20.00	17.50	15.00	15.00	67.50	50.93	36.00
13. Madhya Pradesh (10)								
Balaghat	45.00		15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	34.52	45.00
Barwani	45.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	45.00	37.50	45.00
Dindori	45.00		7.50	22.50	22.50	45.00	28.97	45.00
Khargone	45.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	45.00	36.61	45.00
Mandla	45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	15.00	45.00	34.66	45.00
Satna	45.00		15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	34.27	45.00
Seoni	45.00		15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	34.53	45.00
Shahdol	45.00		22.50	7.50	7.50	45.00	37.45	45.00
Sidhi	45.00		15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	35.42	45.00
Umaria	45.00		15.00	15.00	15.00	45.00	34.90	44.76
Total	450.00	22.50	142.50	150.00	135.00	450.00	348.83	449.76
14. Maharashtra (9)								
Ahmednagar	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50	12.20	12.20
Bhandara	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	20.07	18.54
Chandrapur	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	19.80	19.80
Dhule	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	22.50	13.47	13.47
Gadchiroli	45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.27	27.27
Gondia	45.00		7.50	15.00	7.50	30.00	14.99	10.53
Khannoli	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	20.41	20.28

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Nanded			45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.65	27.65
Nandurbar			45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50		22.50	14.40	13.96
Total			405.00	15.00	67.50	60.00	90.00	30.00	262.50	170.26	163.70
15. Manipur (1)											
Tamenglong			45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	15.00	0.00	45.00	39.99	39.99
16. Meghalaya (1)											
West Garo Hills			45.00		7.50		15.00	7.50	30.00	22.5	22.5
17. Mizoram (1)											
Lawngtlai			45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	30.00	30.00
18. Nagaland (1)											
Mon			45.00		15.00	7.50	22.50	0.00	45.00	37.50	37.50
19. Orissa (5)											
Gajapati			45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	15.00	37.50	30.68	17.14
Ganjam			45.00	5.00	10.00	15.00	7.50		37.50	36.30	29.24
Keonjhar			45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	21.46	14.01
Mayurbhanj			45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.57	28.64
Sundargarh			45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	24.37	18.14
Total			225.00	10.00	42.50	45.00	45.00	37.50	180.00	147.38	107.17
20. Punjab (1)											
Hoshiarpur			45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	27.0151	27.0151

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Banda	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	15.00		37.50	27.00	27.00
	Barabanki	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	37.50	29.71	29.71
	Chandauli	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50	7.50	45.00	34.51	34.51
	Chitrakoot	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	37.50	27.03	27.03
	Fatehpur	45.00	5.00	10.00	15.00	15.00		45.00	35.89	31.38
	Gorakhpur	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	19.53	19.53
	Harnirpur	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50		37.50	27.05	26.26
	Hardoi	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	15.00	7.50	45.00	35.82	34.60
	Jalaun	45.00		7.50	15.00	7.50		30.00	19.67	14.72
	Jaunpur	45.00		7.50	7.50	15.00		30.00	20.59	20.59
	Kaushambi	45.00		7.50	15.00	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.73	34.73
	Kushinagar	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	30.00	20.57	20.57
	Lalitpur	45.00		7.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	37.50	27.01	27.01
	Mahoba	45.00		7.50	7.50	22.50	7.50	45.00	34.53	34.53
	Mirzapur	45.00	5.00	10.00	7.50	15.00	7.50	45.00	34.50	34.50
	Pratapgarh	45.00		7.50	7.50	7.50	15.00	37.50	27.88	27.88
	Raebareli	45.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	22.50		45.00	34.61	34.61
	Sitapur	45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	15.00		45.00	34.51	34.51
	Sonbhadra	45.00	7.50	7.50	15.00	15.00		45.00	34.80	28.55
	Unnao	45.00	7.50		7.50	15.00	7.50	37.50	28.78	28.78
	Total	945.00	62.50	162.50	202.50	300.00	90.00	617.50	602.78	565.06

B. Release of Capacity Building Fund under BRGF in 2006-07 and 2007-08

					Rs. in crore
Sl. No.	States	Districts	Total entitlement per year	Amount released in 2006-07 (Rs. in crore)	Amount released in 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	13 crore	13	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1 crore	0.5	
3.	Assam	11	11 crore	9.122	
4.	Bihar	36	36 crore	14.458756	
5.	Chhattisgarh	13	13 crore	9.1	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2	2 crore		2
7.	Karnataka	5	5 crore		5
8.	Kerala	2	2 crore		2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	24	24 crore	14.9597	
10.	Maharashtra	12	12 crore	6.19	
11.	Rajasthan	12	12 crore	7.78707	
12.	Sikkim	1	1 crore	0.9492	
13.	Uttar Pradesh	34	34 crore		25.3
14.	West Bengal	11	11 crore	10.5	
Total				86.566726	34.3

C. Release of Developmental Grants under BRGF in 2006-07 and 2007-08

Sl. No.	State	Amount released in 2006-07 (Rs. in crore)	Amount released in 2007-08 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
Assam			
1.	Barpeta		7.5

1	2	3	4
2.	Cachar		10
3.	Hailakandi		10
4.	Morigaon		7.5
Chhattisgarh			
1.	Dhamtari		1
2.	Korba		5
3.	Koriya		5
4.	Mahasammund		5
5.	Raigarh		5
Karnataka			
1.	Raichur		7.5
Kerala			
1.	Pallakad		9.25
Madhya Pradesh			
1.	Balaghat	1	16.54
2.	Barwani	1	13.14
3.	Betul	1	17.93
4.	Chhattarpur	1	13.91
5.	Damoh	1	15.63
6.	Dhar	1	
7.	Dindori		14.58
8.	Guna/Ashoknagar	1	15.21
9.	Jhabua	1	16.91
10.	Katni	2.0450997	13.56
11.	Khandwa/Burhanpur	1	17.01
12.	Khargone	1	16.63

1	2	3	4
13.	Mandla	1	11.14
14.	Panna	1	15.05
15.	Rajgarh	1	15.28
16.	Rewa	1	17.03
17.	Satna	1	15.75
18.	Seoni		17.11
19.	Shahdol/Annuppur		15.56
20.	Sheopur	1	14.19
21.	Shivpuri	1	
22.	Sidhi		16.24
23.	Tikamgarh	1	14.01
24.	Umariya		7.5
	Orissa		
1.	Boudh		1
2.	Debagarh		5
3.	Dhenkanal		5
4.	Jharsuguda		5
5.	Kandhamal (Phulbani)		5
6.	Naupada		7.5
7.	Sambalpur		7.5
8.	Sonepur		1
	Rajasthan		
1.	Banswada		7.5
2.	Barmer		5
3.	Chittorgarh		5
4.	Dungarpur		7.5

1	2	3	4
5.	Jaisalmer		7.5
6.	Jalore		7.5
7.	Karauli		7.5
8.	Sawai Madhopur		7.5
9.	Sirohi		5
10.	Tonk		7.5
11.	Udaipur		7.5
West Bengal			
1.	Maida		10
2.	Murshidabad		10
3.	Purba Medinipur		10
Total		20.0451	544.66
Advance of Ten lakh to each district for preparation of district plans			25.00
Total Development Grant component			569.66

**Report of National Knowledge
Commission**

616. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accepted the reports of the National Knowledge Commission headed by Sam Pitroda;

(b) if so, the details of report on investments and administrative proposals therein;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the scope of economically backward students to get education regarding scholarships/fees etc. as proposed in the report; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has recently presented a "Compilation of its Recommendations on Education". The recommendations of the NKC have been sent to Ministries concerned for comments.

(b) There is no report on investments and the aggregate investments of NKC recommendations have not been quantified.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

Provision of scholarships and education loans to the needy and deserving students is one of the key

elements of inclusive education policy planning under formulation for the XI Five Year Plan.

NH Projects in Gujarat

617. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status and the number of the various projects related to the construction of new National Highways in Gujarat;

(b) the progress achieved in respect of each project, till-date;

(c) the amount spent thereon, project-wise, and

(d) the time by which these 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 (d) There are 4 Nos of new National Highways (NHs) namely, NH-8A Ext., 8E Ext., 113 and 228 having total length of about 775 kms declared during the 10th Five Year Plan. Since declaration of these new NHs, 29 Nos of improvement works costing Rs. 123.91 crore covering total length of 389 km under the Plan head and 7 Nos of Periodical Renewal works costing Rs. 13.93 crore covering total length of about 86 km under the non-Plan head have been sanctioned. Thirty number of works have been completed and remaining six number of works in-aggregate length of 88 kms are at various stages of progress as per the details given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of work with Job number	NH No.	Sanctioned cost (Rs. in crore)	Upto date progress	Likely date of completion
1.	Strengthening from km 154/200 to 174/625 (08A Ext-GJ-2007-426)	8A Ext.	7.01		February, 2008
2.	Paved Shoulders from km 442/0 to 467/0 (08E-GJ-2007-433)	8E Ext.	9.99		March, 2008
3.	Strengthening from km 133/700 to 154/200 (08A Ext-GJ-2007-434)	8A Ext.	8.79		April, 2008
4.	Construction of paved shoulders from km 349/2 to 364/5 (08E Ext-GJ-2007-435)	8E Ext.	4.25	All works have been awarded and are in various stages of progress	July, 2008
5.	Construction of major bridge across river Kankawati at km 145/859 (08A Ext-GJ-2007-436)	8A Ext.	2.87		July, 2008
6.	Four laning from km 369/2 to 376/0 (08E Ext-GJ-2007-437)	8E Ext.	6.82		May, 2008

Regulatory Authority for Coal Sector

618. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to create regulatory authority for the coal sector to be set up for allocating coal and lignite blocks for exploration and mining; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; Company-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of India had appointed the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) as a consultant to examine the need and necessity of an Independent Regulator for coal sector and if required to define its role and functions. ASCI has submitted its report which is being examined by the Government.

Protection to Marine Species

619. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the marine species are facing threat of extinction;

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

(c) whether a meeting headed by PM was held recently to provide protection to marine species;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide protection to these marine species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, some of the marine species are facing threat due to habitat destruction, over exploitation, commercial fishing, by-catches during commercial fishing etc.

(c) and (d) The issue of conservation and management of marine species was one of the agenda

items for the 4th meeting of the National Board for Wildlife held on 1st November 2007 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister.

(e) The steps taken to provide protection to marine species are as given below:

- (i) All cetaceans (Whales, Porpoises and Dolphins) and 10 species of elasmobranch (sharks and rays), Holothurians, Corals, 9 species of Molluscs, Sea Horses, Giant Grouper have been included in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. thereby affording them highest degree of protection. Hunting of these species is prohibited as per the provisions of the Act.
- (ii) With the amendments in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the penalty for poaching of species included in the Schedules of the Act and illegal trade in its parts and products has been enhanced.
- (iii) Financial and technical assistance are provided to the State/UT Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries' for development of protected areas which include marine national parks as well.
- (iv) All developmental activities within the Coastal Regulation Zone area are regulated.
- (v) India is a signatory to the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for conservation of marine species and its habitats and for control of illegal trade in its parts and products.

Environmental Clearance for Setting Up of INS Vikrant

620. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for environmental

clearance for setting up of INS Vikrant into Maritime Museum in Mumbai is pending with the Government;

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

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has accorded clearance under Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 to the project pertaining to Conversion of INS Vikrant into maritime museum on 21-02-2007.

(c) Does not arise.

LNG Terminal at Vallarpadam

621. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

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

(a) the present status of construction of International container Transshipment Terminal at Vallarpadam;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to complete the LNG Terminal;

(c) whether the project is being completed on time bound basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The License Agreement between M/s. India Gateway Terminal Private Limited (IGTPL) and Cochin Port for the construction of the International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis was signed on 31st January, 2005. The environmental clearance for the project was received on 9th November, 2006. The pre-project activities including land filling has been completed.

Tenders for the construction of the terminal have been received. The construction work for the terminal is planned to commence.

(b) to (d) The LNG Terminal at Puthuvypeen Island in Cochin Port is being executed by M/s. Petronet LNG Limited (PLL). The environmental clearance for the project has been received. Land Development work is in progress at the project site. Proposal for award of concession to M/s PLL is under process for approval of the competent authority.

Repair and Maintenance of NH in Tamil Nadu

622. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Highways in Tamil Nadu are in dilapidated conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. The National Highways in Tamil Nadu are maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Regional Leprosy Training and Research Institutes

623. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated to all three Regional Leprosy Training and Research Institutes in the country have been fully utilized during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to strengthen these institutes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Details are enclosed as Statement.

(c) Some of the reasons for low utilization during the last three years are:—

Vacant post could not be filled, training programmes could not be undertaken, non procurement of office equipments, GMSD, Kolkata could not supply the medicines as per indent.

(d) Government of India has taken the decision to strengthen RLTRI, Raipur by assigning additional

responsibilities to the Institute. However, RLTRI Aska and Gouripur being located at very remote area, could not be strengthened.

(e) RLTRI, Raipur has been identified as one of the referral center for Medical Rehabilitation and Re-Constructive Surgery. Institution has been designated as Regional Office of Health and Family Welfare for the State of Chhattisgarh and following additional functions like capacity building for integrated disease surveillance program, Epidemiology Training Courses as undertaken by the NICD Delhi, Lymphatic Filariasis, Microscopy, DOT centers and Operational Research related to NTCP, Voluntary Counseling Centers (VCC) and diagnostic center for HIV/AIDS, Disaster management, Polio Re-Constructive Surgery etc has been assigned to it.

Statement

Details of the Funds Allocated and Expenditure Incurred by 3 RLTRI's

(In Thousands of Rupees)

	Budget Estimate					
	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan
RL TRI, Aska	3000	8200	3000	8600	3500	13000
RL TRI, Raipur	2000	9800	1800	13300	1800	15500
RL TRI, Gouripur	15000	0	15000	0	16000	0
	Revised Estimate					
	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RL TRI, Aska	3000	8200	2300	8600	1400	11200

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RL TRI, Raipur	2000	9800	1800	13300	2600	16400
RL TRI, Gouripur	15000	0	14200	0	15600	0

(In thousands of Rupees)

	Actual Expenditure					
	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan	Plan	Non Plan
RL TRI, Aska	370	9403	206	9457	128	9617
RL TRI, Raipur	1124	12965	1340	12334	1983	13592
RL TRI, Gouripur	11094	0	13565	0	14116	0

**Projects undertaken under
BRGF Scheme**

624. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the works/projects which have been taken up in various districts under BRGF scheme;

(b) whether the works/projects taken under the scheme is monitored;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the role of the Panchayats in this regard;

(d) whether the Government provides training to Panchayat members and Panchayat workers for proper implementation of the scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount sanctioned under this scheme to Gram Panchayats and the work done out of this sanctioned amount in various Districts including Yavatmal District of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER

OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme covers 250 districts in 27 States. 147 of these districts were covered under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY), which has been subsumed into the BRGF Programme. Of these, 55 districts have claimed their total entitlement under RSVY. Releases continue to be made to the 92 erstwhile RSVY districts which have not yet claimed their total entitlement of Rs. 45 crore under RSVY.

The objective of the RSVY Scheme was to address the problems of low agricultural productivity and unemployment as also to fill critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure. An illustrative list of schemes taken up under RSVY would include a large variety of works such as anganwadi centres, houses for the homeless, primary health centres, veterinary health centres, irrigation structures, school buildings, roads, culverts, bridges, fish ponds, rural market sheds, income generation schemes etc. under various sectors.

The objective of the BRGF programme is to bridge

critical gaps in local infrastructure and address other development requirements that are not being adequately met through existing fund inflows. The works/projects taken up in various districts under BRGF would therefore depend on the felt needs and their prioritisation by the Panchayats in Rural Areas and Urban Local bodies in Urban areas and the District Planning Committees. 57 district plans have been examined and processed for releases so far. The works/projects taken up under BRGF in these districts mainly include infrastructure such as construction of anganwadi centers, kitchen sheds, sub-health centers, ayurvedic dispensary buildings, veterinary dispensaries and hospitals, laboratory and library building for schools, Higher Secondary School buildings, hostel for students, Panchayat Bhawans, intra village roads, drainage, sanitation, river protection, electrification, drinking water supply, sports facilities, water tanks, fishery tanks, drainage facilities and provision for vocational training, micro credit etc.

(b) and (c) With regard to the monitoring of implementation, the guidelines of the BRGF stipulate peer review by Panchayats up to the Intermediate Panchayat level, review at the district level by a Committee constituted by the District Planning Committee, review by the State High Powered Committee and social audit by Gram Sabhas in rural areas and Area Sabhas in urban Areas.

(d) and (e) The Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF) provides Rs. 250 crore per annum calculated at the rate of Rs. 1 crore per district to States for capacity building of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipalities to strengthen local governance. This includes training, technical assistance in planning, establishment of extension or resource centers at each Intermediate Panchayat level and provision of computers in Panchayats. In addition, 5% of the development grant allocated to each district can be used for augmenting staff at the Gram Panchayat level. The training curriculum is based on the National Capability Building Framework developed by the

Ministry of Panchayati Raj and includes basic functional courses in accounts, social audit, right to information, Panchayat revenues, core functions under taken by the Panchayat in the schemes and sectors covered by the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and functional literacy.

(f) The allocation under BRGF is made district-wise. The State Governments are to decide the *inter-se* allocation to each Panchayat and Urban Local Body on the basis of a normative formula, which is to determine (a) the distribution of funds between urban and rural local bodies, (b) the share of each level of Panchayat within the three levels of Panchayats and (c) the share of each Panchayat or Municipality concerned.

In Maharashtra, 12 districts are covered under the BRGF programme. Of these, 9 districts were covered under the RSVY Programme. Since none of these districts have completed RSVY they continue to draw funds for the completion of the scheme. The remaining three districts namely Amravati, Aurangabad and Yavatmal have not sent their BRGF proposals based on district plans consolidated by the District Planning Committees. The main constraint in respect of Maharashtra is that District Planning Committees have not yet been constituted in accordance with Article 243 ZD of the Constitution. The State Government has promised to constitute the District Planning Committees and send the plans for Amravati, Aurangabad and Yavatmal by March 2008. An amount of Rs. 1.2 crore at the rate of Rs. 10 lakh per district has been released to the State Government to secure professional support in order to prepare district plans. Rs. 30 crore has been released to the districts of Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Hingoli and Nanded (Rs. 7.5 crore each) towards their entitlement under RSVY during 2007-08. An amount of Rs. 6.19 crore has been released to Maharashtra during 2006-07 for the capacity building of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Details of allocation and releases to 12 districts of Maharashtra may be given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement**Backward Region Grant Fund Comprehensive District-wise entitlement of Maharashtra, 2007-08**

Sl. No.	Districts	RSVY/non RSVY	Total Annual allocation on BRGF for 2007-08 (Rs. in Crore)	Amount Released under RSVY in 2007-08 (Rs. in Crore)	Balance amount to be released under RSVY in 2007-08 (Rs. in Crore)	Released Advance for District Planning in 2007-08 (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Ahmednagar	RSVY	30.68		22.50	.10
2.	Amravati	Non RSVY	24.13			.10
3.	Aurangabad	Non RSVY	23.37			.10
4.	Bhandara	RSVY	15.16		15.00	.10
5.	Chandrapur	RSVY	22.36	7.50	15.00	.10
6.	Dhule	RSVY	18.71		22.50	.10
7.	Gadchiroli	RSVY	22.02	7.50	7.50	.10
8.	Gondia	RSVY	16.40	*	15.00	.10
9.	Hingoli	RSVY	15.39	7.50	15.00	.10
10.	Nanded	RSVY	23.63	7.50	7.50	.10
11.	Nandurbar	RSVY	16.98		22.50	.10
12.	Yavatmal	Non RSVY	24.74			.10
			253.57	30.00	142.50	1.20

Total amount released in 2007-08 is Rs. 143.70 Crore (142.50 Crore + 1.20 Crore).

*The proposals for release of next installment are under process.

Norms for Central Deputation for Bureaucrats

625. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has adopted new norms for Central Deputation for IAS/IPS/IFS officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the list of officers for Central deputation are being forwarded by the State Governments; and

(d) if not, the position as on date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The only change in the existing norms for the Central Deputation for IAS/IPS/IFS is that the officers can give three preferences for their posting under the Central Staffing Scheme. These preferences would be considered subject to availability of the post and suitability of the officer for the job.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Salient Features of Deemed Forest

626. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of 'Deemed Forest' as mentioned and brought out in the guidelines made by the Government;

(b) whether the settlers, common people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands were denied use of their own private forest products for construction purposes;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The areas identified by the expert committees appointed by the State Governments in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12-12-1996 in WP (C) 202/1995 also attracts the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 besides the areas indicated in the notification dated 25-10-1980 for Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Those areas have been often referred as 'Deemed Forest' in certain parlance.

(b) and (c) No settler or common people have been denied the use of their own private forest produces in

Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The use of forest produce by settlers, common people is regulated as per the provisions of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Protected Forest Rules, 1986 read with Supreme Court judgment dated 07-05-2002. Therefore, question of denial does not arise.

(d) The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has been following the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 07-05-2002, in the matters of forest and forestry working in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The UT Administration has filed an I.A. No. 1264 seeking certain modifications of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order on 07-05-2002 in respect of use of deemed forest for various development activities.

Definition of Forest under Forest Laws

627. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Laws do not define "forest" explicitly;

(b) whether the ambit of the Forest Act, 1927 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 is defined by the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the final decision of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 12-12-96 defined "forest" which is to be understood according to its dictionary meaning for the purpose of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The term "forest land", occurring in Section 2 of Forest Conservation Act, will not only include forest as understood in the dictionary sense, but any area recorded as forest in the Government record irrespective of ownership.

**Rehabilitation Work in Tsunami
Affected Areas**

628. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position/status of rehabilitation work in Tsunami affected areas undertaken out of the funds meant for MPLADS;

(b) whether the Government has appointed any authority or any NGO to supervise/monitor such

rehabilitation work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) The requisite information for Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) As per MPLADS Guidelines, District Authorities are entrusted with the responsibility of overall supervision of works under the Scheme.

Statement-I

Tsunami rehabilitation/reconstruction works under MPLADS (Lok Sabha)

Name of the State	District	No. of works				
		Authorized	Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Completed	Ongoing	Yet to be started
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	3	22	2	—	1
	Prakasam	2	15	1	—	1
	Guntur	1	18	—	1	—
	East Godavari	6	9	6	—	—
	West Godavari	1	20	1	—	—
	Krishna	2	20	—	2	—
	Total		15	104	10	3
Kerala	Kollam	1	100	—	1	—
	Alappuzha	1	18	—	1	1
	Total	2	118	—	1	1
Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari	2	270	—	2	—
	Cuddalore	6	308	5	1	—
	Nagapattinam	21	288	19	2	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Ramanathapuram	1	20	—	1	—
	Total	30	886	24	6	—
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	854.81	2	3	—
Puducherry	Puducherry	5	225	—	5	—
	Grand Total	57	2187.81	36	18	3

Statement-II*Tsunami rehabilitation/reconstruction works under MPLADS (Rajya Sabha)*

Name of the State	District	No. of works				
		Authorized	Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Completed	Ongoing	Yet to be started
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	6	24	—	5	1
	Prakasam	2	20	2	—	—
	West Godavari	7	45	2	5	—
	Krishna	6	60	—	6	—
	Total	21	149	4	16	1
Kerala	Kallam	1	45	—	1	—
	Alappuzha	2	75	—	1	1
	Ernakulam	1	35	—	1	—
	Total	4	155	—	3	1
Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari	11	250.5	6	4	1
	Cuddalore	10	397.5	6	3	1
	Nagapattinam	19	337.5	15	4	—
	Kancheepuram	1	45.0	1	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Villupuram	40	204.0	31	6	3
	Total	81	1234.5	59	17	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	13	1280	1	12	—
Puducherry	Puducherry	6	317.5	—	6	—
	Grand Total	125	3136.0	64	54	7

[Translation]

Rise in T.B. Cases

629. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tuberculosis infection has reached a dreadful stage in the country;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check and control the menace of the disease; and

(d) the total number of T.B. patients in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RANADOSS): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) To control TB, with an objective to achieve cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases, the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) widely known as DOTS,

which is WHO recommended strategy, is being implemented in the entire country. Under RNTCP, diagnosis by sputum microscopy, instead of X-ray, helps in detecting and curing infectious cases on priority. Facilities for diagnosis by sputum microscopy have been decentralized and strengthened. Drugs are provided under observation and patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment. Drugs are provided free of cost in patient-wise boxes. Till date, the RNTCP has placed more than 78 lakh patients on DOTS treatment, averting more than 14 lakh deaths. Every month more than 1 lakh patients are placed on DOTS. In 2006 alone, India placed around 14 lakhs cases on DOTS, more than any country in a single year in the world. Overall performance of RNTCP has been excellent with cure/treatment completion rate consistently above 85% and death rate reduced to less than 5%. To increase accessibility of the masses to the facilities provided under the Programme, special emphasis is laid on the IEC activities, involvement of NGOs, private sector and medical colleges.

(d) A statement indicating State-wise details of patients detected and put on treatment under the Programme during 2006 and current year is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

A statement indicating State-wise detail of TB cases detected and put on treatment under the Programme during the year 2006 and till date

Sl.No.	State	2006	2007 (upto sept., 2007)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	920	590

Sl.No.	State	2006	2007 (upto sept., 2007)
2.	Andhra Pradesh	107131	82954
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2607	2153
4.	Assam	32311	27958
5.	Bihar	61151	61476
6.	Chandigarh	2322	1871
7.	Chhattisgarh	28209	20779
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	391	300
9.	Daman and Diu	280	256
10.	Delhi	47606	39260
11.	Goa	2036	1510
12.	Gujarat	79821	61096
13.	Haryana	34693	28097
14.	Himachal Pradesh	13303	10913
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	10268	9863
16.	Jharkhand	33035	27505
17.	Karnataka	64842	50737
18.	Kerala	25248	18159
19.	Lakshadweep	16	12
20.	Madhya Pradesh	74435	60817
21.	Maharashtra	138837	107827
22.	Manipur	4803	3771
23.	Meghalaya	3929	3649
24.	Mizoram	1912	1657
25.	Nagaland	2695	2339
26.	Orissa	44790	37579
27.	Puducherry	1513	1042

Sl.No.	State	2006	2007 (upto sept., 2007)
28.	Punjab	34537	28289
29.	Rajasthan	107783	86845
30.	Sikkim	1458	1225
31.	Tamil Nadu	87065	65323
32.	Tripura	2314	1972
33.	Uttar Pradesh	224465	187188
34.	Uttarakhand	11653	10567
35.	West Bengal	109319	83157
Grand Total		1397498	1128736

[English]

**Paediatric Doses of
Anti-Retroviral Drugs**

630. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per a report titled "Towards Universal Access Scaling Up Priority HIV/AIDS Interventions in the Health Sector" jointly released by the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNAIDS and UNICEF, out of the 39.5 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the world, 5.7 millions are in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation has started giving free paediatric doses of anti-retroviral drugs to children under the National Programme during August to October 2007;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to provide treatment to all the HIV and AIDS patients free of cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Revised estimates based on Sentinel Surveillance-2006 and National Family Health Survey-III, there are estimated 2 to 3.1 million cases of HIV/AIDS in India.

(c) to (e) National Paediatric ART Initiative was launched in November 2006. Free ARV drugs for adults and paediatric formulations for children have been made available at 127 ART centres where over 1 lakh adults and nearly 8 thousand children are under treatment.

**Widening of NH between
Vadodara and Surat**

631. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the approval of the project for widening the National Highway between Vadodara and Surat on NH-8 is still awaited from the Union Government;

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

(c) the time frame for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The six laning of National Highway No. 8 between Vadodara to Bharuch and Bharuch to Surat having total length of 148 km is under implementation under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase V on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The project is targeted for completion by July, 2009.

[Translation]

**Permanent Seat in UN
Security Council**

632. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the neighbouring country, China has made any statement in trilateral meeting held with regard to India's permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which India's claim is going to be strengthened by this and the details of the hurdles caused by other countries in this matter; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. In the Joint Communique issued at the end of the meeting of Foreign Ministers of China, India and Russia in Harbin (China) on October 24, 2007, the Foreign Ministers of China and Russia *inter-alia*, "reiterated that their countries attach importance to the status of India in international affairs, and understand and support India's aspirations to play a greater role in the United Nations".

(c) and (d) There continues to be wide support for India's candidature for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. The Government continue to make

active efforts, including discussions with various countries and participation in the debates on Security Council reform at the United Nations, to mobilise further support for India's candidature.

[English]

**Allotment of Land to Aryan
Coal Beneficiation Limited**

633. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land had been allotted to the Aryan Coal Beneficiation Limited and the Coal India Limited by the S.E.C.L. to set up coal washeries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the allotted land come under the coal bearing area;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the SECL proposes to undertake a project of open cast mining in the near future on the aforesaid land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 5 hectares of land has been allotted on lease to MIs Aryan Coal Beneficiation Private Limited by the South Eastern Coalfields Limited to set up a coal washery.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of 197 hectares of land identified for OB dump of Dipka opencast project, 5 hectares of land on the outer fringe was leased out by SECL in 1998 to MIs Aryan Coal Beneficiation Private Limited for setting up of a coal beneficiation plant.

(e) Since the area was already identified for overburden dumping, there is no proposal of coal extraction by opencast mining in the area.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (e) above.

[Translation]

Visit of PM to African Countries

634. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of the Prime Minister to the African countries, any joint strategy has been prepared by the Government and African countries to cooperate with each other in combating terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (c) During PM's visit to Nigeria, a comprehensive Abuja Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and Nigeria was issued on 15th October 2007. In respect of the fight against terrorism, the Declaration states that "Nigeria and India have a good tradition of cooperating in the fight against international terrorism and drug trafficking. It was agreed that such cooperation shall be enhanced and for this purpose, appropriate agreements would be signed. Both sides also reiterated their unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. They stressed that there was no justification whatsoever for any act of terrorism".

Pending Lake Conservation Projects

635. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals worth Rs.1.36 crores for Benisagar in Panna district and Puraina Pond in Damoh district under the National Pond and Lake conservation Project sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government are pending;

(b) if so, the time by when these proposals are likely to be accorded approval;

(c) whether proposals of various schemes pertaining to other districts of Madhya Pradesh are also

under consideration of Ministry of Environment and Forests; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Lake Conservation Authority of Madhya Pradesh had submitted the proposals on 'Conservation and Management Plan of Beni Sagar Lake' in Panna District and 'Conservation and Management Plan of Purena Talab' in District Damoh (MP) to this Ministry for consideration under the National Lake Conservation Plan, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for restoration of polluted and degraded lakes in urban & semi-urban areas. In order to consider the proposals under National Lake Conservation Plan, the Ministry had identified certain lakes through a study. The State Governments were asked to consider these lakes for prioritization. The Benisagar Lake was neither identified by this Ministry nor included in the priority of the State Government for consideration under the National Lake Conservation Plan. The proposal for Purena Talab was found deficient in respect of certain key technical issues. The Lake Conservation Authority of Madhya Pradesh has been informed in this regard.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh had initially prioritized 11 lakes in the state. Out of these, projects for 3 lakes namely, Rani Talab (Rewa), Sagar lake (Sagar) and Shivpuri lakes (Shivpuri) have since been sanctioned by this Ministry. The proposals for new lakes are considered subject to their admissibility as per guidelines of National Lake Conservation Plan, prioritization, pollution status and availability of funds under the Plan.

Violation of EIA Notification, 2004

636. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new notification has been issued in the year 2006 in violation of E.I.A. notification, 2004;

(b) if so, the details of the notification, issued;

(c) whether Environment Clearance Authority will give its verdict on the basis of recommendations made by State Level expert Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any such proposal to constitute such committees have been forwarded by the State Government of Rajasthan to the Union Government; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government on such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Government has issued an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification vide S.O. No. 1533 (E) dated 14th September, 2006 superseding the earlier EIA Notification, 1994. The Notification lays down the procedure for environmental clearance of 39 developmental activities which includes screening, scoping, public consultation, appraisal and post project monitoring.

(c) and (d) The decision regarding grant or rejection of Environmental Clearance in respect of Category 'B' projects listed in the Schedule of the EIA Notification 2006 rests with the concerned State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) based on the recommendations of the concerned State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC).

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Rajasthan has forwarded a proposal for constituting the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC). The Ministry has sought additional information from the State Government vide letter dated 14th August, 2007.

[English]

Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emission

637. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the recent Vienna meet India has called upon the rich countries to take positive steps for emission reductions post 2012, as per commitments;

(b) the details of the declaration adopted at this meet; and

(c) the response of the rich nations thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Under the auspices of United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the fourth session of the Adhoc Working Group (AWG) on further commitments of Annex-I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, and the fourth workshop under the dialogue on long term cooperative action to address climate change by enhancing the implementation of the Convention were held at Vienna, Austria between 27th to 31st August 2007. At the AWG discussions, India reiterated its position that Annex-I countries should determine their Quantified Emission Limitation Reduction Targets (QELROS) at the earliest so that there is no gap between the commitment periods.

(b) and (c) As per the nature of the above meetings, no declaration was expected or adopted.

Infertility Drugs

638. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether infertility drug has been cleared without proper tests;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the infertility drug for treatment has been issued despite adverse toxicity indications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Influence of Coconut Oil on
Cardiac Health**

639. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram has made a study on the influence of coconut oil on cardiac health; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the study entitled "Coconut oil and incidence of coronary artery disease in Kerala" was done at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram. The study indicates that consumption of coconut oil has no effect on lipid metabolism leading to coronary artery disease.

[Translation]

**Assessment of NHDP under
10th Plan**

640. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

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

(a) whether the assessment of targets fixed/achieved under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) during the Tenth Five Year Plan has been done;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether shortcomings have been found in the objectives and also in the implementation of this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the remedial measures taken/likely to be taken by the Union Government for speedy implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The year-wise targets and achievements under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) during the Tenth Five Year Plan are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) There have been delays in the completion of some contracts primarily pertaining to NHDP Phase-I, due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, delay in environment and forest clearances, clearances from Railways, poor performance of some contractors and termination of some contracts etc.

(d) The steps taken to expedite the progress of on-going and future projects are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I
Targets Vs. Achievements during the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007)

Sl. No.	As Per Action Plan									
	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1. Widening of NHs to 4-lanes (kms.)	534.71	391.36	2195.97	763.33	2896.10	2348.97	1099.24	726.66	1283.93	636

Statement-II

The following steps have been taken to ensure early completion of the project.

- (a) The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of National Highways Authority of India (NHA). Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHA, Secretary, Department of Road Transport and Highways and Minister, Shipping, Road Transport and Highways.
- (b) State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.
- (c) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre-State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) etc.
- (d) The procedure of issue of land acquisition notifications has now been simplified.
- (e) To expedite the construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs), an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHA to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has also been signed with M/s. IRCON International Limited for construction of some of the Road Over Bridges (ROBs).
- (f) Action has been taken against non-performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in existing contracts.

- (g) Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) and relaxation in minimum Interim Payment Certificate (IPC) amount.

[English]

Forest Fire Control Device

641. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of country's forest area regarded as fire prone;
- (b) the estimated forest area effected by forest fire during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the number of modern effective control devices available with the Government to control forest fire;
- (d) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government for effective forest fire control device; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per the State of Forest Report, 1995 analysis of the record of occurrence of fire within and around the sample plot activity, over a period of two decades, has revealed that 53.1% of the India's forest are prone to fire, and out of this 9% of the area is affected by frequent fires.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e) Forest fire management involves prevention, timely detection, control and monitoring. A combination of technologies such as Remote Sensing, Geographic Information System etc. is being used for detection and monitoring of forest fires. Under the

Centrally Sponsored—Integrated Forest Protection Scheme, Forest Fire Control and Management is one of the component. Financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs on sharing basis to take up various activities for effective prevention and control of forest fires including use of modern technology.

Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

642. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding proliferation of nuclear weapons flowing into or emanating from its neighbourhood;

(b) if so, the outcome of such a study;

(c) if not, whether the Government is likely to conduct any such study in this regard in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Government closely monitor proliferation of nuclear weapons in India's neighbourhood including recent revelations about onward

proliferation activities in our neighbourhood. Government continue to take all necessary steps to safeguard national security.

New Coal Mines

643. SHRI PRAKASH B. JADHAO:

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new coal reserve has been identified in the country; and

(b) if so, the names of the places along with approximate coal reserve that have been found in those areas, State-wise; Location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes Sir, Geological Surve of India (GSI) has established additional resources of coal of about 12 billion tonnes during the Xth Plan period in several coalfields of India.

(b) The details of the State-wise and location-wise data is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

*Details of Areas with Additional Coal Resources Established by GSI during X Plan Period
(April, 2002 to March, 2007)*

State	Coalfield	District	Block	Resource (in Million Tonnes)
1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	Birbhum	Birbhum	Rampur-Mollarpur	378.59
		Birbhum	Gopalpur-Gonpur	508.98
	Raniganj	Bardhaman	Bistpur-Dandeshwar	191.49
		Bankura	Mohanpur	15.69
		Bankura	Krishnanagar	22.13

1	2	3	4	5
		Bardhaman	Barul-Bagdiha	24.58
		Bardhaman	Churulia	200.24
		Bankura	Bamundihi	15.02
		Bardhaman	Jamgram	36.91
		Bankura	Mohanpur (West)	2.05
		Bardhaman	Rakshitpur	518.05
Orrisa	Ib-River	Jharsuguda	Lakhanpur	97.10
	Taicher	Angul	Sarapal-Nuapara	701.16
		Angul	Kudanali-Laburi	396.10
		Angul	Nuagaon-Telisahi	733.83
		Angul	Tribira	1744.76
Jharkhand	South Karanpura	Hazaribagh	Hetoli	8.91
		Hazaribagh	Patal (West)	13.91
	Rajmahal	Dumka	Urma-paharitola	464.44
		Dumka	Chaudha-Gariapani	136.27
		Dumka	Sahapur-Jamarpani	683.64
		Dumka	Kukulidangal-Sitasal	653.69
		Dumka	Haripur-Chapria	332.29
Madhya Pradesh	Sohagpur	Shahdol	Bhanpura	208.82
		Shahdol	Manpura	14.43
		Shahdol	Gbunghuti	126.98
		Shahdol	Patasi	152.13
		Shahdol	Bicharpur	133.59
		Shahdol	Singhpur	100.73
		Shahdol	Panwari	55.47
		Shahdol	Singhpur (North)	83.17

1	2	3	4	5
		Umaria	Malachua	169.24
	Singrauli	Sidhi	Ujhani (West) Gondbahera	301.47
		Sidhi	Bandha	387.69
		Sidhi	Budher	326.60
	Pench-Kanhan	Betul	Chopna-Skaktigarh	14.75
Chhattisgarh	Korba	Korba	Kerwa	112.94
	Mand-Raigarh	Raigarh	Ongana-Potiya	325.43
		Raigarh	Jilga-Barpali	545.79
		Raigarh	Amgaon-Kaughna	393.60
		Korba	Marpali-Karmitika	179.51
	Ramkola-Tatapani	Surguja	Sursa	28.67
		Surguja	Bhelmi	109.67
	Hasdo-Arand	Surguja	Kente	11.15
		Surguja	Pendrakhi	387.46
Maharashtra	Wardha Valley	Chandrapur	Bhatali	1.99
		Chandrapur	East of Ekarjuna	153.54
Andhra Pradesh	Godavari Valley	Khammam	Jagannathpuram-Gudipadu	25.10
		Warangal	Venkatapur (North)	155.95
		Khammam	Dharmacheria-Abbugudem	21.52
		Khammam	Santinagaram	11.85
		Khammam	Chintalchilka	36.43
		Khammam	Vajanagudem	29.86

**Upgradation of Highways and
Roads**

644. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI PRAKASH B. JADHAO:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

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

(a) the funds allocated to various States for upgradation of State Highways, National Highways and roads in major districts during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) whether many States have under-utilized or not even utilized any money under the Central Road Fund (CRF);

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

(d) the details of funds allocated to the States and the amount utilized therefrom;

(e) whether any Central Level Task Force has been set up to monitor the progress made by the States;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the other steps taken by the Union Government

to expedite utilization of funds allocated from CRF by the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The State-wise details of allocation and expenditure made for the development of National Highways and of amount accrued and released for improvement of State Roads from the Central Road Fund for the years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 are given in the enclosed Statement. As per provision of Central Road Fund Act, 2000, funds accrued to CRF are non-lapsable in nature. The release of funds from CRF depends on the utilization of the released amount and the progress of works approved on the basis of the proposals submitted by the respective State Governments and implemented by them.

(e) No separate Task Force has been set up to monitor the progress made by the States.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The progress of works and utilization of fund are regularly monitored by the Ministry at different levels. The State Governments are regularly requested to increase the pace of the progress of CRF works and the progress of utilization of funds from CRF is monitored quarterly.

Statement

The State-wise details of allocation and expenditure made for the development of National Highways, amount accrued and released under Central Road Fund for State roads and major districts roads and amount allocated and released under the schemes of Economic Importance and Inter-State Connectivity (EI and ISC) for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2006-07		2007-08		2006-07		2007-08		2006-07		2007-08	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Accrual	Release	Accrual	Release	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
					(upto 31-10-2007)				(upto 31-10-2007)				(upto 31-10-07)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65.76	65.40	86.44	32.97	131.07	47.10	131.07	89.23	5.83	0.00	5.91	0.00
2.	Anunachal Pradesh	8.30	8.29	4.00	0.89	16.26	10.33	16.74	0.00	3.88	3.87	6.38	5.20
3.	Assam	79.11	77.10	49.96	27.00	24.61	18.60	26.13	0.00	12.24	1.83	6.38	0.00
4.	Bihar	108.00	106.17	103.82	55.70	38.65	22.91	38.52	11.91	3.22	0.00	3.15	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	36.45	36.190	58.19	16.79	38.63	22.72	40.35	22.92	0.50	0.00	2.00	0.00
6.	Goa	2.95	2.64	15.00	5.24	7.95	0.00	8.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	69.00	68.92	70.70	20.75	96.60	96.60	97.07	88.17	12.15	11.60	6.40	0.00
8.	Haryana	64.00	64.00	60.00	49.54	56.57	56.57	61.56	54.76	7.81	2.57	6.62	5.52

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9. Himachal Pradesh	39.50	39.44	50.00	32.84	17.24	12.16	18.07	5.01	2.09	0.00	2.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
10. Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.04	30.84	50.86	0.00	0.99	0.00	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.00
11. Jharkhand	34.86	35.00	53.00	25.61	34.03	10.26	35.37	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
12. Karnataka	88.91	86.75	86.71	50.30	94.70	108.81	97.92	97.92	27.09	26.48	23.32	0.00	0.00	0.00
13. Kerala	58.02	54.44	68.48	24.13	45.92	30.92	48.42	15.26	0.25	0.00	2.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
14. Madhya Pradesh	93.73	91.71	95.88	32.59	93.69	81.24	93.85	27.50	8.83	0.00	12.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
15. Maharashtra	160.81	159.32	128.76	42.23	156.61	214.95	161.49	55.27	5.57	0.00	20.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
16. Manipur	14.74	14.65	10.14	1.88	5.09	3.22	5.28	0.00	1.54	1.29	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
17. Meghalaya	25.40	24.31	18.88	7.09	7.73	5.51	8.12	1.53	2.46	1.50	0.72	0.64	0.00	0.64
18. Mizoram	15.53	15.53	13.00	1.00	4.59	4.06	4.74	0.00	0.34	0.00	2.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
19. Nagaland	11.82	11.81	7.00	2.27	3.98	2.87	4.13	0.00	3.68	3.68	5.75	5.20	0.00	5.20
20. Orissa	73.37	72.22	86.81	50.19	50.63	50.63	52.14	13.01	17.03	17.03	12.08	1.90	0.00	1.90
21. Punjab	75.34	74.69	73.05	48.48	63.82	62.30	62.90	36.80	5.03	3.71	2.83	1.26	0.00	1.26
22. Rajasthan	81.87	80.78	89.18	65.90	119.80	134.12	119.83	91.07	7.31	6.67	5.91	4.96	0.00	4.96
23. Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.01	1.42	2.13	0.88	4.68	3.70	12.70	4.99	0.00	4.99
24. Tamil Nadu	84.69	79.40	92.78	53.96	104.74	128.74	106.78	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00

25. Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.15	2.92	3.29	0.00	1.47	1.38	1.97	0.00
26. Uttarakhand	54.61	52.86	62.35	16.27	18.46	18.46	19.07	0.00	6.87	2.79	6.38	5.50
27. Uttar Pradesh	104.20	101.36	140.87	47.27	142.17	193.14	143.11	0.00	12.85	0.00	6.65	0.00
28. West Bengal	47.00	46.77	65.00	17.93	54.21	66.86	53.65	17.85	7.60	5.00	5.70	0.00
Union Territory												
29. Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.86	0.75	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30. Chandigarh	1.00	0.96	2.00	0.05	2.24	1.01	2.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.08	0.00	1.10	0.00	0.50	0.00	2.00	0.00
32. Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.79	0.00	2.40	0.50	2.00	1.60
33. Delhi	3.00	1.47	17.00	4.04	43.84	22.27	44.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34. Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35. Pondicherry	5.00	4.99	8.50	1.89	3.60	0.00	3.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Allocation of Coal to Gujarat from
Nearby Mines**

645. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Gujarat is getting coal for power generation from coal fields located beyond the distance of 1600 kms;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat to allocate coal from the nearby coal mines so as to reduce the transportation cost;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Only one Thermal Power Station at Sikka in Gujarat is getting coal from a mine located beyond 1600 kms. Power Stations of Gujarat are getting part of their coal from the nearest mines of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) and major portion from distance wise next best alternative source i.e. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL). The allocation of coal on long-term and short-term basis is made by Standing Linkage Committee, all inter-Ministerial Committee, keeping in view, the availability of coal, logistic arrangement for evacuation of coal, qualitative requirement as per Ministry of Environment and Forest norms etc.

(b) and (c) The issue of rationalization of coal allocation to Gujarat from nearby coal companies was raised during the Chief Ministers Conference held by Union Ministry of Power on 28-5-2007.

(d) One of the thrust area identified by Union Government relates to locational rationalization of linkage from coalfields to the extent possible. For this purpose, a committee has been constituted in the Union Ministry of Power to examine the possibility of rationalization of existing linkages in respect of various Thermal Power Stations.

Stem Cell

646. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incurable diseases are being treated by means of stem cell therapy in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for not informing the people in this regard;

(c) the number of patients who have gone abroad to get treatment through stem cell therapy during the last three years; and

(d) the details of efforts being made for making this mode of treatment accessible to all?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there are claims made by some institutions regarding various incurable diseases being treated by stem cell therapy. However, presently there is no approved indication for stem cell therapy as a part of routine medical practice, other than Bone Marrow Transplantation.

[Translation]

Construction Work on NH in Orissa

647. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on National Highway between Bolangir and Khurda via Sonpur and Bodh Nayagarh in Orissa is going on a very slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No Sir. The sanctioned works are in progress as per schedule.

(c) The sanctioned projects are likely to be completed by October, 2009.

[English]

Commonwealth Games, 2010

648. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the games included in the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and the names of stadiums where these events are likely to be held;

(b) whether the stadiums have been fully developed to facilitate the event;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to make all sports complexes disabled friendly and environment friendly; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The details of games included in the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and the stadiums where these events will be held are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The development/construction works on most of the stadiums have started and are expected to be completed by December, 2009.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The sports complexes are being made disabled and environment-friendly. The provisions thereof include ramps for easy access, separate toilets, rain water harvesting and solar energy for street lighting, etc. The Organizing Committee, Commonwealth Games, 2010 have also committed themselves to delivering a "Green Games" and have recently partnered with United Nations Environment Programme towards achieving this objective.

Statement

Details of Competition Sports/Venues for Commonwealth Games, 2010

Sl. No.	Disciplines	Venue	Status	Agency
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Athletics	J.N. Stadium	Existing	SAI
2.	Lawn Bowls	J.N. Sports Complex	New Outdoor Greens	SAI
3.	Weightlifting	J.N. Sports Complex	New Indoor Auditorium	SAI
4.	Hockey	Maj. Dhyan Chand National Stadium	Existing	SAI
5.	Cycling	Velodrome, I.G. Sports Complex	Existing	SAI
6.	Gymnastics	I.G. Indoor Stadium	Existing	SAI
7.	Wrestling	I.G. Sports Complex	New Indoor Hall	SAI

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Shooting	Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range	Existing	SAI
9.	Aquatics	S.P. Mukherjee Swimming Pool	Existing	SAI
10.	Netball	Thyagaraj Sports Complex	New Indoor Hall	GNCT of Delhi
11.	Boxing	Talkatora Indoor Stadium	Existing	NDMC
12.	Badminton	Siri Fort Sports Complex	New Indoor Hall	DDA
13.	Squash	Siri Fort Sports Complex	New Indoor Hall	DDA
14.	Table Tennis	Yamuna Sports Complex	New Indoor Hall	DDA
15.	Archery	Yamuna Sports Complex	Existing	DDA
16.	Rugby 7s	Delhi University	New Outdoor Greens	DU
17.	Tennis	R.K. Khanna Tennis Complex	Existing	AITA

SAI	—	Sports Authority of India
GNCT of Delhi	—	Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
NDMC	—	New Delhi Municipal Committee
DDA	—	Delhi Development Authority
DU	—	Delhi University
AITA	—	All India Tennis Association.

[Translation]

Visit of German Chancellor to India

649. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chancellor of Germany has recently visited India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement/declaration has been signed between India and Germany during the said visit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Yes. Her Excellency Dr. Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany paid a State visit to India from 29 October to 1 November 2007. During the visit, a Joint Statement on the "Further Development of the Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Germany" was issued (Statement-I). In addition, seven bilateral Agreements/MoUs for cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology, Mutual Protection of Classified Information in the field of Defence, cooperation in the fields of Patents and Posts were signed (List of signed Agreements/MoUs is enclosed as Statement-II).

Statement-I***Joint Statement on the Further Development of the Strategic and Global Partnership Between India and Germany******New Delhi, 30 October 2007***

1. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Chancellor Angela Merkel have reaffirmed today their commitment to the strategic partnership between India and Germany. The special partnership has already led to growing cooperation in global affairs and substantial expansion in the bilateral engagement in multiple fields. Within the framework of the Agenda for the Indo-German partnership in the 21st century adopted in 2000 and the Joint Statement issued on the occasion of the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Germany in April 2006, India and Germany will enhance the scope of their partnership with a view to strengthen it, based on shared principles, common perceptions and interests.

2. India and Germany share and promote universal values of democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms including religious, which are best realised in a pluralistic environment. They share a vision of peace, security and common opportunity in global affairs. They have shared interests in overcoming and finding solutions to key global challenges—amongst others poverty, diseases such as HIV/AIDS, the environmental and climate change, energy security, UN reform, international crime including cyber crime, illegal migration and trafficking in people, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, and international terrorism. Co-operation will be further enhanced on these issues, both bilaterally and in regional and international fora.

3. India and Germany share the vision of further strengthening their partnership through new initiatives in the spheres of trade and bilateral investment, energy, science and technology, education, culture, defence. They see considerable potential for growth in all these fields.

4. India and Germany are strong partners in the

field of science, technology and research and are determined to further developing this central pillar of their strategic partnership. The establishment of the Indo-German Science and Technology Centre, and the launch of the Science Express, which will carry an exhibition, designed and fabricated by the Max Planck Society, to numerous Indian cities in the course of the next year, are significant contributions reflecting this cooperation. Both sides are actively pursuing cooperation in the space sector including in the Chandrayaan project. Germany's support to India's participation in ITER and India's commitment to participate in the FAIR project was welcomed and appreciated.

5. Trade, investment and education belong to the core of the Indo-German partnership and collaboration. Both sides noted with satisfaction that bilateral trade has doubled within three years and agreed to work towards an annual trade volume of 20 billion Euros for 2012. The upward trend in two-way investments between India and Germany is a welcome development that needs further acceleration. Infrastructure and energy need to be concentrated on as sectors for mutually beneficial investments. They should take into account the complementary nature of the skills, resources and opportunities available in the two economies.

6. Transport infrastructure in India and transport links between India and Germany are vital components of our economic and trade relations. Railways and power generation are two areas wherein German investment in India would be to mutual advantage and would generate spin-off benefits to Indian and German industry. The two sides agreed to look for innovative ways and means to achieve this objective. India appreciates Germany's long-standing engagement in the area of vocational training. Both sides agreed to explore new avenues for further cooperation in this field including through public-private partnership.

7. The two sides underlined the importance of business-to-business links to further economic cooperation. They welcomed the meeting of a CEOs Round Table of Indian and German business leaders in

Mumbai. In the light of the rapidly growing trade and economic relations and the rapidly evolving pattern of international competitive advantage, it was agreed to facilitate movement of persons and professionals between the two countries in accordance with national legislation. Both Governments acknowledge the considerable potential for cooperation in the services sector. In this context, there was agreement on the need for the early conclusion of a Social Security Agreement, both for individuals and companies in the two countries. The two sides shared the assessment that further enhancement of bilateral air traffic relations would underpin the growing trade relationship between both countries.

8. Both sides reaffirm the development cooperation between Germany and India as an example of excellent bilateral work, innovation and alignment of development priorities. The mutually agreed priority areas focus on energy, environment and sustainable economic development. Indo-German cooperation promotes social security systems, development, micro financing and rural cooperative banking. The Rural Cooperative Credit Project/Linkage Banking Project, a programme of Indo-German development cooperation, was noted as an example. A new financial commitment by Germany of 150 million Euros likely to be concluded in November 2007 to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy projects was appreciated. These projects reinforce the common goal of both sides to produce clean energy and protect the global climate.

9. India and Germany recognise the urgent need to find effective and practical solutions to address concerns regarding climate change and its implications for human kind. These would include mitigation and adaptation strategies in a manner that supports further economic and social development in particular of developing countries. Long-term convergence of per capita emission rates is one of the important principles that should underpin negotiations in the context of the United Nations. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective

capabilities. India and Germany call on all parties to actively and constructively participate in the negotiations on a comprehensive post-2012 agreement for which the UNFCCC Conference in Indonesia in December 2007 would be significant.

10. The activities and follow up of the Indo-German Energy Forum were noted with appreciation. The MoU between the Energy Agencies of both countries signed during the visit of the Indian Minister of Power in Germany in 2006, the Indo-German Symposium on Energy Efficiency as well as the Indo-German Environment Forum both to be held in New Delhi in 2008 will generate additional momentum for the bilateral political dialogue on energy. It will equally foster the identification of cooperation projects in this field. The early conclusion of an MoU on Clean Development Mechanism (COM) projects will further strengthen this process. India and Germany noted with satisfaction the growing bilateral COM cooperation with 21 approved projects at present.

11. They emphasised the need for ensuring the supply of safe, sustainable and non-polluting sources of energy to meet the rising global demand for energy, particularly in developing countries.

12. There was agreement that the enlarged bilateral defence cooperation on the basis of the Defence Cooperation Agreement, including the bilateral dialogue on export control, marked the development of a new phase to enhance the strategic partnership. It is envisaged to include exchange of information and cooperation in the fields of defence technological research, armament procurement projects including project related development and technology as well as general defence technology.

13. India and Germany strongly support an early, fair and substantive outcome of the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations. They bear common responsibility for a successful conclusion of the Doha Agenda with focus on the development dimension and stress the necessity to overcome the existing differences in the Doha Round for the benefit of all WTO member

states. Close cooperation between India and Germany will make a significant contribution to achieve a balanced and comprehensive agreement.

14. India and Germany noted with satisfaction the growing partnership between India and the EU. They welcomed that negotiations have begun between India and the EU to arrive at a broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement in accordance with the decision reached at the India-EU Summit in Helsinki in 2006. They look forward to the forthcoming India-EU Summit which will further the India-EU relationship.

15. India and Germany recognise that a strengthened multilateral system, including a reformed UN Security Council that would reflect the realities of the 21st century, enhances global cooperation and security. Both sides will continue their close cooperation bilaterally and in the framework of the G4 for the strengthening of the multilateral system and towards early realisation of reform of the United Nations, including the expansion of the UN Security Council, in both permanent and non-permanent categories of membership. India and Germany reaffirmed their firm support for each other's candidature for permanent membership on an expanded UNSC.

16. Terrorism is a global threat requiring a global response. Both sides underline the importance of joint international efforts in countering terrorism, which is not justified under any circumstances. They agree to

intensify mutual exchange of views, experiences and practical cooperation in the fight against terrorism, both through bilateral channels and in multilateral forums. They shall strengthen cooperation through the Indo-German Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and in the EU framework, as well as in pursuing as soon as possible agreement in the UN on the Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism. They will share experiences and increase co-operation, including joint operational work between police and law enforcement agencies. The conclusion of a Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters would further strengthen the bilateral efforts.

17. Both sides share the view that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and its linkages with terrorism pose a great threat to international peace and security. India and Germany share the vision of a world free of weapons of mass destruction, a goal towards which they will work together.

18. India and Germany reaffirm their commitment to strengthen their comprehensive strategic partnership for the benefit of both their peoples and the international community based on universal values of democracy and pluralism. A stronger partnership between India and Germany, two major democracies in Asia and Europe, acting in concert in international institutions, enhances global cooperation and security. Both sides stressed the commitment to work towards promoting international peace, stability and security, development and the eradication of poverty.

Issued in New Delhi on 30 October 2007.

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Agreement/MoU	Indian Signatory	German Signatory
1	2	3	4
1.	Memorandum of Understanding on the Federal Creation of an Indo-German Science and Technology Centre between the Ministry of Science and Technology of	Shri Kapil Sibal Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences of the Republic of India	Dr. Annette Schavan Minister of Education and Research of the Federal Republic of Germany

1	2	3	4
	<p>the Government of the Republic of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany</p>		
2.	<p>Agreement between the Federal Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India on the Mutual Protection of Classified Information</p>	<p>Shri Vijay Singh Secretary Ministry of Defence</p>	<p>Mr. Bernd Mutzelburg Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to India</p>
3.	<p>MoU on Bilateral Co-operation between the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India and the German Patent and Trade Mark Office</p>	<p>Shri Ajay Shankar Secretary, DIPP Ministry of Commerce and Industry</p>	<p>Dr. Jurgen Schade President, German Patent and Trade Mark Office</p>
4.	<p>Cooperation Agreement between the Department of Science and Technology, India and the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science, Germany for the Launch of "Science Express"</p>	<p>Dr. T. Ramasami Secretary Department of Science and Technology</p>	<p>Dr. Andreas Trepte Director of the Exhibition for and on behalf of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science</p>
5.	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), India and the Council for the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings (Council) as well as the Foundation Lindau Nobel Prize Winners meetings at Lake Constance (Foundation)</p>	<p>Dr. T. Ramasami Secretary Department of Science and Technology</p>	<p>Prof. Wolfgang Schuerer, Chairman on behalf of the Lindau Foundation</p>
6.	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India and the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research in the Helmholtz Association, Germany on Cooperation in Marine Sciences</p>	<p>Dr. T. Ramasami Director General of the CSIR</p>	<p>Mr. Jurgen Mlynec President of the Helmholtz Association</p>

1	2	3	4
7.	Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Post between the Ministry of Communications and IT, Government of India and Deutsche Post, Germany	Shri S. Samant Chief General Manager, Business Development and Marketing Directorate Department of Posts	Dr. Wolfgang Klein Member of the Board of Management of Deutsche Post World Net as well as CEO of Deutsche Post-bank

30 October, 2007

[English]

**Decline in the Standard of
Medical Education**

650. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received reports indicating sharp decline in the standards of medical education;

(b) whether the National Knowledge Commission has also drawn the attention of the Government towards progressive decline in medical institutions;

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

(d) the remedial measures being taken to arrest the decline in medical education and institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The National Knowledge Commission in its report of the working group on medical education has not reported about sharp decline in the standard of medical education. However, in the report, it is stated that most of the Medical Colleges are located in urban areas and have failed to meet the health care needs of rural areas. It has further indicated about concentration of Medical Colleges in some States. In order to further improve the quality of medical education, it has recommended that medical education should be made nationally sensitive and globally competitive.

The Central Government is administering Indian

Medical Council Act, 1956 to regulate and maintain the quality of medical education in the country through Medical Council of India (MCI). MCI is maintaining the standard of medical education both at undergraduate and postgraduate level through its various Regulations. In fact over the years, there has been increase in the number of Medical Colleges and intake capacity in MBBS course and post graduate courses in the country.

Dilapidated Condition of NH in Orissa

651. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of the National Highways passing through Orissa are in bad shape;

(b) if so, the steps taken for their proper repair and maintenance;

(c) whether the State Government of Orissa has submitted a detailed memorandum on the conditions of the National Highways in the State; and

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, some of the stretches of National Highways (NHs) number: 5, 23, 60 and 215 in the state of Orissa were damaged during heavy rains in the monsoon of current year as well as coupled with unprecedented increase in mining traffic specially on NH 23 and 215. Efforts

are underway to repair the damaged stretches and to keep all the NHs in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

(c) In the month of October, 2007 State Government of Orissa had highlighted the conditions of National Highways in Orissa and sought augmentation of funds for development of NHs in the state.

(d) The allocation under the head National Highway (Original) works has been increased from Rs. 85.0 crore to Rs. 130.0 crore for the year 2007-08.

Upgradation of Medical Education and Teaching Skills

652. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to upgrade the quality of medical education and teaching skills in the Government colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka for allocation of funds for upgradation of Medical Colleges; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The Central Government proposes to strengthen and upgrade the State Government Medical/Dental colleges by extending Central assistance during the 11th Five Year Plan period. Funds for this purpose has been sought from the Planning Commission. Assistance would aim at setting up and upgrading Simulation laboratories, e-library, skill labs, computerization of patients records, maintenance of essential buildings, class rooms and subscription of foreign journals etc.

(d) to (e) The Central Government has received four proposals from the State Government of Karnataka. Further action will be taken after funds for 11th Five Year Plan period are received and the plan scheme is approved by Empowered Finance Commission and Government.

Guidelines for E-Waste

653. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any guidelines for e-waste management;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to handle the fast increasing e-waste in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has formulated 'Draft Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste' for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories and the industries for handling E-waste. These draft Guidelines are available on CPCB's website www.cpcb.nic.in. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these Guidelines.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which includes e-waste. These Rules regulate collection, storage, treatment, disposal and import of hazardous wastes including E-waste. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronics industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are listed at Sl. No. 31 of Schedule 1 of these rules. Further, the export and import of e-waste is regulated under Schedule 3 of these rules as Electrical and Electronic Assemblies

covered under Sl. Nos. A 1180 and B 1110 of this Schedule. The import of wastes under this category is only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

Further, the Department of Information technology (DIT), Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, has taken steps to promote adoption of cleaner technologies and to motivate the electronics industry to minimize the generation of waste in the electronics industry. A comprehensive technical guide on 'Environmental Management for Information Technology Industry in India' published in 2004, has been circulated widely by the DIT.

Strengthening of Ayush Colleges

654. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a proposal for grant-in-aid under the scheme for strengthening of the existing under graduate colleges of AYUSH for construction of Ladies Hostel and 100 bedded Hospital at Taranatha Government Ayurvedic Medical College, Bellary to the Union Government on November 18, 2006;

(b) whether the grant is yet to be released by the Union Government;

(c) if so, the main reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) A proposal for construction of 100 bedded hospital and a ladies hostel at Taranatha Government Ayurvedic Medical College, Bellary has been received through the State Government of Karnataka. An amount of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been approved for construction of Ayurvedic hospital subject to receipt of utilization certificate for the grants released earlier and confirmation regarding recognition status of the College. The grants could not be released due to non-submission of supporting

documents relating to Utilisation Certificate for the funds released to the College in 1993-94 by the State Government.

Construction of Bellary-Hospet Road in Karnataka

655. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct the Bellary-Hospet Highway in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the budget allocation made in this regard and the time frame fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Presently, feasibility study and preparation of Preliminary Project Report (PPR) is in progress to ascertain the viability of 4/6 laning of Bellary-Hospet section of NH-63 in Karnataka on Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) pattern. The outcome of the said study will determine the further development of this section.

Compensation for Kuwait War Victims

656. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applications pertaining to compensation for Kuwait war victims are still pending with the Special Cell set up in the Ministry of External Affairs;

(b) if so, the number of applications pending, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has sought extension of date for submission of applications in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken for expeditious payment of compensation to the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The last date for submission of claim applications as decreed by the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) was 1st January, 1996. After this date, UNCC stopped accepting any claim applications. A large number of people had written to Government and still continue to write for compensation. These letters had come from all parts of the country.

(c) to (e) Yes. The Government of India requested the UNCC to extend the prescribed date of submission of applications on several occasions. UNCC expressed its inability to accede to the requests of Government of India and of many other claimant countries for extension of the deadline of 1st January 1996 for acceptance of new claims. In early 2006, the Government has advertised the names of untraced claimants whose claims had been approved by the UNCC, but whose latest address had not been intimated by them. In response to this, we received a large number of letters from claimants included in this list. Names of all untraced claimants who have intimated their new addresses by the 20th of August 2006 were sent to the UNCC for expeditious payment of compensation to them. Most of these traced claimants have already received their dues. This process of payment of compensation to the traced claimants will be over by February 2008.

Declining Population of Tigers in Sariska

657. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of Tigers in the Sariska Tiger Reserves in Rajasthan is on the decline;

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

(c) the total population of Tigers at present in the Sariska Tiger Reserves;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop illegal poaching activities;

(e) whether the request of the State Government

of Rajasthan for re-introduction and reviving the habitat for the big cat has been put on hold; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Based on directives from this Ministry, the Wildlife Institute of India has conducted an assessment of status of tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve, and has reported that there is no evidence of tigers in the said Tiger Reserve. The Special Investigation Team of the Central Bureau of Investigation has also reported the disappearance of tigers from Sariska, primarily on account of poaching.

(d) Steps taken by Government of India for conservation of wild animals including tigers and to prevent poaching are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) and (f) The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) was also mandated with the task of suggesting a recovery strategy for Sariska Tiger Reserve, following the disappearance of tigers from the said Reserve. The WII, *inter alia*, had suggested preparation of a detailed species recovery plan and relocation of at least four villages (Haripura, Kankwari, Umri and Kriaska) as a prerequisite for tiger reintroduction, forming part of the recovery strategy. This Ministry has agreed in-principle for reintroducing tiger in Sariska subject to conditions vis-a-vis the recovery strategy, on which compliance is awaited from the State.

Statement

The steps taken by the Government for conservation of wild tigers are as below:

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau. The punishment in cases of offence within a tiger reserve has

been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wild life offence.

Administrative steps

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.
3. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4-09-2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
4. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6-6-2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
5. In principle approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.

Financial steps

6. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the

States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

7. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
8. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
9. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, containing directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. This was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

[Translation]

Food Adulteration Testing Labs

658. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of the Food Adulteration Testing Laboratories and the personnel deployed therein in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the said laboratories have been closed in certain States, particularly in Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State/Union Territories Governments and will be laid on the table of the House later on.

**Indigenous Uranium for
Nuclear Power Plants**

659. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 4190 MW of power is being generated by nuclear power plants of the country;

(b) if not, the details thereof, plant-wise;

(c) whether uranium as a nuclear fuel is indigenously available for running the nuclear power plants in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to maintain continuous supply of nuclear fuel to run the Nuclear Plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The total installed nuclear power capacity in the country is 4120 MWe.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Out of total installed capacity of 4120 MWe, TAPS-1 and 2 (320 MWe) use imported low enriched uranium, while indigenous uranium is required for balance capacity of 3800 MWe. The total minable uranium resources in the country can support a capacity of 10,000 MWe.

