

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

Tenth Session  
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Monday, March 19, 2007/Phalgun 28, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSHI) : If the House Junctions, we are ready to give reply to every issue ... (Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : In West Bengal... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Malhotra, you have not even given any notice for the Adjournment Motion. Q.No. 281, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Cold blooded murders took place in Nandigram... (Interruptions) Women wire killed... (Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

(At this stage Shri P.S. Gadhvi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : First of all, please go to your seat

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing would go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : First, at least please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The matter regarding Nandigram is a State subject, therefore, I cannot allow you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a State subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You may please sit down.

(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### National Water Policy

\*281. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :  
SHRI VJOY KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a new National Water Policy after declaring water as a national property;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also expressed its concern about the increasing shortage of water in the country and has suggested that the State Governments may amend their laws for declaring water resources a national property; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir. The National Water Policy — 2002 (NWP) addresses the various issues related to development and management of water resources. The NWP states that water is a prime natural resources, a basic human need and a precious national asset and that planning, development and management of water resources need to be governed by national perspectives.

(b) The Planning Commission in its Mid-Term Appraisal of the 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007) has expressed that the average availability is likely to fall below the water-stress level in the near future. The publication titled "Towards Faster and More Inclusive Growth — An Approach to the 11th Five Year Plan" of the Planning Commission has also discussed about criticality of water in rainfed and other areas. The report states that water conservation and ground water management is critical for these areas and need much more focused. However, Planning Commission has not

made any suggestion that the State Governments may amend their laws for declaring water resources a national property.

(c) Does not arise.

### Pension Fund

282. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI :  
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of contribution of employees to Employees Provident Fund being currently transferred to the Pension Fund in the country;

(b) whether there is a proposal to transfer more amount to the pension fund so that employees could get more pension on superannuation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) As per provisions contained in para 3 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, from and out of contribution payable by the employer in each month towards Provident Fund, an amount representing 8.33% of the Employee's pay is remitted by the employer to the Employees' Pension Fund.

(b) to (d) The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is a defined contribution and benefit scheme. Para 32 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 provides for annual valuation of the Employees' Pension Fund by a Valuer to review the rates of contributions and quantum of the pension and other benefits. The recommendations made by the valuers for correcting the valuation deficit include measures like increase in the contribution or reduction of the benefits. The Central Board of Trustees has not so far taken a view on transferring more fund to the pension fund.

[English]

### Charges for Pay Channels

\*283. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from Broadcasters against the decision of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding changing the charges for pay channels in Conditional Access System (CAS) sector recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) No representation from broadcasters against the decision of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding changing the charges for pay channels in CAS sector has been received recently. However, appeals were filed by two broadcasters before the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) and two broadcasters have filed petitions in High Court. TDSAT has dismissed the appeals while the petitions before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi are still pending in which Government of India is also a party. The matter is subjudice.

### Expansion of AIR/DD Coverage

\*284. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal for expanding the coverage of the All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts are being made to make special transmission arrangements for the backward and rural areas of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, Eleventh Plan is yet to be finalized.

(c) and (d) The extent of TV coverage in terrestrial mode is 79 per cent by area and 91 per cent by population of the country including rural and backward areas. Similarly the extent of coverage of AIR is 91.78 per cent by area and 99.14 per cent by population of the country including rural and backward areas. The whole of the country except Andaman and Nicobar Islands is also covered through Doordarshan's free to air DTH service. The DTH service was launched primarily for providing AIR/TV coverage to uncovered backward and rural areas. Some more FM radio stations in such areas will also be considered under the Eleventh Plan subject to availability of funds.

[Translation]

### Employment Opportunities in Agriculture Sector

\*285. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agriculturists, agricultural land owners and agricultural labourers in the country recorded at the end of each of the last two Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) the details of employment generated in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Sectors in each State during the Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to promote agriculture for employment generation during the Eleventh Plan;

(d) if so, whether any target has been fixed therefor;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action plan chalked out for the same; and

(f) the allocation of funds for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) As per Population Census data released by the Registrar General of India, the details of State-wise agricultural workers comprising cultivators and agricultural labourers in the census 1991 and 2001 are give below:-

(in thousand numbers)

State	Cultivators		Agricultural Labourers		Total	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	8292	7860	12517	13832	20809	21692
Arunachal Pradesh	243	279	22	19	264	298
Assam	4429	3731	1017	1264	5444	4994
Bihar	8105	8194	8633	13418	16738	21611
Goa	69	50	45	36	105	86
Gujarat	5604	5803	4507	5162	10112	10964
Haryana	2091	3018	1007	1279	3098	4297
Himachal Pradesh	1537	1955	75	94	1612	2049
Jammu and Kashmir	0	1592	0	246	0	1838
Karnataka	6692	6884	5653	6227	12346	13111
Kerala	1206	724	2450	1621	3656	2345
Madhya Pradesh	10028	11038	5041	7401	15069	18439
Maharashtra	11542	11813	9533	10815	21075	22629
Manipur	464	380	80	114	544	493
Meghalaya	426	467	98	172	524	639

1.	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mizoram	210	256	18	27	228	283
Nagaland	375	549	8	31	383	580
Orissa	5041	4248	3906	4999	8947	9247
Punjab	1984	2065	1543	1490	3527	3555
Rajasthan	10445	13140	2204	2524	12649	15664
Sikkim	98	131	14	17	112	148
Tamil Nadu	6043	5116	8757	8638	14800	13754
Tripura	334	313	208	276	543	589
Uttar Pradesh	22417	22168	8743	13401	31160	35568
West Bengal	6407	5654	5482	7363	11889	13017
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18	21	7	5	24	27
Chandigarh	2	2	2	1	4	3
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	46	39	9	15	55	54
Daman and Diu	6	4	2	1	9	5
Delhi	34	37	28	16	62	53
Pondicherry	18	11	80	72	99	83
Uttarakhand	1637	1570	255	260	1892	1830
Chhattisgarh	4755	4311	2111	3091	6866	7402
Jharkhand	4085	3890	1937	2851	6022	6741
<b>All India</b>	<b>124684</b>	<b>127313</b>	<b>85992</b>	<b>106775</b>	<b>210676</b>	<b>234088</b>

(b) According to the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), (61st Round) the estimated number of workers in the country employed, as per usual status, in agriculture, inter-alia, including animal husbandry has

increased from 237.56 million in 1999-2000 to 238.8 million in 2004-05.

(c) to (f) Creation of employment in rural areas is one

of the policy objectives of the Government. As per the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan, doubling the rate of growth of agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at 4% per annum will improve rural employment conditions by raising rural wages and reducing unemployment. However, to reduce the dependence of work force on agriculture, it has been envisaged that opportunities will also be created in the non-farm activities in rural areas. Nevertheless, for the agriculture sector, a series of policy initiatives and programmes/schemes have been taken in vital areas like credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure, horticulture and extension services to boost investment in agriculture and allied sectors. Efforts are on to enhance production and productivity and to encourage farming as a remunerative profession. This process is being further strengthened through farm mechanization, agri clinics and agri business centres. Programmes have also been taken up to develop rainfed areas and encourage food processing activities. All these schemes and programmes are expected to generate additional employment opportunities in Agriculture Sector. To implement the programmes, higher outlays have been proposed for the year 2007-08, which is the first year of the 11th Five Year Plan.

[English]

#### Import of Essential Commodities

286. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :  
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD :

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

- (a) the stock position of various foodgrains including wheat, rice, pulses, edible oil, sugar etc. in the country as on March 1, 2007;
- (b) whether there is a shortage of such stocks as per the stocking norms;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government had earlier allowed imports of the said items at reduced tariffs;

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum and price of the said articles contracted and actually imported till date by the Government and private traders;

(f) whether the Government has decided to allow further import in view of its shortage in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be imported; and

(h) the other steps being taken by the Government to meet this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The stock position of wheat and rice in the country in the Central Pool and sugar as on March 01, 2007 is as under:

In lakh Mts		
Rice	Wheat	Total
139.67	51.00	190.67

The quantity of imported wheat lying at the ports as on 01.03.07 is 5.11 lakh tonnes. The stock position of sugar is provisionally estimated at about 131 lakh tonnes. Stocks of edible oils and pulses are mostly held by private traders, who also import under Open General License (OGL) and hence the stock position is not available.

(b) There is no shortage as per buffer norms, that exist for rice and wheat.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Government had permitted import of wheat, sugar, edible oils and pulses at zero percent/reduced duty. Details of quantum and price of wheat and pulses actually imported/contracted by Government agencies is enclosed as Statement-I. Available information on articles imported by private traders is enclosed as Statement-II.

(f) and (g) Imports of wheat, rice, sugar, pulses and edible oils under OGL are permitted by the Government

subject to payment of prescribed duties/zero percent duties.

(h) Several steps have been taken by the Government to improve the availability of essential commodities in the country which include the following:—

- (i) Export of wheat has been banned upto 31.12.2007.
- (ii) Government has decided to release upto 4 lakh tonnes of wheat from the central pool for sale under the Open Market Sale Scheme.
- (iii) Customs duty on import of pulses was reduced to zero percent on June 8, 2006 and validity of this order has been extended upto 1.8.2007.
- (iv) Ban was imposed on export of pulses with effect from June 22, 2006 (except export of kabuli chana permitted w.e.f. 7.3.07). The period of validity of this order has been further extended upto 31.3.2008.
- (v) The Central Government had issued a Central Order to enable State Government to invoke stock limits in respect of wheat and pulses to prevent hoarding and the validity of this order has been extended by another six months vide order dated 27.2.2007.
- (vi) In order to provide remunerative prices to the farmers, Government of India announces Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for oilseeds every year, with appropriate enhancement to encourage oilseed production.

(vii) To give better returns to farmers, Government has declared a bonus of Rs.100 per quintal of wheat for Rabi Marketing Season, making the total procurement price Rs. 850 per quintal.

(viii) Government has permitted import of wheat duty free till 31 December 2007 to ensure that there is no shortage.

(ix) Government has decided to import, if necessary, upto 3 million tonnes of wheat through the STC for Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes like Mid Day Meals and ICDS.

#### Statement-I

##### Import of Wheat on Government Account

S. No.	Tender Date	Contracted Quantity (In Lakh MTs)	Weighted Average Price in US \$ Per MT
1.	20.02.2006	5	178.75
2.	08.05.2006	8	191.388
3.	12.06.2006	22	197.817
4.	27.07.2006	3.3	210.72
5.	30.08.2006	16.7	228.94
Grand Total		55	205.37

##### Recent Imports of Pulses by Government Agencies as on 8.3.2007

Name of Pulses	MMTC		PEC Ltd		STC		NAFED	
	Quantity (MT)	Rate USD per MT						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Moong	1000	638.50	2000	630.00			5000	630.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tur	1000	412.00	4000	384.00				
	7000	457.00						
	2000	458.00						
	10000	470.00						
Urad	3000	586.00	5000	659.00	30000	634.50	25000	670.00
			6000	570.00				
Dun Peas	2000	378.00						
<b>Total</b>	<b>26000</b>		<b>17000</b>		<b>30000</b>		<b>30000</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>103000 MTs</b>							

All prices are C and F prices.

**Statement-II**

**Production of Pig Iron**

*Private Imports on OGL*

\*287. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

**Wheat**

Quantity Arrived as on 6.03.2007 9.37 Lakh Tons  
(As per PQ Faridabad)

(a) the quantity and value of pig iron produced by Bokaro Steel Plant, Bokaro and Indian Iron and Steel Company, Bumpur during the last three years, year-wise;

**Edible oils**

2006-07 27.85 Lakh Tons  
(April 2006 to Oct. 2006)  
(Source DGCIS)

(b) the procedure followed to sell the pig iron to SSI/medium/large scale industrial units/companies of West Bengal and Jharkhand, separately;

**Sugar**

Import of Sugar (upto 31.10.2006) 0.010 lakh Tons  
(source DGCIS)

(c) the units/companies to whom more than 10,000 tonnes of pig iron had been sold during the last three years;

**Pulses**

Import of Pulses 16.95 Lakh Tons  
(upto 31.12.2006)

(d) whether any company has received more than 10,000 tonnes of pig iron in contravention of the norms prescribed for selling pig iron;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposes to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) The quantity of Pig Iron produced by BSL (Bokaro Steel plant) and ISP (IISCO Steel Plant) of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), as well as the value of pig iron, based on Gross Sales Realization of pig iron per tonne from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is as under:-

S.No.	Year	Bokaro Steel plant		IISCO Steel Plant	
		Production (000 t)	Value in terms of Gross Sales Realization (Rs. in crores)	Production (000 t)	Value in terms of Gross Sales Realization (Rs. in crores)
1.	2003-04	89	93	222	285
2.	2004-05	75	124	182	329
3.	2005-06	167	228	213	318

(b) There is no separate procedure for selling pig iron in the State of West Bengal and Jharkhand.

The procedure which is followed on All India basis for selling Pig Iron through Central Marketing Organisation (CMO) of SAIL is by according the following priority for booking of orders:-

- (i) Government Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Small Scale Industries Corporations (SSICs), National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
- (ii) Orders booked under Order Booking Schemes in vogue.

(iii) Supplies against continuous demand registration depending on availability of materials, on first come first served basis.

Before 01/04/2006, the erstwhile IISCO used to sell pig iron through open tender as well as through sale notices displayed on the Company Notice Board. Bokaro Steel Plant of SAIL has sold some quantity of pig iron directly from the plant.

(c) Details of the individual units / companies / Association, to whom more than 10,000 tonnes of pig iron has been supplied from the Integrated Steel Plants at Bokaro (BSL) and IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) at Burnpur, during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	Name of the company	Plant	Quantity in tonnes
1	2	3	4
2003-04	M/s. Kesoram Spun Pipes 10, Camac Street, Kolkata-71	IISCO	10,684
	Tata Steel, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand	BSL	10101

1	2	3	4
	M/s. SPS Metal Cast and Alloys, G.T. Road, Durgapur, West Bengal	IISCO	13,312
2004-05	Nil	Nil	Nil
	M/s. Mahabir Trading Co. Bokaro	BSL	10480
	M/s. Balaji Electrosteels Ltd., Koderma	BSL	10905
	M/s. Association of Batala Small Industrial, Jalandhar	BSL	19147
2005-06	M/s. Sumer & Sons (P) Ltd. Peer Khara, Sahadra, Agra, (UP)	IISCO	11,281

(d) There is no upper ceiling or norm on quantity for sales of Pig Iron.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

[Translation]

#### Production of Sugar

\*288. SHRI GANESH SINGH :

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :

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

(a) the production of sugar in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been a record sugar production in the country during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) A Statement-I showing state-wise production of sugar (Provisional) during the last three sugar seasons (October - September) is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Taking into account Government of Maharashtra's revised estimates of increase in sugar production by about 11 lac tons, the total sugar production

in India during the 2006-07 seasons is now provisionally estimated at about 238 lac tons. The state-wise details of sugar production (Estimated) is enclosed at Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

#### Statement Showing Production of Sugar during the last three Sugar Seasons

(In lac tons)

State	Sugar Season 2003-2004 (P)	Sugar Season 2004-2005 (P)	Sugar Season 2005-2006 (P)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	8.81	12.03	12.75
Bihar	2.77	2.70	4.19
Chhattisgarh	0.17	0.13	0.22
Goa	0.10	0.09	0.11
Gujarat	10.77	8.32	12.44
Haryana	5.86	3.98	3.88
Karnataka	11.57	11.32	20.09
Kerala	0.01	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0.94	0.78	0.94
Maharashtra	31.99	23.03	52.64

1	2	3	4
Orissa	0.44	0.87	0.52
Pondicherry	0.20	0.19	0.26
Punjab	3.88	3.37	3.89
Rajasthan	0.10	0.11	0.05
Tamil Nadu	11.90	14.75	21.38
Uttarakhand	3.93	3.36	4.14
Uttar Pradesh	46.08	51.52	55.64
West Bengal	0.07	0.05	0.07
All India	139.58	136.60	193.21

(P) - Provisional

**Statement-II**

*Statement Showing State-wise Estimates of Sugar Production for the Current 2006-07 Sugar Season (October - September)*

(In lac tons)

State	Sugar Season 2006-2007 (Estimated)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	13.26
Bihar	3.25
Chhattisgarh	0.30
Goa	0.10
Gujarat	12.26
Haryana	5.50
Karnataka	19.00
Kerala	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0.94
Maharashtra	81.00*
Orissa	0.58

1	2
Pondicherry	0.20
Punjab	4.51
Rajasthan	0.09
Tamil Nadu	22.98
Uttarakhand	4.50
Uttar Pradesh	69.80
West Bengal	0.07
All India	238.34

\*Government of Maharashtra has revised the estimates of sugar production from 70 lac tons to 81 lac tons.

[English]

**Spurious Imported Fertilizers**

\*289. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the imported fertilizers are either sub-standard or spurious;

(b) if so, whether proper testing facilities as per international standards are available to test these imported fertilizers;

(c) if not, the action taken in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to import quality fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No, Sir. All the important imported fertilizers, namely Urea, DAP and MOP, which constitute about 99.5% of total imported fertilizers, have been found to be of standard quality on testing except marginal variation in particle size in two consignments of urea fertilizer during 2003-04 to 2006-07. However, about 4% of imported 100 per cent water soluble fertilizers have been found to be non-standard, failing in the nutrient content/forms of nutrients during this period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) FCO, 1985 strictly stipulates the import of only quality fertilizers which meet the prescribed standards.

**Special Quality Steel Production  
by SAIL**

\*290. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has any proposal to produce special quality steel keeping in view the changing market scenario;

(b) if so, the instructions given to different steel plants in this regard; and

(c) the plan drawn up and the steps taken by the different steel plants in that direction for the Tenth Plan and the Eleventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PAWAN) :

(a) The steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) are already producing special quality steel as per market requirements and the facilities available at the plants.

(b) and (c) Modernization and expansion plans of SAIL Plants/Units proposed to be implemented during 10th Plan and 11th Plan period envisages setting-up of additional facilities which will augment the production of special quality steel.

**Assistance for Promotion of Horticulture**

\*291. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL :  
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of assistance provided to each State for promotion of horticulture during the last two years and the current financial year, State-wise alongwith the details of utilization of funds by each State and State-wise details of physical targets set and achieved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : Ministry of Agriculture is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely Technology Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern and Himalayan States (TMNE) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for promotion and development of horticulture in the country. Prior to the launching of the National Horticulture Mission during 2005-06, schemes for horticulture development in the country, except in North Eastern region and Himalayan States, were implemented under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture - Supplementation/Complementation of State efforts through Work Plans (MM). State-wise details of financial assistance provided under TMNE, NHM and MM schemes during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07, alongwith details of expenditure are given in the enclosed Statement-I, II and III respectively. Similarly, the details of physical targets and achievements for major components of these schemes are given in the Statement IV (a, b and c) in respect of TMNE, Statement-V (a) and (b) in respect of NHM and Statement-VI in respect of MM.

**Statement-I**

*Financial Assistance Provided and Expenditure incurred on Promotion of Horticulture under TMNE during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07*

Rs. in Lakhs

State	Amount Released			Amount Utilized		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (as on 9.03.07)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh	1645.55	1300.00	1400.00	1553.75	1290.00	699.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	871.00	1300.00	1400.00	871.00	1298.53	699.30
Manipur	1286.25	1500.00	1700.00	1042.74	1650.93	347.59
Meghalaya	1395.99	1700.00	2000.00	1395.99	1700.00	1000.00
Mizoram	1801.10	1800.00	2000.00	1801.10	1800.00	1500.00
Nagaland	1467.30	1700.00	2000.00	1291.95	1700.85	800.00
Sikkim	1150.00	1800.00	1800.00	1092.85	1762.94	1300.00
Tripura	1111.30	1500.00	1400.00	1111.30	1500.00	637.72
Jammu and Kashmir	1233.00	1550.00	2383.00	272.59	2790.28	835.57
Himachal Pradesh	1300.00	1100.00	4000.00	1300.00	1100.00	3000.00
Uttaranchal	975.00	1100.00	4000.00	975.00	1100.00	3000.00

**Statement-II**

*Financial Assistance provided and Expenditure incurred on Promotion of Horticulture under NHM during 2005-06 and 2006-07*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	State	Amount released		Amount Utilized by States	
		2005-06	2006-07	2005-06	2006-07 (As on 09.03.07)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4420.96	7500.00	1781.14	7137.47
2.	Bihar	3100.00	3500.00	3.02	2175.78
3.	Chhattisgarh	2367.83	5500.00	353.96	2560.53
4.	Goa	315.20	200.00	112.91	26.57
5.	Gujarat	3239.28	777.03	986.71	1653.55
6.	Haryana	1050.00	3480.00	163.00	2112.7
7.	Jharkhand	3030.00	4000.00		2170.2
8.	Karnataka	4455.17	8448.25	322.72	1265.45
9.	Kerala	3533.98	7959.53	400.14	2471.72

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2839.77	4291.75	481.67	2804.09
11.	Maharashtra	8260.28	14492.65	2749.03	9186.27
12.	Orissa	3611.91	4450.00	1794.43	3286.59
13.	Punjab	2868.82	1150.00	1021.21	901.15
14.	Rajasthan	2259.57	3837.93	1464.30	2477.37
15.	Tamil Nadu	3891.67	4600.00	2462.47	5348.74
16.	Uttar Pradesh	5340.25	1500.00	537.97	1592.98
17.	West Bengal	4035.31	4600.00	3926.34	81.96
18.	Delhi		300.00		
19.	Lakshadweep		63.00		
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		85.00		
<b>Total</b>		<b>58620.00</b>	<b>80735.13</b>	<b>18561.02</b>	<b>47253.12</b>

**Statement-III**

*Financial Assistance provided and Expenditure under Macro Management during 2004-05*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Outlay	Expenditure
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1012.28	966.58
Bihar	665.3	0
Chhattisgarh	425	0
Goa	92	85.17
Gujarat	345	83.71
Haryana	277	135.55
Jharkhand	57.5	0

	1	2	3
Karnataka		1522.55	906.94
Kerala		1139.75	213.03
Madhya Pradesh		818.35	749.69
Maharashtra		3385	290.19
Orissa		804.55	0
Punjab		180	0
Rajasthan		648.8	543.38
Tamil Nadu		1400	0
West Bengal		450	0
Delhi		37.7	0
Lakshadweep		75.5	0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands		36.77	12.81





## Statement-IV (c)

## State-wise Physical Targets and Achievements under TMNE scheme (2006-07 as on 9.03.07)

Components	Assam		Manipur		Meghalaya		Mizoram		Nagaland		Sikkim		Tripura		Jammu and Kashmir		HP		Uttaranchal		Total					
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.														
Area	8430	8430	5848	2905	6838	1687	6998	3402	8551	7781	6086	3448	4354	4420	3524	943	8989	10392	9822	76942	33016					
Expansion (ha)																										
Nurseries (nos)	3	3	5	200	2	2	23	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280
Drip irrigation units	250	200	200	200	100	71	280	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280	100	71	280
Training Farmers/Trainers	2500	2500	3000	3000	562	449	1100	1100	660	314	1650	1100	4500	3202	2500	280	1124	5700	1700	24996	8275					
Women Development train.			2000	300	2000	140	0	2000	500	500	3500	3500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Market Infrastructure	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based														
Processing units	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based	Project based														

\*Achievements are in progress.

## Statement-V (a)

Targets and Achievements for major activities during 2005-06 under NHM

Physical : area in ha.

S. No.	State	Area Coverage		Rejuv.		Nurseries		Protected		Organic Farming		IPM		PHM (No.)		Markets (No.)	
		Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.	Tar.	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	1. Andhra Pradesh	25398	15978	9670	5420	5	5	58.3	21.1	200		8000					
	2. Bihar	3320		13367		17		108.6				2500		3			
	3. Chhattisgarh	10740		2450		9		238.0				500		7		12	
	4. Delhi																
	5. Goa	155	251	1250	552	2	7	15.0	1.2	300		500					
	6. Gujarat	27032	25140	400		42	36	105.9	0.3	50		1966	1966	1			
	7. Haryana	2780	837	200	60	6		1.0		60	60	440	440				
	8. Jharkhand	7000				75		153.8						14		28	
	9. Karnataka	17010	17101	801	812	95	103	272.1		4800	2365			8			1
	10. Kerala	10830	2136	7500		48	5	30.0		2019	160	250	250				
	11. Madhya Pradesh	5950	1370	1250	1144	20	32			1668	717	11000	6377				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12. Maharashtra	28495	3820	9000	4386	26	1	815.0	43.0	4400	1305	19477	6116						
13. Orissa	18900	14667	4500	1303	35	35	13.9	101.0	100	100	200							
14. Punjab	2480	942	3350	230	5		360.1								3.00	44	47	
15. Rajasthan	11662	12510	70	104	15	8	54.5		500	467	1800	4906	2	4	17			
16. Tamil Nadu	8369	13884	650	877	25	42	30.1	7.6	800	998	3300	4596	6					
17. Uttar Pradesh	14940		4850	1320	11	10	606.4	240.7	1050	3493	400	1600	950	7				
18. West Bengal	8480	7618	3900	1015	4		192.8		2500	2021	10000	10000	33				2	
Total	203541	116274	63208	17223	440	284	3055.5	414.9	18447	11686	60333	36251	1015	18.00	90	65.00		



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Madhya Pradesh	7110.00	18396.98	2445.00	2584.05	27.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1200.00	2665.00	10000.00	13942.00
Maharashtra	73061.30	82745.94	10300.00	7649.08	75.00	17.00	90.00	52.00	0.00	4.00	5350.00	1630.00	14650.00	6581.35
Orissa	19500.00	22069.00	1433.00	0.00	42.00	68.00	11.00	0.00	46.00	0.00	1000.00	440.00	1200.00	0.00
Punjab	1339.00	2424.00	0.00	3159.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00	0.00	20002.00	0.00
Rajasthan	22534.00	14119.92	97.58	217.50	25.00	30.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	910.00	3493.00	8152.00
Tamil Nadu	28755.10	19544.00	500.00	1664.00	27.00	103.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	2821.00	7000.00	13105.00
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	21351.10	0.00	79.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24688.60	0.00	1660.00
West Bengal	18366.60	182.00	300.00	112.00	214.00	3.00	17.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4000.00	0.00	11000.00	0.00
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	334.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>318545.65</b>	<b>298908.09</b>	<b>43335.16</b>	<b>32959.72</b>	<b>937.00</b>	<b>470.00</b>	<b>167.00</b>	<b>225.00</b>	<b>142.00</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>27030.00</b>	<b>34669.60</b>	<b>171477.00</b>	<b>85172.35</b>

\* Area in ha.

\*\* Quantity in No.





**Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995**

\*292. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons already covered under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 throughout the country as on 31.12.06, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to revise the said scheme in view of the revision of other pension schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to restore the commutation amount alongwith the monthly pension on completion of 100 months from the date of introduction of the commutation benefit scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) The total number of members of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 as on 31.03.2006 is 3,23,88,660. The Region-wise details are given the enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

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

(d) There is no proposal under consideration for restoration of commuted portion of pension after 100 months from the date of commutation.

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

**Statement****Region-wise Members Enrolled under Employees Pension Scheme, 1995**

As on 31.03.2006

S.No.	Regions	Members
1	2	3
1.	Maharashtra	4993001

1	2	3
2.	Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	4534709
3.	Karnataka	4046002
4.	West Bengal, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2702877
5.	Punjab	2255549
6.	Andhra Pradesh	2217153
7.	Delhi	1963312
8.	Gujarat	1844045
9.	Uttar Pradesh	1339902
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1174239
11.	Haryana	1122787
12.	Kerala	1082518
13.	Rajasthan	806339
14.	Orissa	572409
15.	Goa	343911
16.	Jharkhand	317133
17.	Bihar	303964
18.	North East	241439
19.	Chhattisgarh	180192
20.	Himachal Pradesh	180075
21.	Uttaranchal	167104
Total		32388660

### Upgradation of ITIs

\*293. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has approved a centrally sponsored scheme to upgrade 100 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) to Centres of Excellence (CoE) with the public-private partnership;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments are required to enter into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Government to ensure adequate resources for maintenance of equipment, raw materials and samples required for training;

(c) details thereof;

(d) number of such ITIs so far upgraded and proposed to be upgraded in the different States, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to include more such ITIs under this scheme during the Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2004-05 had announced measures for upgradation of 500 ITIs in the country. Subsequently, a scheme for upgradation of 100 Government ITIs with domestic funding was approved in March 2005. These 100 ITIs were distributed in 22 States/Union Territory Administrations with 75:25 funding pattern to be shared between Central and State Governments respectively. State Governments are required to enter into an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) indicating their commitment for implementation/sustainability of the

scheme during the project period and beyond. For remaining 400 Government run ITIs the Ministry is in dialogue with the World Bank for providing financial assistance. Meanwhile, Government of India has identified 100 ITIs out of the above-mentioned 400 ITIs in different States during 2006-07 for Upgradation. The State Governments have been advised, as part of advance action to submit institutional Development Plans for finalizing the selection of remaining 300 ITIs to be upgraded in the next three years.

The information regarding numbers of ITIs taken up for Upgradation State-wise during 2005-06 and those identified in the year 2006-07 are enclosed as statement.

#### Statement

*Numbers of ITs taken up for upgradation into  
Centers of Excellence — State-wise details*

S. No.	Name of Participating State	Number of ITIs taken up during FY 2005-06 with Domestic Funding	Number of ITIs Identified during FY 2006-07 for up-gradation
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	5
2.	Bihar	2	2
3.	Chhattisgarh	4	4
4.	Delhi	1	1
5.	Goa	2	1
6.	Gujarat	8	15

1	2	3	4
7. Haryana		5	5
8. Himachal Pradesh		3	1
9. Jharkhand		1	1
10. Karnataka		6	6
11. Kerala		5	3
12. Madhya Pradesh		8	7
13. Maharashtra		12	15
14. Orissa		2	4
15. Punjab		8	2
16. Rajasthan		5	5
17. Tamil Nadu		5	5
18. Uttaranchal		3	1
19. Uttar Pradesh		10	7
20. West Bengal		3	3
21. Chandigarh		1	—
22. Pondicherry		1	—
23. Assam		—	4
24. Jammu and Kashmir		—	2
25. Sikkim		—	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

51-52

**National Policy on Petrochemicals**

\*294. SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM :

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

(a) whether the Government has finalized the National Policy on Petrochemicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the plastic products which is hazards for environment;

(d) the per-capita consumption of plastic goods in the country;

(e) whether there is any proposal to set up Chemical hub; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria fixed for providing the infrastructural facilities by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) The Draft National Policy on Petrochemicals has been approved by the Committee of Secretaries and is being put upto the Cabinet for approval.

(b) The proposed National Policy on Petrochemicals is aimed at addressing issues relating to increase in investments, increase in production and consumption of petrochemical products, increasing the competitiveness of the industry, promotion of R and D and achieving environmentally sustainable growth.

(c) Plastics are chemically inert materials and are generally not hazardous substances *per-se*. Most of the plastics are re-processable and recyclable in nature. However, inadequate segregation and collection of post consumer plastic waste may create problems for environment.

(d) The average per capita consumption of plastics in India is 4.5 Kgs.

(e) and (f) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals had earlier initiated action for preparing a feasibility report on setting up of NMega Chemical Industrial Estates (MCIE) in the country. The said concept has been subsumed by the Policy of Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR), which has been approved by the Government and is to be notified. PCPIR will enable quick and coordinated decision making and will provide an appropriate policy framework for the development of investment regions of requisite scale and level of facilities. PCPIR will be a specially delineated investment region having an area of about 250 sq. kms. (with at least 40% area earmarked for processing activities). The region will be a combination of production projects, public utilities, logistics, environmental protection, residential areas and administrative services. It is expected to encourage global scale investment in petroleum, chemical and petrochemical sectors in the country. The Central Government will consider and approve applications from the State Governments for establishment of PCPIRs in terms of this policy and also facilitate availability of external physical infrastructure linkages including rail, road, ports and airports.

**Amendment in Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002**

\*295. SHRI UDAY SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for amending the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002;

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

(c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the proposed amendment on the autonomy of cooperatives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Proposals have been received for amending the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. The proposals received, mainly pertain to removal of restrictions on holding of office of a Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson by a Minister in the Central or a State Government and restriction on holding of such office by a Board member for not more than two consecutive terms. Further, it has also been requested to remove the restriction on holding the office of a Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson in more than two multi-State co-operative societies. The Government of India has appointed a Committee to study and make recommendations regarding the amendment to be made in the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. The Committee is yet to submit its Report.

[Translation]

**Guidelines for Wood based Industries**

\*296. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :  
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated/ proposes to formulate any regulation/guidelines for environmental/forestry clearance to wood-based industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from State Governments seeking environmental/ forestry clearance to such industries;

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

(e) whether the Supreme Court had issued any instructions in this regard, particularly in the context of the North-Eastern States; and

(f) if so, the action taken/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) Yes, Sir.

(b) **Environmental Clearance** : The Central Government has notified Environmental Impact Assessment Notification on 14th September, 2006 under which Pulp and paper industries excluding manufacturing of paper from waste paper and manufacture of paper from ready pulp without bleaching [Item 5 (i) of the Schedule of the Notification] and Wood based / Biomass based Thermal Power Plant [item (d) of the Schedule of the Notification] are required to seek prior environment clearance.

**Forestry Clearance** : The Central Government has enacted the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under which prior approval of Central Government is required in case any forest land is to be diverted for any non-forestry purpose. Wood based industries are non-forestry activities in this context.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) **Environmental Clearance** : Only two wood based projects were received for Environment Clearance during the last 2 years, the clearance for which has already been accorded. A list is given in the enclosed Statement-I

**Forestry Clearance** : A Statement-II showing the

cases of wood based industries for forestry clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 received during the period from 25.10.1980 to 13.03.2007 are enclosed alongwith their status state-wise.

(e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed orders dated 12.12.96, 4.3.97, 15.1.98, 12.5.2001 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/95 regarding working of wood based industries in North-Eastern States and transportation of timber and timber products. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/95 further directed vide its order dated 29.10.2002 that unlicensed wood based industries in all the States/ UTs shall be closed and no unit of saw-mills, veneer or plywood shall be allowed to be opened without the prior permission of the Central Empowered Committee (CEC).

(f) The orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court have been complied with and the industrial estates have been created in all the North-Eastern States for the relocation of wood based industries, as mentioned in the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 15.1.1998.

#### **Statement-I**

#### **Wood based project accorded Environment Clearances during the last two years**

- (i) Revival and Upgradating of Pulp and Paper Mill from 33,000 TPA to 66,000 TPA at Tuli, district Mokokchung, Nagaland by M/s. Nagaland Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd. (NPPCL).
- (ii) Expansion of paper production from 2,05,000 to 2,45,000 MTPA and production of 45,000 MTPA market pulp at Kagithampuram, Karur, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd.

## Statement-II

Statement showing cases for wood based Industries for forestry clearance under FA Act, 1980  
During the Period : 25.10.1980 to 13.03.2007

S. No.	Year of Proposal	Name of Proposal	State	District	Area Applied (ha.)	Case Status	Date of Action	Area Diverted (ha.)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	1983	Establishment of Saw Mill	Arunachal Pradesh	Dibang Valley	4.31	Rejected	30/10/1984		Rejected on Merrit.
2.	1986	Establishment of Saw Mill	Arunachal Pradesh	East Kamang	0.5	Rejected	13/10/1988		Rejected on Merrit.
3.	1982	Construction of Saw Mill	Arunachal Pradesh	Kamang	1.5	Rejected	07/10/1983		Rejected on Merrit.
4.	1982	Establishment of Saw Mill	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	6.75	Approved	07/07/1983	6.75	
5.	1982	Construction of Saw Mill	Arunachal Pradesh	Tirap	4	Approved	23/02/1983	2.1	
6.	1980	Estate of Amortala Saw mill at Rowta	Arunachal Pradesh	West Kamang	0.645	Approved	06/11/1981	0.645	
7.	2006	Functioning of Departmental Saw Mill at Budhakhara	Haryana	Karnal	0.194	Approved	15/02/2007	0.194	
8.	1983	Extension of Saw Mill	Karnataka	Belgaum	0.89	Approved	24/04/1985	0.89	
9.	1985	Renewal of Lease for Construction of Saw Mill	Karnataka	Belgaum	0.89	Approved	23/04/1985	0.89	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	1985	Lease to M/s. India Plywood Manufacturing Company for Erection of Saw Mill	Karnataka	North Kannada	0.8	Approved	26/05/1996	0.8	
11.	1985	Re-Establishment of Saw Mill	Karnataka	North Kannada	0.4	Rejected	01/09/1986		Rejected on Merit.
12.	1996	Running Small Scale Industry (Saw Mill)	Karnataka	North Kannada	0.8	Rejected	31/03/1999		Non Site Specific Proposal
13.	1984	Erecting Saw Mill and putting up a Temporary Hutments for Industrial Labour	Karnataka	North Kannada	4	Rejected	31/03/1999		Alternative NFL Available
14.	1990	Allotment of Land from Yang- Ngoupokpi-Lokchao R.F to R.K. Purkassyasatha Swa Mill at Moreh	Manipur	Manipur (Central)	0.68	Closed	30/07/1996		State Government asked to take Action
15.	2002	Diversion of 0.15 HA of Forest Land for setting up of M/s. Manrob Saw mill at Ummulung	Meghalaya	Khasi Hill (East)	0.15	Approved	08/03/2002	0.15	
16.	1998	Re-Establishment of Saw Mills at Kuliunga	Orissa	Sundergarh	4.7	Rejected	18/01/1999		Rejected on Merit.
17.	1997	Establishment of four Saw Mills by U.P. forest Corporation	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	0.25	Rejected	17/11/1997		Rejected on Merit.
18.	1997	Bhuttabari Saw Mills	West Bengal	Darjeeling	0.65	Approved	23/06/1997	0.65	
19.	1997	Madanhat Saw Mills	West Bengal	Jalpaiguri	1.83	Approved	23/06/1997	1.83	
20.	1997	Saruagarh Saw Mills	West Bengal	Jalpaiguri	0.46	Approved	23/06/1997	0.46	

### Establishment of More Steel Plants

\*297. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set-up more number of steel plants in the country, particularly in Bihar.

(b) if so, the the time by which the new plants would be set-up alongwith the locations thereof; and

(c) the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (c) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) which are steel producing companies of the Union Government npropose to augment steel making capacities at various locations in the country. SAIL is also considering setting up of steel processing units at various locations, including in Bihar.

[English]

### Tax Exemption for Life Saving Drugs

\*298. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to exempt taxes for life savings drugs including those meant nfor treatment of cancer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to make available drugs used in chemotherapy at a subsidised price through Government hospitals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) :

(a) to (d) The Government have vide List 3 and 4 of Custom Notification No. 21/2002 dated 1.3.2002, as amended fully exempted from payment of custom duty or levied a concessional rate of 5% on a number of specified drugs, including Anti-Cancer drugs, and bulk drugs for their manufacture. These drugs have also been exempted from excise duty vide Excise Notification no. 6/ 2002 dated 1.3.2002, as amended. In addition, a number of specified drugs are exempt from excise duty vide List 1 and 3 of Excise Notification No. 4/2006-CE dated 1.3.2006.

A proposal to create Cancer medicines Assistance Fund by providing Rs.100 crores annually has been mooted in the 11th Plan by my Ministry. This is also part of the Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy. This fund is aimed at providing mainly the chemotherapy drugs at subsidised rates.

### Fast Track Environment Courts

\*299. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set-up fast-track courts to decide environmental cases;

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

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up Fast Track Courts to decide environmental cases.

The Law Commission of India. in its 186th Report had inter-alia recommended setting up of environmental courts in each State, consisting of judicial and scientific experts

in the field of environment for dealing with environmental disputes besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under various Pollution Control Laws. The Ministry of Environmental and Forests has, in principle, decided to accept the recommendations of the Law Commission with certain modifications. It proposes to set up a National Environment Tribunal and some Regional Environment Tribunals for groups of States for effective and expeditious disposal of civil cases relating to environment.

#### Investment in Agriculture

\*300. SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investment in agriculture as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has gone down from 2.1 per cent in 2003 to 1.7 per cent during the recent times;

(b) if so, the reasons behind such a drastic fall to the tune of 20 per cent in just three years; and

(c) the details regarding the composition of allocations for public investment on agriculture in the current financial year and the progress till January, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) and (b) According to the latest estimates released by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO), the total investment in agriculture proper measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) as a proportion of total GDP had gone down in real terms (at 1999-2000 prices) from 2.1 per cent in 2002-03 to 1.9 per cent during 2003-04 to 2005-06. This decline in investment in agriculture as a proportion of total GDP follows from relatively faster pace of growth of total GDP than the growth of investment in agriculture. The public sector investment in agriculture as a proportion of total GDP increased from 0.4 per cent in 2002-03 to 0.5 per

cent in 2005-06. But the private sector investment in agriculture as a proportion of total GDP declined from 1.8 per cent to 1.5 per cent during the same period.

(c) The composition of allocations for public investment in agriculture for 2006-07 is not yet available. However, as per "Economic Survey (2006-07)", the public sector investment (at 1999-00 prices) in agriculture for 2005-06 stands at Rs.13,219 crore as compared to Rs.10,267 crore in 2004-05.

#### Production of Foodgrain in Karnataka

2708. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foodgrain production in the kharif season in Karnataka has come down drastically during the current season;

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

(c) whether the State Government has requested for Central assistance in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) As per the 2nd Advance Estimates released on 05.02.2007, foodgrains production in the kharif season in Karnataka during 2006-07 is estimated at 8.94 million tonnes compared to 9.74 million tonnes during kharif 2005-06, showing a fall of 2.80 million tonnes due to drought in several parts of the States.

(c) to (e) The State Government declared drought in 128 Mandals during 200-07 and sought assistance of Rs.1262.95 crore from the National Calamity Contingency

Fund (NCCF) and 5.74 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for relief employment. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the State for assessment of the situation and based on its recommendations, the Union Government approved Rs. 74.48 crore from NCCF and 1.00 lakh tonnes of rice for relief employment.

#### Koyna Hydro Electric Dam

2709. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of water allowed for west ward diversion from the Koyna Hydro Electric Dam in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the quantum of water is not to be measured during the high flood season;

(c) if so, whether a request from the State has been received by the Government for non-measurement of diversion of west ward water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAYPRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Bachawat Tribunal has permitted Maharashtra to divert upto 7.5 TMC of water annually from Koyna Project.