(e) The Government have taken measures to augment uranium supply by opening new mines and augmenting processing facilities.

Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal

660. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO:
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:
DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the updated status of Indo-US nuclear deal;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to back out from the said deal;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) if not, the efforts made or being by the Government to operationalise the nuclear deal;

(e) whether the Government has held any talks recently with the Government of USA on this issue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) India and the USA have agreed on the text of an 'Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy'.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The finalised text of the Agreement has received the approval of the Cabinet. As negotiated by India in the Agreement, India will complete the negotiation of an India-specific safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Thereafter adjustment of the guidelines of the Nuclear

Suppliers Group (NSG) and the approval of the US Congress for operationalisation of the agreement will be sought.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

**Development Various Cheaper
System of Medicines**

661. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to develop various cheaper indigenous systems of medicines as an affordable health tool for the common man;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked for this purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The development of the indigenous systems of medicine—Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha—and the indigenous drugless therapy Yoga has been the focus of the Government for some time. It is precisely for this reason that a separate Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) was set up in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 1995. A great deal of research in these systems has been taken up by the concerned Central Research Councils and National Institutes and by private institutions with financial assistance from the Government. In addition to this, the Department of AYUSH has introduced a Central Sector Scheme for the Revitalization of Local Health Traditions during the 11th Plan with the specific objective of developing and upgrading Local Health Traditions in different parts of the country.

Funds are not earmarked on a State-wise basis.

The Plan and non-Plan allocation of the Department of AYUSH for 2007-08 is Rs. 488.00 crores and Rs. 75.88 crores respectively.

[Translation]

**Death due to Snake Bites and
Monkey Bites**

662. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people die due to snake bites and monkey bites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether essential medicines and special arrangements for treatment are not available;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the amount spent by the Government on treatment as well as medicines for snake bites and monkey bites during the last two years;

(f) the steps taken by the Government for treatment of people suffering from snake and monkey bites; and

(g) the progress made so far as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) As per the data compiled by Central bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI), the number of deaths due to snake bite in the country, is 1502 in the year 2005 and 1114 in 2006. Though data regarding number of deaths due to monkey bites is not separately maintained, however monkey is the second most common biting animal after dogs responsible for affliction of rabies. The number of deaths due to rabies is 274 in the year 2005 and 361 in 2006.

(c) to (g) Health is a State subject. Therefore it is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to

ensure availability of Anti snake venom serum, Anti rabies vaccine and proper treatment for the patients of snake bites and monkey bites.

The Government of India extends technical support and guidelines for the prevention and management of animal bite cases, including those of monkey bites. The treatment protocol for snakebites has also been finalized for dissemination to all stakeholders, State Governments for effective treatment of snakebites.

In addition, a pilot project for prevention and control of human rabies has been initiated under New Initiatives in the XI Five Year Plan.

[English]

National Family and Health Survey-3

663. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
 SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
 SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
 DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
 SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of the country continues to grow faster than necessary to replace itself as per the National Family and Health Survey-3;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the current fertility rate;

(c) the extent to which it is lower than the survey conducted in 1998-99;

(d) the names of the States where the total fertility rate is higher;

(e) whether the Government has detected the causes of higher fertility;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check population growth?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) According to National Health and Family Survey (NHFS-2005-06), the Total Fertility Rate has declined by 0.15 children from 2.85 in 1998-99 to 2.7 in 2005-06 showing a decline of 5.2 per cent. However, demographically weaker States are still having a high TFR of 3.0 to 4.0, which is a cause of concern. Total fertility rates as per NFHS-2005-06, range from 1.8 in (Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu) to 4.0 in Bihar. Nineteen states have TFRs lower than the National TFR of 2.7. The States having relatively high fertility rates are Bihar (with TFR of 4.0), Uttar Pradesh (3.8), Rajasthan (3.2), Madhya Pradesh (3.1) and Jharkhand (3.3), Arunachal Pradesh (3.0), Meghalaya (3.8) and Nagaland (3.7).

(e) and (f) The causes of higher fertility include large unmet needs for family planning, low male participation, low age at marriage for girls, low proportion of safe deliveries, low female literacy, high infant and maternal mortality rates, strong preference for son, etc in demographically weaker States.

(g) The Government is providing Central assistance to the States/UTs under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and second phase of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) programme for implementation of various family welfare activities to achieve population stabilization in the country as envisaged in the National Population Policy (NPP), 2000 through responsible and planned parenthood, voluntary and informed choice of Family Planning method best suited to acceptors.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) emphasis has been laid to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective, reliable, and quality primary health care through creation of a cadre of Accredited Social Health Activities (ASHA), improved hospital care measured through Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), decentralization of programme to district level to improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence and effective utilization of resources. As a part of NRHM, fixed day services both for terminal

and spacing methods of family planning in all the upgraded Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres, District Hospitals and Sub-District Hospital have been taken in all the States/UTs.

Following steps have been taken to encourage acceptance of Family Planning:

- (i) National Family Planning Insurance Scheme was started in November 2005 to compensate the sterilization acceptors for failures, complications and deaths and also to provide indemnity insurance cover to doctors.
- (ii) Increasing Compensation Package for Sterilization was introduced in October 2006 and the payment to accredited private providers has been increased.
- (iii) Specific action points/strategies have been incorporated in the State Project Implementation Plans (PIPs) under NRHM to address the upgradation of Family Planning Services and increase the number of providers.

[Translation]

**Border Dispute between
India and China**

664. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Indo-China border dispute and the progress made to settle the said dispute so far;

(b) whether the Working Group constituted to settle the border dispute is feeling inability to function;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether China had staked claim on some parts of Arunachal Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh during the visit of External Affairs Minister to China;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the action plan of the Government to resolve the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) China is in occupation of approximately 38,000 sq. kms of Indian territory in Jammu -and Kashmir. In addition, under the so-called China-Pakistan "Boundary Agreement" of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq. kms of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China. China illegally claims approximately 90,000 sq. kms of Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh and about 2000 sq. kms in the Middle Sector of the India-China boundary.

During the visit of former Prime Minister Vajpayee to China from 22-27 June 2003, the two sides agreed to each appoint a Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework for a boundary settlement. There have been eleven meetings of the Special Representatives so far. The eleventh round of Special Representatives Talks was held in Beijing from 24 to 26 September 2007. Both sides held useful and positive discussions on the framework for the settlement of the India-China boundary question.

(d) to (f) No. Do not arise.

(g) Government are committed to resolving outstanding differences on the boundary question, through peaceful means and in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner.

[English]

**NH Project on BOT Basis in
Kerala**

665. SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

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

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has agreed to develop National Highways in the State on BOT basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the length of NH which are proposed to be developed under this scheme, State-wise?

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) Though the State Government of Kerala has not signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Union Government for BOT projects, four laning in a length of 40 km on NH-47 is under progress. In addition, 434 km on NH-17 and 318 km on NH-47 have been identified for four laning under NHDP II and NHDP III on BOT basis.

**Regulatory Regime for
Wetlands**

666. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to regulate

the wetlands on the basis of their usage as reported in *The Hindu* dated 05-10-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is planning to introduce a regulatory regime for wetlands in the country on the basis of their usage;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has identified major wetlands for conservation in the country;

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

(g) the time by which the regulating regime for wetlands will be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) National Environment Policy (NEP) has recognized the various ecological services provided by wetlands and emphasized on the need for setting up a legally enforceable mechanism for the identified wetlands on the basis of their usage for preventing their degradation and strengthening conservation efforts. A special multi-disciplinary Expert Group constituted for this purpose provided a draft regulatory framework for wetlands to be notified under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The proposed regulatory structure has provision of Central Regulatory Authority, State Regulatory Authority and District Regulatory Authority. The classification of wetlands is based on their size, threat perceptions and importance at various levels.

(e) and (f) The Ministry has identified 94 wetlands under National Wetland Conservation Programme. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(g) The normal procedure is to invite the comments of State Governments and other stakeholders on the draft regulatory framework before it is finally approved and notified.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	Sl. No.	Name of Wetlands
States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.	Kolleru
2.	Assam	2.	Deepar Beel
		3.	Urpad Beel
3.	Bihar	4.	Kabar
		5.	Barilla
		6.	Kusheshwar Asthan
4.	Gujarat	7.	Nalsarovar
		8.	Great Rann of Kachh
		9.	Thol Bird Sanctuary
		10.	Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary
		11.	Little Rann of Kachh
		12.	Pariej
		13.	Wadhvana
		14.	Nanikakrad
5.	Haryana	15.	Sultanpur
		16.	Bhindawas
6.	Himachal Pradesh	17.	Renuka
		18.	Pong Dam
		19.	Chandratal
		20.	Rewalsar
		21.	Khajjiar
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	22.	Wullar
		23.	Tso Morari
		24.	Tisgul Tso and Chisul Marshes

Sl. No.	State/UT	Sl. No.	Name of Wetlands
		25.	Hokersar
		26.	Mansar-Surinsar
		27.	Ranjitsagar
		28.	Pangong Tsar
8.	Jharkahand	29.	Udhwa
		30.	Tilaiya Dam
9.	Karnataka	31.	Magadhi
		32.	Gudavi Bird Sanctuary
		33.	Bonal
		34.	Hidkal and Ghataprabha
		35.	Heggeri
		36.	Ranganthittu
		37.	K.G. Koppa Wetland
10.	Kerala	38.	Ashtamudi
		39.	Sasthamkotta
		40.	Kottuli
		41.	Kadulandi
		42.	Vembnad Kol
11.	Madhya Pradesh	43.	Bama
		44.	Yashwant Sagar
		45.	Wetland of Ken River
		46.	National Chambal Sanctuary
		47.	Ghatigaon
		48.	Ratapani
		49.	Denwa Tawa Wetland
		50.	Kanha Tiger Reserve

Sl. No.	State/UT	Sl. No.	Name of Wetlands
		51.	Pench Tiger Reserve
		52.	Sakhyasagar
		53.	Dihaila
		54.	Govindsagar
12.	Maharashtra	55.	Ujni
		56.	Jayakawadi
		57.	Nalganga wetland
13.	Manipur	58.	Loktak
14.	Mizoram	59.	Tamdil
		60.	Palak
15.	Orissa	61.	Chilka
		62.	Kuanria wetland
		63.	Kanjia wetland
		64.	Daha wetland
16.	Punjab	65.	Harike
		66.	Ropar
		67.	Kanjli
17.	Rajasthan	68.	Sambhar
18.	Sikkim	69.	Khechuperi Holy Lake
		70.	Tamze Wetland
		71.	Tembao Wetland Complex
		72.	Phendang Wetland Complex
		73.	Gurudokmar Wetland
		74.	Tsomgo wetland
19.	Tamil Nadu	75.	Point Calimer
		76.	Kaliveli

Sl. No.	State/UT	Sl. No.	Name of Wetlands
		77.	Pallaikami
20.	Tripura	78.	Rudrasagar
21.	Uttar Pradesh	79.	Nawabganj
		80.	Sandi
		81.	Lakh Bahoshi
		82.	Samaspur
		83.	Alwara Wetland
		84.	Semarai Lake-Nagaria lake Complex
		85.	Keetham Lake
		86.	Shekha wetland
		87.	Saman Bird Sanctuary and Sarsai Nawar Complex
22.	Uttaranchal	88.	Ban Ganga Jhilmil Tal
23.	West bengal	89.	East Calcutta Wetland
		90.	Sunderbans
		91.	Ahiron Beel
		92.	Rasik Beel
		93.	Santragachi
24.	UT (Chandigarh)	94.	Sukhna

Promotion of Yoga

667. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes undertaken for promoting research and development of Yoga;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided to various organizations/institutions in this regard, year-wise during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the work undertaken by these institutions have been found to be satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The details of the scheme undertaken by the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), New Delhi and Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIT), New Delhi for promoting Research and

Development in Yoga in the country are as under:—

- (i) In the Clinical Research Scheme being implemented by the CCRYN the basic objective is to conduct in depth clinical research work in the field of Yoga and to establish its efficacy in various disorders. The scheme is being executed by providing financial assistance to premier medical institutions.
- (ii) The Literary research/translation/Publication Scheme being implemented by CCRYN and MDNIY has the objective of popularizing the ancient texts of Yoga by publishing translations of the original texts in English, Hindi and other regional languages.
- (iii) Under the Yoga Therapy and research Centre in Government Tertiary Hospitals schemes being implemented by the MDNIY, Yoga Therapy and Research Centres have been established in Government Tertiary care Hospitals in Delhi with the objective of enabling direct referral of patients in these hospitals to

these centres for appropriate therapy.

- (iv) An advanced Centre for Yoga Therapy and Research has been set up by MDNY in National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore in 207 with the objective of enabling advanced research relating to Yoga.
- (v) Under the Extra Mural Research Scheme, there are a number of research projects in Yoga which are funded by the Department of AYUSH.
- (vi) MDNIT also conducts research on various aspects of Yoga.

(b) Year wise details of Financial assistance provided to various organizations during the last three years and the current year are placed in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The work undertaken by these institutions have been found to be satisfactory.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Financial Assistance Provided to Various Institutions during the Year 2004-05 under Research Schemes

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Title of the project	Amount Released in Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Deptt. of Pharmacology, JIPMER, Pondicherry	Effect of Yoga based therapy in Insomnia	4,21,000
2.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A randomized controlled trial on the efficacy of yoga in the Management of Bronchial Asthma	2,96,363
3.	ALN Rao Memorial Ayurvedic Medical College, KOPPA, Karnataka	A study of efficacy of Yogic and Naturopathic measures in Psoriasis and Eczema	4,30,000

1	2	3	4
4.	Krisnamacharya Yoga Mandiram, Fourth Cross Street. Ramakrishna Nagar, Chennai	The therapeutic effect of Yoga on patients with generalized epileptic seizures	3,33,000
5.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	Yogic relaxation in the management of ulcerative colitis	3,56,870
6.	Holistic Medicine and Stress Research Unit, Deptt. of Medicine, Govt. Medical College, Thriuvananthapuram	Therapeutic effects of Yoga on stress disorders	3,53,000
7.	Shri Nath Naturopathy and Yoga Centre. Bhagwatdas Ghat Road, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Efficacy of Naturopathy and Yoga modalities in the management of Rh. Arthritis, Osteo- arthritis and Gout	5,37,000
8.	Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Gavipuram Circle, KG Nagar, Bangalore	Effect of integrated approach of Yoga therapy for metastatic breast cancer patients and study of DNA repair mechanisms relevant to cancer	4,69,000
9.	Dr. N.V. Vaidya, Lokmanya Medical Research Centre, Pune, Maharashtra	Role of Yogic Practice in the Management of patients with chronic backache problems particular reference to activity related efficiency	4,93,000/-
10.	Dr. M.L. Gharote, The Lonavala Institute of Yoga (India), Lonavala, Distt. Pune, Maharashtra	Encyclopedia of Traditional Asanas	4,00,000
11.	Prof. T.R. Anantharaman ASHRAMA-TMADEEP (Research Centre for India's Heritage, Gurgaon, Haryana	Consciousness in the traditional of classical Yoga Integrated Studies and Research in the field of Consciousness of build a bridge between Ancient spiritual Wisdom and Modern Scientific Knowledge	7,00,000
12.	Dr. Manohar L. Gharote, The Lonavala Institute of Yoga (India), Lonavala, Distt. Pune, Maharashtra	Hathatavakaumudi of Sunardeve—A Critical Edition	3,50,000
13.	Dr. H.R. Nagendra Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Bangalore, Kamataka	Efficacy of Yoga based life style interventions in preventive Cardiology and Dialectology	9,70,000

*Details of Financial Assistance Provided to Various Institutions during
the Year 2005-06 under Research Scheme*

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Title of the project	Amount Released in Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A randomized controlled trial on the efficacy of yoga in the Management of Bronchial Asthama	60,000
2.	Dr. D.S. Lucas, ALN Rao Memorial Ayurvedic Medical College, Koppa, Karnataka	A study of efficacy of Yogic and Naturopathic measures in Psoriasis and Eczema	1,08,900
3.	Krisnamacharya Yoga Mandiram, Fourth Cross Street, Ramakrishna Nagar, Chennai	The therapeutic effect of Yoga on patients with generalized epileptic seizures	2,03,513
4.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS New Delhi	Yogic relaxation in the management of ulcerative colitis	4,18,686
5.	Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Gavipuram Circle, KG Nagar, Bangalore	Yoga for the computer related health problems	2,04,050
6.	Holistic Medicine and Stress Research Unit, Deptt. of Medicine, Govt. Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram	Therapeutic effects of Yoga on stress disorders	2,80,000
7.	Shri Nath Naturopathy and Yoga Centre, Bhagwatdas Ghat Road, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Efficacy of Naturopathy and Yoga modalities in the management of Rh. Arthritis, Osteo-arthritis and Gout	5,45,400
8.	Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Gavipuram Circle, KG Nagar, Bangalore	Effect of integrated approach of Yoga therapy for metastatic breast cancer patients and study of DNA repair mechanisms relevant to cancer	4,41,605
9.	Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, New Delhi	Randomized Clinical Trial (RCT) of Reflexology Therapy and usual drug treatment in the Management of intractable Epilepsy	13,89,586
10.	Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM), Howrah, W.B.	Development of Traditional Tongue Diagnosis aided by Information Technology for standardization of Nature Cure Diagnostic Methods	4,61,100

1	2	3	4
11.	Department of Neuro-Physiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore	Assessment of the efficacy of Vipassana Meditation on different age groups: A polysomnographic and Endocrine function evaluation	1,90,666
12.	Department of Psychiatry, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi	An exploratory analysis of genetic correlates and effects of Yoga on circadian rhythms, cognitive functions and social burden in major mental disorders schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression and their comparison with cardiac group (Collaborative project between CCRYN and Dr. RML Hospital)	75,000
13.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A study to assess acute mental stress induced changes in EEG, cognitive behaviour and neurosteroids across the menstrual cycle and effect of meditation on stress-induced changes	5,00,000

Details of Financial Assistance Provided to Various Institutions during the Year 2006-07 under Research Scheme

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Title of the project	Amount Released in Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A randomized controlled trial on the efficacy of yoga in the Management of Bronchial Asthama	56,796
2.	Holistic Medicine and Stress Research Unit, Deptt. of Medicine, Govt. Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram	Therapeutic effects of Yoga on stress disorders	51,000
3.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	Yogic relaxation in the management of ulcerative colitis	1,21,950
4.	Shri Nath Naturopathy and Yoga Centre, Bhagwatdas Ghat Road, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Efficacy of Naturopathy and Yoga modalities in the management of Rh. Arthritis, Osteoarthritis and Gout	2,70,000

1	2	3	4
5.	Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Gavipuram Circle, KG Nagar, Bangalore	Effect of integrated approach of Yoga therapy for metastatic breast cancer patients and study of DNA repair mechanisms relevant to cancer	2,27,683
6.	Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, New Delhi	Randomized Clinical Trial (RCT) of Reflexology Therapy and usual drug treatment in the Management of intractable Epilepsy	3,16,018
7.	Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM), Howrah, W.B.	Development of Traditional Tongue Diagnosis aided by Information Technology for standardization of Nature Cure Diagnostic Methods	5,87,700
8.	Department of Neuro-Physiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore	Assessment of the efficacy of Vipassana Meditation on different age groups: A polysomnographic and Endocrine function evaluation	2,52,986
9.	Department of Psychiatry, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi	An exploratory analysis of genetic correlates and effects of Yoga on circadian rhythms, cognitive functions and social burden in major mental disorders: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression and their comparison with cardiac group (Collaborative project between CCRYN and Dr. RML Hospital)	16,85,600
10.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A study to assess acute mental stress induced changes in EEG, cognitive behaviour and neurosteroids across the menstrual cycle and effect of meditation on stress-induced changes	3,15,000
11.	OPD (Yoga and Naturopathy) run by CCRYN at Safderjung Hospital, New Delhi	Efficacy of yogic intervention for the management of migraine a randomized controlled trail	0,46,000
12.	Ms Shirley Telles Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Sansthan, Bangalore, Karnataka	Cognitive changes following specific yoga breathing practices	32,05,000
13.	Dr. Neena Srivastava, Prof. Deptt. of Physiology, 'King George Medical University', Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	Effect of yogic practices on cardiac autonomic and metabolic parameters in patients of coronary artery diseases	8,31,55,000

1	2	3	4
14.	Dr. B.N Gandhar, Prof. of Psychiatry NIMHANS, Bangalore	Efficacy of Yoga as an all on treatment in Schizophrenia.	86,68,000
15.	Dr. Anura V Kurpad, Prof. of Physiology and Nutrition St. John Medical College and Hospital, Bangalore	Assessment of Insulin Sensitivity in Yoga Practitioners and non yoga practitioner using euglycemic hyper insulinemic clamps	68,27,000
16.	Dr. Manmath M. Gharote, Lonavia Yoga Institute, Pune, Maharashtra	Critical Edition of Yogaupanishad (Yoga-kundalyupanisad, Yogacudamanyupanisad and Trisikha-Brahmanopnisad).	41,33,000
17.	LRS Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory diseases, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110017	Yoga Therapy and Research Centres in Govt./Tertiary Hospitals	1,20,000
18.	Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi, North Campus, Delhi-110017	Yoga Therapy and Research Centres in Govt./Tertiary Hospitals	1,20,000
19.	Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110009	Yoga Therapy and Research Centres in Govt./Tertiary Hospitals	1,20,000
20.	Rajan Babu Tuberculosis Hospital, Dhaka Colony, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009	Yoga Therapy and Research Centres in Govt./Tertiary Hospitals	1,20,000

Details of Financial Assistance Provided to Various Institutions during the Year 2007-08 under Research Scheme (up to 31-8-2007)

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Title of the project	Amount Released in Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan, Gavipuram Circle, KG Nagar, Bangalore	Effect of integrated approach of Yoga therapy for metastatic breast cancer patients and study of DNA repair mechanisms relevant to cancer	—
2.	Department of Biophysics, AIIMS, New Delhi	Randomized Clinical Trial (RCT) of Reflexology Therapy and usual drug	3,86,734

1	2	3	4
		treatment in the Management of intractable Epilepsy	
3.	Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM), Howrah, W.E.	Development of Traditional Tongue Diagnosis aided by Information Technology for standardization of Nature Cure Diagnostic Methods	2,74,900
4.	Department of Neuro-Physiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore	Assessment of the efficacy of Vipassana Meditation on different age groups: A polysomnographic and Endocrine function evaluation	1,10,500
5.	Department of Psychiatry, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi	An exploratory analysis of genetic correlates and effects of Yoga on circadian rhythms, cognitive functions and social burden in major mental disorders: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression and their comparison with cardiac group (Collaborative project between CCRYN and Dr. RML Hospital)	4,29,006
6.	Department of Physiology, AIIMS, New Delhi	A study to assess acute mental stress changes in EEG, cognitive behaviour and neurosteroids across the menstrual cycle and effect of meditation on stress-induced changes	1,06,262
7.	OPD (Yoga and Naturopathy) run by CCRYN at Safderjung Hospital New Delhi	Efficacy of yogic intervention for the management of migraine a randomized controlled trail	1,05,157
8.	Deptt. of Pharmacology, JIPMER, Pondicherry	Effect of Yoga based therapy in Insomnia	76,131
9.	Department of Neuro-Physiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore	Automatic function tests in Epilepsy— Effect of Hatha Yoga	4,826
10.	Dr. M.L. Gharote, The Lonavala Institute of Yoga (India), Lonavala, Distt. Pune, Maharashtra	Encyclopedia of Tradinal Asanas	1,00,000
11.	Dr. Manohar L. Gharote The Lonavla Institute of Yoga (India), Lonavla, Distt Pune, Maharashtra	Hathatatvakaumudi of Sunardeve—A Critical Edition	50,000

1	2	3	4
12.	Dr. H.R. Nagendra Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhan Sansthan. Bangalore, Karnataka	Efficacy of Yoga based life style interventions in preventive Cardiology and Dialectology	5,15,000
13.	Prof. Lata, Deptt. of Psychology, University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Holistic Health Intervention in Pre-adolescent Children—A Yogic approach	26,96,000
14.	Dr. T.K. Bera, Asst. Director (Research) Scientific Research Department, Kaivalyadhama, Lonavala, Pune	Yoga for Prevention and Control of Suicidal Tendency and Restoring Mental Health in Indian Adolescent Students	9,68,000
15.	Prof. Sneh Anand, Bio-Medical Engineering Unit, AIIMS, New Delhi	Analysis of Autonomic Nervous System Co-related and Health Benefits of Pranayama Practices	112,54,000
16.	National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Hosur Road, Bangalore.	Advanced Centre for Yoga Therapy and Research in leading Medical Institutes	23,63,000

**Containers of Waste Oil
Lying in Ports**

668. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

- (a) whether 209 containers of waste oil are lying in various ports with no trace of the importers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are any guidelines to deal with such situations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No container of waste oil is lying in various

ports with no trace of importers. However, 18.995 Metric Tonnes of waste oil in Kandla Port Trust, 83 steel drums weighing 11 Metric Tonnes of waste oil in Chennai Port Trust, 13 containers of various items in Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), nine containers of furnace oil and one container of pitch oil in Cochin Port Trust are lying in the Ports where importers are known to the Port Trust.

(c) to (e) The Port authorities take necessary action as per the Major Port Trust Act and the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2002 notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

**Visit of External Affairs Minister to
China and Russia**

669. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the External Affairs Minister recently visited China and Russia;
- (b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the bilateral agreements signed on the occasion?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) External Affairs Minister visited Moscow on 12 October 2007 to co-chair the 13th session of the Inter-Government Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Alexander Zhukov. The Commission reviewed economic, scientific and cultural cooperation, including progress achieved by its five Working Groups on Trade and Economy, Mines and Metallurgy, Energy, Technology and Culture and Tourism. A Protocol on the Commission's meeting was signed by the two co-Chairs.

External Affairs Minister visited Harbin (China) on 24-25 October 2007 for the India-Russia-China Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The three Ministers discussed regional and international issues of mutual interest and trilateral cooperation. Specifically, the three sides agreed to hold a trilateral business forum in New Delhi in December 2007, a seminar on the evolution of geo-political strategic trends in 2008 and working level discussions in the fields of agriculture, disaster management, medicine and health. At the conclusion of the Trilateral meeting, a Joint Communique was issued on 24 October 2007. Separately, on the sidelines of this visit, External Affairs Minister held bilateral meetings with the Russian Foreign Minister, Mr. Sergei Lavrov and the Chinese Minister, Mr. Yang Jiechi.

Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emission

670. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UN has recommended that India should undertake hard targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to mitigate the impacts of climate changes globally as reported in the Times of India dated October 30, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the United Nations Development Programme's report in this regard have been examined by the Government;

(d) if so, the details of the findings thereof;

(e) whether the UN Conference on Climate Change will be held in December, 2007; and

(f) if so, the details of the strategy made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Human Development Report 2007 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has not been released till date.

(e) and (f) The 13th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is scheduled to be held from 3rd to 14th December 2007 at Bali, Indonesia. The Indian position on the Climate Change issue is that our GHG emissions are among the lowest in per capita terms and account for only 4% of the world's emissions. Nonetheless, India attaches great importance to issue of climate change. India is a Party to the UNFCCC and is engaged constructively and productively with the international community to preserve and protect the environment. India is determined that India's per-capita GHG emissions would not exceed those of developed countries even while pursuing policies of development and economic growth.

Use of Neem Toothpaste

671. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canadian Health Department had advised people against using a neem toothpaste from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Health Canada has advised people against using neem toothpaste with calcium manufactured by Calcutta Chemical Co. Ltd. in India, which allegedly contained high levels of Diethylene Glycol and harmful bacteria.

(c) and (d) The samples of neem toothpaste (Batch No. CL-7M, Mfg. dated 05/2007, Mfg. by M/s. Henkel India Ltd. Chennai-18) were got tested in Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad and Diethylene Glycol was not detected.

Janani Suraksha Yojana

672. **SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to extend the benefit of Maternity scheme beyond the two child norms under the revised scheme "Janani Suraksha Yojana";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government provides any antenatal or postnatal financial assistance to women in urban and rural areas under National Maternity Benefit Scheme/Janani Suraksha Yojana;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of women benefited by the said scheme in various states during 2006-07;

(f) the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure that such assistance reaches the actual beneficiaries; and

(g) the details of the steps taken by the Government to generate awareness about the said scheme in the remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. In the low performing states namely—Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Orissa, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir, assistance under Janani Suraksha Yojana has been extended to Below Poverty Line Pregnant women even beyond first two live births.

(c) and (d) Beneficiaries under Janani Suraksha Yojana are motivated to undergo ante-natal checkups and post-natal checkup.

(e) As per reports furnished by the states/UTs approximately 29.35 lacs pregnant women have been benefited under the scheme in the year 2006-07.

(f) To ensure the assistance under the scheme reaches actual beneficiaries, the States/UTs have been advised to introduce strict two tier monitoring system for concurrent and continuous field level monitoring. The Central Government have also got the scheme evaluated through independent agencies like UNFPA/GTZ in some states.

(g) At centre level action has been taken to propagate the scheme through the distribution of pamphlets during door-to-door campaign on pulse polio. This Ministry has also released advertisement through electronic media i.e. T.V. and Radio etc. The Central Government has released funds to the States for providing wide publicity to the Janani Suraksha Yojana through wall paintings etc. The State Government have been advised to ensure wide and continuous publicity through posters, brochures, media, display of information in the form of wall writing etc. at the sub centers, PHCs, CHCs and District Hospitals and Urban Institutions, health posts, private hospitals and recognized/accredited nursing homes/clinic regarding the available benefits under the scheme as also process for claiming the benefits.

Restructuring of NEC

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

(a) the recommendations of the Committee set up

for restructuring of North Eastern Council (NEC) and the action taken thereupon:

(b) the details of vacant posts in the NEC; and

(c) the time by which the restructuring of NEC would be effected and the vacant posts therein are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) A Committee on Revitalization of NECe was constituted in 2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri P.P. Shrivastav, to make recommendations inter-alia on operationalisation of the revised mandate of NEC, to bring about synergies with line departments of Government of India and to asses

existing mechanism and guidelines and suggesting improvements etc. The action taken on recommendations accepted by the Government is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The vacant posts in NEC are Adviser (Health), Director (HRD and E), Under Secretary (Planning), Executive Engineer (Civil), Executive Engineer (Power), Research Officer (Planning), Research Officer (SSI), Librarian, LOCs (5 posts), Stenographer Grade II (1 Post), Stenographer Grade III (3 Posts), Driver (3 Posts), Peon (4 Posts) and 1 Post of Chowkidar.

(c) The major recommendations of the Committee for restructuring NEC have already been implemented. NEC has also initiated the process of filling up of vacant posts in consultation with UPSC.

Statement

Sl. No.	Summary of Recommendation of the Revitalization Committee	Action Taken Report
1	2	3
1.	Nomination of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission or the Minister DoNER as Chairman of the Council. Alternatively, the Governor of NE States may continue to be nominated as Chairman, by rotation and with 1-year tenure.	It has been decided that the Minister for Development of North Eastern Region will be the Chairman of NEC.
2.	The three Members may be nominated by the President on the basis of their experience of NER and expertise in socio-economic planning. The Members may be selected from panel and the nominated Members may function on a full time basis, may be equated with the Members of the Planning Commission and given the same status, tenure and emoluments.	Two full time members of NEC have been nominated. Member (NE) Planning Commission is also nominated as a Member of NEC. The full time members of NEC have been equated with Members of the Planning Commission.
3.	Four Sectoral Empowered Committees (SECs) of the NEC may be constituted, each with two Chief Ministers (in rotation) and the three full-time nominated Members to serve as the second rung of the Council. The Council may distribute the subjects among the four SECs.	It has been decided to constitute three SECs with the approval of Chairman, NEC. They are chaired by the nominated Members Chairman NEC has also assigned works to the SECs.

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4. Selection of Secretary, NEC may be made on the basis of enthusiasm to accept the challenge, innovative and impeccable track record, knowledge and experience of NER and willingness to serve for a term of 3 years. The incumbent may be given all the powers of the Secretary to Government of India and may exercise administrative powers delegated by Government through an 'Established Committee'.
5. A detailed exercise on organizational restructuring should be carried out by a Specialized Agency. Emphasis should be on improving norms of governance and enforcing accountability. NEC Secretariat should be able to emerge, as the think Tank or Brains Trust for Regional Planning. It should be able to mobilize support from academicians, professionals and experts from Universities professional institutions and Civil Society, generally from within the NER and of national standing. 50% Officers/Researchers/may be taken on contractual tenure. Experts could also be inducted from Planning Commission. A package of incentives may be worked out specifically for NEC to make assignments attractive. A 3-level manning of "Sectors" handled by NEC is suggested. Incumbents of the clerical cadre may be reskilled and redeployed at appropriate levels.
6. NEC may delineate the parameters of a Regional Plan for the North East, keeping in focus its unique characteristics and requirements and work out its objectives accordingly. In this connection, it may collate and publish relevant documents viz Vision Documents 2020, Human Development Reports, Roadmaps etc. The thrust areas should be human capital upgradation, especially catering to the youth and women natural resource management, agricultural and rural development, tourism, and border trade and governance issues. Involvement of academicians, professionals and experts in planning exercises may be institutionalized.

It has been decided, that the post of Secretary, NEC can be operated at the level of Additional Secretary through ACC procedure.

NEC is in the process of taking necessary action in this regard. New posts are also proposed to be created. NEC Secretariat is preparing itself as the Regional Planning Body as mandated by the NEC (Amendment) Act and as aimed at by the Committee on Revitalisation. NEC has initiated preparation of the Vision NER 2020 document. Sectoral Summits are being organized to discuss Sectoral issues pertaining to the NER as a whole. Efforts are also being made for better coordination with all the State Government. State Governments have also been requested to send representatives to NEC Secretariat for a better coordination and dialogue between NEC on the one hand and States on the other. The modalities of outsourcing as recommended by the Committee are in the process of being crystallized and Secretary NEC has collated some names of specialists on the NER. The package of incentive is also being examined.

NEC has already initiated the process of involving academicians, professional and experts in different fields in the matters of formulation and implementation of regional planning for the NER. National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) has been requested to prepare Vision NER 2020 document. Public hearings have been organized all across the NER on the draft. Eminent members of civil society and the public at large have expressed their views on it. The Vision document is in the process of finalization.

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<p>Meaningful involvement of Civil Society groups and people's representatives may be actively fostered. Wide publicity regarding all Plans/Projects/Schemes should be ensured so that all stakeholders take ownership of them.</p>	<p>7. The practice of funding NEC for GBS may be resotored. Simplification of the budgeting system of NEC should be carried out.</p> <p>8. The four Sectoral Empowered Committees (SECs) of the NEC may take up detailed review of progress of implementation of the NEC-funded Projects that fall in their respective area of responsibility.</p> <p>9. NEC should focus on its primary Planning role and rationalize the portfolio of Projects/Schemes so as not to spread its resources and attention too thinly across the region with consequent inadequate impact.</p> <p>10. A long term view may be taken on the future of Institution funded and managed by NEC in view of its revised planning mandate.</p> <p>11. The M and E Unit of NEC may be strengthened by inducting experts and professionals on deputation or contract basis up to a maximum of 50%. Latest IT tools may be utilized to develop appropriate MIS.</p>	<p>The funding of NEC is being done from GBS. The system of budgeting for the NEC has the scope for re-appropriations within the approved budget for fast moving and important projects.</p> <p>The three SECs have started the process and Hon'ble Members are actively involved in overseeing implementation of projects.</p> <p>NEC is focusing on its primary role of planning. Around 80% of its plan funds are utilized for the improvement of the Transport and Communication, Health and Power infrastructure.</p> <p>Four of the NEC institutions (Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, Regional Institute of Paramedical and Nursing Sciences, Aizawl, and North Eastern Police Academy, Meghalaya) have already been handed over to the concerned line ministries.</p> <p>The Evaluation Advisory Committee of the NEC Secretariat, in a meeting under the Chairmanship of the Secretary NEC, has approved to set up a Management Information System in the NEC Secretariat. The Project Monitoring and Management System as its hub have a Project Management Centre (PMC) in Shillong in the NEC premises. Three Expert Agencies had been engaged for the purpose. The agencies submitted the monitoring reports indicating the financial and physical achievements upto March/August, 2006 for all.</p>

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12. NEC may undertake M and E exercises for other Central Ministries too.		NEC may not be in a position to undertake such activities.
13. M and E exercises may be outsourced, by involving Universities/Research Institutions/Organizations and experts, as well as Civil Society groups and people's representatives, in order to ensure quality and accountability. Consideration of such Reports may be included in the agenda of meetings of the NEC.		It has been decided that the M and E set up of NEC would enlist the help and cooperation of government institutions for monitoring for all important projects/schemes. Accordingly, a number of institutions/organizations have been contacted inviting their expressions of interest for being involved in the exercise. Already, organizations/institutions like Border Road Organisation, the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, IIT-Guwahati have accepted the NEC's offer to work as consultants for this purpose.
14. Sectoral Empowered Committees (SECs) of the Council may take special interest in Monitoring and Evaluation of projects so that correctives could be applied in time.		Hon'ble Members are monitoring and overseeing implementations of projects.
15. Suitable M and E structure is needed from the State-level down to the District-level. Setting up (or strengthening) of such structures in States or their periodic skill up-gradation programmes, may be implemented by NEC in consultation with State Governments.		States have been asked to chalk out the programme for skill up-gradation of the officials involved in the monitoring and evaluation of schemes.
16. A systematic plan for monitoring and evaluation of projects under implementation and those likely to be sanctioned over the year may be drawn up and strictly adhered to by NEC.		A scheme-wise co-ordination mechanism is being evolved in consultation with the State Government.
17. The M and E reports may be made available to the Public for assessment and discussion. They may be brought on the website, too.		Steps will be taken to host the M and E reports in the NEC Website for public assessment and information after their receipt.
18. NEC may formulate a long-term Strategy and a short-term Action Plan on Border Trade considering its importance for the development prospects of the Region.		The feasibility of setting up of the North Eastern Regional International Trade Mission (NERITram) for promoting trade in North East is being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Commerce.
19. NEC may facilitate consultations on an ongoing basis on security related aspects of trade, between N.E. States and the Home Ministry, with a view to providing requisite economic space for		The responsibilities for policy formulation in this regard will continue to be with the Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Ministry of External Affairs is also proposing to open a Regional

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	<p>genuine traders and to marginalizing those involved in illegal activities.</p>	<p>Office at Guwahati to act and coordinate on behalf of NEC matters involving external trade and other issues related with other countries including India's immediate neighbours in the eastern region.</p>
20.	<p>NEC may consider devoting special Sessions in the meetings of the Council to the subject, with other concerned Ministries.</p>	<p>It is the statutory practice of the NEC to invite senior functionaries from all concerned Ministries of the Government of India to attend Council Meetings. The concerned Ministries can express their opinions/ suggestions on issues pertaining to them.</p>
21.	<p>Since security continues to be NEC's mandate after the amendment in 2002, it needs to receive due attention. The linkages between security and development may be suitably flagged by NEC. NEC may devote a Special Session for consideration of Security. This Session could be chaired by Home Minister. The National Security Advisor may be invited to this Session.</p>	<p>The Council in its meeting on 22-06-2005 discussed Security and Public Order related issues and decided that items concerning Security and Public Order may be considered by NEC in a separate exclusive session. Border Trade may also be discussed therein since it is very much connected with Security. Invitation to this Session may be on need-to-know basis and senior representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Commerce and their concerned agencies may be invited. This session could be co-chaired by Home Minister.</p>
22.	<p>A Steering Committee for determining the issues to be considered by the NEC Session on Security may be chaired by the Home Secretary.</p>	<p>A Steering Committee headed by the Union Home Secretary has been constituted by the NEC to discuss security and border trade related issues for the NER and give its recommendations to the Chairman, NEC. The Committee in its meeting on 10-02-2006 has recommended that Inter State project related security issues may be discussed at NEC meetings, and NEC may also discuss issues relating to social/tribal conflicts and measures to address the same. Agenda for such issues would be prepared by NEC Sectt. and finalized by MHA in consultation with concerned States, NEC and M/o DoNER and only the States concerned with the issues to be discussed should be invited for such meetings. Furthermore, NEC is promoting various projects in partnership with the concerned States in the NER to strengthen the synergies between the processes of development and security. One such project is in Tripura to rehabilitate the militants who have surrendered.</p>

[Translation]

Shortage of Neuro Surgeons

674. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 1200 neuro surgeons are available in the country as against the requirement of 30,000 neuro surgeons;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase the number of neuro surgeons in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) According to National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, there are approximately 1000 neuro surgeons in the country. However, as of now annual intake in M.Ch (Neuro surgery) course is 62 in different Medical Colleges.

The State/UT Governments have been issuing Essentiality Certificates to Medical Colleges/institutions for starting different postgraduate/superspecialty courses based on the need and availability of adequate training and infrastructural facilities etc. The Central Government is granting permission to Medical Colleges/institutions to start super-speciality courses on the recommendations of MCI.

Utilisation of MPLAD Funds

675. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme have been fully utilized during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and the percentage of funds utilized under the said scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the reasons for delay in implementing the schemes sanctioned by the Government have been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) Considering that funds allocated under the MPLAD Scheme are non-lapsable, (i.e. the funds allocated in a particular year can be utilized in subsequent years also), the performance of the MPLAD Scheme is commendable; the cumulative percentage utilization of funds over release is as high as 89.31% as on 31-10-2007, which shows that there are no major delays in implementing the scheme. The performance of the scheme is reviewed with States/UTs regularly at the level of the Minister and senior officials.

Statement
Year-wise release, expenditure and percentage utilisation over release

Sl. No	State/UT	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		Funds released	Expenditure incurred	% Utilisation over released	Funds released	Expenditure incurred	% Utilisation over released	Funds released	Expenditure incurred	% Utilisation over released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Nominated	25.50	18.42	72.25	15.05	28.91	192.06	19.00	12.39	65.21
2.	Andhra Pradesh	112.00	159.28	142.21	101.50	135.41	133.41	124.00	77.80	62.74
3.	Anunachal Pradesh	6.00	4.28	71.35	6.00	9.64	160.60	6.00	5.83	97.17
4.	Assam	43.00	52.87	122.95	35.00	38.79	110.82	43.00	46.18	107.40
5.	Bihar	84.50	115.91	137.17	100.05	82.85	82.81	106.50	58.63	55.05
6.	Goa	4.00	10.20	255.00	7.00	6.86	98.06	5.00	4.22	84.40
7.	Gujarat	55.50	106.16	191.28	70.00	87.30	124.72	74.00	52.82	71.38
8.	Haryana	26.50	19.14	72.23	27.00	31.62	117.13	29.00	21.59	74.45
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13.00	12.03	92.53	15.95	16.52	103.55	13.00	8.19	63.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12.00	26.36	219.68	23.30	18.72	80.34	16.00	14.00	87.50
11.	Karnataka	65.00	87.50	134.61	85.00	78.29	92.11	59.00	56.24	95.32
12.	Kerala	21.50	72.89	339.03	39.00	51.46	131.95	50.00	59.85	119.70
13.	Madhya Pradesh	76.00	87.42	115.02	77.00	94.60	122.86	74.00	73.99	99.99
14.	Maharashtra	104.50	176.13	168.55	112.00	128.70	114.91	102.00	115.29	113.03
15.	Manipur	6.00	3.49	58.15	6.00	8.76	146.07	6.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Meghalaya	6.00	8.71	145.20	7.00	4.26	60.83	6.00	5.91	98.50

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17. Mizoram	4.00	1.65	41.13	4.00	6.55	163.78	4.00	3.46	86.50		
18. Nagaland	3.00	2.45	81.67	5.00	5.00	100.00	3.00	2.00	66.67		
19. Orissa	52.50	107.75	205.23	61.00	69.60	114.10	58.00	59.93	103.33		
20. Punjab	34.00	57.06	167.81	37.00	42.37	114.50	43.00	45.38	105.53		
21. Rajasthan	65.50	65.73	100.35	69.00	81.59	118.24	64.00	72.07	112.61		
22. Sikkim	5.00	5.49	109.74	4.00	3.98	99.48	4.00	3.26	81.50		
23. Tamil Nadu	115.50	118.97	103.00	102.00	126.38	123.90	118.00	107.58	91.17		
24. Tripura	6.00	7.38	123.00	6.00	6.98	116.30	6.00	6.16	102.67		
25. Uttar Pradesh	206.00	272.42	132.24	214.50	218.51	101.87	197.00	150.17	76.23		
26. West Bengal	59.50	158.86	267.00	91.50	129.92	141.99	123.00	105.61	85.86		
27. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.90	94.95	2.00	2.05	102.50		
28. Chandigarh	4.00	3.18	79.45	1.00	0.64	64.10	1.00	1.73	173.00		
29. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.00	0.73	72.60	3.00	3.88	129.33	2.00	0.22	11.00		
30. Daman and Diu	2.00	1.68	83.80	2.00	1.86	92.95	1.00	0.00	0.00		
31. Delhi	15.00	22.59	150.58	17.05	12.63	74.10	9.00	9.46	105.11		
32. Lakshdweep	1.00	1.64	163.70	2.00	2.82	141.10	0.00	0.75	0.00		
33. Pondicherry	1.00	2.29	228.70	1.00	3.71	370.90	2.00	1.39	69.50		
34. Chhattisgarh	29.00	46.91	161.77	29.00	32.39	111.69	26.00	20.20	77.69		
35. Uttaranchal	16.50	21.89	132.64	15.00	20.25	134.98	14.00	12.68	90.07		
36. Jharkhand	27.50	49.67	180.62	41.00	50.33	122.76	42.00	28.58	68.05		
Total	1310.00	1909.09	145.73	1433.90	1643.97	114.65	1451.50	1245.61	85.82		

New TB Drug

676. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tuberculosis Research Centre, Chennai has developed a new drug for TB, making it possible to treat all the diseases of Multidrug Resistant-TB (MDR-TB) within two-three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of success achieved by the Government-sponsored TB programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The TRC is currently involved in the designing stages for a new TB drug being developed by pharmaceutical company Johnson and Johnson for use to treat patients with multi-drug resistant tuberculosis. The TRC is also planning a research study for a new TB drug being developed by an Indian Pharmaceutical company, Lupin Ltd.

(c) To control TB, with an objective to achieve cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases, the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) widely known as DOTS, which is WHO recommended strategy, is being implemented in the entire country. Under RNTCP diagnosis by sputum microscopy, instead of X-ray, helps in detecting and curing infectious cases on priority. Facilities for diagnosis by sputum microscopy have been decentralized and strengthened. Drugs are provided under observation and patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment. Drugs are provided free of cost in patient-wise boxes. Till date, the RNTCP has placed more than 78.00 lakh patients on DOTS treatment, averting more than 14.00 lakh deaths. Every month more than 1.0 lakh patients are placed on DOTS. In 2006 alone, India placed around 14.00 lakhs cases on DOTS, more than any country in a single year in

the world. Overall performance of RNTCP has been excellent with cure/treatment completion rate consistently above 85% and death rate reduced to less than 5%. To increase accessibility of the masses to the facilities provided under the Programme, special emphasis is laid on the IEC activities, involvement of NGOs, private sector and medical colleges in the revised strategy.

[English]

Medical Grants Commission

677. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Medical Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the main features, aims and objectives of the Commission; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) There is a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The mandate and functions of the Commission are being formulated. However, steps for setting up of said Commission can be initiated during the 11th Five Year Plan period subject to availability of necessary funds. The matter for provision of funds for this purpose is being pursued with the Planning Commission.

Medicinal Plants in Hilly Areas

678. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of medicinal plants, herbals are found in the hilly areas of the country, especially in Western Ghat region and around Belgaum region;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any concrete steps for proper use of these medicinal plants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has set up a Task Force to look into various aspects related to development of high altitude medicinal plants. Further, it has been decided in the last meeting of the National Medicinal Plants Board to set up a Task Force for development of medicinal plants found in the Western Ghats.

Medical Visa to Foreign Tourists

679. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced a new kind of visa called 'Medical Visa' to foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the period of validity;

(c) the objective of introducing medical visa;

(d) whether there is any difference between tourist visa and medical visa; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes

(b) Medical Visa was introduced in June 2005. It is granted to foreigners who have sought preliminary medical advice from their country of origin/residence and have been advised to go for specialised medical treatment. The Indian Missions/Posts abroad scrutinise the medical documents to satisfy themselves about the *bona fide* purpose for which medical treatment visa is being requested. The initial validity of medical visa is one year or the period of treatment, whichever is less. It can be extended for a further period of one year by the State Governments/Foreigners Regional Registration Offices (FRROs)/Foreigners Registration Offices (FROs) on production of medical certificate from reputable/recognised/specialised hospitals in India. Further extensions can be granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs

on the recommendations of the State Governments/FRROs/FROs supported by appropriate medical documents. The visa is valid for a maximum of three entries during the year. Foreigners coming to India on medical visa are required to get themselves registered with the concerned FRROs within 14 days from the date of their arrival in India.

(c) The objective of such a visa is to help foreigners who wish to utilise specialised medical health care facilities in India and to promote medical tourism.

(d) and (e) Yes. The purpose of tourist visa is tourism and such a visa cannot be converted into any other type of visa or extended beyond six months i.e. the initial period for which it is granted. Foreigners holding tourist visa are not required to register themselves with the concerned FRROs if their continuous stay in the country does not exceed six months. Medical visa is initially granted for one year and can be extended as per the requirements of the medical treatment. Medical visa holders are required to register themselves with the concerned FRROs within 14 days of their arrival in India.

Emission of Gaseous Pollutants

680. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the emissions of gaseous pollutants, especially nitrous oxides have increased in the country over the past two decades;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to check the emissions of gaseous pollutants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring ambient air quality under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP) at 339 stations across the country. The levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) are showing decreasing trend and are well

within notified limits. The levels of nitrous oxide are within notified limits and showing fluctuating trend.

The annual average concentration of nitrous oxide in some cities like Kolkata, Pune, Bangalore, Delhi, etc have increased in 2006 as compared to 1990, whereas in other cities like Mumbai, Chennai, Chandigarh, Bhopal etc., it has shown a decreasing trend.

(c) The steps initiated to abate air pollution inter-alia include the following:

- Notification of general and source specific environmental standards;
- Identification of sources of pollution;
- Enforcement of auto exhaust standards for vehicles at manufacturing stage;
- Introduction of Bharat Stage-II and Stage-III emission norms for vehicles;
- Introduction of improved Pollution Under Control (PUC) certification system for in-use vehicles;
- Cleaner fuels and improved technologies for power generation; and
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance.

Effective Functioning of Local-Self Government

681. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed or assessed the functioning of local Governments during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of such review alongwith the measures taken to strengthen the local Governments envisaged as 'Institutions of Local Governments'; and

(c) the administrative reforms needed to strengthen the panchayats and to dismantle the present 'collector raj' to bring about effective panchayati raj institutions?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) After the Ministry of Panchayati Raj was set up, a Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in charge of rural development and Panchayati Raj on "Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj" was organized in New Delhi on 29-30 June 2004, jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Issues relating to effective implementation of Part IX and IX A of the Constitution on Panchayati Raj were tabled as the agenda for discussions by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. In this Conference, a decision was taken to hold seven Round Table Conferences to formulate a draft action plan towards achieving the objective of strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions to enable them to emerge as institutions of self-government for the planning and implementation of programmes of economic development and social justice as envisioned in the Constitution.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj convened seven Round Table Meetings with the State Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj between July, 2004 and December, 2004. A set of around 150 action points was evolved by consensus and adopted unanimously at the conclusion of the last Round Table in Jaipur in December, 2004. Consultative mechanisms have been set up by the Government of India and State Governments to follow up the Round Table Conferences which comprise a Council of Ministers of Panchayati Raj under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and a Committee of Chief Secretaries of States and Panchayati Raj Secretaries under the Chairmanship of the Union Secretary (Panchayati Raj).

The Council of Ministers of Panchayati Raj has been convened thrice, at Kochi, Kerala in August 2005, at Bhubaneswar, Orissa in June 2006 and at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala in August 2007, respectively. The Empowered Sub-Committee of National Development Council also reviews the progress of implementation of the provision of the Constitution during its meetings,

which are held periodically. Most of these action points revolve around follow up measures on activity mapping, matching transfer of funds and functionaries, creation of Panchayat sector-window in the state budget, constitution and operational guidelines for the district Planning Committees within an agreed time frame.

(b) The full details of these and associated measures may be seen the 2000-page, three-volume report in *The State of the Panchayats—A Mid-term Review and Appraisal* tabled in both Houses of Parliament on 23 November, 2006. The Institute of Rural Management at Anand (IRMA) has now been commissioned by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to undertake an independent evaluation of the State of the Panchayats.

(c) The Panchayat Raj regime, as set out in Part IX read with Part IXA of the Constitution, and the various laws enacted thereafter by Parliament and the State Authorities provided for the devolution of functions, functionaries and finances to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), and the formation of District Planning Committees (DPCs), as well as other institutional measure, to strengthen the PRIs and make them more effective.

Upgradation of Safety at Nuclear Power Plants

682. PROF. M. RAMADASS:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian N-reactors emit more radiation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether even stations considered best emit three times more radiation in comparison to international norms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether technology designed to upgrade safety at Nuclear Power Plants is too expensive for developing countries like India; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to make it economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) No, Sir. All emissions from Indian Nuclear Reactors are well within regulatory limits set by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board which are comparable to International Standards.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) Compliance to safety in terms of requirements of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, which are as stringent as the international norms, is mandatory for all reactors. The safety performance is continuously monitored and safety upgrades implemented, as needed, in all our nuclear reactors. The expenditure on such upgrades, across different countries, is comparable and has to be incurred in view of the importance of safety globally in nuclear power technology. Our nuclear power plants while adhering to the principle of 'safety first' have demonstrated commercially competitive performance.

Assistance to Workers Deported from Gulf

683. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian workers have been deported by the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether any aid/assistance has been provided to such workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Workers are deported by the Gulf countries from time to time for

non-possession of valid visas/resident permits, violation of local laws etc. The details of Emergency Certificates issued/workers deported by the Gulf countries during the last two years is given below:

Year	Kuwait	Bahrain	UAE	KSA	Oman	Qatar
2006	1354	Nil	8030	26932	10480	2116
2007 (till Oct. 07)	8234	1481	40088	28904	1086	2050

(c) and (d) Indian Missions besides issuing EC as per rules provide assistance to such workers wherever required by way of liaising/coordinating with local authorities to clear cases against Indian nationals, provide assistance for filing complaints with the concerned local authorities and also provide financial assistance in the form of cost of food, air ticket, transport charges etc. to the destitute Indian workers to be deported to India. Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs in coordination with Indian Missions, Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs and also Governments of various states organize smooth return of such deportees.

Simplification of Medical Reimbursement Rules

684. **SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL:**

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has simplified the medical reimbursement rules for CGHS beneficiaries to get their expenses reimbursed from any private unorganised hospitals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Death of Lions

685. **SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:** Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of death of lions in Gir National Forest and other Wildlife sanctuaries have increased during the year in the country as reported in 'The Times of India', dated October 20, 2007:

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken against the culprits; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to stop the increasing incidents of missing/killing of lions (big cats)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the State Government, during the year 2007-08 (1st April 2007 to 31st October 2007), a total 29 lion death has been recorded from Gir forest and other Wildlife Sanctuaries. Out of these 29 deaths, recorded, 22 died of natural causes, 01 died due to falling in open wells, 05 died due to electrocution, and 01 died due to road accident.

(c) to (e) The State Government has conducted

investigation in all the cases of death of lion and four suspects have been arrested and produced before the court of law.

(f) The measures taken by Government of India to ensure the protection of lion, *inter alia*, include the following:

1. Lion has been included in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thus according them the highest degree of protection.
2. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, with a network of five Regional and three Sub Regional Offices, has been set up to control wildlife crimes.
3. Financial support is being provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme—*Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries*, to the Government of Gujarat for the conservation and development of wildlife and its habitats including those of lions.
4. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that regulates international trade in wildlife and its derivatives.

In addition, the Government of Gujarat have also taken the following measures to stop the incidents of killing of lions:

1. Development of wildlife habitat to increase the population of wild animals.
2. Intensive patrolling in sensitive areas.
3. Coordination with other law enforcement agencies/Government Departments.
4. Provision for arms and ammunition, and communication facilities to field units.
5. Training to frontline staff.
6. Conducting nature awareness campaigns for the public.
7. An Advisory Committee of experts has been established on lion conservation.

Increase in the Depth of Indian Ports

686. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the depth of Indian Ports is not enough to handle larger vessels;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith efforts made by the Government to increase the depth of the existing ports, port-wise;

(c) whether Shipping Corporation of India, Mumbai Port Trust, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Cochin Shipyard have come together to form an alliance with the aim of encouraging research and development activities in the dredging sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Depending on the depths available in the entrance channels and berths and the availability of equipment, vessels of various sizes are handled at Indian ports. It is the endeavour of the Government to develop the necessary port infrastructure for attracting and handling large size vessels, keeping in view the demands of maritime trade, as part of the overall development of ports. Dredging for deepening of ports is undertaken by the Major Ports from time to time to keep pace with the draft requirements of vessels calling and expected to call at these ports in future. Under the National Maritime Development Programme, a total of 25 projects for deepening of channels, berths, etc. in the Major Ports have been identified to be taken up for implementation for a period upto 2011-12.

Non-Major Ports are under the overall jurisdiction of the respective State Governments in whom the responsibility for their development vests.

(c) and (d) In order to enhance the domestic dredging capability Shipping Corporation of India, Mumbai Port Trust, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Cochin Shipyard Ltd. are exploring the possibility of forming an alliance.

Setting Up of Nuclear Power Plants

687 SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified five coastal sites for setting up of Nuclear Power Plants to augment generation capacity of 30000 MW as reported in Business Line on August, 16, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also decided to procure overseas uranium mines through joint ventures;

(d) if so, whether talks have been held with foreign countries in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) and (b) "In-principle" approval has been accorded by the Government of India for the coastal sites at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu and Jaitapur in Maharashtra. for setting up of 2 x 1000 MWe nuclear power reactors each. Further, the Site Selection Committee (SSC) constituted by the Government of India has evaluated the potential of coastal sites in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa and West Bengal for setting up of future nuclear power reactors. However, no decision has been taken.

(c) to (e) The Government has been exploring international cooperation in the civilian nuclear energy sector with all potential partners.

Setting Up of Atomic Power Plants

688. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has undertaken any survey to set up Atomic Power Plants in the country;

(b) if so, the states where such survey has been conducted:

(c) whether a central team had recently visited Orissa to locate the site for an atomic power plant;

(d) if so, the details of their findings; and

(e) the funds earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on proposals received from respective State Governments, the Site Selection Committee (SSC) of the Government has evaluated the potential of coastal sites in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa and West Bengal and inland sites in the states of Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand for setting up nuclear power plants in future.

(c) Yes, Sir. A site at Patisonapur in Ganjam district in Orissa was evaluated by the SSC.

(d) The site has potential for setting up future nuclear power projects

(e) The funds earmarked for carrying out first order assessment of a new site by the SSC is about Rs. 50 lakh.

[Translation]

Capacity Building for Panchayats

689. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with various States to launch an effective capacity building programme for Panchayati Raj Institutions.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of grant proposed to be given to Panchayati Raj Institutions for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Joint

Statements of Conclusion (variously titled, sometimes of MoUs) have been arrived at between the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj and Youth Affairs and Sports and Chief Ministers (or other authorities, in the case of Union Territories) and the conclusion of his Panchayati Raj tours of 22 States/UT's.

These Statements of Conclusions provide *inter alia* for training and capacity building of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions and to entrust the Panchayats with duties and responsibilities with a view to enable them to function as institutions of self-government.

(c) Financial assistance is being provided to State Governments for training and capacity building to develop the competency of elected representatives of PRIs, construction of training centres, maintenance/upgradation of Panchayat Ghars and procurement of hardware for the computerization of Panchayats

An outlay of Rs. 43.00 crore has been proposed during the current financial year 2007-08 under the Training and Capacity Building and Infrastructure Development Components of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana

A Capacity Building Fund of Rs. 250.00 crore per annum has been earmarked under Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) to build capacity in planning, implementation, monitoring, accounting and improving accountability and transparency of Panchayats in the BRGF Districts.

[English]

Shortage of Fuel In Nuclear Power Units

690. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nuclear power units in the country are facing an acute shortage of fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the regular supply of fuel to the power units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Out of 17 reactors in operation, 15 reactors are Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) which use natural uranium. There is currently a mismatch in demand and supply of natural uranium.

(b) As a result of this mismatch, the PHWRs are currently operated at reduced capacity.

(c) Government has taken steps to augment natural uranium supply by opening new mines and augmenting processing facilities. With the commencement of operations at the new uranium processing mill at Turamdih, availability of uranium is expected to improve progressively.

[Translation]

Setting Up of Testing Laboratories

691. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing laboratories for testing of Ayurvedic and Allopathic medicines;

(b) whether more laboratories are being constructed/set up for the testing of samples of Ayurvedic medicines in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Three types of Laboratories are undertaking testing of Ayurvedic and Allopathic medicines:

- (1) Central Government Laboratories e.g. Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad for Ayurvedic medicines and Central Indian Pharmacopoeial Laboratory, Ghaziabad and 4 such Regional Laboratories for allopathic medicines.

- (2) State Government Drug Testing Laboratories: (A to J) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945: There are 26 approved Laboratories for testing Ayurvedic medicines and 150 approved Laboratories for testing Allopathic medicines.
- 29 State Drug Testing Laboratories for Ayurvedic Medicines and 28 State Drug Testing Laboratories for Allopathic medicines.
- (3) Private Laboratories approved under Rule 160 The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

State Drug Testing Laboratories for Testing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathic Medicines

1. Chief Superintendent, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Indian Medicine Pharmacy (Ayu.), Kattedan, Hyderabad. 500077.
2. Deputy Director, Government State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Central Pharmacy, Jayanagar, I Block near Ashoka pillar, Bangalore, Karnataka.
3. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Ayurvedic and Unani Pharmacy, Vazirabad, Nanded, Maharashtra-431602.
4. Government Analyst State Drug Testing Laboratory, Pharmacognosy Division, Food and Drug Laboratory, near polytechnic, Vadodara, Gujarat.
5. Incharge, Ayurveda State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Pushkar Road, Ajmer, Rajasthan
6. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Ayurvedic and Unani Medicine, 32-Sarojini Naidu Marg, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh.
7. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Research Institute in ISM, Joginder Nagar, Distt. Mandi, Himachal Pradesh-176120. Phone-01904-22048.
8. Incharge, Government State Drug Testing Laboratory, Rishikul State Ayurvedic College, Haridwar, Uttaranchal. Ph. 0133-27003.
9. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Ayurvedic Research Institute, Drug Standardization Unit, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram.
10. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Ayurvedic Hospital, Nagarwartangi, P.O. BJB Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Orissa-751014. Ph. 0674-432347.
11. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory for ISM, Arignar Anna Government Hospital of Indian Medicine Complex, Arumbakkam, Chennai. (Tamil Nadu).
12. Director, State Pharmacopoeial Laboratory and Pharmacy for Indian Medicine, Kalyani, Nadia. Ph. 50626281.
13. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Food and Drug Testing Laboratory, A-20, Lawrence Road Industrial Area, Delhi.
14. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Ayurvedic Pharmacy Compound, Amkho Lashkar, Gwalior Madhya Pradesh-474009.

15. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Ayurvedic Pharmacy, GE Road, Raipur, Chhatisgarh.
16. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory of ISM and H, Combined Food and Drug Laboratory, Patoli, Mangotrian, Jammu-180007.
17. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory for ISM Drugs, Government Ayurvedic College, Guwahati Ph. 0361-2570455.
18. Deputy Drug Controller, State Drug Testing Laboratory (ISM), Aushadh Niyantaran Bhawan, Pt. Nehru Office Complex, Agartala-799006, Tripura.
19. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory (ISM and H), Central Medical Store, Zamabawk, Aizawl, Mizoram.
20. Director of Health Services, State Drug Testing Laboratory (ISM), Food and Drug Laboratory, Pasteur Institute, Shillong, Meghalaya - 793001.
21. Director Health Service, Government Drug Testing Laboratory (ISM), Neheralagrur, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
22. Asstt. Director ISM and H, DHS, State Drug Testing Laboratory for AYUSH, Kohima, Nagaland.
23. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Government Central Pharmacy and Store, Old Press Rd, Patiala, Punjab.
24. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, (ISM) Sri Krishna Government Ayurveda College and Hospital, Kurukshetra, Haryana.
25. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
26. Head Department of Natural Product, NIPER, State Drug Testing Laboratory (ASU), Mohali, Punjab.
27. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory, Ayurveda and Unani Pharmacy compound, Patna, Bihar.
28. Director Health Services, State Drug Testing Laboratory for ASU and H drugs, Chander, Sikkim.
29. Incharge, State Drug Testing Laboratory for A and S drugs, SASTRA, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.

Statement-II

Under List of Approved Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani Drug Testing Laboratories Rule-160 A to J of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
1.	M/S Varun Herbals Pvt. Ltd., 5-8-293/A, Mahesh Nagar, Chirag Ali Lane, Hyderabad
2.	M/S Sipra Labs Pvt. Ltd., 407, Nilgiri, Adiya Enclave, Ameerpet, Hyderabad-500038.
3.	Captain Srinivasa Murti Drug Research Institute for Ayurveda (CCRAS), Arumbakkam, Chennai-600 106.
4.	M/s Sowpamika Herbal Extracts & Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., No.31-A/2A, North Phase, SIDCO Industrial Estate, Chennai-600 098.

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
5.	Regional Research Laboratory (CSIR), Canal Road, Jammu Tawi, Jammu-180001.
6.	ARBRO Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 4/9, Kirti Nagar Industrial Area, New Delhi-110015.
7.	Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, 14 and 15 Sathyamangala Industrial Area, Whitefield Road, Bangalore-560 048.
8.	Bangalore Test House, 65/20th Main Morenhalli, Vijayanagar, Bangalore.
9.	FRLHT, 74/2 Jarakabande Kaval, Post Attur Via Yehlanka, Bangalore-560064.
10.	M.S. Ramalah Drugs and Allied Products Testing Laboratories, M.S. Ramalah Nagar, M.S.R.I.T (POST), Bangalore-560054.
11.	Ozone Pharmaceuticals Ltd., (Analytical Lab) MIE, Bahadurgarh, Dist. Jajjhar, Haryana-124 507.
12.	M/s Standard Analytical and Research Laboratories, 358/4, Laxmibai Nagar, Industrial Estate, Kilamaidan, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452004.
13.	M/s Anusandhan Analytical and Biochemical Research Laboratory Pvt. Ltd., Indore, 435, M.G. Road, Shiv Vilas Place, Rajwada, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452004.
14.	M/s Choksi Laboratories Ltd., 6/3, Manoramganj, Indore, Madhya Pradesh-452001.
15.	M/s Quality Control Laboratory, Plot No.17, Malviya Nagar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462003.
16.	J.R.D. Tata Foundation for Research in Ayurveda and Yoga Sciences, Arogyadham (Deendayal Research Institute) Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya Pradesh-485331.
17.	Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, University Road, Delhi.
18.	M/s Sitharam Ayurveda Pharmacy Ltd., Nedumpuzha, Thrissur, Kerala.
19.	Vaidya Rathnam, Aushadhshala, Ollur, Thrissur.
20.	Arya Vaidyashala Kotakkal, Malapuram.
21.	M/s. Natural Remedies Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.
22.	Drug Testing Laboratory, Niper, Mohali, Chandigarh.
23.	M/s Standard Analytical Laboratory Pvt. Ltd. 69, Functional Industrial Estate, Patparganj, Delhi-92.
24.	Shilpacham Manufacturers of Ayurvedic Pharmaceutical Products, 47-D Estate Fort, Laxmibai Nagar, Indore-452006
25.	Laboratories Service Division, Sargam Metals Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
26.	M/s Amol Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd., Sanganer, Jaipur, Rajasthan

GLP Complaint NABL Accredited Laboratories

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory
1	International Institute of Bio-technology (IIBAT), Kanchipuram District, Padappai, Tamil Nadu-601 301.
2	Rallis Research Centre, Plot No. 21 and 22, Phse-2, Peenaya Industrial Area, Bangalore-560 058.
3	Jai Research Foundation, Post Box No.: 30, GIDC, Vapi, Gujarat-396195.
4	Any NABL Accredited Laboratory.