(b) No, Sir. As per the decision of Bachawat Tribunal, the entire quantum of water diverted is to be measured.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Year of the Farmers

2710. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to declare the year 2007 as "Year of the Farmers";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Government have made the same declaration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the special steps taken by the Government to alleviate the problems being faced by the farmers in the country during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) Government has not received an information from State Governments regarding declaration of Year 2007 as "Year of the Farmers". National Commission on Farmers has recommended in its Report that the agricultural year 2006-07 be designated as the Year of Agricultural Renewal or the Year of the Farmer. Steps recommended by the Commission for the year, inter-alia, include Soil Health Enhancement, Irrigation water supply augmentation through rainwater harvesting and recharge of aquifer, Credit and Insurance reforms. Technology upgradation and dissemination and Marketing opportunities.

(e) The revitalization of the agriculture sector, improvement in production and productivity and enhancement of income of the farmers are some of the major thrust areas identified by the Government for focused and concerted action. The initiatives taken by Government to alleviate the problems of the farmers, inter-alia, include a Credit Policy in the year 2004 to double the flow of credit to agriculture in next three years, reduction in interest rate on crop loan, National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to agriculture, Community Grain Bank Scheme, Establishment of Central Integrated Pest Centres, Establishment of National Rainfed Area Authority, Reforms in marketing, National Horticulture

Mission, Ground Water Recharge and Revamping agriculture extension etc.

[Translation]

#### Child Labour in Hazardous Industries

2711. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has taken a decision on 10th December, 1996 wherein employment of child labour in hazardous industries was termed as atrocity against humanity and instructions were issued to States to submit a detailed survey report;

(b) whether the said reports have since been submitted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 10.12.1996 gave certain directions regarding the manner in which children working in the hazardous occupations are to be withdrawn and rehabilitated and also conducting survey for the said purpose. It also gave certain directions regarding the manner in which the working conditions of the children engaged in non-hazardous occupations are to be regulated and improved upon. The compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court are being reported through regular affidavits filed in the Court from time to time.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Revival of Coconut Sector In Kerala

2712. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Kerala for Revival of Coconut Sector and Conservation and Revival of Kuttanad Wet (Paddy) lands including reconstruction and strengthening of Thanneermukkom Bund; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) A letter from the Chief Minister of Kerala dated 04-10-2006 addressed to the Union Minister of Agriculture has been received in this regard. Based on the suggestion, the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai has been entrusted the task of formulating a project for rejuvenation of Kuttanad wet lands including reconstruction and strengthening of Thanneermukkom Bund. The Foundation has submitted its interim report in February, 2007.

As regards the revival of coconut sector, a comprehensive project has been received from the Coconut Development Board, Cochin during December, 2006 for "Replanting and Rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens in Traditional States in India", with emphasis on Kerala State. The project is under examination by the Department.

#### Closure of Directorate of Film Festivals

2713. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to close down the Directorate of Film Festivals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith its annual expenditure; and

(c) strategy adopted/proposed to be adopted by the

Government to organise Film Festivals once the Directorate is closed down?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) No Sir. However, the Expenditure Reforms Commission in its 2nd Report has inter alia recommended closure of the Directorate of Film Festivals with a further recommendation that organisation and participation in Film Festivals be left to the industry. A final decision on this recommended of the Expenditure Reforms Commission is expected soon.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Violation of Minimum Wages Law

\*2714. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of cases decided against violators of minimum wages law has declined during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the observance of this law has been proved successful; and

(d) if not, the action being taken to deal with this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages in scheduled employments under their respective jurisdiction.

The enforcement of the Act is secured both at the Central and State level. In the Central sphere, the implementation is secured through the Officers of the

Central Industrial Relations Machinery, while at the State level, the responsibility of enforcement lies with the respective State Enforcement Machinery. Under the statutory provisions of the Act, the appropriate Government officials conduct regular inspections and advise the employers to make payment of shortfalls of wages whenever they come across any case of non-payment or less payment of wages. In case of non-adherence of the advice, recourse to legal and penal actions against the defaulting employers is undertaken.

The comparative table of the common States (who have submitted their enforcement reports) for last three years is as below:-

Year	Sphere	No. of inspections made	Irregularities	
			Detected	Rectified
2003-04	Central	18380	241023	175816
	State	162449	149965	174085
	Total	180829	390988	349901
2004-05	Central	16956	179551	211092
	State	431680	178247	137619
	Total	44863	357798	348711
2005-06	Central	12392	133826	140307
	State	495889	207032	160954
	Total	508281	340858	301261

The State-wise details are give in the statement enclosed.

The number of cases related to check violation of Minimum Wages Law in terms of inspections, irregularities/rectified shown significant improvement especially in the State Sphere during the last 3 years. It is evident from the above table that the number of

inspections has increased significantly from 1.81 lakhs during 2003 - 04 to 4.49 lakhs and further to 5.08 lakhs during 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively as far as the 17 States/UTs from where the comparative figures are available. This is indicative of more emphasis on inspections in the State Sphere. There is relative decline in irregularities detected as well as rectified, which

indicates better compliance of Minimum Wages Act, 1948. This is the result of relentless efforts made by Central as well as State Governments. The Government is still pursuing effective implementation of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 through discussion, writing letters, personal interaction and visits to all the States/UTs including the North-Eastern States.

### Statement

#### Details Regarding Enforcement of Minimum Wages Act, 1948

S. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Year								
		2003-04			2004-05			2005-05		
		No. of inspection made	Irregularities		No. of inspection made	Irregularities		No. of inspection made	Irregularities	
	Detected	Rectified		Detected	Rectified		Detected	Rectified		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	<b>Central Sphere</b>	18,380	2,41,023	1,75,816	16,956	1,79,551	2,11,092	12,392	1,33,826	1,40,307
	<b>State Sphere</b>									
1.	Bihar	2,97,439	55,996	55,491	2,00,498	35,356	30,910	2,71,206	52,846	56,342
2.	Gujarat	1,20,550	1,01,364	57,977	11,455	68,406	50,059	1,14,327	74,554	60,714
3.	Haryana	5,212	Nil	Nil	2715	19	19	1483	49	49
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,802	382	170	1,618	473	291	2,087	728	483
5.	Kerala	27,779	44,788	35,635	26,675	38,233	29,067	25,472	41,202	22,403
6.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Orissa	29,798	23,535	12,212	24,437	20,660	11,494	18,501	16,583	8,833
8.	Rajasthan	7,681	26	113	7,168	387	124	8,707	1,436	1,093
9.	Tripura	4,932	95	92	611	193	193	8,639	—	Nil
10.	Uttar Pradesh	39,710	10,512	NA	212	187	196	12,313	9,488	—
11.	West Bengal	28,478	6,710	6,340	29,952	7,465	7,360	12,952	3,214	235

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	234	1,170	1,124	84	420	420	123	615	615
13.	Chandigarh	62	23	23	27	257	171	222	144	85
14.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	71	28	28	78	24	24	78	27	27
15.	Delhi	8,101	6,460	4,880	9,337	167	7,291	7,884	5,406	6,335
16.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Pondicherry	8,589	Nil	Nil	7,532	—	—	11,895	740	740
Total (Above States)		162449	149,965	174,085	4,31,680	1,78,247	1,37,619	4,95,889	2,07,032	1,60,954
Total (Centre+State)		180,829	390,988	349,901	4,48,696	3,57,798	3,48,711	5,08,281	3,40,858	3,01,261

[English]

#### Assam Gas Cracker Project

2715. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Assam Gas Cracker Project has been inordinately delayed by over two decades;

(b) if so, the progress made in the matter stage-wise and the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps being taken to expedite the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Clause 7 of the Assam Accord, 15th August 1985 states that the Government takes the opportunity to renew commitment for the speedy all round economic

development of Assam, so as to improve the standard of living of the people. Special emphasis would be placed on education and science and technology through establishment of national institutions. The Assam Gas Cracker Project was initiated in pursuance of this clause. Initially this project was to be implemented by the Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) and Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) under a Joint Venture Company viz. Reliance Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. (RAPL). The Government on 3rd September 1994 approved a capital subsidy of Rs. 377 crores for the project. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (P&NG) had committed to making available associated gas for production of 2 lakh TPA of Ethylene. An agreement was signed between Oil India Limited (OIL) and RAPL on 19th October 2000 for the supply of 5 million Standard Cubic Meter (MMSCMD) of gas, which was considered adequate for production of 1.30 lakh TPA of Ethylene. The remaining gas was to be supplied by Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). ONGC agreed to make available 1.35 MMSCMD of gas. However, due to declining quantity/quality (due to the age

of the oil wells) of gas from ONGC, it was found to be adequate for 28,000 TPA of Ethylene for the first five years and 15,000 TPA for the remaining period of 10 years i.e. a total of 1.80 TPA of ethylene. RAPL felt that a project below two lakh TPA of Ethylene would not be viable and they insisted on adequate gas for production of 2 lakh TPA of Ethylene. The Ministry of P&NG considered the matter further and agreed to supply LPG through the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to make up for the shortfall in the supply of gas. The subsidy amount over a period of 15 years worked out to more than Rs. 673 crores (for capital, infrastructure and feedstock subsidy).

A Cabinet note was sent on May 29th, 2003 for the approval of subsidizing the supply of gas/LPG at a rate of Rs. 600 per thousand cubic meter of gas for production of 2 lakh TPA of Ethylene over a period of 15 years and authorizing Ministry of Finance to determine the modalities for release of subsidy to the oil and gas companies. Cabinet Secretariat observed that this project was conceived in 1985, and since then, there have been many changes in the Government policy as well as in the market conditions especially during the post liberalization. Cabinet Secretariat suggested that the Committee of Secretaries should first consider the proposal before it is submitted to the Cabinet. While furnishing comments on the note for Committee of Secretaries, Ministry of Finance suggested that views of GAIL (India) Limited a PSU of the Government should be taken about the viability of this project and their willingness to take up the project. Finally, GAIL was identified as the lead promoter of this project by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The Public Investment Board (PIB) considered the proposal sent by MoPNG in its meetings held on 15.4.2005, 8.7.2005 and 23.9.2005.

The project has finally been approved by the Government in April 2006. However, the Ministry of P&NG and GAIL wanted additional comfort for the feedstock suppliers for this project over and above those approved by Government. A Joint Venture Company namely "Brahmaputra Crackers and Polymers Limited" has been

incorporated in January 2007 for implementation of this project, with GAIL India Ltd. (GAIL) having 70% equity participation, Oil India Ltd. (OIL), Numaligarh Refinery Ltd. (NRL) and Assam Industrial Development Corporation (Government of Assam) each with 10% equity participation. On the issue of additional comfort for feedstock suppliers, the PIB on 12th of February 2007 deliberated on the Supplementary Note, seeking approval for additional support from the Government of India on account of escalation of Feedstock prices and other changed project parameters like escalation in operating costs, increase in interest rate, non-availability of exemption by Government of Assam on Works Contract Tax and increase in IRR, forwarded by the MoP&NG. The PIB recommended amongst other things that the project may be implemented expeditiously in terms of the parameters approved by CCEA, Feedstock suppliers shall execute feedstock supply agreements with the JVC immediately, etc.

#### Shellac Production

2716. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Shellac and Forest Products Export Promotion Council (SHEFEXIL) had submitted any project proposal for increasing shellac production in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the shellac production in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the export of shellac during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Forest Department has not received any project proposal for increasing Shellac production in Andhra Pradesh from Shellac and Forest Products Export Promotion Council (SHEFEXIL).

(c) The Andhra Pradesh Forest Department has not procure any Shellac. Moreover, Andhra Pradesh does not have any shellac making industry and shellac production.

(d) The export of shellac from India during the last three years, year-wise is as under:—

Year	Export of Shellac (Ton)
2003-04	7181.31
2004-05	630.48
2005-06	5891.87

[Translation]

#### Misuse of Oxytocin Injection

2717. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the Oxytocin injection being misused to double in a single day the weight of the vegetables covered under the pumpkin category;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases reported in this regard so far;

(c) whether the Government has examined the repercussion of use of said injection on human health;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per research report no effect to oxytocin on fruits size in bottle gourd (pumpkin category) has been observed. However, it is not a documented technique.

(c) to (e) No authentic information of the effect of injection of oxytocin on human health is available documented.

#### School for Child Labour

2718. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to open schools for the child labourers;

(b) if so, the details of the schools opened so far under this scheme, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated under the scheme;

(d) whether any monitoring plan has also been formulated for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has been implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme since 1988 wherein special schools are opened for the children withdrawn from work.

(b) The details of schools opened so far under the National Child Labour Project Scheme State-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) An amount of Rs. 602 crores was allocated under the National Child Labour Project Scheme during the Tenth Plan period. The allocation for the year 2006-07 is Rs.105 crores.

(d) and (e) The National Child Labour Projects are being monitored through periodical reports submitted by the District authorities to the Ministry. At the National level, a Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship

of Union Secretary (Labour and Employment) monitors the overall functioning of the Scheme. The State Governments also monitor the functioning of the child labour projects at their level. In addition, the projects are being regularly inspected by the State and Central Government officials to ensure proper implementation of the scheme.

**Statement**

*State-wise number of Special Schools for Child Labour opened under the National Child Labour Project Scheme*

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Special schools for child labour opened
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1126
2.	Assam	95
3.	Bihar	145
4.	Chhattisgarh	225
5.	Gujarat	9
6.	Jharkhand	161
7.	Karnataka	272
8.	Madhya Pradesh	367
9.	Maharashtra	172

1	2	3
10.	Orissa	1651
11.	Punjab	87
12.	Rajasthan	714
13.	Tamil Nadu	390
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1347
15.	West Bengal	567
<b>Total</b>		<b>7328</b>

[English]

**Stock of Coking Coal with SAIL**

2719. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of stocks of Coking Coal in plants of SAIL as on date;

(b) whether there is an imbalance in the availability/ stock of Coking Coal in certain steel plants; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) The stocks of indigenous as well as imported coking coal at steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) are indicated below (as on 13/03/2007):-

Unit: '000 Tonnes

Plant/Category	Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)	Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)	Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP)	Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)	IISCO Steel Plant (ISP)	Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Indigenous	99	54	48	24	32	257

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Imported	74	31	2	48	9	185
Total	173	85	71	72	41	442

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Fire Accidents in Steel Plants

2720. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fire accidents in various steel plants during the last three years and the current year, plant-wise;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted to probe such accidents in the steel plants;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) to (c) The number of fire accidents in various plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigal Ltd. (RINL) during the last three years and the current year are as below:-

#### I. SAIL

Plant	2004	2005	2006	2007 (upto Feb.)
1	2	3	4	5
Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)	0	1	0	0

	1	2	3	4	5
Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL)		2	1	0	0
Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP)		0	0	0	0
Raurkela Steel Plant (RSP)		2	0	1	0
IISCO Steel Plant (ISP)		0	1	0	0
Alloy Steel Plant (ASP)		0	0	0	1
Total		4	3	1	1

#### II. RINL

In RINL, the following reportable fire accidents took place during the last three years and in the current year.

S.No	Date of Accident	Place of Accident
1.	08-04-2005	Fire in b2-9 Conveyor of BHS-2 of Blast Furnace
2.	10-05-2005	Fire in CO-68 Conveyor of RMHP
3.	27-07-2005	Fire at 'O' level near LD Converter No.1 in Steel Melting Shop
4.	30-05-2005	Fire in CC - 40, Conveyor of RMHP

Enquiries are conducted by SAIL and RINL into fire incidences. The recommendations are complied with and monitored. Fire prevention, protection and control measures are taken at each plant.

(d) **Steps taken / proposed by SAIL to prevent recurrence of such incidents:-**

- Each plant has a well established and well equipped Fire Services Department manned with qualified and trained Fire Services professionals to prevent and control fire incidences.
- The adequacy of the existing fire protection system in the shop is periodically reassessed and augmented on continuous basis.
- Periodic housekeeping campaigns are undertaken to mitigate fire hazards.
- Fire aspects being reviewed during safety audit of shops by interplant audit teams.
- Employees are extensively trained in the use of suitable fire extinguishers, fire hydrants and other fire suppression systems.
- On-site disaster management plans have been prepared to handle emergency situations, if any, to minimize losses.
- Mock drills and topography drills are conducted on regular basis to train the people and check the efficacy of the systems.
- Review of fire prevention and protection measures at Plant as well as Corporate level is done periodically

**Steps taken/proposed by RINL to prevent recurrence of such incidents.**

Remedial measures suggested and the steps taken by the RINL to avoid recurrence of such accidents in future are given below:-

Date of Accident	Outcome – Remedial Measures
08.04.2005	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Head detectors are to be provided (mounted on floor).</li> <li>2. Installations of pyrometers to detect temperature of sinter leaving Sinter Plant to be expedited for cooling the sinter before it is dispatched from Sinter Plant.</li> <li>3. Periodical checking of landing valves.</li> </ol>
10.05.2005	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regular inspection of idlers by operation crew.</li> <li>2. Checking of jammed rollers or rollers having damaged bearings.</li> </ol>
24.07.2005	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Leakages/spillages of oils and lubricants shall be stopped.</li> <li>2. Rerouting of instrumentation/ electrical cables which are vulnerable is to be examined.</li> </ol>
30.05.2006	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inspection of Conveyor gallery in all the shops.</li> <li>2. Stacking of material shall be ensured 5 mts. away from the track.</li> <li>3. Cleaning activities to remove spilled materials fallen under the return side belt shall be implemented.</li> <li>4. Water pressure in fire hydrants shall be ensured to get 7 kg. pressure at all times. In case of low pressure is observed additional pumps shall be started.</li> </ol>

[Translation]

**Project Proposal for Forestry Clearance**

2721. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal related to forest in respect of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Ghot, Gadachiroli, Maharashtra has been received/approved.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has deposited the amount required for the proposal related to forest with the forest department;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, whether the Government is contemplating to give special permission for the construction work;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A proposal for diversion of 12.00 ha. of forest land for construction of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Ghot, Gadachiroli district, Maharashtra was received in April 2002. The proposal involves violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as the construction of the School building had taken place during 1988-91. The State Advisory Group (SAG) took note of the fact that the concerned department had similarly constructed Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in the neighbouring Chandrapur district without prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Taking a lenient view, stage I clearance for Vidyalaya in Chandrapur was accorded. The compliance by the User Agency of the conditions stipulated in the State I clearance for Vidyalaya in Chandrapur are yet to be received.

(e) to (g) On receipt of compliance of the conditions

stipulated in Stage I clearance for Vidyalaya in Chandrapur, the proposal for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Ghot can be considered.

[English]

**Pharma Sector**

2722. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of recent patent laws on the restructuring of pharma sector in the country;

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

(c) whether such restructuring would cause the closure of some units;

(d) if so, the extent of unemployment recorded as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to absorb the skilled manpower of the closed units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (e) India is a signatory to the agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation. The WTO Agreement, inter-alia, contains an agreement on IPR, namely, the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of IPR (TRIPS). The TRIPS Agreement requires member countries to align their legislations on intellectual property in conformity with their obligations under the TRIPS Agreement. In respect of Patents, the TRIPS Agreement prescribed introduction of product patents from 1.1.2005. for pharmaceutical, food and agrochemical inventions. Accordingly, product patent protection has been provided by amending Indian Patents Act 1970.

While considering the amendments to the Indian Patents Act, 1970 elaborate consultations were carried out

with all the concerned Departments of the Government of India and also with the various concerned organisations and industry associations including the prominent associations of the pharmaceutical industry. The concerns and apprehensions projected by the pharmaceutical industry, including the impact on the pharmaceutical sector as a whole, have been by and large given consideration and adequate safeguards to ensure the continued availability of medicines at reasonable prices have been incorporated in the law while finalising the amendments.

It is estimated that over 95 per cent of the drugs being produced in India are off-patent and would not be affected by the introduction of product patent. Similarly the medicines included in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 are also off-patent and would not be affected by the product patent regime. The small number of drugs (less than 5 per cent) which are likely to be covered under product patent would continue to be produced in the country without any interruption. This has been ensured under the latest amendment in the Indian Patents Act, 1970. A reasonable royalty on the production of such drugs would become payable to the patent-holder company.

Since production of the existing drugs being produced in India would not be affected by the introduction of product patent regime there is no likelihood of closure of some of the units due to this reason. As such there is no question of unemployment in the pharma industry taking place in India due to introduction of product patent regime.

#### Difference in Actual and Printed Cost

2723. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the existing provision regarding margin allowed between actual cost and printed price in regard to packaged consumer goods including food items;

(b) the arrangements made for checking this in order to prevent its violation;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the Union Government on the complaints received in this regard during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged commodities) Rules, 1977, *inter alia* provide that the manufacturer declare on the package its retail sale price in the form "MRP Rs.....(inclusive of all taxes)". The quantum of price declared on the package is decided by the manufacturer. There is no provision in the Rules regarding margin allowed between actual cost and printed price.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Potato Crop Damaged Due to Fog

2774. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the potato crop has been damaged due to fog in certain parts of the country;

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

(c) the assistance provided/proposed to be provided for the purpose to the affected farmers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir. Fog as such does not damage potato crop. However, it increases the severity of late blight disease caused by *Phytophthora Infestans* in potato particularly if disease has appeared early in the crop season.

(b) The unusual rain during first part of November, 2006 in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Western U.P. lead to foggy days. The continuous rains and fogs during 1st February to 12th February, 2007 in Bihar and West Bengal facilitated the flare up of late blight disease. The fog generated by the rain aggravated the attack of late blight disease in potato in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Western U.P., Bihar and West Bengal. The yield losses in potato crop is estimated about 20 to 30% in above states.

(c) No such proposal for seeking assistance for potato crop damage due to fog has been received from any of the State. However, Government has taken steps to sent an advisory to potato growers in the country as early as 29.11.2006 and again on 29.12.2006. The measures advised were as follows:-

- (i) Spraying mancozeb (0.2%) where disease has not appeared.
- (ii) In fields where disease has just appeared, spray the crop curzate (0.3%, 3 kg/ha in 1000 lts. Water).
- (iii) Apply metalaxyl based fungicide (0.25%) in fields where disease severity is more than 5%.
- (iv) Farmers are being given quality seeds and necessary guidelines for the next crop season.

[English]

#### Formation of CMZ

2725.SHRI M.P VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether formation of Coastal Management Zones (CMZs) has adversely affected the interests of fishermen living near the coastal areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to protect the interests of fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Proposals for Reservoir Projects

2726.SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has recieved various proposals from States for reservoir projects during 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details of projects sanctioned during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds so far allocated and spent on each of these projects, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) 14 reservoir project proposals (10 major and 4 medium) have been received in Central Water Commission during the year 2005-06 and 2000-07 from various State Governments. A list of these projects is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) The State-wise list of cleared projects during this period is enclosed as Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Irrigation is a state subject and planning, execution, funding as well as priority of execution is within the purview of State Governments. Central Assistance is provided to irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) in accordance with the guidelines of the programme in force from time to time and on the basis of proposals submitted by the State Government. The Statewise details of Central Assistance released under AIBP till date are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

## Statement-I

## State-wise List of New Reservoir Projects Under Appraisal, Received during the Year 2005-06 and 2006-07

Status : A - Project Under Various Stages of Appraisal

B - Accepted by the Advisory Committee of MOWR Subject to Certain Observations.

As on 15.03.2007

S. No.	Name of Projects	Major/ Medium	River/Basin	District Benefitted	Date of Receipt	Benefits (Th. Ha)	Est. Cost	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>								
1.	Indira Sagar (Polavaram) Multipurpose project.	Major	Godavari	East and West Godavari, Krishana	10/2005	291.114/960MW	9071.82	A
2.	Vamsadhara Project Stage II Phase-II.	Major	Vamsadhara	Srikakulam	2/2007	43.41 (CCA)	1212.04	A
3.	Modikunta Vagu Project	Medium	Modikunta/Godavari	Khammam	10/2006	6.25	136.77	A
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>								
1.	Kelo Irrigation Project (Masonry Dam)	Major	Kelo/Mahanadi	Raigarh	9/2003 12/2005	34.555	235.00 269.70	A
2.	Sondur Dam Project	Major	Sondur/Mahanadi	Raipur and Dhamtari	10/2005	38.470	394.10	A
3.	Pairi High Dam and Mahanadi Link Project	Major	Pairi/Mahanadi	Raipur and Dhamtari	5/06	77.60	728.36	A

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Jharkhand</b>								
1.	Subemrekha (Multipurpose)- Project	Major	Kharkai/Subemrekha	Singbhum and Ranchi	6/06	237	4539.98	A
<b>Maharashtra</b>								
1.	Bembla River Project	Major	Bembia/Wardha/ Godavari	Yavatmal	3/06	70.756	1276.87	B
2.	Khadakpurna	Major	Khadakpurna/Godavari	Buldhana	8/06	24.84	578.56	B
3.	Pentakki	Major	Penganga/Godavari	Washim and Buldhana	8/06	14.332	172.45	A
4.	Lower Pedhi Reservoir Project	Major	Pedhi/Purna/Tapi	Amravati and Akola	01/07	12230 (CCA)	161.17	A
5.	Bendara Tank (Dam)	Medium	Wardha/Godavari	Chandrapur	11/05	4.88	50.07	A
<b>Rajasthan</b>								
1.	Parwan Irrigation cum Drinking water supply Project (Masonry dam)	Medium	Parwan/Chambel/Ganga	Jalawar, Bwan, Kota	1/07	105.02	1114.00	A
2.	Lhasi Irrigation Project (Dam)	Medium	Lhasi, Ancheri, Parwati and Chrtbel	Baran	10/91	6.008	44.73	B

## Statement-II

## List of Projects Accepted by Technical Advisory Committee/Approved by Planning Commission During 2005-06 and 2006-07

S. No.	Meeting No.	Date of meeting	Project Name	Name of the State	Major/ Medium	Estimated Cost (Rs. Cr.)	Benefits in Ha./MW	Date of Approved by Planning Commission
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	84th	12.05.2005	Swan River Flood Management and Integrated Land Development Project Phase-II	Himachal Pradesh	New-Flood Control	235.52	—	—
2.	84th	12.05.2005	Punasa Lift Irrigation	Madhya Pradesh	Major	185.03	3658.40	
3.	84th	12.05.2005	Punad Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	157.78	10846.00	05.12.2005
4.	84th	12.05.2005	Gul River	Maharashtra	Medium	65.73	3025.00	09.11.2005
5.	84th	12.05.2005	Haranghat Lift Irrigation Scheme	Maharashtra	Medium	49.20	4819.00	16.03.2006
6.	85th	22.02.2006	Modernization of Mav Khul Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	12.8241	9352	06.07.2006
7.	85th	22.02.2006	Modernization of Nandi Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	6.4615	3060	06.07.2006
8.	85th	22.02.2006	Modernization of Martand-I Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	27.71	6498	06.07.2006
9.	85th	22.02.2006	Sri Riam Sagar Project Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	Major	1043.14	193871	20.03.2006
10.	85th	22.02.2006	Pench Diversion Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	583.40	96519	10.04.2006
11.	85th	22.02.2006	Dhansiri (Revised)	Assam	Major	401.24	83366	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12.	85th	22.02.2006	Champawati (Revised)	Assam	Major	147.24	24984	
13.	85th	22.02.2006	Canalizing of Sakki-Kiran Nallah	Punjab	Flood Protection	116.05	—	
14.	86th	02.06.2006	Modernization of Babu Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	12.3362	3077	06.07.2006
15.	86th	02.06.2006	Master Plan of Chenab River	Jammu and Kashmir	Flood Protection	25.45	—	
16.	86th	02.06.2006	Master Plan of Tawi River	Jammu and Kashmir	Flood Protection	27.82	—	
17.	86th	02.06.2006	Construction of Jewar-Tappel Marginal bund	Uttar Pradesh	Flood Protection	71.3711	—	
18.	86th	02.06.2006	Taldi Irrigation Cum Drinking Water Project	Rajasthan	Medium	51.81	4791	
19.	86th	02.06.2006	Narmada Canal Project	Rajasthan	Major	1541.357	151072	
20.	86th	02.06.2006	Pedavagu diversion scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	124.64	6000	27.06.2006
21.	86th	02.06.2006	Railivagu Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	33.30	2430	27.06.2006
22.	86th	02.06.2006	Mathadivagu Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	50.40	3440	27.06.2006
23.	86th	02.06.2006	Gagrin Irrigation Project	Rajasthan	Medium	80.12	9675	
24.	86th	02.06.2006	Modernization of Ahji Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	20.5149	8315.90	
25.	86th	02.06.2006	Golavagu Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	84.08	3845	27.06.2006
26.	86th	02.06.2006	Manjore Irrigation Project	Orissa	Medium	99.53	10433	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
27.	86th	02.06.2006	Piplad Irrigation Project	Rajasthan	Medium	33.64	3549	
28.	86th	02.06.2006	Modernization of Dadi Canal	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	49.95	4650.13	06.07.2006
29.	86th	02.06.2006	Raflabad high Lift Irrigation Scheme	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	63.62	2932	
30.	86th	02.06.2006	Pushkara Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	379.503	75235	27.06.2006
31.	86th	02.06.2006	Tadipudi Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	376.96	83599	27.06.2006
32.	87th	17.11..2006	Kachnoda Dam Project	Uttar Pradesh	Major	88.79	108.50	03.01.2007
33.	87th	17.11..2006	1st Patiala Feeder and Kotia Branch	Punjab	Major	123.30	68624	
34.	87th	17.11..2006	Nilwal Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	90.50	5260	12.02.2007
35.	87th	17.11..2006	Kandi Canal Project	Jammu and Kashmir	Medium	53.70	3229	
36.	87th	17.11..2006	Balh Valley (Left Bank)	Himachal Pradesh	Medium	62.25	4354	
37.	87th	17.11..2006	Widening, strengthening and providing 10m wide road way on Alipur Bund on left Bank of river Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh	Flood Protection	42.20	—	22.12.2006
38.	87th	17.11..2006	Improving Irrigation Intensity of Hardoi Branch Scheme	Uttar Pradesh	Major	105.2997	306055	08.12.2006
39.	88th	02.03.2007	Alisagar Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	227.90	21770	
40.	88th	02.03.2007	Gutpha Lift Irrigation Scheme	Andhra Pradesh	Major	171.91	15699	
41.	88th	02.03.2007	Godavari Lift Irrigation	Andhra Pradesh	Major	6016.00	286000	
42.	88th	02.03.2007	Bembla River Project	Maharashtra	Major	1276.87	70756	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
43.	88th	02.03.2007	Khadakpurna River Project	Maharashtra	Major	578.56	24864	
44.	88th	02.03.2007	Arunavati River Project	Maharashtra	Major	225.32	25155	
45.	88th	02.03.2007	Lal Nalla Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	103.49	7320	
46.	88th	02.03.2007	Kar Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Medium	170.04	6744	
47.	88th	02.03.2007	Lower Wardha Irrigation Scheme	Maharashtra	Major	857.70	51655	
48.	88th	02.03.2007	Msurumilli Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	207.00	15676	
49.	88th	02.03.2007	Lhasi Irrigation Project	Rajasthan	Medium	44.73	6008	
50.	88th	02.03.2007	Const. of Marginal Embankment on R/B of River Ghaghra and L/B of River Sarda	Uttar Pradesh	Flood Protection	46.52		
51.	88th	02.03.2007	Dolaitthabi Barrage Project	Manipur	Medium	98.37	75.45	

**Statement-III**  
Statewise details of CLA/grant released under AIBP

S. No.	State	Amount															Grand Total
		(Rs. Crore)															
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07			
								Loan	Grant	Total	Grant	Grant	Grant				
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
1	2																
	1. Andhra Pradesh	35.2500	74.0000	79.6700	66.0150	96.0200	281.6600	33.1800	205.6300	61.2829	26.2641	87.5470	311.3615	374.3815	1642.6860		
	2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	7.5000	7.5000	15.0000	1.5000	20.0000	1.0000	9.0000	10.0000	18.0000	24.3000	103.8000		
	3. Assam	5.2300	12.4000	13.9500	14.5400	24.0770	14.5210	16.2738	19.2015	1.6930	15.2370	16.9300	34.8692	27.3565	199.4150		
	4. Bihar	13.5000	5.1500	36.1850	129.6950	151.7750	3.4200	14.4805	74.6440	26.0505	11.1645	37.2150	16.2380		482.3025		
	5. Chhattisgarh	0.0000	4.5000	9.5000	10.5200	13.9300	48.2000	104.0000	74.6300	2.0475	0.8775	2.9250	7.6645	7.5150	283.3645		
	6. Goa	0.0000	5.2500	0.0000	3.5000	61.6500	58.0000	0.0000	2.0000	0.4550	0.1950	0.6500			131.0500		
	7. Gujarat	74.7730	196.9000	423.8200	272.7000	421.8500	581.6900	1000.3300	650.3590	484.7500	45.7500	530.5000	339.6000		4492.5220		
	8. Haryana	32.5000	12.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	18.0000	7.7350	7.7945	3.3405	11.1350	6.0000		87.3700		
	9. Jharkhand	0.0000	6.5000	5.0000	11.0470	18.0150	3.2440	8.1500	14.6920	0.3680	3.3210	3.6900	30.0785		100.4165		
	10. Jammu and Kashmir	1.3000	0.0000	0.0000	4.68000	10.4600	11.0700	34.9990	21.5450	1.2744	11.4701	12.7445	36.6878	28.1816	161.6679		
	11. Karnataka	0.0000	8.8900	11.6400	14.3450	5.7150	10.8200	9.6700	1.8330	14.8996	6.3955	21.2850	5.0370		89.2350		
	12. Karnataka	61.2500	90.5000	84.5000	157.1400	171.0000	492.5000	620.8500	266.4780	314.7921	81.5031	396.2952	140.7759		2491.2891		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
13. Kerala		3.7500	15.0000	0.0000	0.0000	22.4000	11.2750	5.8650	31.0000	34.8080	14.8320	49.4400	9.3591	13.9280	161.8171	
14. Madhya Pradesh		63.2500	110.0000	81.2500	95.3250	151.3280	215.4100	220.0000	568.4400	31.6907	155.0103	516.7010	168.0868	20.2500	2210.0506	
15. Maharashtra		14.0000	55.0000	50.8600	49.8750	97.0200	39.1000	133.1341	164.3950	370.5002	158.7858	529.280	167.3822	308.3247	1606.3770	
16. Manipur		4.3000	26.0000	10.7800	21.8100	1.5000	9.3600	19.5000	15.5000	1.3000	11.7000	13.0000	75.7035	77.5242	274.9777	
17. Meghalaya		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	2.6938	5.5120	4.4700	1.5000	1.0880	0.1744	1.5694	1.7438	1.5750		18.5826	
18. Mizoram		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.4330	1.4330	2.0000	0.7500	9.3000	0.5000	4.5000	5.0000	9.3150	9.0000	38.2310	
19. Nagaland		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	2.7300	5.0000	5.0000	2.6560	8.0000	0.4000	3.6000	4.0000	7.9687	10.0095	45.3972	
20. Orissa		48.4500	85.0000	71.5000	90.2500	100.3200	168.4750	179.5700	154.6850	16.9561	7.2689	24.2230	151.3742	112.8046	1188.6518	
21. Punjab		67.5000	100.0000	0.0000	42.0000	55.6200	113.6900	3.8600	0.0000				28.3166		441.7866	
22. Rajasthan		2.6750	42.0000	140.0500	106.6650	78.4670	96.3150	174.3650	499.8370	247.0328	105.8712	352.9040	90.2952		1563.5932	
23. Sikkim		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.3600	0.0000	2.4000	0.7500	0.7500	0.0750	0.6750	0.7500	0.9113	3.3236	10.2449	
24. Tripura		3.7730	5.1000	3.9750	34.6530	13.8830	21.0630	13.394	13.3769	1.1000	98.9000	11.0000	31.9950	21.5731	173.7867	
25. Tamil Nadu		20.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000						20.0000	
26. Uttar Pradesh		43.5000	78.0000	76.0000	286.0000	315.9000	354.6900	359.0000	274.7850	123.1440	52.7760	175.9200	133.1280	70.8054	2168.2284	
27. Uttaranchal		0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	25.1625	25.5525	3.8992	35.0825	8.9817	80.4387	45.2725	2154.4179	
28. West Bengal		5.0000	20.0000	10.0000	25.0000	26.8250	38.6080	28.1330	3.1440	9.4227	4.0383	13.4610	0.0287	6.0000	176.1997	
Total		500.0010	952.1900	1119.1800	1450.4768	1856.2000	2801.9810	3061.7028	3128.5009	2087.2115	780.1257	2667.3372	1900.3142	1160.5972	20598.48099	

### Forward Trading in Bullion

2727. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

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

(a) whether forward trading in bullion has caused steep and frequent rise in the bullion prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether bullion merchant association has represented for banning the forward trade in the bullion; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The bullion prices are determined by the domestic demand and supply fundamentals alongwith the prevailing international prices. The movement of bullion prices in India is broadly in synchronization with the international prices.

(c) Yes, Sir. There have been representations from some bullion merchant associations.

(d) Futures markets are only an platform for price discovery and price risk management. Forward Markets Commission, which is the commodity futures market Regulator under the provisions of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, ensures that futures prices are true reflection of supply and demand conditions. Therefore, no action was warranted by the Government.

### Promotion of Poultry and Duck Farms

2728. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to take steps to promote poultry and duck farms in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms' aims at promoting poultry and duck farming in the country. State-wise position of funds released in the last three years and so far in the current financial year is give in the enclosed statement. In addition, Central Poultry Development Organizations located at Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh and Mumbai also pursue activities to pursue poultry and duck farming in their respective regions.

### Statement

#### Financial Assistance provided under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms'

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Upto Feb., 07)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	50.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Andhra Pradesh	—	47.92	—	54.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	74.50	132.50	135.60	117.50
4.	Assam	—	—	—	—
5.	Bihar	—	—	160.00	—
6.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	148.00	68.00
7.	Goa	—	68.00	—	—
8.	Gujarat	22.38	90.37	136.00	136.00
9.	Haryana	—	—	40.00	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	27.40	25.00	117.56	10.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	42.50	204.00	47.00	25.50
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—
13.	Karnataka	—	55.00	—	80.00
14.	Kerala	—	—	191.68	73.32
15.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	25.00
16.	Madhya Pradesh	48.93	64.00	—	124.87
17.	Maharashtra	—	150.00	—	40.00
18.	Manipur	—	—	42.50	—
19.	Meghalaya	—	40.00	85.00	130.00
20.	Mizoram	57.00	128.00	240.00	207.50
21.	Nagaland	42.50	252.50	300.00	170.00
22.	Orissa	15.00	—	—	287.00
23.	Punjab	—	—	40.00	—
24.	Rajasthan	—	—	—	—
25.	Sikkim	42.50	—	42.50	120.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Tamil Nadu	—	99.76	—	50.00
27.	Tripura	82.50	—	—	—
28.	Uttar Pradesh	17.09	—	342.06	136.00
29.	Uttaranchal	—	—	54.70	—
30.	West Bengal	33.20	80.00	120.00	372.40
Total		505.50	1437.05	2292.60	2227.09

**Poultry Sector**

2729.SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has taken steps to encourage the poultry sector in the North Eastern States, especially in Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During last three years, an amount of Rs.1703.10 lakhs has been released to the North Eastern States, including Rs. 85.00 lakhs to Sikkim under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme Assistance to State Poultry/ Duck Farms'. During 2006-07, an amount of Rs. 745.00 lakhs has been released to the North Eastern States, including Rs. 120.00 lakhs to Sikkim under the said scheme.

(c) Question does not arise.

**Default in Payment of P.F. Amount**

2730.SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contractors of several public sector undertaking who engage contract labourers are reported by default in payment of Provident Fund (PF) amount collected from workers and their own matching shares as well;

(b) if so, the details including the number of contractors defaulted during the last three years and the amount involved therein, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to initiate any action to ensure payment of PF amount by contractors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Compliance in respect of contractor workers is ensured through the principal employer. Besides, compliance of the covered establishments including Public Sector Undertakings is monitored regularly by the employees' Provident Fund Organization and on detection of default appropriate action is taken against the defaulting establishment.

(b) No separate record is maintained by EPFO in this regard.

(c) and (d) On detection of default appropriate action is taken for assessment of dues and recovery thereof through principal employer. This includes filing of complaints under section 406/409 IPC, launching of prosecution under section 14 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, attachment of movable/immovable property, arrest of defaulters, etc.

#### Coconut Research Centre, Kerala

2731. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has taken any decision to shift the Coconut Research Centre from Kasaragod in Kerala to the main institution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ICAR has also directed to transfer the movable properties of the center to the Department of Agriculture in Kerala;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government has received any suggestion from the Government of Kerala in this regard; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) There is no proposal to change the Coconut Research Centre from Kasaragod in Kerala to the main Institution. However, a decision was taken by the ICAR to phase out the Research Centre at Kannara of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCIR) Kasaragod, Kerala.

(b) The Committee on Review of Regional Research Centres of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutions recommended for phasing out the centre considering its relevance, since similar research work is being carried out at CPCRI Regional Stations located at Kayamkulam (Kerala) and Vittal (Karnataka).

(c) and (d) As it was decided to phase out the Research Centre, Kannara, Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala was requested to take it over along with immovable properties, which was agreed in principle, in the meeting held on 19.08.2004 with the Director of Agriculture, Government of Kerala and Director, CPCIR, Kasaragod.

(e) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala requested for review of the decision to phase out CPCRI Research Centre at Kannara.

(f) The matter was re-examined by the competent authority and it was decided to phase out the Research Centre, considering the relevance.

#### Production, Processing, Utilization and Export of Bamboo

2732. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production, processing utilization and export pattern of bamboo during each of the last three years;

(b) the employment generation potential of bamboo production, processing and marketing of bamboo products;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate policy on utilizing bamboo production by launching programmes on research, plantation development, handicraft development and region specific marketing using technologies available for exports and through participation of cooperatives and self-help groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Bamboo Mission during 2006-07 in 28 States to promote the bamboo sector in the country. The Mission includes components of Research, Plantation and Handicrafts Development, Marketing and Exports. The programme will be implemented through the State Governments, ensuring local participation of cooperatives and self-help groups.

One of the mandates of this Mission is to collect and compile data on production, processing utilization of bamboo. However, the quantum of export of Bamboo in the country during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

The proposed National Bamboo Mission is envisaged to generate about 50.4 million man days of work by Bamboo Plantation activities in 1.76 hectares over a period of 5 years. In the nursery sector, the total estimated employment to be generated every year will be around 9.7 lakh man days. Besides this, there will be employment generation in both skilled and unskilled segments in the handicraft sector.

**Statement**

*Statement showing export of Bamboo during the last three years*

(Qty. in KGS and value in INR)

Commodity	2003-2004		2004-02005		2005-2006	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Bamboo	120199	3232088	386461	9789482	122576	3036966

Source : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

**Linking of Agricultural Price to Industrial Prices**

2733.SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any suggestion regarding the change in criteria for fixing price of agricultural produce by linking it to the price index;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to link the increase of agricultural prices to the increase in prices of industrial goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the manner in which this parity is proposed to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), while making recommendations on price policy, considers Index Numbers of Terms of Trade between agricultural sector and non-agricultural sectors. The Index which is a ratio of Index of Prices received by the farmers for their produces and prices paid for the commodities for final consumption, intermediate consumption and capital formation, essentially measures

relative change in the price movement between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. Besides this, the CACP considers a number of other factors including effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level and effect on cost of living.

#### Sale of Spurious Seeds

2734. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of companies booked for selling spurious and poor quality seeds in the country during each of the last three years, company-wise;

(b) the action taken by the Government against these companies; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop the sale of spurious seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Enforcement powers, including prosecution, under the Seeds Act 1966, Seeds Rule, 1968 and Seeds (Control) Order 1983 vest with the State Governments. Cases under various provisions of these legal instruments have been registered against the following companies year-wise in last three years:-

Year	Nos. of cases booked selling spurious seeds	Name of the Company
1	2	3
2002-03	4	M/s. Syngenta India Ltd. Advanta India Limited Monsanto India Ltd. Nunhems Seeds.

1	2	3
2003-04	2	Monsanto India Ltd. Synegenta India Ltd.
2004-05	7	Syngenta India Ltd. (3 cases) Pioneer Seeds India Limited PHI Seeds Indo American Hybrid Seed, Seminis Vegetables

(c) Adequate provisions are available under Seeds Act, 1966, Seeds Rules, 1968 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 to curb the sale of seeds which do not conform to prescribed standards. Further, the Inspectors notified under relevant provisions of these legal instruments have adequate powers to draw the samples, seize the stock and issue 'Stop Sale' order in case the commodities under reference contravene provisions of law. Based on the complaints received by the State Governments and also during the enforcement of legal instruments by the notified inspectors, cases are filed in the courts of law against the persons, who are found violating the Act and Rules.

#### Notification Regarding Wildlife Sanctuary

2735. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had issued any notification declaring the Little Rann of Kutch as a protected Wildlife Sanctuary;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the

rehabilitation of those affected/displaced as a result of the said notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, declaration of an area as a Wildlife Sanctuary falls within the jurisdiction of the concerned State Government. The State Government of Gujarat has declared total area of 4953.70 Sq. kms. of Little Rann of Kutch vide their notification no. GH/KH/13/WLP/1972/79736.P dated 12.1.1973 (4840.89 Sq. kms.) and no. GKH/13/78/WLP/1976/89899/P dated 13.1.1978 (112.81 Sq. kms.) as Wild Ass Sanctuary.

(c) Settlement of rights and rehabilitation of affected persons is under the jurisdiction of the State Government of Gujarat.

#### Recruitment Rules for Employees of Prasar Bharati

2736.ADV. SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court has given any direction to the Ministry or Prasar Bharati to finalise the recruitment rules and the service conditions of the employees of the Prasar Bharati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Government has any plan to roll back the Corporation into Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgment dated

02.02.2007 in a Civil Appeal No. 3244/02 (Prasar Bharati and Ors. Vs. Amarjeet Singh and Ors.), ruled that the employees are under the administrative control of the Corporation and it has the power to transfer its employees. Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the Union of India to take a firm decision on transferring Government employees to Prasar Bharati in terms of Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act within six months. The Secretary, DOP&T has been directed to file an affidavit within or immediately after the expiry of the aforementioned period.

(c) A Group of Minister (GoM) has been constituted to examine the various issues pertaining to the functioning of the Prasar Bharati including service conditions and financial package for the employees of Prasar Bharati.

(d) and (e) The matter is before the GoM.

[Translation]

#### Land Management

2737.SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gross Domestic Product of the country is declining due to certain flows in land management;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome these flows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country at constant (1999-00) prices showed an increase in growth rates from 7.5 per cent during 2004-05, to 9.0 per cent in 2005-06 and 9.2 per cent (advance estimate) during

2006-07 according to the latest estimates of National Accounts released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO). This suggests that certain flows in the use of land in the country do not have direct effect on total GDP growth of the country. However, land management is a State subject and Union Government plays advisory role in this regard. There are legislative provisions in the States that restrict the conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes. National Land Use Policy Outlines focuses, inter-alia, on land use planning in the States through Land Use Boards.

[English]

#### Bird Flu

2738. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the bird flu reportedly may hit India again;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (c) the precautionary steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Recurrence of Avian Influenza has been reported from a number of countries like Afghanistan, China, Djibouti, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom and Vietnam, which suggests that the virus continues to circulate in some countries of the world. The outbreak has been reported from the neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Afghanistan and Myanmar and India falls on the route of three major flyways of migratory birds, which are the possible source of infection. Therefore, India is vulnerable and the Bird Flu

may hit any time. India has regained country freedom status from Notifiable Avian Influenza on 11 th August 2006 and still it is continuing.

(c) Precautionary steps taken in the country as part of preparedness are enclosed as statement.

#### Statement

#### Precautionary Steps Taken in the Country As Part of Preparedness

(A) Action taken by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture:

1. A clear and focused National Strategy for preparedness, control and containment has been formulated. Based on the outbreak experience a detailed Action Plan, first developed by the Department in 2005, has been revised and circulated to the States to undertake control and containment operations.
2. The Government has announced and demonstrated its policy to compensate poultry farmers for the poultry killed in operations.
3. In view of the outbreak in the neighbouring countries, the following measures have been taken:—
  - a. Ban on import of several livestock products.
  - b. Border States to Pakistan and Myanmar have been alerted.
  - c. States have been advised to increase surveillance especially around water bodies, advise farmers to keep poultry indoors, prevent intermingling of poultry with other species and report unusual mortality immediately.

4. Surveillance is continuing throughout the country. More than 108000 samples have been tested in the last one-year.
  5. Rapid Response Teams have been constituted at level of Government of India and State Governments to contain outbreaks.
  6. Then preparedness of the States is being continually assessed and monitored by the the GOI through video-conferencing, National Conferences of Animal Husbandry secretaries, regular touring by GOI officers, weekly reports on unusual mortality from States etc. Ready Reckoners have been developed by GOI for situation analysis of preparedness by States.
  7. Joint mechanisms between key stakeholder Departments of GOI especially animal Husbandry and MOHFW have been operationalized at various levels and are working successfully. The Inter-Ministerial Task Force is reviewing the situation regularly. The Joint Monitoring Group is meeting frequently to review and decide on technical matters. The Committee of Secretaries (COS) headed by the Cabinet Secretary periodically reviews the situation.
  8. Reserve of essential material for control operations have been developed and are being expanded further.
  9. The Department is maintaining a strategic reserve of poultry vaccines against bird flu.
  10. GOI has trained more than 16,000 veterinary personnel to handle control and containment operations. States have been advised to utilize the master trainers to train all veterinary staff.
  11. Testing of Serum samples has been started at regional level in the laboratories at Bangalore, Kolkata, Pune and Jalandhar.
  12. High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL) is adequately stocked with required reagents for diagnosis of Avian Influenza.
  13. A Project for preparedness, control and containment of bird flu has been approved at Rs. 126 crores with the World Bank collaboration.
  14. Information, Education, Communication (IEC) campaigns have been carried out jointly by MOHFW and this Department in print and electronic media through radio and T.V. spots.
  15. An exercise has been initiated in collaboration with UNICEF and Wetlands International to develop vulnerability mapping depicting areas under threat of AI for use as a planning tool.
  16. A system has been put in place since 2004 to restrict imports from countries reporting bird flu.
- (B) Preparedness measures by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare took adequate measures to contain the human cases of Avian Influenza if it is to happen.
1. A National Consultation Meeting on Pandemic Preparedness was taken by Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare on 1st August 2005 with all stakeholders to discuss the Influenza Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plan.
  2. A strategic plan for pandemic preparedness

- and a contingency plan to manage human cases of Avian Influenza were prepared and circulated to all States.
3. A model State action plan was prepared and discussed with state health secretaries.
  4. Rapid response teams of the centre and the states were trained and kept in readiness.
  5. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) strategies have also been finalized. NICD has also held sensitization workshops for Paramilitary forces. Indian Council of Medical Research [ICMR] strengthened influenza surveillance network.
  6. One lakh courses of Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) were procured.
  7. The action was taken during outbreak of the disease in the last year that included surveillance of about 10 lakh population by the central and state teams.
  8. ICMR Influenza surveillance network is regularly updating on its surveillance reports on seasonal influenza strains isolated and typed on weekly basis.
  9. NICD is carrying out influenza surveillance from sentinel sites [St. Stephen's Hospital and Aruna Asaf Ali Hospital]. Human samples are also being tested from the Avian Influenza affected area of Jalgaon, Maharashtra, all of which are found negative.
  10. 100 ventilators and 100 semiautomatic analyzers are procured.
  11. State level RRT have been trained. District level RRTs are being trained under IDSP program.
  12. A table top exercise to critically review the contingency plan was held at NICD on 10-11 January, 2007.
  13. A regional workshop on Avian Influenza Preparedness and Response was held from 5th to 9th, March, 2007.
  14. Stockpile status of Oseltamivir, PPE and N-95 are being maintained.
  15. Information, Education and Communication strategies are being implemented through radio and T.V. spots.
- [Translation]
- News Centre in Jodhpur**
2739. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :
- (a) whether the proposal pertaining to setting up of News Centre in Jodhpur is lying pending for a long time;
  - (b) if so, the time by which the Centre is likely to be set up there; and
  - (c) the steps initiated in this regard so far?
- THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) As regards doordarshan, there is no proposal to set up Regional News Unit (RNU) at Jodhpur. However, the district of Jodhpur is being adequately covered for news purposes by two stringers of Doordarshan. So far as All India Radio is concerned, seven places including Jodhpur have been identified for establishing new RNUs during 11th Five Year Plan. Implementation of schemes is subject to approval and availability of funds.

**Employment to Illiterate Persons**

2740. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJNA SINGH "LALAN" :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has evolved any scheme for providing regular employment to the labourers who are illiterate or educated upto 5th standard during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of sectors wherein additional job opportunities likely to be generated consequent upon said scheme alongwith the number thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million new work opportunities. This is for all categories of unemployed, viz. illiterate/educated/semi-skilled/skilled/unskilled. The Approach Paper provides an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision based on faster, more broad-based and inclusive growth. It aims at making employment generation an integral part of the growth process and devise strategies to accelerate not only growth of employment but also enhancement of wages of the poorly paid. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan contains following important policy initiatives for generation of employment:-

- (i) In order to make growth more inclusive, it is vital that more people gain access to more productive assets with which they can themselves generate decent incomes and also that GDP growth generates sufficient demand for wage labour so that those who cannot be self-employed are employed at decent wages.

(ii) Targeting faster growth in GDP and doubling of agriculture growth will help in this process. Besides, additional employment opportunities would be generated in the services and manufacturing sectors. Measures would need be taken to boost labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles and service sectors such as tourism and construction.

(iii) Village and small scale enterprises (VSE) will provide most of the new employment opportunities during the 11th Plan.

(iv) The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) assures every rural household at least 100 days of manual at minimum wages.

Besides, Government of India continues to implement various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in both rural and urban areas to increase employment opportunities. Some of these are: Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana; Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana; Pradhan Manti Gram Sadak Yojana; Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana; Rural Employment Generation Programme and Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana.

[English]

**Monitoring of Movement of Chemicals**

2741. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several cases have been noticed in Maharashtra from where tonnes of Ketamine, an anesthetic which is being abused extensively has gone to parts of the worlds;

(b) whether there is no proper system to monitor the movement of chemicals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the drug producing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (d) Ketamine Hydrochloride is a schedule 'H' drug under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules and is required to be sold only against the prescription of a Registered Medical Practitioner.

No specific instance of Ketamine an anesthetic drug being abused has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT has informed that there has been many seizures of this item while attempting to smuggle it out of India. Also, International Narcotic Control Board in its report of 2006 had indicated about the abuse potential of the drug. To regulate exports of this item, a proposal to make it mandatory to obtain an NOC from the Narcotics Commissioner to export Ketamine is under consideration of Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS) (regulated by Ministry of Finance) exercises control over chemicals having misuse potential as controlled substances and a proposal to bring Ketamine under NDPS Act is under consideration of Ministry of Finance.

#### Potential Linked Plan

2742.SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the States have set any target for the production of rabi and kharif crops for the current year;

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

(c) whether the Government has introduced Potential Linked Plan in every district as a basis for credit planning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the benefits likely to accrue to farmers therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India acts the production targets of different crops, for Kharif and Rabi seasons. The States also set their production targets of different crops for Kharif and Rabi seasons. The production targets of major States for current year (2006-07) during Kharif and Rabi season as communicated by them are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) prepares Potential Linked Credit Plan (PLPs) on annual basis for each of the districts of the country which forms the basis for preparation of district credit plan. PLPs attempt at mapping the sector-wise/activity-wise potential with block-wise segregation by following a participative process involving the banks, government departments/agencies, etc. in both pre and post PLP stages. Besides, estimating the available credit potential, PLPs also identify the critical gaps in infrastructure and other support services.

PLPs ensures proper alignment of the credit plan (targets) with the available potential so as to direct the credit flow for the desired sectors and activities taking into account the available infrastructure and other support services. Such credit expansion is ultimately aimed at helping the farmers for taking up various credit supported activities.

**Statement***State-wise Production targets of different crops for 2006-04*

(Lakh Tonnes)

S. No.	State	Foodgrains			Cotton*	Sugarcane	Oilseeds		
		Kharif	Rabi	Total			Kharif	Rabi	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	123.300	64.880	188.180	24.650	181.400	21.910	10.580	32.490
2.	Assam	35.390	9.355	44.745	0.007	11.600	0.100	2.213	2.313
3.	Bihar	78.000	92.500	170.500		130.000	0.180	2.900	3.080
4.	Chhattisgarh	71.473	10.776	82.249		1.050	3.103	2.371	5.474
5.	Gujarat	44.570	34.330	78.900	75.000	146.300	38.210	11.710	49.920
6.	Haryana	41.830	96.770	138.600	21.000	90.000	0.130	12.980	13.110
7.	Himachal Pradesh	10.060	7.750	17.810			0.100	0.040	0.140
8.	Karnataka	86.150	29.300	115.450	8.890	187.200	11.950	6.110	18.060
9.	Kerala	5.084	8.640	13.724		0.700	0.045	0.090	0.135
10.	Madhya Pradesh	51.830	126.190	178.020	7.550	26.400	53.730	10.530	64.260
11.	Maharashtra	106.700	65.300	172.000	28.140	462.000	41.610	10.330	51.940
12.	Orissa	84.340	13.600	97.940	1.860	29.400	3.090	4.610	7.700
13.	Punjab	95.770	147.060	242.830	20.400	72.500	0.110	2.300	2.410
14.	Rajasthan	59.100	102.150	161.250	13.000	2.500	20.500	42.750	63.250
15.	Sikkim	0.922	0.215	1.137			0.036	0.043	0.079
16.	Tamil Nadu	23.170	83.150	106.320	5.850	405.900	10.380	7.700	18.080
17.	Tripura	5.068	2.132	7.200	0.020	0.792	0.023	0.018	0.041
18.	Uttar Pradesh	198.900	355.500	554.400	0.060	NA	2.700	15.000	17.700
19.	Uttarakhand	9.210	8.435	17.645		66.000	0.210	0.140	0.350
20.	Pondicherry	0.505	0.735	0.940			0.004	0.073	0.078

\* Lakh Bales of 170 kg. each.

### Hybrid Food Crop

2743. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed various hybrid food crop varieties;

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

(c) the details of production-protection technologies of the above crops;

(d) the extent to which above crops are likely to help increase the agricultural production in various States particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) the time by which the above hybrids are likely to be made available to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has developed a number of hybrids in different food crops. In rice, hybrids such as KRH2, PA6201, 6444 and Suruchi 5401 have been popular. Similarly in other food crops popular hybrids have been developed such as DHM 103, DHM 105, Paras, Buland, Trishulata in maize; CSH 16, CSH 18 in Sorghum and GHB 558, Nandi 35, MLBH 504, PAC 903 in Pearl millet. Seed production technology of released hybrids has been developed. The integrated crop production and protection technologies have also been developed. System for Rice Intensification (SRI) method of cultivation has been found effective in enhancing the production and productivity of rice in various parts of the country including Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The adoption of these hybrids and their production-protection technologies have helped in enhancing the productivity of foodgrains in Andhra Pradesh where the foodgrain productivity has increased

from 709 kg. per hectare during 1965-66 to 2012 kg. per hectare during 2003-04.

(e) Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated to produce the breeders seed of the parental lines of hybrids and as such all the indents of breeders seed received from Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have been met.

[Translation]

### Employment Policy for Unorganised Workers

2744. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to formulate or contemplating to formulate a new employment policy to make available the employment to the workers particularly from unorganised sector in the country throughout the year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages creation of 70 million new work opportunities. This is for all categories of unemployed viz. illiterate/educated/semi-skilled/skilled/unskilled. Additional employment opportunities in the future will be generated mainly in services and manufacturing sectors and policy initiatives need to support this. Measures would need to be taken in the Eleventh Plan to boost, in particular, labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles, and services sector such as tourism and construction.

### Average Income of a Person

2745. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the per capita production per month and per hour in India at present;
- (b) the average income of a person in India and in other developing countries of the world;
- (c) the difference of income of an Indian person in comparison to other developing countries; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government in regard to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The required information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

[English]

#### Implementation of RTI Act, 2005

2746. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA :  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Union of Indian (NCUI) and National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) have complied with the provisions of Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act) and made necessary disclosures under the Right to Information Act, 2005;

(b) if so, the details of the officer designated for the purpose; and

(c) if not, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) has informed that it does not fall under the category of public authority as defined in Section 2(h) of the Right to Information Act, 2005. As regards, National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT), Secretary, NCCT has been designated as Chief Public Information Officer. The NCCT has been directed to make necessary disclosures under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Tour by Officers of SAIL

2747. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of foreign tours made by the officers of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) during the last three years;

(b) the details of purposes and the expenses incurred on each of the tours;

(c) the details of profits made by the company as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the company to cut down on unnecessary expenses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) The details of total number of employees who had been deputed abroad by SAIL in connection with managerial/technical training and official visits, expenses incurred during the last three years by the Company are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Number travelled abroad	Expenditure on foreign tours
1	2	3
2003-04	177	4.32

1	2	3
2004-05	270	5.39
2005-06	266	5.45
2006-07 (9 Months)	197	3.95

The executives of SAIL are deputed abroad for training to keep abreast of technological advancements in the area of steel plant technology, general management and for business visits abroad for export promotion, market study, discussions/meetings with customers/suppliers etc. which are activities required for the commercial success of the company. However, it is not in the commercial interest of the Company to give specific details in each tour.

(c) and (d) The details of profit made by SAIL during the last 3 years are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)		
Year	Profit Before Tax	Net Profit After Tax
2003-04	2628	2512
2004-05	9365	6817
2005-06	5706	4013
2006-07 (9 Months)	6498	4300

The learning/inputs from the foreign visits/training have also indirectly contributed towards enhanced productivity and profitability of the Company. The expenditure incurred on foreign tours during 2003-04 to 2005-06 and 2006-07 (9 months) is only 0.02 and 0.01 per cent of the turnover of the company respectively and cannot be termed as an unnecessary expense.

### Compensation for Death Due to Infected Blood

2748.SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consumer Courts have recently ordered a number of hospitals in Delhi to provide compensation to patients in cases of deaths due to transfusion of infected blood;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) No, Sir. As per the information made available by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) and State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDRC), Delhi, no case regarding 'compensation for death due to infected blood' has been decided by the NCDRC and SCDRC, Delhi recently. However, two (2) cases have been decided by the SCDRC, Delhi for granting compensation to the consumers due to infected blood transfusion and not compensation for death due to blood transfusion recently.

(b) The brief details of the cases directed by SCDRC, Delhi are as under:-

1. **Complaint No. 3/2006 dated 15.01.2007** — Smt. Harbans Kaur Chawla Vs. Escorts Heart Institute and Research Centre — the SCDRC, Delhi held hospital liable for deficiency in service or negligence and directed the hospital to pay a compensation of Rs. 50,000/-. Against the said decision of SCDRC, Delhi, an appeal has been filed before the NCDRC on 5.3.2007 and the same is listed for hearing on 21.3.2007.

2. **Complaint No.101/1992 dated 13.2..2006** — Naresh Kumar Vs. Sunil Blood Bank and Transfusion Centre — the SCDRC, Delhi has awarded compensation of Rs. 20,000/- to the complainant against selling of contaminated blood sample and not selling the blood in the manner provided under Rule 96 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945, framed under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

(c) The Government cannot intrvене/interfere in the judicial process/orders. However, the aggrieved party is free to invoke legal remedy available within the framework of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 in filing appeal/revision etc. before the next higher Forum.

[English]

#### Climate Change

2749. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI EKANTH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a high level Taskforce to deal with the emerging climate change scenario;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the major issues on which the Taskforce is proposed to be work; and
- (d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Finance Minister in his

recent Budget speech has stated that the Government has proposed to appoint an expert committee to study the impact of climate change on India and identify the measures that we may have to take in the future. Further modalities in this regard would be worked out in due course.

#### Additional Food Subsidy for Tamil Nadu

2750. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has sought any additional subsidy to enable it to supply rice at Rs. two per kg. to the poor sections in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Department of Food and Public Distribution has not received any request from the Government of Tamil Nadu for additional subsidy to enable them to supply rice at Rs. two per kg. to the poor sections in the State.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Special Grants for Development of Forests

2751. SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government provides special grants for the development of forests in Tumkur district; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No special grants have been provided for the development of forests in Tumkur district, Karnataka State. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme through a two-tier decentralized set-up of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMCs) at the village level during 10th Five Year Plan. An amount of Rs. 3.77 crores has been provided to Tumkur Forest Development Agency from 2002-03 to 2006-07 (as on 31.12.2006) under NAP Scheme for treating an area of 2000 hectare.

[Translation]

#### North Eastern River Valley Projects

2752. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far with regard to the proposals relating to documentary entitled, "Pani Ke Prateek" on North Eastern River Valley Project;

(b) if so, the reasons for holding back the proposals relating to documentary detailing the achievements in the field of water resources; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for clearance of the proposal relating to a documentary showing the achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Water Resources relating to documentary titled 'Panni Ke Prateek' on North Eastern River Valley Project.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Construction of Fishing Harbour at Mangalore

2753. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal for construction of a fishing harbour at Mangalore; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Union Ministry of Agriculture in September 1997 had accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Karnataka for expansion of the existing fishing harbour at Managalore as stage-II at a cost of Rs.75 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The central share to the tune of 50% of the project amounting to Rs. 37.50 lakhs has been released in two instalments to the State Government.

The Government of Karnataka have indicated their intention to have the fishing harbour expanded as Stage-III for which (i) an evaluation to assess the utility of the existing harbour facilities is to be completed and (ii) the State Government is to submit the completion report of Stage-II.

[Translation]

#### Closure of Sariska Tiger Reserve

2754. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV :  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes the closure of Sariska Tiger Project;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons thereof;
- (c) whether the tigers are being hunted down in large numbers leading to decline of their number; and
- (d) if so, the action taken/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) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) While some instances of poaching and trafficking of their body parts have come to light, there are no reports of hunting of tiger in large numbers, leading to their decline.

(d) The initiatives taken by the Government of India for conservation of tiger and other wild animals are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Several milestone initiatives have been taken by the Government in the recent past for tiger conservation which are as below*

1. 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.
2. Implementation of the urgent recommendations of the Tiger Task Force constituted by the National Board for Wildlife chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, which, interalia, include Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for creating the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau.
3. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been constituted with effect from 4.09.2006, which would strengthen tiger conservation by, interalia, 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. Assessment of tiger habitat status in the country at Taluka amplification in the Geographical Information System (GIS) domain in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India.
5. Comparative appraisal of forest cover status in and around tiger reserves (upto a radial distance of 10 kms.), in collaboration with the Forest Survey of India for evolving reserve specific restorative strategies involving local people in the peripheral / buffer areas.
6. Assessment of tiger reserves by a panel of independent experts based on 45 parameters, adapted from the framework of the World Commission on Protected Areas, which has been peer reviewed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and laid in the Parliament.
7. Refinement of the All India Tiger Estimation process (including other prominent prey and predators apart from habitat monitoring) in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India.

8. Bilateral initiatives with neighbouring tiger range countries.
9. Providing funding support for ecodevelopment around core areas of tiger reserve to foster inclusive management and taking initiatives for evolving a set of ecotourism guidelines to benefit local people.
10. Taking initiatives for enhancing the village relocation package through a professional agency.

*Apart from the above, other initiatives taken by the Government for wildlife conservation are as below*

11. Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
12. Several rare and endangered species of wild animals have been including in the Schedules of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection.
13. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been amended and made more stringent. The punishment in cases of offences 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.
14. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, to apprehended and prosecute wildlife offenders.
15. Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centers of the country

to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

16. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Protect Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection wild animals.
17. A National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-16 was adopted by the Indian Board for Wild Life under the chairmanship of Prime Minister in January 2002. The plan outlines the strategy for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.
18. Government of India is signatory to many international conventions concerning biodiversity conservation and control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.
19. Bilateral agreements have been signed with Nepal and Republic of China for controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife.
20. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

#### Utilisation of Water Resources

2755.SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the utilisation of water resources in terms of percentage in the States particularly in backward and rural areas as on date;
- (b) the schemes formulated by the Government to augment water in the States; and

(c) the amount allocated and spent/likely to be spent on each scheme and the percentage of cultivable land likely to be irrigated therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) Water being a State subject, water resources projects are conceived, planned and implemented by the respective State Governments as per their own priority. The average annual precipitation of the country is estimated to be 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). After accounting for the natural process of evaporation etc., the average annual water availability in the country is assessed as 1869 BCM. It is estimated that owing to topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable water is 1123 BCM, out of which 690 BCM is surface water and 433 BCM is replenishable ground water. The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan has estimated the utilization for different purposes as under:-

S. No.	Uses	Requirement in BCM	% of Requirement in BCM
1.	Irrigation	524	83.31
2.	Domestic	30	4.77
3.	Industries	30	4.77
4.	Other Uses	45	7.15

The total irrigation potential created upto March 2006 has been estimated to be 100.97 million hectare, State-wise irrigation potential created is given in the enclosed statement.

The allocations are made and expenditure incurred on various schemes/projects by the respective State Governments. However, the Government of India provides assistance to the State Governments for completion of on-going irrigation projects under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). The AIBP criteria have been

relaxed and procedures simplified to cover more projects under this under this programme. A pilot scheme titled National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture (RRR of Water Bodies) has also been approved by Government of India in January 2005. Government of India also provides support under centrally sponsored scheme for Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD and WM). The central assistance provided to the States under AIBP, RRR of Water Bodies and CAD and WM since inception of the programme/scheme upto February 2007 are Rs. 20598.48 crore, Rs.142.81 crore and Rs. 3217.16 crore respectively.

#### Statement

#### State-wise Irrigation Potential Created Upto March 2006

(000 Ha)

S. No.	Name of the State	Irrigation Potential Created
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6,604.27
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	113.88
3.	Assam	952.65
4.	Bihar	7,677.46
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,731.76
6.	Goa	53.40
7.	Gujarat	4,632.73
8.	Haryana	3,804.25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	183.54
10.	Jharkhand	1,004.13

1	2	3
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	581.41
12.	Karnataka	4,245.95
13.	Kerala	1,331.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4,265.42
15.	Maharashtra	6,558.05
16.	Manipur	122.59
17.	Meghalaya	60.19
18.	Mizoram	17.732
19.	Nagaland	84.08
20.	Orissa	3,561.28
21.	Punjab	6,007.12
22.	Rajasthan	5,221.70
23.	Sikkim	32.98
24.	Tamil Nadu	3,695.54
25.	Tripura	148.81
26.	Uttar Pradesh	31,698.75
27.	Uttarakhand	800.80
28.	West Bengal	5,777.49
Total States		100,969.47
Total UTs		1.39
Grand Total		100,970.86

**Vigilance Committees for Monitoring  
PDS**

2756. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI :

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

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

(a) whether Vigilance Committees are proposed to be constituted for better monitoring of Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the States where such vigilance committees are proposed to be constituted; and;

(c) the steps taken so far for ensuring setting up of such committees in States for proper monitoring of PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has been requesting the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to active Vigilance Committees and re-constitute them, if not done already, by associating members from amongst the card holders as well as people's representatives. In the Model Citizens' Charter, constitution of Vigilance Committees by State Governments at the level of Panchayat, Ward, Taluk, District and States/Union Territories have already been emphasized. In the guidelines issued in June, 1999 for the involvement of Panchayat Raj Institutions in the implementation of Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), it has been suggested that the Gram Panchayats, Gram Sabhas should be encouraged to form Fair Price Shops (FPS) Committees. The main functions of Vigilance Committees are to ensure smooth functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) and redressal of problems related with it. The Vigilance Committees are at present functioning at FPS level, Block/Mandal/Taluk level, District Level and State Level in most of the States/Union Territories. As per the information received from States/UTs, the status of constitution of Vigilance Committees in the States/Union Territories is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement****State/UT-wise status of Vigilance Committees formed by the respective States/UTs for monitoring the functioning of PDS**

S. No.	State/UT	Constitution of Vigilance Committees at various level				Remarks
		State	District	Block	FPS/Village	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	23	304	41,000	Named as Food Advisory Committee
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
3.	Assam	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
4.	Bihar	No.	38	534	8,471	The Committees are called 'monitoring committee'. In addition, 101 sub-division monitoring committees also formed
5.	Chhattisgarh		16	146	966	
6.	Delhi	1	**	**	**	** Vigilance Committee have been set up in each circle (70)
7.	Goa	**	**	**	**	** The Village Panchayat and Municipal Admn. has been directed to constitutes Village Committee at Village and Municipal Levels comprising of three members to check and keep vigil on the functioning of the FPSs within their jurisdiction.  Inspectorial staff has been posted in respective Talukas. Besides, Sarpanch, Opposition Member of panchayats have also been requested to monitor

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						the PDS. The Director of Panchayat has been requested to send the names and address of the members of the vigilance Committees to give training on PDS.
8.	Gujarat	1	3	68	14,555	Formation of State. District and Taluka Level Vigilance Committees for FPS is under process.
9.	Haryana	Nil	Nil	Nil	Yes 7559 (1364 in Urban Areas and 6195 in rural areas)	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
11	Jammu and Kashmir	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	These Committees meet regularly to take stock of the position and make remedial measures, wherever necessary.
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	Not reported
13.	Karnataka	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
14.	Kerala	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
15.	Madhya Pradesh	—	Yes	Yes	Yes	
16.	Maharashtra	Not Reported	23	214	22,736	In addition, 96 & 15 committees are there at Municipality and Municipal Corporation Level respectively.
17.	Manipur	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Yes	
18.	Meghalaya	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Yes	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19. Mizoram		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
20. Nagaland		Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Reported	
21. Orissa		Not Reported	Yes	Yes	Yes	
22. Punjab		Not Reported	Yes	Yes	Not Reported	
23. Rajasthan		1	32	241	21,607	
24. Sikkim		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
25. Tamil Nadu		+Yes	+Yes	+Yes	+Yes	+These are Advisory Committees
26. Tripura		Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	Yes	
27. Uttaranchal						At present, the State Government has not constituted the Vigilance Committee
28. Uttar Pradesh		Not formed	70	820	52,002	
29. West Bengal		1	19	341	18,053	
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		Not Reported	Yes	Yes	Yes	
31. Chandigarh		Vigilance Committee have been constituted but hardly any meeting is convened as there are only 24 FPS in various villages and colonies. Department, however, interact with local elected representatives.				
32. Dadar and Nagar Haveli		Being small, only a district level committee is there.			Not reported.	
33. Daman and Diu						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
34. Lakshadweep		There is one vigilance-cum-advisory Committee in each island in PDS. Besides this, a statutory vigilance committee is also there.				
35. Pondicherry		There are State and Zonal vigilance committees				

\* Information not received

**Violation of Consumer Protection Act,  
1986 by Pay Channels**

2757.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether T.V. pay channels are charging the costs, both for entertainment and for advertisements from consumers in the country;

(b) if so, whether pay channels are earning both from advertisements and from the consumers in violation of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) The business model of pay TV Channels is based mainly on revenues carried from two streams (i) subscriptions (ii) advertisement. Based on the earnings expected from both the streams the subscription charges for pay channels are fixed subject to tariff orders issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India from time to time. As such there is no violation of Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c) Question does not arise.

**Assessment of Agricultural Research Work**

2758.SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for expediting the agricultural research work;

(b) the various works done under agricultural research during the last two years and current year;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether there is lack of agricultural scientists in the research sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The Council launched several project/programmes to address research issues to strengthen farming and farmers in the country. Some of these include:—

— Indian-US Knowledge Initiative to work on mutually reinforcing priority areas of agricultural education, research, service and commercial linkage.

- National Fund for Basic and Strategic Research in Agricultural Sciences to build capacity and for supporting research.
  - Project on quality seed production in agricultural crops and fisheries located at SAUs and ICAR Institutes.
  - Network Projects on Transgenics Crops and Insects Biosystematics.
  - Launched Strategic Research Initiatives in Network Mode on Molecular Breeding; Gene Pyramiding; Mycotoxins – Aflatoxin management; Alternaria blight – integrated management; Wilt – Integrated management; Tree Borne Oilseeds; Quality protein maize; Identification of Salt Tolerance Genes in Marine Tiger Shrimp etc.
  - National Agricultural Innovation Project with the support of World Bank. (six years)
  - Released 108 varieties and hybrids of crops during 2005 and 87 varieties in 2006.
  - Produced 6 thousand tonnes of breeder seed and supplied 55.25 lakh saplings.
  - Developed a low cost reliable and an efficient low energy precision application irrigation system.
  - Conducted training programmes to update knowledge and skills of about 4.4 lakh farmers and extension personnel.
  - Developed technologies for recycling/reuse of vast quantities agro and industrial residue for making pulp, paper, boards etc. from jute.
  - First Mithun Calf borne in India through Artificial Insemination through efforts of ICAR.
  - Developed rapid PCR based diagnostic for buffalo pox virus.
  - Sequenced complete genome for 2 Asia 1 field isolates for Foot and Mouth Disease.
  - Developed vaccine against the Bird Flu disease using cell culture. (better than the imported vaccine)
  - Validated IPM technologies for different crops.
  - Supplied more than 4 lakh fertile eggs/day chicks/grown up birds for rural poultry.
  - Bred successfully yellow cat fish and spiny eel.
  - Developed a generic soft-ware for Pest-Management Information System for different crops.
  - Hosted three major international events to promote research collaboration among organizations in different parts of the world.
  - Sanctioned 42 new KVKs in rural districts during 2006 thereby raising their number to 546.
  - Established a National Research Centre on Pomegranate at Sholapur (2005).
  - Provided complete technological backstopping to the national efforts in rehabilitation of areas devastated by Tsunami.
- (b) to (f) No, Sir. Research work has been managed by judicious redeployment of available scientific manpower. Steps have been initiated to get the vacancies in the scientific cadre filled up on top priority basis.

#### New Tiger Projects

2759. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has declared new tiger projects recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the costs involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) "In principle approval" has been accorded for declaring eight new tiger reserves spread over seven States, based on proposals received and as recommended by the Steering Committee of the Project Tiger in its 37th meeting held on 23.01.2003. Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The cost on management of new tiger reserves would be based on proposals from States, emanating from reserve specific 'Tiger Conservation Plan', prepared as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

#### Statement

##### List of the New Tiger Reserves

S. No.	Name of the new Tiger Reserve	State
1	2	3
1.	Anamalai - Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuaries	Tamil Nadu and Kerala
2.	Udanti and Sita Nadi Wildlife Sanctuaries	Chhattisgarh
3.	Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary	Orissa
4.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam
5.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh
6.	Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and Anshi National Park	Karnataka

1	2	3
7.	Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu

[English]

#### Setting up of Multi Speciality Veterinary Central Research Institute

2760. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala to set up a Multi Speciality Veterinary Central Research Institute in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) A proposal on Multi Speciality Veterinary Centre and Research Institute in Kerala has been received from Government of Kerala in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries where it has not been found feasible to support by the Department.

[Translation]

#### Scheme for Welfare of Forest Tribals

2761. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes and programmes being implemented for the welfare of tribes and other classes living in the forests, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for rehabilitation and upliftment of families living in the forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Government of India is involving communities living in forests including tribals in the country in the management, conservation and protection of forests through Joint Forest Management Programmes with benefit sharing mechanism. In addition, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is also implementing following major welfare and developmental schemes and programmes for Scheduled Tribes:-

1. Grant-in-Aid to NGOs for Scheduled Tribes including Coaching and Allied and award for exemplary service.
2. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas.
3. Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets.
4. Grant-in-Aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce.
5. Development of Primitive Tribal Groups.
6. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribe Students.
7. Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Tribe Students.
8. Girls Hostel and Boys Hostel for Scheduled Tribes.
9. Ashram School in Tribal Sub Plan Areas.
10. Research Information and Mass Education, Tribal Festival and others.
11. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP).

12. Grant-in-Aid under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.

(b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been enacted to provide occupational and habitational rights to the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dweller Communities for the purpose of enhancing their livelihood.

[English]

#### Payment of Penalty

2762. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :  
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU :  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR :  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

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

(a) whether Dow Chemicals of U.S.A. has agreed to pay penalty to Indian Pesticide Regulators as reported in "The Hindustan Times" dated February 17, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. No penalty has been paid by Dow Chemicals of U.S.A. to Indian Pesticide Regulators.

(c) The Government of India, on the basis of press reports and a report of proceedings of the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America, understands that the Dow Chemicals Company reportedly made numerous improper payments to Indian Government officials at the State and Federal level to register and market several agro chemical products,

during 1996-2001, through subsidiary De-Nocil Crop Protection Ltd. The Government of India has ordered an enquiry into these allegations alongwith review of registrations undertaken by the Company during this period.

#### National Agriculture Policy

2763. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any suggestion from State Governments to involve the States in formulation of National Agriculture Policy as well as in the farm related research activities to widen their scope for the coverage of climatic conditions, geological features and sand qualities of various regions; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Suggestions have been received from the State Governments for incorporation of provisions in National Agriculture Policy, mainly relating to the improvement of farming as well as the conditions of farmers. The Government of India had constituted in 2004, a National Commission on Farmers to examine, inter-alia, various issues confronting the farmers and to suggest appropriate interventions for improving the economic profitability and sustainability of major farming systems in the country and for improving food and livelihood security. The Commission has submitted several recommendations including Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers after holding wide ranging consultations with the State Governments, farmers and other stakeholders. A

conference of State Ministers for Agriculture and Allied sectors was held on 22nd December, 2006 to discuss and obtain their views on the recommendations by National Commission of Farmers' in its reports including Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers. Government has taken necessary action to expedite examination of the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers and other recommendations submitted by National Commission on Farmers.

#### Phasing out of CPCRI Centre

2764. SHRI C.K. CHANNDRAPPAN :  
SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN :  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to phase out the research centre at Kannara of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI);

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received any suggestions from many quarters including the State Government for retention of the centre and making improvements in its functioning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the current status of the centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has decided to phase out the Research Centre at Kannara of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod.

(b) The decision was taken based on the Report of the Committee on Review of Regional Research Centres of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), which recommended for phasing out the Centre, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), considering its relevance, since similar research work is being carried out at CPCRI Regional Stations located at Kayamkulam (Kerala) and Vittal (Karnataka).

(c) and (d) Suggestions from some Honourable Members of Parliament and also from the Chief Minister of Kerala have been received, to retain the Centre at Kannara. The matter was re-examined by the competent authority and was decided to phase out the Research Centre, considering the relevance.

Accordingly, the Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala was requested to take over the Research Centre alongwith immovable properties, which was agreed in principle, in the meeting held on 19.8.2004 with the Director of Agriculture, Government of Kerala and Director, CPCRI, Kasaragod. However, the Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala, has yet to take the possession of the Centre as agreed.

#### Funds to Central Rice Research Institute

2765. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the allocation for Central Rice Research Institute at Bidyadharpur, Cuttack in Orissa has been declining over the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the budgetary allocations made therefor during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the research works undertaken for developing new improved variety of Rice and Paddy during such period alongwith the success achieved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The allocation for Central Rice Research Institute has not declined during the last three years. The details of budgetary allocations under Plan made during the last three years are as under:-

Financial Year	Plan (Rs. in lakhs)	
	Allocation	Expenditure
2003-04	153.00	140.18
2004-05	355.90	338.52
2005-06	353.10	352.79

(c) The Central Rice Research Institute is engaged in the development of high yielding varieties and hybrids in rice. During the last three years, two hybrids namely Ajay and Rajlaxmi have been released. Also, six varieties namely Geetanjali, Ketekijoha, Virendra, Naveen, Abhisekh and Varshadhan have also been developed. These varieties and hybrids have the yield potential ranging from 4.0 tonnes per hectare to 7.0 tonnes per hectare.

#### Fall in Price of Turmeric

2766. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether turmeric farmers has faced problems on account of steep fall in price of turmeric in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government has directed National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) to start procurement of the turmeric at a remunerative price;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The Government of India has not received any information or proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh about turmeric farmers facing problems on account of steep fall in price of turmeric.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

#### Marketing of Excess Milk in A.P.

2767. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of milk is increasing steadily in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the quantum of milk produced during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for marketing of excess milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The production of milk is increasing steadily in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The quantum of milk produced during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Milk Production (in Thousand Tonnes)
1	2
2003-04	6959

1	2
2004-05	7257
2005-06	7624

(c) There is no report of excess milk in Andhra Pradesh. The milk production in the State by and large is sufficient to meet the demand of the State.

#### Industrial Park Ordinance

2768. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial parks ordinance in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the criteria adopted for setting up the industrial parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FRENANDES) : (a) State-wise details is enclosed as statement.