Sethusamundram Project

692. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards a news item captioned 'Ramsetu Bharat Ke Nakshe Mein Nahin Hai : Balu' published in 'Desh Ki Dharti', Kota dated September 23, 2007;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government has made any changes/ amendments in the project approved originally,

(d) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project;

(e) the details of the surveys carried out regarding the project till date; and

(f) the outcome of the survey and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (f) Certain matters connected with the issue are the subject of litigation. Pursuant to an order passed by the Supreme Court on 31-8-2007, dredging work at Adam's Bridge area has been suspended. National Institute of Ocean Technology has carried out bathymetry survey during April, 2005. The National Hydrographic

Office (NHO), Dehradun has carried out the pre-dredging and post-dredging surveys for the Project. Periodic progress surveys are carried out by M/s. Dredging Corporation of India. These surveys have been carried out for assessing the quantity of dredging.

[English]

Illegal Construction of Road on NTPC Land

693. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road has been constructed illegally on the land procured by NTPC (Korba) for Railway Line in the Gevra areas of SECL under the Coal Bearing Areas Act to supply coal to private coal washeries in connivance of the State Government and SECL; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Sir. However, on a request from the State Government of Chhattisgarh, "No Objection Certificate" was issued by SECL to the State Government for construction of by-pass road and under bridge. However, on receipt of objection from local villagers and also from NTPC about ownership of land, SECL intervened immediately and stopped the progress of the said work.

[Translation]

**Rajasthan Forestry and
Bio-Diversity Project**

694. SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has submitted second phase of Rajasthan Forestry and Bio-diversity Project to the Union Government;

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

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Rajasthan has submitted the project proposal "Second phase of Rajasthan Forestry and Bio-diversity Project" with an estimated project cost of Rs. 569.53 crores, for the period of 6 years seeking external assistance from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

The proposed Project envisages to cover all 32 districts in Rajasthan. The project proposal has been submitted to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance for further necessary action.

Vacant Posts in Primary Health Centres

695. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vacant posts of Doctors in Primary Health Centres have not been filled even after the assurance given in this regard;

(b) if so, the difficulties being faced by the Government;

(c) whether the Government proposes to prepare any programme to fill the vacancies in phases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Although the number of doctors sanctioned in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are more than requirement (27927 against requirement of 22669), 1314 PHCs were without a doctor (as on March, 2006) because of misdistribution, poor transfer policy of the State Governments, lack of basic amenities and incentives for working in the rural areas.

(c) and (d) Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), State/UT Governments have been authorized to appoint doctors including Ayush doctors on contractual basis at the district level. Under NRHM 4318 doctors have been positioned on contractual basis till 1-11-2007 all over the country. State Governments have taken various initiatives to ensure service of doctors in rural areas such as first posting in rural/difficult areas, walk in interviews, contractual appointment, provision of rural area allowance, kind and cash incentive to serve in difficult areas, offering choice of posting after rural/difficult area tenure etc.

Medicinal Plants

696. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 8,000 plant varieties are found in the country as per the report of the Aromatic and Medical Plant Growers Association;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding conservation and utilization of large number of plants available in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any subsidy is being provided by the Government for the production and marketing of said plants;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any steps have been taken or being taken by the Government keeping in view the possibilities of export of medicinal plants and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) It is estimated that out of about 17,500 species of Angiosperms recorded in the flora of the country, about 8000 species have medicinal properties. These species are listed in different floras published by Botanical Survey of India. The Botanical Survey of India has also prepared an inventory of 3270 rare and threatened plants of India, which also includes a number of medicinal plants. Medicinal Plants are also collected and brought under cultivation/ex-situ conservation in various Botanical Gardens. The National Medicinal Plants Board is implementing schemes for in-situ/ex-situ conservation, survey and inventorisation of medicinal plants.

(d) and (e) National Medicinal Plants Board has implemented the Contractual Farming Scheme under which financial assistance @ 30% of the project cost up to a maximum of Rs. 9.00 lacs, is provided to farmers/growers for cultivation of identified medicinal plants. Besides, National Horticulture Mission, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation also supports cultivation of medicinal plants under its schemes. National Horticulture Board is implementing a Scheme "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management". Under which back ended capital investment subsidy not exceeding 20% of the total project cost with a maximum limit of Rs. 25.00 lakh per project is admissible. For the North-Eastern/Tribal/Hilly Areas, the maximum limit of the subsidy is Rs. 30.0 lakh per project. The financial assistance for hi-tech cultivation of herbal crops is also covered under the scheme.

(f) and (g) Some of the steps taken are as under:

- (i) The Government of India has set up the National Medicinal Plants Board to augment availability of medicinal plants for preparation of quality medicines.
- (ii) The Government of India organizes Arogya exhibitions and international buyer-seller meets.
- (iii) The Government of India provides support to

industry to participate in International Trade Fairs to exhibit their products. Schemes are also in place for funding market surveys.

- (iv) Publication of monographs on Indian Medicinal plants, Intra Mural and extra Mural research on Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy by AYUSH Research Councils.
- (v) Publication of Ayurvedic/Siddha/Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeias/Formularies.

[English]

Setting Up of an Accident Data Base

697. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

DR. M JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has undertaken an exercise to collect massive data on a national scale to map road accidents across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP) has offered to finance a project to build an accident data base;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto; and

(e) the manner in which the projected data-base is likely to be an improvement on the existing database?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) This Ministry has undertaken a Project titled 'India Road Accident Database (IRAD)' for scientific collection and compilation of road accident data sponsored by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP). The project aims at evolving a comprehensive road accident database in the country covering 28 States, 7 Union Territories and also 23 selected cities. The total

cost of the project is 90,000 US\$. The project envisages collection of road accident data electronically through a 19 item format covering inter-alia location aspect of road accident, various causes attributable to road accident, vehicles characteristics, road characteristics etc. This Ministry has already undertaken a pilot project in Tamil Nadu to finalise the format for collection of primary accident data.

(e) The revised 19 item format under IRAD Project attempts to comprehensively cover all the aspects of road accidents and would help formulate better policy decisions.

Infection in Operation Theatres (OT)

698. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the OT infection rate is higher in AIIMS;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether OT discipline is not being followed properly at AIIMS; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

National Policy on Telemedicine

699. DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a "National Policy on Telemedicine";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether National Task Force has been constituted on telemedicine;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the latest progress report regarding the action plan to establish this system;

(f) whether chronic and complex diseases are likely to be cured from this system;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the modus operandi for making medicines available for treatment under this system?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Ministry had constituted a National Task Force for Telemedicine under chairmanship of Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) to examine the possibilities and areas for application of Telemedicine in the country.

(e) During the 11th Five Year Plan an amount of Rs.183 crore has been allocated for Telemedicine.

(f) and (g) The states have prepared proposals for Tele-consultation and tele-diagnoses. The treatment is based on the tele consultation by relevant experts.

(h) There is no system of making available the medicines. The prescription is based on the advice of the specialist following tele-consultation and the follow up and supervision is done by the local doctor.

Chiranjeev Yojana and Janani Suraksha Yojana

700. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has sought the details of the Chiranjeev Scheme from the Government of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the success achieved the 'Janani Suraksha Scheme' in comparison to Chiranjeev Yojana; and

(c) the assistance provided by the Government for the Chiranjeev Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Janani Suraksha Yojana is being implemented in all States/UTs since the year 2005-06 whereas Chiranjeevi Yojana was launched as a pilot project in 5 districts of Gujarat in December 2005 and extended to all districts of Gujarat during 2006-07. Since parameters of Chiranjeevi Yojana and Janani Suraksha Yojana are different, the schemes are not comparable.

(c) Government of Gujarat has included Chiranjeevi Yojana in its NRHM Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) and has requested for the approval of Rs. 29.56 crores for it during 2007-08. Government of India has approved the PIP of Gujarat subject to the condition that all schemes proposed should be adjusted within the allotted financial envelope.

Van Vigyan Kendras

701. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Van Vigyan Kendras in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the locations identified for setting up of the same, State-wise:

(c) the time by which the new Kendras are likely to be set up:

(d) whether it is also proposed to provide insurance cover for trees; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun has initiated the process to establish Van Vigyan Kendras in States and Union Territories of the Country.

(b) It is proposed to establish two Van Vigyan Kendras in each State/UTs. However, in smaller States/UTs, initially one Van Vigyan Kendra each will be established. Suitable locations are being identified with

the help of State Forest Departments/UTs Administrations concerned.

(c) Van Vigyan Kendras as proposed above in answer (b) would be set up during XI Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

North East India Investments Opportunities

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

(a) whether a North East India Investments Opportunities (NEIIO) week was observed in October this year in Bangkok to generate Thai India Economic Cooperation in the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the main highlights of the event so organized; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 1. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) organized the 'North-East India Trade and Investment Opportunities Week' at Bangkok, Thailand from 1st to 4th October 2007. The primary objective of the initiative was to attract investment from Thailand in various sectors in the Region. The main sectors identified for this purpose included infrastructure (road, rail, inland waterways, air connectivity and energy), food processing; tourism and hospitality, horticulture, handlooms and handicrafts, rubber and bamboo.

2. Thai Ministry of Commerce, Board of Trade of Thailand, Thailand Board of Investment, India-Thai Business Forum (ITBF), India-Thai Chamber of Commerce (ITCC), Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Federation of Industry and Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER), Shellac and Forest Products Export Council of India (SHEFEXIL), Indian Embassy in

Bangkok, all sector specific line Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings concerned as well as Indian and Thai businessmen actively participated in the Event. The Indian side was also represented by a strong delegation of over 180 businessmen. From Thailand, Mr. Krik-Krai Jirapet, Thai Commerce Minister and Mr. Piyabutr Cholvijarn, Deputy Minister Industry of Thailand, senior officers of their respective departments as well as more than 150 Thai businessmen participated in various sessions.

3. The Central Ministers who participated in the Event were Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Hon'ble Minister DONER and Dr Ashwani Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of State for Industry. The Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland also participated. Senior Ministers from Assam, Sikkim and Tripura represented their States. All the States were well represented by their senior officers looking after major infrastructure sectors or responsible for developmental projects in which investments could be attracted. Besides, the Indian delegation included the representatives from Central and State Ministries and Public Sector Undertakings concerned.

4. The main Plenary Session was attended by over 500 delegates from India and Thailand. A general presentation about the strengths and potential of North Eastern Region for various investment and trade opportunities was made. It covered all the eight North Eastern States. Minister, DONER highlighted the scope and potential for investment in various sectors in the Region along with a brief description of major attractions of North Eastern Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007. The Chief Ministers/Ministers made presentations for showing their strengths, areas of mutual cooperation, potential for investment and trade in various sectors and the need for starting a dialogue between the two sides.

5. There were sectoral sessions organized at the Event. The sectors highlighted in these sessions were tourism, infrastructure, agro and food processing, handlooms and handicrafts. All the sessions were well attended by delegates from both sides. The sessions on infrastructure agro and food processing, handlooms and

handicrafts were addressed by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Minister for DoNER; Dr Ashwani Kumar, Minister of State for Industry, Government of India and Mr Piyabutr Cholvijarn, Deputy Minister Industry, Government of Thailand. Minister of State (Industry) highlighted the main provisions of NEIIPP, 2007 and stressed the need for large investments in the region, inter-alia, because of extremely attractive provisions. Deputy Minister Industry, Thailand informed that in their Ministry they have opened an India Desk in the Thailand Board of Investment.

6. An important part of this session was one-to-one interaction between the businessmen of India and Thailand. Officials from the State Governments and the Central Ministries as well as from Thai Government were there to facilitate the discussions. In all around 300 businessmen from both the sides interacted. The main areas of common interest that emerged from these discussions were as follows:

- (i) Infrastructure Development, Road Construction, Civil Construction, Real Estate, Bitumen emulsion, Pre-fabricated bamboo shelters, Cement, Sanitary fittings, Paints, High building coating, Gypsum board, Structural steel, Tiles
- (ii) Power
- (iii) Food Processing, Cold Storage, Flavoured Milk, Food Products, Liquor, Betelnut industry, Rice Milling machinery, Packaging material
- (iv) Coal, Mines, Ferroalloys, Oil and Gas, refining, Bio-fuel, Petroleum, Coke, Recycling of Waste material
- (v) Cotton Yarn, Handwoven Textiles, Garments, Handicrafts, Home furnishing Ornaments and jewellery, Leather based Industry
- (vi) Tourism, Hotels, Resorts, Amusement Park, Hospitals, Health Care, Spa, Private Airline
- (vii) Floriculture, Ginger, Aquaculture, Tea, Organic Spices, Orchids and Cutiflowers
- (viii) Export-Import, Trading, Marketing, Lab Equipment

- (ix) School
- (x) Consultancy

7. In addition, an exhibition to showcase the products of the North East was organized at the venue. Exhibitors from all the States SHEFEXIL, North Eastern Development Finance Corporation, North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation and North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation very actively participated in the exhibition.

(c) It has been a very successful event. Ten agreements/understandings were reached between the two sides, six of them were signed on 03-10-2007 in the presence of Minister, DONER and Dy Minister Industry, Government of Thailand as well as the Chief Ministers of North Eastern States. A beginning has been made and a platform for further interaction for various investment and trade related issues between the two sides has been created. With the type of overwhelming response we received from the Thai side we are hopeful that the State Governments of North Eastern Region will build up on that and would be able to attract investments and expertise in various sectors including food processing, tourism and infrastructure.

Family Welfare and Rural Health Schemes

703. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the Government of Karnataka for Family Welfare and Rural Healthcare Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC) under the National Rural Health

Mission (NRHM) in its meeting held on 10th July, 2007, has approved the Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) of Karnataka for an amount of Rs.113136.58 lakhs which includes Rs. 94406.58 lakhs for 2007-08 activities under NRHM, and an unspent balance of Rs. 5611.00 and Rs.13120.00 lakhs under RCH and Mission Flexipool respectively. The State Government of Karnataka is required to undertake activities under Reproductive and Child Health, Mission Flexible Pool, Immunisation programme and National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme from this approved amount.

Dumping of E-waste

704. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of tones of electronic waste generated from obsolete computers, discarded electronic components which contains toxic substances like heavy metals, PVC plastics, brominated flame-retardants etc. are being illegally shipped to India by developed countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan formulated by the Government to curb the menace of e-waste dumping in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of Visa to Pakistani Cricket Fans

705. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had decided to issue only 250 Visas to Pakistani cricket fans for November 8, 2007 India-Pak cricket match played at Mohali;

(b) if so, the number of applications received for the above purpose;

(c) whether any guidelines had been issued for the cricket fans;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a large number of Pakistani cricket fans who visited India in the past had gone missing; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) As was done for the 2006 Champions Trophy matches, Pakistani applicants holding valid cricket match tickets were issued up to 250 visas per match. For the Mohali match 125 such visa applications were received and 123 cricket visas were issued. In addition, 170 visas were issued to invitees of Punjab Cricket Association and Pakistan Cricket Board, to other Pakistani nationals who wanted to witness the Mohali cricket match and to visit other places in India. Guidelines pertaining to travel, duration and arrangements for stay, provision for full identity particulars etc. of the applicants were issued. 30 Pakistani nationals issued cricket visas for matches in 2005 are yet to return to Pakistan and are not traceable.

**National Knowledge Commission
Recommendation**

706. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has recommended an independent regulatory framework for medical colleges in India in place of the Medical Council of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government has accepted the panel's recommendations; and

(d) if so, the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has

recommended constitution of a Standing Committee within the structure of the proposed Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE) and amendment of Indian Medical Council Act such that the Medical Council of India functions as a professional association with powers to conduct nation wide examinations and to provide licenses to those who wish to join the profession. Relevant extracts are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the NKC have been sent to the concerned Ministries for their comments/examination and no time frame has been set for final decision.

Statement

Extracts from the Report of the National Knowledge Commission—Compilation of Recommendations on Education, November, 2007

Medical Institution

Regulation and accreditation

Regulation:

At present, medical education in India is regulated by the Medical Council of India (MCI). This system of regulation is neither adequate nor appropriate to meet the needs of the profession. Therefore, in conformity with our recommendations on Higher Education, we propose constitution of a Standing Committee within the structure of the Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE). The primary function of the Standing Committee will be to ensure that medical practice and teaching are updated and revised regularly and minimum quality standards are maintained. The members of the Standing Committee would include faculty from recognized universities, practicing physicians, members of civil society, students and a director from autonomous institutions representing educators. The Chairman and the members of the Standing Committee would be accountable to IRAHE. The Standing Committee would look into manpower planning and development based on disease-profile, doctor-population ratio and skill-mix ratio.

Professional Councils:

The Indian Medical Council Act should be amended such that MCI functions only as a professional association, with powers to conduct nationwide examinations, and to provide licenses for those who wish to join the profession. Similar changes are needed for all the other Councils viz. Nursing Council, Pharmacy Council, Dental Council and Rehabilitation Council.

Accreditation:

IRAHE should be empowered to license suitable agencies for accreditation. Accreditation agencies could award different degrees of accreditation, such as "Full", "Provisional" or "On Probation" and have the power to de-recognize. Institutions would have to ensure transparency in their admission processes, able and responsible faculties, a multidisciplinary academic learning environment, transparency in assessment of students and close linkages with regional health care and delivery systems, in order to be accredited.

Mining Projects on Forest Land

707. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals cleared for mining projects on forest land so far by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of hectares of land involved;

(c) the number of people affected due to these projects, State-wise; and

(d) the names of the companies involved indicating the foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The number of proposals cleared for mining projects on forest land so far by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise; and the details of hectares of forest land involved are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) Such information is not maintained by the Ministry.

(d) The list of names of mining proposals cleared during the period 01-04-2004 to 16-11-2007 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Mining approved in last three years (State-wise) for forestry clearance under FC Act, 1980

State/UT	01-04-2004 to 31-03-2005		01-04-2005 to 31-03-2006		01-04-2006 to 31-03-2007	
	No. of cases	Area Diverted	No. of cases	Area Diverted	No. of cases	Area Diverted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	14	1,267.5	14	1,230.71	31	3,689.25
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0	5	41.695
Assam	5	34.585	16	23.919	22	25.008

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	5	386.922	18	1,016.87	27	6,252.01
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goa	0	0	12	313.824	2	39.56
Gujarat	1	32	0	0	2	202.63
Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	7	4.344	3	179.88	7	242.316
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jharkhand	25	2,817.09	9	424.829	6	1,260.78
Karnataka	15	670.814	2	70.6	37	3,898.56
Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	5	24.557	9	609.236	19	1,093.99
Maharashtra	6	19.882	11	184.68	12	1,121.15
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	14	1,985.52	23	1,203.46	17	1,734.59
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Punjab	0	0	1	0.002	0	0
Rajasthan	17	359.882	5	116.664	6	129.88
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	1	0.046

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tamil Nadu	0	0	2	5.162	1	3.38
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	2	257.6
Uttaranchal	2	2.003	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	116	7,605.12	126	5,379.84	197	19,972.53

N.B. Area diverted also include proposals for the renewal of mining leases.

Statement-II

Names of Mining proposals cleared during the period 01-04-2004 to 16-11-2007

Sl. No.	Name of Proposal	State	District
1	2	3	4
1.	Diversion of FL in Tandur RFN Rebbana Range for OCP II in F/O M/s SCCL, Bellampally	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
2.	Diversion of FL of Tandur RF for Goleti-IA incline underground Mines enterics in Rebbena (a), infavour of SCCI, Bellampally	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
3.	Mining Lease in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company to SSCL	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
4.	Underground Coal Mining for Indaram Extension Mining in favour M/s SCCL	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
5.	Mining Lease to SCCL for Shanti Khani extension block	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
6.	Diversion of FL for Stone quarry for Canal structures and approach road of proposed Peddavagu project near ADA(V) Asifabad Mandal	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
7.	Proposed Stone quarry for Peddavagu project	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
8.	Underground Mining Goleti No. 1 and proposed 1A incline under ground mines in favour of M/s SCCL Limited	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad
9.	Diversion of FL in Bellary RF of Kalyanadurg Range for mining of Iron Ore in F/O Obulapuram Mining Ananthapur Distt.-39.50 ha.	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur

1	2	3	4
10.	Mining of Iron Ore in Bellary Reserve forest of Kalyanadurg Range in Ananthapur division in favour of M/s Obulapuram mining	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur
11.	Diversion of 4.00 ha. of FL for purpose of ML for extraction of barytes in F/O Mehaboob Minerals	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur
12.	Diversion of 18.00 ha. of FL for extraction of Iron Ore in Sy. No. 1(P) of Malapanagudi (V), Bellary RF of Ananthapur Division in F/O S.R. Minerals	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur
13.	Application of M/s Nagalingeswara Mines and Minerals	Andhra Pradesh	Ananthapur
14.	Diversion of FL for Application for Grant of ML for extraction of black Granite over an extent of 2.50 ha. in Compt. No. 218 of Veersettipalli-BRF, Chittoor (W) DVN in F/O M/s Vishnu Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
15.	Diversion of Forest land for Granite of Mining lease for extraction of black Granite in favour of M/s. Prashanti Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
16.	Mining lease for extraction of Black granite in favour of M/s Shivasakthi Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
17.	Diversion of Forest land for Grant of Mining for extraction of Black Granite in favour of Vaishnav Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
18.	Mining lease for extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Jyotheeswaran Granites in Ragimenupenta RF on Kanthala-cheruvu(V)	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
19.	Diversion of Forest land in Veerasettipalli RF of Rachur Beat in Chittoor West Division for grant of Mining lease for extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s. Jayashree Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
20.	Grant of ML for extension of Black Granite infavour of M/s Shiva Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
21.	Application for grant of Mining lease for Black Granite over an extent of 3.00 ha. of Forest land in Compt. No. 213 of Paradarmi RF of Chittoor West divn. in F/O M/s Padmavathi Granites, Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
22.	Diversion of 3.50 ha. of FL for extraction of Black Granite in Chittappara RF in F/O Sri Venkateshwara Granites, Chittoor (W) divn.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
23.	Diversion of Forest land for extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Nagamani Granites	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
24.	Diversion of FL in Basavapalli RF of Chittoor District for Extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Sri Lakshmi Granites and Exports	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor

1	2	3	4
25. Extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Sri Lakshmi Granites and Exports		Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
26. Diversion of Forest Land for extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Maruti Granites		Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
27. Diversion of 4.50 ha. of FL for Grant of ML for extraction of Black Granite in Raginamupenta RF in favour of M/s Vishnu Granites		Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
28. Diversion of 4.00 ha. of FL for Grant of ML for Black Granite in favour of M/s Satyam Mining Corporation in Chittor District		Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
29. Diversion of 2.00 ha. of FL for Renewal of quarry lease of Black Granite in Compt. No. 222 of Chittapara RF in favour of Shri V. Ramesh Kumar, Chittoor (W) Dvn.		Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor
30. Diversion of Forest Land for extraction of Slate Stone material in favour of Sri R. Srinivassa Rao, M/s New India Stones, Vinukonda		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
31. Diversion of Forest Land in Manglagiri RF for quarry Minor Minerals in favour of Shri Ch. Tirupalu		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
32. M and M—diversion of FL for extraction of State Stone Material in Bollapalli RF of Vinukonda Range in F/O Smt. Indu Yadav of Markapur		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
33. Renewal of Mining lease over 1.41 ha. of Forest Land in Mandadi Block II RF for the purpose of Stacker and Reclaimer and 6.77 ha. of Forest Land in Kandla Guntur Extn I RF for the purpose of Aerial Ropeway in favour of M/s KCP Ltd. in Guntur District		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
34. Mining Lease in favour of M/s Jurassic Stones Private Limited for Grant of Quarry Lease in Bollapalli RF		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
35. Renewal of ML in Batrapalam of Madinapadu in F/o Swamy Kasi Ratnam		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
36. Diversion of 1.387 ha. of Forest Land in Kondaveedu RF of Ameenabad beat, Guntur division for quarrying of road metal in favour of Sri N. Siva Rama Prasad of Perecherla(V), Guntur District.		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
37. Diversion of FL for Grant of State Stone in Naidupalem beat of Vinukonda Range in F/O Dr. Kadiyala Rajendra, Hyderabad		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
38. Grant of Quarry Lease in Vinukonda FB in favour of M/s Jurassic Stones		Andhra Pradesh	Guntur

1	2	3	4
39.	M and M—diversion of FL in Mangalagiri RF for Quarrying Minor Mineral Stone Granel in F/O Sri. Ch. Tienpalu	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
40.	Underground Mining of which 247 ha. of for surface use for GDK-9, Vakilpally Block-A, 10 and 10A inclines in Ramagundam-II and OC Project-I Expansion in favour of M/s SCCL	Andhra Pradesh	Karimnagar
41.	Mining Lease to SCCL for Satu Pally-I opencast project	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
42.	Renewal of Mining lease in F/o SCCL for OCP II Ph III Manuguru in Kondapur/Ext. 1 of Aswapura Range	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
43.	Renewal of Manuguru Mining Lease over an extent on 2186 involving 1312 ha. of Forest Land request for Grant of TWP in favour of SCCL	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
44.	Mining in Compartment No. 11, 12, and 13 of Ramavaram Reserve Forest in Kothagudem division for Phase III of Gouthami Khani open cast project in favour of M/s SCC.	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
45.	Diversion of Forest Land in Kothagudem forest division for open cast Coal Mining (OCP-II Koyagudem) in favour of Singareni Collieries Company	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
46.	Mining Lease in favour of M/s SCCL Limited for Yellandu OCP-II	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
47.	Realignment of Nallaer at Venkatesh Khani 7 incline in favour of M/s SCCL	Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
48.	Diversion of FL—Lease to M/s Sri Vengamamba Engineering Co. Vijayawada Dvn.	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna
49.	Diversion of FL—Lease to Sri P. Karunakar.	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna
50.	Diversion of FL—Lease to Sri V. Rama Mohana Rao.	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna
51.	Mines and Quarries—Lease to M/s Shri Vengamamba Engineering Co.	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna
52.	Mining Lease to Kakatiya Cement Sugar Industrial	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna
53.	Application of Dr. B. Sanjeev Reddy, Nandyal for Lease for Steatite and Dolomite	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool
54.	Diversion of FL—Application of Dr. B. Sanjeev Reddy, Nandyal for lease for Steatite and Dolomite in Kurnool Dvn	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool
55.	Using for Survey and Investigation of Uranium and other related Atomic Minerals by Director, Atomic Mineral Directorate for	Andhra Pradesh	Nalgonda

1	2	3	4
	Exploration and Research, Department of Atomic Energy in Rayavaram and Nidgul Reserve Forest Block		
56.	Compartment No. 29 of Pasupulabodu Block of Nalgonda Forest Division in favour of M/s Chanakya Cements	Andhra Pradesh	Nalgonda
57.	Uranium Production in Lambapur Peddagattu areas by Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Department of Atomic Energy	Andhra Pradesh	Nalgonda
58.	ML for Quartz, Vermiculate, MICA, Felspar over an extent of 2.00 ha. in SY. No. 553 of Chagnam Village, Sydapuram Mandal, Nellore District in F/O Smt. S.K. Bibijan	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore
59.	Diversion of 5.0 ha. of Forest Land for Grant of ML for extraction of Black Granite in Cheemakurthi RF of Ongole range in favour of Sri Kanudula Rami Reddy, Giddalur Dvn., Prakasam District	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam
60.	M and M—ML for Barytes in Compt. No. 755 over an extent of 1.97 ha. in Turimella Range, Giddalur Dvn., Prakasam Distt.—proposals of Sri S. Shankara Reddy	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam
61.	Diversion of FL for ML in SY. No. 1265 of Shameerpet of Forest Block, Hyderabad Dvn. in F/O M/s Laxmi Narasimha Metal Industries	Andhra Pradesh	Ranga Reddy
62.	Diversion of Forest Land for Quarry of Granite Stone and Metal in Peddakonda FB in favour of Sri V. Venugopal Naidu, Bobbili, Vizianagaram Distt.—1.153 ha.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayanagaram
63.	Diversion of Forest Land for Quarrying of Granite Metal in favour of Smt. T. Sathyavathi of Mugada(V)	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayanagaram
64.	Mining Lease to M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited in Tadicherla Reserve Forest	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal
65.	Mining Lease for Kakatiya Khani 9 and 9A incline underground mine to M/s SCCL	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal
66.	Diversion of FL for ML for Extraction of Black Granite in favour of M/s Exotic Granites and Exports in Warangal Division	Andhra Pradesh	Warangal
67.	Seismic Survey Operations for Petroleum Exploration in favour of Oil India Limited in Manabum, NOA Dihing, Namsiall, Koriapani, Kotha and Miao	Arunachal Pradesh	Amortola
68.	Diversion of Forest Land for preparation of Approach Road and Drilling Plinth for Exploratory Drilling well at Location JP1-A by GEO Petrol Int. Inc.	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang

1	2	3	4
69.	2D and 3D Seismic Survey Operation in General Area of Nampong Forest Division of Changlang District for Oil and Gas exploration	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang
70.	Mining Lease to APMDTCL for Coal Mining in Namchik—Namphuk Coal Fields	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang
71.	2D Seismic Survey Operations for Petroleum Exploration to be carried out by M/s Oil India Limited in and around Kharsang-Shonking area in Namchik-Namphuk reserved	Arunachal Pradesh	Changlang
72.	Permission for 2D Seismic Survey Operation in and around Pasighat and Poba Reserve Forest Areas for Petroleum Exploration by Oil India Limited	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siyang
73.	Diversion of Forest Land for Oil Drilling Location NSA	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit
74.	Renewal Approval of Nakkati Hill Stone Quarry No. 1 and Nakkati Hill Stone Quarry No. 3 under AIE Valley Division	Assam	Bongaigaon
75.	Renewal Approval of Nakkati Hill Stone Quarry No. 2 under AIE Valley Division	Assam	Bongaigaon
76.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Upper Subansiri Sand/Gravel Mahal under Dhemaji Division	Assam	Dhemaji
77.	Renewal Approval of Dudhnath Hill Stone Mahal No. 1 under Dhubri Forest Division	Assam	Dhubri
78.	Opening up of 2 New Mahals at Dudhnath Stone Mahal No. 4 and Dudhnath Stone Mahal No. 5 under Dhubri Forest Division	Assam	Dhubri
79.	Collection of Stone Materials from River Bed under Dibrugarh Division	Assam	Dibrugarh
80.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Borvita Stone Quarry No. 2 and Chitalmari Stone Quarry under Goalpara Division	Assam	Goalpara
81.	Proposal for Diversion of Forest Land for drilling location Dayang R.F. under Golaghat Division	Assam	Golaghat
82.	Diversion of Forest Land for drilling location in South Nambar R.F. under Golaghat Division	Assam	Golaghat
83.	Diversion of 1.735 ha. of Forest Land for drilling location KPAA under Golaghat Division	Assam	Golaghat
84.	Diversion of 1.99 ha of Forest Land for drilling location KPAA under Golaghat Division	Assam	Golaghat

1	2	3	4
85.	Renewal Approval of Stone Quarries under Goalpara Forest Division for a period of 10 years	Assam	Gopalpura
86.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Barnadi Sand and Stone Mahals No. 1 under North Kamrup Division	Assam	Kamrup
87.	Sand Mahal Mining under Kamrup West Division	Assam	Kamrup
88.	Renewal Approval of Helagog Stone Mahal in Mata Pahar RF	Assam	Kamrup
89.	Fatasil 1, 2 and 3; Deochutal C and B; Chamata A and B (Fresh)— Natun Rani, Helagog (Renewal) Approval of 8 Nos of Stone Mahals under Kamrup District.	Assam	Kamrup
90.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Fatasil Stone Mahal No. 2 under Kamrup East Division in Kamrup District.	Assam	Kamrup
91.	Renewal Approval of Kulsu Bagapani River Sand Mahal under Kulsu R.F. of Kamrup West Forest Division.	Assam	Kamrup
92.	Proposal for Forest Clearance in Agyathuri RF for Stone Materials from Agyathuri Stone Quarry under North Kamrup Division, Rangia.	Assam	Kamrup
93.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Fatasil Stone Mahal No. 3 under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
94.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Fatasil Stone Mahal No. 1 under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
95.	Renewal Approval of Natun Rani Stone Mahal in Natun Rani Reserve Forest under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
96.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Natun Rani Stone Mahal in Natun Rani Reserve Forest under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
97.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Natun Rani Stone Mahal in Natun Rani RF under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
98.	Proposal for Approval of Deochutal Stone Mahal No. C in Natun Rani Reserve Forest under Kamrup Forest Division.	Assam	Kamrup
99.	Approval of Deochutal Stone Mahal No. C in Rani Reserve Forest under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
100.	Proposal for Approval of Deochutal Stone Mahal in Rani Reserve Forest under Kamrup East Division.	Assam	Kamrup
101.	Renewal of Riverbed Mahals	Assam	Kakrajhar

1	2	3	4
102. Renewal Approval of 4 Nos of Sand and Gravel Mahals under Kachugaon FDI. E. Hel. River Sand and Gravel Mahal, Garufela River Sand and Gravel Mahal, Malbhog River Sand and Gravel Mahal and Borghopa Boulder Gravel Mahal in Kokrajhar District.	Assam	Kakrajhar	
103. Proposal for Renewal Approval of Samukha River Sand and Gravel and Boulder Mahal under Haltugaon Divison in Kokajhar District.	Assam	Kakrajhar	
104. Renewal of Sand Mahals	Assam	Lakhimpur	
105. Renewal Approval of Kananadi Gravel Mahal and Kimin Sand and Gravel Mahal under Lakhimpur Division.	Assam	Lakhimpur	
106. Proposal for Renewal Approval of Stone and Sand Mahals viz., Buriganga Sand Mahal, Modertoli Stone Mahal and Bhogiram Basti Stone Mahal	Assam	Nagaon	
107. Opening of Fresh Mahals under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
108. Opening up of New Stone Quarry of Jagi Road Stone Quarry Mahal No. F (1) under Sonaikuchi RF.	Assam	Nagaon	
109. Renewal of 10 number of Stone Mahals and 9 numbers of Sand Mahal	Assam	Nagaon	
110. Opening up of New Stone Quarry at Barghara Stone Quarry Mahal No. 10 in Tetelia-Baghara RF under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
111. Renewal Approval of Borjonh Stone Quarry No. 4 in Sonaikuchi RF under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
112. Renewal Approval of Borjong Stone Quarry No. 3 in Sonaikuchi RF under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
113. Opening up of Kathal Guri Stone Quarry Mahal No. 2.	Assam	Nagaon	
114. Proposal for Opening up of Fresh Mahals in Kathalguri Stone Quarry Mahal No. 1 under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
115. Proposal for Opening up of Fresh Mahals in Kathalguri Stone Quarry Mahal No. 1(B) under Nagaon Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
116. Proposal for Opening up of Jogi Road Stone Quarry Mahal No. FT(2) under Sonaikuchi RF.	Assam	Nagaon	
117. Renewal Approval of Dholpahar Stone Quarry No. 3 and Borjong Stone Quarry No. 1 under Nagaon Forest Division.	Assam	Nagaon	
118. Renewal Approval of Stone Mahal at Dholpahar Stone Quarry No. 3 under Dholpahar RF.	Assam	Nagaon	

1	2	3	4
119.	Renewal Approval of Stone Mahal I.E. Dholpahar Stone Quarry No. 2 under Nagaon Forest Division.	Assam	Nagaon
120.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Sonai Nala Sand and Stone Mahal under Balipara RF.	Assam	Sonitpur
121.	Renewal of 6 Sand and Gravel Mahals	Assam	Sonitpur
122.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of 18th Mile Stone Mahal under Sonitpur West Division.	Assam	Sonitpur
123.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of 16th Mile Sand and Boulder Mahal under Sonitpur West Division in Sonitpur District.	Assam	Sonitpur
124.	Proposal for Renewal Approval of Upper Chattai Nala Sand, Gravel and Boulder Mahal under Balipara Reserve Forest in Sonitpur Division.	Assam	Sonitpur
125.	Diversion of Forest Land for Drilling Location HQQ by Oil India Ltd. under Digboi Division.	Assam	Tinsukia
126.	Diversion of Forest Land for Drilling Location DEP by Oil India Ltd. under Doom Dooma Division.	Assam	Tinsukia
127.	Prospecting of Iron Ore in Hahaldidi area, Michgaon-Lohattar R.F. by M/s. Pushp Steels and Mining Pvt. Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
128.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mining in Compartment No. 321 in favour of M/s Prakash Industries Limited Bilaspur.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
129.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mining in Compartment No. 364 and 365 in favour of M/s Bajrang Metalic Private Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
130.	Stone Quarry at Vill. Pipra in favour of Executive Engineer, Project Implementation Unit.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
131.	Construction of Gitti Mining Lease in favour of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
132.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mining in Compartment No. 334, 337 in favour of M/s Viza Industries Limited in Village Rasuli, Tehsil, Bhanupratappur.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
133.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mining in Compartment No. 338, 339 in favour of M/s Navbharat Fuse Company Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
134.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mining in Compartment No. 334(P) in favour of M/s Minerals and Logistics.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
135.	Stone Quarry at Vill. Dihipara in V/O Member Secretary, Project Implimentation Unit.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar

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136.	Murum Mining under P.M. Gram Sadak Yojana at Vill. Chipawand	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
137.	Gitti (Stone) Mining at Vill. Karathi Alwad under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
138.	Stone Mining under PM Gram Sadak Yojana at Vill. Dilmili	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
139.	Stone Mining under PM Gram Sadak Yojana at Vill. Udiyapal	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
140.	Extraction of Corandam Mining Lease in F/O Mineral Development Corpn. Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
141.	Prospecting of Iron Ore in Favour of NMDC	Chhattisgarh	Dantewara
142.	Mining Lease to Jayaswals NECO Limited (Nagpur Alloy Casting Ltd.)	Chhattisgarh	Jagdalpur
143.	Captive Coal Mine Project of Prakash Industries Limited	Chhattisgarh	Janjgir
144.	Mining Lease in favour of Shri Jeevan Lal Jain for Mining of Iron Ore in Village Barbaspur.	Chhattisgarh	Kanke
145.	Prospecting for Iron Ore mining in Compartment No. 384, 385, 386 and 389 in favour of M/s S.K. Sarawagi and Company Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Kanke
146.	Prospecting of Iron Ore Mines in Compartment No. 355 and 356 in Hahalddi Forest Department in favour of M/s Akshay Investment.	Chhattisgarh	Kanke
147.	Prospecting of Iron Ore in Village Mahaladdi Compartment No. 357, 358, 359, 362, 364 and 384 infavour of M/s IND Agro Synergy Limited, Raipur.	Chhattisgarh	Kanke
148.	Renewal of Mining Lease of Katkona Colliery in favour of M/s SECL	Chhattisgarh	Koera
149.	Haldibari underground Mining Project in Hasdeo area by South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Koera
150.	Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Compartment No. 531-P to 538-P, 540-P to 541-P under Chirimiri Colliery in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Koera
151.	Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Compartment No. 469, 517, 518, 519, 497, 501 of North Chirimiri Colliery under Chirimiri area in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Koera
152.	Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Korea Forest Division in Compartment No. 501-P to 503-P, 513-P to 516-P favouring SECL (Chirimiri area, Balkanth Pur).	Chhattisgarh	Koera
153.	Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Compartment No. 493-P to 499-P of Korea Colliery under Chirimiri area in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Koera

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154. Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Compartment No. 500-P to 502-P2 of West Chirimiri Colliery under Chirimiri area in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Koera	
155. Diversion of Forest Land for Kuresia Colliery of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Koera	
156. Renewal of Mining Lease for underground Mining in Compartment No. 517-P, 522-P, 523-P and 530-P of Domanhill Colliery under Chirimiri area in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Koera	
157. Surface Right in F/O South Eastern Coal Field Ltd. (VIII. Rajgamar and Godma)	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
158. Rajgamar underground Mining Project in favour of M/s SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
159. Renewal of Manikpur Opencast Mining in favour of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
160. Mining Lease in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited for Gevera Opencast Project.	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
161. Dipka Expansion Opencast Mining Project in favour of M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
162. Dipka Expansion Opencast Coal Mine Project in Katghora Forest Division (Gevra Area) in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
163. Gevra Opencast Mining Project in favour of M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
164. Gevra Opencast Coal Mining under Katghora Forest Division in in favour of M/s SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
165. Gevra Opencast Mining Project in favour of M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
166. Renewal of Explosive Magazine in F/O SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Korba	
167. Proposal for prospecting of Forest Land in favour of M/s Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	
168. Mining Lease to M/s Jindal Power Limited	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	
169. Baroud Expansion Opencast Mining of Coal of Gharghoda Range in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	
170. Prospecting of Exploratory Drilling for Atomic Minerals, especially	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh	

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	Uranium around Karichhapar, Bhagora and Saraipali Villages in Saraipali-Bhagora Protected Forest under Raigarh Forest Division.		
171.	Mining Purpose in Saraipali O/C Project of Korba area in favour of SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
172.	Prospecting Mining in Compartment No. 252, 267, 268 and 269 in Chhote Donger Reserve Forest in favour of SH Bajrang Metallc Private Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
173.	Temporary Working Permission (TWP) for 33.84 ha. Forest Land of Dipka Expansion OC Project of Gevra Area, SECL.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
174.	Mining Lease In F/O Jaisawal Neco for Boria Tibbu Iron Ore Deposits	Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon
175.	Prospecting of Mining in F/O Shree Radha Industries Limited	Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon
176.	Amera Opencast Coal Mining Project in Village Amera, Katkona, Parsodikala and Puhputara in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited.	Chhattisgarh	Sarguja
177.	Mining Lease 29/55 in F/O Atchuta V.S. Velingkar	Goa	South Goa
178.	Mining Lease 13/55 in F/O V.M. Salgaocar Brothers Limited	Goa	South Goa
179.	Mining Lease 5053 in F/O V.M. Salgaocar Brothers Limited	Goa	South Goa
180.	Mining Lease No. 60/51 to Sh Minguel Mascarenhas	Goa	South Goa
181.	Renewal of Deemed Iron Ore Mining Lease under T.C. No. 143/53 in favour of M/s Sociedade Timblo Irmaos Ltd.	Goa	South Goa
182.	Mining Lease 10/51 in F/O Halder Kasim Khan	Goa	South Goa
183.	Mining Lease No. 14/52 to M/s Baddrudin Hussainbhai Mavani	Goa	South Goa
184.	Renewal of Deemed Mining Lease in Shigao Mine under T.C. No. 87/53 in favour of Panduronga Timblo Industreis.	Goa	South Goa
185.	Mining Lease 30/50 in F/O Dr. Prafulla R. Hede	Goa	South Goa
186.	Mining Lease 53/52 in F/O Sh. Ashok Kudchadkar	Goa	South Goa
187.	Mining Lease 45/54 in F/O Sova	Goa	South Goa
188.	Mining Lease 8/41 in F/O G.N. Aggarwal	Goa	South Goa
189.	Mining Lease 100/53 in F/O Ashok Kudchadkar	Goa	South Goa
190.	Mining Lease for Iron and Manganese Ore Mining T.C. No. 63/51 in favour of Sh. Chandrakant F. Naik.	Goa	South Goa

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191.	Renewal of Mining Lease for base Metal to M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDC).	Gujarat	Banaskantha
192.	Mining Lease to Gujarat Minerals Development Corp.	Gujarat	Vadodara
193.	Renewal of Fluoroispar Mining Lease at Vill. Ambadunagar in F/O M/S Gujarat Mineral	Gujarat	Vadodara
194.	Extraction of Quartzite for Cement Manufacturing in Billaspur in favour of M/s Gagat Cement Works.	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur
195.	Mining Lease in favour of Smt. Chandal Nagar R/O Chamba	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba
196.	Mining in favour of M/s Orvit Minerals Udyog Association for installation Stone Crusher Palampur F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra
197.	Extraction of River bed Minerals I.E. Sand, Stone and Bazri etc.	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnoar
198.	Renewal of Mining Lease for period of 5 years w.e.f. 10th July 2006 for diversion of 1.20 HC of Forest Land for Quarrying of Stones for Crusher at Hurla.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu
199.	Stone Quarry for Feeding Stone Crusher, M/s Asha Puri Stone Crusher from Chagola in Kot-Dandi-III Hurla Forest Range Kullu on 30 year Lease	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu
200.	Quarrying of Stones for Crusher	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu
201.	Quarrying of Stone Crusher in favour of M/s Ashapuri Stone Cursher, Hurla, Parbati Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu
202.	Stone Quarry for Feeding M/s Bhuvneshwari Stone Crusher from Chagola, Parbati Forest Division Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu
203.	Mining and Installation of Stone Crusher	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
204.	Est. of Stone Quarry at Bataur Jole in Mandi Forest Div.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
205.	Instalation of Stone Cursher in favour of Rajhat Thakur M/s Rajat Stone Industries Bakkar Khud Sandhol	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
206.	Mining for Lime Stone Mining/Cement plant in favour of M/s Harish Cement Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
207.	Establishment of Stone Quarry by M/s Jai Durga Stone Quarry Baggi-Kawial Distt. Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
208.	Pashada for Mining and Installation of Stone Crusher under Rampur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
209.	Installation of Stone Crusher and Quarry in favour of Mahanti Devi, R/O VIII. Pashada	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla

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210.	Mining of Lime Stones in favour of Sh. Sant Ram Village Bharwana	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur
211.	Mining purpose in the already broken up Area for five years	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur
212.	Mining in favour of Jaypee Himachal Cement Project, Kuniyar Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Solan
213.	Amlo Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Bokaro
214.	Dhori Khas underground Mining Lease to Central Coalfields Limited	Jharkhand	Bokaro
215.	Mining Lease to Shah Brothers for Karampada Iron and Manganese Ore	Jharkhand	Bokaro
216.	New selected Dhori underground Project in favour of Central Coalfields Limited	Jharkhand	Bokaro
217.	Temporary working permission for selected Dhori Mines of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	Jharkhand	Bokaro
218.	Khasmahal Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Bokaro
219.	Mining Lease to ECL for Rajmahal Opencast Mining	Jharkhand	Dumka
220.	Bandhuhurang Uranium Project in favour of Uranium Corporation of India Limited	Jharkhand	East Singhbhum
221.	Dhori Opencast Project of CCL	Jharkhand	Giridih
222.	New Giddi C Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
223.	Parej East Opencast Project of CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
224.	Mining Lease to CCL for Pindra underground Mining Project	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
225.	Mining Lease to CCL Religara OCP Mines Project	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
226.	Pundi Opencast Project of CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
227.	Gliddi C Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
228.	Giddi A Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
229.	Mining Lease to CCL for Kuju Project	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
230.	Urimari Opencast Project of M/s Central Coalfields Limited CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
231.	Mining Lease to M/s Central Coalfields Limited for Karma Opencast Mining Project.	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
232.	Sayal 'D' Project in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh

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233.	Rajrappa Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
234.	Mining Lease to Central Coalfields Limited for Sarubera Opencast Mining	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
235.	Argada underground Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
236.	Laiyo underground Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
237.	Sirka Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
238.	Tapin North Opencast Project in favour of CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
239.	Mining Lease to M/s Central Coalfields Limited for Kedla OCP	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
240.	Diversion of 29.19 ha. of Forest Land in respect of Kedla underground Mining Project	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
241.	Topa Opencast Project of M/s CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
242.	Jharkhand Opencast Mining Lease to CCL	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
243.	Mining Lease to CCL ARA OCP Mines	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
244.	Stone Quarry in F/O M/S Jai Shree Ram Stone Industries	Jharkhand	Koderma
245.	Diversion of 3.48 ha. of Forest Land for Simlong Colliery	Jharkhand	Pakur
246.	Mining Lease in F/O Panem Coal Mines Limited	Jharkhand	Pakur
247.	Renewal FO Bentibagda Limestone Project, BSMDC	Jharkhand	Ranchi
248.	Mining Lease to Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) for K.D. Hesalong Coal Mine	Jharkhand	Ranchi
249.	Mining Lease No. 2 in favour of M/s Sail for Kiriburu Meghahatburu Iron Ore Mine	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum
250.	Renewal of Lease 3 of Kiriburu Meghahatuburu Iron Ore Mining Lease in favour of M/s SAIL	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum
251.	Renewal of Iron and Manganese Ore Mining Lease of Devika Velji in Ajitaburu of Saranda Forest Division.	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum
252.	Diversion of Forest Land for Renewal of Mining Lease in Respect of Lease II Kiriburu, Meghahatubaru Iron Ore Mines of SAIL	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum
253.	Mining Lease for Iron Ore in favour of M/s Usha Martin Industries in Ghatkuri Forests	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum

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254.	Karampada Iron Mines in favour of M/s Mishrilal Jain and Sons	Jharkhand	West Singhbum
255.	Diversion of 4.86 ha. of FL in SY. No. 67 of Kebbehalli (V), Kanakapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural Distt. for Quarry Lease in F/O Mysore Minerals Ltd.	Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural)
256.	Iron Ore Mining Lease Application of Sri Sathyanarayana, Bellary	Karnataka	Bellary
257.	Mining Lease to Zeenath Transport Co.	Karnataka	Bellary
258.	Mining Lease No. 1634 to M/s S.V. Srinewasulee	Karnataka	Bellary
259.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 2102 in Kallahalli Village Hospet Taluk in favour of M/s Shri Nidhi Iron Mine	Karnataka	Bellary
260.	Mining Lease No. 1998 in F/O M/s P. Balasubbasetty and Sons	Karnataka	Bellary
261.	ML for Iron Ore in F/O Hind Trades, Bellary	Karnataka	Bellary
262.	Diversion of 19.63 ha. of FL for Mining Iron Ore in ML No. 111 in F/O M/s Hind raders, Bellary in Vittalapura, Bellary RF/District.	Karnataka	Bellary
263.	Diversion of Extraction of Iron Ore in N.E. Block of Sandur Range, Bellary District for Mining Lease in favour of M/s Aswathanarayana Singh and Company	Karnataka	Bellary
264.	For extraction of Iron Ore in Belagal RF in F/O Gavisiddeswara Enterprises	Karnataka	Bellary
265.	Mining Lease No. 2002 to M/s Mysore Minerals Limited	Karnataka	Bellary
266.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 1301 in favour of M/s S.B. Minerals in N.E. Block, Sandur Taluk	Karnataka	Bellary
267.	Diversion of 5.65 ha. of FL for Extraction of Iron Ore in Jambunathahally (V), Hospet (T).	Karnataka	Bellary
268.	Grant of Mining Lease in favour of Sh. H.G. Ranganagowda, Hospet to an extent of 23.75 ha. in Dharmapura Village, S.M. Block of Sandur Taluk, Bellary District.	Karnataka	Bellary
269.	Renewal of M.L. No. 1801 of M/s Mineral Sales (P) Limited, Hospet for Iron Ore Mines in Vysanakere Village of Hospet Taluk	Karnataka	Bellary
270.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 1626 (Seeking 1st time .C.) in N.E.B. range, Karadikolla, Sandur Taluk—Diversion of Forest land for Mining Purpose in favour of Sri. K. Brahmananda, Mining Lease holder, Hospet	Karnataka	Bellary

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271.	Diversion of 5.67 ha. of Forest Land for Mining of Iron Ore in favour of M/s Gavi Siddeswara Enterprises in Belagol RF Bellary Taluk, Bellary District	Karnataka	Bellary
272.	Mining Lease in favour of Shri N. Shaikhsab in Village Siddepur	Karnataka	Bellary
273.	Mining Lease No. 432/631 to M/s Balaji Mines and Minerals (P) Limited	Karnataka	Bellary
274.	Mining Lease to Smt. V. Nagamma	Karnataka	Bellary
275.	Renewal of ML No. 1894 for Iron Ore Mines in F/O M/s Ramghad Minerals in RM Block, Sandur Taluk, Bellary Distt.-24.28 ha.	Karnataka	Bellary
276.	Extraction of Iron Ore Mining under Donimalai Reserve Forest of Sandur Taluk in favour of M/s M. Srinivaslu	Karnataka	Bellary
277.	Diversion of FL in Kallahally(V) of Hospet(T) for extraction of Iron Ore in favour of M/s H.N. Prem Kumar, Bangalore-21.97 ha.	Karnataka	Bellary
278.	Diversion of FL in Jaisinghpur(V) of Sandur(T) for extraction of Iron Ore in favour of M/s Lakshmi Minerals, Hospet	Karnataka	Bellary
279.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 1952 to M/s Smiore Limited.	Karnataka	Bellary
280.	Diversion of 33.76 ha. of Forest Land for ML No. 1672 in RM Block, Sandur (T), Bellary for Iron Ore Mining Lease in favour of Sri Kanhaiyalal Dudheria.	Karnataka	Bellary
281.	Diversion of Forest Land (including road) in Vannahally Village of Sandur Taluk for extraction of Iron Ore in favour of M/s Vibutigudda Mines (P) Ltd.	Karnataka	Bellary
282.	Diversion of 10 ha. of FL for Mining Lease at Ramanamalai RF Block, Dharmapura Village, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District in favour of Sri. V.N.K. Menon.	Karnataka	Bellary
283.	Mining of Iron Ore in Jaisinghpur Village, Sandur Taluk in favour of M/s Ramgad Minerals and Mining Private Limited	Karnataka	Bellary
284.	Diversion of 15.97 ha. of Forest Land for extraction of Iron Ore in respect of ML No. 1324 in favour of Sri. N. Manzoor Ahmed, Hospet, Bellary District.	Karnataka	Bellary
285.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 130/1190 in F/O Chowgule and Co. Limited	Karnataka	Bellary
286.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 1179 to M/s Smiore Limited for Manganese and Iron Ore Mining	Karnataka	Bellary

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287.	Diversion of 2.051 ha. of Forest Land for use of existing old approach Road in ML No. 823/1646 of M/s Tungabhadra Minerals Private Limited, Hospet in Ubbalagundi area, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka	Karnataka	Bellary
288.	Diversion of 2.052 ha. of Forest Land for use of existing old approach Road in ML No. 131 of M/s Balaji Mines and Minerals Private Limited, Hospet in NE block, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District, Karnataka	Karnataka	Bellary
289.	Diversion of 30.00 ha. of additional FL for Iron Ore ML No. 2141 in RM Block of Yeswanthanagar Village in favour of M/s Kumaraswamy Mineral Exports in Bellary District.	Karnataka	Bellary
290.	Mining Lease No. 1046 to P. Vengana Setty and Bros	Karnataka	Bellary
291.	Mining Lease No. 622 in F/O Ramgad Minerals Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	Bellary
292.	Diversion of FL of ML No. 995 infavour of M/s. Mysore Minerals Ltd., Bangalore for Iron Ore Mines, Sandur	Karnataka	Bellary
293.	Renewal of ML No. 887 for Iron Ore Mines in favour of Sri. T. Narayana Reddy in Tumti Village, Sandur Taluk	Karnataka	Bellary
294.	Mining Lease in F/O M/s B. Kumaragowda	Karnataka	Bellary
295.	Diversion of 12.00 ha. of Forest Land for extraction of Iron Ore for renewal of ML No. 670 in favour of N. Ratnaian in Vittalapura(V)	Karnataka	Bellary
296.	Mining Lease application of Sri M. Hanumantha Rao	Karnataka	Bellary
297.	Diversion of 34.40 ha. of FL in Kallahally(V) of Hospet(T) for extraction of Iron Ore in F/O Sri K.R. Kaviraj, Hospet.	Karnataka	Bellary
298.	Diversion of 2.2 acres (0.89034 ha.) for Granite Quarrying in favour of M/s SKJS Granites in S.No. 887 of Gudekote RF Kudligi(T)	Karnataka	Bellary
299.	Diversion of 0.8094 ha. of FL for Granite Quarrying in favour of M/s Venkateswara Granites in S.No. 887 of Gudekote RF, Kudligi Taluk of Bellary District.	Karnataka	Bellary
300.	Extraction of Iron Ore in F/O Bellary Mining Corpn.	Karnataka	Bellary
301.	Renewal of ML No. 2150 in NE block, Sandur(R) for extraction of Iron Ore in F/O Sri H.G. Rangana Gowda, Hospet-36.50 ha.	Karnataka	Bellary
302.	Diversion of FL in Venkatagiri Village of Sandhur(T) for extraction of Iron Ore in F/O M/S Lakshmi Minerals, Hospet	Karnataka	Bellary
303.	Diversion of Forest Land in favour of M/s NMDC Donimalai, Sandur for Iron Ore Mines	Karnataka	Bellary

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304.	Diversion of 28.0 ha. of FL for ML No. 1028 in Joga RF, Hospet Taluk in F/O M/s Gogga Gurushanthaiah and Bros.	Karnataka	Bellary
305.	Diversion of Forest Land in favour of M/s Nadeem Minerals for Iron Ore Mining in Donomalai Block	Karnataka	Bellary
306.	Diversion of 24.50 ha. of Forest Land for Extraction of Iron Ore and Manganese in favour of M/s Canara Minerals (P) Ltd., Bellary in Hosadurga Range, Lakkihalli RF, Chitradurga District	Karnataka	Chitradurga
307.	Diversion of 7.85 ha. of FL for Renewal of ML No. 329A for extraction of Iron Ore in Lakkihally SF, Hosadurga(T) in F/O M. Channakeshava Reddy, Chitradurga District	Karnataka	Chitradurga
308.	Diversion of 4.25 ha. of FL for extraction of Limestone at K.K. Kaval RF District of Hosadurga Taluk in favour of C. Chandrasekhar Chitradurga District.	Karnataka	Chitradurga
309.	Diversion of 27.82 ha. of Forest Land for extraction of Iron Ore and Manganese at Hosadurga ® in favour of M/s Canara Minerals (P) Ltd., Bellary, Chitradurga District	Karnataka	Chitradurga
310.	ML (Manganese Ore) in F/O Jayalakshmi Minerals in Kudrekhanive SF	Karnataka	Chitradurga
311.	ML (Manganese Ore) in F/O Jayalakshmi Minerals in Kudrekhanive SF	Karnataka	Chitradurga
312.	Renewal of ML in Lakkihally(V), Hosadurga Taluk for extraction of Iron Ore in F/O M/S Balaji Production Co.	Karnataka	Chitradurga
313.	Mining Lease to AK Madhavat Narayana	Karnataka	Chitradurga
314.	Diversion of FL for Renewal of ML in F/O M/S Suggamma Gudda Mining and Co., Bellary for extraction of Iron Ore over an area of 10.11 ha. Bellary Distt.	Karnataka	Davangere
315.	Release of 0.50 ha. of FL in F.SY. No. 375 of A1A of Amdalli(V) in Karwar(T) in R/O quarry lease for removal of Laterite Stones in F/O M/s Amma Lines Ltd., Karwar.	Karnataka	North Kannada
316.	Renewal of Kumsi Mining Lease in favour of Mysore Minerals Limited	Karnataka	Shimoga
317.	ML (Limestone) in F/O Mysore Cements Ltd.	Karnataka	Tumkur
318.	Haldibari underground Mining Project in Hasdev area by South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) in Hasdeo Area	Madhya Pradesh	Anoopur
319.	Renewal of Tirodi Mine of Manganese Ore India Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat

1	2	3	4
320.	Renewal of Mangnese Lease in favour of M/s A.P. Trivedi	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
321.	Mining Lease in F/O Maganese Ore India Limited, Bharveli Mines	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
322.	Urdhan Opencast Mine of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
323.	Mangnese Ore Mining by M/s Mangnese Ore India Ltd. (Setapathore Mines)	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
324.	Renewal of Managanese Lease in favour of Manganese Ore India Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
325.	Temporary Working Permission regarding Sitapatore Mining Lease for Mining of Manganese in favour of M/s Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. in Tehsil-Katangi	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
326.	Extraction of Mangnese Ore in F/O Shri Annies P. Trivedi S/o Shri Prafull J. Trivedi	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
327.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s. Pacific Minerals	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat
328.	Renewal of Mining Lease in F/O WCL, Pathakheda (Tawa Mines)	Madhya Pradesh	Betul
329.	Renewal of surface right in F/o WCL in Pathakheda Region of PK-2 Mines	Madhya Pradesh	Betul
330.	Prospecting of Bunder Mining Lease in Boxwaho Range in favour of ACC Rio Tinto Exploration Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Chatarpur
331.	Renewal of Diaspor/Pyrofiyte in F/O Khajuraho Mineral, Chatarpur	Madhya Pradesh	Chatarpur
332.	Renewal of Pyroflite Mining in F/O M/s Khajuraho Mineral	Madhya Pradesh	Chatarpur
333.	Renewal of Mining Lease in F/O M/S Frant Line Minerals Resources, Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	Chatarpur
334.	Opencast Mining in F/O WCL, Damua Region	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara
335.	Renewal of underground Coal Mining Lease of Western Coal Fields Limited in Barkuhi Block	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara
336.	Renewal of Mining Lease of Western Coal Fields Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara
337.	Renewal of underground Coal Mining Lease of Western Coal Fields Limited in Navegaon Area	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara
338.	Sand Mining by Shri Ravindra Kumar Dubey at Vill. Sewadha	Madhya Pradesh	Datia
339.	Mining in village Kachlahara in F/O MP State Mining Corporation	Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua

1	2	3	4
340.	Extraction of Minor Mineral in favour of Balaji Marble and Tiles	Madhya Pradesh	Katni
341.	Sand Mining by Shri Rajendra Kumar Jain	Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa
342.	Mining Lease to M/s BLA Industries under Dharamsthal Coal Project	Madhya Pradesh	Narasingpur
343.	Renewal of Farshi Pathar Mining in favour of Shri Sanjay Shukla	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar
344.	Renewal of Farshi Pathar Mining in favour of Shri Sanjay Katare	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar
345.	Renewal of Farshi Pathar Mining in favour of Shri Dinesh Katare	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar
346.	Farsi Pathar Mining Lease by Shri Ramesh Ajmani	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar
347.	Farsi Pathar Mining Lease by Shri KVS Gopal	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar
348.	Renewal of Kapildhara underground Coal Mines in F/O SECL, Hasdeo Region	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol
349.	Renewal of Surface Right by SECL, Jhagarkhand	Madhya Pradesh	Shahdol
350.	Renewal of Quarry Lease for Farshi Stone	Madhya Pradesh	Shivpuri
351.	Prospecting of Topographical Survey of Coal by Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
352.	Prospecting of Coal Mining in Compartment No. 385-390 in Chhatrshal Block in favour of CMPDI Singroli	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
353.	Bina Project in favour of M/s Northern Coalfield Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
354.	Block-B Gorbi Project in favour of M/s Northern Coalfield Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
355.	Mining Lease to M/s NCL (Dudhichua Project)	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
356.	Permission for Geological and Hydrological Survey by M/s Sasan Power Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
357.	Topographic Survey and Marking of the Boundary of Coak Block for Preparation of Mine Plan—Mahan Coal Block in favour of Hindico Industries Limited	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi
358.	Mining Lease in F/O M/s Singh	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha
359.	Extraction of Manganese Mining Lease by M/s Manganese Ore India Ltd	Maharashtra	Bhandara
360.	Durgapur Opencast Mining by WCL	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
361.	Mining Lease to M/s Gahra Minerals	Maharashtra	Chandrapur

1	2	3	4
362.	Extraction of Durgapur Rayawari Colliery (underground) Coal Mines WCL Ltd	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
363.	Renewal of Durgapur Opencast Mining Lease in favour of M/s Western Coalfields Limited	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
364.	Temporary Working Permission for Mahakali Colliery in favour of WCL	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
365.	Grant of Temporary Working Permission for one year for Hindustan Lalpath Colliery underground in favour of Western Coalfield Limited	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
366.	Proposal for Renewal of Mining Lease for Ballarpur Colliery—application for TWP	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
367.	Diversion of Zudpi Forest Land for Mining Iron Ore transmission line and approach road to M/s Gadchiroli Metals and Minerals Limited	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli
368.	Mining Lease by M/s BR Akre	Maharashtra	Nagpur
369.	Mining Lease by M/s Sabir Stone	Maharashtra	Nagpur
370.	Extraction of Manganese Mining Lease by M/s Manganese Ore India Ltd.	Maharashtra	Nagpur
371.	Mining of Feldspar and Quartz Minereal in favour of M/s H.R. Johnson (India) Ltd.	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg
372.	Extraction of Minor Minerals (Stone) favouring CIDCO	Maharashtra	Thane
373.	Renewal of Mining Lease favouring NG Ajwani for Stone Quarry	Maharashtra	Thane
374.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s H.M. Shaha	Maharashtra	Thane
375.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s D.R. Mhotre	Maharashtra	Thane
376.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s M.A. Patil	Maharashtra	Thane
377.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s Sikandar Ebrahim Shaikh	Maharashtra	Thane
378.	Renewal of Mining Lease in favour of Shri Salim Gafoor	Maharashtra	Thane
379.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s Ram Stone Co.	Maharashtra	Thane
380.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s Mangal Singh and Co.	Maharashtra	Thane
381.	Renewal of Mining Lease in favour of Shri A.R.R. Baluch	Maharashtra	Thane
382.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s Bombay Quarries	Maharashtra	Thane
383.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s Patel Quarries	Maharashtra	Thane
384.	Mining Lease by V.K. Sawala	Maharashtra	Thane

1	2	3	4
385.	Mining Lease by Shri G.H. Ajwani	Maharashtra	Thane
386.	Mining Lease by Shri N.G. Ajawani	Maharashtra	Thane
387.	Mining Lease by Shri Rama Daji Kasbe	Maharashtra	Thane
388.	Renewal of Mining Lease by M/s. V.M. Kurdukar	Maharashtra	Thane
389.	Extraction of Minor Minerals by M/s Shyamsunder	Maharashtra	Thane
390.	Mining Lease to Mahanandi Coal Fields Ltd for Bhubneshwari OCP	Orissa	Angule
391.	Mining Lease to MCL for Jagannath Extension OCP	Orissa	Angule
392.	Jagannath Extension Opencast Project of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Orissa	Angule
393.	Underground Coal Mining in Natraj in favour of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Orissa	Angule
394.	Nandira underground Coal Mine of Talcher area of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Orissa	Angule
395.	Kaniha OCP in Lingaraj area of MCL	Orissa	Angule
396.	Anantha Extension Opencast Project in favour of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Orissa	Angule
397.	Coal Mining in Village Rajjharan, Nandichor and Simillsahi in Chhendipada Tahsil by M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited	Orissa	Angule
398.	Blackstone Quarry by M/s J.S. Construction Ltd.	Orissa	Cuttack
399.	Mining Lease to Tata Refractories	Orissa	Cuttack
400.	Quartz and Quartzite Mining by Shri P.N. Sahu	Orissa	Jaipur
401.	Renewal of Mining Lease to Ostapal Chromite Mines of M/s Ferro Alloys Corporation Limited (FACOR)	Orissa	Jaipur
402.	Diversion of 35.285 ha. of Forest Land for Chromite Mining in Mahagiri DPF in Sukinda Tehsil of Cuttack Forest Division	Orissa	Jaipur
403.	Mining Lease to M/s Aoikath for Chromete Mining	Orissa	Jaipur
404.	Mining Lease for Mahagiri Chromite Mines of M/s Indian Charge Chrome Limited (ICCL) in Village Kaliapani under Sukinda Tehsil	Orissa	Jaipur
405.	Mining Lease for Chromite Mining in Sukrangi Chromite Mines of Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC)	Orissa	Jaipur