(b) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is operating the Industrial Park Scheme. It was first notified in March 30, 1999 and revised on December 1, 1999 and April 1, 2002. This Scheme encourages private investment in development of industrial parks/industrial model towns/growth centres, in which high quality infrastructure is made available in a centralized manner, so that the units operating from such parks can have the benefit of lower transaction cost and shorter start up time.

The Scheme is applicable for any undertaking which 'develop', 'develops and operates' or 'maintains and operates' eligible projects, viz. Industrial Parks/Industrial Model Towns/Growth Centres, for the period beginning on the 1st day of April, 1997 and ending on 31st day of March, 2009.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of approvals accorded under the Industrial Park Scheme since 1999 is as under*

S. No.	State	No. of projects approved under the Industrial Park Scheme, 1999 and 2002
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25
2.	Chandigarh	01
3.	Gujarat	05
4.	Haryana	02
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	01
6.	Karnataka	41
7.	Kerala	01
8.	Maharashtra	56
9.	Punjab	01
10.	Rajasthan	78
11.	Tamil Nadu	12
12.	Uttar Pradesh	08
13.	Uttaranchal	05
14.	West Bengal	08
<b>Total</b>		<b>244</b>

**Ban on Diclofenac Drug**

2769. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to phase out and eventual ban of the veterinary use of Diclofenac drug;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has requested States Drug Controllers to phase out use of said drug in veterinary practice;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the name of the alternate safer and effective drug permitted to be used for treatment of animals in veterinary health care?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (d) The issue of phasing out of Diclofenac for veterinary use was under consideration with the Government as serious concern has been expressed at different fora over the decline in the population of vultures in Indian sub-continent due to scavenging of the dead carcasses of the animals treated with Diclofenac. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in January 2006 has issued advice to State Animal Husbandry/Veterinary Department not to procure Diclofenac drugs for its central drug stores. The Drug Controller General of India vide letter No. 18-03/2006-DC dated 11th May, 2006 also issued instructions to all the state Drugs Controller to withdraw the manufacturing licenses granted to manufacture of veterinary formulations of diclofenac and phasing out of the marketing of such formulations within three months.

(e) Alternate drugs like Meloxicam is permitted to be used for treatment of animals in veterinary health care.

[Translation]

**Wages for Labourers**

2770. DR. SHAFIUR RAHMAN BARQ : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no transparency in respect of wages given to the labourers working in small and medium industries in the country;

(b) if so, whether some complaints have also been received in this regard during the last three years;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the measures to be adopted to bring transparency in wages given to the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) The required information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

[English]

#### Cas on Voluntary Basis

2771. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the TRAI has proposed to allow Conditional Access System (CAS) on voluntary basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the final decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has not made any proposal for CAS on voluntary basis. However, it has constituted a committee to look into the option of voluntary CAS.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Prices of Essential Goods in Forward Market

2772. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of export and import of foodgrains and other essential commodities during last three years indicating the quantum and price thereof alongwith their Minimum Support Price (MSP), item-wise, year-wise;

(b) whether any assessment has been made regarding the factors influencing the prices of foodgrains and other essential commodities in the Forward Market alongwith its impacts on the prices in open market; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The details of export and import of main foodgrains and other essential commodities during last three years indicating the quantum and price thereof alongwith their Minimum Support Price (MSP), item-wise and year-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) The prices of foodgrains and other essential commodities are determined by the demand and supply fundamentals alongwith the prevailing international prices. Commodity futures markets provide a platform for price discovery and price risk management. No specific study has been done to assess the impact of commodity futures trading on the prices in the open markets.

**Statement-I**

*Details of Export and Import of main foodgrains and other essential commodities  
indicating the quantum and unit price*

Unit price in US \$/Unit

Quantity in thousand units

S.No.	Commodity	Unit	Import price	Export price	Import Quantity	Export Quantity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>April-March 2004</b>						
1.	Wheat	Ton	118.39	127.13	0.46	4093.08
2.	Rice (Non-Basmati)	Ton	NA	179.25	0.05	2640.57
3.	Pulses	Ton	288.53	464.73	1723.33	153.88
4.	Sugar	Ton	183.4	220.52	74.4	1200.6
5.	Vegetable Oils	Ton	480.6	NA	5290.3	NA
6.	Rwa Jute	Ton	182.55	NA	111.96	NA
<b>April-March 2005</b>						
1.	Wheat	Ton	109.79	158.11	0.22	2009.35
2.	Rice (Non-Basmati)	Ton		237.48	NA	3615.1
3.	Pulses	Ton	288.81	483.57	1339.45	271.18
4.	Sugar	Ton	277.76	299.39	932.74	108.68
5.	Vegetable Oils	Ton	507.36	NA	4751.19	NA
6.	Raw Jute	Ton	335.54	NA	20.74	NA
<b>April-March 2006</b>						
1.	Wheat	Ton	NA	166.31	NA	745.57
2.	Rice (Non-Basmati)	Ton	324.35	236.16	0.02	3905.41

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Pulses	Ton	324.78	551.95	1608.24	444.61
4.	Sugar	Ton	259.61	391.31	558.77	316.85
5.	Vegetable Oils	Ton	464.67	NA	4174.79	NA
6.	Raw Jute	Ton	337.49	NA	47.4	NA

NA= not available.

**Statement-II**

**Minimum Support Price**

(Rupees per quintal)

S.No.	Commodity	Variety	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Kharif Crops</b>					
1.	Paddy	Common	560	570	580*
		Grade-A	590	600	610*
2.	Jawar	Hybrid	515	525	540
3.	Bajra		515	525	540
4.	Arhar (Tur)		1390	1400	1410
5.	Moong		1410	1520	1530
6.	Urad		1410	1520	1530
7.	Groundnut in Shell		1500	1520	1530
<b>Rabi Crops</b>					
8.	Wheat		640	650#	750
9.	Gram		1425	1435	1445
10.	Rapeseed Mustard		1700	1715	1715

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Masur		1525	1535	1545
12.	Sugarcane ②		74.50	79.50	80.25
13.	Jute		890	910	1000

\*Additional incentive bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal is payable on paddy procurement between 1.10.2006 to 31.3.2007.

#An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal is payable on wheat over the MSP.

② Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) linked to basic recovery of 8.5% with proportionate premium for every 0.1% increase in recovery above the level.

### Dairy Development in Madhya Pradesh

2773. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production and Intensive Dairy Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance sought for the purpose;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government on the proposals; and

(d) the time by which the said amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The scheme-wise details of proposals received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes "Strengthening Infra-

structure for Quality and Clean Milk Production" and Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) are as under:-

#### I. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production

Out of the 14 proposals received from the State Government, this Department approved four projects of Bhopal, Jabalpur, Indore, Gwalior and Ujjain Milk Unions at a total cost of Rs. 804.23 lakh with a central share of Rs. 637.49 lakh and organizational share of Rs. 166.74 lakh during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to be implemented over a period of three years in the districts of Betul, Dhar, Gwalior, Bind, Datia, Morena, Balaghat, Mandsaur, Dewas, Ratlam, Bhopal, Sehore and Shajapur. Out of the total sum of Rs. 382.80 lakh released as central share, the State Government has so far submitted Utilisation Certificate for a total sum of Rs. 224.53 lakh. Further Utilisation Certificate for balance sum of Rs. 158.27 lakh and physical progress on key identified items against the targets are still awaited.

The remaining ten proposals received from the State Government in July, 2006, for the district

unions of Bhopal, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Indore and Ujjain covering the districts of Morena, Chhindwara, Betul, Sehore, Shajapur, Narsingharh, Rajgarh, Seoni, Indore and Mandsaur prepared at a total estimated cost of Rs. 3232.57 lakh have been examined in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and the State Government has been asked to provide certain additional information and also to complete the ongoing projects in physical and financial terms before new proposals are considered.

**ii. Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)**

Out of the nine proposals received from the State of Madhya Pradesh, five proposals covering the districts of Guna, Narsinghpur, Chhattarpur, Khargaon, Satna, Rewa, Jhabua, Balaghat and Chhindwara have been approved with a total outlay of Rs. 1743.38 lakhs and Rs. 1338.53 lakhs has already been released by Government of India upto 31.3.06. Out of this an amount of Rs. 75.92 lakh is lying unspent with the State Government. The balance amount will be released after receiving the utilization certificate of the funds already released and receipt of status on physical progress of the projects from the State Government. The remaining proposals covered the districts of Neemuch, Harda, Badwani, Sheopur, Sheoni, Khandwa, Burhanpur, Vidisha, Raisen, and Hoshangabad. Based on the priority indicated by the State Government, this Department approved the project covering the districts Neemuch, Harda, Badwani, Sheopur and Sheoni on 14.03.07 and the funds will be released depending on its availability during the year 2006-07, under the scheme.

[English]

**Inter-Linking of Rivers**

2774. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of inter-linking of rivers in the Himalayan sphere of the country is in a unnaturally slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether population projection to touch 1.6 billion people by 2050 and the foodgrain requirement was expected to touch 400 million tonnes;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to give priorities to irrigation and agriculture to meet the future requirement; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to inter-link rivers to increase the irrigation capacity and the stage at which the matter of inter-linking rivers stands at present alongwith the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Out of the 14 links identified for preparation of feasibility reports (FRs) under Himalayan Component of National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development FRs of two links viz Sarda-Yamuna and Ghagra-Yamuna have been completed for Indian Portion. Field surveys and Investigations for the remaining links in Indian portion are in advanced stage of completion.

(c) A study carried out by the United Nations (1994) has indicated that population of India by 2050 AD using medium projection would be about 1.60 billion. Further, the National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development (1999) has estimated the food requirement for the country by 2050 AD as 494 million tonnes (high demand) and 420 million tonnes (low demand).

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas for optimum utilization of water Resources. The NPP comprises two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Report (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed.

Further, a Memorandum of Understanding for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the links in Peninsular Component namely Ken-Betwa link was signed among the Central Government and State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25th August, 2005. Subsequently, the Central Government entrusted the preparation of the DPR of the aforesaid link to NWDA.

#### Cultivation of Paddy

2775. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the area under paddy cultivation has been declining year after year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the area under such cultivation during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the yield of paddy alongwith the success achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) The all-India area under paddy cultivation from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is given in the table below:-

Year	Area ('000 Hectares)
2003-04	42,592.5
2004-05	41,906.7
2005-06	43,659.8

During crop year 2004-05, rainfall from the South-West Monsoon was 13% less than its long period average, which resulted in decline in area under paddy during 2004-05 especially in Uttar Pradesh. State-wise area under paddy cultivation from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) In order to increase the productivity and production of rice (paddy) in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice)" is under implementation under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture from October 2000. Under the scheme assistance is provided on 90:10 percentage sharing basis between Government of India and the States for propagation of improved production technology, hybrid rice production technology, integrated pest management through field demonstrations, training of farmers, transfer of technology through electronic media and published literature, farm implements, installation of sprinkler irrigation system, varietal replacement and production of certified seeds. Besides, Frontline Demonstrations are also organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on farmers' fields on 100 per cent GOI assistance. The Government is also giving encouragement to improved technologies for rice such as System of Rice Intensification (SRI), Zero Tillage and adoption of other resource conservation technologies. As

a result of these efforts, productivity of paddy has increased from 2979 kg/hectare in 1999-2000 3153 kg/hectare in 2005-06.

**Statement**

State/UT	Area ('000 Hectares)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2975.0	3086.0	3982.0
Arunachal Pradesh	119.2	121.6	122.3
Assam	2529.0	2376.8	2420.3
Bihar	3578.0	3122.6	3252.4
Chhattisgarh	3829.0	3746.7	3747.2
Goa	52.8	52.4	52.2
Gujarat	675.3	685.6	666.0
Haryana	1015.0	1028.0	1052.0
Himachal Pradesh	81.3	81.0	79.4
Jammu and Kashmir	259.8	250.0	259.0
Jharkhand	1363.0	1285.0	1354.7
Karnataka	1073.9	1308.0	1485.0
Kerala	287.4	289.9	275.8
Madhya Pradesh	1718.8	1622.5	1657.7
Maharashtra	1530.0	1519.0	1515.0
Manipur	157.8	176.3	166.3
Meghalaya	109.7	111.5	100.7
Mizoram	59.5	54.8	55.8

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	155.0	153.0	156.4
Orissa	4501.2	4472.0	4479.0
Punjab	2614.0	2647.0	2642.0
Rajasthan	99.7	101.3	107.4
Sikkim	14.7	14.7	15.0
Tamil Nadu	1396.6	1872.8	2050.5
Tripura	237.7	242.6	244.7
Uttar Pradesh	5952.0	5339.3	5578.2
Uttaranchal	293.0	306.0	302.0
West Bengal	5856.6	5783.6	5783.0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	10.6	10.7	10.6
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13.5	13.5	13.6
Delhi	6.5	6.0	7.5
Daman and Diu	1.8	1.7	1.8
Pondicherry	25.1	24.8	24.3
All India	42592.5	41906.7	43659.8

**Task Force on EIA**

2776. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission set up a task force to review the norms regarding Environment Impact Assessment (EIA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether the task force has reviewed the EIA norms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Planning Commission had set up a Task Force to review the norms regarding Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) in the context of formulation of Eleventh Plan (2007-08).

(c) to (e) The Report of the Task Force is under consideration of the Steering Committee of the Planning Commission set up for Environment and Forest Sector for the Eleventh Plan.

**Effect of Mining on Environment/  
Forest Resources**

2777. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of environment and forest resources damaged during 2005-06 and 2006-07 by public/private sector mining companies in various parts of Orissa;
- (b) whether the Government had put any conditions before granting approval for mining in the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the extent to which such conditions have checked the losses of environment and forest resources in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded environmental clearance to 36 (thirty six) mining projects in the State of Orissa, since January, 2005. The environmental clearance is granted subject to various conditions and environmental

safeguards which inter-alia include proper management of Overburden (OB), reclamation of Overburden (OB) dumps, providing of garland drain around the Overburden dumps, transportation of mineral through covered trucks, development of green belt, sprinkling of water on haul roads, adoption of control blasting, regular monitoring of air and water (ground and surface) quality etc.

During the same period, forest area admeasuring 4,978.548 hectares has been diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for mining purposes in Orissa. To reduce the effect of mining on surrounding area, forestry clearance is granted subject to conditions such as Compensatory Afforestation, Implementation of Reclamation Plan, Payment of Net Present Value for the area diverted, conservation measures for flora and fauna, fencing and maintenance of safety zone etc.

The above conditions have been successful to a large extent in controlling pollution and other ill effects due to mining.

*[Translation]*

**Free Legal Advice to Labourers**

2778. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the settlement of disputed cases of workers of various categories, to make the Employees Provident Fund Organisation and Employees State Insurance Corporation as effective bodies and the programmes related to the welfare of workers in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the steps taken by the Government to provide free legal advice to the poor labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Functioning of the Employees' Provident Fund Organization is regularly monitored/ reviewed by the Central Board of Trustees, (Employees' Provident Fund) and appropriate suggestions/recommendations are made for efficient administration of the schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Bhavishya Nidhi Adalats are organised by the field offices of the Organisation on a monthly basis to redress the grievances of members and remove difficulties if any.

In order to make the Scheme more effective for welfare of the workers, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has taken a number of steps viz. installation of a toll free helpline at its headquarters, setting up of facilitation centres in field offices etc.

Shikayat Adalats are conducted in offices of ESI Corporation. In order to reduce the pendency of litigations an Amnesty Scheme has been launched w.e.f. 1st August, 2006 to 31st March, 2007.

[English]

#### Hike in EPF Contribution

2779. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employer's contribution to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) is being hiked from 12 per cent to 15 per cent;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any request from Central Board of Trustees to this effect: and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Financial Autonomy to Cooperative Institutions

2780. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ) : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide financial autonomy to the Co-operative Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by the Government on each of the recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) In order to strengthen the Cooperative Credit Structure in the country, the Government of India constituted a Task Force on revival of rural cooperative credit institutions in August, 2004 under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan to formulate a practical and implementable action plan to rejuvenate the rural cooperatives. The Task Force submitted its report to the Government of India in February, 2005. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Task Force in principle and the same were discussed with the State Governments and a consensus was arrived at.

The recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee, the arrived at consensus with the State Governments/ Union Territories and actions taken by the Government thereon are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

S. No.	Recommendations of the Prof. A. Vaidyanathan Committee	Package arrived at consensus by the Government with the State Governments	Action Taken by the Government
1	2	3	4
1.	A financial package for cleansing the Balance Sheets of Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS) to bring them to an acceptable level of financial health.	Covers cleansing of the balance sheets, support for minimum capital requirements, developing uniform accounting system and computerization of the financial package, estimated at Rs. 13596 crore will be shared by the Central Government, State Governments and the Cooperative Credit Societies based on origin of loss and existing commitments.	Nine States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh have executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with Government and NABARD for implementing the package. Another 5 states, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Dadra Nagar Haveli have accepted the package in principle.
2.	Introduce legal and institutional reforms necessary for their democratic, self-reliance and efficient functioning	The Revival Package also seeks to bring down the interference of the State Governments in the credit cooperatives and envisages suitable amendments to the State Cooperative Societies Act and Banking Regulation Act. Release of financial assistance under the financial package will be back ended and linked to achievement of pre-defined bench marks in respect of legal, institutional and regulatory reforms and will, therefore, be phased over a period of three years.	The State Government of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have initiated steps for amendment of the respective State Cooperative Societies Act, to give effect to the reform measures under the package.  National Level Implementing and Monitoring Committee set up under the Chairmanship of the Governor, RBI has met thrice on 30th May 2006, 7th September 2006 and 19th January 2007 respectively to provide policy directions for implementing the package.
3.	Take measures to improve the quality of human resources and operational efficiency through appropriate technical assistance	The technical component of the financial package will also cover costs of training and capacity building to improve financial management skills of staff and board members; for installa-	State level and DCCB level implementation and Monitoring Committees have been set up in Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

1	2	3	4
		tion of uniform accounting and monitoring systems; and for computerization.	NABARD is working with GTZ, Germany for developing a Uniform Accounting System for PACS. Internal Committee set up by NABARD is preparing training modules, materials and strategy for training of the PACS staff, Board Members, etc.
			Government has released an amount of Rs. 400 crore to NABARD for the Revival Package.

[English]

**Joint Inspection**

2781. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether joint inspections of common sites along our borders with neighbouring countries are carried out from time to time to resolve water issues;

(b) if so, the level at which these inspections are carried out;

(c) the details of joint inspections held during the last two years; and

(d) the extent to which these inspections have

helped in resolving water issues with the neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The level at which these inspections were carried out and details of inspections held during the last two years are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) These inspections provided better appreciation and greater clarity of the issues at specific sites along the border to ensure that problems are resolved with mutual consent causing no harm to either side. These inspections have been quite useful in resolving inundation problems in border areas with Nepal and addressing the bilateral issues of river training works on Indo-Bangladesh border.

**Statement**

*Details of Joint Inspections of common sites along borders with neighbouring countries during last two years (2005-07)*

S. No.	Period of Visit	Area visited	Indian Team/ Group leader	Purpose of visit
1	2	3	4	5
<b>A. Indo-Nepal border</b>				
1.	July 5, 2005	Distt. Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh	Commissioner (Ganga) Ministry of Water Resources	Inundation problems in Indo-Nepal border areas.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	July 12, 2005	Bagmati river	Director, GFCC, Patna	To inspect ongoing flood protection works at Nepal border.
3.	April 7, 2006	Indo-Nepal border areas of Uttar Pradesh	Commissioner (Ganga) Ministry of Water Resources	Inundation problems in Indo-Nepal border areas.
4.	June 10, 2006	Bagmati river and Nepal Eastern Canal	Member, GFCC, Patna	To inspect ongoing works on Nepal side.
5.	June 25-28, 2006	Sapta kosi, Sum Kosi and Kamala dam sites	Member (RM) CWC	Field inspection of investigation works of Saptakosi, Sunkosi and Kamala dam projects.
6.	December 2-6, 2006	Bagmati river and Nepal Eastern Canal	Director, GFCC, Patna	To inspect ongoing Flood protection works on Nepal border.
<b>B. Indo-Bangladesh border</b>				
7.	May 26-31, 2005	Mahananda, Atrai and Ichhamati rivers bordering India (West Bengal) and Bangladesh	Commissioner (Ganga) Ministry of Water Resources	To inspect proposed antierosion works on border rivers and desilting of river Ichhamati
8.	September 13-21, 2006	Bank protection, Minor Lift Irrigation and Drinking Water Supply sites on rivers Muhuri and Feni in Tripura, a part of common border stretch of river Ichhamati in West Bengal and Bank Protection sites on river Feni from Bangladesh side.	Hon'ble Minister (WR)	To inspect and assess the situation on ground for Bank Protection, Minor Lift Irrigation, Drinking Water Supply sites and dredging/desilting sites on common/border rivers.

#### Establishment of Modern Floriculture Market

2782. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Himachal Pradesh for establishment of modern floriculture market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir. The Government has not received any proposal from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh for establishment of modern floriculture market.

(b) Question does not arise.

#### Distress Sale of Paddy

2783. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether reports of the distress sale of paddy in some States has been received by the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for the fall in prices and distress sale of paddy; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the interest of farmers in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Reports were received regarding sale of paddy below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2006-07 (in October-November, 2006) in some States. After necessary investigation, Food Corporation of India (FCI) has informed that in all the cases investigated the paddy sold was below the Fair Average Quality specifications of Government of India.

(c) In order to ensure that the benefits of MSP operations reach the farmers, the Government agencies

(FCI and State agencies) have opened procurement centres in all districts having marketable surplus of paddy. The farmers are free to offer their produce to the Government agencies at MSP, or in the open market, as is advantageous to them. An incentive bonus of Rs.40/- per quintal is also being given, over and above the MSP for paddy purchased in KMS 2006-07 (upto 31.3.2007). Wide publicity through Radio, Television, pamphlets, banners etc. is also undertaken to make the farmers aware of the MSP operations as well as prescribed quality specifications. To widen the coverage of MSP operations, the Decentralized Procurement Scheme is in operation in several states such as Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal etc.

#### Teesta-Barrage Project

2784. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to tide over the financial difficulties in completing the Teesta-Barrage Project in North Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the project as on date indicating the likely date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government of India has provided Rs. 141.244 crore to the Teesta Barrage Project from 1996 till date under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP). Central Assistance under AIBP is provided to the States based on the physical/financial progress, utilization certificate and matching provision of budget by the States.

(c) As reported by the State Government of West Bengal, the Teesta Barrage Project was proposed to be executed in 3 phases. The 1st phase of the project is again subdivided into three stages. The first stage is further subdivided into two sub-stages. The work of the sub-stage-I

of stage-I of the 1st phase of the project is under execution at present.

The present status of progress of works of different components of the project is given as under :

Sl. No.	Components of the Project	Percentage of Progress		
		Barrage	Main Canal	Distributaries
1.	Teesta Barrage, Mahananda Barrage and Dauk Barrage	100%	—	—
2.	Teesta Mahananda Canal	—	100%	85%
3.	Mahananda Main Canal	—	100%	63%
4.	Dauk Nagar Main Canal	—	85%	33%
5.	Teesta Jaldhaka Main Canal	—	83%	12%
6.	Nagar Tangon Main Canal	—	Nil	Nil

The target date of completion of different components of the project under 1st sub-stage of the 1st stage of the 1st phase is March, 2010 as reported by the State Government.

locations of Doordarshan Studio centres (64 nos.) and transmitters (1398) and All India Radio Stations (225 nos. comprising 361 transmitters) are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

#### Functioning of Prasar Bharati

2785. SHRI K. VIRUPAKSHAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of units of Prasar-Bharati in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether some of such units are not functioning in certain States/locations;

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

(d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard/

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) State-wise

(b) to (d) All the 64 Studio centres in Doordarshan Network are functional. Two additional Studio centres at Calicut (Kerala) and Rajouri (Jammu and Kashmir) are technically ready and these are yet to be operationalised. These two Studio centres can be operationalised after the requisite staff is sanctioned and deployed. 53 transmitters, out of total 1398 transmitters in Doordarshan network, are presently relaying partial transmission due to non-availability of adequate manpower. Staff for operation and maintenance of a large number of Doordarshan stations has not been sanctioned and these have been operationalised by providing limited staff by way of redeployment. In case of All India Radio all the transmitters/installations are functional except for 1000 kW MW transmitter at Rajkot which is expected to be replaced by September, 2009 and two 250 kW SW transmitters at Aligarh are shut for want of spares which are expected to be provided by November, 2007.

**Statement-I***Doordarshan Studio Centres***Assam**

Guwahati

PPC, Guwahati

Dibrugarh

Silchar

**Andhra Pradesh**

Hyderabad

Vijaywada

Warangal

**Arunachal Pradesh**

Itanagar

**Bihar**

Patna

Muzaffarpur

**Chhattisgarh**

Jagdalpur

Raipur

**Goa**

Panaji

**Gujarat**

Ahemdabad

Rajkot

**Haryana**

Hissar

**Himachal Pradesh**

Shimla

**Jharkhand**

Ranchi

Daltonganj

**Jammu and Kashmir**

Srinagar

Jammu

Leh

**Kerala**

Trivandrum

Trichur

**Karnatka**

Bangalore

Gulbarga

**Madhya Pradesh**

Bhopal

Indore

Gwalior

**Meghalaya**

Shillong

Tura

**Maharashtra**

Mumbai

Nagpur

Pune

**Manipur**

Imphal

**Mizoram**

Aizawl

**Nagaland**

Kohima

**Orissa**

Bhubaneshwar

Bhawanipatna

Sambalpur

**Punjab**

Jalandhar

Patiala

**Rajasthan**

Jaipur

**Sikkim**

Gangtok

**Tamil Nadu**

Chennai

Coimbatore

Madurai

**Tripura**

Agartala

**Uttar Pradesh**

Lucknow

Gorakhpur

Bareilly

Mau

Allahabad

Varanasi

Mathura

**Uttaranchal**

Dehradun

**West Bengal**

Kolkata

Shantiniketan

Jalpaiguri

**Delhi**

Delhi

CPC, Delhi

**Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

Port Blair

**Pondicherry**

Pondicherry

**Chandigarh**

Chandigarh

*Doordarshan Transmitters (as on 14.03.07)***Andhara Pradesh****Total trans.-105****HPTs (13)**

Anantapur	Rajamundry	Warangal
Hyderabad	Tirupati	Hyderabad (DD News)
Kurnool	Vijaywada	Vijaywada (DD News)
Nandyal	Vishakhapatnam	Vishakhapatnam (DD News)
Rajamundry (DD News)		

**LPTs (81)**

Achampet	Karimnagar	Punganur
Adilabad	Kavali	Rajampet
Adoni	Khammam	Ramagundam
Alagadda	Kolhapur	Siddipet
Amalapuram	Kosgi	Sirisilla
Banswada	Kothagudam	Sirpur
Belampally	Kuppam	Srikakulam
Bhadrachalam	L.R. Pally	Talakondapally
Bhainsa	Macherla	Tamblapalli
Bheemadolu	Machilipatnam	Tandur
Bheemavaram	Madnapalli	Tekkali
Bobbili	Madugula	Tirupati
Chitoor	Mandassa	Tuni
Cuddapah	Markapur	Udaigiri
Darsi	Medak	Veldanda
Devarkonda	Mehboobnagar	Vemalvada
Emmiganur	Miryalaguda	Vinukonda

Gadwal	Nagar Karnul	Vishakhapatanam
Giddalur	Nalgonda	Wanaparthy
Guntakal	Narayanpet	Yellandu
Hindupur	Nellore	Zahirabad.
Jadcherla	Nirmal	Atmakur (DD News)
Jagtial	Nizamabad	Kakinada (DD News)
Kadiri	Ongole	Narsaraopet (DD News)
Kakinada	Pedapalli	Nellore (DD News)
Kamareddy	Proddutur	Pedanandipadu (DD News)
Kandukur	Pulamaner	Vishakhapatnam (DD News)
<b>VLPTs (RLS) (10)</b>		
Chintapalli	Madipardu	Seetampeta
Duttalur	Maripadu	Srisalem
Ichchapuram	Paderu	
Kanigiri	Parwatipuram	
<b>Transposer (1)</b>		
Vijaywada		
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 46</b>		
<b>HPT (2)</b>		
Itanagar	Itanagar (DD News)	
<b>LPTs (3)</b>		
Miao	Passighat	Tezu
<b>VLPTs (40)</b>		
Along	Gensi	Palin
Barrijo	Hawai	Raga
Besar	Hayuliang	Roing

Boleng	Hunli	Rupa
Bomdilla	Inkiyong	Sagalee
Changlang	Lalaktang	Sangram
Chayangtajo	Khimyong	Seijosa
Daporizo	Khonsa	Seppa
Darak	Mariyang	Taliha
Deomali	Mechuka	Tawang
Dirang	Mukto	Tirbin
Etalin	Nampong	Tuting
Geku	Namsai	Yomcha
		Ziro

**Transposer (1)**

Sankhiview

**Assam****Total trans. - 29****HPTs (5)**

Dibrugarh	Silchar	Silchar (DD News)
Guwahati	Guwahati (DD News)	

**LPTs (22)**

Bokakhat	Hatsinghari	Nazira
Bongaigaon	Hojai	North Lakhimpur
Dhubri	Jorhat	Satrasal
Diphu	Kokrajhar	Sonari
Goalpara	Lumding	Tezpur
Gohpur	Margheritta	Tinsukhia
Golaghat	Nagaon	Dibrugarh (DD News)
Hafiong		

**VLPT (1)**

Digboi

**Transposer (1)**

Guwahati

Bihar

Total trans.-42

**HPTs (5)**

Katihar

Patna

Muzaffarpur (DD News)

Muzaffarpur

Patna (DD News)

**LPTs (35)**

Aurangabad

Jamui

Rosera

Banka

Khagaria

Saharsa

Begusarai

Kishanganj

Sasaram

Bettiah

Lakhisarai

Sheikhpura

Bhabhua

Madhepura

Sikandra

Bhagalpur

Madhubani

Simri Bakhtiarpur

Buxar

Motihari

Sitamarhi

Darbhanga

Monghyr

Siwan

Daudnagar

Nawada

Supaul

Forbesganj

Phoolparas

Gaya (DD News)

Gaya

Ramnagar

Darbhanga (DD News)

Gopalganj

Raxaul

**VLPTs (2)**

Masrakh

Marhaura

**Chhattisgarh**

Total trans. - 28

**HPTs (4)**

Jagdalpur

Ambikapur

Raipur

Raipur (DD News)

**LPTs (16)**

Bailadilla	Konta	Pendra Road
Bilaspur	Korba	Raigarh
Champa	Kurasia	Rajhara Jharandili
Dungargarh	Manindergarh	Sakti
Kanker	Narayanpur	
Kharod	Pandaria	

**VLPTs (8)**

Bijapur	Kondagaon	Pathalgaon
Devbhog	Koylibeda	Sarangarh
Jashpurnagar	Pakhanjore	

**Goa****Total trans. - 2****HPTs (2)**

Panaji	Panaji (DD News)
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**Gujarat****Total trans.- 70****HPTs (10)**

Ahmedabad	Surat	Surat (DD News)
Bhuj	Vadodra (int.)	Vadodra (DD News) (int.)
Dwarka	Ahmedabad (DD News)	
Rajkot	Rajkot (DD News)	

**LPTs (57)**

Ahwa	Idar	Punandro (Mobile)
Ambaji	Jamjodhpur	Radhanpur
Amod	Jamnagar	Rajpipla
Amreli	Jhagadia	Rajula

Bantva	Junagarh	Rapar
Bhabbar	Kevadia Colony	Sanjeti
Bharuch	Khambalia	Shamlaji
Bhavnagar	Khambat	Songarh
Botad	Limbdi	Surendranagar
Chhota Udaipur	Lunawada	Tharad
Dediapara	Mahuva	Umernagar
Deesa	Mangrol (Junagarh)	Una
Devgadh Baria	Mangrol (Surat)	Valsad
Dhandhukha	Mehsana	Veraval
Dharangadhra	Modassa	Gandhinagar (DD News)
Dhari	Morvi	Bhavnagar (DD News)
Dharmpur	Palanpur	Jamnagar (DD News)
Dhorajee	Palitana	
Dohad	Patan	
Godhara	Porbander	
VLPTs (RLS) (3)		
Kakrapar	Netrang	Sagwara
Haryana		
Total trans. - 23		
HPT (1)		
Karnal		
LPTs (22)		
Bhiwani	Meham	Bhiwani (DD News)
Charkhi Dadri	Narnaul	Hissar (DD News)
Fatehabad	Rewari	Karnal (DD News)
Firozpur Jhirka	Rohtak	Kurukshetra (DD News)

Hissar	Sirsa	Mandi Dabwali (DD News)
Jind	Tohana	Narnaul (DD News)
Kaithal	Ambala (DD News)	Yamunanagar (DD News)
Mahendergarh		
Himachal Pradesh		
Total trans. - 54		
HPTs (4)		
Kasauli	Shimla (DD News)	
Shimla	Kasauli (DD News)	
LPTs (9)		
Bilaspur	Manali	Sunder Nagar
Dharamshala	Mandi	Sujanpur
Kullu	Rampur	Mandi (DD News)
VLPTs (39)		
Ajhu Fort	Dalhausi	Nehri
Ashapuri	Diar	Nichar
Awah Devi	Hamirpur	Palampur
Baijnath	Holi	Parwanoo
Bandla	Jahalma	Pirbhayanu
Banjar	Jatingiri (Phooladhar)	Rohru
Bharmour	Jogindernagar	Sarkaghat
Bharthi	Kaja	Shivbadar
Bijli Mahadev	Kalpa	Thanedar
Chamba	Karsog	Tissa
Chaupal	Keylong	Udaipur
Chauri Khas	Khara Pathar	Una
Chirgaon	Kotkhai	Veer

**Transposers (2)**

Rajgarh Solan

Jharkhand

Total trans. - 27

**HPTs (5)**

Daltonganj Jamshedpur Ranchi (DD News)

Ranchi Jamshedpur (DD News)

**LPTs (19)**

Barharwa Giridh Mushabani

Bokaro Godda Noamundy

Chaibasa Gumla Saraikella

Deoghar Hazaribag Chatra

Dhanbad Kodarma Bokaro (DD News)

Dumka Lohardaga Dhanbad (DD News)

Ghatahila

**VLPT (3)**

Simdega Ramgarh Hill Garhwa (DD News)

**Jammu and Kashmir**

Total trans. - 125

**HPTs (19)**

Jammu Samba Srinagar (DD News)

Kathua Gurez Gurez (DD News)

Leh Tithwal Srinagar (Kashir Ch.)

Poonch Jammu (DD News) Tithwal (Kashir Ch.)

Srinagar Naushera (DD News) Kupwara (Kashir Ch.) (int.)

Kupwara (int.) Samba (DD News) Poonch (Kashir Ch.)

Naushera

**LPTs (19)**

Anantnag (mobile) (RLS)

Pattan (mobile) (RIs)

Wusan (mobile) (RIs)

Bandipore (mobile) (RLS)

Patnitop (mobile)

Udhampur

Chowkibal (mobile) (RLS)

Quazigund (mobile) (RIs)

Uri (mobile) (RIs)

Darhal (mobile)

Sonarwani (mobile) (RIs)

Baramulla (mobile) (DD News)

Kulgam (mobile) (RLS)

Poonch

Kathua (DD News)

Kargil

Rajouri

Leh (DD News)

Riasi

**VLPTs (86)**

Abran

Hira Nagar

Panamik

Ardh Kumari

Ichar

Panicker

Arnas

Jajjar Kotti

Poni

Ashmuqam (RLS)

Kalakot

Pulwama (RIs)

Bani

Kangan (RIs)

Ramban

Banihal

Khalsi

Ramkot

Baramulla (RLS)

Khaltai

Ramnagar

Basgo

Khrew (RIs)

Ringdom Gompa

Basoli

Kishtwar

Sakti

Batalik

Kotranka

Sanasar

Batot

Kud

Sankoo

Bhadarwa

Lati

Shopian (RIs)

Bilawar

Lolab Valley (RIs)

Siachin (Basecamp)

Bodh Khurboo

Loran

Sonmarg (RIs)

Boniya (RIs)

Machil (RIs)

Sudh-Mahadev

Budhal

Mahore

Tangmarg

Chakroi

Mandi

Tangste

Chanani

Manigam (RIs)

Tatapani

Chumathang	Manjakot	Thanamandi
Chushul	Mansur	Thathri
Dah	Mendhar	Tilel
Daskit	Mohra (Rls)	Timsogam
Dhar	Mulbekh	Tral (Rls)
Doda	Nagrota	Turtok
Domchuk	Nyema	Uri
Dras	Nimu	Yusmarg (Rls)
Fatula	Nowgam (Rls)	Zangla
Gujjaron Nagrota	Padam	Kargil (Rls)
Hanle	Pahaigam (Rls)	
<b>Transposer (1)</b>		
Surankot		
<b>Karnataka</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 68</b>		
<b>HPTs (12)</b>		
Bangalore	Hassan	Bangalore (DD News)
Dhaewad	Mangalore	Guibarga (DD News)
Guibarga	Mysore	Dharwad (DD News)
Shimoga	Raichur	Mysore (DD News)
<b>LPTs (49)</b>		
Ansikere	Gangawati	Mundargi
Athani	Gokak	Pavagada
Bagalkot	Harphanhalli	Puttur
Bantwal	Hattihal	Ramadurg
Basava Kalyan	Hiriyur	Ranibennur
Belgaum	Holenarsipur	Sagar

Bellary	Hosdurg	Sandur
Belthangadi	Hospet	Sindhur
Bhatkal	Hungond	Sirsi
Bidar	Indi	Talikota
Bijapur	Karwar	Tiptur
Chickmagalur	Kolar Gold Field	Tumkur
Chikodi	Koppa	Udipi
Chitradurga	Kumta	Bellary (DD News)
Dandell	Medikeri	Davangere (DD News)
Davangere	Mudhol	
Gadag Betgari	Mudigere	
<b>VLPTs (RLS) (7)</b>		
Badami	Madhugiri	Sringeri
Huvin Hippargi	Sakleshpur	Sulya
Kudligi		
<b>Kerala</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 33</b>		
<b>HPTs (7)</b>		
Calicut	Cannanore (int.)	Cochin (DD News)
Cochin	Calicut (DD News)	Trivandrum (DD News)
Trivandrum		
<b>LPTs (22)</b>		
Adoor	Kayamkulam	Punalur
Attapadi	Kottarakara	Shoranur
Changanacherry	Mallapuram	Tellicherry
Chengannur	Manjeri	Thodupuzha
Idukki	Pala	Trichur

Kalpetta

Palghat

Cannanore (DD News)

Kanhargarh

Pathanamthitta

Trichur (DD News)

Kasargod

VLPTs (RLS) (4)

Devikolam

Kanjirapalli

Eratuppeta

Mundakayam

Madhya Pradesh

Total trans. - 78

HPTs (10)

Bhopal

Shahdol

Indore (DD News)

Gwalior

Guna

Jabalpur (DD News)

Indore

Bhopal (DD News)

Gwalior (DD News)

Jabalpur

LPTs (63)

Agar

Harda

Nagda

Alirajpur

Itarsi

Narsimhapur

Ashoknagar

Jaora

Neemuch

Bada Malhera

Jhabua

Panchmarhi

Badwani

Karaira

Panna

Balaghat

Kelas

Piparia

Bareilly

Khandwa

Raghogarh

Betul

Khargaon

Rajgarh

Bhander

Khurai

Ratlam

Bhanpura

Kukdeswar

Rewa

Bhind

Kukshi

Sagar

Bijaipur

Kurwai

Satna

Burhanpur

Lahar

Seoni

Chanderi	Lakhnadon	Shajapur
Chhatrapur	Maihar	Sheopur
Chhindwara	Malanjikhand	Shivpuri
Damoh	Mandla	Sidhi
Datia	Mandsaur	Sindhwa
Gadarwara	Multai	Singrauli
Garot	Murwara	Sironj
Sitamau	Tikamgarh	Ujjain

**VLPTs (5)**

Alot	Diamond Mining Proj.	Singrauli
Budhni	Parasia	

**Maharashtra****Total trans. - 123****HPTs (14)**

Ambajogai	Pune	Pune (DD News)
Aurangabad	Ratnagiri	Aurangabad (DD News)
Chandrapur	Jalgaon (int.)	Ambajogai (DD News)
Mumbai	Mumbai (DD News)	Mumbai (Digital)
Nagpur	Nagpur (DD News)	

**LPTs (89)**

Achalpur	Ichalkaranji	Rajapur
Acot	Jalna	Raver
Aheri	Kankauli	Rissod
Ahmednagar	Karad	Sangamner
Akalkot	Karanja	Sangli
Akluj	Khamgaon	Satana
Akola	Khanapur	Satara

Amalner	Khopoli	Shahad
Amravati	Kinwat	Shirdi
Arvi	Kolhapur	Shirpur
Badlapur	Mahad	Sholapur
Barshi	Malegaon	Sironcha
Bhamragad	Mangal Wedha	Tumsar
Bhusawal	Mangaon	Umerga
Bid	Manmad	Umerkhed
Brahampuri	Mehekar	Wani
Buldana	Mhasle	Wardha
Chandur	Morshi	Washim
Chikhli	Nanded	Yavatmal
Chiplun	Nandurbar	Akola (DD News)
Daryapur	Nasik	Amravati (DD News)
Deorukh	Navapur	Bhandara (DD News)
Dhadgaon	Osmanabad	Dhule (DD News)
Dharmabad	Pandharkawada	Kothapur (DD News)
Dhule	Pandharpur	Malegaon (DD News)
Diglur	Parbhani	Nanded (DD News)
Garhchiroli	Patan (Satara)	Nasik (DD News)
Gondia	Phaltan	Sangli (DD News)
Hinganghat	Pulgaon	Sholapur (DD News)
Hingoli	Pusad	
<b>VLPTs (RLS) (20)</b>		
Ambet	Karanja (Wardha)	Pimpalner-Sakri
Arjuni	Karjat	Sakoli
Ashti	Khed	Sindewahi

Bhokar

Koregaon

Tiwsa

Chikaldhara

Kurkheda

Vasantgarh

Chimur

Malkapur

Wai

Junnar

Malwan

**Manipur****Total trans.-8****HPT (3)**

Imphal

Churachandpur

Imphal (DD News)

**LPT (1)**

Ukhrul

**VLPTs (4)**

Chandel

Moreh

Kangpokpi

Senapati

**Meghalaya****Total trans.-10****HPTs (4)**

Shillong

Tura (DD News)

Tura

Shillong (DD News)

**LPTs (3)**

Jowai

Williamnagar

Cherapunji

**VLPTs (2)**

Baghmara

Nongstoin

**Transposer (1)**

Shillong

**Mizoram****Total trans.-8****HPTs (3)**

Aizwai

Lunglei

Aizwai (DD News)

**LPT (2)**

Lawngtlai Lunglei (DD News)

**VLPTs (2)**

Champhai Saiha

**Transposer (1)**

Aizwal

**Nagaland**

Total trans.-14

**HPTs (3)**

Kohima Mokokchung Kohima (DD News)

**LPTs (3)**

Dimapur Tuensang Mokokchung (DD News)

**VLPTs (6)**

Mon Satakha Wokha

Phek Shamtori Zunheboto

**Transposers (2)**

Kohima Bara Basti

**Orissa**

Total trans.-95

**HPTs (7)**

Baleshwar Sambalpur Cuttack (DD News)

Bhawanipatna Berhampur Sambalpur (DD News)

Cuttack

**LPTs (89)**

Anandpur Jeypore Patnagarh

Angul Joda Phulbani

Athamalik Kabisuryanagar Puri

Bahalda	Kamakhyanagar	Rairangpur
Balangir	Karanjia	Rajgangapur
Baligurha	Keonjharagarh	Rajranapur
Banapur	Khandpara	Rayagada
Bargarh	Khariar	Redhakhol
Baripada	Koraput	Rourkela
Bhedrak	Kotpad	Simlguda
Bhanjanagar	Kuchinda	Sohela
Bhuban	Lutherpunk	Sonepur
Bimitrapur	Malkangiri	Sundergarh
Bonai	Mohana	Talcher
Boudh	Narsinghpur	Tushara
Brajrajnagar	Navrangpur	Umerkote
Chikti	Nuapara	Baleshwar (DD News)
Dasrathpur	Nadampur	Baliapal (DD News)
Deogarh	Padmapuram	Bhubneshwar (DD News)
Dhenkanal	Padua	Dhenkanal (DD News)
Durgapur	Pallahara	Dudharkot (DD News)
G. Udaigiri	Paradeep	Kendrapara (DD News)
Gondiya	Parlakhemundi	Tirtol (DD News)
<b>VLPTs (18)</b>		
Aul-RIs	Koksara-RIs	Sabdega-RIs
Bada Barbil-RIs	Lanjigarh-RIs	Simlipalgarh-RIs
Chittrakonda-RIs	Machhkund-RIs	Sukinda-RIs
Jayapatna-RIs	Nagchi-RIs	Thoumal Rampur-RIs
Kalampur-RIs	Nayagarh-RIs	Rourkela (DD News)
Kashipur-RIs	Paikamal-RIs	Lalitgiri (DD News)

**Transposer (1)**

Sunabeda

**Punjab**

Total trans.-13

**HPTs (7)**

Amritsar

Jalandhar

Jalandhar (DD News)

Bhatinda

Fazilka

Amritsar (DD News) (int.)