1	2	3	4
406.	Mining Lease for Samaleswari OCP by M/s Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd. (MCL)	Orissa	Jharasgura
407.	Joruri Iron and Mn. Mines of Kalinga Mining Corp.	Orissa	Keonjhar
408.	Balita Iron Mines of S. Pradhan	Orissa	Keonjhar
409.	Iron Ore Mining by Smt. Indrani Patnaik in Village Unchabali	Orissa	Keonjhar
410.	Roida Iron Ore Mines in favour of M/s Mideast Integrated Steels Ltd. in Sidhamath Reserved Forest near Village Tonto	Orissa	Keonjhar
411.	Renewal of Mining Lease for Khandbandh Iron and Manganese Mines of M/s Tisco Limited	Orissa	Keonjhar
412.	Renewal of Mining Lease in Village Kamarjoda, Joda, Banspani, Bichhakundi and Baitarani RF in favour of M/s Tisco Limited	Orissa	Keonjhar
413.	Mining Lease to R.P. Sao for Guali Iron Ore Mines	Orissa	Keonjhar
414.	Mining Lease to DC Jain	Orissa	Keonjhar
415.	Mining Lease to S. Pradhaji for Kalaparbat Iron Ore Mines	Orissa	Keonjhar
416.	TWP over already broken up area for Mining of Iron and Manganese Ore in favour of Shri B.K. Mohanty	Orissa	Keonjhar
417.	Dalpahar Iron and Mn. Mines of Rahas Bihar Das	Orissa	Keonjhar
418.	Diversion of Forest land in Gandhamardan Block 'B' by Orissa Mining Corporation Limited	Orissa	Keonjhar
419.	Mining of Iron Ore in Village Joruri, Jalahuri and Khandabandha in favour of M/s Kalinga Mining Corporation within the Mining Lease area of 73.228 ha. for 2nd Renewal of Mining Lease	Orissa	Keonjhar
420.	Inganijharan Iron and MN Mines of S. Pradhan	Orissa	Keonjhar
421.	Mining Lease in favour of M/s Kaypee Enterprises for Thakurani Iron Ore Mines	Orissa	Keonjhar
422.	Iron and Manganese Ore Mining in Joda East Iron Mine and Mannora Manganese Mine of M/s Tisco Ltd. in Keonjhar Forest Division for 2nd Renewal	Orissa	Keonjhar
423.	Mining Lease to KJS Abluwalia	Orissa	Keonjhar
424.	Diversion of 26.89 ha. Forest Land for Mining of Iron and Manganese	Orissa	Keonjhar

1	2	3	4
	Ore in Naibag and Katupalli Village of Keonjhar District by Shri Tarini Prasad Mohanty		
425.	Daitari Iron Ore Project in F/O Orissa Mining Corporation Limited	Orissa	Keonjhar
426.	Bamebari Iron and Manganese Ore Mining by M/s Tisco Ltd.	Orissa	Keonjhar
427.	Diversion of Forest Land in Sidhamath Reserve Forest in favour of Dr. Sarojini Pradhan for Iron and Manganese Ore Mining	Orissa	Keonjhar
428.	Renewal of Mining Lease in Tiringpahar Manganese Mines of M/s Tisco Limited	Orissa	Keonjhar
429.	Mining Lease to Bhanja Minerals Ltd.	Orissa	Keonjhar
430.	Mining Lease to NALCO	Orissa	Keonjhar
431.	Joruri Mines of KMC (Iron)	Orissa	Kyenjhar
432.	Mining Lease to ESSEL Mining Industries (Dolomite)	Orissa	Kyenjhar
433.	Mining Lease to M/s Ghanshyam Mishra and Sons (Iron)	Orissa	Mayurbhanj
434.	Mining Lease to M/s Lal Traders and Agencies Pvt. Limited (Iron)	Orissa	Mayurbhanj
435.	Mining Lease for Lilaree Opencast Mining Project in favour of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	Orissa	Sambalpur
436.	Diversion of 8.244 ha. of DLC Forest Land in Village-Gonua of Boani Tahasil in Sundergarh District for Iron and Manganese Ore Mining by Shri Probodh Kumar Mohanty	Orissa	Sundergarh
437.	Iron Ore Mining by M/s Rungta and Sons, Orghat	Orissa	Sundergarh
438.	Mining Lease to Jindal Strips Ltd. (Iron)	Orissa	Sundergarh
439.	Mining Lease to Mahanandi Coal Fields Ltd.	Orissa	Sundergarh
440.	Mining of Iron Ore by M/s National Enterprises in Bonai Division	Orissa	Sundergarh
441.	Iron Ore Mining by Sh. J.N. Patnaik in Village Bhanjapalli and Koira	Orissa	Sundergarh
442.	Mining Lease to National Enterprises (Iron)	Orissa	Sundergarh
443.	Mining Lease to Aryan Mining and Tradin Company (P) Ltd. (Iron)	Orissa	Sundergarh
444.	Raikela Iron Mines of SN Mohanty	Orissa	Sundergarh

1	2	3	4
445.	Second Renewal Mining Lease to Orissa Mining Corporation Limited in Kurmitar Iron Ore Mines under Bonai Forest Division	Orissa	Sundergarh
446.	Renewal of Lease for Mahulsukha Manganese Ore Mines in favrou of M/s AMTC Pvt. Limited	Orissa	Sundergarh
447.	Mining of Iron Ore by M/s Feegrade and Company in Bonai Forest Division	Orissa	Sundergarh
448.	Mining Lease in F/O M/s Rungta Mines Limited (Iron)	Orissa	Sundergarh
449.	Mining Lease in F/O M/s Rungta Sons (P) Limited (Iron)		
450.	Mining Lease in F/O Shri Rudrasen Sindhu M/s Rohtak Engineering Company (Maganese)	Orissa	Sundergarh
451.	Prospecting for Uranium Ore in Toda R.F. of Bonai Forest Division by Atomic Energy Dept.	Orissa	Sundergarh
452.	Iron Ore Mining in Village Patabeda of Bonai Subdivision by M/s M.G. Mohanty	Orissa	Sundergarh
453.	Mining Lease to M/s M.G. Mohanty of Bhubaneswar	Orissa	Sundergarh
454.	App. RD. Retail outlet of IOC, Ltd.	Punjab	Mansa
455.	M/L or Fireclay in favour of Satish Mohan Gupta	Rajasthan	Alwar
456.	M/L of Masanory Stone in favour of 11 L/H	Rajasthan	Alwar
457.	M/L of Masonary Stone in favour or Laxmi Narayan Meena—for 3 L/H	Rajasthan	Alwar
458.	M/L of Masonary Stone in favour of Devanand	Rajasthan	Alwar
459.	Mining Lease to Oriental Talc Products Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	Banswara
460.	Prospecting of Gold and Associated Minerals N/V Bhakari Tehsil Ghatol in favour of M/s Metal Mining India Private Limited	Rajasthan	Banswara
461.	M/L of Granite in favour of 4 L/H	Rajasthan	Barmer
462.	M/L of Silica Sand in favour of M/s Madan Lal Purohit	Rajasthan	Bharatpur
463.	M/L of Sand Stone in favour of 10 person	Rajasthan	Bundi
464.	Mining Lease to 35 Lease Holders	Rajasthan	Bundi
465.	M/L of Sandstone in favour of 5 L/H-B	Rajasthan	Bundi

1	2	3	4
466.	M/L of Sand Stone in favour of 16 LH	Rajasthan	Bundi
467.	Mining Lease for Lime Stone in Chamavali Mines to ACC Limited	Rajasthan	Bundi
468.	M/L of China Clay and Red Ochre in favour of MD Sher Khan	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh
469.	M/L of Silica Sand in favour of Sri Hanuman Sahai Gupta	Rajasthan	Dausa
470.	Mining Lease for Soapstone and Dolomite Mines of M/s Nalwaya Minerals Industries Private Limited	Rajasthan	Dugarpur
471.	Mining Lease to 7 lease holders	Rajasthan	Jaipur
472.	Renewal of Mining Lease to Rajasthan State Mineral Development Corporation Limited	Rajasthan	Jalore
473.	M/L of Flourspar in favour of RSMDC	Rajasthan	Jalore
474.	M/L of Masonary Stone in favour of Shri Khem Ram	Rajasthan	Jalore
475.	M/L of Soap Stone in favour of Shri N.K. Patni	Rajasthan	Karoli
476.	M/L for Sand Stone in favour of Smt. Amna Bai	Rajasthan	Kota
477.	Mining Lease in favour of Mangalam Cement Limited	Rajasthan	Kota
478.	Mining Lease in F/O of Sh. Shah Kastoor Mal	Rajasthan	Sawai Madhopur
479.	M/L of Masanory Stone in favour of Shri Ram Kishor Meena	Rajasthan	Sawai Madhopur
480.	M/L of Masonary Stone in favour of Smt. Dhapu Devi	Rajasthan	Tonk
481.	Mining of Masonry Stone in Niwai Tehsil	Rajasthan	Tonk
482.	M/L 30/85 for Mineral Soap Stone N/V Masaro ki Obri	Rajasthan	Udaipur
483.	M/L of Serpentine in favour of 10 LH	Rajasthan	Udaipur
484.	M/L of Soapstone in favour of Kantilal Shah	Rajasthan	Udaipur
485.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 6/84 in favour of M/s Mahaveer Trading Company for Soap Stone Mining near Village Band	Rajasthan	Udaipur
486.	Renewal of Mining Lease No. 7/84 in favour of Mahveer Trading Company for Mining near Village Khandel ki Pal	Rajasthan	Udaipur
487.	Temporary Quarrying of Sand/Stone/Boulders at Lachung-Katao Road (Shargu Phhuchhu)	Sikkim	Sikkim (North)
488.	Mining Lease in favour of M/s Associated Cement Company Limited (ACC) and Construction of approach road	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore

1	2	3	4
489.	Renewal proposal for diversion of 2.59 ha. with an additional area of 0.77 ha. of Forest Land for Mining of Black Granite in Kathiriappankoil-malai in Bevanur RF by Tamin.	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri
490.	Proposal for Quarrying and Excavating Granite Dimensional Stones in Vilavan Code Taluk Mancode Village.	Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari
491.	Diversion of Forest Land for Exploratory Drilling at RGO # 8 in Southern Forest Division	Tripura	Tripura (South)
492.	Krishnashila Opencast Project in favour of Northern Coalfields Limited	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
493.	Bina Opencast Coalfield Extension	Uttar Pradesh	Sonebhadra
494.	Mining of Boulder-Bajri from Alaknanda River Beds	Uttaranchal	Chamoli
495.	Collection of Stone and Bajri from Sri Nagar Estate Mussoorie	Uttaranchal	Dehradun

[Translation]

**Recommendation of Planning
Commission on FDI**

708. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recommended not to fix the maximum limit of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in certain industrial sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of such industries and the reasons for making such recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Families Displaced due to Acquisition of
Land by Coal Mines**

709. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of farmers have been displaced due to acquisition of their land by the various Coal companies and their dependent families are waiting for employments in these companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of displaced families, company-wise;

(c) the number of affected families who have been provided employments in various coal companies during the last one year and till date, company-wise;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to launch any special campaign to provide employment to the rest of the displaced families soon; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Coal Mining is a site specific activity and, therefore, in spite of adequate efforts and planning, concerned land owners/farmers are subjected to displacement from their land. However, the affected farmers are provided resettlement and rehabilitation (R and R) benefits in addition to compensation for land as per Coal India Limited's R&R Policy, 2000. Details including the number of displaced families, company-wise are as under:

Figures as on 30-9-2007

Company	Total no. of Project Affected Families (PAFs)	No. of families likely to be displaced	No. of families resettled and grant provided for alternate house site	Action plan for resettlement
Eastern Coalfields Limited	8017	4679	2079	2600 no. of PAFs will be resettled as per requirement in a phased manner so as to cause least disturbance to them.
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	4655	1852	1730	122 no. of PAFs have been provided Co's Qtrs. as a temporary arrangement.
Central Coalfields Ltd.	6282	8304	1573	959 no. of PAFs are required to be resettled during 07-08 and 08-09. Another 5772 no. of PAFs will be resettled in a phased manner as per requirement.
Western Coalfields Ltd.	16442	8672	6227	2445 no. of PAFs will be resettled as per requirement in a phased manner so as to cause least disturbance to them.
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	24482	8188	7900	288 no. of PAFs will be resettled as per requirement in a phased manner so as to cause least disturbance to them.
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	10081	6080	3315	2765 no. of PAFs will be resettled as per requirement in a phased manner so as to cause least disturbance to them.
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	10149	3411	2451	960 no. of PAFs will be resettled as per requirement in a phased manner so as to cause least disturbance to them.
Total	80108	41186	25275	

(c) The number of affected families who have been provided employments in various coal companies during the last one year, company-wise:

Figurs as on 30-9-2007

Company	No. of Jobs provided	No. of cases in which monetary compensation provided in lieu of employment	Jobs provided during 2006-07	No. of cases in which monetary compensation provided in lieu of employment during 2006-07	No. of pending eligible cases of employment
Eastern Coalfields Limited	11760	11	173	Nil	Nil
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	4622	2	21	Nil	Nil
Central Coalfields Ltd.	4688	12	5	Nil	18 (10 cases approved by CCL Board and 8 cases under scrutiny).
Western Coalfields Ltd.	5838	584	24	Nil	84 cases received and appearing eligible are under process.
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	13714	199	133	43	123 no. of cases of employment are under process.
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	7289	180	545	43	246 cases appearing eligible are under process.
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	3826	Nil	Nil	Nil	15 cases (14 eligible land oustees do not have eligible nominee for employment at present. 1 case is under process).
Total	51737	988	901	86	

(d) and (e) Employment is being provided in line with the R&R policy of CIL which is a continuous process and it is done in phased manner in accordance with the progress of mining so as to cause least disturbance to them.

[English]

Funds for Healthcare Facilities

710. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds received from different international agencies for healthcare facilities in the country;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and utilised therefrom for healthcare facilities during the last three years, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The Reproductive and Child Health Programme was launched in October, 1997. The second phase has commenced from April 2005 for a period of 5 years. The Government of India has launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) which includes the second phase of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme.

World Bank credit to the tune of \$360 million has been extended to the Reproductive and Child Health Project phase II (RCH II). The Development Credit Agreement was signed on 16th October, 2006. DFID and UNFPA have committed for the grant of UK£ 252 million and US\$ 20 million respectively to the Reproductive and Child Programme Phase II. Project is expected to be completed by March 31, 2010.

The other foreign assisted projects are given below:

State	Project Name	Amount	Funding Agency
1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh (MP) Health Sector Reform Programme (under process for approval)	£60 million	DFID
Orissa	(I) "Orissa Health Sector Plan (2006-2010)" (under process for approval)	Rs. 400.00 crores including Rs. 100.00 crores for support to nutrition	DFID
Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Health Programme (under process for approval)	£40 million	DFID
West Bengal	(1) Health Sector Development Initiatives programme, West Bengal	100 million GB Pounds	DFID
	(2) Basic Health Project, West Bengal	203.25 crores	Kfw (German Development Bank)

1	2	3	4
	(3) GTZ supported Indo-German Health Programme, West Bengal	EUR 10,839,000	GTZ (German Technical Cooperation)
	(4) NICED, Kolkata-JICA assisted Project for Prevention and Control of Emerging Diarrhoeal Diseases	Rs. 11.2 Crores (Phase-I) Rs. 90 Crores (Phase II)	Japan Cooperation
Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh Health System Including Uttrakhand Development Project (Cr. No. 3338-IN)	US\$ 110.00	World Bank
Rajasthan	Rajasthan Health System Development Project (Cr. No. 3867-IN)	US\$ 89.00	World Bank
Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Health System Project (Cr. No. 4018)	US\$ 110.83	World Bank
Karnataka	Karnataka Health System Development and Reforms Project (Cr. No. 4229-IN)	US\$ 141.83	World Bank
	Karnataka-Kfw assisted secondary Level health (Phase I) Care Project	Euro 13.804 (Phase I) Euro 14.3 (Phase II)	German Assistance
Orissa	Orissa-Improvement of Sardar Vallabhai Patel Institute of Paediatrics, Cuttack	83 Million Japan Yen	Japan

The funds received for RNTCP from different International agencies for the last three years is as under:—

	(Amount Rs. Lakhs)		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
World Bank	5662.17	8489.8	4318.29
DANIDA	248.41	197.27	194.31
DFID	608.45	1309.99	428.95
USAID	372.00	400.00	524.50
GFATM	2325.01	2445.73	5386.80

USAID assisted Innovation in Family Planning Services (IFPS Projects)

Cost and Expenditures:	US\$ in million
(1) Total committed cost through GOI:	\$ 225
Amount Spent so far:	\$ 120
(2) Technical cost through USAID:	\$ 100
Amount Spent so far:	about \$ 100

(b) Details enclosed as Statement I and II.

(c) N.A.

Statement-I*The funds received for RNTCP for the last three years is as under*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	700.00	775.42	1100.00	1295.77	1314.88	1591.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.03	123.52	55.50	140.71	50.94	111.75
3.	Assam	750.26	536.17	1318.13	872.40	1209.91	700.54
4.	Bihar	903.34	669.11	1223.56	615.39	1509.31	1227.17
5.	Goa	14.17	24.00	22.71	28.87	2307	36.35
6.	Gujarat	551.38	710.10	890.42	938.96	904.60	1155.58
7.	Haryana	200.00	200.05	200.00	201.62	200.00	201.02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	66.47	173.84	105.42	267.24	107.10	271.38
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	110.06	195.20	181.65	305.02	184.54	258.70
10.	Karnataka	574.26	482.85	911.51	1020.93	926.02	1247.97
11.	Kerala	346.52	327.12	535.23	664.57	543.75	442.03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	658.17	752.73	1068.83	873.15	1085.85	1116.78
13.	Maharashtra	1054.81	1038.69	1702.99	1640.93	1730.10	1626.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Manipur	67.69	95.07	124.88	177.85	114.62	183.59
15.	Meghalaya	64.87	45.19	120.25	131.15	110.38	98.73
16.	Mizoram	25.38	72.14	46.25	96.05	42.45	99.60
17.	Nagaland	56.41	65.67	111.00	113.82	101.89	150.97
18.	Orissa	600.00	100.20	300.00	368.02	640.96	591.14
19.	Punjab	264.79	226.93	423.31	299.78	430.05	594.02
20.	Rajasthan	615.67	643.99	1012.06	784.53	1028.18	613.30
21.	Sikkim	14.10	53.25	27.75	59.65	25.47	67.97
22.	Tamil Nadu	676.69	995.96	1050.99	1431.46	1067.72	1202.61
23.	Tripura	90.26	49.05	157.25	49.44	144.34	45.04
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1809.96	1476.20	2718.98	2966.51	2998.85	3914.04
25.	West Bengal	873.90	978.17	1389.97	1356.88	1412.09	1699.82
26.	Delhi	150.38	479.12	262.83	574.68	263.63	735.15
27.	Pondicherry	10.90	15.00	16.43	10.44	16.48	20.87
28.	Andaman and Nicobar	3.27	18.00	6.57	12.10	6.59	16.04
29.	Chandigarh	9.81	38.00	16.43	43.27	16.48	79.79
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.18	5.00	4.92	10.00	4.94	26.35
31.	Daman and Diu	2.18	5.00	3.28	3.60	3.30	24.96
32.	Lakshadweep	1.09	0.00	1.64	0.01	1.65	7.33
33.	Jharkhand	957.30	261.45	342.32	292.58	481.13	652.80
34.	Uttranchal	302.49	128.09	106.68	197.47	149.94	190.05
35.	Chhattisgarh	740.21	349.38	260.26	353.70	365.79	546.79
Total		13300.00	12109.66	17820.00	18198.55	19217.00	21547.44 ,
HQ		700.00	1253.37	780.00	571.50	1000.00	549.97
Grant Total		14000.00	13363.03	18600.00	18770.05	20217.00	22097.41

Statement-II**RCH Programme—Status of Funds Released on Reported Expend**

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Release	Expdt.	Release	Expdt.	Release	Expdt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3,133.38	2,497.63	7138.31	3874.44	1078.50	306.63
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	319.46	350.37	777.85	174.44	48.82	384.78
3.	Assam	2,810.76	1,869.06	7563.31	3772.95	971.81	4064.11
4.	Bihar	3,895.36	370.51	7333.64	4535.86	851.37	000
5.	Jharkhand	1,341.65	2,285.24	5454.24	1871.44	951.57	474.13
6.	Goa	16.37	1.12	115.25	13.00	9.78	191.89
7.	Gujarat	8,718.02	3,098.38	12730.71	8974.94	2596.03	227.58
8.	Haryana	1,976.01	2,438.34	1954.36	1047.12	498.64	802.68
9.	Himachal Pradesh	497.32	330.18	903.43	448.02	302.93	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	264.31	371.17	733.22	261.00	86.84	710.67
11.	Karnataka	1,057.00	1,862.95	3385.87	1004.92	505.47	792.40
12.	Kerala	638.32	678.81	2736.04	627.27	772.16	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4,059.46	678.93	8874.99	594.27	744.81	000
14.	Chattisgarh	1,137.00	1,467.63	3465.23	1999.43	225.41	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	3,486.68	2,065.52	8843.07	2646.62	1082.41	97.98
16.	Manipur	258.46	2.09	808.60	101.09	64.99	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	111.33	204.55	520.87	91.63	49.02	0.00
18.	Mizoram	502.19	324.21	1356.19	543.86	124.19	0.00
19.	Nagaland	246.51	66.82	710.52	113.69	149.52	0.00
20.	Orissa	1,854.70	904.66	6041.14	2983.82	325.14	5.84
21.	Punjab	559.08	236.01	2108.15	351.00	254.55	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Rajasthan	2,797.98	3,366.15	7566.85	3661.89	745.16	69.71
23.	Sikkim	328.35	190.40	251.08	157.56	14.12	164.33
24.	Tamil Nadu	1,447.41	371.19	6631.86	1178.00	501.98	0.00
25.	Tripura	119.38	6	672.82	278.90	76.03	8292.73
26.	Uttar Pradesh	14,577.83	11,304.98	38183.68	15574.77	7026.75	0.00
27.	Uttaranchal	410.38	616.43	1512.07	334.66	414.58	0.00
28.	West Bengal	3,356.74	2,419.49	9122.37	1444.93	1224.96	0.00
29.	Andaman and Nobar Islands	25.76	47.66	59.48	37.70	14.98	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	19.58	32.55	82.63	13.00	8.64	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5.30	29.50	37.42	3.83	2.95	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	13.48	42.35	26.06	1090	2.20	0.00
33.	Delhi	1,044.45	182.37	1540.56	58.00	191.85	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	7.31	43.28	14.11	8.13	17.49	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	82.13	35.70	91.17	66.57	8.57	0.00
Total		61,119.46	40,792.72	149,347.17	58,869.67	21944.23	16585.41

[Translation]

Computerisation of Panchayats

711. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to utilize car battery for operating computers in order to provide computerised information to village panchayats; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER

OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) A proposal to utilize car batteries for operating computers in Village Panchayats was presented by a corporate participant at the seventh Round Table Conference held in Jaipur in December 2004. The Ministry proposes to implement the Mission Mode Project on e-Panchayats under the National e-Governance Programme for computerisation of all the Panchayati Raj Institutions up to the Gram Panchayat level. The project will be implemented by the States who keeping in view the ground situation, will formulate their requirements for alternative non-conventional power sources.

[English]

**Delay in Implementation of
Central Projects**

712. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE
PATIL:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Central Government projects, each costing more than Rs. 20 crore or more are running behind schedule;

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

(c) the total loss incurred to the exchequer as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) As on 30th June 2007, 267 projects out of 890, costing Rs. 20 crore and above, on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, are running behind schedule with respect to the latest approved schedule.

(b) Sector-wise number of projects delayed with respect to the latest schedule may be seen in the statement. The reasons for delay in completion of these projects include: (i) fund constraints; (ii) delay in land acquisition and related rehabilitation of the people concerned; (iii) delay in award of contracts; (iv) delay in equipment supply; (v) slow progress by contractors; (vi) delay in environment and others clearances; (vii) law and order and (viii) geological surprises.

(c) The estimated cost overrun as a result of delay and other factors is estimated at Rs. 21,531.41 crore Sector-wise break-up of increase in cost may be seen in the Statement.

Statement

Extent of Time Overrun in Projects with Respect to Latest Schedule

Sl. No.	Sector	Projects with time Overrun					
		Total No. of Projects	No. of Projects	Latest Approved Cost (Rs. Crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Cost overrun (Rs. Crore)	Range of delay (Months)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Atomic Energy	5	2	3415.26	3415.26	0.00	8-12
2.	Civil Aviation.	25	12	627.01	644.42	17.41	3-25
3.	Coal	115	18	1502.42	1500.26	-2.16	4-108
4.	I and B	1	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Mines	1	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
6.	Steel	36	14	2039.46	2108.04	68.58	1-17
7.	Petroleum	37	25	36182.93	46366.06	10183.13	1-48
8.	Power	76	19	41477.68	42950.01	1472.33	1-62
9.	Health and FW	1	1	422.60	443.15	20.55	32
10.	Railways	276	33	10490.54	19039.91	8549.37	3-159
11.	Road Transport and Highways	205	86	21252.22	21785.18	532.96	1-72
12.	Shipping and Ports	36	15	3994.62	4205.52	210.90	1-60
13.	Telecommunication	55	32	8555.49	7939.99	-615.50	1-54
14.	Urban Development	20	9	8357.43	8924.77	567.34	2-40
15.	Water Resources	1	1	542.90	1069.40	526.50	3
Total		890	267	138860.56	160391.97	21531.41	

[Translation]

Facilities for Haj Pilgrims

713. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for augmenting the facilities provided to Haj pilgrims; and

(b) the details of financial assistance and the services rendered to Haj pilgrims in the country, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The Government of India makes arrangements to facilitate the transportation of 110,000 pilgrims going to Saudi Arabia for Haj 2007 through the Haj Committee of India and facilitates provision of accommodation and other logistical support for them. For efficient management and supervision of Haj arrangements, seasonal local staff,

supervisors, data entry operators, drivers and messengers have been appointed by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah. In addition, Doctors, Nurses and other para-medical staff, Coordinators, Assistant Haj Officers, Haj Assistants and Khadimul Hujjaj are sent from India on short-term deputation to Saudi Arabia. A hospital in Makkah and branch offices-cum-dispensaries in Makkah and Madina are set up for Haj pilgrims. Medicines provided at these dispensaries and hospital are supplied from India and also procured locally. Eight additional ambulances for the Haj Mission in Jeddah have been sanctioned which would substantially add to the medical facilities which are provided to the pilgrims. The Government is also making arrangements for providing polio, meningitis and influenza vaccinations for the pilgrims. The Haj Committee of India is providing to the pilgrims information regarding confirmation of their seats, travel documents, transportation, accommodation, release of foreign exchange, embarkation points and departure dates etc. The Government has taken a

number of decisions to streamline the functioning of Private Tour Operators so that they provide proper services and facilities for 47000 pilgrims. Varanasi has been introduced as 16th Embarkation Point from this year. The Government would ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made to facilitate the travel of the Haj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia through all the 16 embarkation points in India to Jeddah and Madinah. Both Air India and Saudi Arabian Airlines have rendered service to the pilgrims in this effort.

(b) The expenditure incurred by the Government for the Haj 2006-II is estimated as Rs. 23,35,42,728 and subsidy granted (Provisional) is Rs. 348.00 crores.

[English]

Strikes by Doctors in AIIMS

714. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of strikes by doctors, nurses and other employees in AIIMS, New Delhi, during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise;

(b) the main causes for these strikes;

(c) whether the Government has evolved any effective mechanism to avert these strikes and save patients from harassment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) Despite clear directions of the High Court of Delhi against any strike restraining employees/doctors of AIIMS from resorting to any strike around 500 meters of AIIMS, the doctors of AIIMS were on strike on a number of occasions during 2006-07 and 2007-08. The details are as under:—

(i) During 14-5-06 to 31-5-2006 AIIMS doctors resorted to strike protesting against the policy of the Government for providing reservation to OBC in Central Educational Institutions. AIIMS

premises was used as hub of activities during the said period.

(ii) During 5-7-06 to 7-7-06 the AIIMS doctors again resorted to strike mainly against the decision of the Institute Body to curtail the tenure of Director, AIIMS. Services were resorted only on the orders dated 7-7-2006 of High Court of Delhi.

(iii) During 28-8-07 to 30-8-07, the Doctors of AIIMS were on strike which was mainly because of delay in holding of Convocation for issue of degrees.

(iv) On 8-11-2007, emergency services were stopped due to manhandling of doctors by the relatives of a patient.

The Government has advised the Director, AIIMS to ensure that the doctors/other employees of AIIMS do not resort to strike in violation of the orders passed by the High Court/Supreme Court of India, if necessary, with the assistance of Police.

The Institute Body at its meeting held on 18-10-2006 also sought the response from Director, AIIMS on the action taken to ensure that the patient care services were not affected during the strike period of 2006. His response is yet to be considered by the Institute Body.

Prevention of Diabetes

715. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any specific programme to prevent the spread of diabetes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated to control diabetes in the country during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) A National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke is approved for launch during the XIth Five Year Plan. The pilot phase of this Programme will extend to six States. As the programme is yet to be launched, not funds have been released to States during last three years.

Shortage of Coal Stock

716. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has conducted any survey to find out the Coal Stock maintained by its subsidiaries during 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof, subsidiary-wise;

(c) the name of collieries in which coal stock shortage beyond permissible limit was found during the said period; and

(d) the action taken against such collieries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Annual Measurement and Check Measurement has been completed for the year 2006-07. The survey for 2007-08 will be conducted after completion of the financial year.

(b) to (d) The details of shortage detected beyond permissible limit in the collieries/washeries after Coal Stock Measurement in all the collieries of CIL for the financial year 2006-07 and the action taken against such collieries are given in the table below:—

Company	Colliery	Shortage	Action Taken
Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	Ghusick (R)	Raw Coal	Inquiry is in progress against three officials
Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	Lohapatty	Raw Coal	Memorandum has been issued to 6 officials
Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	Karo-I	Raw Coal	Inquiry is in progress against two officials
	Rajrappa Washery	Raw Coal and Middling	Inquiry is in progress against four officials
	Kathara Washery	Clean Coal and Washed Coal Power	Memorandum has been issued to four officials.

ILL-Effects of Mobile Phones

717. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to

conduct a study to find out the negative effect of cellular phones and mobile towers as reported in 'The Times of India' dated October 10, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has identified the institutes which are nominated to conducted such study;

(d) if so, the names of such institutes identified for the purpose; and

(e) the time by which the said study will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the available literature does not establish conclusive evidence on the safety or risk of Radio Frequency Radiation (RFR) but growing scientific evidences indicate towards the bio effects and adverse effects of RFR which may be possible if not probable. The ICMR recently organized a National Symposium on "Hazards of Environmental Pollution and Changing Life Style on Human Reproduction". The ill effect of cell phone was also identified as a priority area during the Symposium. Based on the recommendations of the National Symposium ICMR developed a Task Force, consisting of eminent scientists working in this discipline, on "Hazards of Environmental Pollution and Changing Life Style on Reproduction". However, in view of absence of conclusive international scientific data, the Council is conducting an animal study to find out the effect of RFR on male reproduction. The preliminary results have indicated significant reduction in testicular size, weight and in sperm counts. The Council developed a protocol to study "Effect of Radio Frequency Radiation (RFR) entitled from Cell Phone and Cell Masts on Male Reproduction". The study is proposed to be carried out as a pilot study in Delhi at four sites for two years duration. Based on the results of this study, the study may be extended to other Metros cities in future. The Council is also in the process of initiating an adhoc Project—"Development of a model system for quantitative microwave exposure to experimental animals for studying behavioral, Biochemical, immunological and genotoxic effects."

Decreasing Forest Cover In the Country

718: SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether UN Environment Programme, Global Environment Outlook 4 has reported that the consumption level are fast depleting world resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the China and India are adding to the crisis as they grow at clipping rate;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by His Government to protect the decreasing forest cover;

(e) the total forest cover being lost by India each year due to infrastructure development and human usage;

(f) whether the Government has evaluated the impact of industrialization on the depletion of forest cover in the country specially after peoples participation through the mechanism of Joint Forest Management;

(g) if so, the outcome thereof;

(h) whether Government proposes to formulate a policy to check decreasing forest cover in the country; and

(i) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Global Environment Outlook Report (04) under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) mentions about the status of World Resources as a consequence of increase in consumption levels. Demographic factors, specially the population size, has been mentioned as one of the drivers for change in the forest cover, however, there is no specific mention of China and India as countries adding to the crisis.

(d) The Government of India have a two-pronged

strategy to tackle the issue. First is to strengthen protection of the existing forest cover by providing financial support for infrastructure development and use of improved technology. The second is to create enabling environment and support plantation both inside and outside recorded forest areas so as to increase the forest and tree cover in the country as envisaged in the National Forest Policy.

(e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests monitors the extent of forest cover on biennial basis through the Forest Survey of India. The State of Forest Report brought out in 2001 and 2003 published by the Forest Survey of India do not show any loss in forest cover during the four years period. Instead, there was an increase in forest cover by 2795 sq. kms. However, due to infrastructure development and human usage the area of the forest land diverted for the non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act is 24,285 ha. during 2004, 12,365 ha. during 2005 and 15,170 ha. during 2006. In terms of the Forest (Conservation) Act, for the forest area diverted, equivalent non-forest area or double the degraded forest area is being planted up through compensatory afforestation.

(f) and (g) The Government of India have not evaluated specifically the impact of industrialization on depletion of forest cover in the country. The National Afforestation and Eco-development Board had commissioned a study on "Effectiveness and Functioning of Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs)" conducted by Indian Institute of Bio-Social Research and Development, Kolkata. The study noted that most of the surveyed JFMCs have been engaged in protection from illegal felling and grazing. The study also noted that, in general, the Joint Forest Management has been evolving across the country, however, the degree of institutionalization of JFMCs has been variable across the country.

(h) and (i) The Forest Policy of 1988 envisages increasing the forest or tree cover to 33% of the geographical area of the country. During the X Plan period one of the thrust areas was to increase the forest and tree cover in the country to 25% by 2007 and 33% by 2012.

Impact of Foest Right Act on National Parks/Sanctuaries

719. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various conservation groups have demanded to set up a panel to examine the impact of Forest Rights (FRs) Act on National Parks and Sanctuaries in the country;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the adverse impact of FRs Act in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Concerns have mainly been expressed regarding the loss and fragmentation of habitats and its consequences on wildlife conservation.

(c) and (d) Adequate safeguarding measures have already being detailed in the existing Act.

Construction of Bridge Over Brahmaputra

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

(a) whether the Union Government has taken up the implementation of the construction of a Bridge over Brahmaputra between Dhola and Sadia in pursuant to the review meeting held on September 14, 2007 chaired by Hon'ble Minister for DONER;

(b) if so, the details of the present status thereof including the response received from the concerned Ministries and State Governments; and

(c) the action initiated by the Union Government for execution of these projects during the Eleventh Plan Period based on the response received so far?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER

OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Ministry of Power had informed in the review meeting held on the 14th September 2007, that the proposal for the construction of a bridge over the Brahmaputra River between Dhola and Sadia is part of the DPR for the Dibang Multipurpose Hydro-electric Project. As a follow up to the review meeting, the Ministry of Power was requested on 31st October, 2007 to take up with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) the approval of the project with the option of the construction of a bridge over the Lohit Channel between Dhola and Sadia. The Ministry of Power was also requested to consider implementing the project in the PPP mode, financed through a Special Purpose Vehicle. The Feasibility Report forwarded by the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh was also sent to the Planning Commission on 31st October 2007 with the request to allocate sufficient funds for the North Eastern Council for the 11th Five Year Plan, keeping in view the fund requirement of this project.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Power have informed the Ministry of DONER that the DPR for the Dibang Multipurpose Hydro-electric project, including the construction of a bridge over the Lohit channel between Dhola and Sadia, has been submitted by NHPC to CEA for its concurrence. The concurrence of CEA has not been received so far. Meanwhile, discussions are continuing with stakeholders under the aegis of the State Government to consider sharing of costs of the construction of the bridge which will benefit not only the proposed multipurpose project but also several other private, public and PPP sector projects being developed in and around the Dibang valley. The Planning Commission have informed the Ministry of DONER that so far no decision has been taken for funding of the project.

[Translation]

**Imposition of Toll Tax on the Users of
Four Lane Roads**

721. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total length of four lane roads in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to impose toll-tax on the users of four lane roads in the country;

(c) if so, the names of the States where toll-tax on four-lane roads has already been imposed;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to sign a contract with private companies for recovery of toll-tax from the users of four lane roads; 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) The State-wise details of total length of four lane roads in the country are enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) The National Highways Act, 1956 empowers the Central Government to levy users fee on sections of National Highways including four lane sections. Presently users fee is levied on four lane roads in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(d) and (e) The National Highways Authority of India has been directed to bring four lane sections under OMT (Operate, Maintain and Transfer) contracts under which the Concessionaires are authorized to collect the user fee.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total Length of 4-lane in Km. (As on March 2007)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1247
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0

1	2	3
3.	Assam	19
4.	Bihar	219
5.	Chandigarh	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	54
7.	Delhi	44
8.	Goa	26
9.	Gujarat	1084
10.	Haryana	392
11.	Himachal Pradesh	0
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	15
13.	Jharkhand	184
14.	Karnataka	598
15.	Kerala	54
16.	Madhya Pradesh	151
17.	Maharashtra	693
18.	Manipur	14
19.	Meghalaya	0
20.	Mizoram	0
21.	Nagaland	0
22.	Orissa	362
23.	Pondicherry	2
24.	Punjab	268
25.	Rajasthan	779
26.	Sikkim	0
27.	Tamil Nadu	540
28.	Tripura	0

1	2	3
29.	Uttar Pradesh	904
30.	Uttanchal	7
31.	West Bengal	438
32.	Andaman and Nicobar	0
Total		8095

Implementation of MPLAD Scheme

722. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the main reasons for implementing the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADs) including the date of its implementation;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess the success of this scheme;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) The MPLAD Scheme envisages creation of durable community assets to address the locally felt developmental needs. The Scheme was launched in December, 1993.

(b) to (d) The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission conducted a study to evaluate the MPLAD Scheme. The evaluation report, of November, 2001, is available on the Planning Commission's website www.planningcommission.nic.in/reports/peoreport/peoevalu/peo_mplad.pdf.

[English]

Irregularities in CGHS

723. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of irregularities in CGHS as come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the cases of CGHS which have been referred to or taken over by CBI during the said period; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the guilty officer?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) Whenever cases come to the notice of the Ministry necessary action against each such complaints/allegation/reports is initiated in the CGHS Vigilance Cell. Defaulter(s), if found, are dealt with and penalized in accordance with the relevant rules and as per laid down CGHS procedure by way of invoking necessary penalty wherever applicable.

Necessary instructions are being issued from time to time to the concerned authorities to strictly comply with them, so as to facilitate providing satisfactory services and smooth functioning of all the institutions hospitals; dispensaries; stores and other units and offices functioning under CGHS.

Details of the cases, which have been referred and being investigated by the CBI:—

- (1) One case pertains to an employee regarding employed in two Government jobs and on the basis of forged/false SC certificate.
- (2) Two cases pertain to irregularities in local purchase of medicines.
- (3) Irregularity committed by 3 officials for passing inflated bills of local chemists in Allahabad.

(4) Two cases relating to empanelment of private hospitals.

(5) Irregularities in passing of inflated bills in Hyderabad.

(6) CBI has launched prosecution against an official of CGHS, Allahabad for entering into the conspiracy and getting medicines issued fraudulently.

(7) Action against a Joint Director and another in CGHS, Shillong, for entering into conspiracy with local chemist and causing loss to Government.

(8) One case against the then CMO, CGHS dispensary, Pusa Road, New Delhi referred to CBI.

(9) Supply of medicines whose period of validity had expired.

Compulsory Working in ISRO by Students

724. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has not been able to get the required number of the scientists/engineers during the last few years in view of very less science stream students in the country opting for space technology;

(b) if so, whether ISRO has made it compulsory for students who pass Indian Institute of Space Technology to work in ISRO for five years after completing their B.Tech or MSc. courses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which this move is likely to help ISRO to counter the shortage of scientists/engineers;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to set up more Space Institutes in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to overcome the shortage of Scientists/Engineers, an exclusive Institute i.e., Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) has been started by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The education is totally subsidized and the students passing out of the institute with more than 60% of marks will be given guaranteed jobs in ISRO establishment with the condition for serving a minimum period of 5 years.

(d) It is estimated that about 150 graduates from IIST would be absorbed into ISRO/DOS annually. This will significantly improve the situation.

(e) No, sir.

(f) DOes not arise.

Blood Banks

725. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether the proper screening tests are not done to detect viruses of fatal diseases during blood donation and in view of that, blood banks are spreading deadly diseases as reported in the 'Statesman' dated September 4, 2007;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any effective steps to check the spread of deadly diseases due to lapses on the part of blood banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, it is mandatory to test each unit of blood for the five Transfusion Transmissible Infections viz. HIV, Hepatitis B(HBsAg), Hepatitis C, Syphilis and Malaria. Nucleic Acid Test is not a mandatory requirement.

(c) and (d) In order to provide safe blood, the Government of India is providing support to the state governments for training of personnel; augmenting the proportion of voluntary blood donation; and support to 1230 blood banks to maintain quality standards in blood bank practices. Professional blood donation is banned since 1 January, 1998. As per the amendment in the drugs and cosmetics act/rules no 'stand-alone blood bank' in the private sector will be licensed to operate. State Blood Transfusion Councils take follow up action with the state drug authorities on receipt of any complaint.

Attacks on Indians Working Abroad

726. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Nationals working abroad and their families including the staff of Missions/Posts have been attacked;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years alongwith casualties as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Attacks on Indian nationals in Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Cyprus, Germany, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Latvia, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic and Uganda have been reported. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Our Missions have remained in close contact with the local government and the security authorities with regard to safety and security of Indian nationals and their families.

Statement

1. **Afghanistan:** In November 2005, a BRO personnel, Mr. M.R. Kutty was abducted and subsequently killed by Taliban militants. There have also been three attacks subsequently on the BRO personnel but no casualties.

In February 2006 Shri Kedor Bharath Kumar, an

Indian Engineer working with M/s. Louis Berger Group Inc. of Washington for an internationally funded road project in Afghanistan was killed in a remote controlled mine blast along with three other foreign nationals.

In April 2006, Shri K. Suryanarayana, An Indian Engineer working with a Bahrain based firm—Al Moyaed, was kidnapped and killed by militants.

The Indian Consulates in Kandahar, Jalalabad and Herat have been attacked by grenades several times during the last three years. There have also been attacks on the personnel working in different projects in Afghanistan undertaken by Indian companies. However, there have been no casualties.

2. Australia: Between May and October 2006, several cases of assault and robbery against Indian students were reported from Sydney and Adelaide wherein these students were robbed of their belongings and beaten up. One student was admitted to a hospital. The number of such cases reported from Sydney and Adelaide are 12 and 14 respectively. There have been no casualties in these assaults.

3. Bahrain: There have been a few instances of violent acts against Indian nationals as part of the overall law and order situation.

4. Cyprus: Five cases of attacks on Indian Nationals were reported during the last three years in Limassol. There were no casualties.

5. Germany: Two incidents of attacks by neo-Nazis on Indian nationals occurred in Dresden in April 2007 and July 2007. On August 18, 2007 a group of Indian fair-goers was beaten up by a gang of Germans in Muegein, Saxony. There have been no casualties.

6. Hungary: An Indian tourist was beaten up by a group of local Hungarians who were in an inebriated condition.

7. Iran: In June 2005, two Indian nationals namely Mr. Ashok Kumar and Shri Ratan Lal were attacked at Shiraz. Mr. Ashok Kumar died on the spot and Shri Ratan Lal was seriously injured.

8. Iraq: 14 Indian nationals have got killed in indirect firing by insurgent groups.

9. Latvia: On 4th March 05 a person working in an Indian Restaurant in Riga was physically assaulted in a market place by some Latvian youths.

10. Namibia. Mrs. Priya Gupta wife of Shri Pieyush Gupta, formerly Attache, High Commission of India was robbed at knife point by robbers on 26 January 05 while she was walking back to her house from a nearby clinic. She suffered minor injuries.

11. Nepal: In March 2006, General Manager of Ganga Udyog was attacked by unidentified criminals. In September 2006, some persons, Maoists reportedly entered Triveni spinning Mills, Bara and assaulted Indian labourers. In October 2006, commercial manager of Unilever Nepal was abducted from Heutada by suspected Maoists activist and was assaulted. In January 2007, Assistant Admn. Officer of Universal College of Medical Sciences, Bhairahawa was attacked by some students of the college in January 2007, an India citizen was shot at and injured by Nepalese security forces at Jogbani during the Terai unrest. In January 2007, one Indian national was murdered in Kathmandu by local criminals. In March, 2007, five students of Nepalgunj Medical College were attacked by Nepalese citizens in which one was seriously injured. In April 2007, a group of locals entered Medical College Bharatpur and assaulted two doctors. In June 2007, one unidentified gunman shot and injured one Indian national in Kathmandu. In October 2007, one young Indian boy was kidnapped and murdered by unidentified group in Kathmandu.

12. Philippines: There have been occasional incidents of Indian nationals becoming victims of kidnap-far-ransom, and murder resulting in 8 deaths in 2004, 11 deaths in 2005 and 18 deaths in 2006.

13. Poland: Shri Harish Hitange, an Indian National, was kidnapped in April 2004 by some unknown person. The victim has not been traced as of date.

14. Russian Federation: Shri B. Mange Ram, Attache, Embassy of India, Moscow was assaulted on December 23, 2005 by a group of 5 unknown persons, apparently under the influence of alcohol.

In September, 2007, at Tver, Russia, three Indian

students studying in Tver Medical University were attacked by a group of drunken Russian hooligans. While two students escaped, one student, Diwakar Verma suffered serious injuries and was in comatose condition for a month till he recovered enough to be transported back to India in a stable condition.

In 2006 Mr. Anjangi Kishore Kumar Student of Mechnikova Medical Academy was stabbed by an unknown person. Mr. Kumar survived after medical treatment. Mr. Nitesh Kumar Singh, Student of Mechnikova Medical Academy was stabbed to death by unknown persons. Mr. Mohammad Farooq Natheer Hussein, Student of Mechnikova Medical Academy was attacked by unknown person resulting in bodily injuries.

15. **Slovak Republic:** In July, 2006 an Indian student was allegedly beaten up by a group of young people, apparently on racial grounds.

16. **Uganda:** There were incidents of attacks on Indian nationals during rioting in Kampala on 12 April 07. One Indian national, Shri Devangkumar Shailesh kumar Raval was killed during the incident. On 15 May 07, in Arua town, an Indian national, Shri Mahesh Reddy was attacked in connection with a land dispute.

Organ Transplantation Facilities

727. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

DR. M. JAGANNATH:

SHRI SURESH ANGADI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government/Private hospitals which have organ transplantation facilities in the country, presently, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is planning to provide such organ transplantation facilities in more Government hospitals in the country to mitigate the miseries of the patients waiting for such transplantations;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially in respect of Karnataka;

(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a national policy for organ retrieval;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) A list of hospitals registered for Liver and Kidney transplant surgery in the UTs is enclosed as Statement. The hospitals are registered under the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 in various states by respective Appropriate Authorities in the states concerned. The information, however, is not centrally maintained by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Health being state subject, it is for the state Government to provide health care services. However, AIIMS, New Delhi and POI, Chandigarh are already carrying out organ transplantation.

(d) to (f) It has also been felt that donation of organs needs to be popularized and encouraged through a National Organ Transplant Programme. It is likely to be launched in this financial year after procedural formalities i.e. approval from the relevant Ministries like Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance etc. Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rupees one crore for the Annual Plan 2007-08 under scheme of National Organ Transplant Programme.

Statement

List of Hospitals registered under THOA, 1994 for Kidney and Liver Transplantation

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. The Director, P.G.I., Chandigarh | Kidney |
| 2. The Commandant, Army (R and R) Hospital, Delhi Cantt. Delhi-110 010 | Liver/Kidney |

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 3. The Medical Superintendent, Batra Hospital and Medical Research Centre, Tuglakabad, New Delhi-110 062 | Kidney |
| 4. Medical Director, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Sir Ganga Ram Marg, New Delhi-110 060 | Liver/Kidney |
| 5. Director, AIIMS, Ansari Nagar. New Delhi-110 029 | Liver/Kidney |
| 6. The Medical Superintendent, Pushpawati Singhanian Research Institute, Press Enclave Marg, Sheikh Sarai Phase-II, New Delhi-II 0 017 | Kidney |
| 7. The Director, St. Stephen Hospital, Tis Hazari, Delhi 110 054 | Liver/Kidney |
| 8. Dy. Manager, J.P. Apollo Hospital, Sarita Vihar, Delhi Mathura Road, New Delhi-110 044. | Liver/Kidney |
| 9. Medical Superintendent, Jaipur Golden Hospital, 2 Institutional Area, Sector-III, Rohini, New Delhi-85 | Kidney |
| 10. Medical Superintendent, Government General Hospital No.1, Victor Simon Street, Pondicherry-605 006 | Kidney |
| 11. The Director, G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi-110 002 | Liver |
| 12. The Medical Director, Forties Flt. Lt. Rajan Dhall Hospital, N Sector B, Pocket-I, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070. | Kidney |

[Translation]

Overloading of Vehicles

728. SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any instructions recently to check overloading of vehicles in view of the Ramdevra Mela tragedy in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the compensation provided to the families affected by the tragedy; and

(d) the steps taken to check such overloading?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Payment of compensation to the families affected by road transport tragedies is generally the responsibility of the concerned State Government. No compensation has been given by this Ministry to the families affected by the Ramdevra Mela tragedy.

(d) There are adequate provisions in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to punish the offenders for overloading the vehicles beyond the specified load ceilings. The enforcement of these provisions lies with the State Governments. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 9-11-2005 in the matter of Shri Paramjit Bhasin and others Vs Union of India and others (W.P. No. 136/2003) had held that in case a vehicle is detected to be overloaded the excess load has to be necessarily off-loaded besides levy of penalty/compounding fee before allowing the vehicle to proceed further. The order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court has been brought to the notice of all the State Governments for compliance. Besides, recently in the meeting of the Transport Commissioner/Secretaries of the States/UTs held on 8-9-07, the States were also

urged to take necessary measures for strict enforcement of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to check overloading and ensure compliance of the order of the hon'ble Supreme Court.

Health Melas

729. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines have been issued by the Government to organize 'Health Melas' in every parliamentary constituencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the districts/areas where Health Melas were organised during the last two years;

(d) the details of the districts/areas where health melas have not been organised so far and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government for organising Health Melas in every district?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) to (e) The Ministry has released funds during the last two years i.e 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 to 274 and 543 Parliamentary Constituencies respectively as Statement-II. The States have not reported the number of Constituencies where the Health Melas were organised. However, several reminders have been sent by the Ministry to the defaulting States for follow up and sending Utilization Certificates.

Statement-I

**Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Department of Family Welfare
Health Melas in Parliamentary
Constituencies**

Guidelines

When the National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 was adopted in February, 2000 one of the schemes

taken up was on advocacy, and holding seminars and melas all over the country, particularly in the demographically weaker areas.

These melas popularly known as "Parivar Kalyan Avam Swasthya Melas" aim at providing quality services, with converging and integrated delivery of services for all segments of population. People become aware of a number of options before them in terms of the different systems of medicine (allopathy, homeopathy, ayurveda and unani etc.) They also begin to comprehend the linkages between preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative health care as well as between the primary, secondary, and tertiary health sectors. They get sensitized to the roles of Central Government, State Government, elected local bodies, NGOs and professional organizations.

The health melas held in 2000-01 had proved to be successful not only in disseminating information on health and family welfare and population issues, but also in providing actual services to people who otherwise had limited access to health facilities.

These health melas have attracted lakhs of people desiring to avail quality health care services with essential pathological tests and medicines, along with information, without any cost. The health care services involved national programmes for control of tuberculosis, malaria, blindness, leprosy, cancer, and HIV/AIDS, apart from services relating to maternal health, child health, immunisation and Family Planning.

The success and popularity of health melas held so far has led to a large number of requests from MPs, Central Ministers and State Government for holding of more and more melas. The requests express urgency in holding these melas in their areas. In view of this large number of requests, this Department decided to observe 'Swasthya Jagrukta Maah' from 15th January, 2004 to 15th February, 2004 and hold one health mela each during that period in all Lok Sabha Constituencies.

The following is the plan of action to hold Health Melas.

- Attempt will be made to hold Health Melas in

- all Lok Sabha Constituencies of the country during this period.
- The health mela will be held for 3 days.
 - The venue of the Health Mela should be selected so that it is in the vicinity of a Medical College/ Civil Hospital/CHC in order to provide facilities of ultra-sound, pathological tests, etc. The venue should be centrally located and easily accessible to the general public.
 - The venue and dates of the Health Mela shall be selected in consultation with the Member of Parliament, District Magistrate and Chief Medical Officer.
 - The venue should be divided into stalls, with clear indication of location of each service like maternal care, child care, family planning, NSV, RCH, blindness control etc.
 - There should be a printed map, indicating the layout of the stalls at the mela venue.
 - The Health Mela will provide health care services along with awareness and information at the doorsteps of the people for promoting preventive, curative and rehabilitative health care.
 - National programmes for control of Cancer, HIV/ AIDS, Tuberculosis, Blindness, Malaria and Leprosy; and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will participate in various melas.
 - Special focus would be on 'Save the girl child', and arresting declining sex ratio in the relevant States.
 - The Health Melas, in addition to above, also have the following components:
 - o Physical check-up of those who report at the Mela/Camp, especially eye, ENT, dental, etc. A health card is to be given to each person attending the health camp.
 - o Investigations like urine, sugar, blood sugar, Hb, ECG, sputum test, PAP Smear.
 - o Those requiring further investigations, specialist opinion, admission and reference for surgery need to be referred to higher institutions.
 - o All referral cases must be entered into a register indicating the name of the patient and the hospital where the patient has been referred.
 - o In case the local Administration feels that some programme needs to be carried on even after the 3-day mela, appropriate arrangements for the same may be made locally.
 - o A health promotion and health education campaign by way of health exhibition to be held in the Mela.
 - o For each of the Melas adequate number of medical specialists, surgical specialists, gynecologists, ENT surgeons, eye surgeons, skin specialists, dental surgeons, child specialists, may be drawn from local Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centers, Private Doctors and the IMA.
 - The local branches IMA will be fully involved under the guidance of Secretary General, All India IMA.
 - * In each Mela the following subjects are to be taken up for publicity and counseling.
 - * Family Welfare (including immunisation and contraceptive services).
 - * Counseling for RTI/STI.
 - * Prevention of Blindness
 - * Rehabilitation of the disabled
 - * Leprosy control

- * TB control
- * Nutrition
- * Bad effects of smoking
- * Cancer control
- * Personal hygiene, environmental hygiene
- * Diabetes control
- * Ill effects of alcohol
- * Indian System of Medicines etc.
- * IMA local branch, Voluntary Health Association of India and other National NGOs put up stalls for family welfare and RCH programmes with IEC back up.
- * No Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) stall is put up and NSV conducted with complete arrangements in consultation with local hospitals.
- * Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Division will arrange publicity with the Media Units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting e.g. Song, Drama Division, Dte. Of Field Publicity, DAVP, Doordarshan, AIR etc.

Funding

A grant of Rs. 8 lakhs will be given by Central Government to meet the cost of logistical arrangements, publicity and necessary Drugs, Medicines etc. In order to have a participatory approach the local MP and the District Administration are requested to mobilize further financial and other supports locally to supplement the Central Government funding. An indicative checklist has been prepared for the activities in organising the health mela, a copy of which is annexed. Local initiative can supplement with further relevant activities.

The Central Government funds will be provided to State Government SCOVA societies who will further release the funds to Magistrate/CMO or Local branch of IMA whosoever is selected by local MP/District administration to organize the Health Mela.

Important Items of Work to be attended for the Health Mela

1. Publicity—at least from 15 days before the start of mela through leaflets, hoarding, posters, wall writings, banners, film slides, video-vans, advertisements in newspapers.
2. Health cards to be printed locally.
3. Duty Chart of Doctors and other staff.
4. An enquiry office, with duty chart of doctors and other staff with layout map should be functional at least from 3 days before start of the mela.
5. Registration counters—at least 25 so that the crowd is spread.
6. At least 40 stalls for different diseases/disciplines/exhibitions listed below. If the stalls are in the open space, each stall may be of size 15'X15' and should be ready with all furniture, fixtures, posters, equipment etc. one day before the start of the mela.
 - (i) General Medicine (at least 4 stalls)
 - (ii) Maternal Health
 - (iii) Child Health
 - (iv) Immunisation
 - (v) Family Planning counseling } arrangement for sterilization, if OT is available
 - (vi) Non Scalpel Vasectomy } arrangement for operation, if OT is available
 - (vii) IEC—Family Welfare
 - (viii) ENT check up
 - (ix) Dental Check up
 - (x) Cardiac check up
 - (xi) Skin
 - (xii) Counseling for Nutrition

- (xiii) Counseling for RTI/STI/AIDS Control
 - (xiv) Leprosy control
 - (xv) TB control
 - (xvi) Malaria
 - (xvii) Prevention of blindness (eye check up)
 - (xviii) Bad effects of smoking
 - (xix) Cancer control
 - (xx) Personal/environmental hygiene
 - (xxi) Diabetes control
 - (xxii) Rehabilitation
 - (xxiii) Indian Systems of Medicine—Ayurveda, Unani, Homeopathy
 - (xxiv) Pathological investigation (urine, sugar, blood sugar, Hb, BCG, Sputum test) and arrangement for diagnostic tests (X-ray, Ultra Sound, ECG etc.)
 - (xxv) Programmes of Song and Drama Division, Dte. Of Field Publicity
 - (xxvi) DAVP exhibition.
7. One page site map showing location of stalls for different disciplines with numbers may be got printed in sufficient number for distribution among volunteers and doctors to guide patients.
 8. Adequate number of volunteers for guiding the people to the concerned stall.
 9. Adequate number of Resident Doctors and Medical Students for manning these stalls.
 10. Medicines for 5 days or full course will be distributed by pharmacists posted at each stall. Adequate store and distribution facility should be arranged.
 11. Directory of functional health institutions should be readily available in the health mela so that

the Doctors attending the patients can refer the case for subsequent follow up.

12. Allocation of stalls and duty should be fully explained to the Doctors/pharmacists/ANMs and other health staff. A detailed briefing may be given to them about their role/duties.
13. The organizers will take due care of hygiene at the Mela site. Arrangements for drinking water, sanitation at the mela site should be made.
14. Stalls for quality, hygienic food may be put up for sale at reasonable prices.

National Rural Health Mission

The National Rural Health Mission seeks to provide effective health care to the entire rural population in the country with special focus on 18 States which have weak public health indicators.

The Mission is an articulation of the commitment of the Government to raise public spending on Health from 0.9% of GDP to 203% of GDP, over the next 5 years.

It aims to undertake architectural correction of the health system to enable it to effectively handle increased allocations as promised under the National Common Minimum Programme.

It has as its key components provision of a health activist in each village; a village health plan prepared through a local team headed by the panchayat representative, strengthening of the rural hospital for effective curative care and made measurable through Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) and accountable to the community; and integration of vertical Health and Family Welfare Programmes and Funds for optimal utilisation of funds and infrastructure and strengthening delivery of primary healthcare.

It aims at effective integration of health concerns with determinants of health like sanitation and hygienic,

nutrition and safe drinking water through a District Plan for Health.

It seeks decentralization of the programme for district management of health.

It seeks to address the intra-State and inter-district disparities, especially among the 18 high focus States, including unmet needs for public health infrastructure.

It aims to promote policies that strengthen public health management and services in the country.

It shall define time-bound goals and report publicly on their progress.

Above all, it seeks to improve access of rural people, especially poor women and children, to equitable, affordable, accountable and effective primary healthcare.

Goals

Reduction in Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Ratio by 50% from existing levels in next 7 years.

Universalise access to public health services: such as Women's health, child health, water, sanitation, immunisation, Nutrition.

Prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including locally endemic diseases.

Access to Integrated comprehensive primary healthcare.

Assuring Population Stabilisation, gender and demographic balance.

Promotion of health life styles.

Statement-II

Sl.No.	Name of States	No. of Parliamentary Constituency for which funds were released @ Rs. 8,00,00,000 each	
		2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh		42
2.	Bihar	40	40
3.	Chhattisgarh	11	11
4.	Goa		2
5.	Gujarat	2	26
6.	Haryana	2	10
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	6
9.	Jharkhand	14	14

1	2	3	4
10.	Karnataka		28
11.	Kerala		20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	29	29
13.	Maharashtra		48
14.	Orissa	21	21
15.	Punjab		13
16.	Rajasthan	25	25
17.	Tamil Nadu	8	39
18.	Uttar Pradesh	78	80
19.	Uttaranchal	5	5
20.	West Bengal	2	42
21.	Andaman and Nicobar		1
22.	Chandigarh		1
23.	Daman and Diu		1
24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		1
25.	Delhi		7
26.	Lakshdweep		1
27.	Pondicherry		1
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	2
29.	Meghalaya	2	2
30.	Nagaland	1	1
31.	Mizoram	2	1
32.	Manipur	2	2
33.	Assam	14	14
34.	Sikkim	1	1
35.	Tripura	2	2
Total		274	543

Programme to Check Malnutrition

730. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the programme being run by Dr. Abhay Bhang to check malnutrition and child mortality in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Dr. Abhay Bhang Committee has submitted a report to check malnutrition and child mortality;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has formulated any work plan by conducting a study on the basis of the recommendations of the said Committee;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to implement it across the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Indo-China Border Talks

731. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 11th round of border talks was held during the recent visit of India's special representative Mr. M. K. Narayanan during September, 2007; and

(b) if so, the specific issues discussed therein and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The eleventh round of Special Representatives Talks on the India-China boundary question was held in Beijing from 24 to 26 September 2007. The Special Representatives of the

two countries, Mr. M.K. Narayanan, National Security Adviser and Mr. Dai Bingguo, Vice Foreign Minister held useful and positive discussions on the framework for the settlement of the India-China boundary question. The two sides agreed that the next round of talks would be held in Beijing. The specific dates would be decided through diplomatic channels.

Fast-Track Mega Forest Projects

732. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any plan to set up Fast-Track Mega Forest Project in the country as reported in 'The Times of India' dated September 10, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the time by which the above project is likely to be approved and implemented;

(d) the proposed sources of funding for this project;

(e) whether the Government proposed to merge the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board with this project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The forestry project by the name 'Green India Project' is under examination of the Central Government. The modalities of the Project are being formulated in consultation with related Ministries and Departments.

(e) and (f) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to change the status of the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board.

Infrastructure Status for Coal Sector

733. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has put forward any proposal to kick start reforms in the coal sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to accord infrastructure status to the coal sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Planning Commission has also recommended for amending the Mines Act to allow coal blocks to private parties; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (f) There is no separate proposal from the Planning Commission regarding kick starting reforms in coal sector, according infrastructure status to coal sector or amending the Mines Act to allow coal blocks to private parties. However, the 'Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy' constituted by the Planning Commission has recommended various policy measures for development of coal sector in the country.

Funds Collected from Coal India Limited Employees for Prime Minister's Relief Fund

734. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA;
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL;
SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL;
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO;
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA;
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY;
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the irregularity in the funds collected by Coal India Limited (CIL) for PM's Relief Fund over the past few years for victims of the Tsunami and other calamities has come to the light recently as reported in *The Hindu* dated October 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) In the news item published in *The Hindu* dated October 24, 2007, Chairman, Coal India Limited (CIL) has denied any irregularity in the funds collected by his company and its subsidiaries for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund over the last few years for victims of the Tsunami, the Orissa Cyclone, the Gujarat earthquake and for the Kargil war victims. In the news item, two Central Trade unions—the Indian National Trade Union Congress and the Centre of Indian Trade Unions have also expressed their views regarding the issue of allegations of diversion funds collected from the workers. However, Chairman, CIL has admitted the delay in depositing a part of the funds in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund.

During the last eight years, the employees of Coal India limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries have contributed from out of their wages Rs. 48.06 crores towards relief assistance following the Kargil war, Tsunami, earthquakes in Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir and floods in Orissa. CIL has deposited Rs. 37.08 crores in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) and National Defence Fund (NDF). An amount of Rs. 1.35 crore was deposited in the Chief Minister's Relief Fund of the States of West Bengal, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh and Rs. 3.36 crores was spent on purchase of relief material for Orissa flood victims. An amount of Rs. 7.34 crores has been subsequently deposited by the CIL in PMNRF and NDF. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 49.13 crores has been accounted for including Rs. 1.07 crore that was contributed from the internal resources of the Coal companies.

However, there has been a delay in depositing part of the funds collected in PMNRF besides depositing some funds in the Chief Minister's Relief Fund of some

States and direct spending. The Ministry of Coal has ordered an enquiry in this regard.

Hepatitis-E Vaccine

735. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has developed a vaccine for Hepatitis-E;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the trial of the vaccine has been undertaken by ICMR;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the Government proposes to launch the said vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) National Institute of Virology, Pune. an institute functioning under Indian Council of Medical Research has developed a vaccine for hepatitis-E, employing recombinant DNA technology. Initial experiments were done in mice and then in rhesus monkeys, as the virus can infect rhesus. Complete protection was seen in monkeys. This work is done in collaboration with Serum Institute of India, Pune. Vaccine for clinical trials in humans can be made by Serum Institute after obtaining all the necessary approvals. Only after clinical trials in humans are performed, the vaccine can be made available.

Decline in Sex Ratio

736. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the sex ratio in the past five years as reported in the newspaper *The Hindu* dated October 12, 2007;

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

(c) whether under six age groups, the sex ratio has gone down further;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the sex ratio?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The Sex Ratio (SR) (number of females per thousand males) has increased from 927 to 933 from 1991 to 2001. However, the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) has declined from 945 to 927 during the same period. State-wise SR and CSR is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The Government has taken action on strengthening the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC and PNDT Act) as well as creating awareness on the issue through various IEC mechanisms. Some of the steps taken by the government to improve the Sex Ratio in the Country are constitution of the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee for undertaking field visits periodically across the country, constitution of the National Support and Monitoring Cell for effective implementation of the Act, training of Judiciary, publication of Annual Reports. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), On-Line Complaint facility on the Ministry's Website, organizing sensitization workshops/seminars, launching of 'Save the Girl Child' campaign, seeking cooperation from the NGOs/religious leaders, etc. Further, under the National Rural Health Mission, Auxiliary Nursing Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) are being sensitized on the issue. Also, funds have been provided to all States/UTs under the Rural Child Health programme for implementation of the Act and related activities.

Statement

Annual Report 2006: Implementation of PC and PNDT Act.

Table I(B). Child Sex Ratio in the Age Group 0-6 Years by Residence: 1991 and 2001

State/UT	2001			1991			Difference (2001-1991)		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
India	927	934	906	945	948	935	-18	-14	-29
Jammu and Kashmir	941	957	873		census not held		—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	896	900	844	951	955	904	-55	-55	-60
Punjab	798	799	796	875	878	866	-77	-79	-70
Chandigarh	845	847	845	899	910	897	-54	-63	-52
Uttaranchal	908	918	972	949	952	936	-41	-34	-64
Haryana	819	823	808	879	877	884	-60	-54	-76
Delhi	868	850	870	915	900	917	-47	-50	-47
Rajasthan	909	914	887	916	919	909	-7	-5	-22
Uttar Pradesh	916	921	890	927	926	928	-11	-5	-38
Bihar	942	944	924	953	953	950	-11	-9	-26
Sikkim	963	966	922	965	967	936	-2	-1	-14
Arunachal Pradesh	964	960	980	962	966	946	-18	-26	34
Nagaland	964	969	939	993	1001	959	-29	-32	-20
Manipur	957	956	961	974	975	972	-17	-19	-11
Mizoram	964	965	963	969	973	965	-5	-8	-2
Tripura	966	968	948	967	968	959	-1	0	-11

Table 1(A). Child Sex Ratio over the Years

State/UTs	1971	1981	1991	2001
India	964	962	945	927
Jammu and Kashmir	959	964	NA	941
Himachal Pradesh	981	971	951	896
Punjab	899	908	875	798
Chandigarh	892	907	899	845
Uttaranchal	NA	NA	949	908
Haryana	899	902	879	819
Delhi	909	926	915	868
Rajashtan	932	954	916	909
Uttar Pradesh	923	935	927	916
Bihar	964	981	953	942
Sikkim	1087	978	965	963
Arunachal Pradesh	968	997	982	964
Nagaland	991	988	993	964
Manipur	986	986	974	957
Mizoram	NA	986	969	964
Tripura	977	972	967	966
Meghalaya	992	991	986	973
Assam	1002	NA	975	965
West Bengal	1010	981	967	960
Jharkhand	NA	NA	979	965
Orissa	1020	995	967	953
Chhattisgarh	NA	NA	984	975
Madhya Pradesh	976	977	941	883

State/UTs	1971	1981	1991	2001
Gujarat	946	950	928	883
Daman and Diu	NA	NA	958	926
Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1021	995	1013	979
Maharashtra	972	956	946	913
Andhra Pradesh	990	992	975	961
Karnataka	976	974	960	946
Goa	964	965	964	938
Lakshadweep	929	964	941	959
Kerala	978	970	958	960
Tamil Nadu	974	967	948	942
Pondicherry	978	975	963	967
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	978	978	973	957

Note: For 1971, the figure of Goa includes Daman and Diu

The figures of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for 1971 and 1981 include the figures of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal, respectively.

For Jammu and Kashmir, 1991 Census data is not available

Source: Census 1991 and 2001, Office of the Registrar General, India

Logistic Support Agreement with USA

737. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enter in to a Logistic Support Agreement with USA;

(b) if so, the main features of the Agreement; and

(c) the extent to which this Agreement is likely to affect India's foreign policy?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government are in the process of considering a Logistics Support Agreement with the USA as a facilitating framework for mutual logistical support when deploying defence

resources in disaster relief operations or joint exercises and without commitment for assistance in situations of armed conflict.

(c) The Agreement will not affect the independence of India's foreign policy. The logistical support that will be provided in disaster relief operations abroad will enhance India's ability to assist affected countries efficiently.

Construction/Maintenance of NH

738. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments regarding the construction and maintenance/improvements of National Highways in their States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon, State-wise;

(c) the number of proposals that related to the tribal areas of the States including that of Gujarat;

(d) the present status of these projects;

(e) the details of funds allocated to State Government for the proposals/projects during the last three years including the current year, State-wise, year-wise; and

(f) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be approved by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State-wise details of the proposals received

from the State Governments/Union Territories and proposals sanctioned for development and maintenance of National Highways during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) The development and maintenance of the National Highways are not taken up on the basis of demographic pattern of the country and as such the details of proposals/projects of the National Highways passing through Tribal Areas are not maintained.

(e) The State/Union Territory-wise and year-wise details of funds allocated for the development and maintenance of National Highways during the last three years including the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(f) The development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and the works for the development and maintenance of National Highways are sanctioned based on the inter-se priority and availability of funds.

Statement-I

Details of the proposals received and sanctioned for the development and maintenance of the National Highways during last three years

Sl.No.	Name of State	Development						Maintenance				Amount in Rs. crore
		Proposal received		Proposals sanctioned		Proposal received		Proposals sanctioned				
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	115	367.28	115	345.53	53	79.9	53	68.16			
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	20.63	5	20.63	3	0.54	2.2	0.34			
3.	Assam	55	263.42	55	263.42	45	52.42	45	52.42			
4.	Bihar	93	352.95	78	306.93	92	88.88	79	77.44			
5.	Chandigarh	3	4.63	3	4.63	2	0.83	2	0.83			
6.	Chhattisgarh	114	267.25	77	189.79	54	83.71	48	49.79			
7.	Delhi	4	34.61	4	34.61	0	0	0	0			
8.	Goa	15	25.55	11	25.7	5	6.2	5	6.5			
9.	Gujarat	150	486.08	92	275.34	52	96.56	53	90.01			
10.	Haryana	95	281.41	69	241.57	28	40.37	28	40.37			
11.	Himachal Pradesh	121	245.16	113	242.48	69	42.29	69	42.29			
12.	Jharkhand	78	205	63	168.62	47	45.5	36	37.45			

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13. Karnataka	184	417.63	184	411.02	88	102.52	88	95.81		
14. Kerala	52	153.75	52	153.75	13	26.83	13	26.83		
15. Madhya Pradesh	159	573.13	138	375.51	106	146.13	106	101.71		
16. Maharashtra	169	764.49	138	556.39	46	93.15	46	92.77		
17. Manipur	22	21.57	22	21.57	21	12.39	21	12.39		
18. Meghalaya	23	86.62	23	86.62	25	21.43	25	21.43		
19. Mizoram	14	68.12	14	68.12	25	21.43	25	21.43		
20. Nagaland	7	30.04	7	30.04	14	9.1	14	9.1		
21. Orissa	86	331.32	86	331.32	113	320.31	113	320.31		
22. Puducherry	7	29.62	5	16.35	4	1.96	3	1.41		
23. Punjab	104	320	77	231.86	44	46.89	44	46.9		
24. Rajasthan	124	584.53	76	325.31	106	137.03	106	133.87		
25. Tamil Nadu	244	795.32	141	287.66	78	97.19	74	89.93		
26. Uttar Pradesh	172	387.75	172	387.75	103	112.2	103	112.2		
27. Uttarakhand	68	234.3	68	234.3	29	36.67	29	36.67		
28. West Bengal	60	261.83	60	261.83	112	270.45	112	270.45		

Statement-II

(in Rs. crore)

Sl No.	Name of State/UTs	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
		Development	Maintenance	Development	Maintenance	Development	Maintenance	Development	Maintenance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96.74	34.67	76.23	39.07	65.75	61.19	86.44	68.88
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	0.41	6.00	0.21	8.30	0.30	4.00	0.87
3.	Assam	79.81	22.42	59.50	30.84	79.11	25.98	49.96	31.01
4.	Bihar	79.51	36.96	79.00	47.66	108.00	34.34	103.82	34.21
5.	Chandigarh	1.00	0.80	1.00	0.52	1.00	0.66	2.00	0.83
6.	Chhattisgarh	36.26	26.99	51.40	20.55	39.45	24.15	58.19	24.20
7.	Delhi	4.00	0.75	1.00	0.44	3.00	0.03	17.00	0.00
8.	Goa	5.00	3.80	6.00	4.66	2.95	3.51	15.00	4.57
9.	Gujarat	70.35	37.39	103.27	38.62	69.00	33.99	70.70	32.81
10.	Haryana	46.00	7.09	57.42	15.43	64.00	24.27	60.00	14.17
11.	Himachal Pradesh	45.00	16.10	39.00	23.27	39.50	18.90	50.00	16.35
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.22	0.44	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Jharkhand	35.00	12.50	40.00	21.37	34.86	22.27	53.00	20.11
14.	Karnataka	81.51	37.40	88.61	42.44	88.91	39.88	86.71	39.34
15.	Kerala	64.69	30.70	70.96	34.59	58.02	19.30	68.48	27.53

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Madhya Pradesh	94.90	59.49	90.10	56.48	93.73	51.70	95.88	58.68	
17.	Maharashtra	78.98	48.48	119.65	52.60	160.81	59.54	128.76	55.30	
18.	Manipur	14.07	7.02	20.07	10.87	14.74	3.04	10.14	12.79	
19.	Meghalaya	28.43	12.24	24.21	10.69	25.40	9.84	18.88	17.20	
20.	Mizoram	25.00	4.56	15.75	5.52	15.53	5.19	13.00	5.43	
21.	Nagaland	16.00	2.31	11.25	4.01	11.82	3.91	7.00	4.64	
22.	Orissa	74.55	33.83	67.63	40.92	73.37	43.70	86.81	44.01	
23.	Puducherry	2.13	1.06	2.65	0.77	5.00	0.94	8.50	0.91	
24.	Punjab	54.79	19.03	64.51	21.76	75.34	17.44	73.05	18.42	
25.	Rajasthan	64.72	53.11	88.36	54.99	81.87	67.58	89.18	61.13	
26.	Tamil Nadu	86.55	36.18	86.91	54.30	84.69	25.67	92.78	27.75	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	186.43	54.92	199.30	51.18	104.20	45.63	140.87	54.24	
28.	Uttarakhand	28.44	10.60	41.06	16.10	54.61	15.80	62.35	17.09	
29.	West Bengal	70.00	26.22	56.00	29.87	47.00	18.50	65.00	19.51	

**MOU with Afghanistan on Small
Development Projects**

739. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Afghanistan have signed an MOU on Small Development Projects during August 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes. The Government of India have signed an MOU with the Government of Afghanistan on Small Development Projects (SDPs) on August 28, 2005.

(b) Small-scale developmental projects are short gestation with direct impact on community life. Apart from transfer of know-how and technology, this scheme will also entail grass-roots participation and community ownership through involvement of local bodies, non-governmental organisations, charitable trusts and educational and vocational institutions. These projects are primarily in area of health care, education, horticulture, water and sanitation. These projects are identified by Government of Afghanistan in consultation with local bodies concerned.

(c) 39 projects have been approved under this scheme so far.

Amendment in the Emigration Act

740. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to amend the Emigration Act to protect the interests of 50-lakh overseas Indian workers;

(b) if so, the details of the amendment that have been finalized;

(c) whether the Government has set up a "Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment" in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Government is proposing to amend the Emigration Act, 1983. The details are being finalized.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the Government is considering to set up a "Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment" as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The details are being finalized.

Global Warming

741. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed from various scientific reports about the consequences of Global Warming and Climate Change on India in coming three decades;

(b) if so, the salient features including specific happening on the Brahmaputra and Ganga basin arising from Tibet Plateau;

(c) the remedial measures, taken or likely to be taken in near future;

(d) whether any specific authority or cell has been created for this purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Spread of Blindness

742. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA
DESHMUKH:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is one of the worst affected countries of the world as far as blindness is concerned;

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

(c) the number of blind persons in the country, especially in the tribal areas, State-wise;

(d) the State-wise financial assistance provided to deal with the problem of blindness to various States during the last three years till date;

(e) whether the funds released under NPCB has not been utilised by the States satisfactorily;

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

(g) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for effective implementation of NPCB to prevent the problem of blindness in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Out of the total 37 million blind persons (V/A <3/60) in the world, 7 million are in India. Due to the large population base and increased life expectancy, the number of blind, particularly due to senile disorders like Cataract, Glaucoma, Diabetic Retinopathy etc. is expected to further increase.

(c) A statement showing estimated number of blind persons, as per surveys conducted during 2001-04 (state wise) including tribal predominant NE States is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) A statement showing Central assistance provided

(state wise) under National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) since 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f) The funds released under NPCB are being utilized by States for implementation of NPCB satisfactorily as per the approved pattern of assistance. However, unspent balance, if any, is adjusted during next financial year.

(g) The following steps have been taken under NPCB for effective implementation of the programme:—

1. Setting up of State Blindness Control Societies and District Blindness Control Societies in States/UTs.
2. Providing Eye care facilities to the needy people at Primary, Secondary and Tertiary levels through Primary Health Centres, District Hospitals, Medical Colleges and Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology.
3. Strengthening of Eye Banks in Government/Voluntary Sector.
4. Financial support to NGOs for strengthening of their existing infrastructure for Eye care and providing recurring grant for Cataract surgery.
5. Organizing Eye Donations Fortnight from 25th August to 8th September every year to promote eye donation.
6. Screening of School Children for detection of refractive errors and providing free glasses to poor children.
7. Strengthening of Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology/eye departments of Medical Colleges by providing assistance for development of paediatric eye units/low vision units/retina units and training infrastructure.
8. Imparting training to Ophthalmic Surgeons from Government Hospitals/Medical Colleges for quality eye care.
9. Intensification of IEC activities to create awareness about eye care activities.

Statement-I**Estimated Blind Persons in India 2001-04**

Sl. No.	State	Estimated Blind Persons
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	3919
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1075331
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	24877
4.	Assam	812471
5.	Bihar	646455
6.	Chandigarh	9099
7.	Chhattisgarh	334815
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2359
9.	Daman and Diu	1691
10.	Delhi	155748
11.	Goa	20429
12.	Gujarat	541388
13.	Haryana	398468
14.	Himachal Pradesh	42541
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	162126
16.	Jharkhand	379423

1	2	3
17.	Karnataka	938664
18.	Kerala	178296
19.	Lakshadweep	667
20.	Madhya Pradesh	700467
21.	Maharashtra	919146
22.	Manipur	32963
23.	Meghalaya	17065
24.	Mizoram	6950
25.	Nagaland	20881
26.	Orissa	513897
27.	Pondicherry	7596
28.	Punjab	245322
29.	Rajasthan	875333
30.	Sikkim	3513
31.	Tamil Nadu	484465
32.	Tripura	24572
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1560897
34.	Uttaranchal	47486
35.	West Bengal	954632
Total		12143952

Statement-II**National Programme for Control of Blindness****State-wise allocation of funds during 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08**

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto 15-11-2007)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Major States					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	325.86	278.10	642.60	1033.50

Rs. in Lakh

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Bihar	72.00	101.28	422.42	60.00
3.	Chhatisgarh	277.52	317.84	152.14	55.63
4.	Goa	21.29	29.69	43.60	0.00
5.	Gujarat	464.23	487.98	489.20	295.06
6.	Haryana	160.12	137.22	230.75	51.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	103.00	97.21	122.84	12.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	188.21	112.48	94.80	48.50
9.	Jharkhand	169.78	111.20	269.80	195.09
10.	Karnataka	499.47	598.38	740.50	306.50
11.	Kerala	194.09	260.47	114.80	222.92
12.	Madhya Pradesh	879.49	524.91	762.57	695.00
13.	Maharashtra	351.53	646.92	637.00	1108.01
14.	Orissa	344.05	280.01	250.00	92.50
15.	Punjab	23.06	97.29	140.60	72.00
16.	Rajasthan	602.58	755.20	688.10	612.47
17.	Tamil Nadu	1310.18	1310.90	1393.60	695.50
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1003.74	949.17	1134.40	950.75
19.	Uttaranchal	110.24	194.66	108.00	199.42
20.	West Bengal	122.60	475.31	423.80	410.75
	Total	7223.04	7766.22	8861.52	7216.60
North Eastern States					
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.87	90.22	141.00	56.75
2.	Assam	48.02	298.15	330.00	145.00
3.	Manipur	12.54	31.00	124.41	124.50
4.	Meghalaya	39.49	76.00	159.73	133.12
5.	Mizoram	11.16	45.37	107.00	51.25

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Nagaland	13.25	35.95	62.67	0.00
7.	Sikkim	6.19	22.75	17.00	53.00
8.	Tripura	24.34	101.34	219.00	184.63
	Total	200.86	700.78	1160.81	748.25
UTs					
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	6.22	11.16	15.00	3.00
2.	Chandigarh	11.96	28.57	4.00	51.85
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.05	3.00	0.00	3.00
4.	Daman and Diu	6.24	10.61	11.00	0.00
5.	Delhi	48.07	147.42	166.60	80.50
6.	Lakshadweep	4.47	4.47	0.00	
7.	Pondicherry	8.03	9.98	62.00	
	Total	86.04	215.21	258.60	138.35
Grand Total		7509.94	8682.21	10280.93	8103.20

**Setting Up of Committee to
Study Spread of Plague**

743. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a
Committee to study the spread of Plague epidemic in
the country;

(b) if so, the details of the report presented by the
said Committee; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The
Government of India had constituted a Technical
Advisory Committee on Plague in 1994. The terms of
reference of the committee were

- i. To elucidate factors responsible for the outbreak
of plague (1994) and its spread.
- ii. To advise on strategies, policies and
programmes for the control of plague.
- iii. To recommend steps for prevention and of such
outbreaks in future.

(b) The Committee carried out a detailed study on
the aetiological, clinical and epidemiological aspects of
the outbreak of plague in Beed and Surat in 1994.
Following were some of the main recommendations of
the Committee:

- A network of laboratories throughout the country must be identified for providing support to the diagnosis of infection. The surveillance must include surveillance of emerging drug resistance of plague and other pathogens.
- NICD and the network should be involved in a continuous process of training and re-training of professionals and technicians in the investigation of plague outbreaks and in establishing aetiology.
- The capacity of continuous surveillance of animals and human populations for plague within the overall infectious disease surveillance system has to be developed and maintained. The State and district health services should be the focal points of this system with assistance from the NICD and the national laboratory network.
- The capacity to respond to plague outbreaks in humans and plague epizootics must be ensured through the development of epidemiologic, ecologic and laboratory investigative capacity.
- There is a need for building a well trained cadre of epidemiologists in the country and in this, medical colleges, schools of public health and specialized institutions devoted to the study of infectious diseases under the ICMR, NICD, DBT and DST will have to play an important role.
- The value of continuous interaction of the national networks with international networks under WHO and others must be maintained.

(c) Accordingly, a multipronged approach is adopted to prevent occurrence of plague, involving improvement of environmental sanitation, rodent and vector control by using insecticides, increasing public awareness etc. The continuous surveillance of plague has helped in preventing its occurrence. In this regard, the plague surveillance activities of State Plague control units of endemic states

of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal constituted to detect the evidence of plague antibodies among wild and peri-domestic rodents are coordinated by the field unit of NICD in Bangalore. The representatives of these states hold regular coordination meetings to review the status of plague surveillance. The last such meeting was held in October 2006 at Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

A National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) was launched during IX Plan which covered 101 districts. Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) has been launched in November 2004 in phased manner with the objective to strengthen the surveillance activities in order to promote early detection of outbreak and to initiate appropriate action for prevention and control of diseases. Plague has been included as target disease for regular surveillance under IDSP.

[English]

Functioning of Panchayati Raj

744. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major achievements of the Ministry since its inception;

(b) the details of the difference within the Ministry has brought of late in the functioning of Panchayats in the country; and

(c) the details of new plans to make further improvement in the functioning of the Panchayats across the country?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) After the Ministry of Panchayati Raj was set up, a Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in charge of rural development and Panchayati Raj on "Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj" was

organized in New Delhi on 29-30 June 2004, Jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Issues relating to effective implementation of Part IX and IX A of the Constitution on Panchayati Raj were tabled as the agenda for discussions by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. In this Conference, a decision was taken to hold seven Round Table Conferences to formulate a draft action plan towards achieving the objective of strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions to enable them to emerge as institutions of self-government for the planning and implementation of programmes of economic development and social justice as envisioned in the Constitution.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj convened seven Round Table Meetings with the State Ministers in charge of Panchayati Raj between July, 2004 and December, 2004. A set of around 150 action points was evolved by consensus and adopted unanimously at the conclusion of the last Round Table in Jaipur in December, 2004. Consultative mechanisms have been set up by the Government of India and State Governments to follow up the Round Table Conferences which comprise a Council of Ministers of Panchayati Raj under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister for Panchayati Raj and a Committee of Chief Secretaries of States and Panchayati Raj Secretaries under the Chairmanship of the Union Secretary (Panchayati Raj). Further, the Minister (Panchayati Raj) has visited 23 States and Union Territories and signed a joint declaration with the respective Chief Ministers of States setting forth the path to full empowerment of Panchayats.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has prepared a report entitled "The State of the Panchayats—A Mid-Term Review and Appraisal, 2006" and laid on the Table of the House on 23 November, 2006. The Institute of Rural Management at Anand (IRMA) have now been commissioned to undertake an independent evaluation of the current State of the Panchayats. Their Report is expected to be submitted in the first quarter of next year.

Further, the Council of Ministers of Panchayati Raj

has been convened thrice, at Kochi, Kerala in August 2005, at Bhubaneswar, Orissa in June 2006 and at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala in August 2007, respectively. The Empowered Sub-Committee of National Development Council also reviews the progress of implementation of the provision of the Constitution during its meetings, which are held periodically.

(c) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj have started the implementation of the schemes like the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY), Mission Mode Programme under National e-governance Programme, Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Schemes, Panchayat Yuva Shakti Abhiyan and Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Delay of Work on Newly-Declared NH

745. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Vijayawada-Jagdalpur Highways, a 155 kms stretch which was declared as National Highway in 2004 is being delayed;

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

(c) the progress made and the amount sanctioned and spent so far on the stretch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member presumably desired to know about the status of works taken up on a stretch of 155 km of Vijayawada-Jagdalpur Highway (NH-221) which is falling in the State of Andhra Pradesh. As far as the stretch of NH-221 falling in the State of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, the developmental works are being taken up in a phased manner depending upon the inter se priorities of works and overall availability of funds. So far, three improvement works amounting to Rs. 7.00 crores and

covering a length of 34 km have been completed during the last three years. One work amounting to Rs. 6.26 crores and covering a length of 18 km is under consideration during the current financial year 2007-08.

[Translation]

Request for Supply of Additional Coal

746. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Generation Company owned by the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for the supply of additional coal for expansion of their thermal plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken with regard to supply of coal as requested by 'Mahanirmati' of Maharashtra State Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Maharashtra Government has requested for supply of coal from the Vakolli coal mines; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Maharashtra State Power Generation Company limited' (Mahagenco) had requested supply of coal on tapering basis for their future expansion projects till their coal blocks come into production. These expansion projects include Bhusawal-3, Parli-3, Paras-3, Koradi-I (Replacement), Chandrapur-I and Koradi-2. The request of Mahagenco was considered by the Standing Linkage Committee (Long-term) on Power in its meeting held on 2-8-2007 which approved grant of Letter of Assurance (LOA) to Mahagenco on "tapering basis" to the tune of maximum quantity of 2 Million tonnes per annum, keeping in view actual requirement/shortfall from captive mines of Mahagenco. However, the commercial arrangements in this regard would be worked out between the consumer and CIL/specifically linked

company for supply of coal on short term tapering basis. In addition, Mahagenco has also been granted LOA to the tune of about 10 Million tonnes during 2006 for their power projects.

(e) and (f) The request from the Government of Maharashtra was for supply of coal from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) area. The Committee has approved LOA to Mahagenco on "tapering basis" on "cost plus basis" from Coal India limited/specifically linked company, to the tune of maximum quantity of 2 Million tonnes per annum keeping in view actual requirement/shortfall from the captive mines of Mahagenco.

[English]

Financial Assistance for the Girl Child

747. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is disparity in certain States for enhancement of financial assistance for the girl child with the aim of overpowering the declining child sex ratio; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken to enhance the assistance for the girl child equally in all States, including Andhra Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Currently there is no scheme with the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for grant of financial assistance to girl children in connection with sex ratio. However, the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development have informed that they are launching a scheme for the survival and development of the Girl Child, known as the 'Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme', for the purposes of giving financial incentives to parents of Girl Children, based on fulfillment of the following four conditions:

- (1) On birth and registration of birth of girl child.
- (2) On complete immunization.

- (3) On enrolment into school.
 (4) Delay age of marriage beyond 18 years.

The above Scheme is proposed to be launched in ten blocks of the Country in a Pilot basis from the current financial year for which a grant of Rs. 15 crores has been made in the Annual Plan outlay for 2007-2008.

**Shortage of Professors In
 Medical Colleges**

748. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colleges to which permission has been given by Medical Council of India (MCI) during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether some of the medical colleges are unable to find qualified professors to meet the requirement of MCI;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) Based on the teaching and other infrastructural facilities available at a medical institution/college and the recommendations of Medical Council of India (MCI) thereon, permission is granted by the Central Government for the establishment of new medical college. The State-wise list of medical colleges, which have been permitted by the Central Government for being set up during the last three years, i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement. As per MCI inspection report on medical colleges there is a shortage of teachers in pre-clinical and para-clinical subjects of Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Forensic Medicine and Community Medicine. The State Governments and Medical Colleges are being encouraged to start more postgraduate courses in these disciplines. Permission is also given by the Central Government to applicant institutions to start these courses.

Statement

State-wise list of medical colleges which have been permitted by the Central Government for being set up during the last three years i.e. 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08

Sl. No	State	Year		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	1	—
2.	Karnataka	1	4	3
3.	Kerala	1	3	—
4.	Maharashtra	1	—	1
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1	—	1
6.	Orissa	1	—	2

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Tamil Nadu	2	3	—
8.	Tripura	1	1	—
9.	Uttar Pradesh	1	3	—
10.	Chattisgarh	—	1	—
11.	Pondicherry	—	2	1
12.	Punjab	—	1	1
13.	Uttarakhand	—	1	—
Total		13	20	9

Financial Assistance to the Cancer Affected Children

749. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up a fund for providing financial assistance to the children for the treatment of deadly disease like Cancer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government for the welfare of 50 thousand children dying of cancer every year in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANJ RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available to all including children. The Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Government in providing treatment by providing financial assistance for setting up of Radiotherapy Units in Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals/RCCs under National Cancer Control Programme.

Further, financial assistance is provided under the scheme 'Health Minister's Discretionary Grant', to the

poor and needy patients to meet a part of expenditure on hospitalization for undergoing major surgical interventions and treatment of major diseases including cancer. In addition under the scheme, "Rashtria Arogya Nidhi", financial assistance is provided to poor patients living Below Poverty Line. This assistance is extended to those who suffer from major life threatening diseases, including cancer and receiving medical treatment at any super speciality Government Hospital. The Government is also considering for setting up of "Health Minister's Cancer Fund for providing financial assistance to poor and needy patients, for treatment of cancer.

Cases of Mental Disorders

750. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people affected by severe mental disorders including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, organic psychosis and major depression needs quality medical care as reported in the newspaper *The Hindu* dated October 17, 2007;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has formulated any scheme to provide quality medical care to these people;

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

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to extend the mental health programme to all districts of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) names of the medical colleges which have been granted funds for upgradation of their psychiatric centre of the programme; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population has major mental disorders and 5 to 10%

suffer from minor mental disorders. Under National Mental Health Programme, efforts are made to provide mental health as a part of general health system. In this regard, the Central Government supplements the State government efforts through District Mental Health Programme, Strengthening of Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges/General Hospitals and Modernisation/Upgradation of Mental Hospitals to make them as therapeutic units.

(d) and (e) Government proposes to extend the mental health programme to maximum number of districts of the country in a phased manner during the Five Year Plan.

(f) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Medical Colleges which have been granted funds for upgradation of Psychiatric Wings under National Mental Health Programme

Sl.No.	States	Medical Colleges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kumool Medical College, Kurnool
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Medical College, Vishakhapatnam
3.	Andhra Pradesh	SVRRG, General Hospital, Tirupati, Chittoor
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	General Hospital, Naharlagun
7.	Assam	Assam Medical College and Hospital, Dibrugarh
8.	Assam	Guwahati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati
9.	Assam	Silchar Medical College and Hospital, Silchar
10.	Chhattisgarh	J.N.M. Govt. College, Raipur
11.	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Hospital, Bilaspur
12.	Gujarat	Government Medical College, Surat
13.	Gujarat	Government Medical College, Kalanala/Bhavnagar

Sl.No.	States	Medical Colleges
14.	Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh Shah Medical College, Jamnagar
15.	Gujarat	Medical College, Baroda
16.	Gujarat	Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Medical College, Rajkot
17.	Gujarat	B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad
18.	Haryana	Rohtak Medical College
19.	Jammu and Kashmir	Principal, Government Medical College, Jammu
20.	Jammu and Kashmir	SSKIMS Medical College, Bemina, Srinagar
21.	Karnataka	Karnataka Institute of Medical Services, Hubli
22.	Karnataka	Banglore Medical College, Banglore
23.	Karnataka	Government Medical College, Bellary
24.	Karnataka	Mysore Medical College, Mysore
25.	Kerala	Government Medical College, Thiruvanthapuram
26.	Kerala	Government Medical College, Thrissur
27.	Kerala	Government Medical College, Kozikode
28.	Kerala	T.D. Medical College, Alapuzha
29.	Madhya Pradesh	NSCB, Medical College, Jabalpur
30.	Madhya Pradesh	MGM Medical College, Indore
31.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Latur
32.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Nanded
33.	Maharashtra	Vasantrao Naik Government Medical College, Yavatmal
34.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Kolhapur
35.	Maharashtra	Dr. V.M. Medical College, Sholapur
36.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Nagpur
37.	Maharashtra	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur
38.	Maharashtra	B.J. Medical College, Pune
39.	Maharashtra	Grant Medical College, Mumbai

Sl.No.	States	Medical Colleges
40.	Maharashtra	Miraj Medical College, Sangli
41.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Akola
42.	Maharashtra	Government Medical College, Aurangabad
43.	Manipur	J.N. Hospital, Pormpat, Imphal
44.	Nagaland	Naga Hospital, Kohima
45.	Punjab	Government Medical College, Amritsar
46.	Punjab	Government Medical College, Patiala
47.	Punjab	GGs Government Medical College, Faridkot
48.	Tamil Nadu	Madras Medical College, Chennai
49.	Tamil Nadu	Stanley Medical College, Chennai
50.	Tamil Nadu	Kilpauk Medical College, Chennai
51.	Tamil Nadu	Chengalpattu Medical College, Chengalpattu
52.	Tamil Nadu	Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli
53.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai Medical College, Madurai
54.	Tamil Nadu	Mohan Kumarmangalam Medical College, Salem
55.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore Government Medical College, Coimbatore
56.	Tamil Nadu	KAP Vishawnathan Government Medical College, Tiruchirapalli
57.	Tamil Nadu	Thanjavur Medical College, Thanjavur
58.	Tamil Nadu	Government Medical College, Toothukudi (Tuticorin)
59.	Tripura	Agartala Governments Medical College and GBP Hospital Agartala
60.	Uttar Pradesh	MLN Medical College, Allahabad
61.	Uttar Pradesh	KG's Medical College, Lucknow
62.	Uttar Pradesh	G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur
63.	Uttar Pradesh	M.L.R Medical College, Jhansi
64.	Uttar Pradesh	L.L.R.M. Medical College, Meerut
65.	Uttar Pradesh	S.N. Medical College, Agra

Sl.No.	States	Medical Colleges
66.	West Bengal	Sammilani Medical College, Bankura
67.	West Bengal	Medical College, Kolkatta
68.	West Bengal	Burdwan Medical College, Burdwan
69.	West Bengal	Chitranjan Medical College, Kolkatta
70.	West Bengal	N.R.S. Medical College, Siliguri
71.	West Bengal	R.G. Kar Medical College, Kolkatta

PPP in Port Sector

751. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan for the participation of the private sector in running the major ports under the control of the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Government has issued comprehensive guidelines for private sector participation in Major Ports which lay down, inter alia, the areas identified for participation by the private sector in these ports, the regulatory framework, modalities for participation, the bidding process, selection criteria and other general terms and conditions for such participation. The Government has also laid down model documents for bidding, license agreement etc. to guide the Major Ports in carving out project specific documents for such participation. The objective is to mobilize resources required for expansion and modernization of the ports, improve efficiency, productivity and quality of service as

well as to bring in competitiveness in port services. So far, 16 projects involving an estimated private investment of over Rs. 4300 crore have become operationalised in various Major Ports.

National Environment Awareness Campaign

752. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated by the Union Government under the National Environment Awareness Campaign for the year 2007-08;

(b) the amount allocated by the Union Government to various States including Karnataka for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the extent of improvement likely to be brought about in the field of environment as a result of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government has been conducting a National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC) every year for creating awareness among public towards various environmental issues.

This campaign is conducted with active participation and in consultation with NGOs, professional groups, academic institutions etc. various action oriented and awareness activities like Padyatras/Rallies, Street

Theatre, Folk Dances, Essay/Debate/Painting competitions, seminars etc. are conducted for diverse target groups including general public, school children etc. The main theme for NEAC 2007-08 is "Biodiversity Conservation".

The State-wise tentative allocations for 2007-08 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) It is the endeavour of the Government of India to enhance environmental sensitisation through these Campaigns for bringing about improvement in the field of Environment.

Statement

State-wise tentative allocations under National Environmental Awareness Campaign—2007-08

Sl. No.	State/UT	Tentative allocation
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.65
2.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0.81
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.52
4.	Assam	22.50
5.	Bihar	33.03
6.	Chhattisgarh	7.34
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.10
8.	Daman and Diu	0.42
9.	Delhi	5.95
10.	Goa	0.26
11.	Gujarat	21.75
12.	Haryana	12.55
13.	Himachal Pradesh	12.56
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	26.38

1	2	3
15.	Jharkhand	17.68
16.	Karnataka	10.79
17.	Kerala	13.62
18.	Maharashtra	40.21
19.	Manipur	21.30
20.	Mizoram	4.30
21.	Nagaland	7.44
22.	Orissa	34.62
23.	Pondicherry	3.47
24.	Punjab and Chandigarh	9.29
25.	Rajasthan	19.56
26.	Sikkim	7.71
27.	Tamil Nadu	31.29
28.	Tripura	11.19
29.	Uttar Pradesh	50.13
30.	Uttaranchal	5.96
31.	West Bengal	19.72

Climate Change

753. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the one-day debate on climate change, with more than 150 nations participating to prepare the ground for launching negotiations on an agreement to succeed the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, the international accord that limits the emissions of greenhouse gases, was held in the month of October, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main decisions taken in the meeting;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps

to contain the adverse effects of climate change on India; and

(d) if so, the help and assistance being sought from UN in meeting the climate change effects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A day long High-Level event "The Future in our Hands: Addressing the Leadership Challenge of Climate Change" was convened on 24 September 2007 by the United Nations Secretary-General. The Indian delegation was led by Shri P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Finance Minister. Hon'ble Finance Minister informed the world leaders that India's per capita consumption of energy and emission of CO₂ are amongst the lowest in the World. He also highlighted the efforts being made by India supportive of sustainable and clean development. During the deliberations, the World Leaders accepted that climate change is happening largely by human activity and additional resources, including transfer of clean technologies, are required to be provided to Developing Countries for adaptation, mitigations and sustainable development. It was also mentioned that Climate Change should be dealt based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and any action requirement has to be commensurate to the respective capabilities. It was also emphasised that the only forum where the issue of Climate Change can be decided upon is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A need was also felt to strengthen the Clean Development Mechanism of Kyoto Protocol. The World Leaders also hoped that intense negotiations would be held in the Conference of Parties to UNFCCC, to be held in December 2007 in Bali, Indonesia, for a post 2012 agreement.

(c) and (d) India is engaged in the International Climate Change Regime, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, as also various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. India has been pressing hard that as per the requirements of Kyoto Protocol the Annex-I developed countries should take deeper and longer commitments for the second phase

of Kyoto Protocol. Further, India is actively participating in the Climate Change dialogue and at the Adhoc Working Group discussions coordinated by the UNFCCC Secretariat. In these negotiations, India has been pressing that 'Adaptation Fund' under the Kyoto Protocol should be operationalised at the earliest.

While India does not have any Green House Gases (GHG) abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, nevertheless a range of policies and programs help mitigate climate change. These include:

- (1) Improving energy efficiency and conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- (2) Power sector reforms
- (3) Promoting hydro and renewable energy
- (4) Promotion of clean coal technologies
- (5) Coal washing and efficient utilization of coal
- (6) Afforestation and conservation of forests
- (7) Reduction of gas flaring
- (8) Use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport
- (9) Encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems
- (10) Environmental quality management

Besides, India spends every year over 2 per cent of the GDP in development measures with strong adaptation content.

The Government has set up "Expert Committee on Impacts of Climate Change". The Terms of Reference of the proposed Committee are:

- (a) To study the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on India.
- (b) To identify the measures that we may have to take in the future in relation to addressing vulnerability to anthropogenic climate change impacts.

(c) Any other matter relevant to (a) and (b) above.

Further, a Council on Climate Change, chaired by Prime Minister, has been set up. This Council shall coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The focus of the Committee would be to:

- i. Evolve a coordinated response to issues relating to climate change at the national level;
- ii. Provide oversight for formulation of action plans in the area of assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change;
- iii. Periodically monitor key policy decisions.

**Special Package for
North-Eastern Region**

754. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation status of various packages and special initiatives for North-East declared by the

Prime Minister on various occasions since 1996:

(b) the list of projects which had already been executed;

(c) the list of projects which are yet to be implemented alongwith the reasons for pendency; and

(d) the target set for completion of these projects along with the total outlay of these projects, source of fund and the allocation made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Socio-economic development of North Eastern Region is one of the priority concerns of the Central Government. With this objective Special development initiatives have been taken by the Central Government and Special Packages for the North Eastern Region have been announced by various Prime Ministers from time to time.

The following table indicate the date of announcements of Special packages by various Prime Ministers since 1996 for the North Eastern States:

Sl. No.	Name of the PM	Date of Announcements	Name of the State
1.	Shri H.D. Deve Gowda	27-10-1996	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura
2.	Shri L.K. Gujral	19-23 May 1997	Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura
3.	Shri A.B. Vajpayee	22-1-2000	NER (incl. Sikkim)
		13-4-2003	Sikkim
		29-10-2003	Nagaland
4.	Shri Manmohan Singh	20-21 November 2004	Manipur
		21-22 November 2004	Assam
		29-10-2005	Tripura
		16-17 January 2006	Assam
		2-12-2006	Manipur

The above mentioned Special Packages include large number of projects/programmes and involve all the major ministries of the Central Government and their implementation is the responsibility of the Ministries/Departments concerned. Slow progress in some of the programmes/projects is due to detailed consultations with concerned agencies and necessary funding tie-up. Major infrastructure ministries/Departments like Road Transport and Highways, Power, Water Resources, Railways, Civil Aviation, Tourism, HRD, Health and Family Welfare have prepared estimates and time schedule for the implementation of the projects falling under their purview. Allocation of funds is ensured in the budgets of the respective ministries including allocation of Additional Central Assistance under States Plan for implementation of these programmes.

[Translation]

Schemes for Controlling Industrial and Environmental Pollution

755. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any scheme to provide assistance to the State Governments for controlling industrial and environmental pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of financial assistance given to the States for this purpose during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of the funds utilized therefrom by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests provides funds to the States and Union Territories (UTs) under the Schemes of Assistance for Abatement of Pollution for strengthening of Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs), Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for setting up CETPs, Creation of Management Structure for Hazardous Waste for setting up common hazardous wastes treatment, storage and disposal facilities, demonstration projects for Municipal Solid Waste, etc. The details of funds provided under these schemes for last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The details of funds released to various research institutions, universitie SPCBs and PCCs by the Central Pollution Control Board under the National Ambient Air quality monitoring programme and water quality monitoring programme are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The details of funds made available to various States and UTs under the National River Conservation Programme for Abatement of water Pollution in rivers and the amount utilized are indicated in the enclosed Statement-III.

The funds to various agencies are released after receipts of utilization certificates for previous releases.

Statement-I

A. State-wise and Year-wise Funds released under the Scheme 'Assistance for Abatement of Pollution during the last three financial years

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	SPCS/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.44	00.00	01.72

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4.60	00.00	00.00
3.	Assam	100.00	112.00	109.00
4.	Bihar	100.00	00.0	00.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	00.00	100.00	15.00
6.	Chandigarh	00.00	11.91	13.04
7.	Delhi	41.35	36.22	28.30
8.	Gujarat	20.00	00.00	00.00
9.	Goa	18.92	30.00	103.26
10.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	00.00	00.00
11.	Jharkhand	94.26	00.00	00.00
12.	Kerala	1.125	00.00	55.25
13.	Lakshadweep	2.26	3.95	03.68
14.	Manipur	24.56	3.21	00.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	00.00	00.00	75.00
16.	Meghalaya	2.50	12.00	26.72
17.	Mizoram	7.31	37.13	11.94
18.	Nagaland	15.96	1.96	09.46
19.	Orissa	30.00	00.00	00.00
20.	Punjab	00.00	00.00	16.00
21.	Rajasthan	00.00	00.00	00.00
22.	Sikkim	6.925	1.50	04.91
23.	Tripura	32.02	33.70	65.18
24.	Uttar Pradesh	12.32	00.00	00.00
25.	Uttranchal	30.50	6.50	00.00
26.	West Bengal	18.00	00.00	00.00
Total		387.01	390.08	538.46

B. Funds released for Promotion of the Common Effluent Treatment Plants to cover 25% of the project cost as central subsidy

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No	SPCB/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-2007
1.	Gujarat	0.00	23.00	211.97
2.	Maharashtra	392.00	410.00	223.03
3.	Punjab	3.00	0.00	00.00
Total		395.00	433.00	435.00

C. Assistance released under the Scheme CREATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE for MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES to States during last three financial years.*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No	SPGB/PCC	2004-05	2005-06	2006-2007
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00.00	4.50	2.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	40.00
4.	Assam	2.00	00.00	0.00
5.	Bihar	13.00	12.00	4.92
6.	Chhandigarh	00.00	2.00	00.00
7.	Ghattisgarh	00.00	00.00	00.00
8.	Delhi	12.80	00.00	00.00
9.	Goa	5.13	00.00	00.00
10.	Gujarat	161.07	00.00	112.50
11.	Haryana	00.00	00.00	00.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	00.00	00.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	00.00	00.00	00.00
14.	Jharkhand	8.50	8.50	00.00
15.	Karnataka	00.00	00.00	66.85
16.	Kerala	00.00	00.00	83.00
17.	Lakshadweep	00.00	00.00	00.00
18.	Madhya Pradesh	7.50	00.00	00.00
19.	Maharashtra	0.00	30.87	25.29
20.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	5.135
21.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Mizoram	0.00	13.05	0.00
23.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Pondicherry	0.00	3.90	3.90
26.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	7.47	6.42	0.00
29.	West Bengal	7.35	00.00	23.00

Statement-II**A. Details of fund released (in Rs.) to CPCBs/PCCs towards National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) during last three years**

State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Andhra Pradesh	523472	496359	663793
Assam	275310	162240	661360
Bihar	109471	251282	281859
Chhattisgarh	—	—	539275
Goa	154230	—	447080

State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Gujarat	435947	—	918260
Haryana	27412	—	186225
Himachal Pradesh	302870	484630	585495
Jharkhand	—	—	34500
Karnataka	457654	403797	628010
Kerala	467618	507959	601997
Madhya Pradesh	380030	380030	1112750
Maharashtra	536050	625937	822753
Manipur	78720	—	241730
Meghalaya	125420	129345	96615
Mizoram	—	—	63500
Nagaland	21450	—	113200
Orissa	517267	385040	329648
Punjab	208905	—	470894
Rajasthan	32396	165669	282181
Sikkim	212760	212760	215840
Tamil Nadu	444386	—	642698
Tripura	79445	—	151260
Uttar Pradesh	704494	210631	1152281
Uttaranchal	24240	145245	37240
West Bengal	687312	25012	4890831
Chandigarh	—	—	57220
Lakshadweep	4200	—	10940
Pondicherry	—	—	150945
Total	6811059	4585936	11988432

**(B) Details of Payment Released to Various Monitoring Agencies under National Air Quality
Monitoring Programme (NAMP)**

Sl. No.	Name of Monitoring Agency	2004-05 (Amount in Rs.)	2005-06 (Amount in Rs.)	2006-07 (Amount in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh SPCB	779167	927917	573750
2.	Assam SPCB	304583		368334
3.	Bihar SPCB		2598000	394305
4.	Chandigarh PCC	417917		1615000
5.	Chhattisgarh ECS	1056111	658750	871250
6.	Gujarat SPCS	1062500	1381250	4324583
7.	Goa SPCB	226667		1190000
8.	Jharkhand SPCB	736667		1728333
9.	Jammu and Kashmir SPCS			1376000
10.	Haryana SPCS	262083		
11.	Himachal Pradesh SEP and PCB	1642167	2147666	2295000
12.	Karnataka SPCS	432083	935000	3105000
13.	Kerala SPCB	750833	1281667	1097917
14.	Maharashtra SPCS	141667		1133333
	KTHM Nashik		255000	
	TMC Thane		127500	
	University of Pune, Pune		255000	
	VNIT Nagpur (Formerly VRCE)		215985	
	WIT Solapur		170000	
15.	Meghalaya SPCB	297500		524167
16.	Manipur SPCB			225000

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Madhya Pradesh SPCB	2125556	3319861	510000
18.	Mizoram SPCB			
19.	Nagaland SPCB			1586590
20.	Orissa SPCB	602084	545416	1211250
21.	Punjab SPCB		1416667	250000
22.	Pondicherry PCC	552500		255000
23.	Rajasthan SPCB	991667	2699167	2871250
24.	Tamil Nadu SPCB	828750	1175833	1112084
25.	Tripura SPCB			345000
26.	Uttar Pradesh SPCB	1237222		4016250
27.	Uttaranchal EP and PCB		115694	288055
28.	West Bengal SPCB	276250	1112083	
29.	NEERI	2960860		5986171
Total		17684834	21338456	39253622

Statement-III**State-wise Expenditure (Funds Released) and Funds Utilised under
National River Conservation Plan (NRCP)**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Plan/State	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
		Funds Released	Exptd. by State #	Funds Released	Exptd. by State #	Funds Released	Exptd. by State #
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1600.00	93.06	5200.00	7659.75	4785.00	4152.03
2.	Bihar	0.00	9.01	33.72	0.00	7.19	0.00
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	3.13	0.00	3.18	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Gujarat	1200.00	1092.62	0.00	521.97	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	510.00	905.24	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	1368.00	1062.94	580.00	1191.30	0.00	295.80
7.	Maharashtra	880.00	1324.18	1069.77	840.93	1009.00	1298.42
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1200.00	664.18	200.00	561.28	415.00	240.17
9.	Orissa	675.00	780.90	825.00	1038.54	1104.00	1447.96
10.	Punjab	1141.00	3853.32	1274.00	2662.94	1535.00	3272.13
11.	Rajasthan	26.00	0.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	16861.00	16419.57	10307.40	23807.11	8271.77	2874.33
13.	Delhi	190.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	2650.00	0.00
14.	Haryana	240.00	240.84	424.00	0.00	777.20	0.00
15.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	1414.87	1678.00	2791.25	3865.00	5369.23
16.	Uttanchal	200.00	297.07	450.00	157.68	825.00	171.91
17.	West Bengal	2746.00	1643.05	4848.00	3351.81	1800.00	1728.60
18.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Sikkim	179.00	3.50	166.00	3.76	504.50	805.23
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total (River)		29116.00	29807.48	27723.89	44591.50	27548.66	21655.81

#Expenditure by States given above includes the balance of GOI's share carried over from the unspent balance by State Government for previous years. This figure also includes expenditure from State Governments' Share.

[English]

Applications Received under RTI

756. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of applications received by the Central Information Commission under the Right to Information Act;

(b) the number of applications disposed of, so far;

(c) the number of cases in which penalties have been imposed; and

(d) the number of officers who have been penalized and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The Central Information Commission had received 11,714 complaints and appeals up to 30-09-2007.

(b) 7816 complaints and appeals had been disposed of by 30-09-2007.

(c) The Commission has imposed penalty in 82 cases.

(d) 89 officers have been penalized for not acting in accordance with the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

[Translation]

Review of Higher Medical Education

757. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Committee of Academicians and Scientists to examine the standards of higher Medical Education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the recommendations of the Committee;

(c) whether the said Committee has suggested that standards of higher Medical Education needs to be raised and monitored and also recommended for constituting a Postgraduate Medical Education Board for higher education in medicine; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) In order to examine and make recommendations on the need for constitution of an independent authority to organize and regulate Post Graduate Medical Education in the country; to maintain the standard of Post Graduate Medical Diplomas and Degrees awarded by different universities in the country including Diplomat Degrees awarded by the National Board of Examinations and to assess the feasibility and also recommend the modalities

for establishment of such body, the Government constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Professor Ranjit Roy Choudhury.

The Committee has submitted its report. The recommendations are under examination.

[English]

Infertility in Women

758. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is concerned over the disastrous social consequences of infertility in women as reported in The Hindu dated October 04, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to include infertility in primary healthcare under the National Rural Health Mission and for the management of violence against women?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Infertility, though not a life threatening condition can cause intense agony and trauma to the infertile couple. The increasing demand for Assisted Reproductive Technology has resulted in mushrooming of infertility clinics in India. In order to regulate and supervise the ART Clinic, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Academy of Medical Sciences has prepared National Guidelines for Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of ART Clinics in India. Union Government has approved the National Guidelines and circulated to the States for accreditation, supervision and regulation of ART Clinics.

(c) Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) is a highly technical field where all forms of infertility cannot be treated with 100% success. At the Primary Health Care level awareness, counseling, guidance and assurance can be done by the Medical Officers and para-medical staff. As regards management of violence

against women is concerned, Parliament has enacted Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 (No. 43 of 2005). Union Government has published the Act in the Gazette of India on 14th September, 2005. State/UT Governments are required to take action under the Act for management of violence against women. Some other measures are:

- setting up help lines for women in distress.
- support services to victims through schemes such as short stay homes and swadhar under which shelter maintenance, counseling, capacity building, occupational training, medical aid and other services are provided.
- Redressal of grievances through interventions of National and state Commissions for Women.

Environment Damage Caused by Plastics

759. SRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the extent of damage caused by plastics to the environment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) A monograph entitled "Plastics for Environment and Sustainable Development" was published in 2003 by the Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment, Mumbai and the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Chennai, an autonomous institution of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, which comprehensively assesses issues concerning Sustainability of plastics as materials and their impact on the environment. Plastics are generally chemically inert. However, the indiscriminate littering of plastics and environmentally unsound recycling practices have the potential to cause adverse impacts on environment and health.

The Government of India has notified the Plastic Manufacture, Sale and Usage Rules, 1999 amended 2003 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As per these rules, manufacture, stocking, distribution, or selling of carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic which are less than 20 x 30 cms in size and 20 microns thickness is banned. These rules also prohibit use of recycled plastic bags and containers for storing, carrying, dispensing or packaging of foodstuffs. Further, units manufacturing carry bags or containers made of virgin and recycled plastics are required to register with the concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or Pollution Control Committee (PCC) prior to the commencement of production.

As per information made available by State Pollution Control Boards, the States like Maharashtra, Punjab, Chandigarh, Kerala, Meghalaya and Goa have laid down stricter norms than prescribed with regard to thickness of plastic bags, viz. 50, 30, 30, 30, 40 and 40 microns respectively. The State of Himachal Pradesh has banned carry bags made of non biodegradable material of thickness less than 70 microns and size less than 18 X 12 inches. The Government of West Bengal has banned the manufacture, use, storage and sale of plastic carry bags of thickness below 40 microns and of size 16 X 12 inches. Further, the States of Gujarat, Orissa and Goa have banned use of plastic bags in certain religious and tourist places like Ambaji, Dakor, Somnath in Gujarat and municipal area of Puri and Konark in Orissa. The concerned State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations are monitoring the implementation.

Increase in the Quantum of CRF

760. DR. K.S. MANOJ:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to hike the quantum of State-wise allocation from the Central Road Fund (CRF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of works taken with the help of CRF in the State of Kerala;

(d) the number of proposals from various States for improvements of roads with Central Road Fund pending for sanction, State-wise;

(e) the reasons for the pendency; and

(f) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared?

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) A total 36 number of proposal amounting to Rs. 225.76 crore have been approved so far in the State of Kerala.

(d) State-wise number of proposals pending for approval for improvement of roads from the Central Road Fund is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The main reasons for pendency of the proposals for improvement from Central Road Fund are available bank of sanction, non-submission of utilization certificates by the State Governments of the released amount, proposals not meeting the prescribed guidelines, proposals received recently and lower priority indicated by the State Government.

(f) Approval of the CRF proposals is a continuous process. The approval depends upon fulfillment of the prescribed guidelines, utilization of fund and submission of the utilization certificates by the State Governments.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Number of Pending Proposals
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0

1	2	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
3.	Assam	2
4.	Bihar	7
5.	Chhattisgarh	5
6.	Chandigarh	0
7.	Delhi	3
8.	Goa	0
9.	Gujarat	0
10.	Haryana	0
11.	Himachal Pradesh	0
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0
13.	Jharkhand	0
14.	Karnataka	87
15.	Kerala	0
16.	Madhya Pradesh	17
17.	Maharashtra	219
18.	Manipur	1
19.	Meghalaya	5
20.	Mizoram	9
21.	Nagaland	0
22.	Orissa	0
23.	Punjab	9
24.	Puducherry	0
25.	Rajasthan	16
26.	Sikkim	3
27.	Tamil Nadu	0
28.	Tripura	0

1	2	3
29.	Uttarakhand	0
30.	Uttar Pradesh	11
31.	West Bengal	0
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0
33.	Dadar and Nagar Havelli	0
34.	Daman and Diu	0
35.	Lakshdweep	0

Development of North-Eastern Region

761. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any perspective plan for the all round development of the NER.

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

(c) whether the overall development of NER is not upto the mark;

(d) if so, the salient features and major thrust area of the said plan for optimum development of the region; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) With a view

to providing an integrated, holistic and regional perspective to the development of the North Eastern Region, the North Eastern Council, Shillong have entrusted the task of preparing a draft Vision 2020 document to the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi based on the earlier study undertaken through nearly 40,000 respondents of NER. The preparation of the draft Vision document is in the final stages and the draft will be submitted for consideration to the next Plenary meeting of the NEC, scheduled for 10-11 December, 2007.

(c) While the overall development of NER has, indeed, been lower than the national average, it is to be noted that the pace of economic development expressed in terms of the growth of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) over a period of time in the North Eastern Region has varied from State to State and year to year. The per capita GSDP 2004-05, in respect of three States, Sikkim, Nagaland and Mizoram, was more than the national average. A statement showing the per capita GSDP 2004-05 and various other development indices for each State is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) NER Vision 2020 document is being finalised. The major thrust sectors are connectivity (road, rail, air, inland waterways, and telecommunication), agriculture and allied sectors, power, health, education and tourism. Participatory development is seen as the key to inclusive growth.

(e) Development is a continuous process. Development works are going on in all the important sectors. Vision-2020, as the name implies, will have a time-frame covering the 11th and 12th Five Year Plans and the first 3 years of the 13th Plan.

Statement

Indicators	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Manipur	Meghalaya	Mizoram	Nagaland	Sikkim	Tripura	NER	India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Literacy rate (%) 2001	54.3	64.3	70.5	62.6	88.8	66.6	68.8	73.2	68.5	64.8
Infant Mortality rate (per '000) 2005-06	61	66	30	45	34	38	34	52	45#	57
Poverty ratio based on Mixed Recall Period-consumption 2004-05	13.4	15.0	13.2	14.1	9.5	16.5	15.2	14.4	13.9#	23.6
Per capita GSDP (Rs.) 2004-05	21,919	15,661	16,299	20,775	30,375+	26,129+	26,215	24,984+	18,032	25,944*
Average Annual Growth Rates (%) 1995-96 to 2004-05	1.39	1.68	4.97	3.73	5.50	3.21	6.52	8.22	3.01	3.89
Forest coverage (%) 2003	61.55	34.45	78.01	42.34	75.71	52.05	82.29	60.01	54.52	23.57
Per capita electricity consumption (kwh) 2004-05	144.8	85.3	70.05	352.2	133.7	87.2	397.7	113.1	110.4	411.1
Road length (km/1000 sq.km. area 2002)	219.3	1140.9	512.1	426.5	229.8	1267.9	284.4	1554.1	660.9	755.4

Source: Statistical Abstract of India (2006), NEDFI Data Quarterly (2005), Vol 4, No. II, April, Human Development report, www.mospi.nic.in, <http://www.planningcommission.nic.in>

Note: # Simple averages used for NER; + Refers to estimated per capita GSDP for 2003-04 and 2004-05; ++ refers to its estimated value for 2005-06; * Per capita GDP at factor cost (PFC) from RBI, Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy, 2005-06)

**Simplification of Process of Grant of
Environmental Clearance**

762. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

PROF. M. RAMADASS:

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to simplify the process of grant of environmental clearance to various projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of projects including irrigation and other development projects under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are pending with the Government for environmental clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof as on date and the reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(e) the extent to which simplifying the process of according environmental clearance will help in clearing the pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Environmental Clearance Process has been revised through an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification issued vide S.O. No. 1533 (E) dated 14th September, 2006 to make the Environmental Clearance Process more transparent efficient and de-centralized with certainty in time frame.

(c) and (d) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 deals with Forest Clearances in respect of projects involving Forest Land and Environmental Clearances are dealt under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The proposals under each act are considered independently irrespective of the provisions of either act. Hence there is no question of development projects pending for environment clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(e) The EIA Notification, 2006 provides for Scoping for preparation of quality EIA Report, Structured Public Consultations with stipulated time frame, Decentralization of environmental clearance by constituting State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA) and State Level Expert Appraisal Committees (SEAC) and time limits at each stage, thus enabling speedy clearance of projects.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

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 papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2006-2007, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7215/07]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2006-2007.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2006-2007, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7216/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.1538(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2007, specifying the level of officers for the Corporations mentioned therein, established by or under any Central Act, the Government companies, societies and other local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government for the purpose of clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 8 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003, issued under sub-section, (2) of section 8 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7217/07]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 37 of the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985:—

- (i) The Maharashtra Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 669(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.
- (ii) The Orissa Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 670(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.
- (iii) The Karnataka Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 671(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.
- (iv) The Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunal

(Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 672(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.

(v) The West Bengal Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 673(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.

(vi) The Himachal Pradesh Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members) Amendment Rules, 2007, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 674(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7218/07]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): On behalf of Shrimati Panabaka Lakshmi, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:—

- (i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (1st Amendment) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 367(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 2007, together with a corrigendum (Hindi version only) thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 513(E) dated the 27th July, 2007.
- (ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Second Amendment) Rules, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 458(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7219/07]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 518(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July 2007 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 491(E) dated the 21st August, 2007, issued under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7220/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Coal, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7221/07]

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. 644(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 14 in the state of Gujarat.
 - (ii) S.O. 97(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2007, authorizing the Officers mentioned therein as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 37 in the state of Assam.
 - (iii) S.O. 1451(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 2 (Kanpur-Varanasi section) in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

- (iv) S.O. 526(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 2007, authorizing Additional Collector-I, Jaipur, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (v) S.O. 527(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 2007, authorizing Sub-Divisional Officers, Sawai Madhopur, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (vi) S.O. 528(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 2007, authorizing Additional Collector-I, Jaipur, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (vii) S.O. 1425(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26 (Jhansi-Lakhanadon section) in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- (viii) S.O. 1314(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2007, authorizing officers mentioned therein as the competent authority to acquire of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway Nos. 19 and 85 (Chapra-Hajipur and Chapra-Siwan Gopalganj sections) in the state of Bihar.
- (ix) S.O. 732(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2007, making certain

[Shri K.H. Muniyappa]

amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 142(E) dated the 7th February, 2007.

- (x) S.O. 733(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 143(E) dated the 7th February, 2007.
- (xi) S.O. 1362(E) and S.O. 1363(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (six-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 8 (Vadodara-Surat section) in the state of Gujarat.
- (xii) S.O. 632(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 11 (Bharatpur-Mahwa section) in the state of Rajasthan.
- (xiii) S.O. 1225(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 47(E) dated the 17th January, 2007.
- (xiv) S.O. 1378(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 534(E) dated the 10th April, 2007.
- (xv) S.O. 1220(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/six-laning etc.) of National Highway No. 4 (Bangalore-Nelamangala section) in the state of Karnataka.
- (xvi) S.O. 1412(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2007, regarding rates of base fees to be recovered from the users of section mentioned therein of National Highway No. 8 in the state of Gujarat.

- (xvii) S.O. 1041(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 2007, authorizing the District Revenue Officer, Faridabad, to acquire land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of the National Highway No. 2 including construction of bypass in the state of Haryana.
- (xviii) S.O. 1312(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1289(E) dated the 11th August, 2006.
- (xix) S.O. 1313(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1290(E) dated the 11th August, 2006.
- (xx) S.O. 1415(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1741(E) dated the 10th October, 2006.
- (xxi) S.O. 1416(E) to S.O.1420(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building widening (four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 21 (Kuruli-Kiratpur section) in the state of Punjab.
- (xxii) S.O. 1421(E) and S.O. 1422(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 22 (Zirakpur-Parwanoo section, including Pinjore-Kalka-Paranoo bypass) in the state of Haryana.
- (xxiii) S.O. 1423(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 85(E) dated the 25th January, 2007.

- (xxiv) S.O. 1445(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 25 (Orai-Bhognipur section) and National Highway No. 2 (Bhognipur-Bara section) in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxv) S.O. 1566(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 2007, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1675(E) dated the 28th November, 2005.
- (xxvi) S.O.1466(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2007, authorizing the Additional District Magistrate (Finance and Revenue), Muzaffarnagar, as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 58 in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxvii) S.O. 1540(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2007, authorizing the Additional District Magistrate, Fatehpur, as the competent authority to acquire land for building, maintenance, management and operation of Toll Plaza on National Highway No. 2 in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1726(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 6 (Nagpur-Dhule section) in the state of Maharashtra.
- (xxix) S.O. 1529(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 6 (Nagpur-Dhule section) in the state of Maharashtra.
- (xxx) S.O.1756(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section) in the state of Maharashtra.
- (xxxi) S.O.1727(E) and 1728(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 215 (Panikoili-Rimuli section) in the state of Orissa.
- (xxxii) S.O. 1554(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 2007, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section) in the state of Maharashtra.
- (2) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i to vi) of (1) above.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 7222/07]
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): I beg to lay on the Table—
- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- {Placed in Library, See No. LT 7223/07}

[Shri S. Regupathy]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2005-2006.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7224/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sections 12 and 13 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:—
- (i) S.O. 1539(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2007, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1174(E) dated the 18th July, 2007.
- (ii) S.O. 1811(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 2007, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1174(E) dated the 18th July, 2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7225/07]

12.02 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

31st Report

[English]

SHRI CHARNJIT SINGH ATWAL (Phillaur): I beg

to present the Thirty-first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.02½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS**

18th Report

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Visakhapatnam): I beg to present the Eighteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas (2007-08) on 'The Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology Bill, 2007'.

12.02¼ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

42nd Report

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I beg to present the Forty-Second Report Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.02 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

[English]

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in 14th and 16th Reports of Standing Committee on External Affairs pertaining to the Ministry of Overseas Indians Affairs *

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I beg to lay the Statement

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. LT 7229/07.

under Direction 73A of the Speaker on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 14th and 16th Reports of the Standing Committee on External Affairs.

The 14th Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs (2006-07) on the 'Issues relating to Overseas Indians' was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19th March, 2007 and laid in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 2007. Action Taken Replies (ATR) of the Government on the recommendations/observations of the Committee were sent to the Committee on 27th June, 2007. The 16th Report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs (2006-07) on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs was presented to both the Houses of Parliament on 26th April, 2007. Action Taken Replies (ATR) of the Government on recommendations/observations of the Committee were sent to the Committee on 8th August, 2007.

However, as required, the present status of implementation of the recommendations of the 14th and 16th Reports of the Standing Committee is detailed in the Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively which are laid on the Table of the House. The hon. Members would notice that except one recommendation (No. 18 of the 14th Report), the Ministry has accepted all other recommendations contained in the 14th and 16th Reports and acted upon them. I hope that they will be satisfied with the action taken by my Ministry.

12.03½ hrs.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2186
DATED 29-08-2007 REGARDING
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO
POOR AND NEEDY PATIENTS *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): On behalf

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. LT
7230/07.

of Shrimati Panabaka Lakshmi, I beg to lay a Statement.

I invite attention to the reply given to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2186 for 29th August, 2007 regarding Financial Assistance to poor and needy patients. The figures given in reply to the part (d) of the question is the amount of funds released to the individual patients only. However, amounts released under revolving funds to various Government hospitals and funds released to State Governments were not included. Now, the same has been incorporated. The correct reply is as follows:—

Year	RAN (Rs. in lakh)
2005-06	734.02
2006-07	770.35
2007-08 up to 15-08-2007	341.61

12.03½ hrs.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4745
DATED 9-05-2007 REGARDING
RETRENCHMENT OF ADIVASIS
AND DALIT PERSONS *

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): I beg to lay a
Statement.

"The reply to parts (g) and (h) of the Unstarred Question No. 4745 regarding "Retrenchment of Adivasis and Dalit Persons" may be read as "Memorandum received by the Government in this regard did not allege violation of R and R policy of CIL and its subsidiaries. However, the distortions on account of different R and R policies of State

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. LT
7231/07.

[Dr. Dasari Narayan Rao]

Governments were pointed out. It was also suggested that CIL and its subsidiaries should follow a uniform R and R policy. National R&R policy, i.e., NPRR, 2003, is currently under revision. Once the revised NPRR is enforced, Coal India Limited will also follow the same."

The error occurred due to oversight.

The error is regretted.

12.03½ hrs.

MOTION RE: ELECTION TO
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North): I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect under sub-rule (3) of rule 254, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Vijaykumar Khandelwal died."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect under sub-rule (3) of rule 254, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on Estimates for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee *vice* Shri Vijaykumar Khandelwal died."

The motion was adopted.

12.04 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Proposal to set up Special Economic Zone in
Nandigram, West Bengal and consequent
large scale violence**

[English]

MR SPEAKER: Now I come to Item No.18 Hon. Members, we are now going to take up the Discussion under Rule 193 on the issues arising out of certain events in Nandigram in West Bengal. I am thankful to all the hon. leaders for taking the trouble of arriving at a consensus as to the text of the matter in response to my request to them. I deeply appreciate such cooperation.

There have been several notices on this issue given at the same time and according to rules, a ballot should have been held to determine who will initiate. However, in response to the wishes of the hon. Members of the major opposition party, I have decided to invite the hon. Leader of the Opposition to initiate the debate. I know that our hon. Members are fully conscious of the constitutional limitations in the subject matter of to day's discussion. I appeal to all to discuss this matter in a manner which will help in the resolution of the issue. And, I am in no manner of doubt that the matter will be discussed with a full sense of responsibility.