Bhatinda (DD News)

**LPTs (5)**

Abohar

Gurdaspur

Patiala

Firozpur

Pathankot

**Transposer (1)**

Talwara

**Rajasthan**

Total trans.-99

**HPTs (10)**

Barmer (int.)

Jodpur

Bundi (DD News)

Bundi

Ajmer

Jaipur (DD News)

Jaipur

Ajmer (DD News)

Jodhpur (DD News)

Jaisalmer

**LPTs (70)**

Alwar

Jhalawar

Rajgarh (Churu)

Anupgarh

Jhunjhunu

Ratangarh

Bali

Karanpur

Rawatsar

Banswara

Karauli

Sagwara

Baran

Kesriaji

Salumber

Bari Sadri

Khajuwala

Sardarshahr

Barmer	Khetri	Sawaimadhopur
Basava	Kishnagarh-Vas (Alwar)	Shahpura
Bhadra	Kotputli	Sikar
Bharatpur	Kushalgarh	Sirohi
Bhilwara	Makrana	Sojat
Bhinmal	Mount Abu	Sridungargarh
Bikaner	Nagar	Sujargarh
Chirawa	Nagaur	Suratgarh
Chittaurgarh	Nathdwara	Taranagar
Churu	Navalgarh	Tonk
Deeg	Nohar	Udaipur
Dungarpur	Nokha	Vallabh Nagar
Ganganagar	Pali	Alwar (DD News)
Gangapur (S.M. Pur)	Phalodi	Bansi (DD News)
Hanumangarh	Pilani	Bikaner (DD News)
Hindaun	Pirawa	Udaipur (DD News)
Jaisalmer	Pratapgarh	
Jalore	Raisinghnagar	
<b>VLPT (17)</b>		
Amet	Gangapur (Bhilwara)	Rajgarh (Alwar)
Andhi	Kotra	Rawatbhata
Bhim	Kumbhalgarh	Sikrai
Chaumahla	Laxmangarh	Tibi
Deogarh	Mandalgarh	Viratnagar
Fatehpur	Neem Ka Thana	

**Transposers (2)**

Jamua Ramgarh

Lalsot

Sikkim

Total trans.- 8

**HPTs (2)**

Gangtok

Gangtok (DD News)

**VLPTs (6)**

Gyalshing

Namchi

Singtam

Mangan

Rangpo

Zorethang

Tamil Nadu

Total trans. - 71

**HPTs (10)**

Chennai

Kumbakonam (int.)

Kodaikanal (DD News)

Kodaikanal

Dharmapuri (int.)

Chennai (Podigai channel)

Rameshwaram

Chennai (DD News)

Chennai (Digital)

Tirunelveli

**LPTs (53)**

Arani

Nagapattinam

Tiruvannamalai

Ambasamudram

Nagarcoil

Tuticorin

Ambur

Nattam

Udagamandalam

Arcot

Neyveli

Udumalpet

Attur

Palani

Vandavasi

Cheyyar

Pattukottai

Vaniyambadi

Chidambaram

Peranampet

Vellore

Coimbatore

Pollachi

Villupuram

Coonoor

Pudukotai

Coimbatore (DD News)

Courtalam	Rajapalayam	Erode (DD News)
Cuddalore	Salem	Madurai (DD News)
Denkanikotta	Shankarankovil	Salem (DD News)
Erode	Thanjavur	Tiruchirapalli (DD News)
Gudiyatam	Thiruvaiyaru	Tirunelveli (DD News)
Kallakurchi	Tindivanam	Tirupattur (DD News)
Krishnagiri	Tiruchendur	Tuticorin (DD News)
Marthandam	Tiruchirapalli	Vellore (DD News)
Mayuram	Tirupattur	
<b>VLPTs (RLS) (7)</b>		
Gingee	Tiruvanamalai	Valparai
Kachipuram	Valliur	Vaza Padi
Mettupalayam		
<b>Transposers (1)</b>		
Dindigul		
Tripura		
<b>Total trans. - 10</b>		
<b>HPT (2)</b>		
Agartala	Agartala (DD News)	
<b>LPTs (6)</b>		
Ambasa	Amarpur	Jolaibari
Kailasahar	Teliamura	Kailasahar (DD News)
<b>VLPT (1)</b>		
Dharma Nagar		
<b>Transposer (1)</b>		
Bellonia		

**Uttar Pradesh****Total trans. - 84****HPTs (18)**

Agra	Mau	Allahabad (DD News)
Allahabad	Varanasi	Bareilly (DD News)
Bareilly	Banda	Gorakhpur (DD News)
Gorakhpur	Lakhimpur	Kanpur (DD News)
Kanpur	Faizabad	Lucknow (DD News)
Lucknow	Agra (DD News)	Varanasi (DD News)

**LPTs (62)**

Akbarpur	Jagdishpur	Raebareli
Aligarh	Jhansi	Rampur
Amroha	Karwi	Rath
Athdama	Kasganj	Rudauli
Auraiya	Kosi	Sambhal
Bahraich	Lalganj (Raebareli)	Shahjahanpur
Ballia	Lalitpur	Sikanderpur
Balrampur	Mahoba	Sultanpur
Basti	Mahroni	Talbehat
Bidhuna	Mainpuri	Thirwa
Chhibramau	Mau Ranipur	Mathura
Deoria	Mohammadabad	Aligarh (DD News)
Dudhinagar	Moradabad	Azamgarh (DD News)
Etah	Nanpara	Jhansi (DD News)
Etawah	Narora	Lalganj (Pratapgarh) (DD News)
Farrukhabad	Naugarh	Mau (DD News)
Fatehpur	Obra	Moradabad (DD News)

Ganj Dundwara	Orai	Rampur (DD News)
Gauriganj	Pilibhit	Rasra (DD News)
Gonda	Puranpur	Shahjahanpur (DD News)
Hardoi		Sultanpur (DD News)
<b>VLPTs (4)</b>		
Khubia Nangal	Mankapur	
Manikpur	Thakurdwara (DD News)	
<b>Uttaranchal</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 53</b>		
<b>HPTs (2)</b>		
Mussoorie	Mussoorie (DD News)	
<b>LPTs (16)</b>		
Bachher	Kashipur	New Tehri
Champawat	Khetikhan	Pauri
Dak Pathar	Kotdwar	Pithoragarh
Haldwani	Naini Danda	Tanakpur
Haridwar	Nainital	Khetikhan (DD News)
Kalagarh		
<b>VLPTs (33)</b>		
Aimora	Dugadda	Munsiari
Aroli (Banoli)	Fata	Nandprayag
Badrinath	Gajja	Naugaonkhal
Bageshwar	Ghandyal	Okhimath
Basot	Gopeshwar	Pokhri
Bhatiari	Joshimath	Pratapnagar
Chaukhatia	Kaljikhal	Rajgrahi
Devprayag	Karan Prayag	Ranikhet

Dewal	Kausani	Ruderprayag
Dharchula	Maneshwar	Tharali
Didihat	Manila	Uttarakashi
<b>Transposers (2)</b>		
Mussoorie	Srinagar	
<b>West Bengal</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 35</b>		
<b>HPTs (13)</b>		
Asansol	Shantiniketan	Asansol (DD News)
Kolkata	Balurghat (int.)	Kolkata (DD News)
Krishnanagar	Kharagpur (int.)	Kolkata (Bangla channel)
Kurseong	Murshidabad (DD News)	Kolkata (Digital)
Murshidabad		
<b>LPTs (21)</b>		
Alipurduar	Darjeeling	Maldah
Baghmandi	Farakka	Medinipur
Balrampur	Garhbeta	Puruliya
Bardhaman	Jhalda	Ranaghat
Bishnupur	Jhargram	Rayna
Contai	Kalimpong	Shantiniketan (DD News)
Cooch Bihar	Kalna	Basanti (DD News)
<b>VLPTs (RLS) (1)</b>		
Egra		
<b>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</b>		
<b>Total trans. - 14</b>		
<b>LPTs (3)</b>		
Car Nicobar	Port Blair	Port Blair (DD News)

**VLPTs (11)**

Baratang	Hutbay	Nancowry
Campbel Bay	Kalighat	Rangat
Diglipur	Katchal	Swaraj Gram
Havelock	Mayabunder	

**Chandigarh****Total trans. - 1****LPTs (1)**

Chandigarh

**Dadra and Nagar Haveli****Total trans. - 1****LPT (1)**

Silvassa

**Daman and Diu****Total trans. - 2****LPTs (2)**Daman Diu**Delhi****Total trans. - 3****HPTs (3)**Delhi Delhi (DD News) Selhi (Digital)**Lakshadweep****Total trans. -10****LPT (1)**

Kavaratti

**VLPTs (9)**Agatti (RIs) Chetlat (RIs) Kilton (RIs)

Amini (RIs)

Kadmat (RIs)

Minicoiy

Andrott (RIs)

Kalpeni (RIs)

Kavaratti (DD News)

**Pondicherry**

Total trans. - 6

HPT (1)

Pondicherry (int.)

LPTs (3)

Karaikal

Pondicherry

Pondicherry (DD News)

VLPTs (2)

Mahe

Yanam (RLS)

**RLS: Regional Language Service****Statement-II***All India Radio***Existing A.I.R. Stations as on 14.3.2007**

Total Stations—225

S.No. State and Places

1 2

**Andhra Pradesh**

1. Adilabad
2. Anantapur
3. Cuddapah
4. Hyderabad
5. Kothagudam
6. Kurnool
7. Merkapuram

1 2

8. Nizamabad
  9. Tirupathi
  10. Vijayawada
  11. Vishakhapatnam
  12. Warangal
- Arunachal Pradesh**
13. Itanagar
  14. Passighat
  15. Tawang
  16. Tezu
  17. Ziro
- Assam**
18. Dibrugarh

1	2	1	2
19.	Diphu		<b>Gujarat</b>
20.	Guwahati	40.	Ahmedabad
21.	Jorhat	41.	Ahwa
22.	Dhubri	42.	Bhuj
23.	Haflong	43.	Godhra
24.	Kokrajhar	44.	Rajkot
25.	Nowgong	45.	Surat
26.	Silchar	46.	Vadodra
27.	Tezpur	47.	Himmatnagar
	<b>Biher</b>		<b>Haryana</b>
28.	Bhagalpur	48.	Hissar
29.	Darbhange	49.	Kurukshetra
30.	Patna	50.	Rohtak
31.	Purnea		<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
32.	Sasaram	51.	Dharamshala
	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	52.	Hamirpur
33.	Ambikapur	53.	Kasauli
34.	Bilaspur	54.	Kullu
35.	Jagdaipur	55.	Kinnaur (Kalpa)
36.	Raigarh	56.	Simla
37.	Raipur		<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>
38.	Saraipalli	57.	Bhadarwah
	<b>Goa</b>	58.	Jammu
39.	Panaji	59.	Khalsi

1	2	1	2
60.	Kargil	82.	Hassan
61.	Kathua	83.	Hospet
62.	Kupwara	84.	Karwar
63.	Leh	85.	Mangalore/Udipi
64.	Naushera	86.	Mercara
65.	Poonch	87.	Mysore
66.	Rajouri	88.	Raichur
67.	Srinagar		<b>Kerala</b>
68.	Drass	89.	Alleppey
69.	Tiesuru	90.	Calicut
	<b>Jharkhand</b>	91.	Trichur
70.	Chaibasa	92.	Trivandrum
71.	Daltonganj	93.	Cochin
72.	Hazaribagh	94.	Cannanore
73.	Jamshedpur	95.	Idukki (Devikulam)
74.	Ranchi	96.	Manjeri
	<b>Karnataka</b>		<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
75.	Bhadrawati	97.	Balaghat
76.	Bangalore	98.	Betul
77.	Bellary	99.	Bhopal
78.	Bijapur	100.	Chhatarpur
79.	Chitradurg	101.	Chhindwara
80.	Dharwad	102.	Guna
81.	Gulbarga	103.	Gwalior

1	2	1	2
104.	Indore	127.	Pune
105.	Jabalpur	128.	Ratnagiri
106.	Khandwa	129.	Sangli
107.	Rewa	130.	Satara
108.	Sagar	131.	Sholapur
109.	Shahdol	132.	Yeotmal
110.	Shivpuri		<b>Manipur</b>
111.	Mandla	133.	Imphal
112.	Rajgarh		<b>Meghalaya</b>
	<b>Maharashtra</b>	134.	Jowai
113.	Ahmednagar	135.	Shillong
114.	Akola	136.	Tura
115.	Aurangabad	137.	Williamnagar
116.	Beed	138.	Nongstoin
117.	Chandrapur		<b>Mizoram</b>
118.	Dhule	139.	Aizawl
119.	Jalgaon	140.	Lungleh
120.	Kolhapur	141.	Saiha
121.	Mumbai		<b>Nagaland</b>
122.	Nagpur	142.	Kohima
123.	Nanded	143.	Mokokchung
124.	Nasik	144.	Mon
125.	Osmanabad	145.	Tuensang
126.	Parbhani		

1	2	1	2
	<b>Orissa</b>	167.	Churu
146.	Baripada	168.	Jaipur
147.	Berhampur	169.	Jaisalmer
148.	Bhawanipatna	170.	Jhalawar
149.	Bolangir	171.	Jodhpur
150.	Cuttack	172.	Kota
151.	Jeypore	173.	Mount Abu
152.	Joranda	174.	Nageur
153.	Keonjhar	175.	Suratgarh
154.	Puri	176.	Swai Madhopur
155.	Rourkela	177.	Udaipur
156.	Sambalpur		<b>Sikkim</b>
157.	Deogarh	178.	Gangtok
	<b>Punjab</b>		<b>Tamil Nadu</b>
158.	Bhatinda	179.	Chennai
159.	Jalandhar	180.	Coimbatore
160.	Patiala	181.	Kodaikanal
	<b>Rajasthan</b>	182.	Madurai
161.	Ajmer	183.	Nagarcoil
162.	Alwar	184.	Oottacamund
163.	Banswara	185.	Tiruchirapalli
164.	Barmer	186.	Tirunelveli
165.	Bikaner	187.	Tuticorin
166.	Chittorgarh	188.	Yercaud (Salem)

1	2	1	2
	<b>Tripura</b>	210.	Rampur
189.	Agartala	211.	Varanasi
190.	Belonia		<b>West Bengal</b>
191.	Kailashahar	212.	Kolkata
	<b>Uttaranchal</b>	213.	Kurseong
192.	Almora	214.	Murshidabad
193.	Gopeshwar (Chamoli)	215.	Shantiniketan
194.	Mussoorie	216.	Siliguri
195.	Pauri	217.	Asansole
196.	Pithoragarh	218.	Darjeeling
197.	Uttarkashi		<b>Union Territories</b>
	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	219.	Chandigarh
198.	Agra	220.	Daman
199.	Aligarh	221.	Delhi
200.	Allahabad	222.	Kavaratti
201.	Bareilly	223.	Pondicherry
202.	Faizabad	224.	Karaikal (Pondicherry)
203.	Gorakhpur	225.	Port Blair (Andaman and Nicobar)
204.	Jhansi		
205.	Kanpur		
206.	Lucknow		
207.	Mathura		
208.	Najibabad		
209.	Obra		

[Translation]

**National Water Development Agency**

2786. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has sought an outlay of Rupees 250 crores for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of feasibility reports submitted so far by the agency alongwith the details thereof; and

(c) The number of such reports implemented so far alongwith the Year-wise/State-wise details of the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has sought an outlay of Rs. 241 crore for the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) Out of the 30 links identified for preparation of feasibility reports under National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development (16 Peninsular and 14 Himalayan), NWDA has prepared feasibility reports (FRs) for 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 under Himalayan Component (Indian portion only). The name the links are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The implementation of Interlinking of rivers depends upon the consensus and cooperation of the States. Consensus has been arrived for one priority link namely Ken-Betwa for which Govt. of MP, Govt. of UP and Govt. of India signed a tripartite MoU on 25 August, 2005 for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR). NWDA has incurred expenditure amounting to Rs. 19.7 crore for 2003-04, Rs. 21.3 crore for 2004-05 and Rs. 17 crore for 2005-06 for carrying out various studies pertaining to Inter basin water transfers including preparation of DPR of Ken-Betwa link. The expenditure is not booked State-wise by NWDA.

#### **Statement**

#### *Name of the Links with Feasibility Report Completed*

#### **Peninsular Rivers Development Component**

1. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link
2. Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link

3. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link
4. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link
5. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link
6. Krishna (Srisailam) - Pennar link
7. Krishna (Almatti) - Pennar link
8. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link
9. Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai - Gundar link
10. Parbati - Kalisindh - Chambal link
11. Damanganga - Pinjal link
12. Par - Tapi - Narmada link
13. Ken - Betwa link
14. Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link

#### **Himalayan Rivers Development Component**

1. Ghaghra-Yamina link
2. Sarada-Yamuna link

[English]

#### **Production of Steel**

2787. SHRI B. MAHTAB :

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the target set by various steel plants for production of different kinds of steel during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the actual achievement made by each steel plant in that plan period;

(c) whether the Government has a proposal to make all public sector steel plants energy efficient;

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

(e) the target set by each steel plant for production and export of steel in 2007-08 and 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) Target and achievement of saleable steel by different plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) during Tenth Plan period are as follow:-

#### SAIL

Plant/ item	Unit' 000 tonnes	
	Total X five year (2002-03 - 2006-07)	
	Target	Achievements (expected by the terminal year of 10th Five year Plan)
1	2	3
Bhilai Steel Plant	17905	20078

	1	2	3
Durgapur Steel Plant		8250	8205
Rourkela Steel Plant		8150	8074
Bokaro Steel Plant		17060	17868
ISP		1755	1557
Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur		165	616
Salem Steel Plant		195	662
Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant		504	547
SAIL Total		53984	57607

#### RINL

The year-wise targets set for production of different kinds of steel at Vishakhapatnam Steel plant (VSP), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) during the Tenth Plan and the actual achievements are brought out below:-

Unit : Million Tonnes

Production	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07	
	Target	Achievement (upto Feb' 07)								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Saleable Steel	2.675	3.056	2.900	3.169	2.958	3.173	3.125	3.237	3.175	3.059
-LMMM Products	0.650	0.799	0.720	0.815	0.750	0.858	0.810	0.873	0.825	0.805

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
-Wire Rods	0.850	0.915	0.860	0.974	0.900	1.014	0.925	1.043	0.940	0.983
-MMSM Products	0.730	0.908	0.830	0.993	0.880	1.014	0.915	1.058	0.940	1.007
-Semi Finished Steel	0.445	0.434	0.490	0.386	0.428	0.287	0.475	0.263	0.470	0.264

Note: LMMM - Light and Medium Merchant Mill, MMSM - Medium Merchant and Structural Mill.

(c) and (d) SAIL has planned to improve the performance and bring its energy consumption to world class level by including new schemes in Expansion Plan for all units of SAIL viz. BSP, DSP, RSP, BSL and ISP. Some key measures for inducing energy efficiency in Expansion Plan of the plants are:-

- Reduction in Coal to Hot Metal Ratio
- 100% BOF and 100% CC
- Waste Reduction
- Productivity/Yield Improvement

Capital schemes for above measures are being progressively implemented in SAIL Plants.

Similarly, in order to make VSP, RINL energy efficient, the Company has planned to adopt coal dust injection in the existing two Blast Furnaces alongwith 3rd Blast Furnace and to adopt waste heat recovery system from the hot sinter of existing two sinter machines. RINL also plans to adopt various energy efficient technologies during expansion of the Plant.

(e) Currently, SAIL is exporting 0.5 MT, the same is likely to increase by about @ 5-6% per annum. Actual export will depend on the dynamic domestic and international market scenario. Regarding production of saleable steel, SAIL is targeting a production of 12.5 MT in 2007-08. For 2008-09, a production of 13.5 MT of saleable steel has been set.

RINL has targeted to produce around 3.210 Million Tonnes of Saleable Steel during 2007-08. The tentative target proposed for export of steel by RINL during 2007-08 in terms of value is Rs. 600 crores.

Similar targets for production of Saleable Steel and exports by RINL for the year 2008-09 will be finalized at the end of 2007-08.

#### Agriculture Warehousing Capacity

2788. SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the proportion of warehousing capacity earmarked for agricultural commodities in the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Bill 2005:

(b) whether any mechanism has been adopted to ensure that the benefits envisaged in the said Act reach the farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2005 is

under consideration of the Parliament. The Bill as introduced in Parliament does not have any such provision.

(b) and (c) On enactment of the proposed legislation, the warehouse receipts issued by the registered warehouses to the farmers against the deposit of their agricultural commodities would be fully negotiable and the farmers would be able to seek loans from the banks easily. Besides, proper grading and quality certification of agricultural commodities at the time of deposit in the warehouses would ensure higher return to farmers. Training and Awareness programmes for farmers, to familiarize them with the provisions of the Bill, are also proposed to be organized in order to enable them to take benefit of its provisions.

#### Steps Taken to Improve Infrastructure

2789. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2567 dated December 16, 2004 and be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action has been taken so far to improve the infrastructure of Doordarshan Kendra, Jalpaiguri; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Present facilities at DDK, Jalpaiguri comprise a small studio of about 50 sq. meter area equipped with two camera set up alongwith recording, editing and ENG facilities. Additional equipment viz. a non-linear editing unit; a mini DV Camcorder; 3 mini DV VCRs and an edit controller have been recently provided at the Kendra. Scheme for partial digitalization of DDK, Jalpaiguri is under implementation and It is expected to be completed during 2007.

[Translation]

#### Artificial Recharge of Water

2790. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether works for water harvesting and re-charging the water table through artificial measures have since been undertaken in the States with the Central funds;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has received utilization certificates from any State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total funds allocated by the Government on this scheme so far alongwith the funds allocated during each year of Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, is implementing demonstrative projects on artificial recharge under its ongoing Central Sector Scheme of Survey, Exploration and Investigation in 13 identified areas of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during the year 2006-07. The rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures are constructed in cluster mode on watershed/compact area basis and civil works of these structures are executed by the State Government Departments through implementing agencies on cost deposit basis.

(c) and (d) So far, the utilization certificates for Rs. 111.22 lakh has been received only from the State of Tamil Nadu. Out of the approved cost of Rs. 594.67 lakh, Rs. 416.27 lakh has been released to the implementing agencies. The balance amount would be released after receipt of utilisation certificates from the States. Details of funds allocated and released under the scheme is given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of State	Approved cost of the demonstrative projects (Rs. in lakh)	Fund released in 1st instalment (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	130.46	91.32
2.	Karnataka	92.19	64.53
3.	Madhya Pradesh	148.87	104.21
4.	Tamil Nadu	223.15	156.21

Salem Steel Plant		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	9M 06-07
Profit Before Tax (PBT)/loss(-)	Rs. In crores	1.94	3.48	-66.88	72.11
Production Saleable Steel	'000 tonnes	84.673	149.105	171.187	146.067
Sales Volume Saleable Steel	'000 tonnes	83.402	147.047	158.758	146.178
Sales value Saleable Steel	Rs. in crores	546.69	994.96	758.43	906.32

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The expansion plan of Salem Steel Plant has been approved in-principle by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) Board in June 2006 at an indicative cost of Rs. 1553 crores. The plan envisages installation of new steel making and continuous casting facilities to produce 180,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of stainless steel slabs and expansion of cold rolling complex to produce 146,000 tpa of cold rolled stainless steel.

[English]

#### Profit/Loss of Salem Steel Plant

2791. SHRI M. APPADURAI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of profit/loss made by salem steel plant during each of the last three years;

(b) the actual production of steel made by this plant during the said period alongwith its value;

(c) whether the Government is proposed to expand this plant in the next two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) Profit/Loss before tax, production of saleable steel and sales of saleable steel, as well as the sales value (gross realization inclusive of taxes and duties) by Salem Steel Plants (SSP) from 2003-04 to 9M of 2006-07 is as under:-

#### Problems of Contract Farming

2792. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any representation regarding the problems being faced by the contract farmers and contract farming agencies;

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

(c) the steps taken to resolve their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No representation regarding the problems being faced by the contract farmers and contract farming agencies has been received. However, in order to make contract farming arrangements beneficial for the farmer and the sponsoring companies, a Model law on marketing has been formulated by the Government keeping various requirements in view and circulated to State Governments for considering suitable amendments in their concerned Acts to bring in the required agricultural market reforms. This model law inter-alia provides for an institutional arrangement for registration of sponsoring companies, recording of Contract Farming Agreements, indemnity to farmers' land and lays down a time bound dispute resolution mechanism.

#### Minimum Wages

2793. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the details of the minimum wages fixed by the Government for skilled and unskilled labour of organized and unorganized sector separately in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the rates of Minimum Wages fixed for various scheduled employments by Central and State Governments in their respective jurisdictions are equally applicable to all workers in the organized as well as unorganized sector. A Statement indicating the range of minimum wages for unskilled workers for the Central sphere and States sphere is enclosed.

#### Statement

#### Range of Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers in Different States/UTs

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Range of Minimum Wages per day (in rupees)
1	2	3
	<b>Central</b>	67.43-120.37
	<b>States/Union Territories</b>	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45.00-128.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	55.00-57.00
3.	Assam	48.00-97.00
4.	Bihar	66.00-75.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	52.87-79.13
6.	Goa	75.00-94.00
7.	Gujarat	50.00-99.00
8.	Haryana	94.13-95.13
9.	Himachal Pradesh	70.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	66.00
11.	Jharkhand	50.06-186.34
12.	Karnataka	63.00-103.47
13.	Kerala	72.00-189.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	61.37-94.13
15.	Maharashtra	45.00-155.22
16.	Manipur	69.55-72.40
17.	Meghalaya	70.00

1	2	3
18. Mizoram		91.00
19. Nagaland		66.00-70.00
20. Orissa		55.00
21. Punjab		90.44-94.24
22. Rajasthan		73.00-81.50
23. Sikkim		85.00
24. Tamil Nadu		54.44-150.00
25. Tripura		51.35-65.77
26. Uttar Pradesh		58.00-106.51
27. Uttaranchal		6.61-97.00
28. West Bengal		64.22-125.88
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		100.00-124.00
30. Chandigarh		114.00
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		91.00
32. Daman and Diu		80.00
33. Delhi		127.40
34. Lakshadweep		70.00
35. Puducherry		45.00-124.00

**Loss of Job Due to Technological  
Changes**

2794. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether many regular employees in organised sector have to lose or have lost their jobs due to technological changes;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and current year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to upgrade the technological skills of such employees so that they could retain their job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) As per Employment Market Information Programme of Directorate General of Employment and Training, employment in organised sector for the year 2003, 2004 and 2005 as on 31st March are 270.00, 264.43, 264.58 lakh, respectively.

(c) Government runs a number of Advance Training Institute for upgradation of skills of existing industrial workers. Government have also undertaken a project for five hundred government ITIs into centre of excellence with the World Bank assistance in five years starting from 2005 to train out the world class skill professional. Another scheme for upgradation of remaining 1396 Government ITIs in Public Private Partnership mode has been announced by the Finance Minister in his 2007-08 budget speech.

**Relocation of Villages from Sariska  
Reserve**

2795. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2741 dated December 11, 2006 regarding tiger reserves and state :

(a) whether the names of villages/families to be relocated from the areas surrounding Sariska Tiger Reserve has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the financial assistance/compensation proposed to be provided to each family;

(c) whether the existing boundary of Sariska Tiger Reserve is also being extended towards the South-West end;

(d) if so, the future of the villages-Lawa ka bas, Jodhawas, Keeron ki dhani, Todi, Khera and Majjore;

(e) whether there is a plan to make some changes in route of State Highway No. 13 of Rajasthan passing through Sariska to protect the wildlife; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the new route would be functional from Alwar to Shahpura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Wildlife Institute of India has been entrusted to assess the core areas of tiger reserves in the country, which interalia includes Sariska Tiger Reserve, where village relocation has to be undertaken.

(e) and (f) As informed by the State, the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan has constituted a fact finding Committee to report on the closure of State Highway No. 13. The said committee has recommended for diversion of traffic in the highway from Kushalgarh to Jaipur via Chatabandrol, where an alternate road exists. The matter is subjudiced.

#### Allocation for National Bamboo Mission

2796. SHRI MANI CHARENAMEI :

SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated, released and utilized

\*The reply was subsequently corrected through a Correcting Statement made in the House on 30.04.2007 and was also placed in Library under LT No.6250/2007. Therefore part (e) and (f) have been corrected as under:

(e) and (f) As informed by the State, the Hon. High Court of Rajasthan has constituted a fact finding Committee to report on the closure of State Highway No. 13. The said Committee has recommended for diversion of traffic in the highway from Kushalgarh to Jaipur via Ghatabandrol, where an alternate road exists. The matter is subjudiced.

under National Bamboo Mission (NBM) during 2006-07 State-wise and component-wise;

(b) the projects undertaken under NBM in the North-Eastern States;

(c) the departments engaged in implementation of NBM programmes in North-Eastern States;

(d) whether adequate market infrastructure have been created to fully harvest and utilize the Bamboos before they are rendered useless due to gregarious flowering; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Bamboo Mission during 2006-07 for implementation in 28 States, including North-Eastern States, in the country. The National Steering Committee of National Bamboo Mission, in its meeting held on 27th February, 2007 discussed the project proposals received from the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Mizoram, Uttaranchal and Gujarat. However, these proposals are still under the consideration of this Department.

A Statement showing implementing Departments of the National Bamboo Mission in the North Eastern States is enclosed.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests in consultation with the State Governments and Ministries/ Departments concerned in the Government of India prepared an action plan for an amount of Rs. 366.50 crores to tackle the economic problems likely to arise due to gregarious flowering of bamboo in the North-Eastern States. The main components of the action plan include survey of the area, infrastructure development for extraction of the flowered bamboos and their utilization through value addition, regeneration of area, and fire, rodent and famine control measures, etc. Apart from obtaining funds

from various other sources, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated a centrally sponsored scheme of Rs. 85 crores for partial funding of some of the activities under the action plan for a period of four years from 2005-06 to 2008-09. The State Governments are taking necessary action for building necessary infrastructure for harvesting and utilization of flowered bamboos. The progress is being monitored periodically by a Central Monitoring Committee headed by Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests.

#### Statement

#### Implementing Departments in the North Eastern States

Sl.No.	State	Implementing Department
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Forest Department
2.	Assam	Forest Department
3.	Manipur	Forest Department
4.	Meghalaya	Forest Department
5.	Mizoram	Forest Department
6.	Nagaland	Forest Department
7.	Sikkim	Horticulture Department

#### Eradication of Child Labour

2797. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of child labourers still working in the hazardous industries in country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has studied the various hazardous industries where child labour is involved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures the Government would take to eradicate the child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic date in respect of number of child labour in the country. As per census 2001, the number of child labourers in the country is 1.26 crore. This includes children working in both hazardous as well as non-hazardous occupations and processes.

(c) and (d) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children below the age of 14 years in hazardous occupations and processes is prohibited. At present, 15 occupations and 57 processes are listed as hazardous under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. Government is progressively enlarging the list of these hazardous occupations and processes. These additions to hazardous occupations and processes are being made on the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee headed by Director General, Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR).

(e) The Government is committed to the goal of complete elimination of child labour, beginning with children working in hazardous occupations and processes and gradually covering children in non-hazardous occupations also. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States in the country for withdrawing and rehabilitating children working in hazardous occupations and processes. Under the NCLP Scheme, children withdrawn from work are put in special schools where they are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and health

care so as to prepare them in a maximum of three years time to join the mainstream education system.

#### Opening of Research and Training Centre

2798. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat regarding opening of Research and Training Centres for people's engaged in sheep rearing in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the proposal; and

(c) the funds provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

#### Package for Bundelkhand

2799. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any suggestions from some public representatives for providing a Vidarbha like package for the most backward areas of Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh for welfare of farmers and removing regional imbalance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which the said financial package for the development of the area is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Suggestions have been received for special package for removing regional imbalances in Bundelkhand Region. Planning Commission has constituted a fact finding team to study the situation regarding disparities in regional development in Uttar Pradesh with particular emphasis on Bundelkhand Region.

[English]

#### Production of Guar

2800. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of guar during the last three years and the number of families involved in the cultivation of guar, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to involve Women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) to improve the production of guar and to enhance the farmer's income; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) State-wise production of Guarseed from 2003-04 to 2005-06 and the number of agricultural operational holdings growing Guar crop as per the Agricultural Census 1995-96 (latest available) are given in the table below:-

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)			Number of Agricultural Operational Holdings
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	203.8	157.1	157.1	178433

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	117.2	358.7	289.0	108817
Punjab	27.1	19.4	17.8	Not available
Rajasthan	1163.2	366.0	593.2	879555
Uttar Pradesh	2.1	2.1	1.9	Not available
All India	1513.4	903.3	1059.0	1207257

(b) and (c) Government has approved Rs. 14.50 crore for the project aiming at increasing 50% Guarseed production and Guargum export in 5 years in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat mainly through the involvement of Women's Self Help Groups providing income of Rs. 15,000 per beneficiary per year.

[Translation]

#### Inclusion of Naini Lake under NLCP

2801. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has selected the Naini Lake of Nainital under National Lake conservation plan;

(b) if so, the amount released for the maintenance of the said lake during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to discontinue the said scheme in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have sanctioned a

project at a cost of Rs. 47.97 crore, on a 70:30 cost sharing basis, of which the Government of India share is Rs. 33.58 crore and the State Government's share is Rs. 14.39 crore. Out of its share of Rs. 33.58 crore, the Government of India have released Rs. 5.60 crore in the year 2003-04, Rs. 10 crore in the year 2004-05 and Rs. 7.33 crore in the year 2006-07 respectively.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Irregularities in Purchase of Computer by ICAR

2802. SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scam was detected during some-time past in purchase of computer by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (e) No scam has been detected in purchase of Computers by the Council during the last 05 years. However, there were complaints of irregularities in purchase of computers in NATP and NARP II in the ICAR System. CBI investigated both the cases and on the basis of CBI investigation report, both the cases were closed. A brief background of these cases is given as under:-

(i) NATP Case — The CBI registered a PE I(A)

2001-ACU(VI), CBI, New Delhi on 11.4.2001 against the then DG, ICAR and other officials of ICAR in the purchase of computers and other equipments under NATP. The CBI in its investigation did not find any malafide on the part of any officials of ICAR and CBI closed the case at its end as the allegations were not proved. Finally, on the basis of CBI's investigation report dated 6.5.2002 the case was closed in the Council and the Central Vigilance Commission was informed about the same.

- (ii) **NARP-II Case** — Initially a PE 12(A)/99 was registered to enquire into the allegations of irregularities in the matter of purchase of computer equipments and software under the scheme ARIS of project NARP-II with the financial assistance of World Bank. After the findings of enquiry in the said PE a case RC No. DA I-2000-A-0020 dated 26/4/2000 was registered against ICAR officials and officials of M/s. HCL-HP etc. in the purchase of computers and other equipments under NARP-II. The CBI investigation report in the case was examined in the Council in consultation with the CVC and after taking into consideration the advice tendered by the CVC, the case has been closed.

[English]

**Special Grant to Rajendra Prasad  
Agriculture University**

2803. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allocated/proposes to allocate special grant to the Rajendra Prasad Agriculture University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar in view of its critical financial condition; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of

the funds proposed to be provided and the manner in which it is proposed to be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, financial assistance of Rs. 2294.00 lakhs has been provided to the Rajendra Agricultural University for strengthening and development of agricultural education during the X Plan period.

**Projects of Maharashtra**

2804. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction work on Uman project in Maharashtra has not taken off due to non receipt of funds; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Union Government is likely to release the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) No proposal by the name of Uman Project has so far been received in the Central Water Commission, Ministry of Water Resources. However a project proposal by the name of Human Project has been received which is under appraisal. The time taken for completion of appraisal depends upon the promptness with which the State Government complies to the observations of Central Appraising Agencies. After completion of appraisal, investment clearance from Planning Commission is to be obtained by the State Government.

The Central Government provides financial assistance to Projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in accordance with AIBP guidelines in force. One of the primary conditions for inclusion of a project in AIBP is that the project should have investment clearance from the Planning Commission. The Human Project is not

having investment clearance from the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

#### **Beedi Labour Housing Project**

2805. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Beedi labour housing project involving the cost of Rs. Ninety lakhs is pending under the different schemes and programmes of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. A group housing project for the construction of 225 houses for the beedi workers in Guna District of Madhya Pradesh, involving a central subsidy of Rs. 90 lakh, was sanctioned by the Union Government on February 8, 2007 under the Revised Integrated Housing Scheme 2005 and Rs. 45 Lakh have also been released to the Madhya Pradesh Government on February 8, 2007 itself.

English]

#### **Setting up of Indian Council of Veterinary Research**

2806. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an Indian Council of Veterinary Research;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) The proposal for creation of a separate Indian Council of Veterinary Research after separation from Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been received by the Government from time to time from different quarters. The need of the hour is to have an integrated approach to the farming where both agriculture and animal husbandry activities at the field level should be able to supplement each other and also act as a livelihood safeguard/security to the farmer in case one of the two activities fails to deliver in a particular season. Further, certain problems of small and marginal farmers can be perhaps best addressed through integrated farming path. Hence, given the emphasis on an integrated intensive farming approach that calls for integration of agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors, creation of a separate Indian Council of Veterinary Research after separation from Indian Council of Agriculture Research would not be desirable.

#### **National Deep Sea Fishing Policy**

2807. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the features of National Deep Sea Fishing Policy;

(b) whether the Government has provided subsidy for development of deep water sea fishing; and

(c) if so, the details and criteria thereof during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) The National Deep Sea Fishing Policy is enshrined in the Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy announced by the Union Government during 2004. The main features of the Policy

are: (i) access to fishing vessels beyond territorial waters will be regulated, (ii) only resource specific fishing will be allowed, (iii) the number of fishing vessels that could be permitted during the coming five years is worked out and put in public domain, (iv) fully Indian owned companies and joint venture companies with at least 51 per cent Indian equity alone will be given permission for deep sea fishing, (v) an Inter-ministerial Empowered Committee would oversee Deep Sea Fishing development in the country.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The government has provided subsidy for conversion of deep-sea trawlers into monofilament long liners. 50% of the cost of conversion of existing trawlers for monofilament long lining for tuna with a ceiling of Rs.15 lakhs per vessel is granted as a back-ended subsidy through a component of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of marine fisheries. The programme is implemented through Fishery Survey of India. Four vessels were granted a subsidy of Rs. 53.2 lakhs during 2004-2005 and two vessels were granted Rs. 27.2 lakhs during 2005-2006. The above subsidy is not released state-wise since deep sea fishing vessels are registered under the Director General of Shipping.

#### Joint Inspection of Indo-China Group

2808. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of Indian and Chinese scientists have been formed to embark on a joint expedition in the Himalayas to find out the exact source of Brahmaputra and Sutlej;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the areas to be covered and time allowed therefor;

(c) whether the Indian Mountaineering Foundation and the Beijing-based Chinese Academy of Sciences have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the agreement in New Delhi in December, 2006; and

(d) if so, the time by which the experts of both the countries will submit their report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) As per Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between President, Indian Mountaineering Foundation and Director, Chinese Academy of Sciences, six scientists from India and China and two climbers (from India) and some support members are to undertake a joint expedition in June 2007 to the sources of two great rivers Brahmaputra and Sutlej. The study area is mainly restricted in Tibet and be Brahmaputra valley. As per MoU, the duration of the study is 4-5 years, 24 days each expedition.

(c) Yes Sir, MoU was signed in December, 2006.