My appeal to each hon. Member is that they make submissions and others should listen and then reply to it when their turns come and say whatever they want to say. Once again, I look forward to receiving cooperation from all sides in this House, especially during this discussion which is of highest public forum. The time allotted for this discussion, as usual, is two hours.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to initiate this discussion on behalf of the opposition, setting aside the usual system of holding a ballot. Before expressing any views on this important discussion,

I would like to extend my thanks to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for whatever he has said about Nandigram that I read in the newspapers in the morning. I would like to extend my thanks to him that while going on his foreign tour he has drawn the attention of the entire country and the House towards the importance of this issue. In other words, his statement also lays emphasis on the fact that the House should hold a discussion on such a vital question which is a natural corollary and an essential obligation.

He said that—

[English]

"I sincerely hope that the State Government will be able to take necessary steps to restore confidence in the people through the effective deployment of security forces. I understand the spontaneous outpouring of grief and anguish over the issue as expressed by artists and intellectuals in Kolkata. I hope the State Government will take note of this."

[Translation]

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also given a response though the response of his party may be different. It will be clarified here whether the ruling party of the State is satisfied with the response of the Chief Minister of the State or with the statement given by the spokesperson of the party. However, I will try to fully comply with the guidelines that you have set for this discussion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like that this discussion should not be used to make allegations and counter allegations on one another. It should rather focus on expressing concern for taking preventive measures to ensure that a Nandigram like situation does not arise anywhere in future. I feel that anybody who visits Nandigram will naturally nurture such a feeling.

It is not an ordinary matter. These are not recent events these took place in October-November. It had been simmering for several months there. In fact, the situation received its first spark in the beginning of the year. I had myself gone there in the month of March and visited the place again only last week. I was accompanied by the Members of NDA allies on both the occasions. However, this time I noticed a major departure from my earlier visit when I went there in the month of March many people came to meet me. They talked to me, told everything about what happened there and narrated an account of the atrocities committed on them. This time, the terror was looming so large that if anyone tried to meet us to share his feelings, his family members themselves stopped him. Member of Rajya Sabha, Shrimati Sushmaji also visited the place along with me. Women came to meet her and told her about the rape committed with them. When one woman was sharing her own trauma a boy from her family came and forced her to leave the place saying why was she doing so. They also warn their family members not to disclose their names or give their photos to TV or press persons. The environment of terror that I witnessed there made me feel that this time situation has become more serious. I would like to give a brief description of how did it happen. As I have already said that I would not like that the occasion should be used to blame each other for this incident. I would like to tell my colleagues, as several members of the left parties came to me and urged me not to blame the left for this episode. They tell me to name CPM and not the entire left. The people who told me so are the members of various left parties of left alliance. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Can I know the name?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I will not name.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): It has come on television. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Anonymity is no virtue.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is not anonymity.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, this is not right.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request all hon. Members to see that there is no cross talk.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, he put a right question and he is justified in putting that question, but it is not right for me to name him. That is my limitation.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: But is it right for you to make that statement?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Yes, it is important.

[Translation]

So, I would not like to use the term left. Though I can mention the name of your party if I wish.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: You are at liberty to do so.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I will. I welcome the statement of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. We all had gathered in the Central Hall on Monday, the day before yesterday on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to pay her floral tribute and then I met the leader of the House and talked to him for the first time on this issue. I informed him that the NDA had decided no move an adjournment motion regarding Nandigarm and accordingly I did so. The Hon'ble Speaker had himself said that an adjournment motion can be moved

[English]

in respect of the failure of the Central Government, it cannot be in respect of the failure of a State Government.

[Translation]

So, accordingly, I drafted the adjournment motion and gave it to the Speaker. I do not know whether the

motion will be admitted or not and how many Members will not rise to support the motion. However, I asked my colleague Hon'ble Malhotraji to convey the Hon'ble Speaker that we do not insist on any particular instrument or device for moving the motion. I do not insist that the device should be essentially an adjournment motion. My insistence is that a discussion should be held on Nandigram in the House. That can be in any form.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Advaniji, may I interrupt you for a second? As soon as this matter was raised even before the House started its proceedings on the 15th, I said, 'I will allow a discussion only in a proper form and please do not insist on an Adjournment Motion'.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: This is exactly what I am saying.

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore I had said that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: This is what I had said from the very beginning. Otherwise, I could have come to you and pointed out to you why an Adjournment Motion is possible, but I did not go into it.

MR. SPEAKER: I am very happy that in this atmosphere this discussion is taking place now.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: This is what I said from the very beginning and I had said that to Malhotraji. When Pranab da, the Leader of the House, spoke to me that very moment, he said that we also are of the opinion that a discussion must be held and, I believe, he took an initiative for that. He spoke to some other Parties also. Of course, he had to go away that night and the matter had been continued Yesterday.

[Translation]

I am satisfied that the deadlock that had arisen yesterday and day before yesterday is now over and an initiating the discussion on this subject.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No more *gatirodh!*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was said that 'Nandigram' will not be mentioned at any way during this discussion. At this, I said that if 'Nandigram' does not find a mentioned in the course of the discussion, the impasse will not be over in any way. I am pleased to note that the name of Nandigram has figured in the discussion whatever may be the form and context.

[English]

I would have liked it to be different. We are not discussing only SEZs. What has happened in Nandigram goes far beyond the issue or different view points on the question of SEZ.

[Translation]

We have held a discussion on SEZs. But any matter which is to be discussed in Parliament should be associated with the Centre in one way or the other whether it is a matter of CRPF or of SEZs. Efforts were made to camouflage the matter and allow a discussion without making a mention of Nandigram, by way of raising the problem of naxalism and or farmers' plight in the country. At this, I vented my displeasure by saying that it was not the way to resolve the deadlock. Therefore, I am happy and express my gratitude to all those who have contributed their mite in preparing this draft.

MR. SPEAKER: Give some credit to me also.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your pardon. I will speak about that separately and I will speak whatever I wish to speak, but I would also like to say what signals the statement given by you yesterday would have sent to the outside world I think. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That applies to all sections.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Since you have mentioned it,

therefore, I am saying that if the issue of Nandigram were not discussed in this House, then not only in Nandigram or in West Bengal, but in many parts of the country, a negative public sentiment would have developed that if a burning issue like Nandigram is not discussed in the House.

[English]

They do not understand the rules. But the fact is that if this discussion had not taken place, it would have lowered the Parliament in the esteem of the people of the country.

[Translation]

Therefore, in order to maintain the dignity of the House it is very essential that if such a kind of incident takes place anywhere, an open, threadbare discussion should be held on it in the House. Anybody should not say that the word 'NANDIGRAM' would not be mentioned during the discussion. On the contrary, it was said that we will not admit the motion 'Nandigram' in referred to therein.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Just a minute!

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not yielding...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is not yielding.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like to say that the House would like to reach the truth and in our country truth or 'Satya' is a manifestation of 'Shiva' and the path of 'Satya' or 'Shiva' passes through 'Nandi'. Thus, in order to reach out to 'Shiva', one has to cross the path of 'Nandi'. Somnathji is present here.

MR. SPEAKER: But please do not create such circumstances so as to compel me to perform 'Tandav Nritya'.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, not only the person named 'Somnath' but also the place and temple called 'Somnath' holds an important place in my life.

MR. SPEAKER: You have accepted me, that is why I am holding this office.

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): First, he went from Somnath to Ayodhya, then to Somnath. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since, he has made a mention of Ayodhya, therefore, I shall say now what I would have chosen to say in the last in the operative part of my speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): After that Nandigram...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: As my colleague, Shri Basu Debji has made a mention of it, therefore, I am saying it now that whether it was the problem of Ayodhya, Godhara, or Gujarat riots, all party delegations had been sent from this House. ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: For 1984 riots. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There did not arise a need in case of 1984 riots, but for these three places, all party delegations were dispatched. Therefore, I would like to suggest and I will repeat it in my concluding part of my speech that an all party delegation should be sent to unearth the truth in regard to Nandigram. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to all sections of the House. He has made a suggestion. During your speech, you may respond or may not respond.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is not true. No All-Party Delegation was there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You reply to it when you will speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow any other interruption.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): I was a Member of that delegation. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: He is not speaking the truth. The All Party Delegation did not go to Ayodhya. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, if you have anything to say, you say while you speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The delegation did not go to Ayodhya.

[English]

Do not mislead the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to the Chair. He started well; let us hear. He has his views; he is entitled to have his views. If you have your views, you controvert them.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We are trying to correct it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No intermediate correction; you correct it in your replies.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am talking only about all party delegation.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There are some issues on which all the Parties should act together.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Therefore we are discussing this.

[Translation]

All of us are discussing it. I am going to say many things to you also, but not for the purpose of criticism. I feel that this is an opportunity for. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If all of you say it is a serious matter, do not make it flippant.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: When we visited the place, we found that a Higher Secondary School had been converted into a makeshift refugee camp. The villages wore a deserted look.

[English]

They were deserted. Some elderly people were living there.

[Translation]

We met them, they told us that the people have fled out of fear and many people are living in refugee camps in Nandigram town. We went to the refugee camp when people say that MPs had visited them, around 8-10 women ran towards us and fell at our feet crying and pleading that they just wanted to know whether their husbands were alive or not?

[English]

It was such a spectacle that I felt literally miserable ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do that; do not interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: When I introduced myself and

they immediately arranged an impromptu stage and asked me to speak. Somebody brought a microphone and I started speaking.

[English]

It became the public meeting. But it was there that I promised them that, with these happenings, I have come, as a Member of Parliament along with my other colleagues. We are certainly going to raise this matter in Parliament and talk about it; and through Parliament, tell the State Government that it is their duty to ensure that these queries whether their husband are alive or not, are they there or not, these should be properly tackled and answered. It happens that in the meanwhile, other things have happened.

[Translation]

I would agree that generally State matters are not discussed in the House. If it is deemed to be an ordinary law and order problem of the State, then discussion is not justified. But I would like to mention why it is justified. The hon'ble Prime Minister also said that this should be discussed in Parliament. It has been mentioned, I have not quoted it. But when I first saw the statement of the hon'ble Governor, I was astonished. I do not remember that in the last 60 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Advani, you are very well aware that during the debate we do not use the name of the President or the Governor.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: We do not use the names but this is crucial for this debate. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot be. Substance of the matter, we can express.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is a public statement.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be a public statement, then the Presidents' statements are also public statements.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I said this to the Governor

[Shri L.K. Advani]

also. I said normally a Governor reports to the President in respect of the State, as to what is going on in the State.

[Translation]

It occurs monthly and...periodically as well. *

[English]

These are the worlds that he has used.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, how can he discuss the conduct of the Governor?...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, how can he discuss the conduct of the Governor? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He cannot. I will decide it. I will see it. He should not have done it. I do not agree with that. Therefore, he cannot precipitate this.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Just think that is this issue*...

[English]

This has been mentioned by no less a person than Shri Ashok Mitra. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This should not be done.

[English]

Please do not do that.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: You need not go to Shri Ashok Mitra. I can stand by that. I also wanted him there.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is very relevant. He says*...

MR. SPEAKER: This is not permissible. You know very well that reading from somebody's statement is not permissible.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Why? We have heard so many things. We have quoted so many things. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You refer to it. You mention it. Reading out from somebody's statement is not permissible.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: He says: ...*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not permitted. You can give the gist of it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The gist of it is that when he was invited...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Speaker, Sir interruptions are there...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I request that there should be no interruptions.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There would not have been any interruptions if you had not interrupted. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is my duty to see that rules and procedures are followed. I have said that you can give the gist of it. Do not discuss it.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The gist of it is this. According to Shri Ashok Mitra, when he consented to become the Governor, he wanted that the leadership of the CPI(M) should be prepared to have him. He has now become the enemy. This is the word that has been used. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please, no question of enemy. He is a respected Governor of the State.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave it that who said what.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: CPM people have said that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not ashamed to proclaim it. I also wanted him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I request all of you to take down the notes. Do not interrupt him now. If I find whatever he says is not according to the procedure, then I will intervene.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, there are three statements from various dignitaries. One is, of course, the Governor's statement. I am not quoting him. He said that the happenings in Nandigram are totally unlawful and unacceptable. Then, the second one is the judgment of the High Court of Kolkata, which goes on to say that the firing took place on 14th March—this judgment has come last week—is unconstitutional and unjustified. What it has said in the body of the judgment, I do not want to quote. The third statement is this. When the CRPF has been invited to help in Nandigram, it was

said that *[Translation]* our accountability would be over, they will take charge of Nandigram.

[English]

According to the CPI(M) there, it was the Maoists who are indulging in violence, though the Home Secretary of West Bengal came out with a statement that there is no Maoist, there is no Maoist literally there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: You are the spokesman of the Maoists!...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: You will start praising the Maoists also simply to save CPM...*(Interruptions)* There is no problem in that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, you are going to speak, I understand. You can reply at that time.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Malhotra Saheb, I am doing my best. Your leader is addressing.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything other than the speech of Mr. L.K. Advani.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please do not interrupt like this.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, Mr. Alok Raj, the DIG of the CRPF says...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Speaker, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you interrupting, what are you doing, what is happening?

...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the DIG of the CRPF says that he has been given one week now.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, would we go strictly by the statements of the DIG of the CRPF?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Why not?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please, let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, when the hon. Leader of the Opposition is speaking, he is quite capable of making all the points. Therefore, you do not need to support him.

I am requesting everybody to please note down the points, and you may reply them when your turn come to speak. That would be much more dignified and to the point, instead of making a running commentary here.

Naturally, I am saying that whoever is speaking, according to my judgment, may be right or wrong, and if there is a crossing of the *Lakshman Rekha*, I will intervene.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, he has publicly said: "I have been called here; I have been invited here; I have been asked to deal with the situation in the Nandigram, whereas I am getting no cooperation from the State Government, from the State Police Authorities".
...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Sambalpur): Refer to the statement of the same DIG made yesterday.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not right. I do not approve of this, Mr. Acharya and Mr. Pal. No; it is not right.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not right. He has not transgressed any rule I know of, by referring to the statement of the DIG.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, if I were to quote, he said: "I asked the SP two days ago to provide me a list of wanted criminals, but I did not get it. I do not know why he is doing it. I have worked as an SP, and I have never seen such a behaviour." These are the words of the CRPF officer...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You refer to his statement of yesterday...(Interruptions)

MR.. SPEAKER: By your saying about yesterday' statement, would he read? This is not helping the matter.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The, High Court Calls—it unconstitutional, Governor calls it totally unlawful and the SP, CRPF who called by the Home Ministry on the request of the State Government the head of the CRPF states that he does not get any cooperation there. Is it not a serious situation to be deliberated upon by the House? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you. I have noticed it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Advani, I said that you are entitled to refer it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Thank you, very much.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said it earlier.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, hon. Members, you may also have to refer some statements. Why are you doing this? Why are you interrupting him?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I visited Nandigram, and many of the Press people, Media people accompanying

me said that 'this is the first time that we have been allowed to go to Nandigram. Otherwise, it was out of bounds for us.' I was surprised to hear that 'this is because Advani has friendship with the Chief Minister.' This kind of a comment coming from the Ruling party surprised me. I did not expect this because I have had and I have tried, as the Home Minister, to maintain good relations with all the Chief Ministers in the country including many in the Congress party. That does not matter anything. I have good relations with them. Even now, I have good relations with him also. And, I was happy to find that his response to the Prime Minister's comment on Nandigram was different from the party's response. He said: "I appreciate what the Prime Minister has said."

So, these are matters about which I have only this to say that the CPI(M) must look back at the entire Nandigram episode. How it happened? When you try to convert the party into a substitute for Government, then things go out of hand. I remember, when I first visited Nandigram, the same thing was again and again mentioned that it is his people who wore police uniforms. I do not know.

An MP's name was mentioned. It was said—'It is they who fired on us while we were doing *Puja*. The Muslim ladies there were reciting Quran' At that time, firing took place on them and they said that they were not policemen really, they were party men, party cadres in police uniform. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: It is all cock and bull story. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Yes, it is cock and bull story only...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You also do not take notice of them.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Why?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can do it. But that will go on.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I would like you not to comment. I can understand their comment.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not comment on you. I am commenting on them.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: No, not at all. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, you are not fair to me.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I heard everything yesterday, day before and throughout.

MR. SPEAKER: That is right. I think that is my duty to draw the attention of this country as to how this Parliament is functioning. I will not get away from that duty, whether you like it or not.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I will do that. If you do not like, you get me out of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker Sir, it's painful that when I discuss something and I get interrupted. That is why I avoid it many a time. But I know something that this discussion would not have started today had there been no interruption. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. This is not the method.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Anyway.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not agree.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Transition]

MR. SPEAKER: If it would be unavoidable, it would be done.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not teach me. You are not capable of that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am here when you were not even born.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the High Court says in its operative part: "The action of the police department to open fire at Nandigram on 14th March, 2007 was wholly unconstitutional and cannot be justified under any provision of the law".

Now, a statement of this kind, the statement given by the Governor of West Bengal and lastly the statement made by the DIG, CRPF are there. I said to the Governor when I met him along with my colleagues that: "Is this not sufficient reason why you should send a formal report to the Central Government as to what has happened in Nandigram. You have your inputs on the basis of which you have yourself said." In fact, this is not the first time that he said it. He said it for the first time in March itself, that "I have a feeling of cold horror". These are the words that he used on visiting Nandigram, a feeling of 'cold horror'.

He said: "This time, the Diwali all over the State has been dampened because of Nandigram incidents". I said: "You owe it to the Central Government and to the country to send a detailed report to the Central Government as to what are your inputs which have made you to make this public statement and on the basis of that you can recommend that in this situation, the Constitution empowers the Central Government to issue directions to the State Government under Article 355 and if those directions are not followed to correct

the situation in Nandigram, then the Central Government is fully justified in invoking Article 356". ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: As you did it when you were the Home Minister. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, Mr. Acharia.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, this was something that I said to the Governor which I am repeating here in Parliament. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs is here. I would like to urge him to consider this that the situation should be improved. What is happening there? The Governor said 'I am in touch with the Central Government.' ...(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum): The situation has radically improved. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Is it radically improved?

[Translation]

I am glad if the situation has radically improved.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Minister of the State says "We have paid them back in their own coin". Go back to the history, when I first became the Member of Parliament, Marxists used to tell me that Europe was under their regime and a time would come when the sun would never set in Communist regime as it was never set in British empire. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It shall happen ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: And see what all happened. Today it has been eliminated from the world. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It has disappeared from the world. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Your information is not correct. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Yes, I have entire information.

Cuba is remaining and so is China in a way.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Advani, you are getting into that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: No, I am not getting into that. I do not want your comment. I urge you with that....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not making any comment. I am only asking you to resume.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, let me recall,

[Translation]

In the 20th Congress of CPSU Khrushchev had given that speech, live busting hard. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It's very old.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It's very old. They may recall how their regime ended in the U.S.S.R. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us get on with this. If you go on like this, how can we finish this? This is not right.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: He went on to Soviet Union. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was in this very House then when in 1972 I went to Czechoslovakia under the leadership of the then Speaker Dhillon Sahab as a part of the parliamentary delegation and owing to the kind of aggression by Moscow in Czechoslovakia and the incident of Dubcek, Communism ended there. These are the turning points in our history, be it the incident of Dubcek, Khrushchev speech or Tiananmen Square incident in China.

[English]

Nandigram is going to be the turning point in the history of the Communist Party of India. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: They will be finished from the map of the world. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It will be a turning point in the history of the Communist Party of India. ...(Interruptions)
3-4 islands are remaining. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu, I will not allow you. Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: If you have to say anything, you say in your speech. Let us go on with this. We have already taken 40 minutes on this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu, I will not allow you. Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: If you have to say anything, you say in your speech. Let us go on with this. We have already taken 40 minutes on this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I conclude. However, I would reiterate that in order that the Parliament and the Government get an official information with respect to Nandigram, an All Party Delegation should be sent from there. Then the Government should deliberate on the measures to be taken in this regard. The orders of the High Court should be complied with particularly in regard to providing

*Not recorded.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

compensation to the next of kin of the deceased, dispensing justice to the victims of rape. Besides, the Governor should be summoned here and direct information should be taken from him and based upon that the Union Government should also take necessary action.

I feel that on the basis this they should first invoke Article 355 and if they do not comply with it, they should then invoke Article 356 there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not doing justice to yourself. Please do not do that. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you next.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, first of all, on behalf of myself and possibly on behalf of the whole House, I congratulate you. The kind of leadership you are providing in this House is unique and unparallel if I compare the other past performances here. I am not questioning the wisdom of anybody.

Sir, from the day one you assumed the Chair of this august House, you were very candid to see that transparently each voice is heard. Sir, I can place on record that you have admitted the largest number of Adjournment Motions, even sometimes in spite of the displeasure of the Government. You said in my presence to the Leader of the House that the Leader of the Opposition is one of the basic components of the Parliament and if he comes out with such serious issues for adjournment where the Government of India is concerned, I cannot say 'no'.

This is the example that you have created here.

I do not know why people talk about it. You categorically made it clear from day one and day two—when this House resumed—that you are not going to oppose any discussion. You said that we could collectively decide about it, and asked us to allow you to run the House and the Question Hour. You had stated this in the Leaders Meeting also. Unfortunately, your spirit is not valued here in that objective that the nation desires and expects. Therefore, you left the matter again to the Parties. You did not even include a word, comma or a semicolon, and you accepted the collective wisdom of the NDA, the Left Parties and the Government to settle the issue without even changing a single word. Once again, I salute you for the way in which you are conducting the House, and accommodating every single Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: The Short Duration Discussion begins with SEZ and ends with the subsequent violence. I am here to explain a few points first to the mover of the Motion, namely, Shri L.K. Advani.

Shri Advani, I first deal with SEZ, but before that I would like to tell you, through you, Sir, that East Midnapore is a district that is the centre of pilgrim of all the freedom fighters not only of Bengal, but, if I may say so, India too. It has a new district headquarter at Tamluk, which commands Nandigram. The freedom fighters in Tamluk made India free—at least for seven days—even before we saw the national flag and declared that India is free. Only one freedom fighter from that group is alive till now, namely, Shri Susil Dhara and all the rest are dead. I shall talk of Great Satish Samanta Sir, you also had the privilege to see him. He used to come in this House at 11 o'clock as a disciplined Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha; sit there; put his question; and go quietly after attending the House. He was a great freedom fighter who fought for the Haldia port.

Shri Satish Chandra Samanta was an MP consequently many times, and he never criticized or abused any Party for anything except for development.

He fought for the Haldia port, and his fighting was by correspondence or by telegram right from the days of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Shrimati Indira Gandhi. We feel proud of Haldia today. As a man of Bengal I feel proud of it.

The Government may come and the Government may go. If we do mistake when there is Congress rule in the Centre or if we do mistake when we rule in Bengal and I consistently and persistently repeat that whatever we have done is right, then I may be able to satisfy my cadres in the AICC Session, but people will judge my action when the occasion comes.

[Translation]

I would like to remind Advaniji that he had visited there twice. Being Leader of Opposition, he discharged his duty, but he should check check first word of the motion, it is S.E.Z. There is tension in entire country on the issue of S.E.Z. I would like to make a humble submission that keeping in view, the tension Chairperson of UPA, Smt. Sonia Gandhi called a meeting of Chief Ministers of all States in Dehradun and expressed apprehension that the way things are going on, we would not be able to save farmers, agricultural labours and the poor....(Interruptions).

[English]

Why are you doing like this? I have not even completed my submission.

[Translation]

Please have a patience ...(Interruptions). Please let me complete.

MR. SPEAKER: No, interruptions, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You do not know...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: You please continue.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Thereafter, the

UPA Government said that we cannot straightaway go ahead with the SEZ policy promulgated by NDA, and that we have to change it thoroughly. When did that policy come into operation? It came into operation in February 2004. When was it finalized? It was finalized in January 2004. When was it concurred to by the Cabinet? It was done in 2003. Shri Advani, you cannot deny it.

That SEZ rehabilitation and resettlement policy, which was not a law, did not talk about the BPL category people, sharecroppers or, how much compensation is to be given besides rehabilitation. I do not want to undermine Advaniji. He has come prepared facts, except on part one of the Motion which talks about SEZ.

[Translation]

Who has devised this policy? Iliyasji has rightly stated since when it was implemented? It was conceptualized in 1998. After a detailed discussion on it, NDA Government thought to bring a bill in this regard. It had been better if it would have a statutory power. Thereafter, they thought to formulate a policy rather than to enact a legislation in this matter. Who had approved this policy? It is they who had approved it. Did they not advocate compensation for those who were not owner of land. Did they not ask for the resettlement of the poor who had been working for the years. I would not take more time. I would have a detailed discussion on SEZ. When it would come up...(Interruptions).

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Make a mention of Nandigram also...(Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I am coming back to it. You are already in problem. Why are you doing like this? I only want to wish you a long life.

[Translation]

Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell respected Leader of Opposition that that policy had a number of shortcomings which had adverse impact on the progress, industries and some people of the country. After due

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

deliberation on it UPA Government decided to bring legislation instead of a policy.

[English]

We will give it the statutory effect and make it a legal law. That will be introduced in this Session.

[Translation]

If he goes through the document that we have prepared for the legislation, he will find...(Interruptions).

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): They have made much delay...(Interruptions).

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Since their policy had so many shortcomings, it consumed lots of time...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Interruptions will not be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If I read their Rehabilitation Policy of 2003, that I have...(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening to you? What are you doing? Shri Malhotra, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I did not expect it from Malhotraji. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has not used anything unparliamentary.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Malhotraji, it's not your fault. At that time, you were not in the Cabinet,

while you must have been in the Cabinet...(Interruptions). Your seniority was also ignored as I feel. had Malhotraji been in the Cabinet, such policy would not have been formulated...(Interruptions). After due consideration on that policy, we have brought a new policy. If you go through this policy and need discussion on it, you would find that no programme would be implemented without ensuring the rehabilitation of farmers including people of BPL category who have been living on that land for three years, we are bringing such legislation. Initiatives has already been taken in this direction. So far as Nandigram is concerned, he will definitely make mention of it. Advaniji, you visit Bengal, the land of Gurudev Tagore, the land of Vivekanand four times or ten times, your party would not get any benefit for next hundred years, I am telling you in advance...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You were objecting then and you are now doing the same thing?

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If he wants that I should not speak anything except Nandigram, I am doing so...(Interruptions). No doubt, Advaniji has lots of personal affection for me, I do not talk of that. However, Advaniji might be remembering that I visited North Block to meet him when he was Minister of Home Affairs because Mamataji was late to come and she had asked me to visit first and she would reach later. There is a place named Chota Angdi in Midnapur. One day many persons were burnt alive. We did not find their dead bodies, we found their teeth from the dead bodies and cartridges of 303 rifles. We showed them to Advaniji in his Chamber and asked him to do something in this regard. He told that he could not do anything in this matter keeping in view Centre-State relations. I asked him to visit there at least. He could not even visit there as the responsibility of observing State-Centre relation was on Home Minister, so he was right. I am not accusing him. But after returning village, out of emotion I assured the people to meet Advaniji in his Chamber, because Mamataji was late to come.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: There was attack on my sister in law namely his wife...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: You please let me speak. Shahnawajji, I am not your enemy at least ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: My sister-in-law, namely, his wife was attacked. How could it be tolerated? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Then there was this place called Kespur where some incident of serious violence took place. Mamtaji, the then NDA colleague of Advaniji, was in the Government and she told me. "You may go and visit him". *[Translation]* Leave it alone, you did not even go in your party delegation for a single day. Let it go because I do not want to talk of the things which have already over. I do not say why did he go? He has a right to visit all places of Hindustan. Advaniji you forgot to visit only one place. When the question was being discussed in entire country whether or not the election would be held in Kashmir thereafter a severe attack by the terrorists and at that time you were in the Government but you did not attend rally held in Shrinagar Valley to seek votes in the election.

[Translation]

As you were apprehensive that being a Home Minister you could not have asked for votes, and face the Parliament? I am aware of all these facts. *[English]* What is politics and what is the responsibility of the Opposition Leaders in the public domain. I am not questioning that *[Translation]* But I am saying that what has happened in Nandigram is in public domain. I will not speak on any legal matter. We are running the UPA Government with the support of leftists. We are running the Government with the single objective that the communal forces should not be spread in the country. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me make my point. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this going on? When they were interrupting then you were opposing them.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If I start on Nandigram, you will keep quiet and they will stop me. I know my situation today. You try to understand what I am saying.

What happened in Nandigram are not sudden and sporadic incidents of violence. Nandigram violence has its basis in the concept of forming an SEZ with four thousand acres of land to start with which was later increased to ten thousand acres. That the Government desired to set up an SEZ there is not a matter of talk or comment by journalists. It was a fact evident from the State Government's own application to the Government of India asking for permission.

Violence took place in Nandigram on 3rd January. Try to understand Nandigram geographically. Nandigram comprises two blocks—Block 1 and Block 2. On the border of Nandigram is a Block called Khejuri. Advaniji has been there, he would know this. If anybody wants to enter Block 1 of Nandigram he has to go first through Nandigram Block 2 after which he can go either straight to Nandigram or reach Nandigram via Khejuri. So, the first point of entry to the town is at Nandigram 2 and then the second entry point is via Khejuri on the bridge.

The name Nandigram is very near to me and I have an emotional attachment with it because I used to win every time from that college when I was students Organization Chhatra Parishad President. There was no bus facility to reach Nandigram directly in those days as there was no bridge then. We had to reach there by changing boats twice.

After Independence, Tamluk zone was dominated either by the Congress at one time, then by Bangla Congress led by Ajoy Mukherjee, and then decisively by CPT. CPI(M) came much later. All the leaders of CPI.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Congress and Bangla Congress were there at that time but there was no violence of any kind. We had political differences and electoral differences amongst us, but violence of this kind was never witnessed in Nandigram. It was a very peaceful area. Forty-five per cent of the population was Muslim. Barring two to three per cent, rest of the population comprises Scheduled Castes, poorest of the poor Scheduled Castes.

Politically, Nandigram Block 1 is decisively dominated—I use the word consciously—by the Left Front in Block and Gram Panchayats.

13.00 hrs.

Among the Left Front, a decisive majority was of the CPI(M) Party; they won the election. The Congress is a microscopic minority in terms of panchayat Presidentship. TMC has something which is a little over us, but it is not a significant force. Till 1996, we had been there; that is different; CPI is there.

What I witnessed there on the 3rd January incident is not a fight between Maoists, naxalities, etc. I do not know why you often use the word 'Maoist'; I may differ with the philosophy; I belong to Gandhiji's Party. But the name Mao Zedong is a name to the whole world for his revolution, but one may differ. I feel very sick when people accuse it saying, 'Maoist, Maoist, Maoist'. Mao Zedong philosophy and Mao Zedong himself is not a matter to be condemned; one can differ. His poetry was very good and if a boy, up to the age of 18 years, even if he is belonging to the BJP family, reads his books and poetry, you feel fresh to go and jump into the harvesting fields. That is the spirit.

Regarding this, I asked the journalists, 'You can say 'extremists', you can say 'naxalites', but why do you say 'Maoists'? Why do you say so? Even Great Lenin was there. One can preach anything. Now, there is a new style of putting it—they put ML, within brackets. I say that both of them are wrong. One can accuse and one can abuse gallery of people—it may be Lenin or Mao Zedong or Karl Marx. So, this terminology is not

fair, not proper and I differ and distance myself with that culture.

On 2nd and 3rd January, unfortunately a notice, a comprehensive notification by Haldia notified authority, to acquire the land was issued in the office of the BDO. That notice provoked the people there because their lands were supposed to be acquired. Immediately, it went like a fire; in the entire land of Nandigram, substantially there are 3-4 *maujas*. It went like a fire there. I tell you, please for God's sake, do not accuse that on that day, it was done by the Congress or by the TMC or by the BJP or by the Naxalites. It was done by the common people, overwhelming bulk of whom supported and stood by the CPI (M) party which was in power, right from Panchayats. Assembly and the Parliament. It is not that they shouted *vande mataram* or anything like that.

They even said that firstly it may not be in the knowledge of our Chief Minister. Even somebody told me that unless he is informed, nothing will be happening. And I say everything on record; I am a responsible man in Parliament; I know everything is going into the proceedings.

From that field, I rang up the Chief Minister and the Chief Minister himself conveyed to me and asked me to talk of peace there; I know how it was done; it was absolutely wrong; it cannot be tolerated; I will withdraw it by tonight or tomorrow; give me some time; it is not in my knowledge. I wrote a very nice three-page letter to the Chief Minister, narrating what I saw there. I thanked him, that the next day morning, he withdrew it. So, the withdrawal was done by the State Government instantly; it was broadcast on the radio and the TV also. But by that time, the incident took place; it was almost like this—if something is declared by some leader, I do not like to mention anybody's name here, it should be implemented. I appealed to the party on that day and to everybody; please understand the complications there. Why are we there? Why is there a tri-colour Party in Nandigram? We may not have won even a Panchayat or a Gram Panchayat seat. Kumari Mamata might not have won, in those days, even two

Panchayat samiti seats, but they are the people of the party which is ruling. They felt it this way; why did they feel so? Try to understand the psychology. It is not that somebody tried to hit them; they felt, according to the established law, that even if you take a land, compensation is paid to the land owner. But the owner is one. But according to the latest Government's programmes and policies, which I support—we have supported earlier also and we also had the same policy—the sharecropper must have a right in the land, whatever he cultivates, he should get the due share.

Over the years, a few landlords feel that there is no point in sticking to the land and that they should go back to Kolkata, Burdwan or some city and take care of the children as now it is gone. Good or bad, the real poor people and the sharecroppers got the benefit. The sharecroppers argued that in the name of compensation, money is to go to the land owners. They may be five people in Kolkata or a big city but what about the sharecroppers. The sharecroppers are not in the compensation clause or the compensation victim. How do they feed their children? They all got united and said that enough is enough and that they cannot stake their land. That is one reason.

After the first firing, two out of six victims' houses could not be traced because their bodies were not traced. I visited three victims personally. One was a Muslim boy by the name Sheikh Salim. Sheikh Salim further told me that he had never voted for Congress. He further asked me to talk to anybody and confirm that he had received all the Leaders when they had come because from day one he was tilling this land as the sharecropper and he salutes his Party CPI (M). He asked me to look his son who is six years' old.

I then went to Bharat Mandal's house. He is a *thelawala's* son. He lives in a thatched house and cannot prepare his food. I asked him does he belong to any party.

[Translation]

No, Sir, whenever the people of Communist Party

come, I participate on their procession and Caste Vote on there symbol.

[English]

He is a Scheduled Caste boy. From there, in a confidential note, I conveyed everything in writing to the hon. Chief Minister whose feelings I realised on that night. I told them do not misunderstand the Chief Minister. It is not he who did it. Maybe some officer did it without his knowledge. Please talk of peace. West Bengal Police, Intelligence Branch can carry my speech in Nandigram. It was tape recorded. There was mike and everything and I only talked about peace, peace and harmony because I knew that any time the situation might turn to worse. I have seen the good and bad days of the violence of 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971. I did not want the youth in every district of Bengal to be converted again into youth with gun. Never! The Chief Minister did share with me his concern. I do not want to say anything more.

I did inform my colleague, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, whom I talked. I respect him. I informed Shri Rupchand Pal one of the sensible leaders of the Party and Shri Abani Roy, Member of the other House that I am getting this kind of information and could they talk to the people so that things could be taken care of. I am not blaming anybody. If he finds something going wrong in a State where Congress is ruling and as a comrade asks me to convey, it is not my duty to convey that. It is mutual friendship and brotherhood that works in political fraternity.

Things went beyond control. When it went beyond control, the fight started as to do they really want to retain the land as it is. Those who tried to propagate the campaign, that it should be done, were the boss of the local area. You can hit me. I do not mind. You can criticise me. Please try to understand the inner line. That could have been controlled on day one. I have been taking the position from day one and today also that, cutting across Party line, if those who were identified by the police to be involved in January incidents could have been booked and brought to justice, things would have taken a different turn.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Advaniji, on 9th January I was there the whole day. I travelled on the motor bike because they had dug the road and no car could move. I was without my personal security. Whatever little lunch I took, I took it in a house of a Marxist friend who worked for the Party and then changed his view that if his land would go what he would do. I explained him. Those who showed me the path and took me to the area where the woman was hiding in a jungle in Gokul Nagar were not the Congressmen but they were the CPI friends, who were in the hospital, who took me there quietly.

I am not blaming that it was done by any party leader. But sometimes one tends to blame the party leaders. But that is a different matter. No leader of a party would like that his cadre be given direction to assault someone. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Shri Dasmunsi, they did not allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not fair. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I can tell you that your question could have been best answered by Ms. Mamta Banerjee, but unfortunately she is not here today. Smt. Medha Patkar was prevented; Ms. Mamta Banerjee was prevented; the CLP leader was prevented; the Congress delegation was prevented, but only Advaniji was not prevented. Therefore, it is you who should explain it and not me...*(Interruptions)* I thank you for the support you got from the people there. I wish you would carry the saffron flag there in the days to come. Please do not misunderstand the whole thing. Try to understand it. Please do not belittle the issue. Why should I question you, or why should you question me? The entire national media, all television channels are a witness to what happened there from 3rd January to 9th January and what happened from 6 a.m. on 13th March to 14th March. Who am I? If you have respect

*Not recorded.

for the freedom of the media, then you may collect the cassettes and look at them. I can tell you that one day very important leaders, I do not want to take their names, said that please do not talk to Ms. Mamta Banerjee; please do not talk to Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi; please do not talk to the BJP; please do not talk to the Left Front, in your own control room call your DG, call your SP and introspect on the cassettes and you take your own decisions. Nothing will happen. But unfortunately nobody attempted that.

Sir, I am from Bengal and naturally if something goes wrong there I would cry before the State Government, then before the Home Minister and if I do not give an objective picture and instead present a partisan view every time with the consideration whether it will be gainful for the Congress, or for the TMC or for the BJP, then I will be doing injustice to this House. This is where the things had started. I would like to repeat that those who are not present in the House, taking their names is wrong according to parliamentary practices, but eminent leaders of the Left Front, stalwarts, like those who are like my father had said that it is the correct approach. Those who have done this should first be brought to justice and then a dialogue should be started with the responsible parties and if even in spite of such an effort they do not listen, then nobody will object to any action taken by the Government. I must also say here that a very senior leader of the Left Front tried to start that process with all sincerity but he could not take it to its logical conclusion because by that time things had taken a different turn. This situation happened at that time. I was a little upset. Many leaders of the CPI(M) misunderstood me; they have the right to misunderstand me. I respect them.

Sir, on the day of the brother's festival, on the 11th of November, I landed in Kolkata. I cried before my Home Minister. On that day the Youth Congress President called me up to say that just within 10 minutes his house would be torched and his 70 years old father was at home and his sister was waiting for him to give *tilak*. He did not go there to take the *tilak*. My mobile was recording the time when I talked to the DG. He asked for my help. I told the Additional SP to take care

of the situation and assured him that nothing will happen. Just after 15 minutes I got a call on my mobile and the Youth Congress president informed me that he was in the jungle and that he would never listen to me and that he would never align with the Congress. He was emotional. He told me that his 70 years old father was dragged on the road tied with a rope. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Transaltion]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: First of all, listen to me...*(Interruptions)* He said that his house was burnt to ashes.

[English]

MD. SALIM: What is the name of that person?

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: His name is Shri Sabuj Pradhan. Should I take the other names? ...*(Interruptions)* Should I take the other names on record? ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Salim, should I take other names on record? ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: The house was the centre of Maoist activists. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If he is a maoist, then I am also a Maoist.

MR. SPEAKER: He will reply to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on here?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Please do not try to talk like that. I am not giving other names. Shrimati Anubha, the wife of one of your Party activists, Mr. Khara, on 14th March, was raped in Tamluk. He is a party activist of yours. ...*(Interruptions)* And you are talking like this. Should I furnish you the list? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): There may be criticisms like these. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. You are right. I agree with you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I am only trying to give an objective assessment. ...*(Interruptions)* Then I felt that something is very wrong. Then of course, there are other things and if I talk on them, I think, I will not be able to conclude my speech. I only say one point. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta may accuse me. I only say that the entire Left Front and its constituents tried to build up an environment of dialogue and peace, and not repression and counter-attack. When I use the word 'counter-attack', I mean that there could have been somebody attacked from their side also. I will not feel happy if a CPI(M) mother says that her son is killed. I will not get back. Or if a Congress mother says that her son is killed, I will not get back. Mother is mother. If a Congress man goes without the direction of the party and assaults women who belong to the CPI(M), I will take it as an assault on my mother because mother is a mother irrespective of the colour of the party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow such interruptions at all.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Therefore, I think that objective introspection is required in the whole matter. The people who are in the refugee camp and people who are outside the village should be brought to their homes under safe custody. I say that there should be not only peace but also harmony because there are attempts from some quarters to disturb harmony. I salute those people who did not disturb the harmony. As far as my knowledge goes, in the history of West Bengal, I have never heard of such isolated incidents for nine months in a particular area like Nandigram. It has never happened before. And I think, if I may say with all respect, my views may not be shared by many today. But my views will be shared by some people.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

I do not like to speak much on this issue today. If poetry is to be written, let it not be written by the BJP or the Congress or the Trinamul Congress; let it be written by Leftist poet, Shri Jai Goswami. If a painting is to be drawn, let it be drawn by Leftist sculptor and painter, Shri Jogen Choudhry. If a book is to be written, let it not be written by any political person but by the Gnanpith Award winner, a permanent Leftist leaning writer, Shrimati Mahashivetata Devi. If a film is to be made, let it be made by Aparna Sen and Mrinal Sen. If any drama is to be staged, let it be by Saonli Mitra. If any book is to be published, let it be published by those who returned the Ravindra Puraskar and other puraskars who are committed Leftists, who opposed emergency, who criticized the Congress and paraded in the street of Calcutta. It is those persons who should write and not myself because I am a politically biased man. I leave it to the wisdom of those people.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.19 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seventeen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE—*Contd.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Proclamation (Hindi and English versions) dated 20th November, 2007 issued by the President under clause (1) of article 356

of the Constitution in relation to the State of Karnataka published in Notification No. G.S.R. 723 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2007 under article 356 (3) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7226/07]

- (2) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) dated 20th November, 2007 made by the President in pursuance of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the above Proclamation published in Notification No. G.S.R. 724 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 2007.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7227/07]

- (3) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Governor of Karnataka dated the 19th November, 2007 to the President.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 7228/07]

14.18 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Proposal to set up Special Economic Zone in Nandigram, West Bengal and consequent large scale violence—*contd.*

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Now, bullets are being fired in Kolkata. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Every State matter cannot be brought like this. You know it very well.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, it will be discussed, this matter does not relate to the Union Government.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: People are being killed there.

MR. SPEAKER: Please, don't say like this, it is not proper. Not a single person has been killed.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do this and don't spread rumours like this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after a long interruption and pandemonium, this matter is being discussed. I would like to thank you for taking initiative with the advice of the senior Minister Shri Sharad Pawarji, a discussion is being taking place over this issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am thankful to all the hon. Leaders.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Right from the beginning we wanted a discussion over SEZ and other matters related to it. But whatever be the reasons, both sides of the House were not ready for this discussion. Even today technically discussion on SEZ has been decided but issue of Nandigram has become the main issue. The stand of our party towards SEZ is clear. We have been asking the UPA Government right from the beginning not to implement the policies of the Central Government. Even in the Parliamentary Committee discussion was held in this regard that a number of reforms should be brought about and the request was made that the Land Acquisition Act and the policy on SEZ were required to be amended. The Government made a statement that the policy on SEZ will not be approved unless and until there is a rehabilitation package. But it has been observed that such approval continues to be accorded. There is statement of CPI(M) Polit Bureau made in the

month of February and the West Bengal Government has announced that unless and until the SEZ legislation and the Land Acquisition Act are amended and Rehabilitation Policy is made in regard to SEZ we...(Interruptions)

SHRI UDAY SINGH (Purnea): Why are you mentioning about Nandigram?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do this. This is very unfair. [Translation] This is not proper. Sometimes interventions are justified.

MD. SALIM: Please go through it, we are not going to moot any proposal on SEZ. The Chief Minister announced in the public meeting in East Midnapur to leave the issue of SEZ. There was a proposal of industrialization at Nandigram as the farmers and villagers have protested against it and atmosphere was very tense there. I am mentioning it. The Government of India have a proposal in regard to PCPIR. I would like to ask first question to the hon'ble Minister as to whether any proposal on SEZ have been sponsored by the Union government for Nandigram in the wake of the settling up of about two or three hundred SEZs out of 400 proposals received by the Government. Whether there is any program sponsored by the West Bengal Government at Nandigram? There is much ado about nothing. Anybody can take interest in it. P.C.P.I.R. is a policy of the Government of India for Petrochemicals and Petroleum investment region. It was demanded by the Government of Gujarat but we wanted that these should be established in Bay of Bengal, in the eastern region also because the new sunrise industries of petrochemicals are mostly located in the western coast than in the eastern coast. From the very beginning we have demanded it in western coast. But, later on it struck to our mind that it can be established at Haldia port too offshore on the bank of the Haldia River. This was the proposed about P.C.P.I.R. but not about S.E.Z. Since, it was a matter of Petroleum and Petrochemicals so the Government of West bengal signed an M.O.U. with Indian Oil Corporation that anchor investor will be Indian Oil Corporation. As per rules in P.C.P.I.R., the

[Md. Salim]

infrastructure can be developed by a foreign or an indigenous institution. But the Left Government thinks that let the Union Government prepare a plan and let everyone agree but it cannot be implemented because we cannot go ahead on the path of development unless and until we involve the people and the panchayat because the development is related to the people. That is the reason that a child was given name before his birth. Or course, what happened in Nandigram is a very sad incident. I am on my legs here, it is really a very sad incident for us and it is not a matter of happiness. Because whosoever lost his life in the whole disturbance, be it the poor, farmers, villagers of that area or from other place, whether from this political party or some other political party, they have ultimately lost their lives. This situation of helplessness is prevailing there for the last 11 months. Shri Advaniji and Shri Dasmunshiji have also said the same thing that this is not a fresh situation but it started on 3rd or 4th January and has been raised here now. The way the people are losing their lives is very sad. There is no point in seeing the religion or the political inclination of the person. I am a representative of Bengal, so my anguish is more than others. I am quoting Advanini that the incidents that took place on the question of Nandigram and SEZ are not restricted to that place only. There are many larger questions involved in it. Many questions have been raised. If we do not discuss things dispassionately or look at an issue very emotionally or with a narrow political view, than it may be possible that on the issue of Nandigram, some people may get a few benefits and some people may suffer any loss, but the issue of SEZ, land related issues, the new paths of development that we are following in the era of globalization in the 21st century have raised many questions which need to be debated. It would be better if we have a discussion on these issues in the Parliament. We believe in democracy, parliamentary democracy, dialogue, discussion, debates and we cannot find a solution without it. The first standoff that took place in Nandigram was that the elected government and the elected opposition parties are saying for the last 11 months that they will not take part in any all-

party meeting. They are saying that they will not make any discussion. On what issues? There are decisions regarding PCPIR, it will not be done by CPI. It is not the decision of the Chief Minister. I am in the Parliament. As we have Parliamentary and Standing Committees, same way, there are committees on the subjects in Assembly. There is a Standing Committee of West Bengal Assembly whose Chairman is our old Member of Parliament from Congress party and who is presently member of Legislative Assembly Mr. Sudip Bandhopadhyay. This committee is also represented by the members of Trinamool Congress party. The took a decision on 19 December 2006 that Nandigram may be a better place and hence Nandigram was identified for the purpose. *[English]* I am again repeating that it is not as SEZ for the investment of PCPIR by both the Central government and the State Government. *[Translation]* It may be a convenient place but no decision has been taken. From where it was started? On third instance a news came that Pradhan of Gram Sabha and many elected heads of Gram panchayats were holding a meeting which witnessed a noisy scene letter on. It did not happen in one day. Campaigning in this regard was taking place much before. Before this, it was being propagated that this meeting has been called for land acquisition. We are Members of Parliament. Rest of the people can speak and the journalists can also write anything. The Panchayat do not acquire land by calling a meeting. As per Land Acquisition Act, it is required to be notified by the district collectors and a notice is required to be given in this regard.

There is Nirmal Gram Yojana launched by our Raghuvanshji and Midnapur district, in which Nandigram is also there, has done the best work. It will be awarded for this but before that a central team will visit there. Central team has visited many villages. On 14th and 15th it will visit Nandigram also. For this, a presentation is required to be given. Central team is visiting. A meeting for this purpose is being called. Why am I saying? I am saying all these things because we have to find out the truth. I am not saying that only I am saying the truth. Since, such an atmosphere was created and a malicious campaign was launched, such incidents

happened that it has become difficult to find out the truth. There is lot of difference between facts and fiction. I am saying all these things because for the last one year this campaign is going on. It is still going on. I am not calling all the campaign malicious. What I am stressing is that if in a village, Gram Pradhan calls a meeting and from neighbouring places people under the leadership of an MLA come and say that this meeting will not be allowed and give a call to attack their office and lock it, attack the neighbouring health centre, beat the elected Gram Pradhan since he is an elected Pradhan belonging to CPM. Do not differentiate in it. We are elected Members of Parliament. One elected MLA belongs to CPI and not to CPI(M). But he cannot visit his constituency. Well, Member of Parliament Shri Laxman Seth cannot go there. Fatwa was issued against him. I am asking the hon'ble Members of Parliament that if today, whether it is a village or 22 villages or a district or any area, some people take a decision and issued a Fatwa that you cannot enter into that area despite your being a Member of Parliament and a popular personality, then, what will happen. But why they are doing this is because the farmers fear that their agriculture, their land and their means of earning will be snatched. If such fear prevails that whosoever comes here, be it a representative of the Central Government, a representative of panchayat, or an MLA or an MP or police or CPI (M) men, their land will be taken away. I am not calling those village men bad. Since their sole source of earning is their land, so you cannot discuss Nandigram issue barring the issue of land. I am again talking about Nandigram. So, it is obvious that a sense of fear was created, rumours were spread and a Fatwa was issued to tackle this issue. It was said that this meeting is taking place to take away their land. There are destitute and helpless people he has himself said that this area is inhabited by poor and backward people. That area is an island area, from wherever you come to this place, you will have to cross the river. Dasmunshiji himself has visited that place. On one side there is sea, and on rest of the sides there is a river. It was further said that there are 22 villages in the whole block and Government is saying that there may be 4 or 5 villages, but no one knows those villages, these

villages were neither identified nor notified. No Special development project was prepared that could have been submitted to the Central Government. Of course a thinking was there and attacks took place. I want to say that differences may appear in this Supreme Temple of Democracy, in the Supreme Panchayat of this country. We can oppose their views, they may not accept our policy, they can negate it. We can fight over a policy issue but the elected government, the elected panchayat, elected Members of Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament do not pay heed to their views. A party which has lost elections may take such a decision to put a lock on the Panchayat office, the office of their MLA, and stop entry of the Member of Parliament, if MLA comes, then beat him up and throw him out. It may be that they are men of CPI, but don't look at this issue with a narrow view. I am not talking on this issue with media people or intellectuals. I am saying these things to the Members of Parliament who are called custodian of the democracy and who are growing and developing in the democracy. If it is said that if this happens, then they will not oppose. It so happens. It may be possible that some may take political advantage out of it. Since it became a popular issue, we need to introspect why this misunderstanding surfaced. Why should we believe such rumours? But the incident did happen. Mr. Shankar Samant was assassinated on the 6th in Nandigram and his house was burnt and he was cut to pieces because he was a member of the elected Panchayat from CPM and he wanted that a chemical hub should be there. It may be otherwise. But if we give our support to the programmes of any elected government for political or other reasons, our Constitution or the law of the land does not permit us to cut them into pieces. They should not oppose it. Such things occurred in Bengal due to political reasons during 70's decade when semi fascist terror was unleashed 4-5 years before Emergency. All right, do not call them Maoists, it is fine because Das Munshiji was objecting to that but they came into existence at such a time. When people were attacking each other on the roads and uprooting and taking their political decision. We have traversed far long since then. ...*(Interruptions)* I am talking about history, it is witness to the events.

[Md. Salim]

The name of Sheikh Saleem who has been killed, has figured here and his dead body has been recovered. Now it is said about Shankar Samant that he was an intellectual. A team of intellectuals from Delhi had gone there. An intellectual remains an intellectual whether he be a leftist or rightist. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't get diverted.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: The facts finding team visited the village and talked to the people and I have got its report, it says that Shankar Samant used to beat village people, he was a proclaimed offender and belonged to CPM, he had unleashed atrocities on people and used to attack their houses and he was burnt to death for the same reason. It may be a new culture to settle political score but that report explains why Sheikh Saleem was assassinated. It is said that Shankar Samant was burnt because Sheikh Saleem was attacked in his house. The house of Sheikh Saleem is in South Kendrapada which, according to the map, is 15 kilometers away from the house of Shankar Samant.

If the imaginary cow of the story can ride a tree, Shankar Samant too could attack Sheikh Saleem from 1 kilometer's distance. You can say anything after killing anybody but I am narrating the facts, not fiction. I am not mentioning such an example. The Anand Bazar Patrika is one of the known big newspapers opponent of the leftists. An editorial was published in that Patrika on the 6th of January. After 4th January they are not aware of the whereabouts of Shankar Samant on the 6th of January whereas they say where the Maoists have come from and from where the CPM have brought these Maoists and why dub them as Maoists. The Anand Bazar Patrika wrote in the Editorial on the 6th of January 2007 that people were coming from outside to make attack as was reminiscent of the 17th century. We were told that big trenches were made to avoid the attacks from the east or the west, as nobody was sure of the direction. These attacks were carried out after

snatching of guns from policemen on the 3rd. Later on an MLA of the Trinmool returned the rifle January. It was returned by Shri Adhikari. They say that the pattern of the attacks shows that naxalites are involved in it. The pattern of the violence shows that people of the villages were instigated and included as attackers and elected gram pradhans were attacked, guns of the policemen were snatched and as they have rightly mentioned, it would not stop here. It may go long because the naxalite influence can be seen in it. I am having the editorial with me and I am not quoting from it because it is written in Bangla. It is in the Anand Bazar Patrika of 6th January. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please carry on and do not get diverted.

MD. SALIM: It is good that people read Mr. Ashok Mitra. Sh. Ashok Mitraji is calling the Modi government as fascist for the last six years. We do not want to discuss this issue. You kindly do not agree to it ...*(Interruptions)*

I would not describe the event. Since first week of January the Bhoomi Uched Pratirodh Committee (BUPC), which Mr. Advaniji has named as 'Bhoomi Se Visthapan Virodh Samiti' has representation of Trinmool Congress workers, one or two Congress people, Jamate-Ulema-e-Hind, BJP, three types of SSI and 22 types of Naxalites and certain Independent local people were associated because it was a popular movement. Nothing could have happened had it not been a popular movement. The Government announced in the month of February—the Chief Minister, the Polito Bureau of the CPI-M and the state committee do not want to carry out the work as the people are opposing it. The police could not enter there in view of the announcement. In Khezuri, the neighbouring block of that block, it was announced in a public meeting and afterwards by the D.M. too that land acquisition would not be carried out, notices were pasted everywhere including Gram Sabha and Block office. It was termed as land acquisition but no notice from the government was issued in this regard. But announcement had to be made in order to ward off the suspicion and rumours. But the issue did not end there. It was said that the police would not enter there.

The Union Minister had certainly not said that but since he has spoken here that is why I am saying that I am having the clippings with me. After the attack in the month of January, the Jamate-Congress Party organised a meeting in Nandigram with the help of Jamate-Ulema-Hind as no outsider can go there without the support of the Congress, Trinmool Congress and Jamate-Ulema-Hind. A former minister of West Bengal, who belongs to the Congress party, earlier he was with the Trinmool Congress, was present there, he used to say that he is speaking with responsibility, the Union Minister is sitting by his side, he asked the people to beat the police and CPM Cadre people whenever they see them. The former Minister, the former Mayor of Kolkata, some Trinmool workers and Congress workers formed the congregation, people know it. I was not present there. I read the Bangla newspaper that was published next day.

MR. SPEAKER: Please leave it. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No interjections without my permission.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, you carry on please. You have to finish within ten minutes.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: It gives me great satisfaction to note

that the discussion is taking place in a very congenial atmosphere and every section is extending cooperation(Interruptions). The incident that took place on 14th March was very deplorable and painful. The hon'ble Chief Minister is in agreement with our viewpoint that the police shall be deployed in this trouble-torn area. One cannot imagine in a democratic set up that there should be a block where it is propagated that due to discontent among people, no police personnel, school teacher, Government employee and any personnel of Block Development Office would be allowed to enter that area. In such a scenario, this fortified citadal is still out of reach for some two thousand and five hundred leaders, CPM workers, leaders, the elected representatives of the Panchayat. All of them are stationed outside this area. They have been thrown out of this area. This involves the question of humanity and human rights. They are saying that some 400-500 people, who are the supporters of 'Bhumi Uchched Pratirodh Committee have not returned to their houses do for. I agree that they have an equal right to return to their villages and families and live peacefully. Is it not the responsibility of the CPM, the police administration and the Government of West Bengal to ensure that nobody is forced to flee leaving behind his home and hearth. However, unfortunately some 2500 people are living the life of refugee since January and facing untold miseries of life. Some children were born in exile and died due to illness. There were murders and mayhem. Illtreatment and injustice was perpetrated on the women folk of the families who fled their villages. These women were raped and thereafter hanged from the trees. This, surely, is highly condemnable and uncivilized. The police too is handicapped even to register a case and investigate it. Prior to 14th March, the police personnel, Sadhusant Chatterjee, S.I. alongwith some personnel of the I.B. sneaked into the area in plain clothes, but they were lynched. I agree that it would not be in the fitness of things to use fire arms for killing the CPM cadres. But the moot point is how could a decision be arrived at on 14th March itself though several rounds of all parties meetings were held earlier. On 10th of March, an all party meeting convened in the office of the District Collector, discussed that

*Not recorded.

[Md. Salim]

roads, culverts, bridges etc. were destroyed. The people were facing many hardships. The ambulance could not be pressed into service etc. It should be restored. Only the representatives of the left parties and the BJP could reach there. The Congress and the Trinamul Congress boycotted the meeting. The all party meetings held so far, discussed ways to restore peace at the State, the district and the block level and if workers take a decision, they do not approve of that. But on 10th of March, it was decided that the masons and the police will visit the area to repair the damaged roads, culverts and bridges. There was the popular support, there was resistance and there was awareness as well. ...*(Interruptions)* As you are aware that this was highlighted on T.V., video, SMS clippings and through various other devices all over the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down, your leader has already spoken.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, you have to take proper permission before you do that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of defending. Do not make any aspersions. Enough is enough.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not defending anything. I want the debate to continue in a proper manner. I have nothing to do. I have allowed this Motion.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: The meeting held at SDO and DM offices and attended by people is right. That is why I have said that those who had boycotted the meeting had infact not boycotted it. They had promised to attend the meeting but could not attend it. I mentioned the name of BJP as they cannot mention it. I would like to tell them that their representative were present in the meeting...*(Interruptions)* The members of BJP were present there and said that right decision has been taken in the meeting. They said that police should be deployed there however, when there was public resistance several people were killed in police firing. Eight people were killed in police firing. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): More than 100 people were killed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It will not be recorded.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Around 600 people are missing there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri L.K. Advani has delivered a very good speech.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you stop it?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Otherwis, I will call the next speaker.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra is saying

*Not recorded.

correctly as he knows that whenever killing takes place, it takes place on large scale, similarly, it took place in Godhara, there the number was high. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, you address the Chair, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Home Minister towards the speech delivered by him in the House on 13th March, 2006 regarding naxalite problem. He had given status paper in this regard. I would read one paragraph:

[English]

Para 1.1 says:

"The Naxalite movement continues to persist in terms of spatial spread, intensity of violence, militarisation and consolidation, ominous linkages with subversive or secessionist groups and increased efforts to elicit mass support. The naxalites operate in vacuum created by absence of administrative and political institutions, espouse the local demands and take advantage of the disenchantment prevalent among the exploited segments of the population..."

One is the absence of administrative mechanism; then there is vacuum where political institution is not functioning. That is the strategy in accordance with the Home Ministry's document saying how Naxalites have changed their strategy and how they are doing it. It is not a CPM document. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Unless he yields, I would not allow.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, firing is taking place in Kolkata. The Rajya Sabha has been adjourned. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You take your seat. Maybe Rajya Sabha has adjourned. You are not a journalist.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Sir, earlier also I had said that they will express their news and then create uproar in the House and will not allow us to express our views. Therefore I am concluding my speech...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Home Minister is here; he should make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Very well appreciated; Kolkata is not under his jurisdiction.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, he is concluding his speech. However I would like to know as to what is happening in Kolkata. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on? I am sorry, you are deliberately disturbing the debate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? You cannot just get up at any moment you like and demand a statement.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, I would not allow it.

Nothing will be recorded. It will not be recorded.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Salim, Please conclude now

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the method, Mr. Malhotra. Knowing everything, you are raising this point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, you address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: Sir, they wanted to create uproar in the House after concluding their speeches so that we may not be able to express our views. That is why I had said that our views should also be heard *...(Interruptions)*. I expect the Union Minister to at least follow the advice of his Government. Just now, the Union Minister has said as to why the word 'Mao' is used. Mao tse Tung was a young leader. We also respect him but I would like to point out the direction taken by his followers. Just now, Shri L.K. Advani was reading the 20th report of Communist Party of Soviet Union. I would like to tell him that there is no need for him to go that far. He can have a look at the Maoist report to when he was Home Minister. Even, I would also read that. I am quoting what National Security Advisor has said to the media. The hon'ble Prime Minister while travelling to Moscow on board India plane, he said—

[English]

"The Maoists said at their 9th Congress that wherever there is an opportunity, they will get in. This is one area that they have entered into. ..."

What is that area? *[Translation]* Prior to this, he says that.

*Not recorded.

[English]

"It was deeply concerned about the role of Maoists in the simmering conflict at Nandigram in West Bengal."

[Translation]

The present Security Advisor is asking as to how the Maoist entered into that area.

[English]

He said: "Some of the violence can be attributed to Maoists. *...(Interruptions)*"

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, you are a senior Member. Please do not give a running commentary. I respect you so much.

...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: It is a matter of concern for both the Government of India and the Government of West Bengal. *...(Interruptions)* *[Translation]* He is also saying that *[English]* Delhi is concerned. Kolkata is also deeply concerned. The idea is to ensure that no more lives are lost and those who have been driven out and blocked from returning to their homes can do so with minimum violence and casualties. *[Translation]* The National Security Advisor has given this Statement in October-November before his visit to Moscow. The hon'ble Prime Minister in his speech on 13th April 2006 has said: *[English]* "It would not be an exaggeration to say that the problem of naxalism is the single biggest internal security challenge ever faced by our country. I have been carefully listening to all of you and I have also interacted separately..."

[Translation]

But now, the Union Minister just wondered where from the word 'Mao' has originated. The MCC and PWG were formed in Jharkhand. Similarly, when in Andhra Pradesh, Maoist Communist Party was formed, at that time some people assumed that an alternative CPM has been formed. On 19th November last year, Advani had given speech in this House regarding Internal Security

as Bharatiya Janata Party and NDA give importance to internal security. At that time, I was listening to the speech of Shri Advaniji. In that speech, he had said only one line regarding naxalism, however, today he has not even mentioned that one line. Even Kumari Mamata Banarjee also in her speech delivered in Bankura and Tejpur had said that if we could not defeat CPM in election, then we would seek the assistance of Maoist. Hence, it is the helplessness of NDA that they can give speech on internal security but cannot speak even one word against 'Maoist'. Is it not harmful for the country? He is saying that 170-175 districts of the country are affected by Naxalism, however, the Union Minister is saying from where the word 'Maoist' has come up? We don't want to convert Bengal into Bhayandar and Dantewada. I would like to know as to why Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have become breeding ground for Maoists? If L.K. Advaniji, who is considered as Iron man, adopts soft attitude towards Maoist for political reasons then Communist Party (Marxist) has to take the responsibility of protecting the country from Maoists. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is the consequence of their 30 years of rule in West Bengal. They visit Nepal and request 'Prachand'. ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: Why he is saying that we are in power in Bengal for the last 30 years?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your due permission, I would like to quote the speech of Shri Advani delivered on November 19 in regard to internal security in this very House. Today, he has made a mention of the Governor, the IG and the DIG, but last time he said all these things not in a discussion on a matter related to Bengal or CPM, but during interruptions in the hon'ble Home Minister's speech. In that speech it was said that he was a senior Member and had been a Minister as well, therefore, he should not make a mention of the IG and the DIG. But today he listened to everything patiently. It is good. There is only one line about naxalism in Advaniji's speech that "the political instability which arises in naxalite affected areas is a matter of great concern. I am saying it on the basis of what I have been told, I have not directly interacted with anybody",

then he further said "but I know that the desire to build a red corridor from Pashupati to Tirupati should not be given any kind of support." Advaniji was speaking about Pashupati to Tirupati to refer to the Maoists is not the Left Front.

[English]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You are there for 30 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, you address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you please conclude.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: He might have been talking of Maoist threat, therefore he said 'from Pashupati to Tirupati,' one year ago, it was from 'Pashupati to Tirupati', now how it has come to mind.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. Please conclude now.

MD. SALIM: Give me some time. I am concluding.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not get diverted. That is what I am requesting.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Now, I am coming to the sad incident of October-Novemebr. Since March, 2500 people were homeless, he was not worried, it is good, Advaniji visited that place twice. He visited that place after the March incident and also after the November incident. In the intervening period, Nandigram had been forgotten as if there were no problems at Nandigram, the killings had not been taking place over there. 27 CPI(M) activists were killed. I am not saying that the Trinamul Congress or the B.O.P.S. did it, they not even have the morale. Nowadays, people hire killers. As per the I.B. report coming after March, Maoists have been indicted from Jharkhand, other districts of Bengal, Midnapore, the bordering areas of Orissa, Purulia and Bankura of West

[Md. Salim]

Bengal since April-May. Today, the Maoists have not called 'bandh' of 48 hours just like that only. I am saying that against whom this fight is going on...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: They are your friends only, whom are they murdering to ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: They talk about law and order over there, why criticism is being done here, why are they speaking so. If he has raised the matter, then he has to listen to the reply also.

MD. SALIM: This happens. You will raise matter over here and they will continue to carry out their work over there. This leaflet is of Maoists. I am not saying this. The Maoists had distributed leaflets in Bengali on the 30th of March that many people, particularly of Trinamool Congress are thinking that war for land is being fought between the C.P.M. and the Trinamool in Nandigram, but their leaders are under a misconception. Their leaflet is in Bengali, therefore, I am speaking its gist in Hindi. This is our 'Muktanchal' against the State for independence and in the defence of our motherland, it may be called 'liberated zone'. It was done in Warangal and we will not allow anybody to enter this liberated zone. Both the Trinamool Congress and the CPM people should understand this. Therefore, 'Bandh' was called on 31st March. The Times of India, the DNA, the Economic Times, the Indian Express have reported in its favour. One may go through the newspaper reports of 31st October to 6th of November. Land mines and AK-47 are being recovered. The IB had received the information. Advaniji just said that journalists were not allowed to enter that place. Definitely, during the period from March to September, only one MLA had tried to enter that place. His flag was snatched and he was taken out of the vehicle and beaten. He fell and was admitted to hospital. When journalists visit that area search was done on them. But who conducted the searches? According to DNA, educated sophisticated youth from Kolkata not farmers of the villages used to conduct the search. They were called for propaganda because the Naxalite Students Union, Jadavpur University used to guide the media, they used to carry out searches.

The journalists were not allowed, mobiles were banned, not only the CPM, but the newspapers which did not support them were not allowed to enter. Cable TV was banned, transmitters were burnt, the whole area was totally cut off. If liberated zone was to be treated like this, then why force was used. Many places in Chhattisgarh, Dantewala, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh have been left to their mercy, should this place have also been left out like this. Certainly two kind of theories could have been evolved, I am giving benefit of doubt, one why they visited it and secondly, I am saying that we visited that place, because we have to go there. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Why the cadre, not the police visited there?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not respond to him. Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: I was speaking, but time is short. I can read out from the Government of India documents. *[English]* "How to tackle naxalies?" *[Translation]* I am quoting one line from its operative part. *[English]* "Political parties must strengthen their cadre base in naxal affected areas so that the potential youth there can be winged away from the path of the naxalite ideology." *[Translation]* Naxalism began in Bengal between 1967 and 1969. We fought against it ideologically, our leaders got eliminated physically and the new naxalism, called as Maoism is the produce of Andhra Pradesh, not that of Bengal. The workshop for manufacturing of country made guns was found there which also includes the arms seized during the last 6 to 8 months, from April to September.

15.00 hrs.

Youngsters are saying that they had set up brigades. I will not go into details of each matter, dozens of brigades of 40 people each had been set up to watch the situation. Certainly the Trinamool Congress, the Congress, the BJP and the general public were angry

with the CPM and the Government, they launched popular movements against the Government's land and industry policy but if Maoists, naxalites say that we cannot take it too far and to keep it librated, they can give this much about which I am not contending but are quoting the IB report. I can quote it from newspaper reports.

I am quoting a line from one para of DNA. *[English]* According to IB's findings, their fire power has increased significantly over these months. This is April-September period. *[Translation]* Therefore, there was not much disturbance from April to September. In September, when training was completed, forces were prepared, arms were smuggled in, smuggling did not take place in a crude manner, first trees were cut, then wood was smuggled. The factories were closed in Jalimanpeti, the racketeers of drugs and arms first prepare their route and passage through vegetarian smuggling. The naxalites of landlocked area were looking for a sea opening so that they could import arms and ammunitions and so they were in need of sea linkage. They got the place and opportunity. They are saying it themselves that it was not a struggle for land. Had it been for land then the day Left Front, CPI(M) and the Government said that the land would not be acquired there, the Committee on Displacement should have been wound up and there would have been celebrations, instead, but the matter became worse.

Undoubtedly, they can raise this point as to why did it happen, the matter could have been dealt with differently; there can be different ways of rationalizing an issue. It can be discussed democratically but if we distort the issue simply to draw political mileage then people defeated in the elections may understand that since they could not win the elections they would hire some musclemen and manufacture arms and thus taking control of the area they would not allow others to enter there. They would have control through Delhi. The State Government requested for CRPF on 27th October while the agitation took place on 5, 6 and 7 November. If the CPI(M), State Government, Left Front, and the CPM party had thought of attacking jointly, the Chief Minister, Government of West Bengal would not

have written the Ministry of Home asking for CRPF support. I can quote this document. Our Minister of Home Affairs had given this assurance in the House that he would render all support or send para military force whatever is required to combat naxalites. On 27 October, the Government of Bengal wrote a letter asking for CRPF and they are accusing as to why the Police was not sent. After January, all parties intellectuals including some of our left allies said that the Police should not have gone there. It would worsen the situation. I myself wrote in Business Standard dated 22 January that there was buzzword for CPIM and Left Front Government. Buzzword is patience and restraint. Since I knew that people have been misled through lies, misgivings and rumours, when they would come to know the reality after four-six months that it was not true then its foundation would weaken. When that foundation weakened then they tried to control the situation through arms and ammunitions, terrorism and through Maoists. If two and a half thousand people go to their families on Diwali after 11 old month, you call it re-capture. Malhotraji, you are Deputy leader, you have concern for Lok Sabha. If we oppose you and ask you to go out of this office then if you come back with a support, it would be called re-capture. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record anything

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: These are not my words. Shri Vidyut Rai from Indian Express writes from Kolkata on 3 November just before the incident.

[English]

"It is official now. The Maoists have taken control of the Nandigram, the East Midnapore block that has witnessed violence..."

*Not recorded.

[Md. Salim]

Initially, Mamata Banerjee and her Trinamool Congress had taken charge of what began as a spontaneous movement..."

[Translation]

There was joint command. They will have to answer to the country. *...These are not my words. I understand your compulsions. There is a tug of war between BJP and Congress for Trinamool Congress and we the people of Bengal have been trapped in that tug of war. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record it.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Swain, you are a senior Member now.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

(Interruptions)...*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not do this. You are a senior Member. You cannot go on like this.

Shri Salim, please conclude now.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: This is a very important issue. If Shri Dasmunsiji had been here, it would have been better. I am referring to a Union Minister with your permission. The Government of Bengal wrote a letter on 27 October seeking the help of Paramilitary Force, CRPF for combating naxalite militants and to avoid the imminent danger of major violence. The Union Minister announced on television channel and newspaper that he would sit

*Not recorded.

on fast unto death if the CRPF was sent to Nandigram. ...*(Interruptions)* he would not allow it. They are talking of violence on 6 or 7 November didn't the Ministry of Home reply to the State Government of Bengal that they are not having CRPF as it has already been deployed in Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh due to elections. It is also busy in naxalite areas, Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh. I urge him to rise to the occasion and behave like a Union Minister instead of behaving like a petty politician. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): He cannot address the Home Minister like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Home Minister can reply to this.*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: I expect him to become leader of the nation. I thank the Ministry of Home, the Minister of Home Affairs. Hon. Shri Shivraj Patil and Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherji. The Chief Minister contacted the Home Ministry on 5th November after getting information and held talks at political and administrative level and asked for CRPF support. On one hand these people contended that they would not allow the State Police to enter, on the other there were Maoists possessing AK 47. State Police is not equipped with it. CRPF has a special battalion to fight with the ordinary mob. In such a terrain CRPF fought in Chhattisgarh and in Jharkhand. It is fighting in Jammu Kashmir. The State Police cannot handle the situation there with ordinary arms since land mines are laid there. Three CPI(M) party workers were killed in land mine blast in the end of October and beginning of November. In such a situation

anti-land mine vehicles are required which the State Police does not have. I thank the Union Home Ministry for taking a decision on 10th November with regard to moving the CRPF there. On 12th of November the CRPF arrived in Bengal. The Trinmool Congress, SUC, Naxalites, BJP and Congress were giving a call for bandh on the 12th in Bengal. The Bandh was going on the Nandigram was in flames. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That shows that the Government is keen to restore peace there.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MD. SALIM: Had we not been interested in restoring peace over there why we had asked for CRPF from the Home Ministry. Why the Home Affairs Minister would have talked to the Chief Minister and External Affairs Minister. Shri Dasmunsi should answer this as to why the CRPF could not go there. *[English]* CRPF is a Central Reserve Police Force; it is not Congress Reserve Police Force.

[Translation]

Whenever force would be needed for any region of the country, the Home Affairs Ministry would decide its deployment. * Therefore, I think that truth would come out sooner or later in the matter that has come to light. The incidents that took place between January to November are becoming clear gradually. I think that many of our supporters, intellectuals viewed the CD and in that CD the death of Shankar Sawant and his burnt home had been shown and it was projected that they were the workers of Trinmool Congress and the CPI(M) people have killed them. The incident of murder can very well be projected almost with virtual reality by film...and now they are claiming that they have killed Shankar Sawant. The story of the murder of Shankar Sawant culminated in the burning of the houses of CPI (M) people, disrobing the dignity of women and CD

*Not recorded.

was shown in the entire country and other countries to show how much atrocities have been committed. Even today we are saying that we. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb him.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: I would conclude my speech now because I have already taken too much of time. I would like to conclude my speech by quoting Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore that on the basis of truth. ...*(Interruptions)* definitely there is a danger.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not speak lightly.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Bengal is living in danger and it is because that...*[English]* the CPI(M) is the most ugly face in Indian politics, and CPI(M) is the bad guy in Indian politics.

[Translation]

Therefore the Jamaye Islami, Jamate Ulama-e-Hind, RSS, Congress, BJP, Naxalites can come together. There is a site of SUCI which is a leftist party. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI SI (Hyderabad): The Jamaye Islami has not extended you the support. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SLIM: They are campaigning for it since January everywhere that nothing like 'Jan Gan Man' exists, it is CPM versus the Muslims. It would be better, not to communalise it.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Azmi, you will speak later.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: Everyone has joined in it. We may have committed mistakes, we may have our weaknesses otherwise such controversy would not have arisen, but we have to settle this. Today I would make an appeal in the Parliament that the challenges that we are facing today should not be dealt with on Hindu-Muslim lines. ...*(Interruptions)* it should not be made a matter of petty politics. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is happening to you.

[English]

What is troubling you?

[Translation]

MD. SALIM: We have to talk about the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If someone interrupts in between the speech you stop them, you also follow the same line. It cannot go one way.

...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: This Parliament cannot be divided ...*(Interruptions)* It cannot be divided.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech now.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Md. Salim.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Md. Salim, please conclude your speech.

*Not recorded.

MD. SALIM: I think that if I quote Shri Rabindranath Tagore, then objection will not come. It is a very universal thing, and not a CPI(M) thing. Shri Tagore said long ago that:

"Let me not grope in vain, in the dark, but keep my mind still in the faith that the day will break and truth will appear in its simplicity."

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am again making a request to you that the Home Minister should inform the House about the happenings in Kolkata. The Army was called in there, it is not a small thing. The Home Affairs Minister is present here ...*(Interruptions)* He should tell the House about this. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Please ask him to give the information about this issue to the House.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What can be done if he is present here! He should be here because a debate is going on.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He has got the information. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, he has the information on this issue. Let it be shared with the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, if there is any information regarding this issue, then it should be stated here in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is not permitted like this. Any and every State matter cannot be allowed. I will not allow this.

Next speaker is Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tripathiji I am requesting you not to indulge in such things.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Gopalji, you can speak if you wish so. All of you please sit down.

[English]

I have not asked him to speak, and I have not requested him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: All right, I have given more due thought over it than you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Salim has said that the CPM Cadre is more powerful than the police. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not to be recorded. Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, I will have to name you and ask you to leave the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Swain, do not do this. What are you trying to do?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, but I will name you and you will have to go out of the House. If you do it one more time, then I will name you.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, please name me. ...(Interruptions) If you want, then I am walking out of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not asked you to do it. I am repeatedly requesting you to sit down as you are a senior Member of this House.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I am repeatedly requesting you not to do it, and you are deliberately doing it. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You say that it is a serious matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will also name you, if necessary.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Just manage the affairs that the Minister of Home Affairs may make statement on this matter before the House is adjourned.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will say nothing until I decide to do that.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Kindly decide on it.

MR. SPEAKER: You have to put it in a manner which is acceptable and not in the manner of disturbance. You know by this time that you cannot threaten me. By this time, you should know that I cannot be dictated.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, the matter which is being discussed here today ...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I have requested...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is an important matter. I have allowed it and this is the first discussion that is taking place in this Session. Let us do it in a proper manner.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, the issue which

[Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav]

is being discussed here today has been under discussion for a long time and a lot of things have been discussed through newspapers and other means. On one hand, things were being brought out by various magazines, newspapers and T.V. Channels and on the other, a letter explaining the situation of Nandigram was written to the Hon'ble Members of Parliament by Shri Sitaram Yechuri and Shri Basu Deb Acharia. At the outset, I want to say that the murder of the people was unfortunate, some of the people were rendered homeless and some of them are compelled to live out of their home, all these situations are unfortunate. All the people should make efforts to sort out this problem by rising above the party politics. I would like to express my points in brief as Hon'ble Advaniji, Dasmunsiji and Salimji have already explained all the things in detail. As far as the land acquisition for PCPIR at Nandigram is concerned, I have not been able to understand till now how this problem has assumed such a proportion when the Chief Minister of West Bengal had made the proclamation categorically that no chunk of the land will be acquired against the wishes of the people. When the Government is saying that no chunk of land will be acquired, then what are the circumstances under which the police and other people were stopped from reaching Nandigram. Why were the roads leading to Nandigram were broken and dug? Such type of work is done only by trained people. The common man generally cannot do such work that involves digging of roads to thwart the police force and other people reach at a certain place or cutting of the place from the rest of the world. It is a serious matter. How and why were such circumstances created. If we talk about naxalism, then you know very well that it is linked with a village of West Bengal, namely, Naxalwadi and that is why this movement has been christened as Naxal movement or Naxalism. But the West Bengal Government did not allow this movement to thrive in West Bengal State. In other parts of the country, this movement thrived, gained momentum and turned out to be a disquieting problem, be it Chhattishgarh or Jharkhand. Even in Uttar Pradesh a major incident took place and the same is known to the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs but there it was

controlled. It was the West Bengal Government which suppressed the movement to a complete failure and uprooted it as well. It is natural that the people related with naxal movement have a sort of feeling in their mind that it is the CPI(M) led Government which have crushed this movement much more than any other Government. Therefore, there might be involvement of such elements somewhere or the other. It is reported that it was done on a large-scale and in an organized way and the entire administration was seen in a State of vacuum and nobody was in a position to go there.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to convey one thing to all my friends, to this House and all the countrymen that whenever any succour or shelter has been provided to the extremists, be they our countrymen or from abroad, we have suffered a huge loss. It is not hidden to anybody that our two Prime Ministers had to sacrifice their lines. It is not a petty thing. So, if efforts are being made to assist the extremists in view of gaining political mileage, then there may be serious consequences.

Just one and a half year ago, elections were held in West Bengal. The Government duly elected by the people is in existence over there. The entire Government machinery was put on a halt, no one was able to reach there without the assistance of CRPF, people have to live out of their houses. This is a matter of serious concern not only for the Government of West Bengal or the people of that region but it is also a matter of serious concern for the country as we have been witnessing such incidents in all the States. Under such a situation, we will have to find a way out so that such elements are not able to take the benefit of the political opposition. Someone was saying how political mileage can be gained from it and by whom it may be gained, then I would like to say that this is not a matter of political mileage. Country is survive and most important, if it does not survive, how our politics will survive. There is a Member in the other House who is my teacher also. Once upon a time we wrote— "If the country is no more, then who will survive and if any one happens to survive, who will call him alive". If the country will not survive, there will be a lot of problems and we will

not be able to do politics and we cannot go to ask for votes.

The party which has been in power in West Bengal for about 25 years could not send to police forces to a part of West Bengal or a district. It can easily be perceived that if such a situation arises in this State, how much worse will be the situation in other parts of the country. But what happened there was unfortunate.

I would like to say one thing more. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is also present here. The Government play very vital role in democracy. But during the last few years, a new trend has emerged that some people start talking to the Press instead of talking to the Prime Minister or Minister of Home Affairs or the Chief Minister of the State. It is a serious matter. In this respect, I want to say that we have got high respect for His Excellency the Governor of West Bengal. But the way he has made statement with regard to Nandigram, it was totally in violation of the established parliamentary norms and conventions and hence the same should not have been done by him. He should have talked to the Chief Minister, Shri Buddhdeo Bhattacharya or he should have reported the entire situation either to the Prime Minister or to the Minister of Home Affairs. I think it is wrong to comment on any matter, acting as a party from the publicity point of view having though your version may be true. Such things should be avoided.

So far as the West Bengal Government is concerned, somewhere mistakes have been committed. The West Bengal Government should take stringent action against the persons who are found guilty. Wherever there was lacunae, wherever mistakes have been committed, whether the same has been committed by the police or any Member of their Cadre, it should be properly investigated and stringent action should be taken against those who are found guilty. Efforts should also be made for the resettlement of all those who have been removed from that area. I would like to tell all my friends that when the Chief Minister of the State is himself saying that there is no such scheme then if nearby Haldiya SEZ is set up on non-cultivable land, there should not be any objection from any quarter. No controversy should be created by instigating the common

people. There are a number of SEZs in India. Ten or twenty thousand acres of land has been allotted to even an individual and there was no discussion at all in this regard. Lakhs on acres of land is being acquired to construct a road from Balia to Bulandsahar along the Ganga river. There the people have launched an agitation. It was a very small thing and the Hon'ble Chief Minister has said stated that the land would not be acquired there and this was made public and despite that such a major incident occurred there. And hence what has happened there smacks of a big conspiracy and the West Bengal Government will have to unearth that conspiracy. They will have to expose the elements who are misleading the public in this manner. Beside this, I express my sympathy for all those families who have lost their family members. Compensation should be paid to them and arrangements should be made to construct their houses. CRPF should help in facilitating the return of the people to their houses. Whatever assistance is required for their rehabilitation, should be provided.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is a request from several sections of the House. I wish that it had been made in a different manner. It is about the situation in Kolkata because of army deployment. The hon. Minister has some information which he wants to share with the House. He may do it now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, why should he do it in the middle of the discussion? He could do it at the end of the day.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, he could do it at the end of the day. That is better. He will do it at the end.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two points in the motion under rule 193. First we have to speak about violent conditions in Nandigram due to Special Economic Zone issue only. The incident that occurred there for land acquisition was certainly distressing. Such incidents should not occur. What were the factors responsible for the violent incident which occurred in Nandigram. What

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ever may be the scheme either it be PCPIR, petroleum investment region or petro-chemical investment, the Central Government and the State Government should take care of them. The way the incident has occurred, it is a matter of concern. If we discuss the matter on the party lines then justice cannot be done. Sir, justice can be done only if we discuss the matter rising above the party lines. The policy for SEZ is that the acquisition of land, whether it is for some MNC, Tata or Reliance company, will be done by the State Government.

Sir, the law enacted in this regard and the basis for acquisition of land has so many lacunae. I am saying so because there are no strict guidelines from the Union Government that the waste land should be given full exemption. The owner of the land can give even his agricultural land. There are no clear guidelines for the same. The process for SEZs, which are around 250 or 300, is that the State Government should acquire the land. The State Government should not behave like a property dealer. I would like to thank the Chief Minister of West Bengal who has stated that the people do not want any type of undue pressure for land acquisition on them. He further said that if the people don't want them the State Government will not allow the forced acquisition of land. Shri Ram Gopal Yadav has rightly said that if the State Government makes such statement then how can such a situation crop up. That is why I am saying that the basic objective behind it is faulty and consequently such incidents are taking place. The multinational companies or capitalists are acquiring land in the name of commercialization, industrialization and modernization and opening up of big malls. Sir, I want to ask whether this situation would not lead to fall in production in the nation? It affects domestic consumption. We have to import food grains for supply under the schemes like PDS, TPDS or Antyodaya Anna Yojana. Sir, the area of the land cannot be increased and if we keep on acquiring land in the name of modernization then the area of land under cultivation will be reduced thereby fall in domestic production.

It is being said these days that the waste land is being converted into agricultural land. I want to ask the

Government how much per cent of wasteland has been converted into agricultural land? If the Government is able to provide even a single instance in this regard then I will accept that the wasteland is being converted into agricultural land. It is just a scheme, and the area on land under cultivation will continuously decline thereby causing fall in production which in turn will force us to go for import. Wherever in any State, land will be acquired forcefully, there will be incidents of violence and Law and order will be disturbed.

Here it is a special situation, that is why I am asking whether it is for PCPIR or SEZ but how come such a situation had cropped up after the announcement made by the Chief Minister. Ram Goapji had rightly said and I agree with him that how come such a situation prevailed there neither the police nor the outside journalists were allowed entry there a special liberated area was created there. I want to say that it is not the question of economics only, naxalism is spreading in 14 states and it is being said that the CRPF has been deployed in some of th States. Has the CRPF been deployed at any one place. Did the West Bengal Government not ask for it? Is it not deployed in Chhattisgarh and Beejapur and Narayan pur districts. Whenever a State Government asks for CRPF then it is the responsibility of the Union Government to send forces there for the safety of the common man. Deployment of CRPF is not an issue. CRPF has been deployed at many places. It has been deployed in Orissa and now it has been deployed in West Bengal and earlier the State Governments have asked for deployment of CRPF in Naxal affected areas and CRPF is sent there. It is a joint responsibility of the State and the Central Government. I want to raise this issue because such a situation is prevailing at various places as just now. Hon'ble leader of Oppsition was also telling about that. Article 355 is being mentioned here when the violence has erupted in Nandigram. When a State sponsors riots, then nobody mentions about article 355. While holding constitutional posts, the persons are involved in instigation of riots. It is not proper to damage the secular structure of the Constitution. No State Government or the Chief Minister has got such a right.

I do not want to quote any name but whether any Chief Minister has got the right to destroy or deface the wordings of the Preamble. The incident that has taken place in Gujarat and shown as 'operation kalank' shows that the Central Government should invoke Article 355 under special circumstances. I think that the manner in which the secular character of the Constitution is being damaged in such states especially by attacking certain communities, the minorities...*(Interruptions)*. The invoking of Article 355 was not asked for when such incidents took place in Gujarat, now it is being shown in the entire country through electronic media as 'operation Kalank'. ...*(Interruptions)* because such incidents are heart rending for all human being. ...*(Interruptions)* Bajrangi has talked about killing the child by talking it out of the mother's womb. ...*(Interruptions)* The advocate has given the statement...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: This statement has come on the electronic media before the whole country...*(Interruptions)*. Article 355 should be invoked in Gujarat. A criminal case under section 302 of IPC should be registered against the Chief Minister of Gujarat ...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record the interruptions.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The Constitution should be protected. The secular structure of the Constitution should be protected and it is the responsibility of Central Government. Therefore I submit that apart from providing relief the Central Government should pay compensation to those who have migrated or have been injured, suffered atrocities or to those who

have lost their family members. But the Central agency should intervene directly by making amendment in Article 355 for using it in such states where fundamental elements want to divide the country on the basis of religion. The Central agency like CBI or the police force cannot be deployed unless requested by the State Governments. The Central Government should intervene directly in certain cases by changing this practice. Under the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the Central Government to protect the life and property of the people. The areas in which the fundamental forces create disturbances and incite communalism should be controlled by the Union Government to restore peace there and the central forces should be sent there. Then only the peace and harmony could be maintained. Naxal and Maoist violence can erupt in every state of the country as is prevailing in the 14 states and it will jeopardize the democratic system. If we have to maintain Parliamentary democracy, then the Union Government should intervene directly in such matters by amending section 355 of the Constitution and take control of situation in such states. ...*(Interruptions)* The Union Government should send C.R.P.F. as and when demanded. The Union Government have control over Intelligence Bureau also. The Union government, on the basis of the intelligence input should take control of such states and areas where the fundamental forces incite violence and want to divide India in the name of religion. Then only these can be controlled. Otherwise, in every state such kind of violence will erupt. With these words I would like to. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Devendraji, please conclude.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you speaking? Your leader is speaking.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The Union Government should restore peace and harmony in such states and maintain law and order there. By identifying such violence hit states and areas, action should be taken as per rules and law and order should be maintained there by resorting peace and harmony. I think that the House should also debate over this issue

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as to how to maintain peace and harmony in these areas. With these words I conclude my speech.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you say, will not go on record.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not take much time. I would like to request the Members of Parliament from the treasury and opposition benches that I will take only a few minutes, so kindly hear me peacefully. At first, I would like to recite a couplet for my friends of C.P.M. and then I will start my speech.

"Taarikh Ki Aankhon Ne Woh Daur Bhi Dekha Hai,
Lamhon Ne Khata Ki Thi. Sadiyon Ne Saja Payee."

I am sorry to say that C.P.M. has been in a defensive position for the first time in the thirty years. What has happened is a new face of the State terrorism. So far we have said a lot about the state terrorism outside the House and less in the House. We saw the face of the state terrorism in Gujarat in the year 2002. Prior to this, we have also witnessed brutality in Gujarat in the year 1969 and 1992. Apart from Gujarat, we have seen acts of state terrorism not hundred but thousands times in other parts of the country. We have seen brutal face of state terrorism at large scale in Delhi in 1984, in 1964-1965 in Ranchi, Jamshedpur and Rourkela etc, from 1980 to 1987 in Muradabad to Meerut, Maliyana and Hashimpura and in 1992 from Mumbai to every nook and corner of the country. We saw the new form of state terrorism in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh recently, where the state power has been misused to harass innocent and helpless youths of a particular community in the name of terrorism. Recently we have witnessed a new form of it. We could not imagine that apart from the two major parties of the country, in a state third party also.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please read discreetly.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: All these things can happen in that State which are happening in the states ruled by

Congress and B.J.P. It is regretful that in case of Bengal, the police has not been accused but the party cadres have been accused. One can understand as to why Congress delayed so much in sending C.R.P.F. there. It may be possible that the Congress would be thinking of exposing C.P.M. But is the Government and police of Bengal who are so weak that they have to resort to get the armed cadres of the party to attack the few villages to take control over them? This is a shameful thing. I would like to request my friends from C.P.M. not to repeat the mistake of hiding the mistakes committed by one of their party leaders as was done in Gujarat by my friends sitting in the opposition. The time spares none. The biggest Communist imperialist of the world has committed a mistake in Afghanistan and now it is nowhere. I would like to stir the conscience of the country through this House that why the weaker sections of the society is always victimized. Why the girls like Jahanara and Shamima are being robbed of their dignity from Gujarat to Bengal. Why, "...people protesting against the book of Rushdie"...Is the police biased against anybody? (Interruptions) I am talking about Gujarat to Bengal. Through this House, I would like to stir the conscience of more than one billion people of the country about the biased attitude of the police. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta may speak now as he is in a hurry due to some personal problems.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: So, he will not be here to listen to my speech.

MR. SPEAKER: I will listen to you with rapt attention. You do not know that I am an admirer of your speech. The only thing is, do not do it in between.

15.47 hrs.

[SHRI MOHAN SINGH in the Chair]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I rise to speak on this issue with a heavy heart for two

*Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

reasons. I am really shocked to hear one thing. Shri Advani is not present here now. I expected him to be here to listen to us. I am shocked really because repeatedly hon. Speaker, the exalted office of the custodian of the House, is being dragged into controversy. As I understand him or as I can remember, he has said that for three days, we have listened to what you said. It only means that the hon. Speaker for three days had not been allowing a discussion on this issue.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it would be better if the hon. members do not speak about the hon. Speaker and about him. [English] It is not desirable to mention it. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If such things happen then it will be taken care of.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I am only referring to what my respected senior colleague, Shri Advani, has said. I am very shocked today to take part in the debate because, as my other friends have referred, while Parliament is discussing Nandigram, Kolkata is burning. All these days, Kolkata was calm and peaceful. There have been processions supported by the Opposition. There have been two bandhs called by different political parties. There was no element of violence but today—I do not know the reason—when the House is discussing Nandigram, simultaneously, Kolkata is burning. Therefore, I have a deep-rooted feeling that there is an attempt to destabilize the constitutionally elected Government of West Bengal, and the pretext is Nandigram.

Only the future can tell us whether it is too much; whether it is an exaggeration; or whether it is a reality. But the point is, when we are discussing Nandigram, military had to be called in Kolkata. When we are discussing Nandigram, there have been incidents of burning down of buses and other public properties. This

simultaneous action provokes me to believe that there is some interconnection or some forces are at play. I am not implicating whether the Congress Party is involved. I am not referring to the Congress Party. I am only saying that some forces are at play to destabilise the constitutionally established Government of West Bengal.

Sir, I begin my submission by saying that Nandigram is a great human tragedy. Undoubtedly, it is a human tragedy. Let us put our hands together to have a healing touch on the deep wound that has been inflicted on Nandigram. Let us try to have a healing effect on the deep wound that Nandigram has suffered.

As far as my information goes—some of my friends might have a different information—Nandigram is limping back to normalcy. I am deliberately using the words "limping back." When Nandigram is 'limping back' to normalcy, let us take a positive view to take the process forward. Let us help Nandigram to come back to normalcy. That is why there is a need for a voice of "sanity", not a voice of "senility." I express my deep sympathy for the people of Nandigram, for all the victims of violence in Nandigram. While saying so, I concede that there are different perceptions also. It is all well-known. There is a perception that more care and caution should have been exercised while tackling the situation. There is a perception, according to which, all that happened in Nandigram should not have happened. I agree that there is a great deal of disagreement on the issue. Opinions can differ. I believe it is true that public opinion has been hurt. A number of our friends of the Left have been speaking in different voices. This is all true. But, as part of the Left, as part of the Left Front, I only say with humility that if we have lost anything, we are sure to retrieve it; if we have lost anything, we are sure to recover it. It is only a passing phase. But the passing phase is definitely extremely unfortunate.

It is true that there have been firings and there have been casualties. A number of people have died; more people were wounded; and houses have been burnt. It is all true.

There is also another picture which we should not

[Shri Gurudas Dasgupta]

lose sight of. Nearly thousands of people have been driven out of Nandigram. They had to take refuge in camps outside the boundaries of Nandigram. They could not return to their homes for more than eleven months. Nandigram became an isolated place; no development work could take place there; panchayats could not work. Even the police stations were under lock and key. Police was not allowed to enter. This was the situation in Nandigram for eleven months. Therefore, I am constrained to say that Nandigram was under a siege.

Now, I raise a prime question. I ask my friends on the Right and on the Left to answer this question. Why even after the hon. Chief Minister has made a public statement that there is not going to be a chemical hub in Nandigram, even after this official statement, why the siege was not lifted, movement was not withdrawn and peace talks did not begin? There was a categorical assurance and that was the basis for the movement in Nandigram by *Bhoomi Bachao* Committee. Even after the Government had retreated—I am using my language carefully—when the Government had retreated in West Bengal—why is it that the blockade was not withdrawn? A number of peace talks took place in Kolkata and in Nandigram and also in Tamluk. All-Party meetings did take place. State machinery was put in operation. It was all done, but peace was never restored.

I would like to make two points or remarks. One is—the Government officially had withdrawn the proposal of having a Special Economic Zone and a chemical hub. Secondly, peace efforts have started at all levels. Despite that, why is it that the so-called movement continued, seige continued and the whole of Nandigram became almost a place of liberated area? Why is it so? Is it politics? It started with the question of land. It started with the question of chemical hub. It started with the question of surrender of land. So, after it was announced perfectly by the Government in the official notification, why did the movement not come to an end? Why *Bhoomi Bachao* Committee was not disbanded? That is the question I would like to ask my colleagues. Therefore, my appeal to you will be not to take a one-

sided view of the situation. Please consider the problem in all its totality.

Sir, another element is very important. When all these peace talks were going on, when all-Party meetings were taking place during all these 11 months, when the Government did not react to restore the normalcy, when Nandigram was left to Nandigram, when *Bhoomi Bachao* Committee was allowed to take over Nandigram, it is during that period of time, Sir, that sophisticated arms were smuggled in.

Sir, I also know Nandigram. That is our party constituency for a long time. Farmers do not have AK-47 rifles, farmers do not have land mines and farmers do not have sophisticated material to kill a man. Therefore, they were imported, smuggled and brought in from outside with the help of outside fundamentalist political forces. What was the situation at that point of time inside the Nandigram? Our MLA was openly beaten up and no tear was shed by the Leader of the Opposition on the question that elected Member of Assembly was being beaten up mercilessly. ...*(Interruptions)* Not a tear was shed on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)* Prof. Malhotra, I am yielding. You can have your say.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: So many people have been killed there. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Please do not interrupt me. I am speaking. The question is one police man was killed and an MLA was beaten up.

16.00 hrs.

Land mine was laid. Trenches were dug. All the warlike preparations were made in Nandigram during peace time. Peace was a cover. The All-Party meeting was misused and the peace period was utilised for a warlike preparation in a solitary place in Nandigram far away from the boundary of India. No foreign power can be blamed for it. Why was it done? Who did it? At whose behest was

it done? Should we not condemn that? Will you allow a liberated zone to be created in Gujarat? Will you allow a liberated zone to be created in Madhya Pradesh? Will you allow a liberated zone to be created in any part of India? I do not like to put to the hon. Home Minister on the dock. I do not like to put him like that. That will be too much. But the question remains. Why was the CRPF sent late? The Government of India was asked to send the CRPF. 14 people died before that. First, the Governor of West Bengal has made a public statement expressing his grief. So many intellectuals issued a statement. Therefore, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs must have the full-fledged knowledge of the inflammatory situation that was obtaining there.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Will you yield the floor? You are not going to be prepared to hear my reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : No. I will not. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The West Bengal Government is already having two CRPF battalions with them. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I will not yield. You will have your say later. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not parliamentary decency and courtesy.

SHRI UDAY SINGH (Purnea): If the hon. Minister wants to speak, he should speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Do not dictate to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him make his point. Let him speak what he is saying. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I would like to inform this House that naturally the Chief Minister wanted that one CRPF Battalion should be sent to West Bengal. I said: "We will send it." Elections are taking place. We have to understand that all the paramilitary forces are

deployed on the international border. We have hardly 30,000 to 40,000 people at our disposal. Moreover, the Government of West Bengal was having two Battalions. The Government of West Bengal has no objection. But others have objection. I do not understand this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The hon. Minister may kindly recollect that there was a letter from the Chief Minister on 27th or 28th. On 7th or 8th of this month, the Ministry of Home Affairs informed the Government of West Bengal that they were not in a position to send the CRPF. It was a negative reply. After a few days of that, after the incident was on the point of explosion, the CRPF was sent. Is it the way the Centre should work hand in hand with the State? Is it the way to protect the federation of the country? Is it the way to take care of violence? Is it the way in which a Government should act? This is a Government which we support. This Government is in Office with our support. Is it the way to pay us back? ...*(Interruptions)*

The point is this that we share the concern of the House. We take the criticism in the proper light. I feel there is a need for deep introspection on all sides. West Bengal needs a fair deal. We want a fair deal. There should be no one-sided appraisal. Please do not malign the people, the Government and the State of West Bengal. ...*(Interruptions)* Please do not malign them. Therefore, I feel that there should be a healing touch to the wound that has been inflicted on Nandigram. It is time to help the process of peace. Only peace can bring about development. Only development can bring about alleviation of poverty. Only alleviation of poverty can take away the breeding ground of naxalism and rise of naxalism in India.

I would like to add one thing more. Reference has been made to differences within the Left Front. There can be differences within a party. There are differences within parties. There are bound to be differences within different political parties combined in a front. But, I make it sure that Left is as combined and as united as ever before to take care of the political situation as it exists today.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is rather unfortunate that while people are killed and maimed in one part of the country, we are viewing it from a political angle. On behalf of the Government, Shri Dasmunsi said in his speech that Shri Advani may visit West Bengal umpteen times, but the BJP will never come to power over there. This is not an issue of any party or Government, but of the country. People are in distress. People want that somebody should listen and see their plight. It is the responsibility of the leader of Opposition of this House to visit that place to see the condition of the people. It is his responsibility to understand their condition and voice their grievances in the House so that the country and the world could know what is going on over there.

Sir, I was also a Member of the NDA delegation which visited that place. The Mumbai-Kolkata national highway is very beautiful and good. It was constructed during the tenure of Shri Vajpayeeji, Nandigram is the hinterland at a distance of 60-70 kilometers from this highway. I visited Nandigram for the first time in my life and thought it would also be a very beautiful place, because one party Government is taking care of it for the last 25 years. But, I was shocked to see the condition of the people there. This place is miles away from development. There is no cement or concrete road for reaching that place, one has to pass through the fields to visit there. If one visits that place, one cannot look back. People are living in huts. There is no electricity. There is no potable water available at homes. People have to fetch drinking water from hand-pumps which are installed far from their homes. They get only drinking water, they do not have water for washing cloth and for taking baths. Therefore, people do not take bath for even 8 days at a stretch. They use rain water drawn from pits. I do not understand whether a Government exists in this State or not. The people over there are

living in such a pathetic condition. There is such a fertile land that a gives bumper paddy crop.

On 3rd of January, when the notification of the B.D.O. was first of all issued, before that all this happened. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not talk with one another. Nothing will go on record. Discussion with one another will not go on record. Please let him speak.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE : On 3rd January, when this notification was issued by the B.D.O. for the first time, a writ was issued from the party office ordering all people to deposit their land documents in their office. I do not want to politicise the issue, but CPM cadres went to the people, and it is a stronghold of the party, because whenever elections are held, 90 per cent voting on every polling booths is done in favour of the CPM candidate. I understand that it is held forcibly, because the Government has set up NGOs at all places and the Government runs all its schemes through the NGOs and NGOs are running a mini-Government over there so that it may influence these people and efforts were made to seize all land documents by pressurizing the people. However, when the people refused to comply and the month of March arrived, they started to beat the people. Even after that the public continued their protest. It is not that all of them were workers from one party. The matter heated up when the people found that those very people to whom they had been giving votes for years together, were evicting them from their land. They felt that their source of livelihood is being snatched away, their life is being made miserable, so they started protesting.

It is not an issue of a party, but of humanity. The land owned by the people who used to support their party was being snatched, the question of livelihood forced the people to stage protest and we have got eye witness account of the people of Adhikaripada narrating the incident to me and before the Rajya Sabha MP, Shri Sharad Joshi and before the Additional SP of that area that the people were forcibly evicted from villages and subjected to indiscriminate firing even in the presence of police. People had seen how bodies

*Not recorded.

were thrown into the local brick kilns. Many people are missing hitherto. Somebody has lost his father and some have lost their son. When I, alongwith Advaniji, visited the refugee camp, we met a small child who had seen his father's bier without even knowing the meaning of death and had just performed the last rites. He said that his father has died, but he had not seen him dying. We came across many such stories in the refugee camp.

While visiting there, we reached a rural hospital where a number of patients were admitted. But all of them were scared and unwilling to speak. They were listening patiently but were not able to understand what to do. A patient name Aslam, was kidnapped for 4-5 days and even after that when documents were not traced from his house, he was admitted to that hospital at 12.30 in the midnight. The doctors are not ready to disclose the identity of the person who admitted him to that hospital. When we visited him, he started crying. Sushmaji was also present there, but he was not able to narrate the incident. When he tried to narrate something his wife and other family members interrupted him and asked him not to speak anything because those people would kill them or bring the family members to the same condition as was his. This kind of terror was prevailing over there. Today, the true situation over there is emerging before the country. One year has elapsed and all this is going on in Nandigram, but it is unfortunate that even after this anarchy, the State Chief Minister asserts that they do not owe any responsibility for the prevailing situation. All this is going on in the State for the last so many days, who is responsible for it? Today, the same situation has developed in Kolkata. I was seeing on the TV that people have come on the streets. The people burnt vehicles, damaged buses, schools have been closed, the children have come on to the streets, they do not know where to go. A girl was calling her father and was saying that she was standing at an unknown place. She was unable to go anywhere. All this started at 12 noon. Demonstrations started at 12 noon. But till now, the Government has not tried to take any action. All such things are happening in Nandigram. The issue is not concerned with one party or that which comes to power. The

question is about providing relief to the people. Where is our humanity. This country is ours and if something happens in the country, all parties are responsible for it. After our visit, the CRPF too visited that area. It took over everything under its control. It was seen that all the hoardings of the Trinamool Congress were dismantled, all its offices were demolished. But the CPM office was running. Dasmunsiji said that the BJP will never come to power. When we were passing through the highway, a large number of BJP activists were welcoming us by waving flags. They tried to erect gates at various places and they were chanting slogans for welcoming us. The issue is not that which party will come to power or after how many years will it come to power. The issue is that the country belongs to us and whether we will maintain peace in this country or not. The biggest thing is that the Government which has been ruling that area for the last 25 years has neighter been able to fulfill their basic needs like food and clothing nor have they been given the exposure of media such as newspapers or TV. It appears Nandigram is still living in the medieval ages even after so many years of independence. It has been kept away from development so that anything could be done with these people by using force and atrocities could be committed against the people. I condemn it and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Chairman Sir, I had the occasion to visit Nandigram with NDA delegation. I have seen the miseries of the people which cannot be narrated. My hon. friend was just now narrating something but it is actually more than what he has said. It is an insult to democracy and it is an insult to the civilized society.

Sir, the Nandigram happenings in the past ten months has now begun hitting the headlines of the world media. All, one is able to see, is the festering sore it has become. But Nandigram's unending tragedy appears to have been totally ignored by the law enforcing authority, both by the Centre and the State, obliged under the Constitution of India to protect and safeguard the lives and property of the people.

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

The most puzzling aspect of the Nandigram violence is the state of passivity tantamount to abdication of responsibility both by the Centre and the State. Sir, in a chilling re-run of the 14th march violence, bloody backlash, at Nandigram, the proposed Special Economic Zone for facilitating a chemical hub once again exploded in violence and has turned into a battlefield on the 6th November, 2007. Saying that Nandigram 'looked like a war zone', the State Home Secretary of West Bengal has admitted that the State Government has failed to quell the continuing bloodshed there at Nandigram.

The Calcutta High Court has observed that it appears from the recent disturbances in Nandigram that there is no Constitutional Government in West Bengal. The Court has taken a serious note of the allegations that not a single person has been arrested for violence within these 10 months. It is quite astonishing. A lot of things have been told here in the House. The State Chief Minister is also telling many things to the Media in the Press Conference but not a single person has been arrested within these 10 months. Maoists have come there; so many people are setting up camp there; but not a single person has been arrested in these 10 months. This is the observation of the Calcutta High Court. Also, the High Court directed the State to reply why the CBI should not be directed to investigate the matter. I would like to know about it from the Government of India. This is the decision of the High Court of West Bengal that they do not believe that the State machinery is capable of investigating the things in detail. So, they have directed the CBI to inquire.

But it is unfortunate that the State Chief Minister justifying his Party's role in Nandigram said in a Press conference that the Opposition and the Bhumi Uchhed Protirodh Committee has been paid back in their own coin, and Nandigram has been 'recaptured', as if it was under the possession of some foreign aggressors and the Indian Military has recaptured it. It is an insulting word. How an hon. Chief Minister is telling that it has been 'recaptured'? By whom was it occupied?

In the same Press Conference, holding the Centre responsible for the bloodshed, the Chief Minister argued that if the CRPF arrival was not delayed, things could have been different. He charged that although his Government sought six companies of CRPF on October 27, the Centre kept dilly-dallying and the Forces did not arrive before November 12. This was how the Centre was also responsible for these tragedies. The State Government requested the Centre to send six battalions of CRPF. Now, the hon. Home Minister while intervening has told that two battalions of CRPF were available with the West Bengal Government. But now the Chief Minister is blaming the Centre. He is telling that the things could have been different if CRPF could have reached in right time.

He also claimed that the situation in Nandigram was given a new dimension after a group of Maoist from Jharkhand had set up a training camp there. At the same time—it is interesting to note—the State Home Secretary told: "I do not know about the Maoists. No one has been captured". The Chief Minister is telling that the Maoists are setting up a camp there; the Home Secretary is telling that he is not aware about the presence of Maoists and no one was captured. So this is a very interesting story that they are narrating before the people of this country. Their Chief Minister is telling about the presence of the Maoist leaders there; they are setting up a camp there; but the Home Secretary of the same Government is telling that they do not know about the presence of Maoists and no one was captured. So they are narrating a story just on pretext to protect whatever they have done. They are creating such a situation; they are exhibiting a drama just to protect whatever they have done in their own way of misdeeds.

Sir, in a Press Conference, the hon. Governor of West Bengal has also said about it and it has also been discussed here. He said...

The most accurate description for Nandigram was the one given by the State Home Secretary that it had become a war zone. The Home Secretary is telling this. The Governor has expressed it in a Press Conference. The Governor is telling something, the Chief Minister is

telling something, the Home Secretary is telling something, and the Central Government is telling something. I do not know what is happening there. I would like to know the true position from the hon. Home Minister.

The Governor further said: "No Government or society can allow a war zone to exist without immediate and effective action." He is asking his Government. The Home Secretary is telling that it is a war zone. How can a war zone exist in the country?

The hon. Governor also said: "...The manner in which the 'recapture' of Nandigram villages is being attempted is totally unlawful and unconstitutional. ..." He further said: 'I find it equally unacceptable that while Nandigram has been ingressed with ease by armed people on the one hand, political and non-political persons trying to reach it have been violently obstructed. ...'

Armed people were there. When the political people, the social activists, the Press and the Media were trying to go there to know the real picture, they had asked not to enter and they had been obstructed. Some of them were bearing relief articles. Even some voluntary organisations were bearing relief articles and they had not been allowed to reach there, and they had been obstructed.

Sir, the treatment meted out to social activist, Shrimati Medha Patkar—one of the renowned social activist of the country—and the way she had been insulted with her own associates was an insult to the country, to the democracy and to the civil society.

Sir, it is also said that the intellectuals, the media, the Press and the members of the civil society have also been denied entry to Nandigram. They wanted to know whether a peaceful atmosphere was prevailing there or not. Nobody was allowed to go there before the NDA delegation reached there. We were the first delegation to reach there after the 6th November incident.

Sir, one of the partners of the Left Front Government in West Bengal, RSP, has described the development in Nandigram as 'shameful' and its Minister

has asked his party to allow him to resign from the Cabinet. Their own partner is telling like this. The Forward Bloc, CPI, the local committees and other two partners of the Left Front Government have also said in the same language that they neither support nor approve the action of the CPI(M) in Nandigram and condemn the acts and what has happened there.

CPI(M)'s declaration of 'war zone' in Nandigram and its justification has reminded me with the justification of American intervention in Vietnam and Iraq. They were also justifying in the same manner that they were the protector of democracy. They were also making it as war zone and intervening there and they were reaching with their war force just to protect democracy.

If the CPI(M) is to be blamed for the criminal misdeeds of its cadre in Nandigram, then the Congress, which controls the Union Home Ministry, is guilty of facilitating the mass murder, rape and arson which we have been witnessing since 27th October, 2007.

Sir, I urge upon the Union Government to ensure restoration of peace and harmony in Nandigram.

I would also urge upon the Government that the CRPF should not be used to kill the innocent villagers protesting against the State Government's proposed chemical hub plan, branding them as extremists.

With these few words, I conclude.

[Translation]

*DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Taran Taran):
Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on the serious issue of SEZ and violence in Nandigram. Many honourable members have expressed their outrage at the happenings in Nandigram. In March, 2007, I too had visited Nandigram as part of a delegation. I was shocked to find the miserable condition of the people of Nandigram. Poverty was rampant everywhere. The Left Front ruling West Bengal is not a champion of the poor people. In fact, it is responsible

**English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.*

[Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala]

for the creation of poverty in West Bengal. In the last 25 years, the Left Front Government has ruined West Bengal.

In the beginning, the Left Front Government acted against big landlords. However, the same Government is now acting against the interests of small farmers. If they continue with such anti-people policies, they will be wiped out at the hustings.

Sir, the Government intended to acquire the land of the poor farmers for the setting up of a SEZ. This was the root cause of the problem. Now, the leaders of the Left Parties are claiming that their Chief Minister never intended to acquire the land of the poor people of Nandigram. If this is the case, there should have been no crisis. Sir, there is no smoke without a fire. If the Left Front Government did not intend to set up a SEZ at Nandigram, why did it allow the armed cadres of the Left Parties to attack the hapless people of Nandigram? The cadres of the Left Parties donned police uniforms and ran amuck at Nandigram. The workers of the Left parties are killing innocent people at Nandigram. Armed party workers of the Left are ruling the roost there. The policemen are under the direct control of the State Government. Still, the State Government is complaining of foul play. I am amazed.

Sir, the Nandigram area is not being ruled by the State Government. It is being ruled by the armed Left Front cadres who have unleashed a reign of terror over there. I have visited the area recently. At the root of the problem is the terror created by the workers of the Left Parties at Nandigram. As long as armed Left Front cadres are controlling Nandigram, there can be no peace and no solution to this problem.

The Left leaders are complaining that the Hon'ble Home Minister of India did not send the required CRPF personnel there. When you have your workers roaming there and creating terror in the area, what is the need of the CRPF? You have already deployed your armed cadres in Nandigram.

Sir, the poor and hapless people of Nandigram are

being butchered. But, as Members of Parliament, we are here to serve the people of this country. We will continue to raise such issues in this August House that directly affect the people of India. We must save the poor people of Nandigram from the tyranny of the armed cadres.

I would like to appeal to the Hon'ble Home Minister of India to take a special interest in this case. He must provide relief and succour to the affected people of Nandigram.

Sir, the High Court of the state had given a ruling that a CBI enquiry should be held regarding the police firing on 14th March, 2007 in which 14 innocent people were killed. Nine months have passed, but nothing has been done in this matter. Instead, the Left Front leaders have condemned the High Court ruling and have said that they will take up this matter in the Supreme Court. Why is the Left Front Government shying away from a CBI enquiry into the incident? If they have nothing to hide, why are they afraid of a CBI enquiry? If truth is on their side, why do they want to take up this matter in the Supreme Court? Let there be a CBI enquiry.

Sir, I am quoting from the article—"CPI(M) sees Red' Bose and Konar warned the Judges and asked them to act rightly or face the consequences. They asked the workers and supporters to mobilize themselves against the enemies, which included to Governor, High Court, Press, a section of the city intellectuals and Mamata."

Sir, things have come to such a pass that Government functionaries are asking their party workers to rise against intellectuals and intelligent people who want to mitigate the sufferings of the poor and hapless people of Nandigram. Sir, today, as we discuss Nandigram in this House, Kolkata is burning. These people do not want that any wise person should criticize their misdeeds and talk about the welfare of the people of West Bengal. People are being killed in police firings there.

Sir, the Left Front Government does not want to solve the problem in Nandigram. It is in their vested interest to let the issue simmer. If they do not want to

set up a SEZ there, why is there violence in Nandigram? They accuse outsiders of smuggling arms and ammunitions in Nandigram. There is no truth in these allegations Nandigram is a backward area where poverty is rampant. The people of the area have been deprived of the basic facilities like food and drinking water. This is the grim reality.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Nandigram issue is no longer a state subject. It has become a subject of national importance now. The condition is grim. All of us must provide relief and succour to the affected people of Nandigram. We must save the poor people of Nandigram from the tyranny of the armed cadres.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a deadlock in the House for the last two days over whether Nandigram should be discussed at all or not. However, the disagreement was more on the use of words and we accepted the text of the resolution drafted for discussion mooted by our friend, Gurudas Dasguptaji. Today, discussion has begun on the very text suggested by him—"Proposal to set up special Economic Zone in Nandigram, West Bengal and consequent large scale violence". No sooner had the process of acquiring land for Special Economic Zone in Nandigram begun than the farmers there raised their voice against it and resisted the acquisition. We are discussing the situation that arose as a fallout of their resistance. Hon'ble Advaniji initiated the discussion. He visited the place, discussed the situation with the people there, took stock of the situation and discussed the issue here at length. Union Minister, Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunshi, who hails from the same State also expressed his views albeit in a carefully worded statement before the House. It can be said that he expressed his anguish before the House. I thank him for calling a spade a spade notwithstanding his excuse that they had to enter into an alliance with the left so as to check the communal forces, yet, he minced no words in expressing his anguish before the House and the country at large. Although I fail to understand his definition of communalism. When Shanker Singh Vaghelaji was in the BJP cadre he called him communal and when he joined his party, paradoxically he became

a secular. When Karunanidhi was with us he was a communal, however. When Shri T.R. Baalu joined them, they all became secular. So, I am at a loss to understand his definition of communalism.

Shri Dasmunshi said that the BJP would not come into power there even for the next 100 years. I agree with him. West Bengal is our neighbouring State. In such a State it would be politically expedient for the CPI (M) and the Congress to criticize and speak against each other. The fact remains that the Bhartiya Janta Party is not in a position to form the Government there. When a major (partner) party feels constrained to distance itself, I think, we should have no hiccups since we are not their allies even. Since we are not bound by any fetters, we are at liberty to place facts without any bias. As far as Mamtaji is concerned, what to speak of me not even Vijay Kumar Malhotraji would be knowing if she is in the NDA?

I would simply raise my point here which I have come to learn from the media, newspapers and TV. Our CPI(M) friends are also perturbed with this incident. I would like to express my views on the information gathered by me from what was discussed with the CPI(M) members in the Central Hall. One thing has really surprised me and that is that CPI(M) has always claimed to be the champions of the cause of farmers and workers and has taken up cudgels for them and even claims to be their messiah.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you would recall that when the Police lathicharged the workers in Haryana, Hon'ble Gurudas Dasguptaji vociferously raised this issue in the House. Till that point of time one would have thought of him to be the champion of the cause of the poor who took up cudgels against the rich. But, today, what has prompted the same people, who used to uphold the interests of the poor, to massacre them?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Md. Salim is not present here. He was asserting that there was no question of SEZ there. Then, why this much a do about nothing. But I can say with full conviction that he has portrayed an untrue picture in the Lok Sabha. I would like to lay this paper on the table with your permission. This letter

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

has been written by Shri Vikram Sen, I.A.S., Special Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of West Bengal to the Special Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, EPZ, Government of India, Udyog Bhawan. This letter is dated 25-09-2006. With your permission, I would read out the subject and lay it on the table. [English] "State Government recommendation on application of New Kolkata International Development (NKID) to set-up SEZ at Nandigram (near Haldia), district Purba Medinipur" [Translation] He has sent this letter alongwith all the documents. I have a copy of its recommendation. I will lay it on the table with your permission. Hon'ble Salim Sahib has wrongfully stated that there was neither any proposal in regard to SEZ there nor any process to acquire land was going on. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the State Government has a right to acquire land but the process should begin by taking the farmers into confidence. The land was being acquired there to set up a chemical hub. Salim group is an infamous industrial group of Indonesia for which the land was being acquired. Mr. Chairman, Sir, even you are not distantly associated with West Bengal since many people from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar live in West Bengal. The party cadres instead of the elected representatives run the Government there and their writ runs large and even the office bearer of the party obey the party cadres. If they do not, they are expelled from the party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No cross talks. It will not go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with Hon. Salim Saheb that earlier a CPM worker was killed, his body was hacked to pieces and burnt and later on his house was set ablaze. I agree with him because most of the people involved in the killings were from CPM. The reason was that when the process of land acquisition began and the concerned organization started demanding the papers of the land

then, one of the CPM faction known to be cadre for years together, which used to march with a red flag, raise CPM slogans and used to capture booths for CPM resisted and said that it would leave the party but would not dispense with the land. Those people quit the party and formed a Committee to protest against the land acquisition. That Committee was joined by a motley crowd comprising of CPM dissenters, supporters of the Congress, the Trinamool Congress and certain independents, common people and the farmers. These people started putting up resistance. After some days, incidentally, Hon'ble Mamta banerjee appeared on the scene. She said that they would put up stiff resistance against it and would not allow land acquisition and the farmers would continue to be the land owners.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the CPM could not tolerate that since they were in the Government for the last thirty years and there was a protest march. The rally, comprising of ten thousand people was being taken out from two sides. There, the police and the CPM cadre in the guise of policemen opened fire. It has even been reported in the newspapers that many bodies were found in front of the CPM office.

Sir, this violent agitation began in Nandigram 11 months ago. At times, it halts but, then, again fresh violence gets erupted. The incident has assumed such an ominous proportion that the atrocities are not even comparable to those in the British regime. The houses were set on fire, people were killed, girls were raped in front of their mothers, mothers in front of their daughters and sisters were raped in front of their brothers. A son is looking for his father and on the other hand a father is searching for his sons. The section of people who are in majority in an area get affected the most. As per the information gathered by me from the newspapers, 55 to 60 per cent people from the Muslim Community reside in and around Nandigram. If there have been incidents of killing, rape and burning alive, then, majority of victims belongs to Muslims. Sir, I would like to read out to you a few lines of the newspapers describing as to how such incidents took place there. The newspaper writes, "Even the foreign army could not do what they have done. Without any warning bullets were fired, lathis

*Not recorded.

were charged. Women were raped. Not only raped, but also took such a revenge that one could feel shame while describing it. 14 people were killed and many injured. Two months later, one woman met me in Sonachura. She told me in no time that for them rape was not enough, her private parts were hurt by using bullet and iron rod due to which she sustained serious injuries in her urinary tract.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever, an incident like this comes up in discussion, I would like to take up Gujarat. When the train was set on fire in Godhara, Gujarat, Narendra Modi had simply said that action was followed by reaction. People of the country condemned it. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister at that time. Even in those days I was the Member of House. I had urged upon the Prime Minister here to arrest Narendra Modi. But today, how another Chief Minister reacts to this incident. Let us read the statement of the Chief Minister. When the people of CPM cadre armed with the weapons attacked and possessed thirty villages of Nandigram, he said with proud from the Writer Building of Kolkata that a tit for tat reply had been given to the opposition and the Bhumi Uchched Pratirodh Samiti. After 11 months of exile, away from their house, our supporters were eager to return to their homes. They came back on their risk. Desperately he had to say that taking such a step was justified both from moral and legal point of view.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chief Minister's statement is that it is justified both morally and legally and after that CPM workers have been expressing their own logic for justifying it. I feel it is height of shame. This is the highest place of democracy, political statement like this will not be justifiable any way in this holy temple*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not proper. You have put up your point very well. You may please not spoil a fine speech.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: After such incidents His Excellency Governor's statement has come up. Our colleague Gopalj was speaking and giving his reaction

to the statement. I think, practically the statement may not be justified, but the Governor taking his moral responsibility expressed his views on the happening when he visited the affected area and thus, presented an example before the country and the world that a person occupying a responsible post cannot keep quiet but discharge his duty. Not only the Governor but the Chairperson of Human Rights Commission also said that the incident was more serious than that of Godhara. Kolkata High Court have also made a comment and sought for compensation but not a single penny has been paid as compensation so far. Devendraji is not here, otherwise I would have told him because he is more vocal about Gujarat and he said very proudly that it was a great injustice to Gujarat, but Devendraji has, perhaps, forgotten that no riot anywhere in the country can be bigger than that of Bhagalpur, Bihar. Whose regime was there at that time? It was not the regime of Nitish Kumar or Bhartiya Janata Party but it was the Government of Congress party followed by RJD and the key accused had been moving around in helicopters, they were called the saviours of communal harmony. When the Nitish Government was formed, the Government in which the members of Bharatiya Janata Party were also inducted, a commission was constituted and then investigation was conducted and now Rs. 2500 are being given per month to each affected family by the Government of Bihar from its own funds as compensation so that they could survive. The Minister of Home Affairs is sitting here. A survey report regarding the details of affected families has been submitted by the Government of Bihar. It is pending with the Ministry of Home Affairs. In this report, compensation has been sought for the Bhagalpur riot victims on the same line as was given to the 1984 riot victims. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is sitting here. Through you, I would urge upon the Minister of Home Affairs to consider the report submitted by the Government of Bihar seriously in regard to giving compensation to the Bhagalpur riot victims in the same way as was considered in the case of 1984 riot victims. I would like to say that the members of CPM who are shouting Nitish Kumar, Nitish Kumar, may please learn lesson from Nitish Kumar as to how the government of the states as well as of the country

*Not recorded.

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

is run with communal harmony. The government cannot be run by dividing society either on the basis of caste or religion. Due to the recent incident in Nandigram, the name of Nandigram is getting changed into 'Nindagram'. Through you, I would urge upon the people of CPM to restore communal harmony and provide compensation keeping in view the observation made by hon'ble High Court. All Party Committee of Lok Sabha may be constituted for conducting the spot visits and investigation because keeping in view the statement of the Chief Minister, it is clear that all this happened under the monitoring of the Chief Minister himself. Therefore CBI enquiry should be conducted and if the Chief Minister is found guilty, strict action should be taken against him.

With these words I conclude my speech.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, the poor people, who were attacked in Nandigram, were asserting their fundamental rights to hang on to their property and to prevent their farms from being seized. An hon. Member, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav has spoken on this issue, so also several other hon. Members. When the Chief Minister said that there is no question of setting up of an SEZ in Nandigram, why was there a clamour in forming a Bhumi Uchched Pratirodh Committee? Why was it not disbanded? That was the question.

I would just put two simple questions to you. Is it not a fact that in the month of last January, the Haldia Port Authorities had issued a notification for the acquisition of land? Is it not true? Is it not true that when the Chief Minister was asked the same question by the media and Press, he said, phade daw, phade daw—tear it up; throw it away.

Now, Shri Prabhunath Singh has also said the same thing. He also mentioned the letter written by one of the Principal Secretaries of the West Bengal Government to the Government of India. Is it not true?

Then, why do you say that there was absolutely no intention of setting up of a SEZ in Nandigram? It is totally untrue now to say this because that suits you; it suits the CPI(M). Sir, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta has left the House after speaking. He quoted hon. Advaniji saying that it is not the Left Front but it is only the CPI (M), who is at fault. He has challenged him to name as to who said that. But he did not. He is a very decent person and he is after all the Leader of the Opposition. He cannot do so. I am doing so. I am naming him. Shri Abani Roy, the General Secretary of RSP, who was with me during the interview in the Lok Sabha Television. When I accused that it is the Left who is attacking the poor people, he said: "Do not say that, say only the CPI(M). We are against it." Go and check the video cassette and you would see as to what he had said and as to whether it is correct or not. Do not say that it is the Left, which is doing it. Is the Forward Bloc doing that? Is the RSP doing this? Is it not a fact that Shri Kirti Goswani, who is the Minister belonging to the RSP in the West Bengal Government, also declared that he would resign from the Ministry? Is it not a fact? Maybe some individuals like Shri Gurudas Dasgupta are with the CPI(M). But except him or one or two persons like him, nobody is with the CPI(M). It is only the CPI(M) who has attacked the people and it is not the Left Front.

I am coming to the next point, which has been narrated by Shri Prabhunath Singh. Why did this thing happen? Previously, it was called a *Lal Durg*. They did not allow anybody to enter into Nandigram. At that time, it was only the CPM(M) and Left and nobody else. There was absolutely nobody there. They did not allow anybody—neither the Trinamul Congress nor anybody. They did not allow anybody to enter inside. But when some of the people from the same Left Front found that their land is now going to be acquired by the Government forcibly, then, they objected to it. They became CPI(M) rebels. In the first time, I also went with the delegation; Advaniji did not go at that time. At that time, Sushmaji went there and led a delegation in the first week of last January. I was the member of that delegation. Let me tell you that there is not a single, not even one decimal of land which is not cultivable there. Sir, 10,000 acres

of land is only cultivable and arable. I could not even believe that this arable land is going to be acquired forcibly by the Government of West Bengal. They say that they are the messiah of the poor people of the proletariat.

17.00 hrs.

They are just acquiring the land forcibly. Who are they being supported by? It is the Confederation of Indian Industry, the CII. It is supporting the West Bengal's Communist Party Government and saying that the land should be forcibly occupied; otherwise, no industry could be set up throughout the country.

The Leader of the CPI(M) Party, Shri Acharia himself brought forward a Calling Attention Motion against the Kalinga Nagar firing in Orissa. At that time, he asked why did the Orissa Government fire and kill those people. He further said that action should be taken against the Government. But now, he says that there is nothing wrong with the West Bengal Government. You can ask him whether he himself brought forward the Calling Attention Motion or not. When something happens in Orissa, it is wrong, but when the same thing happens in West Bengal, it is absolutely right! That is the dual policy that the CPI(M) persons always adopt and they are adopting it now also.

Why did this happen? It happened because those people who are majority in number and who belonged to the CPI(M) became rebel and they had the lands. It is the tactics of finishing of the opposition—they burn the houses, rape them, throw them out of the place. They adopted this technique for the last 30 years and when they became rebels, they adopted the same tactics against their own party people and they threw them out. I agree that they threw them out already; it is true that they were thrown out 11 months before.

But my basic point is this. You want that you should bring them in. But how? Is it not the responsibility of the State to bring them in? Is it the responsibility of the 'cadre' to do it? They said that the police could not enter inside Nandigram. What does it mean? It means that the CPI(M) Government has failed; the State has failed; the State is incapable of protecting the people of

this state, the people of West Bengal. That is what they themselves said.

So, I am telling that the CPI(M) is so capacious. I can show it from the 'India Today', in what way they entered. You can see it—the red brigade with red scarf with mouths closed. It is all red and they went inside! ...*(Interruptions)*

The Chief Minister is saying in a Press Conference that he is a Communist; he cannot go beyond his Party; "they were paid back in the same coin!" And he talks of 'us' to refer to their own Party people and 'they' to refer to the people belonging to other Parties. He says 'us' and 'they'. The Chief Minister is saying like this. This is the language the Chief Minister is using. So, what happened? They had a military-type of attack; a multi-pronged attack was just made from three sides—from every side 200 people or marauders came; and they over-run it. Why did they over-run it? Some people, just a night before, went to the Police Station and told the Police that they would attack from tomorrow, that they should not come, and that they should not intervene. So, the Police sat silently and they did not come at all. From four districts, they recruited the people; people came with firearms and with everything. They outnumbered *Bhoomi Uchhed Pratirodh Samiti* people by ten to one. They are so numerous that they totally outnumbered their enemy. That is the reason for which there was no encounter. They virtually seized it. It is the people's army. So, I will make an appeal to you. Whenever India is going to fight another war with any other country, send the CPI(M) cadre! They are so-capable. ...*(Interruptions)*

When there is a fear of attack from China, ...*(Interruptions)* we are always saying that they are coming into the Indian side. It is the CPM cadre who should be sent to China border to fight with the Chinese Army. This Red Cadre should be sent to Arunachal. So, the Red Cadre should fight with the Red Army of China. They are so capable of doing this. ...*(Interruptions)* They should also be sent while fighting with Naxalites. Why are we just debating this thing? The basic thing is most of the people in this country do not know the character of CPM. What is its character?

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

CPM is a Party which emanated from CPI who supported Joseph Stalin who massacred 20 million people in Russia. That is the Party to whom they supported. When CPI was divided into CPI and CPM in 1963, the CPM was created because they supported China which attacked India. So, for supporting China to attack India they divided their own Party and came to power. All those people who are in West Bengal, Delhi and Mumbai, think that probably the leaders of the CPM, who are graduates and post graduates from Jawaharlal Nehru University, are probably very liberal and are democrats. Their heart probably is at the right place. They are probably thinking like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am only the second speaker from the biggest Party.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now there is no time. The Minister of Home Affairs also was to give reply.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: You have to give me some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I gave you enough time.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: How did you give me enough time? CPM party Member took one hour time. Even our leader did not take so much time. If you do not want to give time, you can refuse. I will not speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is nothing like that.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: CPM Members will speak for one hour whereas my party's strength is two times more than their party. I will not speak? ...*(Interruptions)* Right Sir, you please give five-seven minutes more, I conclude my speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

So, it is like this. Now, the hon. Member who was just now speaking has won with the highest margin in India. Everybody, even his Party people, know as to

how he has won with a margin of five lakh votes. Everybody knows that and he thinks that nobody can drive out CPM from West Bengal. I would reply him after just one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Basuji, please take your seat. Conversation between Members will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am putting a very basic question. Let the country, the CPM or the House know the distinction between the cadre and the police. Is there any distinction? Is there any distinction between the enemy of the Party and the enemy of the nation? Or, are they same? Is there any distinction between the rule of law and the rule of politburo? The politburo is more powerful than the State and it is the politburo, when Shri Jyoti Basu was offered the Prime Ministership, which refused saying that he cannot become the Prime Minister of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was the Central Committee.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Even the present hon. Speaker was also refused to become the President of the country. So, Sir, it is the politburo which is more powerful.