(d) There is no provision in the MoU for submission of report to the nodal Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

#### Production of Finished Steel/Pig Iron

2809. SHRI NARHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of finished steel and pig iron production by Public Sector Undertaking during the year 2006-07;

(b) the details of the programme to increase their production during the next three years;

(c) the quantum of iron ore and metallurgical coal required to meet the present and increased production during the next three years; and

(d) the quantum of such coal expected to be made available indigenously and that proposed to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) The production of

finished steel and pig iron production by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) plants during 2006-07 (upto February 2007) is as follows:-

(Unit : Million Tonnes)

Items	2006-07 (upto February 2007)
Finished Steel	9.3
Pig Iron	0.46

The details of finished steel and pig iron production at Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) during the year 2006-2007 are given below:-

(Unit : Million Tonnes)

Item	2006-2007 (Expected)
Finished Steel	3.001
Pig Iron	0.349

(b) SAIL has planned to increase its finished steel production to 12.3 MT by 2009-10 and pig iron production at around 1 MT by 2009-10. The VSP is presently operating at about 120% of its rated capacity. The expansion plan of VSP to raise the capacity from 3 Million tonnes to 6.3 Million tonnes has been approved by the Government.

(c) Currently, SAIL is consuming 24 MT of iron ore and 14 MT of coking coal. The requirement is likely to increase to 35 MT Iron Ore and 18 MT of coking coal by 2009-10. RINL is consuming 6.09 MT of iron ore and 3.32 MT of Metallurgical Coal. The requirement is likely to increase to 7.09 MT of Iron Ore and 3.86 MT of Metallurgical Coal by 2009-10.

(d) Currently 63% of the coal consumed by SAIL is imported and it may increase to 78% by 2009-10. RINL import 87% of the Coal consumed by it and it is likely to remain the same in 2009-10.

### Import of Iron Ore

2810. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allowed some private sector companies in steel industry to import large quantities of iron ore this year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) "Iron ore and concentrates" as listed under Exim Code No. "2801" of the ITC (HS) Classification is free for import. Hence there is no need for permission from Government.

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

### Procurement by States

2811. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the States where paddy, rice and wheat are procured by State Government agencies and also where it is procured directly by Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) the reasons for procurement by different agencies;

(c) whether the State Government are incurring losses due to such procurement by them;

(d) if so, the quantum of such losses incurred during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the details of compensation paid to States for such losses, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The names of States where paddy/rice and wheat have been procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies in 2006-07 marketing season are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Different agencies are engaged in procurement of foodgrains to widen the coverage of Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in order to ensure that farmers get

remunerative prices for their produce and do not have to resort to distress sale.

(c) to (e) The entire expenditure on procurement operations of foodgrains borne by the agencies of the State Government, which procure paddy, rice and wheat on behalf of the Government of India, is reimbursed by the Government of India in the form of food subsidy as per the approved costing principles.

#### Statement

*States where paddy/rice and wheat have been procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies in Marketing Season 2006-07*

State	Paddy/Rice	Wheat
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	FCI and State Agencies	—
Bihar	FCI and State Agencies	—
Chandigarh	FCI	—
Chhattisgarh	FCI and State Agencies	—
Haryana	FCI and State Agencies	FCI and State Agencies
Jharkhand	FCI	—
Karnataka	FCI	—
Kerala	State Agencies	—
Madhya Pradesh	FCI and State Agencies	FCI and State Agencies
Maharashtra	FCI and State Agencies	—
Orissa	FCI and State Agencies	—
Punjab	FCI and State Agencies	FCI and State Agencies
Rajasthan	FCI	FCI and State Agencies
Tamil Nadu	State Agencies	—

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	FCI and State Agencies	FCI and State Agencies
Uttarakhand	State Agencies	FCI and State Agencies
West Bengal	FCI and State Agencies	—

### Canal Inspection

2812. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team from the World Bank visited Rajasthan for inspection of the canals;

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

(c) the benefits likely to accrue there from alongwith the name of projects to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Implementation Support Mission

of the World Bank visited Rajasthan during December 8-15, 2006 to review the progress of implementation of the Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project (RWSRP). The Government of Rajasthan has reported that the team visited the Gang and Bhakra Canal system and inspected the construction work in progress. As informed by the Government of Rajasthan, the Mission expressed overall satisfaction for the work being executed and also suggested various measures to further accelerate the pace of the works.

(c) The components of the Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project include rehabilitation of canal system of 7 major, 36 medium and 45 minor irrigation schemes. The objective, inter-alia, includes providing water to the tail reaches of the canals. List of the schemes is given in the enclosed Statement.

### Statement

#### *Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project List of Irrigation Schemes being Rehabilitated*

S.No.	Name of Irrigation Scheme	Type	District	CCA (ha.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Basundani	Minor	Ajmer	1360
2.	Jaisamand	Medium	Alwar	4790
3.	Deoti	Minor	Alwar	1410
4.	Mangalsar	Minor	Alwar	958
5.	Male	Minor	Banswara	1045

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Parwan Canal System	Medium	Baran	7550
7.	Ummedsagar	Medium	Baran	2968
8.	Rakti	Minor	Baran	1576
9.	Baretha	Medium	Bharatpur	4243
10.	Bharatpur Feeder	Medium	Bharatpur	7278
11.	Nahar Sagar	Medium	Bhilwara	2939
12.	Ummed Sagar	Medium	Bhilwara	3249
13.	BK Sareri	Minor	Bhilwara	586
14.	Mandal	Minor	Bhilwara	1152
15.	Jetpura	Medium	Bhilwara	3730
16.	Anwasa	Minor	Bhilwara	586
17.	Govta	Minor	Bhilwara	1620
18.	Jhadol	Minor	Bhilwara	1905
19.	Gudha	Minor	Bundi	11376
20.	Bundi ka Gothra	Medium	Bundi	5560
21.	Paibalpura	Minor	Bundi	1930
22.	Pech ki Baori	Minor	Bundi	991
23.	Burdha	Medium	Bundi	4251
24.	Bhimlet Abhaypura	Medium	Bundi	3402
25.	Gambhiri	Medium	Chittorgarh	7599
26.	Banakia	Minor	Chittorgarh	1655
27.	Gadola	Minor	Chittorgarh	1098
28.	Gangaria	Minor	Chittorgarh	233
29.	Orai	Medium	Chittorgarh	9260

1	2	3	4	5
30.	Banina	Minor	Chittorgarh	178
31.	Kaladeh	Minor	Chittorgarh	297
32.	Kalakho	Medium	Dausa	3400
33.	Sainthal Sagar	Medium	Dausa	3267
34.	Chandrana	Minor	Dausa	1012
35.	Parbati	Major	Dholpur	25368
36.	Ramsagar	Medium	Dholpur	5600
37.	Urmila Sagar	Medium	Dholpur	2900
38.	Baba ki Bar	Minor	Dungarpur	588
39.	Bhadar	Minor	Dungarpur	461
40.	Bilpan	Minor	Dungarpur	425
41.	Gajpur	Minor	Dungarpur	771
42.	Goriyon ka Naka	Minor	Dungarpur	410
43.	Lodisar	Minor	Dungarpur	1792
44.	Margia	Minor	Dungarpur	866
45.	Vatrak	Minor	Dungarpur	626
46.	Galiyana	Minor	Dungarpur	446
47.	Kantri	Minor	Dungarpur	428
48.	Punjpur	Minor	Dungarpur	582
49.	Gang canal system	Major	Ganganagar	125000
50.	Bhakra canal system	Major	Ganganagar and Hanumangarh	164774
51.	Buchara	Medium	Jaipur	2638
52.	Chittoli	Medium	Jaipur	2280

1	2	3	4	5
53.	Khard	Medium	Jaipur	4073
54.	Bankali Bund	Medium	Jalore	5382
55.	Bhim Sagar	Medium	Jhalawar	9986
56.	Mundliya Kheri	Minor	Jhalawar	591
57.	Saran Kheri	Minor	Jhalawar	1377
58.	Juggar	Medium	Karauli	5927
59.	Alria	Medium	Kota	7882
60.	Jawai	Major	Pali	38671
61.	Hemawas	Medium	Pali	8684
62.	Kharda Dam	Medium	Pali	2451
63.	Raipur Luni	Medium	Pali	2605
64.	Mithri	Minor	Pali	1913
65.	Nandsamand	Medium	Rajsamand	6193
66.	Kundeli	Minor	Rajsamand	1063
67.	Chawand	Minor	Udaipur	361
68.	Harchand	Minor	Udaipur	909
69.	Kejar	Minor	Udaipur	688
70.	Som pickup weir	Minor	Udaipur	969
71.	Morel	Major	Sawai Madhopur	16720
72.	Mansarovar	Medium	Sawai Madhopur	3168
73.	Mora Sagar	Medium	Sawai Madhopur	7374
74.	Surwal	Medium	Sawai Madhopur	3963
75.	Chandpura	Minor	Sawai Madhopur	1016

1	2	3	4	5
76.	Deopura	Minor	Sawai Madhopur	1860
77.	Angore	Medium	Sirohi	3455
78.	Ora	Medium	Sirohi	4616
79.	West Banas	Medium	Sirohi	7952
80.	Madar Ka Nallah-I	Minor	Sirohi	491
81.	Gahwa	Major	Tonk	13391
82.	Mashi	Medium	Tonk	6985
83.	Motisagar	Medium	Tonk	2157
84.	Baxa ka naka	Minor	Udaipur	348
85.	Jhadol	Minor	Udaipur	530
86.	Nagmala	Minor	Udaipur	254
87.	Ogna	Minor	Udaipur	1252
88.	Sukher ka naka	Minor	Udaipur	480
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>616116</b>

### ESI Hospitals

2813. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Central ESI Hospitals in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether various State Governments including Government of Kerala have requested to bring more number of ESI Hospitals under Central ESI Scheme;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) There are 21 Central run ESIC Hospitals in the country. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) As per the Model Hospital Scheme only one hospital in each State was to be taken over by the ESI Corporation to be run as Model Hospital. Further, in the meeting of Standing Committee (ESIC) held on 02.06.2005, it was resolved that for a period of two years, till March 2007, ESIC may not take over any more hospital of the State Government to be run as Model Hospital. Thereafter, depending upon the experience gained, the strategy for the next phase may be decided.

No specific request has been received from the State Government of Kerala for bringing more number of ESI Hospitals in State under Central ESI Scheme.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	State	Place
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nacharam, Hyderabad
2.	Assam	Beltola
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
4.	Karnataka	Rajajinagar, Bangalore
5.	Kerala	Asaram, Kollam
6.	Orissa	Rourkela
7.	Punjab	Ludhiana
8.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
10.	Bihar	Phuwari Sharif
11.	Gujarat	Bapu Nagar, Ahmedabad
12.	Jammu	Bari Brahma
13.	Delhi	Basaidarapur
14.	Delhi	Jhilmil
15.	Delhi	Okhla
16.	Delhi	Rohini
17.	Maharashtra	Chinchwad, Pune
18.	West Bengal	Joka, Kolkata
19.	Tamil Nadu	KK Nagar, Chennai
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Nagda
21.	U.T. Chandigarh	Chandigarh

**Special Package for NER**

2814. SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Governments of North Eastern Region (NER) including Sikkim for a special package for the development of agriculture sectors, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Minimum Guaranteed Price**

2815. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to announce Minimum Guaranteed Price (MGP) for commercial crops like cotton, chillies and tobacco, in view of the pending demand of the farmers of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) As specified in the National Agriculture Policy, the Central Government in discharging its responsibility to ensure remunerative prices for agriculture produce, announces Minimum Support Price (MSPs) instead of Minimum Guaranteed Price (MGP) for major agriculture commodities.

The MSP for a commodity is the floor level price and if the market prices of the commodity falls below its MSP, the Government agencies procure it at the MSP to ensure that farmers do not resort to distress sales.

Ministry of Agriculture announces MSP on annual basis for 25 major agricultural crops including Cotton and Tobacco mainly on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). While recommending the MSP for a crop, the CACP takes into account the costs of its production and other relevant issues. Representatives of farmers' organizations are also consulted.

As regards chillies, these are covered under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation implements MIS for procurement of horticultural and other agricultural commodities generally perishable in nature in order to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop during the peak arrival period when prices tend to fall below economic levels. The MIS is implemented on the request of a State/UT Government which is ready to bear 50% loss (25% in case of North Eastern States), if incurred. Under the Scheme, a pre-determined quantity at a fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by NAFED as the central agency and the agency designated by the State Government for a fix period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP, whichever is earlier. The area of operation is restricted to the concerned State only.

#### Price of Glipizide Drug

2816. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed/revised the price of anti-diabetic drug Glipizide;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NPPA has received letters regarding fixation of price of said drug;

(d) if so, whether the NPPA has conducted a fresh cost-cum-Techno Economic study to revise the price of drug;

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (f) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has revised the price of bulk drug Glipizide from Rs. 31584/- per kg. fixed earlier vide notification dated 13.8.04 to Rs. 29244/- per kg. vide S.O. 1043 (E) dated 11.7.2006 after a detailed Cost Price Study. The price of bulk drug Glipizide has been fixed/revised as per the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO 1995).

The bulk drug Glipizide was under litigation concerning its exclusion from First Scheduled of DPCO 1995. The bulk drug price was fixed for the first time after vacation of stay by the Supreme Court at Rs. 31584/- per kg. vide notification dated 13.8.04 based on a detailed Cost cum Techno Economic Study conducted by NPPA.

Government/NPPA has received letters concerning fixation of the price of bulk drug Glipizide. During periodic monitoring of the market price by NPPA, it was noticed that the price of the bulk drug Glipizide was ruling low compared to the existing notified price. NPPA took a decision to conduct a fresh Cost cum Techno Economic Study by calling information from all known manufacturers. During July, 2006 the price of bulk drug was revised downward to Rs. 29244/- per kg. after a detailed study by NPPA. Market prices are monitored based on the reports from journals only. Prices are fixed by NPPA based on cost wherever a cost price study is conducted and such costs

are independent of market prices. Moreover prices may fluctuate from time to time. In the case of Glipizide, the cost was higher than the market price. A uniform approach is followed while fixing the price of bulk drug under the provisions of DPCO 1995.

[Translation]

#### Number of Shops

2817. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

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

(a) whether the average number of shops per thousand population in the country is much more as compared to other countries like United States of America, England, Singapore, Japan etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the comparative figures of the average number of shops in India and other countries; and

(c) the comparative figures regarding the size of shops in India and other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) to (c) As per the data compiled by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment received in the form of annual returns from 21 States/Union Territories, the total number of shops during the year 2004 was 36,97,119. The details of average number of shops and the comparative figures regarding the size of shops in India and other countries are not maintained by the Government.

[English]

#### Wildlife Cell at Hyderabad Airport

2818. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA : Will the

Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Government to set up a wildlife cell at Hyderabad airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for financial assistance for setting up of a Task Force for preventing illegal trade and transport of wild animals at Hyderabad airport. The Government of India intum has suggested the State Government to set up such a unit using their existing resources rather than seeking central assistance.

#### Pollution in Yamuna

2819. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has appointed any committee in connection with making Yamuna in Delhi a pollution free river;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the progress made so far;

(c) whether the Government has ascertained/proposed to ascertain the view of environmentalists as regards possible alternatives to make cleaning efforts more effective and result-oriented;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the funds earmarked for this purpose during 2007-08; and

(g) the treating capacity of sewage treatment plants set-up with a view to keeping rivers, particularly Yamuna clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (g) For undertaking pollution abatement measures in the river Yamuna in Delhi, an Integrated Action Plan has been prepared with a number of agencies identified towards its implementation. The works under Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) in Delhi are also a part of the above Integrated Action Plan. A treatment capacity of 741 mld was created under YAP-I out of which 402 mld was created in U.P., 309 mld in Haryana and 30 mld in Delhi. YAP-I which has since been declared closed is followed by YAP-II, under which it is envisaged to create 135 mld treatment capacity in Delhi and 54 mld in UP apart from rehabilitating 324 mld capacity in Delhi.

An amount of Rs. 77 crore has been earmarked for Delhi, UP and Haryana during 2007-08 for undertaking pollution abatement works under the Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-II (YAP-II). In addition, the Govt's of NCT of Delhi, Haryana and U.P. have also taken up large scale sewerage, non-sewerage and sewage treatment works in the river Yamuna out of their own Plan funds. For facilitating implementation of YAP-II, a Project Management Consultant comprising of a number of experts in the field of environmental pollution control has been appointed.

#### Losses Incurred by OMDC

2820. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa Minerals Development Corporation (OMDC) is currently incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether a committee has been set up to look into the matter; and

(d) if so, the time by which it would submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No Committee has been set up to look specifically into the issue of losses in the last three years, in OMDC.

#### Agricultural and Technological Universities

2821. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes programmes of Agricultural and Technological Universities undertaken by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Union Government in the country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the details of the funds allocated therefor during the last three years and current year, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the extent to which such schemes/programmes have contributed to the development of agriculture sector in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research / Department of Agricultural Research and Education extends financial assistance to State Agricultural Universities, Deemed Universities, Central Agricultural University, Central Universities having Faculty of Agricultural for strengthening and development of agricultural education. The programmes undertaken under this scheme in the Agricultural Universities, including

Agricultural Universities in Gujarat are strengthening and development of agricultural education, construction of Girls Hostel, International Hostel, Instructional Model Plants, and Instructional Model Farms, up-dating/replacement of old and out-dated Laboratory equipments, modernization of Laboratories and Libraries, Human Resource Development, Rural Awareness Works Experience programmes, Best Teachers' Award, Accreditation, University Level Text Books, Emeritus Scientists Scheme, Centres of Advanced Studies, Niche Areas of Excellence, Experiential Learning—hands on training programmes, etc. Apart from this, the Schemes namely, All India Coordinated Research Projects, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Ad hoc Schemes and schemes under National Agricultural Innovation Project are also undertaken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Agricultural Universities including the Agricultural Universities in Gujarat.

(a) The details of the funds released/allocated therefor during the last three years and current year, State-wise and year-wise are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) The schemes/programmes undertaken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research/Department of Agricultural Research and Education in the Agricultural Universities has helped in science and technological based development of agriculture which is crucial to the development of agriculture. It has also helped to produce trained manpower in the field of agriculture and agriculture related technologies for the country. Apart from this, these schemes/programmes have resulted in the pursuit of reaching excellence in the field of agriculture, animal sciences, fisheries and allied sciences.

#### Statement

*Funds Allocated to the Agricultural Universities during Last three years and Current Year State-wise and Year-wise*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	1278.37	1419.00	2086.19	3182.03
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2207.11	2097.66	2595.32	4777.61
3.	Bihar	1069.84	1393.21	1830.39	3362.11
4.	Chhattisgarh	827.38	907.10	1520.26	2229.88
5.	Gujarat	1598.81	2660.25	3574.92	4916.91
6.	Haryana	1664.81	2867.71	2368.62	4041.28
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1833.47	1859.47	8288.62	4469.96
8	Jammu and Kashmir	969.45	2424.88	4334.68	5953.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Jharkhand	597.42	802.66	1806.98	3215.33
10.	Karnataka	2698.48	3084.53	3957.96	5676.51
11.	Kerala	997.34	2543.32	1674.27	4443.71
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1802.12	2339.55	1152.12	2362.73
13.	Maharashtra	3459.84	3241.94	5512.39	5181.54
14.	Orissa	1405.27	1655.73	2479.28	3708.65
15.	Punjab	2024.36	3517.73	2776.26	4571.64
16.	Rajasthan	2635.16	2955.05	3590.75	4922.76
17.	Tamil Nadu	2242.11	2407.84	3138.71	5660.23
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2688.94	2836.43	4881.657	8840.54
19.	Uttarakhand	1262.75	1451.55	2817.57	3618.84
20.	West Bengal	1273.60	1235.15	2336.53	4066.07
21.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	50.00	381.00
22.	Delhi	83.78	95.95	209.98	442.05
23.	Tripura	3.00	28.83	13.85	60.81
24.	Manipur	116.79	53.99	63.63	105.84
25.	Meghalya	0.00	8.55	34.42	32.56
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.56
27.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.54
28.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.69
29.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.74
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.73

### Farrakka Barrage in West Bengal

2822. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large portion of funds provided for the development of Farrakka Barrage in West Bengal has been diverted to some other works;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Employment Exchanges

2823. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether registration of unemployed persons in employment exchanges have declined;

(b) if so, whether the employment exchanges functioning in the country have now become insignificant;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) the extent of success achieved as a result of these steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR

FERNANDES) : (a) Registration of job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, in employment exchanges in the country has gone upto 72.89 lakh as on 31.12.2006 from 50.64 lakh as on 3.12.2002, registering an increase of around 46 per cent. Over the last ten years, around 58 lakh job seekers on an average per year were approaching employment exchanges for registration.

(b) to (e) Employment exchanges with a network of 947 offices spread throughout the length and breadth of the country are providing free services to the job seekers, employers, etc. through various functions such as registration, submission of names to employers, career counseling, vocational guidance and collection of labour market information. Functioning of employment exchanges in the country is, therefore, still significant.

### Impact on Unemployment Due to MNCs

2824. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted or proposed to be conducted to assess the impact of entry of the Multi-National Companies (MNCs) on the unemployment problem so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) No study/survey at all India level has been conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to assess the impact of entry of Multi-National Companies (MNCs) on unemployment problem. However, due to globalization and economic liberalization, some employment opportunities in the older type of enterprises might have been reduced due to decline in efficiency, but at the same time new employment opportunities are being created in a number of new areas such as information

technology, tourism, financial services, modern retailing, construction, etc. Employment opportunities in the country, on the whole, on usual status basis have gone up from around 374 million in 1993-94 to around 397 million in 1999-2000 and 459 million in 2004-05.

[English]

### Conservation of Lakes

2825. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government had chalked out any plan for conservation of lakes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the targets fixed and the achievements made thereunder during the last three years;
- (d) whether the number of lakes is declining in the country;
- (e) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of lakes taken up/to be taken up under the said plan during the next two years alongwith the fund allocation, lake-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the programme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) for conservation and management of polluted lakes and tanks in the country. The NLCP was initiated in June, 2001 on 70:30 sharing basis between the Central and the State Government concerned. Since then, projects for conservation of 45 lakes have been approved at a cost of Rs. 542.64 crore. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) During the last three financial years, an amount of Rs. 99.62 crore has been released by the Government of India as Central share towards the lake conservation projects and conservation works in 10 lakes so far are reported to have been completed under the Programme.

(d) to (f) The Lakes are degraded due to various reasons including siltation, discharge of pollutants from domestic and industrial sectors, agricultural run-off, encroachments etc. The approved budget (Revised Estimate) under the NLCP for the year 2006-07 stands at Rs. 58.41 crore, whereas the budget for the year 2007-08 has been approved at Rs.100 crore for taking up new projects as well as for the ongoing projects. Allocations for the remaining period of XI Plan have not yet been finalized. The Ministry had requested all the States/UTs for prioritization of lakes for consideration under NLCP, in response to which so far, 15 States/UTs have sent their prioritization. New proposals during financial year under the programme are taken up depending upon the prioritization by States, pollution status of the lakes and the availability of funds under the Plan.

### Statement

#### *Details of Lake Conservation Projects approved under the NLCP*

S.No.	Lake	State	Approved Cost (in Rs. crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	3 lakes of Bangalore namely Vengaihkere, Nagavara and Jarganahalli	Karnataka	11.48

1	2	3	4
2.	Bellandur lake, Bangalore	Karnataka	5.54
3.	Kotekere lake, Belgaum	-do-	5.64
4.	Bhishma lake, Gadag	-do-	2.50
5.	Lal Bagah, Bangalore	-do-	1.66
6.	Channapatna lake, Hasan,	-do-	4.97
7.	Sharanbhasveshwara lake, Gulbarga	-do-	4.89
8.	Akkamahadevi lake, Haveri	-do-	2.64
9.	Kundawada lake, Davangere	-do-	3.41
10.	Kote Tavarekere lake, Chikmagalur	-do-	3.64
11.	Tripurankeshwar lake, Bidar	-do-	4.67
12.	Banjara lake, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	2.75
13.	Powai lake, Mumbai	Maharashtra	6.62
14.	9 lakes in Thane	-do-	2.53
15.	Mahalaxmi lake, Vadagaon	-do-	1.85
16.	Rankala lake, Kolhapur	-do-	8.65
17.	Varhala Devi lake, Bhiwandi	-do-	4.60
18.	Mansagar lake, Jaipur	Rajasthan	24.72
19.	Ooty lake	Tamil Nadu	1.95
20.	Kodaikanal lake, Dindigul	-do-	10.42
21.	3 lakes of Agartala	Tripura	2.02
22.	4 lakes in Nainital	Uttaranchal	16.85
23.	Nainital lake, Nainital	-do-	47.97
24.	Rabindra Sarovar	West Bengal	6.96
25.	Mirik lake, Darjeeling	-do-	4.01
26.	Dal lake, Sri Nagar	Jammu and Kashmir	297.00

1	2	3	4
26.	Dal lake, Sri Nagar	Jammu and Kashmir	297.00
27.	Veli Akkulum lake, Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	24.58
28.	Bindu sagar lake, Bhubaneshwar	Orissa	3.50
29.	Rani Talab, Rewa	Madhya Pradesh	3.31
30.	Sagar lake, Sagar	-do-	21.33
Total			542.64

[Translation]

**Low Rainfall Area**

2826. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted a survey of the areas where the rainfall is low in terms of cultivation;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate water in these areas for irrigation purposes or to provide any package in the form of assistance; and

(d) the details of the heads for which the funds are being allocated alongwith the quantum thereof, head-wise during each of the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The Government has not conducted any specific survey of the

areas where the rainfall is low in terms of cultivation. However, rainfall data is maintained by Indian Meteorological Department. To address the needs of low rainfall areas, following schemes are implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development to enhance soil and water conservation:—

**Ministry of Agriculture**

- (i) National Watershed Development Projects for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR)
- (ii) Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP and FPR)
- (iii) Watershed Development project in shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA)

**Ministry of Rural Development**

- (iv) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
- (v) Desert Development Programme (DDP)
- (vi) Integrated Waste Land Development Programme (IWDP)

The details of the funds allocated / utilized in last three years under these programmes are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement****Financial Progress of various Watershed Development Programmes in Last Three Years**

(Area in Lakh ha. and Expenditure in Rs. Crore)

S. No.	Ministry/ Scheme	2003- 04 Expr./ Release	2004- 05 Expr./ Release	2005- 06 Expr./ Release	Total Expr./ Release
<b>(A) Ministry of Agriculture Development (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation)</b>					
1.	NWDPPRA	170.64	235.57	267.86	674.07
2.	RVP and FPR	115.55	126.20	130.11	371.86
3.	WDPSCA	21.21	19.27	29.15	69.63
<b>(B) Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land resources)</b>					
4.	DPAP	294.80	299.99	352.98	947.77
5.	DDP	214.80	214.90	267.80	697.50
6.	IWDP	307.52	334.42	486.74	1128.68
<b>Total</b>		<b>1124.52</b>	<b>1230.35</b>	<b>1534.64</b>	<b>3889.51</b>

*[English]***Public Opinion on River Linking Projects**

2827. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has called upon Non-Government Organisation to mobilize public opinion in support of interlinking rivers;

(b) if so, whether the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has also prepared any proposal to mobilize public opinion in support of interlinking of rivers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to overcome the major challenges of the water sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas for optimum utilization of water resources. The NPP comprises two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Report (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have already been completed.

Further, a Memorandum of Understanding for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of one of the links in Peninsular Component namely Ken-Betwa link was signed among the Central Government and State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25th August, 2005. Subsequently, the Central Government

entrusted the preparation of the DPR of the aforesaid link to NWDA.

**Setting up of Technology Mission  
for Aquaculture**

2828.DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Technology Mission for Aquaculture to encourage growth of aquaculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Development aquaculture is already taken care under the ongoing schemes of Government of India and the State Governments as well as through the National Fisheries Development Board.

**Project Proposal for Coastal Conservation**

2829. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted an integrated project for coastal conservation and management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the project has been recommended for external assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Central Government has initiated an Integrated Coastal Zone Management project based on the approach suggested by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee that reviewed the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991. One of the States identified for the project is Gujarat. Government of Gujarat has also communicated their acceptance for implementing the project in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) For implementing the above project the Central Government has sought technical and financial assistance from multilateral donor agencies including World Bank. The project includes demarcation of vulnerability line, mapping of ecologically sensitive areas, institutional development and capacity building and control of pollution from land based activities and preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for identified stretches of coastal areas of Gujarat.

(e) The identification mission of the World Bank has recently visited Gujarat in October, 2006 and held discussions with State Government officials. As such no time frame has been fixed in this regard.

**Effect of Delhi Metro on Ridge**

2830. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Metro rail has affected or is likely to affect significantly the ridge area in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to check the destruction of ridge area as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Metro rail has not affected the ridge area so far. However, the proposed Central

Secretariat-Qutab Minar-Gurgaon corridors, approved by Government, will intercept the ridge area at three locations. These interceptions are unavoidable and involve only a small area of the ridge measuring 5.56 hectares on permanent basis and 2.17 hectares on temporary basis (during construction period only).

(c) During construction, it would be ensured that minimum number of trees are affected in the ridge area. Compensatory plantation for the trees being felled will be taken up. The construction methodology will be such that there is least disturbance to the surrounding area.

[Translation]

#### Proposal for Indira Sagar Project

2831. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has received a proposal for Indira Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The forest area admeasuring 181.397 hectares has been diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Indira Sagar Irrigation Project in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

#### Pharmaceutical Companies

2832. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pharmaceutical Companies have

encouraged activities such as sponsoring holidays and entertainment expenses of doctors, offering of financial benefits and doling out of gifts in order to influence medical prescription as reported in Times of India dated February 5, 2007; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Pharma Companies regularly promote their prescription products to doctors. The promotion of prescription medicines to medical professionals is an important communication medium to make the medical professionals aware of new and better methods of preventing and treating illness. Doctors are sometimes sent abroad to attend international scientific conferences to get updated in their medical speciality which helps to better serve their patient needs, which is part of the continuous medical education programme. However, no specific instance has come to the notice of the Government regarding unethical and malpractices adopted by Pharma Companies to promote the products.

#### Functions of Employment Exchanges

2833. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, Employment Exchanges functions under the State Governments;

(b) if so, whether these exchanges collect data on the number employed in the establishments in their respective areas;

(c) if so, whether the coverage of establishments remains very poor and data fails to give actual data on the employment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the functions of employment exchanges are proposed to be restructured; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Employment Exchanges are functioning under the administrative and financial control of the State Government/U.T. Administrations and one of the activities of employment exchanges is to collect data on employment from establishments as per the provisions of Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959.

(c) and (d) As per the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959 all establishments in the public sector and such establishments in the private sector engaged in non-agricultural activities where ordinarily 25 or more persons are employed to work for remuneration are required to be covered. The number of establishments as on 31.3.2005 were 2.94 lakh on the employer's register of Employment Exchanges of which 1.72 lakh were in public sector and 1.22 were in private sector.

(e) and (f) Working Group consisting of representatives of Central and State Governments review the functioning of Employment Exchanges in the country and take corrective measures as and when necessary.

#### **Daily Wage Workers**

2834. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any norms have been laid down for regularization of services of daily wage workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether even in a number of Central and State Government Offices and Departments, Public Sector Undertakings and Public Sector Enterprises considerable proportion of the clerical and class IV employees consist of daily wage workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) As per the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India vide O.M. No. 51016/2/290-Estt.(c) dated 10th September, 1993 two out of every three vacancies in Group 'D' cadres in respective Offices will be filled up as per extent recruitment rules and in accordance with the instructions issued by this Department amongst the casual workers with 'Temporary Status'. Engagements in Group 'C' posts of casual workers is not permitted. These instructions are not straightway applicable in State Government Offices and Public Sector Undertakings.

The daily wage workers are engaged by various Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Undertakings of Central and State Governments on a day-to-day basis as per requirement, for which the requisite information cannot be maintained.

#### **Air Pollution**

2835. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a workshop in Indonesia was organised in January 2007 by Asian Development Bank (ADB) on "Better Air Quality" in Asian cities:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the ADB position paper has linked the increase in pollution and

particularly toxic emissions in India to the increase in motorization in the country;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) A workshop on Better Air Quality (BAQ) under the coordination of the 'Clean Air Initiative for Asian cities' (CAI-Asia) alongwith others, was held during 13th to 15th December, 2006 at Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The workshop was held with a view to bringing together policymakers and experts from Asia and other countries to explore ways to prevent air pollution.

(c) to (e) As per available information, during the above workshop, a discussion draft, which has not undergone peer review by this Ministry, had identified vehicles as the major source of air pollution in large cities in the country. To control vehicular pollution, as per the Auto Fuel Policy, a roadmap is already under implementation in the country, which includes enforcement of stricter auto exhaust standards in respect of vehicles at manufacturing stage and improvement in fuel quality. Further, to ascertain contribution of various sources to air pollution, steps have also been taken for undertaking source apportionment

studies in 6 (six) major cities of the country, namely, Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Pune, Chennai and Kanpur.

#### Input Cost of Agricultural Production

2836. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of annual agricultural production in the country for the last three years, State and year-wise; and

(b) the value of inputs used therein with details of major inputs including the labour of landless as well as the landowners alongwith the rate at which their labour is taken into account to fix minimum wage/annual average wage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) As per data compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the values of annual output from agriculture including livestock and value of components of inputs and total input at current prices at All-India level for the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Item	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Value of total Output	615795	620137	679665
Value of total Inputs	143455	148930	159586
Of which			
Seed	10120	10173	11195
Organic manure	6095	6421	6763

1	2	3	4
Chemical fertilizers	20956	21378	21808
Current repairs, maintenance of fixed assets and other operational costs	2392	2621	3319
Feed of livestock	68380	68711	73236
Irrigation charges	1187	1406	1793
Market charges	10689	10605	11670
Electricity	5825	6006	6193
Pesticides and insecticides	1473	1509	1545
Diesel oil	11381	14869	16364
Financial intermediation services indirectly measures	4957	5232	5700

State-wise value of output and inputs for agriculture including livestock for the latest available years 2001-02 to 2003-04 are given in the enclosed statement.

According to the methodology used by the CSO for compilation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), material inputs are used, Wages paid to hired labour or imputed wages on account of own account labour are not included.

#### Statement

*Value of Output and Inputs in respect of Agriculture sector including Livestock at current prices*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of States	Year 2001-02		Year 2002-03		Year 2003-04	
		Value of output	Value of input	Value of output	Value of input	Value of output	Value of input
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4543255	819196	4276631	830546	5102518	891018
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	62737	5184	68122	5473	75381	6245
3.	Assam	1237583	128224	1256842	131548	1192156	135796
4.	Bihar	2473387	428531	2615589	455767	2965798	497197
5.	Goa	61887	6653	63330	7373	68364	6884

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Gujarat	2539425	832209	2563657	970189	3854469	1043206
7.	Haryana	2301394	509906	2369444	557681	2640368	631633
8.	Himachal Pradesh	459685	67322	487688	73283	552912	82078
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	583314	123727	707632	149586	731915	160076
10.	Karnataka	3397599	619197	3170626	639471	2968686	625647
11.	Kerala	1557386	200831	1735082	215053	1723099	223247
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3071587	740265	2884682	821349	3838909	982718
13.	Maharashtra	5985851	2142737	5839767	2217250	6344523	2576342
14.	Manipur	90367	11425	94175	12343	118335	14021
15.	Meghalaya	114429	14536	130754	15782	122316	15714
16.	Mizoram	44914	3978	42366	4205	42952	4201
17.	Nagaland	165561	13439	165567	13776	106572	13191
18.	Orissa	1477687	305399	1432090	306373	1871751	352585
19.	Punjab	3570354	690598	3577011	765154	3774348	798552
20.	Rajasthan	3503154	1086010	2839698	972393	4226193	1233891
21.	Sikkim	28344	4308	29251	4496	32177	4707
22.	Tamil Nadu	2683361	469602	2237480	462042	2279220	447175
23.	Tripura	224697	17701	205401	17662	210463	18781
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8083353	1939959	8438519	1995696	9045479	22408978
25.	West Bengal	4590972	693427	4531849	710253	4986956	753661
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	25062	1965	31400	2498	28052	2446
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8503	1197	8713	1361	8500	1439
28.	Daman and Diu	2605	267	2530	278	2589	292
29.	Delhi	124840	21405	123203	34886	126628	25368

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30. Lakshadweep		2712	235	3080	194	3893	238
31. Pondicherry		24552	6358	26469	8127	28672	8886
32. Chandigarh		8435	774	8746	1071	9921	957
33. Jharkhand		938612	193157	658710	192457	898976	215148
34. Chhattisgarh		893579	192282	938032	221222	1054788	225769
35. Uttarakhand		453263	90226	488192	97733	541625	105363
<b>Total</b>		<b>55334445</b>	<b>12382231</b>	<b>54052328</b>	<b>12914550</b>	<b>61579504</b>	<b>14345451</b>

### Purchase of Foodgrains

2837. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of foodgrains procured by the Food Corporation of India and other Government agencies from West Bengal, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu during the last three years, year-wise and agency-wise; and

(b) the details of quantity and the value of the foodgrains procured through de-centralised procurement system in the said States for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The year-wise and agency-wise details of total quantum of rice, wheat and coarsegrains procured by the Food Corporation of India and other Government agencies from West Bengal, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu during the last three marketing seasons and the current Kharif Marketing Season 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement-I, II and III respectively.

(b) The details of the quantity and the value of the foodgrains procured through de-centralized procurement system in the said States for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes during the above marketing seasons are given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

### Statement-I

#### Agency-wise and Year-wise Procurement of Rice (2003-04 to 2006-07)

2003-04

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State/U.T	FCI	State Govt.	CSC	Co-op	Agro Ind.	SWC	Confed	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Haryana	678	159	—	290	52	85	71	1334

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	3148	1233	1518	1343	651	769	—	8662
Maharashtra	183	50	—	74	—	—	—	308
Uttar Pradesh	—	2303	11	203	36	—	—	2554
Tamil Nadu	—	—	207	—	—	—	—	207
West Bengal	630	118	59	118	—	—	—	925

## 2004-2005

Haryana	713	250	—	450	69	115	65	1662
Punjab	3138	1462	1617	1386	691	812	—	9106
Maharashtra	157	28	—	20	—	—	—	205
Uttar Pradesh	849	1955	5	117	44	—	—	2970
Tamil Nadu	—	—	652	—	—	—	—	652
West Bengal	318	148	—	268	—	—	—	945

Neg: Belog 500 tonnes

## 2005-2006

Haryana	538	438	—	678	147	135	116	2052
Punjab	1772	1704	1857	1630	940	951	—	8854
Maharashtra	92	59	—	43	—	—	—	194
Uttar Pradesh	526	2353	15	183	74	—	—	3151
Tamil Nadu	—	—	926	—	—	—	—	926
West Bengal	809	97	41	329	—	—	—	1276

Neg: Belog 500 tonnes

## 2006-2007\*

Haryana	402	407	—	605	163	70	119	1766
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	816	1942	1823	1459	909	791	—	7740
Maharashtra	9	49	—	35	—	—	—	93
Uttar Pradesh	193	1596	20	200	78	—	—	2087
Tamil Nadu	—	—	907	—	—	—	—	907
West Bengal	148	238	—	—	—	—	—	383

Neg: Belog 500 tonnes.

\*Figures upto 13/03/2007.

**Statement-II**

*Agecny-wise and Year-wise Procurement of Wheat (2004-05 to 2006-07)*

**2004-2005**

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State/U.T	FCI	State Govt.	CSC	Co-op	Agro Ind.	SWC	UPSS	Confed	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	880	1044	—	1730	417	598	—	446	5115
Punjab	2147	838	1937	2179	1081	1058	—	—	9240
Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	15	464	139	737	332	54	—	—	1741

**2005-06**

Haryana	617	958	—	1675	430	436	—	413	4529
Punjab	1428	1083	1948	2436	1075	1040	—	—	9010
Maharashtra	41	114	35	189	107	11	63	—	560

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## 2006-07

Haryana	269	495	—	841	238	217	—	169	2229
Punjab	1063	1058	1520	1796	736	773	—	—	6946
Maharashtra	5	21	6	8	3	2	4	Neg.	49
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Below 500 = Neg.

Position as on 25.07.06.

## Statement-III

## Procurement of Coarse-Grains

(Figures in tonnes)

State/Year	Jowar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>2003-2004</b>					
Haryana	—	199121	—	—	199121
Maharashtra	42980	192	16838	—	60010
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>2004-2005</b>					
Haryana	—	130122	—	—	130122
Maharashtra	11928	4810	14757	—	31495
Punjab	—	—	227	—	227
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—
<b>2005-2006</b>					
Haryana	—	4900	—	—	4900
Maharashtra	67258	58	29649	—	96965
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—
<b>2006-2007 (Position as on 28.02.2007)</b>					
Maharashtra	195	—	—	—	195
Punjab	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana	—	—	—	—	—

Note : Coarsegrains are procured by State Agencies only.

**Statement-IV**

*Quantity and estimated value of foodgrains procured by the State govt./agencies in States of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu undertaking decentralised procurement scheme*

(quantity in '000 tonnes)

(value in Rs. in crore)

**Wheat****2004-05**

State		State Govt.	CSC	Co-op	Agro Ind.	SWC	UPSS	Confed	Total
Uttar Pradesh	quantity	464.00	139.00	737.00	332.00	54.00	—	—	1726.00
	value	292.32	87.57	464.31	209.16	34.02	—	—	1087.38

**2005-06**

Uttar Pradesh	quantity	114.00	35.00	189.00	107.00	11.00	63.00	—	519.00
	value	72.96	22.40	120.96	68.48	7.04	40.32	—	332.16

**2006-07**

Uttar Pradesh	quantity	21.00	6.00	8.00	3.00	2.00	4.00	Neg.	44.00
	value	14.70	4.20	5.60	2.10	1.40	2.80	—	30.80

\*Figures upto 25/07/2006.

Value of wheat calculated at Minimum Support Price and bonus (Procurement incidentals are not included)

**Rice****2003-04**

State		State Govt.	CSC	Co-op	Agro Ind.	SWC	UPSS	Confed	Total
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Uttar Pradesh	quantity	2303.00	11.00	203.00	36.00				2553.00
	value	1890.52	9.03	166.64	29.55				2095.75
Tamil Nadu	quantity		207.00						207.00
	value		173.01						173.01

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
West Bengal	quantity	118.00	59.00	118.00				211.00	506.00
	value	98.63		98.63				176.36	373.61
<b>2004-05</b>									
Uttar Pradesh	quantity	1955.00	5.00	117.00	44.00				2121.00
	value	1634.03	4.18	97.79	36.78				1772.78
Tamil Nadu	quantity		652.00						652.00
	value		544.96						544.96
West Bengal	quantity	148.00		268.00				211.00	627.00
	value	123.70		224.00				176.36	524.06
<b>2005-06</b>									
Uttar Pradesh	quantity	2353.00	15.00	183.00	74.00				2625.00
	value	2001.81	12.76	155.69	62.96				2233.21
Tamil Nadu	quantity		926.00						926.00
	value		787.79						787.79
West Bengal	quantity	97.00	41.00	329.00					467.00
	value	82.52	34.88	279.90					397.30
<b>2006-07</b>									
Uttar Pradesh	quantity	1596.00	20.00	200.00	78.00				1894.00
	value	1476.90	18.51	185.07	72.18				1752.66
Tamil Nadu	quantity		907.00						907.00
	value		839.31						839.31
West Bengal	quantity	238.00							238.00
	value	220.24							220.24

Neg: Below 500 tonnes

\*Figures upto 13/03/2007

Value of rice calculated at Minimum Support Price of common paddy and bonus (Procurement incidentals are not included)

[Translation]

**Production of Pulses**

2838. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the per-hectare production of pulses before and after the implementation of Green Revolution in the country, State-wise and pulses-wise;

(b) whether the Green Revolution had concentrated only on increasing production of wheat;

(c) if so, whether the Government has formulated any time bound programme to increase the production of pulses in view of its increasing imports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) The State-wise per-hectare production of various pulses before the

implementation Green Revolution (1963-64 and 1964-65) and at present (during 2005-06 and 2006-07) are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

(b) It is true that more emphasis was laid on increasing wheat production during green revolution period due to introduction of high yielding varieties, expansion of area under irrigation. Increase in wheat production was considered the need at that time to ensure self-sufficiency in cereals, but the research programmes in pulses (on Chickpea, Pigeonpea, Legumes etc.) were also going on.

(c) and (d) A Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is under implementation with effect from 01.04.2004 for increasing production and productivity of pulses in 14 States of the Country. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, distribution of seed minikits, infrastructure development, block demonstrations on improved technology, integrated pest management, weedicides, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training for increasing production and productivity of pulses. The Budget 2007-08 proposes to expand the ISOPOM.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Estimates of Productivity of Various Pulses during Pre-Green revolution Era*

(Kg./Hectare)

State	Arhar (Tur)		Gram		Other Pulses*		Total Pulses	
	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65	1963-64	1964-65
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	333	444	306	306	199	200	217	233
Assam	1000	1000	500	500	414	430	434	446
Bihar	678	892	500	459	561	516	565	520
Gujarat	548	517	539	564	313	315	370	432

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Himachal Pradesh	NG	NG	333	333	273	292	286	300
Jammu and Kashmir	NG	NG	333	333	434	485	423	469
Karnataka	381	328	283	319	239	244	270	271
Kerala	444	444	—	—	371	372	386	386
Madhya Pradesh	613	734	—	—	285	340	410	476
Maharashtra	673	644	294	332	261	264	377	381
Orissa	636	636	458	458	523	517	517	480
Punjab	667	500	511	782	497	588	506	755
Rajasthan	375	467	355	529	174	220	262	347
Tamil Nadu	364	370	500	500	232	230	237	238
Tripura	NG	NG	NG	NG	500	500	500	500
Uttar Pradesh	530	1210	548	739	475	775	522	815
West Bengal	826	705	570	526	467	498	510	493
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1000	1000	—	—	—	—	100	1000
Delhi	NG	NG	426	705	250	333	400	650
All India	561	766	480	640	342	378	418	516

NG : Either not grown or area less than 50 hectares/production less than 50 tonnes.

\* Other pulses include urad, moong, lakh or khesari.

#### Statement-II

#### State-wise Estimates of Productivity of Various Pulses during 2005-06 and 2006-07

(Kg./Hectare)

State	Arhar (Tur)		Gram		Urad		Other Pulses*		Total Pulses	
	2005-06	2006-07*	2005-06	2006-07*	2005-06	2006-07*	2005-06	2006-07*	2005-06	2006-07*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	609	455	1591	1187	595	526	417	697	772	653

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Assam	692	714	500	500	489	538	551	575	537	563
Bihar	1291	1306	902	903	770	750	689	776	749	775
Gujarat	1102	848	850	868	379	352	341	656	704	627
Himachal Pradesh	#	#	538	1000	407	455	960	313	713	370
Jammu and Kashmir	#	#	500	#	419	429	622	615	504	519
Karnataka	727	465	548	560	214	155	322	424	487	408
Kerala	#	1500	#	#	714	1000	781	1200	775	1167
Madhya Pradesh	739	837	926	722	425	353	487	664	754	630
Maharashtra	720	668	691	819	430	351	363	646	584	603
Orissa	742	797	646	775	253	264	357	455	416	421
Punjab	885	1000	750	900	464	500	833	881	804	484
Rajasthan	647	300	443	985	253	520	168	588	261	584
Tamil Nadu	540	612	678	657	329	381	307	497	337	440
Tripura	692	#	500	#	#	#	655	#	629	#
Uttar Pradesh	987	1474	893	1038	444	523	876	1176	811	1050
West Bengal	889	750	913	896	716	631	774	793	785	751
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	867	#	500	#	#	#	844	#	862	#
Delhi	1000	#	1000	#	#	#	1000	#	1000	#
All India	765	758	808	835	419	425	426	689	597	651

\* 2nd Advance Estimates released on 05.02.2007.

# Either not grown or area less than 50 hectares/production less than 50 tonnes.

\* Other pulses include moong, masur, moth, kulthi, peas and lakh or khesari.

### Reservoirs of Jharkhand

2839. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether revised detailed plan estimate of Auranga Reservoir plan of Palamu Commissioner of Jharkhand is pending with the Central Water Commission for a long period;

(b) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be approved;

(c) the time by which construction work is likely to be started as per the revised estimate of the plan along with the details of the funds proposed for implementation of this project; and

(d) the main reasons for delay in its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Auranga Reservoir Project of Jharkhand was accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission in September, 1983 for Rs.125.40 Crore. Revised estimate of Rs. 297.81 crore (at 1987-88 Price Level) was accepted by the TAC in its 55th meeting held in August, 1993 subject to environment and forest clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and clearance of R and R plan from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The State Government of Jharkhand has again submitted a revised estimate of the Auranga Reservoir project of Rs. 1260.88 crore at December 2004 price level in June, 2006 for appraisal. Observation on cost aspect was sent to the State Government on 01.11.2006 for compliance. The time taken for the approval/clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government arranges compliance to the observations of Central Appraising Agencies.

(c) and (d) Irrigation being a State subject, the projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Government

as per their own requirements and priority of works. However, as reported by the State Government, cumulative expenditure on Auranga Reservoir project upto March, 2006 is Rs.75.53 crore including an expenditure of Rs. 26.29 crore incurred on this project during 2005-06.

[English]

### Films Produced

2840. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of films produced during each of the last three years and current year in the country, language-wise;

(b) the revenue earned by the Union Government and the States through film industry during the said period;

(c) the number of persons directly or indirectly employed in the film sector; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of film industry.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) The Indian film industry is largely in the private sector. This Ministry do not maintain any database regarding number of films being produced during a year. However, the number of films that have been certified, language-wise, by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) during 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and from April, 2006 to December, 2006 is given in the enclosed Statement-I to IV.

(b) The details regarding revenue earned by the States from films is not maintained by the Ministry. However, revenue earned by the way of a certification fees and Cess fees during the period by CBFC is as follows:-

Year	Certification fees (in Rs.)	Cess fees (in Rs.)
2003-04	36,98,974	1,17,88,000
2004-05	51,71,809	1,18,15,000
2005-06	53,53,234	1,52,71,000
April, 06 to Dec., 06	60,84,151	89,40,500

The Cess so collected from films at the time of certification goes to the Cine Workers Welfare Fund.

(c) The film industry is a large employer. People in large numbers are employed directly in the production of films and others who are involved in the distribution and exhibition of films, etc. However, this Ministry does not maintain any database regarding generation of Director/ Indirect employment in the film sector.

(d) Apart from the policy intervention of declaring this sector as 'Industry' and enabling institutional finance to the sector, the government had actively interceded with the Finance Ministry for reduction/removal of excise duties and duties.

While restrictions on import of films in India have been withdrawn, FDI, is permitted 100% on the automatic route. The Government has also signed Co-production agreements with Germany, Italy and UK and such

agreements are under negotiation with other countries (China, Brazil, Canada, and Hungary).

Government of India have also been working along with industry organizations in the past to coordinate efforts in the international market. The Directorate of Film Festivals and other media units organize and also participate in festivals abroad and send films to our various embassies for festivals.

Ministry of I and B offer financial support for the Film Bazaar, (organised alongwith IFFI) and for participation in film markets like Cannes and the American Film Market to explore global marketing opportunities.

In the year 2006, the Directorate of Film Festivals organized festivals during the period of the Frankfurt Book Fair and at Brussels. These were apart from their regular coordination with our Embassies.

After a detailed discussion with the Industry in July 2006, Ministry has constituted five Core Groups on export of films and related issues, piracy, exhibition sector, certification, promotion, development, marketing of films, film festivals in India and abroad and on technical issues such as taxation and custom duty to study different areas and make recommendations. The recommendations of these Core Groups are being utilised to formulate steps for facilitation and promotion of the film Industry's interests.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Indian Feature Films*

*(Celluloid)*

*From 1-1-2006 to 31-12-2006*

*(Region-wise - Language-wise)*





1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14. Rajasthani		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
15. Bhojpuri		37	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39
16. Punjab and Urdu	—		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
17. Bhojpuri (Dub)		6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
18. Kannda (Dub)		4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
19. Malayalam (Dub)		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
20. Nagpuri	—		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
21. Bengali (Dub)		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
22. Gujarati (Dub)		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
23. Tamil (Dub)		4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
24. Konkani	—		—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
25. Telugu (Dub)		5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
26. Maithili		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
27. Punjabi		5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
28. Hinglish		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
29. Garhwali		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
30. Hindi (Dub)		3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
31. Sanskrit		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
32. Tibetan with English sub-titles	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
33. Manipur	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
34. Monpa-Arunachal	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>381</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1041</b>

Mum-Mumbai, Kol-Kolkata, Che-Chennai, Ban-Bangalore, Thi-Thiruvananthapuram, Hyd-Hyderabad, Del-Delhi, Cut-Cuttack, Guw-Guwahati.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20. Nagpuri		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
21. Himachali		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
22. Aaodhi		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
23. Tamil (Dub)		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
24. Konkani		1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
25. Telugu (Dub)		5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
26. Silent		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
27. Punjabi		4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
28. Maithili		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
29. Garhwali		3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
30. Banjara		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
31. Sadri		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>377</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>934</b>

Mum-Mumbai, Kol-Kolkata, Che-Chennai, Ban-Bangalore, Thi-Thiruvananthapuram, Hyd-Hyderabad, Del-Delhi, Cut-Cuttack, Guw-Guwahati.

**Statement-IV**

*Central Board of Film Certification*

*Indian Feature Films Certified from 1.1.2003 to 31.12.2003*

*(Region-wise Language-Wise (Celluloid Films))*

S.No.	Language	Mum	Kol	Che	Ban	Thi	Hyd	ND	Cut	Guw	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Hindi	173	1	7	4	27	10	—	—	—	222
2.	Tamil	4	—	111	5	17	14	—	—	—	151

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3.	Telugu	7	—	12	11	6	119	—	—	—	155
4.	Malayalam	—	—	1	—	63	—	—	—	—	64
5.	Kannada	—	—	—	109	—	—	—	—	—	109
6.	Bengali	2	43	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	49
7.	Gujarati	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	14
8.	Marathi	24	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	25
9.	English	15	—	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	23
10.	Nepali	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
11.	Oriya	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	13
12.	Assamese	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	17
13.	Manipuri	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
14.	Rajasthani	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
15.	Bhojpuri	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
16.	Punjabi	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
17.	Kumayani	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Bundeli	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
19.	Chhattisgarhi	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4
20.	Nagpuri	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
21.	Haryanvi	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
22.	Garhwali	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
23.	Santhali	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total		267	49	135	131	113	147	1	17	17	877

Mum-Mumbai, Kol-Kolkata, Che-Chennai, Ban-Bangalore, Thi-Thiruvananthapuram, Hyd-Hyderabad, Del-Delhi, Cut-Cuttack, Guw-Guwahati.

### Agriculture Research Infrastructure

2841. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether India has one of the largest agriculture research infrastructure in the world;
- (b) if so, the number of scientists, research fellows and their assistants engaged therein;
- (c) the number of research paper presented and new varieties of crops discovered during 2005-06 and 2006-07;
- (d) whether many of the scientists and research fellows failed to present a single research paper or discovered new variety of crops during the said period;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government is considering to make it compulsory to present a particular number of research paper by the scientists and research fellows; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently 4328 scientists are engaged in research/extension and teaching activities in various research institutes of the ICAR. Research Fellows/ Research Associates are engaged on contractual basis depending on operational needs and requirements, co-terminus with approved research projects.

(c) The scientists and researchers have been publishing numerous papers in various disciplines of agriculture every year. During 2002, nearly 7000 research

papers were published and cited in CAB Abstracts (CABA). In addition, there were several papers published in various journals. For complete enumeration of research papers for the years under reference, a study would need to be commissioned which is a time taking process.

Further the number of varieties/hybrids released was 108 during 2005 and 83 during 2006.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Publication of paper each year is not a must on the part of scientists as many of them may be engaged in long term research projects and other activities viz. research management, coordination, technology refinement and dissemination and education.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Not Applicable.

### Violation of Environmental Norms in Orissa

2842. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the lease holders of iron ore mines around Khandadhar in Orissa are not abiding by the environment norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Three mining projects, namely, (i) Kurmitar Block Iron Mine (Part of Khandadhar Iron Ore Mine) of M/s. Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd., (ii) Mahulsukha Manganese Mine of M/s. Aryan Mining and Trading Corporation Pvt. Ltd., and (iii) Bhutuda Manganese Mine of M/s. AXL Exploration Pvt. Ltd. located within 5 km. radius around Khandadhar in Orissa, are reported to

be violating the environment norms. None of these projects have been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

(c) Pursuant to the Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P. (Civil) No. 460 of 2004, Goa Foundation versus Union of India, Governments of all the States and Union Territories have been directed to close down all the units operating in violation of the environmental laws.

#### Olive-Plantation in Rajasthan

2843. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area covered under olive plantation in Rajasthan at present;

(b) whether there is a vast scope to promote the plantation of said trees in the State; and

(c) if so, the assistance provided to increase the areas under the said plantation in the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) At present, Olive crop is not under cultivation in Rajasthan.

(b) So far, no trial has been made for cultivation of Olive in Rajasthan. However, the State wants to experiment with this crop in areas having climatic conditions similar to Olive growing areas of Israel. The Rajasthan State Agriculture Marketing Board has entered into an agreement with Indolive Ltd. an Israeli company and Plastro Plasson Industries (India) Limited to establish Rajasthan Olive Company for cultivation, processing and marketing of olive products.

(c) So far, no assistance has been provided for olive plantation in the State.

#### Funds Released under NHM to Manipur

2844. SHRI MANI CHARENAMAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds released under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) to Manipur since its inception, year-wise;

(b) whether transportation and marketing facilities were provided to farmers under the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in NE States including Sikkim (TMNE) since 2001-2002 to address all the issues related to development of horticulture in these states which also includes State of Manipur. The Scheme is being implemented in a Mission Mode approach. The details of the year-wise release of funds for implementation of programmes in Manipur are as under:-

Year	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
2001-02	785.179
2002-03	685.000
2003-04	638.000
2004-05	1286.250
2005-06	1500.000
2006-07	1753.735

(b) and (c) Under this Technology Mission for

Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States (TMNE), this Ministry provide assistance to the State Governments including Manipur for establishment of

market infrastructure for facilitating marketing of horticultural produce. The details of assistance provided for market infrastructure is as under:-

Market infrastructure	Estimated Project cost	Rate of assistance
Whole Sale Market	Upto Rs.100.00 crores	⊙ 33.33% of Project cost, as credit linked backended subsidy.
Rural Primary Market	Rs.15.00 lakhs	⊙ 50% of the Project cost.
Apni Mandies	Rs.15.00 lakhs	⊙ 50% of the Project cost.
State Grading Laboratories	Rs.2.50 lakhs	⊙ 100% of the Project cost.

#### Funds for Dairy Development

#### Statement

2845.SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

State-wise funds released during the last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Dairy Development

(a) the funds allocated under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Dairy Development to each State during the last three years; and

S. No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8.19	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	150.00	39.37	200.50
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.20	—	—
4.	Assam	—	304.06	8.52
5.	Bihar	100.00	100.53	100.00
6.	Jharkhand	99.91	—	146.89
7.	Gujarat	—	—	251.25
8.	Haryana	—	162.89	392.36
9.	Himachal Pradesh	50.75	198.59	—

(b) the details of the scheme proposed to be introduced for dairy development in Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Funds are released to states, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on the basis of the cost of projects approved and demand received from them. State-wise release of funds under the schemes during the last three years is placed at enclosed statement.

(b) No new scheme is proposed to be introduced for Dairy Development in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. However the existing schemes are likely to continue.

1	2	3	4	5
10	Jammu and Kashmir	—	180.79	—
11.	Kerala	—	77.63	697.48
12.	Karnataka	—	697.47	53.85
13.	Madhya Pradesh	—	61.67	583.19
14.	Maharashtra	—	409.94	994.80
15.	Meghalaya	50.00	150.00	65.00
16.	Mizoram	—	139.72	96.76
17.	Nagaland	—	106.83	270.18
18.	Orrisa	—	474.46	1088.80
19.	Rajasthan	—	297.96	519.67
20.	Sikkim	324.80	70.79	397.89
21.	Tamil Nadu	—	282.92	111.50
22.	Uttar Pradesh	325.09	461.46	507.81
23.	Uttaranchal	483.00	586.02	201.12
24.	West Bengal	—	42.01	162.76
25.	Pondicherry	—	—	19.30
26.	Punjab	—	178.30	87.11
27.	Goa	—	—	91.48

[Translation]

#### Conservation of Bats

2846. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bats are being hunted on a large scale in various parts of the country and eight out of thirteen fruit-eating species of it are on the verge of extinction;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme for conservation of bats; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to conserve bats under Wildlife Conservation Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Instances of hunting of fruit eating bats can not be ruled out. As per the information based on the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) Workshop on Bats, organized under the aegis of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), during 2002, out of thirteen fruit bats in India, 3 are listed as 'Endangered', 1 as 'Vulnerable', 4 as 'Near Threatened' and 5 species as of 'Least Concern'.

(b) Several efforts have been made by the Government institutions such as the Wildlife Institute of India, Zoological Survey of India and Non Governmental Organizations such as the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Zoo Outreach Organization, Madurai Karraj University, and others in the form of inventory, monitoring and ecological studies on fruit bats.

(c) Under the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Salim Ali's Fruit Bat (*Latidens Salimalii*) has been included in Schedule-I thereby affording it highest degree of protection. Further, the habitats of fruit bats in Protected Areas are fully protected under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

#### Sick Steel PSU

2847. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick steel units in the country as on date;

(b) whether the Government proposes to review/restructure some of them particularly Hindustan Steel Construction Limited (HSCL);

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

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) None of the Public Sector steel making companies is sick presently.

(b) to (d) Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd. (HSCL) another PSU under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel is not a sick PSU, although the company has been incurring net losses. However, Government has submitted a restructuring proposal of HSCL to Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for its recommendation. The restructuring proposal contains various options for (i) revival of all business (ii) revival of select business and (iii) complete closure by the year 2007-08; and (iv) continuance of the existing business on 'as is' basis.

[English]

#### Hiring of Private Godowns

2848. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the storage capacity hired by Food Corporation of India (FCI) in private godowns during the last three years and the current year alongwith the rent paid therefor;

(b) whether steps were taken by the Government for ensuring reduction in rent at the time of hiring these godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the storage capacity likely to be hired during 2007-08 alongwith the rent to be paid therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The details of storage capacity hired by Food Corporation of India (FCI) from private parties during the last three years alongwith rent paid are as under:—

(Figure in lakh MTs)

Year (as on 31st March)	Capacity	Rent paid (in Rs. crore)
2003-04	18.01	17.64
2004-05	14.13	12.05
2005-06	8.83	9.37 (RE)
2006-07 (Upto 31.1.2007)	6.92	7.00 (RE)

(b) to (d) For revision of rate and rent etc., General Manager (Regions) have full powers to take decision keeping in view the cost effectiveness and other relevant parameters. During the last three years 23 lakh MTs private godown capacity has been dehi red.

(e) The private godowns capacity is hired only, if it is absolutely necessary. The present utilization of FCI owned storage capacity is 46%. Hiring of the godowns and rent to be paid during 2007-08 will depend upon the trend of procurement and off-take.

#### Transportation of Fertilizers

2849. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Agriculture Ministers Conference was held in January 2007 in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to ease the transportation situation with regard to the movement of fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Resolutions adopted during the first State Agriculture Ministers' Conference on issue relating to fertilizer sector is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to ease the transportation situation like completion of Gadag-Bagalkot railway line, stabilizing new Mangalore Hassan BG route, providing infrastructure/upgrading certain locations of various railway stations of Karnataka and availability of rakes etc. The Ministry of Railways have informed as under:

- (i) Conversion of Gadag-Bagalkot section is targeted for completion during 2007-08;
- (ii) Mangalore-Hassan line passes through Ghat section where slopes have been cut recently. There have been some slope failure during monsoon and action is being taken to stabilize slopes whenever considered necessary. Wagons were made available as and when the demands were made at Mangalore port and will be assured in future also;
- (iii) Hassan: All necessary infrastructure is available for handling both inward and outward traffic smoothly; and
- (iv) Bangarupet: All infrastructures is available at Bangarpet goods shed for dealing with inward and outward traffic in train loads. Goods traffic are being handled smoothly at this station.

### Statement

#### *Resolutions Adopted during the First State Agriculture Ministers' Conference on Issues Relating to Fertilizer Sector*

The First Conference of the State Agriculture Ministers on issues relating to fertilizer sector was held on 29.1.2007 with Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Steel in the Chair. The conference was attended by 12 State Agriculture Ministers and officials from 24 State governments, Members of the Consultative Committee of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Steel representatives of line Ministries/Departments in the Government of India concerned with the fertilizer sector, CMDs/MDs/representatives of fertilizer manufacturing and trading companies as well as Secretary and other officials of Department of Fertilizers (DOF).

The State Ministers appreciated the initiative taken by the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers in taking this Conference. They also desired that such a Conference be convened twice a year before the onset of Kharif and Rabi.

On the basis of the discussions held, the following resolutions were adopted:-

- All State governments should ensure realistic assessment of demand for fertilizer products based on area under crop, under irrigation and cropping pattern. The assessment should be developed from each block and aggregated into district-wise demand and further consolidated into the States seasonal demand.
- The demand for fertilizers for the season should thereafter be worked out in consultation with fertilizer companies and major suppliers of fertilizers in each State on a district-wise, month-wise and company-wise format.

- Gaps, if any, between assessed demand and availability in respect of urea would be met through timely imports on government account which will be distributed through the lead fertilizer companies.
- Gaps, if any, between demand and availability of de-controlled PandK fertilizers (DAP/MOP/Complexes/SSP) would be identified by each State government in consultation with the fertilizer manufacturers/suppliers.
- Keeping in view the experience, the Conference favoured canalization of import of DAP & MOP and requested the DOF to take necessary action.
- To facilitate distribution of de-controlled fertilizers, each State government should identify at least one State Institutional Agency which would be empowered to import the required quantities of de-controlled fertilizers for meeting its requirement. The responsibility for fully meeting the requirement of de-controlled fertilizers in any State would be with the concerned State government. Buffer stocking of de-controlled fertilizers by the DOF would be made only to meet any emergent requirement and not to cover any gap between assessed demand and availability under the "supply plan" for that season.
- To ensure equitable distribution of fertilizers, each State government would review the existing dealership net work so as to ensure that the distribution chain is spread evenly throughout the State upto the Block level. Wherever required, fertilizer companies would be required to strengthen the distribution chain by arranging for appointment of additional wholesalers/distributors/retailers by 31st March 2007. Adequate representation will be given to persons belonging to Scheduled Caste/Tribe and other weaker sections in such distribution network.
- The distribution network in each State should be monitored vigorously to prevent any instance of hoarding and black marketing and wherever required necessary penalties, as provided under the FCO, should be strictly enforced.
- Fertilizer companies should arrange, by 31.3.2007, for a primary stock point in each district in which they are marketing fertilizer products with a view towards ensuring sufficient supply to each block in the country.
- Lead fertilizer companies should maintain a primary stock point in each district of the State by 31.3.2007.
- Fertilizer companies shall perform and supply fertilizers as per the "supply plan". Subsidy will be paid to the fertilizer companies only on reaching the fertilizer to the primary stock point.
- The DOF will arrange for pre-positioning of urea at the level of 75% of each months requirement from Kharif, '07 onwards as against the current practice of 33%.
- The DOF will also arrange for buffer stock of urea upto 5% of the seasonal requirement. The buffer stocks will be pre-positioned in each of the major agriculture states through the lead fertilizer units. The minimum buffer in such major states will be 50,000 MTs.
- State governments will conduct a thorough review of the physical infrastructure by way of godowns etc. which could help to facilitate storage and distribution of fertilizers in the State.
- State governments in consultation with the Railways will also review the designated rake points and physical infrastructure at the rake

sidings with a view to identify short-comings requiring modification/improvement.

- The DOF will work towards ensuring adequate compensation to the fertilizer manufacturers/suppliers to meet their distribution costs. Towards this end, reimbursement of primary and secondary freight component would be made on a realistic basis for both nitrogenous as well as phosphatic and potassic fertilizer.
- The Conference favoured the introduction of the web-based Fertilizer Monitoring System and decided that all concerned including the fertilizer companies and the State/District officials would be required to enter data on a real-time basis.
- The DOF will arrange for dissemination of knowledge and information to the fertilizer companies as well as representatives of State governments regarding operationalisation of the FMS through a series of regional conferences to be held in February, 2007 to conclude with an All India Conference for District Agriculture Officers in March/April, 2007.
- The Department of Fertilizers should expedite the process of revival of closed fertilizers plants, keeping in view the likely availability of gas in the country. Efforts should also be made for the setting up of new fertilizers units.
- The Department of Fertilizers should arrange for opening of regional offices of facilitate the monitoring of availability of fertilizers as also addressing other issue relating to the fertilizers sector.
- In addition to the focus on availability of fertilizers, the quality aspect of fertilizers supplied should be ensured.

### Export of Steel

2850. SHRI NARHARI MAHATO : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to export steel during the next five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the revenue likely to accrue therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) No, Sir. The steel sector was deregulated, delicensed and decontrolled in 1991-92. Therefore, no decision regarding export of steel is taken by the Government. The steel producers are free to take such decisions based on their commercial conditions.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

### Production by Integrated Steel Plants

2851. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of production by integrated steel plants against total production and the percentage thereof during the current year;
- (b) whether certain percentage of the total steel produced by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been semis and it was because of lower landed price of imported value added materials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) The production of integrated steel plants of main producers (Steel Authority

of India Limited, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and Tata Steel Limited) is 18.222 million tonnes against the total production of 37.022 million tonnes during April-January 2007 (Provisional). This amount to 49.22% of total production.

(b) and (c) The product-mix, based on facilities installed at SAIL plants, includes semis. The production of semis in SAIL plants during 2005-06 was 19% andn during 2006-07 (upto February, 2007) is 18%. The production of semis is not due to price consideration.

(d) Corporate plan for expansion and modernization of SAIL plants includes installation of additional finishing facilities, which will reduce the percentage of semis in saleable steel.

[Translation]

#### Income from Crop Production

2852. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government makes any assessment regarding income earned by the farmers through production of crop on the basis of per hectare inputs yield and support price of the crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such an assessment has been made with regard to wheat crop;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is a substantial difference between the cost of crop production and the support price of crops which is detrimental to the interests of the farmers;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to increase the support price of wheat; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) According to the Report of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) on Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 2006-07 season, the gross return per hectare from cultivation of some major crops including wheat for the year 2005-06 is as follows:-

Name of the Crop	Gross Return (Rs./Hectare)
Paddy	16564
Paddy (Super fine)	17436
Wheat	16909
Bajra	4715
Gram	11172
Arhar	9282
Rapeseed and Mustard	17476
Groundnut	15580
Cotton (F414/H777)	14362
Cotton (H4)	16157
Jute (TDS)	19711
Sugarcane	49742

The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of a crop is fixed on the basis of recommendations of the CACP. The CACP while recommending the MSP to the Government takes into account the cost of production of the crop as well as several other factor like trend and spread of input use, production and productivity of the crops concerned, market prices (both domestic and global), inter-crop price parity, emerging supply-demand situation, procurement and

distribution, terms of trade between agricultural and non-agricultural sectors.

(e) to (h) The government has announced MSP for Wheat for the crop season 2006-07 marketable during 2007-08 at Rs.750.00 per quintal which is Rs.100.00 higher than the previous crop season 2005-06. The average cost of production as projected by CACP of the wheat crop for the year 2006-2007 is Rs. 574.00 per quintal.

[English]

#### Funds for Development of Fisheries

2853.DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for development of fisheries during 2006-07, State-wise;

(b) the amount spent upto December 31, 2006 and percentage of utilization, State-wise; and

(c) the amount earmarked for 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) : (a) and (b) The Government extends assistance to State Governments/ Union Territories (UTs) and other implementing agencies under various schemes on need basis and receipt of proposals for the development of fisheries and welfare and fishermen. Out of Rs. 232.00 crore provided at Budget Estimate (BE) and Rs. 131.93 crore at Revised Estimate (RE) stage in 2006-07, a sum of Rs. 99.49 crore was sanctioned till December 31, 2006 that constitute 42.88% of BE and 75.41% of RE. The amount sanctioned to States/ UTs/implementing agencies is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The amount earmarked for 2007-08 under these schemes is Rs.162.68 crore.

#### Statement

Central assistance sanctioned under various schemes to States Government/Union Territories/implementing agencies for development of fisheries and welfare of fishermen in 2006-07 till December 31, 2006

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of State/Union Territory/ Implementing Agency	Amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	531.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38.45
3.	Bihar	108.04
4.	Chhattisgarh	113.11
5.	Goa	109.00
6.	Gujarat	405.25
7.	Haryana	10.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.25
9.	Jharkhand	20.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	242.75
11.	Karnataka	838.38
12.	Kerala	697.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	135.45
14.	Maharashtra	434.24
15.	Manipur	10.00
16.	Mizoram	10.89
17.	Nagaland	70.00

1	2	3
18.	Orissa	50.00
19.	Rajasthan	81.86
20.	Sikkim	2.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	119.48
22.	Tripura	68.87
23.	Uttar Pradesh	502.60
24.	Uttaranchal	34.00
25.	West Bengal	561.00
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.48
27.	Daman and Diu	69.00
28.	Pondicherry	1149.00
29.	Others	524.25
30.	National Fisheries Development Board	3000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>9949.38</b>

#### Availability of Toxic Substances

2854. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 70,000 toxic substances exists in the field of Agriculture by way of poisonous pesticides;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in the availability of these substances in the market;

(c) if so, the source from which the poisonous pesticides are being imported or procured; and

(d) the steps taken to provide treatment and

analytical support for poison cases besides providing information on the toxic compounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) 204 pesticides are registered for import, manufacture and use for plant protection in the country. These pesticides are registered by the Registration Committee, after thorough scrutiny of their efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. Scientific and judicious usage of pesticides as per the label and leaflets, do not pose any hazard or poisoning.

(d) Information on toxicity, symptoms of poisoning and suitable and adequate safety measures and treatment are provided on the labels and leaflets of every registered pesticide. Facilities for the treatment and analytical support for poison cases exists in the Government and private hospitals and Poison Information/Control Centres. Government has established Central Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Centres to impart training and special awareness of safe pesticides usage practices and IPM to farmers by organizing Farmers Field School (FFSs) across the country.

#### Merger of Local Taxes with MRP of Drug Price

2855. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR :  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

(a) whether the Government's decision to merge local taxes with the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) has pushed up drug prices as reported in the Hindu dated February 17, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the prices of essential drugs/medicines were not brought down within the reach of common man despite all the measures taken by the Government; and

(d) if so, the new strategy to be adopted to bring down the prices of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) and (b) Vide S.O. No. 946(E) dated the 26th June, 2006, the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of medicines inclusive of all local taxes has been made effective from the 2nd October, 2006. The batches manufactured after 2nd October, 2006 are required to carry the MRP inclusive of all taxes. However for imported formulations, MRP inclusive of all taxes has been made applicable w.e.f. 1-3-2007.

(c) and (d) Price impact in respect of Scheduled formulations due to introduction of MRP inclusive of all taxes is about 0.45% only taking into account 4% VAT and 40% abatement on MRP for calculation of excise duty. After the increase in abatement rate from 40% to 42.5% in January, 2007 for calculation of excise duty, the price impact of 0.45% due to introduction of MRP inclusive of all taxes will be neutralized.

The 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed / revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provision of the DPCO, 95. These drugs have been kept under price control on the basis of criteria mentioned in 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', announced in September, 1994. The price fixation/revision of the Scheduled Drugs and formulations is a continuous process under DPCO, 95.

Prices of non-scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various

factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

The monitoring of price of non-scheduled formulations is currently on the basis of data from ORG IMS.

Companies are short listed where there is an increase in price of a non-scheduled formulation by more than 20% in one year and the annual turnover of the formulation pack exceeds Rs.1 crore. Further, the share of the formulator in that segment of the formulation is required to be at least 20% of the market or the medicine is one of the top 3 selling brands of that group. The criteria, namely, high turnover and 20% price increase are designed to identify cases of mass consumption and to meet the requirement of 'public interest', referred to in para 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995.

Monitoring of prices of non-scheduled formulations is an ongoing exercise undertaken by the NPPA. Recently, this Department/NPPA has issued orders for reduction in the prices of 14 formulations by 0.50% to 24.54%. Now the NPPA has been authorized to take up such cases itself and reduce prices to the permissible level, if necessary. In case a company fails to adhere to the price so fixed by the NPPA, a case of overcharging will be processed against that company by NPPA.

#### Import of Copper by VSP

2856. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) has imported a large quantity of copper;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years alongwith the reasons for such an import;

(c) whether this import of copper is the subject of a vigilance enquiry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the quantity of copper required for manufacturing purposes in any given year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) has imported copper plats both Machined and Unmachined being used in Moulds of Continuous Casting Machines in the Steel Melt Shop. These copper plates suiting to the requirement of the Moulds in VSP are not available indigenously and hence are being procured from imported sources. The details of imports made by VSP during last two years are as under:-

(Unit in tonnes)

S.No.	Description	2005	2006
(i)	Machined Copper Plates	12	12.5
(ii)	Unmachined Copper Plates	15	15.5

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) 185 tonnes of copper is estimated to be required for the production of Value added Steel Production at Steel Melting Shop during 2006-07.

#### Purchase of Land by CWC

2857.SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

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

(a) whether Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) proposes to purchase land in various States to increase in storage capacity during 2007-08;

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

(c) the details of the expenditure likely to be incurred by CWC on such purchases;

(d) the extent to which storage capacity is likely to be increased as a result thereof, State-wise;

(e) the details of the assistance given to State Government for enhancing storage capacity under State Warehousing Corporations during 2006-07, State-wise; and

(f) the criteria for allocation of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details land proposed to be purchased by Central Warehousing Corporation during 2007-08 are as under:-

Himachal Pradesh	-	4 acres (Shimla),
Kerala	-	5 acres (Kannur) and
Tamil Nadu	-	2.5 acres (Tuticorin).

(c) Tentative cost on purchase of such land is Rs. 20 lakh in Himachal Pradesh, Rs.10 lakh in Kerala and Rs. 22.50 lakh in Tamil Nadu.

(d) Himachal Pradesh	10,000 MT
Kerala	10,000 MT
Tamil Nadu	10,000 MT

(e) CWC does not provide any assistance to the State Government for enhancing the storage capacity under SWCs.

(f) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Earnings Through FM

2858.SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

SHRI MANI CHARENAMI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is earning revenue from the FM radio;

(b) if so, the the revenue being received therefrom, State-wise as on date;

(c) the details of FM radio stations functioning as on date, State-wise;

(d) the average estimated cost of setting up of a FM radio stations;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up more FM radio stations;

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

(g) the provisions made for meeting the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the revenue earned by AIR FM radio stations, state-wise, during the period 2005-06 have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-I. The Government also earned a sum of Rs.1527 crores (approx.) from private broadcasters, the details of which have been given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) The details of the AIR stations currently functional, state-wise, have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-III. Besides, permissions have been granted to run 266 private FM channels under the Policy of expansion of FM radio Broadcasting Services through Private agencies under the Scheme Phase I and Phase II out of which 56 stations are presently operational. Details of these 56 stations have been given in the enclosed Statement-IV.

(d) The average cost of setting up of FM transmitter may vary from Rs.10 Lakh to 11 crores depending upon the power of the transmitter (ranging from 10 KW to 20 KW) and various other factors.

(e) and (f) Seventy-five stations have been proposed under the Tenth Plan by the AIR, the details of which have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-V. Out of this, 3 FM stations have already been commissioned. Besides, 97 locations have also been identified for allotment to private broadcasters for establishment of FM stations on the basis of closed tender systems as per details given in the enclosed Statement-VI.