17.09 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Congress people know it better than me that about two months back the General Secretary of the politburo was almost on the verge of pulling down the rug from under the feet of the UPA Government. The UPA Government was just going to fall not because of the CPM Chief Minister objecting to it but because of the General Secretary of the politburo who is more powerful.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No running commentary.

*Not recorded.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: So my point is that the people of this country should understand what the CPM Party is. It is totally a totalitarian Party. It is totally a Stalinist and authoritarian Party. They do not have any respect for any democratic principles or any democratic centre anywhere in the world. They have just been finished totally all over the world. As hon. Shri Advaniji said, they are left only somewhere in a very small island State, Cuba and they are in West Bengal. The Chinese communists themselves say that they are no more communists and that they are the capitalists. They also say that they are the followers of America.

Lastly, I would talk about the role of the Congress Party. What is the Congress Party doing? Except only one Minister, Mr. Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, nobody spoke a word. The Congress Party in West Bengal is behaving like 'B' team of CPM and because of them only, the CPM Party is now in power. There are about 30 to 40 aspirants of Chief Minister in this Congress Party. They are also having a very good friend in Kumari Mamta Banerjee and because of them, they are winning. If there is any Opposition Party in West Bengal, it is the Bharatiya Janta Party. There is no other Opposition Party in West Bengal. We are the only Opposition Party and we will show them in future whether we would come to power or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No running commentary. Nothing would be recorded except the speech of Shri Swain.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Lastly, I would say that their citadel has already started crumbling. The ex-Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, Justice Chittodas Mukherjee; ex-Chief Justice of Orissa High Court, Shri Sushanto Chatterjee; and ex-Justice of Calcutta High Court, Justice Bhagwati Prasad Banerjee all have condemned the CPM Party severely. Mr. Anjan Dutta whose name was also short listed for getting the Nobel prize in Economics, is now on hunger strike for the last two days. Let them say who is Mr. Mrinal Sen; who is

Madam Mahashweta Devi, Ms. Apama Sen, Mr. Srishendu Mukherjee, the writer, Mr. Shyamal Mitra, the actor, Mr. Kaushik Sen, the artist, Mr. Shekhar Ghosh, Mr. Gautam Ghosh, Mr. Subhabrata Bhattacharjee, Mr. Samir Aich, and Mr. Kabir Suman? They are all intellectuals and they are all against them. Now their citadel is crumbling. I would appeal to the very good people of West Bengal to throw the CPM Party into the Bay of Bengal so that the country could be saved.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussion is going on in the House on Nandigram issue since 12 O'clock. The Members of all the opposition parties are involved in analysing the reasons for holding discussion and the factors responsible for the present incident of Nandigram and are also engaged in levelling allegations and counter allegations against each other and saving their skins. I would like tell the Members of Opposition that when the concept of SEZ was propounded NDA Government was in power in the country at that time. Was not NDA Government aware of the fact that India is an agricultural country and the development of the country depends on agriculture? Why was that condition not applied at that time? This is the reason that BJP and its allies were voted out of power. When the concept of SEZ was furthered in the country, then they suddenly raised voice against it. I would like to submit to the leaders of Bhartiya Janta Party, its allies and the colleagues of left parties that if the value based politics is not practiced the people of this country will not forgive them. When it comes to setting up of SEZ in Gujarat, BJP people do not object and oppose the move as BJP is in power in the State. However, when it comes to setting up of SEZ in Haryana, they oppose this move. Recently, when SEZ was set up in Gurgaon the people of opposition parties went to Gurgaon and tried to stage procession.

Hon'ble Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji called all the Chief Ministers of Congress ruled States and instructed them to set up SEZ in their respective States. Could not the Bhartiya Janta Party give such instructions to the Chief Ministers of BJP ruled States? Presently, the Congress

*Not recorded.

[Shri Jai Prakash]

Party is in power in Haryana and all of you are aware that the work of setting up of SEZ is going to be started in Gurgaon and Ambala. So, the people of opposition went there. Along with them the Members of their ally parties also went there. There the farmers told them that the SEZ, which is being set up there is essential for them. They opposed the setting up of SEZ on the pretext that SEZ will not be set up on the agricultural land. Personally I am against their opinion because there are very few chunks of barren land in Haryana and Punjab. The entire land of these States is agricultural land. If these States are not industrialized, then how will these States progress? So, I would like to submit to my colleagues in the opposition that they should shun superfluous statements and extend their cooperation for the progress of the country.

Sir, there were riots on the issue of SEZ in Nandigram. Everybody should contribute in controlling riots there and work for maintaining peace there. One should not act in such a way that riots may further spread. Today, only one thing is being discussed here. I would like to submit to my colleagues in the House that the concept of SEZ should be implemented in other States also as is being implemented in the congress ruled States. I would like to submit about Haryana States. SEZ is being set up by a company on 2500 acres of land in Gurgaon and Ambala of Haryana. Prior to our Government, NDA was in power in the State. During that period the land of the farmers was being acquired at the rate of Rs. 2 lakh per acre, that means the land of the farmers was acquired at throw away prices. Presently the Chief Minister of Congress ruled State Haryana, Chaudhary Bhupendra Singh Hooda has fixed the rate of land at Rs. 23 to 28 lakh per acre in the NCR region. Thus, while during the regime of the previous Government the land was acquired at the rate of Rs. 2 lakh per acre, today it is being acquired at the rate of Rs. 28 lakh per acre. Those who intend to set up SEZ there, may do so.

Sir, our Government has formulated the new policy of acquisition of land in Haryana State. Such policy has not yet been formulated in any State all over the country.

I would like to submit to all the Hon'ble Members of the House that they should urge the Governments of their respective States to formulate land acquisition policy as has been formulated in Haryana State. The State Government will pay at the rate of Rs. 23 to 28 lakh per acre for the land that will be acquired in the NCR of Haryana. Apart from that Rs. 30 thousand per annum will be paid as royalty for a period of 30 years and there will be an increment of Rs. 1000 per year in the amount of royalty. If such policy is formulated all over the country or in BJP administered States then the farmers will progress. So, I would like to submit to the leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party that they should do such things in the States where their party is in power because they merely hold discussion regarding such things in the House.

Sir, I would certainly like to say one thing to our colleagues of left parties. I would like to discuss about Gurgaon. Hon'ble Shri Gurudas Dasgupta is not sitting here. Two years back one issue related to Honda company was raised. The news in this regard was published in Indian Express. It was a trivial issue, however, it was on account of this issue that the Question Hour was not allowed. Thus, our colleagues ried their best to abort the progressive works done by our forward looking Chief Minister. The leader of Bhartiya Janata Party, Shri L.K. Advani is not sitting here at present. That day Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra compared this incident with the massacre of Jallianwala Bagh and told that it was no less heinous than the later incident. Today, I would like to ask the leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party as to why 6 farmers were shot dead while they were demanding the release of water from Indira Gandhi Canal in Rajasthan. At that time Bhartiya Janata party was in power in Rajasthan. Were not thousands of farmers lathi charged and were not dead bodies lying on the road? Why Shri L.K. Advani did not go there to meet farmers and now he discusses such things here?

Sir, today I would certainly like to submit to our colleagues in Opposition that the issue of Gurgaon was a trivial issue, however, some of the people of Opposition parties who did not like progressive works being done in Haryana supported left parties in staging

procession. I would not like to call them left parties because only CPI leader Shri Gurudas Dasgupta had gone there. I had told one thing to Dasguptaji that the Government of Haryana will never leave farmers and labourers to die. Our Chief Minister had said so. We will have to be cautious from the dubious and dual politics. They should also condemn the firing the Nandigram. If atrocities have been committed against workers in Gurgaon or in any part of the country then they should fight against such atrocities. However, they should not incite workers. The people of any political party should not disturb the peace and tranquility of the State where industrialization process is going on so smoothly.

Sir, the Members of BJP have been discussing since morning as to why such developments took place in Nandigram. I would like to submit that instead of doing so, we should ensure that no farmers and workers are killed in police firing. If such incidents occur anywhere in the country, we should give suggestions to each other in this regard. I would like to give suggestions to left parties that if they want to practice Communism, then, the land of the farmers in West Bengal should be acquired at higher prices. Our Government have worked in the interest of the farmers. 25 per cent local labourers will be provided jobs in the industries to be set up on the land acquired under the SEZ. So, I would like to submit to our Communist colleagues that they should learn from the socialist and secular stand of the Congress party that 25 per cent jobs in the factories will be reserved for local workers. Whatever happened in Nandigram has been condemned by the entire country, however, the colleagues of left parties cannot escape their responsibility by saying that the Minister of Home Affairs of the country did not send CRPF and RPF. However, our Minister of Home Affairs said that two battalions of CRPF, with nearly two thousand constables were there for several months. Despite that, why did such a situation arise? Persons responsible for this incident should be punished irrespective of their political affiliation. So, I would like to submit to the left party colleagues that if justice is done to the farmers as is being done in the Congress governed States, particularly in Haryana, sufficient price of land is paid

to the farmers and jobs are provided to those whose land has been acquired, then, the Nandigram like incidents will not recur in the country. So, I would like to submit to all our colleagues that they shun fruitless and obnoxious speeches and should work together to maintain peace in Nandigram and West Bengal.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have a long list of Members who intend to speak. Since the Hon'ble Minister will reply at 6 O'clock, so I would like that the Hon'ble Member should conclude his speech in four to five minutes.

[English]

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Respected Deputy-Speaker Sir, our Party, PMK, participates in this discussion with a very heavy heart and we register our deep anguish over what has happened in Nandigram. All the incidents that have taken place have pained us and the entire Parliament should express its sentiments to the people of West Bengal who have lost their lives, property and everything.

Now, we do not want to politicize the issue and take political advantage. But Mr. Swain has provoked me to make one or two observations. He asked what has the Congress Government or the Congress Party been doing in this issue. I would like to inform him, although he is not present here now, that the Government, under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh, has come out with a beautiful land policy as far as SEZ is concerned.

They are going to bring an Act for rehabilitation and resettlement of those who are likely to be affected by the acquisition of land. Madam Sonia Gandhi has already clearly indicated that no fertile land will be taken over for the formation of SEZs. Hon. Minister has tried his best to make the position of the Congress Party clear. Therefore, there is no question that the Congress Party is not doing anything.

Shri Swain was exuding confidence that over a period of time the BJP would come to power in West Bengal. I am only wondering that this is the greatest joke of the year, rather the greatest joke of the decade

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

that BJP is going to form a Government in West Bengal. We would be happy if fifty Members of BJP come to this Parliament in the Fifteenth Lok Sabha. It is because their behaviour, their disruptions in the House and the manner in which they are doing it, have all pained the people. So, they are not going to be returned. He was talking about the Communists. He has not understood the history. He has not studied Das Kapital. He is not aware of the dogma of capitalism, the labour class, how this Party has played its role in forming the secular credentials in this country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I have read it. You can discuss it with me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Swain, please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, he took my name and said that I have not read it. I am only saying that I have read it and he can discuss it with me. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. M. RAMADASS: There is no problem. We are friends and we can discuss it.

He should not undermine the contributions made by this political Party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only the speech of Prof. M. Ramadass will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what should not have happened, had happened in West Bengal. Let us try to forget the past. At the same time, the Party in power must also understand that there has been lawlessness in the State and the Government could not carry on its constitutional responsibilities as per the provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, hereafter the Government should be alert and try to restore law and order. It should not say that police was

not able to enter; people were butchered and that farmers were killed. All these are no excuse. The Governor, I think, has added to the sensitivity of the issue by making a statement. What he should have done is, he should have sent a simple statement to the Central Government explaining the position prevailing in West Bengal. It is for the Central Government to tackle the issue. I would only say that the Central Government and the West Bengal Government must work for a healing touch so that there can be peace and there can be order in the State. We should be able to provide adequate compensation. It should not be just monetary compensation. I would feel that a job should be provided, as a bread winner, to one person in every family which has been affected there. There is no point in giving Rs. 1 lakh or some other monetary compensation. That would not suffice for the people who have made sacrifices. They should be provided with jobs.

There should be a national policy as far as the SEZ is concerned. What we have to learn from this episode and experience is that whenever people oppose any move and if it is a genuine opposition, the Government must bow its head.

As far as the SEZ is concerned, land is the most important input. Today, land is a symbol of social status for the people. Land is a source of livelihood. Therefore, if you take away land, people develop a sense of alienation. When they develop that sense of alienation, they oppose it tooth and nail. So, we should understand the feelings and sentiments of the people before taking over the land. The Government should evolve a uniform policy, which should be applicable to all the States.

In our view, the Government can launch SEZs because they have got their own advantages. They would provide employment; promote exports and also bring about rapid economic development in the country. It would definitely hasten the process of nine per cent growth rate in the Indian economy. Therefore, they are necessary. At the same time, we should realize that this concept of SEZ also produces counter effects, as has been shown by a number of evidences and research reports that we have had.

We should have following ingredients in the national policy on SEZ. One is that the Government should not intervene in the acquisition of land.

Let the forces of supply and demand in the market decide. Let the buyer and seller of the land decide the price at which the land can be acquired. If the farmer is willing to sell and the buyer is willing, let them settle at a price and then give the land. If the Government intervenes there, you are creating an imperfect situation where the farmer is at a loss. Therefore, the farmer should not be made to lose his property there and that should be taken care of. Whenever it is necessary, it should be only a barren land, uncultivable land and not the fertile land. That should be taken into consideration. Whenever the farmer wishes to give, it should be given on the basis of lease for 50 years or 60 years and each farmer who gives land, must be able to get a share in the company so that whenever there is a profit for the company, it will go to them. The jobs should be given to the persons who are displaced by the land policy. So, the Government should take an enlightened view and try to create SEZ without affecting the farmers. This is the greatest lesson that we have learnt from the Nandigram episode. We pray Almighty God giving the will, let this kind of Nandigram episode not recur in the future.

17.31 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, the discussion under Rule 193 has two parts to it. One is about the SEZ and the other is consequent large-scale violence.

As far as SEZ is concerned, this is a concept which has been borrowed from China. In China, you do not have democracy. The land can be acquired. But the law which is prevalent in our country—the Land Acquisition Act—talks that the land can be taken only for public purpose. Now, how long can the Indian system manufacture industrialists? How long are we going to make these individuals millionaires, billionaires or trillionaires? Even in a country like the United States which is known to be headquarters of capitalism, the

US Supreme Court in the famous Detroit case and recently in 2005 in *Kelo vs. City of New London* have ruled that land should not be given. If the UPA Government is going to bring in a legislation, it should very clearly say that any industrialist or any company who wants land, let them go directly and purchase the land. Why should the common man suffer?

Now, coming back to the violence which took place, Sir, the Indian political wheel has turned its full circle. As far as violence is concerned, especially against the minorities and the weaker sections in the last 60 years of our Independence, there are many black marks on the Congress Party. There are many marks and scars on the BJP. And now the same is there on the Left Parties, viz, CPI(M). A startling revelation was made when last year only the Sachchar Committee came out with its startling findings as to what has happened in West Bengal.

Sir, I had been to Nandigram in the month of March and I have seen what has happened over there. I am surprised to hear the speech of the hon. Member, Mohd. Salim who is not present here now. The history tells us that Sirazudullah was deceived by Mir Jaffer. So, the poet has said very good thing. Instead of saying Jaffer as 'Danga', he could have said, " ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: That will be deleted.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Did you understand what I said? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Dome, I have already done it. Please sit down. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I am a Muslim from Hyderabad and not from Nandigram. You cannot calm me down. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of calming you down. You need not look at him. You look at the Chair. Dr. Dome, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Owaisi, you also do not abuse your colleagues in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Sir, I have not abused. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted. You please continue your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Sir, I will never question your decision.

Coming back to the violence in Nandigram, the West Bengal Government wrote a letter on 2th October whereas the firing happened in March. Why did you sleep for six months? You have failed in discharging your constitutional duty to protect the people.

It is a fact that there is no more distinction left in West Bengal between the cadre and the Government. There is no distinction left now. Why is it that you have to resort to your cadre? I would request the hon. Home Minister, through you, Sir, that the Ministry of Home Affairs should hire the CPI(M) cadres as consultants to deal and tackle the naxalism! The Government of Andhra Pradesh should disband the Greyhound Force and include these people because we can learn more from them. Where did you get the weapons from? I can understand the Maoists have weapons. Where did you get the rifles from? How did you shoot those people? Where did you get the firm arms from? So, for six months, you have been sleeping here. It is high time that West Bengal realised it. The reason that I have said is this. The Indian political wheel has turned its full circle after what you have done to the Muslims. Who has raped...*

MR. SPEAKER: No. This is not right. I will not allow this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): This should not go on record.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do this. Do not try to create complications.

*Not recorded.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: I am really disheartened here. By sitting here for the last five hours, I have listened to the so-called secular parties' speeches. Because of political convenience, you do not want to criticize what has happened in Nandigram because you are looking into 2009. I am telling you that rule of law, principles will tell you who has committed wrong. Every time, Gujarat and Godhra are mentioned. Yes, there is no difference between Gujarat and West Bengal. There are only two differences. In Godhra in Gujarat, some people killed others and left the bodies. You have even taken away the bodies from West Bengal! ...*(Interruptions)* You could not even find the bodies there. It is really surprising to see what has happened here today.

Can the Union Government give a clarification that what I am saying is right that it is the State Government of West Bengal which has recommended that visa extension should be given to...* You talk about Muslims. You talk about love of Muslims. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That name will be deleted. She is not here.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: She is not even an Indian.

MR. SPEAKER: She is not here. I do not know whether she is an Indian or not. If one individual is staying in this country, therefore, it cannot be a matter of right.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: It is the late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi who has banned that book ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, will you stop talking?

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: I am not from Nandigram. You cannot cow me down. Do not tell me like this.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to mention the name. *[English]* That will be deleted.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully agree with whatever you say. You are the Speaker. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: When you speak as per the rule, I do not interrupt. I interrupt only when you deviate from the rule.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Now, I would like to conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The time given to you is over.

[Translation]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: The leader of Opposition had gone to West Bengal. However, can he meet the widow of Ehsan Jafari and console her? Did Advani Saheb meet even a single person whose family members were massacred in Ahmedabad? Till today he did not meet anyone and they are once again praising the persons under whose leadership there were mass killings.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Who are you talking of?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not necessary to bring those names. I have a lot of respect for you. I have a lot of admiration for you. Please conclude.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: This shedding of crocodile tears here is very much surprising to me. It is an eye-opener that the secular parties which are here do not want to talk about Muslims... * Because of political convenience, you do not want to criticize the Left Front Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you talking about? I will see that. Bring this to me.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: What the Left Front Government has done is that these people have the Hobson's choice. You take it or leave it. The Muslims in West Bengal are suffering from fear syndrome. It is high time that the Union Government should send a Parliamentary Delegation. Let us go into what is happening. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Nobody is the sole champion of any community in this country.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: It is very true. Even the CPI(M) does not have the responsibility in upholding the secular values.

MR. SPEAKER: You are right. Please conclude now.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: In conclusion, I would request the Central Government to send a Parliamentary Delegation to Nandigram as it was done in the case of Gujarat also. Let the facts come out. Why is the CPI (M) hiding anything? What is their fault?

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE (Barasat): I shall be very brief because the time is almost coming to an end and the Home Minister is to reply. A lot has been said on this question of Nandigram. As hon. Members have already mentioned, there was a proposal, only a proposal, to set up an SEZ in Nandigram. People perhaps became afraid of eviction from land and they started agitation. As soon as the agitation took pace, the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal immediately announced that he would not acquire any land against the wishes of the people. That should have been the end of the agitation, but it did not. I would not like to go into details to tell as to what happened over these few months because it has already been dealt with. There is only one fact that I would like to mention. It is also a fact that while the agitation was going on by the Bhoomi Uchhed Pratirodh Samiti, a large number of persons were forced to flee from Nandigram. They came

[Shri Subrata Bose]

back. Now, some people have again been forced to go out. This is not an ideal solution. I think it is high time to find out as to where we have been having problems and it is not proper that this problem should be allowed to continue. I think, very determined efforts should be made to bring back peace in that area. I think that primarily the responsibility lies on the Government of West Bengal and also on the hon. Chief Minister. You will recall, Sir, that a very respected leader of my Party and who is also a very senior and respected leader of the Left Front was asked some months ago to organize an all-party meeting, which he did. But, unfortunately, that meeting was not successful. It was scuttled. I think the problem of Nandigram, the trouble in Nandigram, cannot be allowed to continue. There is no doubt also that in certain sections of the people, they have lost confidence in the Government. I think that the confidence has to be restored and I look upon the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal to ensure that the confidence is restored. He should now take the lead to bring back peace in Nandigram. I appeal to all parties to cooperate to bring back peace in West Bengal and Nandigram, in particular.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words about this issue. The recent incident at Nandigram in West Bengal is most unfortunate and highly atrocious. As through wide media coverage, it is evident that the prevailing state of affairs of people is very much deplorable there. On behalf of my Party, RSP, I appeal to all political parties as also the Government, the incumbent Government and the people to restore peace and normalcy in the affected region in Nandigram.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I have been listening this debate since morning.

First of all, I had gone to Nandigram as a member of the delegation, which had gone there under the leadership of Sushmaji. So, whatever I am speaking is

not baseless, rather, I have gone there and have first hand experience of the situation prevailing there.

Today, I find that politics is being played on the Nandigram incident. Though Priya Ranjanji has, a little bit, dared to speak on behalf of the Congress party, however, not with that vehemence as he speaks in West Bengal and that too after the communist colleagues provoked and incited him to do so. So, I would like to extend my thanks to our communists colleagues that they encouraged Priya Ranjanji to speak truth. I have also been in the Government and am well aware of the pressure of being in the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I hope it was a humour.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am well aware of the pressure on the Government. So, I would not like to repeat whatever has been said about the Government. I would also not say anything that may cause disturbance in the House, as the situation in Nandigram is already very disturbing.

I would like to submit to our CPI(M) colleagues that they should not rebuke when any person from the minority community speaks. There are certain rights given to the minorities under Article 30 of the Constitution of the country and they should honour those rights. They sternly rebuked Owaisi Saheb, however, he said that he is not from Nandigram but from Hyderabad. So he was not affected by their rebuke. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Since when have you become well wisher of minorities?

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): You are a 'Ram Bhagat'.

MR. SPEAKER: Ok, please leave it.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, I am not the follower of Karl Marx.

MR. SPEAKER: You are free to follow whatever you like.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, I have

faith in 'Khuda' and for that I do not need any certificate. I had gone to Saudi Arab as a member of the delegation with you. There I had also gone to do 'Umra' and it is only Muslims who can go there. So I do not need any certificate from CPI(M) for being Muslim.

MR. SPEAKER: That goes against it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You were a very valuable member of the delegation.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I feel that our Congress Colleagues are happy from within, as they have also criticized them for this incident though quite meekly. During the discussion on the nuclear deal whenever any brief statement was given by the Government, the leaders of CPI(M) used to call grand press conferences and media men used to rush to the office of the Community party. The statements of hon'ble Gurudas Dasgupta, Sita Ram Yechuri and Karat were published in the newspapers. None of our views were telecast on T.V., everywhere they registered their presence. These days space has increased. Initially they said a lot on and against the nuclear deal but after the incidents in Nandigram they got apprehensive that if general elections are held at this juncture, they will be wiped out from Kerala and West Bengal. So, now they are not speaking against the deal and criticising the Government out of the fear. The Congress is taking full advantage of it. We are also feeling good. I have been elected recently and I was of the impression that the election will be held in near future, however, the incidents of Nandigram have worked as oxygen for the Congress party. I am aggrieved to submit that the large number of people from the minority community were killed and are being killed. I myself had gone to Nandigram. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Where were you at the time of incidents of Gujarat?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, since time and again they refer Gujarat incident so it has

become essential for me to submit that while Gujarat was burning, these people were making statements sitting in Patna at that time. While the delegation had gone there under the leadership of Advaniji. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are saying irrelevant things.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: When the delegation had gone to Gujarat under the leadership of hon'ble Advaniji, he was the Minister of Home Affairs and I was the Minister of Civil Aviation. I had gone there with hon'ble Advaniji. I still remember that Balyogiji had died the same day. It was we who had dared to visit Gujarat while it was burning. Sitting here, they were giving only statements. ...(*Interruptions*) I would like to confine myself only to the subject of discussion, however, I am being interrupted time and again. I know that you have affection and blessings for me. Taking liberty to that I would like to submit that such discussions have been held all over the country. I am well aware of the acts of the Communists as to what was done in Samarkand Bukhara and Chechenya and how CIS countries were annexed and temples and mosques were closed. I also know as to what do they think about Muslims, however, I would not like to speak in this regard as today there is paucity of time with me. People knew that he was secular and for good reasons they could take up cudgels for him but this incident has caused a lot of damage to their reputation, much more than they could realize. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU: You were also under the red flag.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You refer to the Sachar Committee report and make comparisons with Gujarat. Owaisi Saheb made comparisons with Gujarat, he should have referred to the Sachar Committee report in that respect also that if the per capita income of Muslims was lowest anywhere in India it was in West Bengal and it was highest in Gujarat. If per capita income of Muslims is higher anywhere in India it is in the BJP governed Gujarat. What did they do to the Muslims in West Bengal, the entire country knows about it? They only raise slogans for Muslims but they are not going to be pleased by it. I would like to tell the

[Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain]

Congress party if things would have gone wrong to this extent in Gujarat, then God knows what they would have done. So, I would like to make an appeal to the Congress party that although they are running the Government with the Communist Party's support, still if they do not take any action against the State Government there, then Muslims of the country would not measure them and the Communists with different yardsticks.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody represents the entire community. Do not say these things.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am referring to the community I represent. If I do not talk in their interest then whose interests would I safeguard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I also told him that you couldn't speak on behalf of the entire community.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: 'Minority term' is inscribed in the Constitution. We cannot forget the atrocities committed on them. On this issue of Nandigram, I would like to add that there were incidents in Chhota Angania and Gadgota, prior to the incident of Nandigram in which 40 people lost their lives. When the CBI was conducting a probe to catch hold of the criminals, the people involved in the killing of the minorities were apprehended in Nandigram. *

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not mention those names. It is not permissible under the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Two criminals were apprehended.

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right that two criminals were apprehended, but you should not take any name. You have also been a Minister so you would be knowing it.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Such names are taken here.

MR. SPEAKER: When I used to sit on that side even then I used to say that this should not happen.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: This Constitution has permitted us to protect the weaker sections, backwards Dalits, and minorities. So, the BJP talks about protecting the minority community. So, if we take up cudgels for them what is their problem, do they have a copyright on minorities? As such, if there would be atrocities on minorities, we would raise voice against it. They look at minorities as only their votebank while we consider them respectable citizens of India. So, being in the Opposition it is the duty of the BJP to raise voice against the atrocities committed on people who are born in the country irrespective of the religion practised by them. It should not trouble them since they do not have any patent in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we need your protection on the Nandigram issue. You are a nice person, you also have affection for us, you enjoy high esteem.

I also had gone to the Gulf region with you. I have observed it, people trust you. I am not playing any politics but I simply wish to urge upon you that your intervention is required to give support to the minorities, dalits and the backward people of Nandigram. History will take note of it that the hon. Speaker allowed a discussion on this issue. You should haul up this Government, since they are not paying any heed to us.

MR. SPEAKER: I tell everybody.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You should also haul up the Government of West bengal.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I have allowed the motion.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: When I was

first elected to Lok Sabha, I used to listen to you and watch you on the T.V. I have learnt a lot from you sitting here since you always stand up for truth. I request you to tell the Union Government that they might have got oxygen from Nandigram to go ahead with the nuclear deal but they should pay attention to this issue. If the Congress party is pressurizing the Communist party to run the Government, then it may do so but it should do justice with the people of Nandigram. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This last sentence I agree with you.

SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY (Malda): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for having given me this opportunity. 'Nandigram' issue has become a popular issue today and that is why you have given us the opportunity to debate on it.

Sir, many small and mini Nandigrams have happened in these 30 years in West Bengal, but other than West Bengal, no State or the Parliament has taken interest to listen to us. So, it is very kind of you to have given this opportunity.

I would like to thank the electronic media, many Political parties, intelligent people of West Bengal and last but not least, the intellectuals of West Bengal who had leaning towards Left but they all came out. The public opinion is ripe to change.

Sir, in 30 years, Left Front felt that distribution of the land and giving to the poor has been an excellent job that they have done. It is true; the consecutive election results showed that the land distribution to the poor has an impact on the result of the elections. With that confidence, Buddhadeb Bhattacharyaji, without consulting people have started his Special Economic Zone. We see many times, the advice of Jyoti Basu, the Former Chief Minister has been ignored. When the B.D.O. announced about the land acquisition of Nandigram, there was trouble. Not enough information was given, and the people were scared that their survival, their land, everything they had will go away.

They encircled the Panchayat office. Police uniformed cadre and anti-social elements of Left parties attacked the innocent people who had come there for getting information, for knowing what had happened to the land. In that clash, 11 people died. Then again on 14th of March, in Nandigram, the protesters had anticipated a response from the police. So, they had placed women and children in front of the March to deter the police from instigating the violence. But then, again, police and so-called terrorist, anti-social elements were on the one side; on the other side were the innocent people. Again there was a clash. Those who have eye-witnessed the situation told us that when the protesters were running away, fleeing, then the assailants chased them and shot the fire. It is very unfortunate. Who gave the permission to the police to shoot the innocent people? It would also have been quite reasonable to use non-lethal crowd dispersal equipment rather than shooting them.

Sir, even 11 months down, we see that the people who rose in revolt against the SEZ situation, they have been killed, raped, and all other mishaps have happened. The eminent Left Historian Mr. Sarkar compared Nandigram riot with that of Gujarat. He says that in Gujarat situation, the Government was quiet for some time.

18.00 hrs.

The same thing happened in West Bengal as well under Shri Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee.

Sir, the former Finance Minister of West Bengal, Shri Ashok Mitra says: he wrote on November 14 in *Anandabazar Patrika*—"Till death I will remain guilty to my conscience if I keep mum about the happenings in Nandigram." ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: As it is your maiden speech, I am not opposing. That is not the rule. You need not quote. You just give the substance of that.

SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY: He said that those against whom I am speaking have been my comrades at some point or the other.

The High Court of Kolkata has also expressed its

[Shri Abu Hasem Khan Choudhury]

opinion that this has been absolutely unconstitutional. Also our Governor, Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi has said that there has been a war zone, and the situation is unlawful and unacceptable.

The National Human Rights Commission have also said that the incident in Nandigram is just like the incidents that happened in Gujarat in the aftermath of Godhra incident

Sir, according to the Report, there were a lot of poor people who had been killed, butchered and raped. Sir Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee has shown his moral will. He has never listened to the advice of Shri Jyoti Basu. He has asked him to call the meeting of all the parties instead of sending the Police. All these have created the problem. Nandigram issue is not just the one issue. In West Bengal, this highhandedness running of the Government is always there, and the people have suffered for the last 30 years under the rule of the Left Front

MR. SPEAKER: I compliment you for your maiden speech

Now, the hon. Home Minister.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, my name is also there. Please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: How long will you speak?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I will take five minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Your five minutes will be 50 minutes!

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, my name is also there. Please allow me to speak also. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is everybody's target. Now, Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, what has happened today in the city of Kolkata has been happening in Nandigram. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can strictly speak only for five minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the fundamentalist and the extremist forces were ganged up in the State of West Bengal to destabilize a popular Government, which got the massive mandate in 2006 Assembly election. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us extend the sitting of the House by another 45 minutes. This extension includes the time to be taken for the reply of the Home Minister.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we cannot forget what happened on 12th December, 1994 when a large number of sophisticated arms and ammunition were brought to West Bengal and dropped in the district of Purulia, which is my district.

Sir, the main accused in that conspiracy, Mr. Peter Bleach made a statement while he was in the jail that they brought those arms to use against the Left Front Government of West Bengal and also to use those arms in the next Assembly election which was held in March 2006.

The main accused was released by Shri L.K. Advani, when he was the Deputy-Prime Minister-cum-Home Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* A canard is being spread. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: This is wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When he was the Home Minister, Mr. Peter was released by him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you talking?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he was released by him, when he was the Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Was he released by him!

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: How can he say it?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not remember.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I earnestly request you to cooperate. He is making a statement; if he is making it with a sense of responsibility, I take it. But if it is wrong, I will look into it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I raised this issue when they were in power. In this very House, this issue was raised. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have all respect for him. If it is wrong, it would be withdrawn.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: The few provides for their release.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, the law provides for it.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: The Home Minister is not empowered to do it.

MR. SPEAKER: All right you people know it.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: He should withdraw his statement.

[English]

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Sir, he must apologize.
...(Interruptions)

How can a Home Minister release anybody?
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, I will not allow these types of cross questions. I earnestly request you to cooperate. It is already 6 o'clock.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Probably, pardon was given. I do not know; pardon might have been given, I do not know.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Pardon is given in the name of the President.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, everybody knows that they have no power to issue notification in regard to land acquisition. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Nobody knows...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There was no notification in regard to SEZ also...(Interruptions) There is likely a proposal. But a canard was being spread there that a large quantum of land would be acquired for setting up of SEZ for chemical hub.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, within two minutes, you have to conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why two minutes, Sir? Give me some more time. They have already taken three to four minutes of time by interrupting me.
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, conclude your speech. Let there be no disturbance, please.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, can we allow a State within a State? Can we allow a liberated zone within a State? What was happening during the last 11 months? Neither the Leader of the Opposition nor the Members, who spoke on this, have ever referred to the point that thousands of the people were uprooted, driven out of their homes, roads were dug up and destroyed and the entire area was separated; there was no development for the last 11 months. Can any State Government allow this situation? Now, the Leader of the Opposition has demanded the Central intervention.

Sir, when the same demand was made by us from that side in 2002, during the post-Godhra carnage, he refused to invoke the Article 355. He may remember that when we in this House made the same demand for invoking Article 355 for intervention of the Central Government; when the House made the demand to refer that matter to the CBI, he refused...(Interruptions)

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Did you accept CBI inquiry?...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You do not know. The CBI is inquiring.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Owaisi, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you address the Chair. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Owaisi, this is not proper. You are not aware that there is a CBI investigation going on.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : By the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, by the Government. You are ignorant. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, during the last 30 years, there has not been a single communal riot in the State of West Bengal.

In the State of West Bengal the percentage of Muslim population is 26 per cent. There is complete harmony. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, time has come now. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please. This is unfair. Both of you spoke without interruption.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, almost all of those affected, except 300 people now staying in the rehabilitation centre have gone back. We should make an appeal to all to go back to their home and to villages. Nandigram was a peaceful area and there had not been any such incident during the last 30 years. So, we should try, all the political parties should come forward for restoration of peace and harmony so that the people can stay in their houses and development work can start and schools which are closed for eleven months can be reopened and peace and harmony is restored.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I am thankful to you. The entire question pertains to humanity. When this incident took place in March, at that time we visited Sonachura village via Khezuri, where 14 people were killed. The police forces were present on all the way to Khezuri. A very few people were present in Khezuri, many people had deserted that place. At that time Advaniji had visited that place and this time also he has visited it. But I am surprised that he has raised this entire issue in the name of humanity and SEZ, but as it has been said today, many people were killed in his constituency, in Gujarat, but till today Advaniji has not paid a visit over there. ...(Interruptions) I would like to tell him that. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: This issue is related to the earlier-Government. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Why do you not listen? Do not be impatient. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I would just like to tell him that at that time around 55 people got injured in Nandigram, which were admitted to Nandigram hospital and critically injured people were admitted to Tamluk hospital. More than one week has passed since this incident took place, and two women were also raped over there. I have written a report about it, I have got their names also, but I would like to tell that State did not provide any help. The facilities which were to be made available in the hospital, were not provided, compensation was also not paid. Not only this, nobody on behalf of the State visited that place to console them. This is the most important fact, which I am stating.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Please speak the truth, do not speak a lie. The Health Minister himself had visited the hospital.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I am speaking truth only. Dichotomy in 685 it is that. ...*(Interruptions)*
Please listen to me.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum): The Health Minister has gone there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything else except the speech of Shri Mistry.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: This morning we found that Md. Salim and Shri Dasgupta were shirking their responsibility and were telling that the Forces were not deployed on time by the Union Government which resulted into the culmination of the said incidents. I would like to ask the Members who have spoken over here that whether anyone of them have criticized their cadre? Whether the cadre is more important than the State? Can we allow a State within a State? If they are liberated, the State has to take them in their control or the cadre. Will carry out this responsibility. He never criticized the RSS for its role in Gujarat at that time. Those people are equally responsible. He has got no moral right to speak like this and today when the entire episode has got exposed even then they do not want to criticize their cadre. I would like to ask whether their cadre is bigger than their State? The facts produced by them clearly indicates that the Government of West Bengal failed to restore law and order in Nandigram. What kind of role was being played by the Investigating Agencies in the State? ...*(Interruptions)*

All these questions are before them. My only submission to them is that they should not accuse others, or Congress. They should admit their failures and help restore peace there at the earliest.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Mr. Speaker, the discussion held

over here is a welcome step. Gratitude should be expressed towards Members who have initiated discussion over here and these Members should be felicitated also. I express my thanks to them for this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, one noticeable thing is that the entire House has unifiedly expressed its sorrow over the unfortunate incidents and sympathy towards the victims of cutting across party lines. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: And Members sitting before the Chair.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: All of them have expressed their sentiments and compassion. Whenever blood shedding takes place, a woman is harassed, or somebody's house is burnt or somebody has to flee from his House or has to face any kind of misfortune, those who stand by justice feel distressed. The House is also aggrieved. The message from today's discussion should be conveyed that such kind of incidents should never take place anywhere. It should not happen in any State, any city or village of the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all we have to see exactly what happened over there. Probably, the State Government envisaged to set up a chemical hub over there and it zeroed in on Nandigram for setting up the said hub. The Government and the Chief Minister had repeatedly told me on phone that they have neither issued any notification in regard to acquisition of land nor have they shown any inclination to do so. They had reiterated on the point time and again. However, the farmers over there got agitated on the issue of land acquisition and they staged agitation and said that their land was very fertile, it should not be acquired. We should not forget that the West Bengal Government has openly made a statement that it is not going to acquire that land. They have not left any ambiguity in this regard that they are not going to acquire that land. If the farmers do not want, the SEZ will not be created. It will be taken to some other place like Haldia or may be created in an Island, such an assurance was given. After such assurance this agitation should have come to naught but it did not happen. We have to think seriously here as to why the agitation did not end after the

*Not recorded.

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assurance. Till we ponder over it and the facts are presented to us, this may happen at any other place, and it will not be helpful in any way in setting this dispute.

However, it is true that agitation has not ended there and, perhaps the erstwhile supporters of the Communist Party who oppose this more fled from that place. They left their homes and hearths and were distanced from their land holdings. We should not forget that they remained away from their homes for 10-11 months. Efforts were made to send them back with the help of the police but it proved futile and particularly when the police of West Bengal intervened the situation became so grim that some more lives were lost. The policemen were killed and innocent people were killed more in number. Every body's life is precious and we should have the sensitivity to regret the loss of life. Thereafter, the situation became so critical that there was firing once again in which some more lives were lost. Repeated firing one after the other took many more lives. Thereafter, a good step was taken to bring the people back who had left their homes. Nobody can compel anyone to leave one's home or land. And no one should have any problem if one returns to one's home land; however, there were objections. There is a need to pay attention to what happened subsequently. With due apologies, I would aver that I am speaking neither in the interest of any particular party nor with the motive of leveling any allegation against someone. However, I hope that the Government would act upon the guidelines which would be given on the basis of the facts which came to light and which would be presented before the House. Some people who left their homes moved out under the fear that they would not be able to return because they raised their voice in protest. Needless to say that the Government there is looking after them including their boarding and lodging and provision of food to them is also being taken care of by the State Government. While there is something worth noticing that not even a single session of Parliament passes when we do not discuss the law and order situation and ascribe the responsibility to either

the State or the Central Government. However, the situation turned so grim there that neither the Police nor the bureaucrats could enter the area and only a few people dictated terms over there. How can democracy function in such a situation? We will have to put a check somewhere. We cannot check the Central Government because our constitution does not have any provision for it. The incident relates to such a small place where such an atmosphere was created that not even a Government official could enter the area. If things go on like this in a particular place then it may occur elsewhere too and if anarchy would spread to various parts of the state, the Government would lose its credibility. We came across divergent views on the steps that were taken to tackle the situation. I cannot sit in judgement over somebody, criticise or protect somebody, no one can do that unless we analyse the entire situation. However, we should take steps so as to not repeat our past mistakes. What should be done now? After analysing the situation it becomes our duty to rise above our narrow political ...considerations, religious, linguistic, and ideological disparities and make efforts to bring back home the people who were forced to leave their homes. It becomes the duty of the State Government in particular and it is fulfilling its duty. I am in no mood to level allegation. ...*(Interruptions)* It is our responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)* Such a situation should not arise for members of any party, be they of Communist Party, Congress Party, Trinamool Congress or BJP that they be forced to leave their homes. The State Government is requested to take measures to bring them back home and provide them full protection. I am not saying that they are not doing it and if they are not doing they should do so. Everybody has his own way of putting things. Some use abusive and foul language and some speak with civility. It depends on the person concerned in respect of the style adopted for conveying something.

Secondly, full protection should be given to their property, be it house, field or employment. They should not face any difficulty. Thirdly, they should get full compensation from the Government. The Government announced compensation and gave Rs. 1 lakh as compensation. Even we allow upto Rs. 1 lakh

compensation to the next of kin of the deceased under the security related expenditure. Perhaps the court has intervened and has asked to increase the compensation to Rs. 5 lakh. A very important point is that no action should be taken on party lines or on the basis of religion or caste. Some apprehension was expressed on the involvement of Maoists in the incident. Our opinion was also sought in the matter. But our senior colleagues would be knowing it very well that despite having the entire information we cannot claim to be knowing everything lest something should go amiss. But as per my information some people have definitely tried to incite the crowd. They have not come forward but they have definitely worked in that direction. They have also tried to smuggle in some weapons. We have the entire information. If any such activity is going on along our coast line or in any part of our country, then it becomes our duty to take measures for the safety of the country by rising above party politics or any regional or state interest. I would like to say that it is necessary for us to adopt precautionary measures keeping in view the weapons found and the information received from there. I discuss with the Chief Minister and the Governor and whenever we have talks I feel that issues are resolved and whenever they talk to me our issues are also resolved. When we do not arrive at a solution, then I suggest that the said work should be done not that way, but in another way, then it will bear good results and they also give suggestions to me and in this way we do the work by taking each other into confidence. Therefore, when we talk to the Government, there arises no difficulty, but from the side of the people who do not have complete information, I face difficulties as it involves the blaming of each other for everything which should be avoided. With utmost modesty I would like to say that this is the way it happens.

Sir, there was a mention about the CRPF. I do not want to prolong it and repeat it. The Government of West Bengal is very well aware about the steps being taken by us but for the information of the House I would like to repeat that out of the 8 lakh para military forces we have, 6 lakh forces are posted on international borders. Of the remaining two lakh forces, about one lakh seventy five thousand forces are posted on various

locations and the remaining forces are kept reserved for any unforeseen eventuality. Now-a-days the meaning of reserved forces has changed that if a force is given to anybody, they keep the force with themselves forever. They do not repatriate the force and it does not remain a reserve force anymore. It becomes an permanent force. Our colleagues write to us demanding that they be given this much force. We tell them not to make such demands. We are aware of their problems. However it is not necessary for us to expose the said difficulty somewhere. We never expose their difficulties and will never expose it as there cannot be a better judge of their problems than us. All of us have gone through the said sorrows and joys. Hence we know it, So we will not do anything, but it happens. The case of CRPF is that whenever an incident occurs, a letter comes to us. We provide assistance to the maximum possible extent. We have provided help in this case also. I held talks with the Government of West Bengal also and I have stated that if it is very needful, I would make arrangements and I would like to say that force has been withdrawn from somewhere or the other, personnels participating in training programmes have been withdrawn and forces were sent there. They had two battalions with them already. There is no complaint about them and if there is any complaint, it will be about the need of more force after deployment in all the areas. Somebody made a demand and we decided that we would not accede to their demand, that's is not the case. If forces are sent sooner, it is good. I can understand this much. For this purpose I cannot blame them. This matter ends here.

Sir, the second matter is related to SEZ. The issue of SEZ has been raised here and I think my cabinet colleague, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has given a reply. The most important component of this discussion is the issues on which we are arriving at a consensus. This I can understand. My friends from BJP and Congress share the same view that only barren or infertile land should be acquired for SEZ's. Take the land which is not that suitable for agriculture and after taking such land, give good compensation for it. Even after giving compensation if they get any profit from the land in due course of time, then they should be given a share

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from the profit thus earned. The fourth point is that if possible, provide employment to them. Such a step is very essential. Today our Minister of Agriculture is present here. All of us are present here. They are aware that we should reduce the burden on agriculture and transfer it either to industry or services, a way-out should be found and this way-out can be in this manner that industries are to be set up on unfertile land only and the burden of agriculture be shifted to the said land. Maximum compensation should be given to the individuals from whom land is being acquired for the industry. Our leader has also expressed the same views, our Government also holds the same opinion and all of us have expressed the same opinion. Therefore land acquisition and rehabilitation policy is being formulated in this regard. Under land acquisition policy, if the market price is above Rs. one lakh, 35 per cent solatium is given on it i.e. he will be given Rs. one lakh thirty five thousand. We have made deliberations on as how to increase this solatium. If the land is taken for one purpose and the said land is utilized for another purposes or money is earned from it from the market, deliberations are also going on about whether the farmer should also get a share from it or not. Deliberations are going on as to whether shares should be awarded or not to the farmers if a company is set up there.

This policy is under the Government's consideration and it will be brought before you also. The views expressed by all of us in that regard will also be taken into account. The most important thing is that such an atmosphere should not be created. I have been asked questions about what happened in Kolkata today, but, as per my knowledge, unfortunately, agitation has been started in Kolkata and boulders were placed on paths, vehicles were stopped and stones were pelted at the people in which 50 people got injured. Deputy Police Commissioner also got injured. The police have taken control. Rapid action force has also been deployed and they also took control of the situation. They and the State Government have said that situation is a little bit tense, but everything is under control. Flag march has also been carried out by the Army.

The most important factor is the fear psychology. If fear is generated in the mind and if more fear is created in the mind of the people who obey and respect the law of the land, it is not a good thing. It becomes very necessary for the Government to take action in order to allay that fear. If the State Government takes steps in this regard, we will extend our full support to them. It is necessary to allay this sentiment of fear through the help of the people. We should unitedly endeavour to allay the fear instead of increasing it. Advaniji has given two-three suggestions with regard to article 355. In my personal capacity, many a time I have shared my views with the Home Secretary, Chief Secretary and I also talked to the Governor and issued directives that no one would stay outside leaving one's home. Whoever has been brought in, will be given total protection. No one will be allowed to roam about in motor cycles or any other vehicles and one should not frighten others. Besides, I have stated that full compensation would be provided to them and have added that by withdrawing forces from peaceful areas, deploy them in areas where forces are needed. Even after this, if there is any need of our assistance, we will definitely provide assistance. I think a discussion has been held among us and its solution also lies in this discussion itself. If one Talukas or two talukas remain disturbed for a few days then it is definitely a matter for discussion. As the suggestion given by Advaniji that directives be issued despite the provisions of Article 355, we have tried to do the same.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): I wish to ask two-three small questions that I had referred to during my speech. The first question is about the opinion of the Government in respect of the proposal to send there an All Party Delegation? I feel that if an All Party Delegation is sent there it would really be helpful as it proved to be in Gujarat and Ayodhya in the past.

Secondly, there the Governor has made a statement in public. The Centre should ask him for a report on the present situation in Nandigram. All kinds of things that have been said here and what he saw there and on the basis of those inputs that he got in that regard has made him to make such a statement

which a Governor would normally refrain to make unless fully informed. So, he should be asked for a full report on Nandigram.

Thirdly, what are the reasons for the fresh violence that erupted in Kolkata? If the army did the flag march then did the State Government consult him or was the Union Government apprised of the situation to obtain assistance of the Army, if the condition had gone worse? These are my three questions.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I have heard attentively. He said that the Government of India accepts the presence of naxalites in Nandigram, and that might have been the response of that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI UDAY SINGH: No. He never said that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Let him say that. Nobody needs to assist the Home Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you bothered? He could reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Sorry, Sir.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Shri Advani, this is strange.

The point is, as I have understood him, he said that there was a presence of a group of naxalites there, who did not come in the forefront, but from the rear, they might have been involved in creating disturbances there. I would like to know this from him. Modern arms have been recovered from that area. What is the source of arms? Do they belong to the same people whom he describes as naxalites or they have been procured by the farmers? How those arms could have been there in the possession of peaceful farmers? This is question number one.

Secondly, he had a talk; Home Secretary had a talk with the Chief Secretary on a number of occasions and they have said that all the people who have left

their homes should be sent back, and protection should be given. Is it a directive as Shri Advani has asked for or was it an advice?

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I have to make two submissions. Firstly, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Home that what action is being taken by him against the perpetrators of violence in Nandigram and whether the State Government is fulfilling its duty? What is his role in regard to Nandigram in the capacity of Minister of Home? Secondly, the statement of the Chief Minister after the Nandigram incident point to the an ability of the State Government in conducting a fair inquiry of the cases registered. The High Court has also given its observation on that. In such a situation, please clarify whether he intends to conduct a CBI inquiry or not?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your leader has asked; we cannot go on like this.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): I want to ask only one question.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the question?

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: How many persons have been arrested by the police?

MR. SPEAKER: This is a State matter; how can he reply to these details? No. This is the trouble. [Translation] All these issues cannot be raised. [English] Whatever you wish to say, you can say.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: A lot of questions have been asked. Even if I have forgotten something I may ask them later on.

The first of the questions asked by Advaniji was [English] is it possible to send an All Party Delegation? This is a suggestion given by him; it is naturally before the House; we shall have to consult other parties and others, and then, we can take a decision. But at this

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point of time, I am not in a position to say 'yes' or 'no' After consultation. we can say something.

I would have liked very much that the matter relating to the Governor would not have been raised on the Floor of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that it was so, but Shri Advani did not appreciate my submission.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We do realize that the Governor is there and he is watching and reading the information from the Media and other places. He might have felt this way or that way also, but it is not proper for us to discuss about the Governor, on the Floor of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot be done under the rules also.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I may be excused, if I do not comment anything on that.

As far as the flag march by the Army in that area is concerned, it is not necessary for the State Government to consult the Union Government to obtain the assistance of the army. If the State Government comes to the conclusion, that it is necessary, even the Collector, even the Divisional Commissioner or even the District Magistrate can ask for the assistance, and that way they have done it.

I do not think either the Home Ministry or the Defence Ministry was contacted.

As far as the matter relating to CBI investigation is concerned, we shall have to understand that we are governed by laws in the country. Rule of law prevails here. Even if I want to send an investigating agency to any of the States to investigate, I cannot because that is not allowed by the Constitution. That is not allowed by the law. If you want that the CBI should inquire into a particular matter, it is for the State Government to suggest that the CBI should inquire into it or the Court to suggest that it has to be inquired into by CBI. I think, in this case the matter has been referred to CBI and the CBI has been looking into this. This is about Shri

Prabhunath Singh's question. I beg your pardon I have just forgotten the questions put by Shri Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I had asked two questions. One, as far as I remember, you have agreed that there has been presence of a group of people from outside whom you describe as fundamentalists or extremists and they might have been responsible from the rear, not coming to the forefront, in creating disturbances. I wanted to know, by this do you accept that there have been naxalite people there who fermented the trouble.

Secondly, police or paramilitary forces have been able to discover large quantity of arms. What is the source of these arms? Where from these arms had come?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If you read the speech which has been recorded on the film and in black and white also, you will find that I have not said all that you are saying now. I have just said that some information is there. Please do not read anything more than that in my speech. I am certainly not going to discuss this issue in detail. If you ask for a discussion, I will collect the information and I will properly reply to your questions.

Secondly, all these details are not with me. These details are with the State Government. The State Government is actually in control of it. My difficulty is I cannot say that you cannot ask these questions to me. Very politely and humbly I have replied to your questions. But all these questions should have been directed to the State Government rather than to the Union Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Precisely, that is why such issues should not be discussed here.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day are treated as laid on the Table of the House.

*Treated as laid on the Table

(I) Need to announce early special incentive price for paddy in the country

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Paddy growing farmers particularly in delta districts of Tamil Nadu are upset over the new minimum support price fixed by the Government of India.

The Minimum Support Price for common variety of Paddy is Rs. 645 per quintal and for Grade A variety at Rs. 675 a quintal compared to Rs. 620 and Rs. 650 respectively during the previous year 2006-07. On the other hand, the Minimum Support Price of wheat has been fixed at Rs. 850 per quintal including Rs. 100 as incentive bonus. It is an increase of Rs. 150 per quintal compared to last season 2006-07 which was fixed at Rs. 700 per quintal. Moreover, the concession of incentive bonus has not been extended to paddy farmers as it has been extended in favour of wheat producing farmers.

Over the years the cost of cultivation of paddy has increased substantially. Further, there has been a substantial fall in the availability of agriculture labour in rural areas ultimately leading to increase in the labour cost. As such the cultivation cost of paddy is Rs. 9,000 to 10,000 per acre. Thus cost of paddy production works out Rs. 950 to Rs. 1000 per quintal. So there is urgent need to fix Minimum Support Price of paddy at Rs. 1000 per quintal to make it remunerative to paddy growing farmers.

In view of the above, I request the Central Government not to make paddy cultivation unremunerative endangering the food security in the country. Further Minimum Support Price of paddy should be fixed at Rs. 1000 per quintal and Special Incentive Price should be announced for paddy without any further delay in the interest of paddy farmers in the country.

(II) Need to expedite widening of N.H. 33 between Rajkot and Bhavnagar in Amreli Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

[Translation]

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Widening of

National Highway 33 between Chavand, Lathi, Amreli and widening of National Highway 33 between Rajkot and Bhavnagar is proposed under Pragatipath Yojana. Prior to 1973, a large swath of land in this area was not covered under the forest area and while covering these roads under the forest area in 1973, a notification was issued that the area along the road would be under the jurisdiction of the Gujarat Government. The area where the road is being constructed is already a road. These roads are being widened owing to heavy traffic. The Chief Protection Officer, Central Bhopal has raised objection on these proposals.

Though the House, the Government is requested to direct the Forest Conservation Officer, Bhopal to take action in regard to pollution generating works in Saurashtra and to work in compliance with the notifications issued in the part and not to raise unnecessary objections in the developmental works.

(III) Need to give Central Excise Duty exemption to Sugar Mills in Maharashtra

[English]

SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE (Jalgaon): Sugar Industries in the State of Maharashtra are facing lot of problems as the Sugar prices are showing downward trend in the recent times. The management of the sugar industries are not able to pay the regular salary for the workers and the staff. Similarly the instalments of the Sugar Cane payment are not paid in time affecting the next year crop.

Hence Honourable Minister is requested to save the industry from sickness by exempting them at least for three years from payment of Central Excise Duty on sugar. They may release 65% of the saved amount to the farmers for the payment against Sugar Cane Instalment and the balance 35% to clear up the old dues of the workers and Staff to boost them on work. Also Hon'ble Minister can examine the possibility to allow 10% use of Ethanol to be mixed with Petrol and Diesel and giving the subsidy of Rs. 200/- PMT on Sugar Cane Price.

(iv) Need to four-lane N.H. 9 and N.H. 13 in Sholapur Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra and setting up of Accident Trauma Centres along the highways

[Translation]

SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH (Sholapur): Serious road accidents resulting in large number of casualties and large-scale serious injuries have become the order of the day owing to heavy traffic pressure on the National Highway-9 (Pune-Sholapur-Hyderabad) and National Highway-13 (Pune-Sholapur-Bijapur) under my parliamentary constituency of Sholapur.

There is a need to four lane these national highways in view of the growing heavy traffic on them, besides there is also a need to provide adequate medical facilities by setting up of Accident Trauma Centres at particular distances along the highways in view of the serious accidents taking place.

The Government is requested to four-lane the National Highway-9 (Pune-Sholapur-Hyderabad) and the National highway-13 (Pune-Sholapur-Bijapur) and set up Accident Trauma Centres at particular distances along the highways.

(v) Need to raise the Minimum Support Price for paddy

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): The economic condition of farmers is worsening day by day and the farmers are under heavy debt burden for years together. They are compelled to sell their Rabi and Kharif crops-wheat, paddy, gram, pulses at even below their cost since the Minimum Support Price fixed by the Government is low. The support price for the crop of the farmer is fixed by the Union Government. Whereas the prices of the goods manufactured in factories and industries are determined by the industrialists themselves. There is no difference between a farmer and an industrialist. The Union Government has fixed the support price of wheat at Rs. 1000 per quintal.

There is large-scale production of paddy crops in Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar,

Maharashtra, etc. which is exported to other countries as well.

Owing to excessive production of paddy in Chhattisgarh it is often called the paddy bowl.

The farmer is disappointed and disgruntled owing to low support price of paddy. The Union Government should seriously ponder over fixing support price in accordance with the cost of the crop. The support price of coarse paddy and fine paddy should be fixed at Rs. 1000 and Rs. 500 respectively and the entire loan of the farmers should be waived.

(vi) Need to take measure to facilitate availability of farm credit @ 7% to farmers in Gujarat

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Government of India has announced an interest subvention scheme that aims at providing farm credit at 7%. The idea of making credit available to farmers at 7% is most welcome. But some practical difficulties have prevented its implementation in Gujarat. However, at present out of 18 Dist. Central Cooperative Banks only 5 to 6 Dist. Central Co-operative Banks are providing farm credit to the farmers at the rate of 7%. The DCCBs will be eligible for concessional refinancing only if they also lend a concessional rate out of their own funds. In Gujarat the refinance from NABARD is limited to only 16.8% of the total credit disbursement. The remaining finance comes from own funds of the State Cooperative Bank and the DCCBs. The cost of their own funds is as high as 10 to 12% which includes cost of deposit mobilization management cost and risk cost. Thus the cooperative institutions will not be in a position to lend at the rate of 7% to the farmers. If they try to do so, the losses will be of the order of Rs. 175 crores. This has to be understood in the context that in the second and third year the concessional rate of refinance by NABARD will be increased to 3% and 3.5% respectively leading to still bigger losses in the subsequent years. The Government of India right now giving 2% interest subvention in reference to this scheme. Refinance from NABARD is average 15 to 20% to DCCBs. If finance from their own funds at 7% is made available then all

DCCBs of the State may incur losses. Government of India is requested to provide reasonable interest subvention to Dist. Central Co-operative Banks and refinance to the extent of 85% of the total lending.

(vii) Need to introduce an express train between Bhubaneswar and Tatanagar via Keonjhar and extend Howrah-Barbil Jana Shatabdi Express upto Keonjhar

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar): Keonjhar is one of the few districts in Eastern India which has not been provided with train services even after sixty years of Independence. On the other hand, it is the richest mineral bearing district in the country. A large number of people who are either original inhabitant or working class including employees of various companies go from Keonjhar to Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi and other major cities in the country in connection with their official work or social commitment. But the district is very much neglected in train communication. Now, a line is laid connecting Paradip and Tatanagar to transport cargo from that district. In fact, maximum freight of East Coast Railway originate from Keonjhar district. When the Railways is earning so much revenue from that district the indifference on Rail Communication to a mineral rich area is not justified.

As such, I demand that an express train should be introduced between Bhubaneswar and Tatanagar via Keonjhar connecting Geetanjali Express and other Howrah-Mumbai and Mumbai-Howrah bound trains without any further delay. Similarly, Howrah-Barbil Jana Shatabdi Express should be extended to Keonjhar forthwith.

(viii) Need to construct a new bridge at Dharmadam-Muzhappilangad on N.H.-17 in Kannur district, Kerala

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEV (Badagara): There is a need to construct a new bridge parallel to Moidu Bridge at Dharmadam, Muzhappilangad, Kannur District on NH 17 as the old bridge has completely broken-down and the entire traffic on the NH 17 in this area has been re-routed.

The Moidu Bridge constructed in the year 1940

on NH 17 is the only bridge which enables road traffic from the two important Municipal towns of Thalassery and Kannur. Since the bridge is in a dilapidated condition, some renovation work was done with the help and financial assistance of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. But the renovation work may not solve the problem completely. The State PWD has proposed construction of a new bridge at the same place.

Hence the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways may please consider this issue seriously and take immediate actions to sanction the proposal and construct a new bridge at Dharmadam-Muzhappilangad on National Highway.

(ix) Need to check recurring floods in the Eastern parts of Uttar Pradesh caused due to the rivers emanating from Nepal

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Poorvanchal area of Uttar Pradesh face the fury of floods every year due to release of unregulated water from Nepal. We can generate power from the water released from Nepal and can also channelise the flood water for providing irrigation facility to farmers. The Government of India have been pondering over this issue since 1954 and Rs. 34 crore was allocated for the said work. Later on a Commission was set up under the Chairmanship of Jaisukhlal Hathi to Contemplate upon the measures to control flood and Rs. 2000 thousand crore was allocated in 1974 for the project to construct Pancheshwar, Bhalu and Karnali dams. However, the work on this project could not be started resulting in the cost over-run of the said project. 12 thousand megawatt power was proposed to be generated under this project.

Through the House, I would like to request the Government of India to hold discussion with the Government of Nepal for controlling flood and bring prosperity in Poorvanchal and North Bihar by channelizing, for irrigation and generation of power, flood water that cause devastation every year in Poorvanchal and North Bihar.

(x) Need to expedite laying of railway line between Maharajganj and Mashrakh in Bihar

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): While Maharajganj of Bihar State is the main business centre of district Siwan, Mashrakh is the main trade centre of Saran district. Mashrakh was the terminal station of the railway line that was laid during the British period. After the independence, the said line was further extended to Gorakhpur. On the other side, a line passes from Chhapra to Gorakhpur via Ekma Duraoda and the Maharajganj sub-division headquarter is located 6 k.m. away from Duraoda. Though Duraoda to Maharajganj railway line is already operational, however, in the absence of railway connectivity between Maharajganj and Mashrakh, the trade of this area is being adversely affected. If this line is commissioned then both the business centres, Mashrakh of district Saran and Maharajganj of district Siwan, will be connected to each other. While on the one hand, the commissioning of Maharajganj-Mashrakh rail line will boost the business activities and on the other hand it will also provide traffic facilities to the people of rural areas. It is to be noted that laying of foundation stone for the said railway line has already been done, however, the construction work of the said line has not yet been started in the absence of allocation of the funds for the said work.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government to allocate funds for starting the laying of railway line sanctioned between Maharajganj and Mashrakh at the earliest.

(xi) Need to take steps to monitor the progress in implementation of reservation for other Backward Classes

[English]

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Indian society is a variegated one comprising Other Backward Classes, SCs, STs, Minorities and other communities. Other Backward Classes, according to Mandal Commission Report constitute about 52 per cent of the total population. Their socio-economic conditions as per Tenth Five Year Plan document are no different from those of SCs and STs. Although, the Indian Constitution provides for reservation to this section of the community, we have

not implemented the reservation policy with respect to OBCs till 1990 after Mandal Commission. Without any reservation, 12.5 per cent of the Central Government jobs were occupied by the OBCs, but the Solicitor General of India submitted to the Supreme Court of India that only 5.3 per cent of the total jobs go to OBCs as on 1-1-2005. On the other hand other communities (OCs), which form only 6.1 per cent of the population corner 71.6 per cent of the Central Government jobs. This is a shocking injustice meted out to the OBCs. The Government has to seriously think of this grave injustice and take remedial measures. It is more significant in the background that the Government has not yet implemented reservation in education as recommended by the Mandal Commission even today. Therefore, there is no scope for OBCs to come up in the socio-economic ladder of the country. Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to monitor the progress of OBCs in all spheres. For this purpose, I request the Government to constitute a Committee for the welfare of Other Backward Classes immediately on the lines of Standing Committee on SCs and STs.

(xii) Need to stop outsourcing of services in Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and implement community development schemes for the welfare of the workers engaged in Raj Mahal Lalmatia Project in Jharkhand

[Translation]

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU (Rajmahal): Most of the coal mines under the Eastern Coalfields Limited, located in West Bengal are running in losses however, the company earns a profit of approximately Rs. 400 crore from Raj Mahal Lalmatia Project of Jharkhand, but the company and the Government are not spending sufficient money under the community development and other public welfare projects for the social and economic development of the people of this area. Instead, outsourcing is being encouraged in ECL. Presently, three outsourcing agencies are operating in ECL. It is on account of management and outsourcing agencies that the company and staff, especially workers, have been suffering losses.

So I would like to request the Government that effective steps should be taken to discourage

outsourcing in ECL and each of the ancillary companies of Coal India Limited and economic and social development work should be undertaken under community development in the villages falling in Raj Mahal Project area so that the residents of this area may get free electricity, employment and may be directly benefited by the other development schemes.

(xiii) Need to take steps to ameliorate the plight of paddy growers

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, there is a widespread unrest in the farming community in Andhra Pradesh due to severe discrimination in determining the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Paddy. It is estimated that the farmers in the country produce about 90 million tonnes of paddy. There is a misapprehension that when paddy is converted to rice, only 65% is redeemed and the balance is wasted. However, the residual products like husk, broken rice etc., are valuable and marketable products. 100 kg of milled-paddy would yield 65 kg rice; 10-12 kg of broken rice, 8 kg of cattle feed and the balance would be husk. The Government already has a scheme to modernize all rice mills to enhance the yield of rice and minimize wastage in milling. Hence, the difference in value between wheat and rice is very marginal and accordingly the minimum support price difference also should be marginal. Government of India is spending a huge sum of money on Food Corporation of India (FCI) for maintaining the buffer stocks. Compared to the expenditure by FCI, the additional support given to the rice farmer by way of a proper minimum support price is negligible. Given these problems, the Public Distribution System needs to be reoriented to meet the requirements of the people below poverty line by creating Grain Banks managed at the local level. It will definitely reduce transaction, transport, handling and storage costs, while enhancing rural employment opportunities. Our farmers should also be supported by strong government protection through minimum support prices whenever the prices are depressed.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to understand the gravity of the situation and to ameliorate the problems of paddy growers in Andhra Pradesh by

promptly enhancing the Minimum Support Price of Paddy to Rs. 1000 per quintal.

(xiv) Need to provide 20% reservation in jobs to the people belonging to General Category on the basis of their population

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): There is a provision to provide 15. 7.5 and 27 per cent reservation to the people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes respectively. Presently, the population of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is 25 per cent and the population of other backward class is 55 per cent of the total population. Thus, the population of all the above three communities are 80 per cent of the total population, however, only 49.5 per cent reservation has been given to these three communities whereas 50 per cent general category seats are open for upper castes people though they constitute only 20 per cent of the total population. Despite these facts, the provision of reservation is being opposed and pro and anti-reservation groups fight over this issue and the people of those castes who do not get reservation feel that reservation facility should be given to them as well.

So, I would like to request the Government that the necessary steps should be taken to provide 20 per cent reservation to the upper castes people in proportion to their population as they constitute 20 per cent of the total population, so that, upper caste people may get the benefit of reservation and the frequent conflicts between pro reservation and anti reservation groups may be ended forever.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.47 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, November 22, 2007/ Agraayana 1/1926 (Saka).

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