(g) So far as Private FM Radio is concerned, the entire expenditure for establishment of the radio station is borne by the Private FM operators. As regards AIR FM, the expenditure is to be met out from approved plan fund during the financial year of the annual plan based on phasing of expenditure.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise revenue from AIR FM stations during 2005-2006*

S. No.	State	Amount (Rs. In crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.3388
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.2954
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
4.	Assam	0.2525
5.	Bihar	1.3212
6.	Chhattisgarh	0.1689
7.	Delhi	1.2243

1	2	3
8.	Goa	0.112
9.	Gujarat	0.9888
10.	Haryana	0.1509
11.	Himachal Pradesh	0.0254
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.2371
13.	Jharkhand	1.8637
14.	Karnataka	2.3399
15.	Kerala	2.3695
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1.8913
17.	Maharashtra	2.0473
18.	Meghalaya	0.0700
19.	Mizoram	0.0411
20.	Manipur	0.1213
21.	Nagaland	0
22.	Orissa	0.2966
23.	Punjab	0.6563
24.	Rajasthan	1.1012
25.	Tamil Nadu	9.2017
26.	Tripura	0.1938
27.	U.T. Daman	0.0106
28.	U.T. Karaikal	0.4801
28.	U.T. Chandigarh	1.5357
30.	Uttar Pradesh	2.0515

1	2	3
31.	Uttaranchal	0.
32.	West Bengal	0.8669
33.	Sikkim	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>33.2538</b>

**Statement-II**

*State-wise Revenue earned from Private FM channels  
Since March, 2000 onwards.*

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Total Revenue Earned from Private FM Channels
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	894,936,397
2.	Assam	12,291,090
3.	Bihar	52,810,000
4.	Chandigarh	262,169,345
5.	Chhattisgarh	63,430,006
6.	Daman and Diu	1,05,002
7.	Delhi	2,305,374,048
8.	Goa	42,168,990
9.	Gujarat	863,026,701
10.	Haryana	32,637,220
11.	Himachal Pradesh	25,840,090
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	16,354,912
13.	Jharkhand	42,666,979

1	2	3
14.	Karnataka	1,497,158,347
15.	Kerala	682,862,734
16.	Madhya Pradesh	486,431,357
17.	Maharashtra	4,184,457,552
18.	Manipur	1,303,000
19.	Meghalaya	3,014,000
20.	Mizoram	1,207,000
21.	Orissa	32,519,180
22.	Pondicherry	85,910,990
23.	Punjab	206,420,270
24.	Rajasthan	357,254,676
25.	Sikkim	5,307,101
26.	Tamil Nadu	1,728,998,568
27.	Tripura	1,620,000
28.	Uttar Pradesh	928,596,589
29.	West Bengal	452,201,869
<b>Total</b>		<b>15,270,074,013</b>

**Statement-III**

*List of Existing AIR FM Radio Transmitters  
(161 Nos.)*

S.No.	Place	Power
1	2	3
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Anantpur	6 kW

1	2	3
2.	Kothaguda	6 kW
3.	Kurnool	6 kW
4.	Markapuram	6 kW
5.	Nizamabad	6 kW
6.	Tirupati	3 kW, 10 kW
7.	Warangal	10 kW
8.	Hyderabad	6 kW, 5 kW
9.	V'apatnam	10 kW
10.	Vijaywada	1 kW (Interim set-up)
<b>Assam</b>		
11.	Haflong	6 kW
12.	Jorhat	10 kW
13.	Nowgong	6 kW
14.	Dhubri	6 kW
15.	Guwahati	10 kW
<b>Bihar</b>		
16.	Prunea	6 kW
17.	Sasaram	6 kW
18.	Patna	6 kW
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>		
19.	Bilaspur	6 kW
20.	Raigarh	6 kW
21.	Raipur	1 kW (Interim set-up)

1	2	3	1	2	3
22.	Saraipalli	1 kW	40.	Poonch	6 kW
<b>Delhi</b>			41.	Srinagar	10 kW
23.	Delhi	5 kW, 10 kW	42.	Bhadarwah	6 kW
<b>Goa</b>			43.	Rajouri	10 kW
24.	Panaji	6 kW	<b>Jharkhand</b>		
<b>Gujarat</b>			44.	Chaibasa	6 kW
25.	Godhra	6 kW	45.	Hazaribagh	6 kW
26.	Ahmedabad	10 kW	46.	Daltonganj	10 kW
27.	Surat	6 kW	47.	Jamshedpur	6 kW
28.	Rajkot	10 kW	48.	Ranchi	6 kW
29.	Vadodara	10 kW	<b>Karnataka</b>		
<b>Haryana</b>			49.	Bijapur	6 kW
30.	Hissar	6 kW	50.	Chitradurga	6 kW
31.	Kurukshetra	6 kW	51.	Hospet	10 kW
32.	Rohtak	1 kW (Interim set-up)	52.	Karwar	3 kW
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>			53.	Raichur	6 kW
33.	Hamirpur	6 kW	54.	Hassan	6 kW
34.	Dharamshala	10 kW	55.	Mercara	6 kW
35.	Kasauli	10 kW	56.	Bangalore	10 kW, 10 kW
36.	Kullu	6 kW	57.	Mysore	10 kW
37.	Shimla	1 kW (Interim set-up)	58.	Dharwar	10 kW
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>			59.	Mangalore	10 kW
38.	Jammu	3 kW, 10 kW	60.	Beliary	1 kW (Interim set-up)
39.	Kathua	10 kW			

1	2	3	1	2	3
61.	Guilberga	1 kW (Interim set-up)	<b>Maharashtra</b>		
			81.	Mumbai	5 kW, 10 kW
	<b>Kerala</b>		82.	Ahmednagar	6 kW
62.	Cochin	6 kW, 10 kW	83.	Akola	6 kW
63.	Cannaore	6 kW	84.	Aurangabad	1 kW (Interim set-up)
64.	Idukki	6 kW	85.	Beed	6 kW
65.	Trivandram	10 kW	86.	Chanderpur	6 kW
66.	Calicut	10 kW	87.	Dhule	6 kW
67.	Manjeri	3 kW	88.	Nanded	6 kW
	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		89.	Nasik	6 kW
68.	Balaghat	6 kW	90.	Osmanabad	6 kW
69.	Betul	6 kW	91.	Satara	6 kW
70.	Chhindwara	6 kW	92.	Yavatmal	6 kW
71.	Guna	6 kW	93.	Kolhapur	6 kW
72.	Khandwa	6 kW	94.	Nagpur	6 kW
73.	Sagar	6 kW	95.	Pune	6 kW
74.	Shahdol	6 kW	<b>Meghalaya</b>		
75.	Shivpuri	6 kW	96.	Jawai	6 kW
76.	Bhopal	6 kW	97.	Shillong	10 kW
77.	Indore	6 kW	<b>Mizoram</b>		
78.	Jabalpur	10 kW	98.	Lungleh	6 kW
79.	Mandla	1 kW	<b>Manipur</b>		
80.	Rajgarh	3 kW	99.	Imphal	10 kW

1	2	3
<b>Nagaland</b>		
100.	Mokokchung	6 kW
<b>Orissa</b>		
101.	Berhampur	6 kW
102.	Bolangir	6 kW
103.	Puri	3 kW
104.	Rourkela	6 kW
105.	Cuttack	6 kW
106.	Deogarh	100 Watt LPT
<b>Punjab</b>		
107.	Bhatinda	6 kW
108.	Patiala	6 kW
109.	Jalandhar	10 kW
<b>Rajasthan</b>		
110.	Alwar	6 kW
111.	Banswara	6 kW
112.	Chittorgarh	6 kW
113.	Jhalawar	6 kW
114.	Nagaur	6 kW
115.	Swaimadhopur	6 kW
116.	Churu	6 kW
117.	Jaisalmer	10 kW
118.	Mt. Abu	6 kW

1	2	3
119.	Jodhpur	6 kW
120.	Jaipur	6 kW
121.	Udaipur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		
122.	Chennai	5 kW, 10 kW
123.	Nagercoil	10 kW
124.	Kodaikanal	10 kW
125.	Coimbatore	10 kW
126.	Tiruchirapalli	10 kW
127.	Madurai	1 kW (Interim set-up)
128.	Yarcud	100 watt LPT
<b>Tripura</b>		
129.	Belonia	6 kW
130.	Kailashahar	6 kW
131.	Agartala	10 kW
<b>Union Territory</b>		
132.	Daman	3 kW
133.	Karaikal	6 kW
134.	Chandigarh	6 kW
135.	Port Blair	10 kW
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>		
136.	Bareilly	6 kW
137.	Faizabad	6 kW

1	2	3
138.	Jhansi	6 kW
139.	Obra	6 kW
140.	Aligarh	6 kW
141.	Lucknow	10 kW
142.	Allahabad	10 kW
143.	Gorakhpur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
144.	Kanpur	1 kW (Interim set-up)
<b>Uttaranchal</b>		
145.	Mussoorie	10 kW
<b>West Bengal</b>		
146.	Kolkata	5 kW, 10 kW
147.	Murshidabad	6 kW
148.	Asansole	6 kW
149.	Siliguri	10 kW
150.	Shantiniketan	3 kW
151.	Kurseog	5 kW
152.	Darjeeling	100 Watt LPT

**Statement-IV***Existing Private FM Radio Stations State-wise*

S. No.	State/Union Territory	City	No. of Channels
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	4

1	2	3	4
		Visakhapatnam	1
2.	Delhi	Delhi	7
3.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	1
4.	Haryana	Hissar	1
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	1
		Srinagar	1
6.	Karnataka	Bangalore	6
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	1
8.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	6
		Pune	1
9.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	1
		Jaipur	5
10.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	7
		Coimbatore	1
		Tirunelveli	1
11.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	2
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh	1
		Jhansi	1
		Lucknow	1
13.	West Bengal	Kolkata	6
<b>Total</b>			<b>56</b>

**Statement-V**

*List of New FM Stations proposed in 10th Five Year  
Plan yet to be Commissioned*

**Andhra Pradesh**

1. Kakinada (10 kW)
2. Karimnagar (5 kW)
3. Srikakulam (1 kW)
4. Nellore (10 kW)
5. Mahboobnagar (10 kW)
6. Suryapet (10 kW)

**Arunachal Pradesh**

7. Anini (1 kW)
8. Bomdila (1 kW)
9. Daporijo (1 kW)
10. Changlang (1 kW)
11. Khonsa (1 kW)

**Assam**

12. Karimganj (1/5 kW)
13. Luming (1/5 kW)
14. Golpara (1/5 kW)

**Bihar**

15. Gaya (10 kW)
16. Motihari (10 kW)
17. Banka (10 kW)
18. Madhubani (10 kW)

**Chhattisgarh**

19. Dantewara (5 kW)
20. Rajandgaon (5 kW)
21. Jashpumagar (5 kW)
22. Baikunthpur (5 kW)

**Gujarat**

23. Jamnagar (10 kW)
24. Junagarh (10 kW)

**Haryana**

25. Ambala (5 kW)

**Jharkhand**

26. Dhanbad (10 kW)
27. Dumka (5 kW)
28. Gumla (5 kW)

**Karnataka**

29. Sringeri (10 kW)

**Kerala**

30. Konni (5 kW)

**Madhya Pradesh**

31. Ujjain (5 kW)

**Maharashtra**

32. Shirdi (5 kW)
33. Oras (5 kW)
34. Amravati (10 kW)

**Manipur**

35. Tamenglang (1/5 kW)

36. Ukhrol (1/5 kW)

**Meghalaya**

37. Dawki (1/5 kW)

**Mizoram**

38. Champhai (1/5 kW)

39. Tuipang (1/5 kW)

40. Kolasib/Sarchip (1/5 kW)

**Nagaland**

41. Phek (1 kW)

42. Zunheboto (1 kW)

43. Wokha (1 kW)

**Orissa**

44. Deogarh (5 kW)

45. Raygada (5 kW)

46. Rairangpur (1/5 kW)

47. Parlakimidi (5 kW)

**Punjab**

48. Fazilka (10 kW)

49. Amritsar (20 kW)

**Rajasthan**

50. Ramgarh (20 kW)

51. Chautan (20 kW)

**Tamil Nadu**

52. Kanchipuram (5 kW)

**Tripura**

53. Udaipur (1/5 kW)

54. Nutan Bazar (1/5 kW)

55. Longtherai (Tripura) (5 kW)

**Uttar Pradesh**

56. Ghazipur (10 kW)

57. Banda (10 kW)

58. Lakhimpur Kheri (10 kW)

59. Raebareli

**Uttaranchal**

60. Dehradun (10 kW)

61. Haldwani/Kaladungi (10 kW)

62. Bhageshwar (5 kW)

63. Champwat (1 kW)

64. Gairsen (1 kW)

65. New Tehari (1 kW)

66. Rudraprayag (1 kW)

**West Bengal**

67. Purulia (10 kW)

68. Maldah (10 kW)

69. Koochbihar (10 kW)

70. Bardhaman (10 kW)

71. Tamluk (5 kW)

72. Balurghat (10 kW)

Out of 75 New FM Stations, 3 Stations (Bellary-interim setup, Darjeeling-interim setup and Bhadarwah) have been commissioned.

**Statement-VI**

*Details of FM Channels still vacant for allotment to private broadcasters*

Name of the Cities	Number of Vacant FM Channels
1	2
Agartala	3
Agra	0
Ahmedabad	1
Ahmednagar	0
Aizwal	3
Ajmer	1
Akola	2
Aligarh	1
Allahabad	1
Amritsar	0
Asansol	0
Aurangabad	1
Bangalore	1
Bareilly	2
Bhopal	0
Bhubaneshwar	1
Bikaner	3
Bilaspur	2
Chandigarh	0

1	2
Chennai	0
Cochin	0
Coimbatore	0
Daman	1
Delhi	1
Dhule	1
Gangtok	1
Gorakhpur	3
Gulbarga	2
Guwahati	0
Gwalior	0
Hissar	0
Hyderabad	3
Imphal	4
Indore	0
Itanagar	3
Jabalpur	0
Jaipur	0
Jalandhar	0
Jalgaon	1
Jammu	2
Jamshedpur	1
Jhansi	3
Jodhpur	0

1	2	1	2
Kannur	0	Rajkot	0
Kanpur	0	Ranchi	0
Karnal	0	Rourkela	2
Kohima	4	Sagar	4
Kolhapur	0	Sangli	0
Kolkata	0	Shillong	2
Kota	1	Shimla	1
Kozhikode	0	Sholapur	1
Lucknow	0	Siliguri	0
Maduri	0	Srinagar	3
Mangalore	0	Surat	0
Mumbai	2	Thiruvananthapuram	0
Muzzaffarpur	3	Thrissur	0
Mysore	2	Tiruchirappali	2
Nagpur	2	Tirunelveli	1
Nanded	2	Tirupati	0
Nasik	0	Tuticorin	1
Panaji	0	Udaipur	1
Patiala	0	Vadodara	0
Patna	3	Varanasi	0
Pondicherry	0	Vijayawada	0
Port Blair	4	Vishakhapatnam	0
Pune	0	Warangal	2
Raipur	0	Dehradun	4
Rajahmundry	2	<b>Total</b>	<b>97</b>

**Damage of Crops due to Hailstorms  
in M.P.**

2859. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether about twenty per cent crops in Madhya Pradesh have been affected due to hailstorms, heavy rains and strong winds;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has conducted any survey for providing relief to the farmers in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) the assistance provided/proposed to be provided to the affected farmers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) The Government of Madhya Pradesh have reported crop loss of 5% to 50% due to hailstorm and untimely rains in 35 districts of the State. The State Government have further informed that survey of damage is conducted by joint teams of revenue and agriculture officials. No memorandum has so far been received from the State Government for Central assistance.

According to the State Government, the affected area is 1.74 lakh hectares and financial assistance to the affected farmers is provided in accordance with the prescribed norms.

**Sale of Wheat in Open Market**

2860. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to sell four lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market to check the price of wheat in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tender system was adopted for sale of the said wheat;

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the floor price quoted in the tender floated therefor; and

(e) the extent to which the said floor price was more/less than the then prevailing open market price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government had decided to sell upto 4.00 lakh MT of wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) in various States during the months of February and March, 2007 to check rise in the prices of wheat.

(c) and (d) Tenders were called for 2.40 lakh MT of wheat in the first phase by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the States of Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Gujarat. The floor price for these tenders was fixed at Rs.1232.58 per quintal.

(e) The wholesale prices of wheat at major centres where intervention by open sale was targeted were ruling above this floor price at the time of calling tenders.

*[English]*

**Bamboo Forests**

2861. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has the largest bamboo forests in the world which are still untapped;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to harness these bamboo forests for remunerative returns and to promote research and development to improve the quality of the produce;

(c) whether the commercial exploitation of the said bamboo forests has the potential to generate a good number of employment in bamboo and related sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken for proper tapping of the said employment potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. India has the largest bamboo forests in the world. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Bamboo Mission during 2006-07 to promote bamboo sector in the country. The Mission has three main components of research, plantation and handicraft development and marketing. The programme aims to achieve the following objectives:-

- To promote the growth of the bamboo sector through as an area based regionally differentiated strategy;
- To increase the coverage of area under bamboo in potential areas, with improved varieties to enhance yields;
- To promote marketing of bamboo and bamboo based handicrafts;
- To establish convergence and synergy among stake-holders for the development of bamboo;

— To promote, develop and disseminate technologies through a seamless blend of traditional wisdom and modern scientific knowledge.

— To generate employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled persons, especially unemployed youths.

The Mission is envisaged to improve the existing bamboo forests as well as to enhance productivity of bamboo to the average level of 18 tonnes per hectare to make it remunerative through the efforts of research and improved practices.

The Mission is also envisaged to generate about 50.4 million man days of work by Bamboo Plantation activities in 1.76 hectares over a period of 5 years. In the nursery sector, the total estimated employment to be generated every year will be around 9.7 lakh man days.

[Translation]

#### Proposals under NRCP

2862. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) has been received from Madhya Pradesh;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In addition to the already sanctioned projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted the following projects under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP):-

S. No.	Name of town	River	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Rewa	Beehar	2775.27
2.	Chitrakoot	Mandakini	791.01
3.	Shahdol	Sone	2084.00
4.	Maheshwar and Mandleswar	Narmada	2370.85
5.	Sehore	Pravati/Seewan	963.59
6.	Ganjbasoda	Betwa	2348.12
7.	Rajgarh	Newaj	1588.67
8.	Mandsaur	Sheona	1734.49
9.	Hoshangabad	Narmada	1904.28
10.	Nepanagar	Tapti	2014.21
11.	Rehali	Sonar	220.00

(c) Keeping in view the savings available from sanctioned projects, the Government of Madhya Pradesh prioritised the projects of Hoshangabad and Rewa. These proposals have since been considered by the Standing Finance Committee on 26.2.2007 and 12.3.2007 respectively and accorded 'in principle' approval.

[English]

#### Export and Import of Same Drugs at Higher Prices

2863. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain drug producers exporting drugs at lower prices and re-importing the same drugs at much higher prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to (a), as above.

#### Capacity Utilization of Steel Industry

2864. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the average capacity utilization of steel industry in the country and its projected gap between the availability and demand for steel at the end of Tenth Plan Period;

(b) the factors inhibiting the growth of steel industry alongwith its expansion plans;

(c) whether any overseas investors have offered to finance a large sized steel unit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) The average crude steel capacity utilization of steel plants in the country at the end of 10th Five Year Plan 2002-03 to 2006-07 (April 2006-January 2007) is approximately 90.2%. The estimated availability and apparent consumption of finished non-alloy steel in the country during the Tenth Plan period is given below:—

(in thousands tonnes)

Year	Availability	Apparent consumption
1	2	3
2002-03	28625	28897

1	2	3
2003-04	31201	31169
2004-05	34564	34389
2005-06	39410	39185
2006-07 (April-January 07)(Prov.)	35977	35582

(Source : Joint Plant Committee)

(b) Growth of steel industry mainly depends upon

the demand and availability of steel. The National Steel Policy (NSP) envisages over 100 million tonnes of steel production by 2019-2020 and to achieve this level of production NSP seeks to remove various supply side constraints. Apart from the broad based policy statements, the NSP also chalks out specific action points to achieve policy objectives.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A total of 101 overseas financiers have offered to invest in iron and steel sector through foreign direct investment (FDI) route. The details of the steel units proposed to be set through FDI route are given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

#### Company-wise Details of FDI Inflows from April 2002 to December 2006

(Amount in crore)

S. No.	Name of Indian Company	Country	Name of Foreign Collaborator	Item of Manufacture	Amount of FDI (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	PSL Ltd.	Australia	Macquaries Bank Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms in the Integrated Steel Plants	25.20
2.	Blue Scope Steel Building Solution	Australia	Blue Scope Asia Holding	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi	88.70
3.	Sterite Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.	Bahamas	Volcan Investments Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms	0.05
4.	Jindal Iron and Steel Company Ltd.	Bahrain	Citicorp Banking Corp	Manufacture Semi finished Iron and Steel	14.82
5.	Suraj Stainless Ltd.	Belgium	Bsuribvest BVBA	Iron and Steel in Promary forms Nec.	13.91
6.	Rajkumar Forge Ltd.	Canada	Sahantanu Rajkumar	Manufacture-Semi-finished Iron and Steel	1.12

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Utkal Alumina Intl. Ltd.	Canada	Alcan	Ferro Alloys	12.18
8.	M/s. Pennsar Industries Ltd.	Cayman Island	Eight Capital Master Fund Ltd.	Cold Rolled Semi finished Iron and Steel Products in Cold Rolling Mills	31.25
9.	Facor Alloys Ltd.	Channel Island	Cornell Corp	Of Ferro Alloys	2.28
10.	Magotteaux Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Cyprus		Steel	2.39
11.	IUP Jindal Metals and Alloys Ltd.	France	Imphy Ugine Precision	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	15.28
12.	J.K. Tolabot Ltd.	France	Mob Outillage SA	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms.	0.27
13.	Erasteel India Pvt. Ltd.	France		Steel	0.30
14.	J.K. Tolabot Ltd.	France	Mobovtilloge SA RCS St. Etienne	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms.	0.27
15.	Thyssenkrupp Electric Steel (I) Pvt. Ltd.	Germany	EBG GFEW MBH	Manufacture Iron and Steel	159.97
16.	EBG India Pvt. Ltd.	Germany	EBG GFEW MGH		48.96
17.	Indian Steel Corporation	Hongkong	Sino Asian Resources Industries Ltd.	Semi finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	6.81
18.	Bhagwati Autocast Ltd.	Hongkong	As per list attached by the Company	Casting of Iron or Steel (includes casting finished or semi finished products of Cast Iron or Cast St.	0.02
19.	Ornamental Stainless Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Hongkong	Insuk Cha	Manufacture-Semi-finished Iron and Steel	0.05
20.	Jindal Stainless Steel Way Ltd.	Italy	L.G. Italia SRL	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms	1.55
21.	Shaifali Rools Ltd.	Italy	Fomas SPA Milan	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.50
22.	M/s. Reyna Steels Ltd.	Italy	M/s. Eruofin SRL	Semi finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	0.53

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Jindal Stainless Steel Way Ltd.	Italy	LG Italla S.R.L.	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi-finished Forms	1.06
24.	M/s. Reryna Steels Ltd.	Italy	M/s. Euro Fin SRL	Semi finished Iron and Products Nec.	0.32
25.	Neel Metal Products Ltd.	Japan		Steel	0.50
26.	POSCO India P. Ltd.	Korea (South)	Tae Hyun Jeongl and POSCO	Semi finished Iron and Products Nec.	225.00
27.	Taeyang Metal (I) P. Ltd.	Korea (South)	Teyang Metal Industrial Co. Ltd.	Manufacture of Cold Rolled Semi finished Iron and Steel Products in Cold Rolling Mills	0.01
28.	Taeyang Metal (I) P. Ltd.	Korea (South)	Moon Ho Park	Manufacture of Cold Rolled Semi finished Iron and Steel Product in Cold Rolling Mills	0.00
29.	KTC Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd.	Korea (South)	KTC Koreq Co. Ltd.	Ferro Alloys	3.18
30.	Moment Splicing System Pvt. Ltd.	Malaysia	Lee Bing Boom	Semi finished Iron-Steel Products Nec.	0.08
31.	Scaw Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Global Steel and Power Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms	6.04
32.	Scaw Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Global Steel and Power Ltd.	Manufacture Iron and Steel	2.61
33.	Euro Ikon Iron and Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Beaufield Holding Ltd.	Manufacture Iron and Steel	20.51
34.	Syneries Castings Ltd.	Mauritius	Silver Peak Investments (Mauritius) Ltd.	Manufacture of Ferro Alloys through Aluminothermic Process	8.21
35.	PSL Ltd.	Mauritius	Citygroup Globle Markets Mauritius Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi finished forms in the Integrated Steel Plants.	25.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
36.	JSW Cement Ltd.	Mauritius	Steel Traders Ltd.	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	1.16
37.	Scaw Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Global Steel and Power Ltd.	Manufacture of Iron and Steel	14.52
38.	Kanishk Steel Industries Ltd.	Mauritius	Radiant Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	2.50
39.	Jindal Stainless Limited	Mauritius	Taib Securities Ltd.	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.04
40.	Jindal Stainless Limited	Mauritius	Goldman Sachs Investments Mauritius	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.26
41.	Steel Corporation of Gujarat Ltd.	Mauritius	Gujarat Steel Holding Ltd.	Manufacture Iron and Steel	12.78
42.	Metcoke Industries Ltd.	Mauritius	Symatech Asia Ventures Ltd.	Mfg. of Iron and Steel in Primary/Semi finished forms	3.48
43.	AIA Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	SNM Investores Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary forms Nec.	19.13
44.	AIA Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	SNM Investments Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary forms Nec.	19.13
45.	SCAW Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Global Steel and Power Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary/semi finished forms	1.80
46.	Bharat Alloys and Energy Ltd.	Mauritius	21 Capital PCC	Ferro Alloys.	18.30
47.	Bharat Alloys and Energy Ltd.	Mauritius	21 Capital PCC	Ferro Alloys.	16.64
48.	Ramrupal Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Seahaven Investment (Mauritius) Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary forms Nec.	1.10

1	2	3	4	5	6
49.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Talb Bank BSC (C)	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	3.19
50.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	The Indianman Fund (Mauritius) Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	3.30
51.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Venus Capital Management Inc.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.55
52.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Venus Series Trust A/CITF Mauritius	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.55
53.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	AAA	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.00
54.	Euro Idon Iron and Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Mauritius	Beaufield Holding Ltd.	Manufacture Iron and Steel	84.39
55.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Global Scale Investments Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.35
56.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	supervision Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.63
57.	Indo-Us Mim Tec P. Ltd.	Mauritius	Green Meadow Investments Ltd.	Manufacture of other Metal Products Nec.	0.89
58.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Imagetec Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primay Forms Nec.	0.59
59.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Investor Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.63
60.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Precisetic Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.63
61.	Facor Steels Ltd.	Mauritius	Teracota Consultancy Services Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.59
62.	Garg Iron and energy Pvt. Ltd.	Singapore	Overseas Ventures Pvt. Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Semi Finished Forms in the Integrated Steel Plants	0.44

1	2	3	4	5	6
63.	Readymade Steel India Pvt. Ltd.	Singapore	CSC Holding Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.01
64.	Readymade Steel India Pvt. Ltd.	Singapore	CSC Holding Ltd.	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.27
65.	Indian Steel Corporation	Singapore	Kyanite Economic and Development Ltd.	Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	4.36
66.	Kamachi Sponge and Power Corpon. Ltd.	Singapore	Amitava Roy	Manufacture of Direct Reduced Iron and Other Spongy Ferrous Products in Primary Forms	2.25
67.	Jindal Stainless Limited	Spain	Merrill Lynch Capital Market Espana	Manufacture of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.17
68.	Visa International Ltd.	Switzerland		Of Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi Finished Forms	17.50
69.	Garg Iron and Energy Pvt. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Al Balad Al Amin Est	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi Finished Forms in the Integrated Steel Plants	0.30
70.	Sunvik Steel P. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Sandeep Manoharlal	Mfr. of Direct reduced Iron and Ferrous Products	0.1
71.	Pioneer Torsteel Mills P. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Khalfan Suliman	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.13
72.	Sunvik Steels Pvt. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Sandeep Manoharlal Shishodia	Of Direct Reduced Iron and Other Spongy Ferrous Prod.	0.33
73.	Pioneer Torsteel Mills P. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Khalfan Suliman	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.12
74.	Indian Steel Corporation	U.A.E.	Trans Siberian Industries Ltd.	Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	15.00
75.	Indian Steel Corporation Ltd.	U.A.E.	Trans Siberian Ind. Ltd.	Manufacture of Other Metal Products Nec.	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
76.	Kanishka Steel Industries Ltd.	U.A.E.	Ameena Begum	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	2.40
77.	Pioneer Torsteel Mills P. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Khalfan Suliman Sharjah Khorfakhan	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.25
78.	Pioneer Torsteel Mills P. Ltd.	U.A.E.	Khalfan Suliman	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.25
79.	Jindal Stainless Limited	U.K.	Citi Group Global Market Mauritius	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.17
80.	Jindal Stainless Limited	U.K.	Morgan Stanley and Co. Intl. Ltd.	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	0.12
81.	Global Steels Ltd.	U.K.	Pratap Chowdary	Manufactures of Iron and Steel	0.11
82.	Ramrupai Balaji Steels Ltd.	U.S.A.	53 NRIS	Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	0.07
83.	Glade Steel Pvt. Ltd.	U.S.A.	Dr. Hydermohammed Khan	Ferro Alloys	0.50
84.	Glade Steel Pvt. Ltd.	U.S.A.	Nazneen H Khatoon	Ferro Alloys	0.45
85.	Ambi Vijay Steel Suppliers Pvt. Ltd.	U.S.A.	Jintendra S. Patel	Mfr. of Iron and Steel	0.04
86.	Jindal Stainless Ltd.	U.S.A.	Citibank N.A.	Manufactures of Iron and in Primary Form Nec.	3.35
87.	Monnet Ispat Ltd.	U.S.A.	Citicrop Intl. Finance Corporation	Manufactures-Iron and Steel	35.27
88.	VSL Wires Ltd.	U.S.A.	Global Sind Investment Ltd.	Manufactures-Iron and Steel	0.14
89.	Kamdhenu Ispat Ltd.	U.S.A.	Alpa Jatakia	Manufacture of Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
90.	Kamdhenu Ispat Ltd.	U.S.A.	Meghal Jatakia	Manufacture of Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products Nec.	0.00
91.	M/s. Steel Exchange India Ltd.	U.S.A.	M/s. Vasantha C Narayan *Mr. Ravi Narayan	Iron and Steel in Primary and forms Nec.	0.55
92.	Sujana Metal Products Ltd.	U.S.A.	Aeneas Capital Management	Mfr. of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms	13.64
93.	Sujana Metal Products Ltd.	U.S.A.	Oppenheinner and Co. Inc.	Mfr. of Iron and Steel in Primary Forms	13.02
94.	Century Extrusions Ltd.	U.S.A.	Krishnasamy Muralitharan	Manufacturen of other Semi Finished Products of Aluminium Nec.	0.01
95.	L.G. Galakrishnan and Brothers Ltd.	U.S.A.	International finance Corporation	Iron and Steel in Primary/ Semi Finished Forms.	22.07
96.	M/s. Pennar Industries Ltd.	British Virginia	Spinnaker Global Opportunity Fund Ltd.	Cold Rolled Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products in Cold Rolling Mills	28.26
97.	M/s. Pennar Industries Ltd.	British Virginia	Spinnaker Global Emerging Mkt. Fund Ltd.	Manufacture of Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products in Cold Rolling Mills	43.30
98.	M/s. Pennar Industries Ltd.	British Virginia	Spinnaker Global Strategic	Cold Rolled Semi Finished Iron and Steel Products in Cold Rolling Mills	19.60
99.	Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd.	Liberia	Litec Aktiengesellschaft	Ferro Alloys	48.64
100.	Welspun Gujarat Stahl Rohren Ltd.	British Isles		Iron and Steel in Primary Forms Nec.	22.11
101.	Thyssenkrupp Electrical Steel India Ltd.	Acquisition of Share	Thyssenkrupp Electrical Steel Ebg	Production of Steel Products	32.98

[English]

**Assistance for Construction of Godowns**

2865. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provides assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for strengthening the Public Distribution System and construction of godowns;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided and utilized during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) the number of godowns constructed and capacity added under the scheme during the said period State-wise, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for smooth flow of PDS commodities particularly in rural remote, hilly and tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The state-wise, year-wise details of the assistance provided for strengthening the Public Distribution System are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

From the year 2005-06 the Government is providing financial assistance for construction of storage godowns under Plan Scheme in the form of Grants-in-Aid to the State Governments of North East Region including Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir. The details of the Grants in Aid released to the State Governments during the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(c) As per the time schedule finalized, the storage godowns at Champai (3,000 MTs) and Serchib (3,000 MTs) in the Mizoram are to be completed within 18 months from the date of release of funds. As regards Lathpora (6,610 MTs) in Jammu and Kashmir, the godown is scheduled to be completed within 12 months from the date of release of funds.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Government for smooth flow of Public Distribution commodities particularly in rural remote, hilly and tribal areas:—

- (i) Introduction of Door Step Delivery and tracking the movement of foodgrains upto the Fair Price Shop level.
- (ii) Prompt information flow/computerization of TPDS.
- (iii) Streamlining the involvement of wholesale dealers/intermediaries in the TPDS.
- (iv) Introduction of Electronic Transfer of Funds to FCI.
- (v) Review of BPL and AAY list in the States/UTs.
- (vi) Display of banners/Boards on wind shield as well as rear end of the truck/vehicles carrying PDS articles indicating details of State Government, destination, commodity and Agent's name.
- (vii) Opening of Godowns at Principal Distribution Centres (PDCs) in predominantly Hilly States with difficult and inaccessible terrain and reimbursing the State Governments/UTs the cost of transportation of foodgrains on actual basis under the Hill Transport Subsidy Scheme (HTS).

**Statement-I**

*Details of the Assistance to State/Government/Union Territories for Strengthening the Public Distribution*

2004-05

S. No.	State/UT/Institutions	Amount released (Rs.)	Purpose
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	4,50,000	Training Programmes

1	2	3	4
2.	Gujarat	45,000	Training Programmes
3.	Mizoram	10,000	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
4.	West Bengal	45,000	Training Programmes
5.	West Bengal	5,000	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
6.	West Bengal	5,849	Seminar (Balance amount)
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,60,849</b>	

**2005-06**

1.	Rajasthan	36,000	For purchase of Computer
2.	Rajasthan	38,250	Training Programmes
3.	Andhra Pradesh	90,000	Training Programmes
4.	Maharashtra	1,20,000	Conference
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1,20,000	Conference
6.	Mizoram	1,80,000	Training Programmes
7.	Haryana	1,35,000	Training Programmes
8.	Nagaland	1,35,000	For purchase of Computer
9.	Kerala	1,20,000	Training Programmes
10.	Punjab	44,500	Training Programmes
11.	Andhra Pradesh	4,50,000	Training Programmes
12.	West Bengal	1,35,000	Training Programmes
13.	Nagaland	27,000	Training Programmes

1	2	3	4
14.	Sikkim	1,80,000	Training Programmes
15.	West Bengal	5,000	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
16.	Mizoram	20,000	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
17.	Tamil Nadu	11,50,000	Training Programmes
18.	Gujarat	11,25,000	Training Programmes
19.	Bihar	50,000	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
20.	West Bengal	1,68,000	Regional Conference at Kolkata
21.	Assam	1,68,000	Regional Conference at Guwahati
22.	Maharashtra	30,000	Regional Conference (Balance amount)
23.	Himachal Pradesh	30,000	Regional Conference (Balance amount)
24.	Assam	42,000	Regional Conference (Balance amount)
<b>Total</b>		<b>45,98,750</b>	

**2006-07 (Upto 28.02.2007)**

1.	Gujarat	6,512	Purchase of Computer (Balance amount)
2.	Kerala	30,000	Regional Conference (Balance amount)
3.	Tripura	4,50,000	Training Programmes
4.	Mizoram	3,60,000	Training Programmes

1	2	3	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	9,82,000	Training Programmes
6.	West Bengal	11,820	Training Programmes (Balance amount)
7.	Haryana	9,55,000	Training Programmes
8.	Gujarat	2,70,000	One Seminar
Total		30,65,332	

**Statement-II**

*Details of the Grants-in-Aid Released to States/UTs  
for Construction of Storage Godowns  
under Plan Scheme*

**2005-06**

State	Centre	Capacity (In MTs)	Total Estimated Cost	Amount Released. In Rs crore
Mizoram	Champhai	3,000	1.74	0.58
	Serchib	3,000	1.74	0.26

**2006-07 (Upto 15th March, 2007)**

State	Centre	Capacity (In MTs)	Total Estimated Cost in Rs. crore	Amount Released In Rs. crore
Jammu and Kashmir	Lethpora	6160	3.41	1.12

**Agricultural Renewal Scheme**

2866.SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the farm sector, which provides livelihood for 115 million families, is reportedly in distress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has provided strategy for Agricultural Renewal Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (d) Agriculture sector in the country has experienced deceleration in growth during the 9th and 10th plan which has remained around 2% per annum. The major challenges faced by the sector include stagnant productivity, low investment, deteriorating profitability and lack of adequate infrastructure facilities. National Agriculture Policy was formulated in the year 2000 to achieve sustainable growth in agriculture sector with equity. The Government has taken a number of initiatives to improve the agriculture sector and the economic condition of the farmers. These, inter-alia, include the announcement of a credit policy in the year 2004 to double the flow credit to the agriculture sector in three years. From Kharif 2006-07, farmers are being provided crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakhs at 7% rate of interest. The Government has also announced a package for revival of cooperative credit structure. A major effort has been initiated for diversification of agriculture. Nation Horticulture Mission has been launched since the year 2005 for ensuring end-to-end approach with backward and forward linkages covering research, post harvest management, processing and marketing. A Special programme for horticulture development is also implemented in North-Eastern States. Other initiatives

taken by Government include expanding the area under irrigation, improved water management with watershed development and rain water harvesting and establishment of National Rain-fed Area Authority.

#### **Lift Irrigation Project**

2867.SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has undertaken Chennagiri Taluk and Tharikere Taluk Lift Irrigation Project;

(b) if so, the present status of the project; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed alongwith estimated cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Government of Karnataka has informed that it has taken up Ubrani Amruthapur Lift Irrigation Scheme coming under the jurisdiction of Channagiri taluk and Tarikere taluk.

(b) The project is proposed to be taken up in 3 stages. The first stage works amounting to Rs. 27.80 crore are in progress by the State Government. Tenders are being processed for 2nd and 3rd stage works amounting to Rs. 55.81 crore by the State Government.

(c) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 92.50 crore and it is programmed to be completed during 2009-10 by the State Government.

#### **Karnataka Livestock Development Agency**

2868.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of micro plan of Karnataka Livestock Development Agency for implementing during 2006-07 for Rs. 2094.40 lakhs and revalidation of Rs.453.08 lakhs has been submitted by the Government of Karnataka on October 30, 2006;

(b) if so, whether the administrative approval and release of grants is still awaited; and

(c) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) is being implemented in the country since October, 2000 and the State of Karnataka is participating under the scheme from 2003-04. The Central assistance to the tune of Rs.2669.53 lakh including Rs.903-04 lakh under the special package for suicide prone districts has been released so far to the State Implementing Agency (Karnataka Livestock Development Agency) for the implementation of scheme. As per the approved scheme guidelines, the funds released to the State Implementing Agency do not require the revalidation. The State is yet to submit the utilization certificate for Rs.453.08 lakh and further release of funds under the project will be made after the receipt of requisite utilization certificate, annual progress report and audit certificate for the funds released during 2005-06.

#### **AIR Station at Alappuzha**

2869.DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Radio Station at Alappuzha is capable of high frequency transmission;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to upgrade this station into an independent programme generating station;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to start any FM station at Alappuzha; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Since 15.04.1999, a high power 200 kW Medium Wave transmitter is operating at Alappuzha.

- (b) No, Sir.  
 (c) Does not arise.  
 (d) No, Sir.  
 (e) Does not arise.

#### Implementation of Revised Pay Scale

2870. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether scales of the Insurance Inspector and Manager Grade II in Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) have not been revised till date while the scale of their counter parts working in other departments have already been revised five years back;

(b) if so, whether the ESIC have constituted any committee for the said purpose;

(c) if so, the details of the suggestion made by the said committee;

(d) whether the Chairman of ESIC and the corporation have ordered and implementation of revised pay scale eight months back; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not implementing the same till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) As per the order of the Hon'ble CAT, Jabalpur Bench in O.A. No. 477/95, the ESIC Corporation constituted a Pay Committee under the

Chairmanship of Shri S. Sathyam. The report of the Pay Committee was examined in the Ministry and the Government after bipartite discussions with the representatives of All India Officers' Federation as well as with the representatives of the ESIC Corporation, issued a Speaking Order on 28.10.2004 rejecting the representation of All India ESIC Officers' Federation for revision of pay scale in the cadre of Insurance Inspector/Manager Gr. II.

(d) and (e) Following a further plea by All India ESIC Officers' Federation that the factum of the upward revision of the pay scale of the Inspectors of Central Excise/Income Tax w.e.f. 21.4.2004 was not considered earlier by the Government, the ESIC Corporation placed the matter before the ESIC in its meeting held on 23.12.2006. The ESIC has submitted a fresh proposal to the Government for reconsideration.

#### Alternative Home for the Asiatic Lions

2871. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :  
 SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :  
 SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has identified the Kunopalpur Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh as an alternative home for the Asiatic lion from Gir forest of Gujarat;

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

(c) whether the Government has shifted some lions to the alternative habitat so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the results of such relocation so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Wildlife Institute of India,

Dehradun carried out a survey in 1993-94 in various protected areas and forests of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, and finally recommended the Kuno-Palpur sanctuary in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh as most suitable site for establishing an alternate home for Asiatic lion.

- (c) No, Sir.  
(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **India-Canada Environment Facility Scheme**

2872. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to improve the forest cover and availability of water in various districts of the State through water protection programmes under India-Canada Environment Facility Scheme formulated in pursuance of the agreement between India and Canada;

(b) if so, the action taken/being taken in this regard so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) India-Canada Environment Facility (ICEF) received in the year 2002, a project proposal titled "participatory Restoration and Management of Irrigation Systems by Water Users in Madhya Pradesh" from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for Rs.1141.0 lakhs to be implemented over a period of five years.

(b) The proposal was approved for the period from 1.12.2002 to 31.5.2007 with a grant of Rs.1141.0 lakhs from India-Canada Environment Facility and a contribution of Rs.196.3 lakhs from the Government of Madhya Pradesh

and Rs.196.3 lakhs from the beneficiary communities. The objectives of the project is restoration of the damaged irrigation structures at seven project sites in seven districts (Vidisha, Rajgarh, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Asoknagar, Barwani and Khargone) by the Irrigation Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with four Non Government Organizations and the concerned Water users Associations (WUAs) under the Participatory Irrigation Management Act of the State.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Production of American Soyabean**

2873. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the production of American Soyabean in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the procurement price of American Soyabean to encourage its production in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the import of edible oils in the country has declined as a result of increase in the production of soyabean; and

(e) if so, the extent of decline recorded during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Production estimates of specific varieties of Soyabean are not mentioned. State-wise production of Soyabean in the country from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Government fixes the Minimum Support

Price (MSP) for Soyabean (Black) and Soyabean (Yellow) each year on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. The MSP of Soyabean (Yellow) was raised from Rs.1,000 per quintal in 2004-05 to Rs.1,010 per quintal in 2005-06, and further to Rs. 1,020 per quintal in 2006-07. The MSP of Soyabean (Black) was raised to Rs.900 per quintal in 2004-05 from Rs.840 per quintal in 2003-04. It remained at Rs.900 per quintal during 2005-06 and 2006-07.

(d) and (e) Production of Soyabean declined from 78.18 lakh tonnes in 2003-04 to 68.77 lakh tonnes in 2004-05. However, it increased to 82.74 lakh tonnes in 2005-06. As per the data available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), the import of edible oils declined from 52.90 lakh tonnes in 2003-04 to 47.51 lakh tonnes in 2004-05 and further to 41.75 lakh tonnes in 2005-06.

**Statement**

State	Production ('000 Tonnes)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	107.3	120.5	191.0
Arunachal Pradesh	4.7	4.3	3.6
Chhattisgarh	18.4	33.8	36.8
Gujarat	10.0	15.0	29.0
Himachal Pradesh	1.0	1.0	0.8
Karnataka	45.3	96.0	71.0
Madhya Pradesh	4652.6	3747.1	4500.7
Maharashtra	2219.0	1892.0	2527.0
Meghalaya	1.0	0.9	1.0
Mizoram	2.0	1.6	2.7

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	36.0	48.0	32.0
Rajasthan	691.4	886.5	856.3
Sikkim	3.2	3.3	3.3
Uttar Pradesh	6.0	3.0	3.0
Uttaranchal	21.0	23.0	15.0
West Bengal	0.0	0.3	0.3
All India	7818.9	6876.3	8273.5

**Autonomous Body for Pharmaceuticals**

2874. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up a single, central, licensing autonomous body for pharmaceuticals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the stage at which the matter stands presently; and

(d) the progress made, if any, thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) to (d) The Task Force constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission to explore options other than price control for achieving the objective of making available life saving drugs at reasonable prices has recommended inter alia, that in the long run both the functions of drug regulations and price control should be performed by the same agency and there should be an integrated regulatory system.

Keeping the above in view, it has inter-alia been proposed in the draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 that as an immediate step an independent and autonomous Central Drug Authority would be constituted in place of the present Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). In the long run the proposal of merger of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and the Central Drug Authority would be examined to form a National Authority on Drugs and Therapeutics (NADT) which will be an integrated Regulatory Authority in the country.

This Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the proposal in its meeting held on 11-1-2007 and has referred the matter to a Group of Ministers (GOM). A GOM has since been constituted.

#### **Agrarian Crisis in Kerala**

2875. DR. K.S. MANOJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has appointed a committee headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to look into Agrarian Crisis in Kerala and to formulate special package for Alappuzha and Idukki district of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its terms of reference alongwith the time frame allowed to the committee to submit its study report;

(c) whether the committee has also been asked to study the problems faced by the fishermen in the Tsunami hit areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) and (b) Study on sustainable development of Kuttanad wetland eco-system has been assigned to M.S. Swaminathan

Research Foundation (MSSRF). The MSSRF has been advised to make specific recommendations on the following:-

- (i) Measures for strengthening the ecological security of the Kuttanad wetland eco-system; and
- (ii) Measures for expending sustainable livelihood opportunities for the people of the area.

The Foundation has submitted its interim report on 13.2.2007 and the final report is expected by June 2007. MSSRF has also been advised to expand the scope of the said study to cover Idduki district.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **24 Hour TV Channel**

2876. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :  
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM :  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is planning to launch a 24-hour television channel to forecast weather conditions across the country;

(b) if so, the modalities formulated therefor; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands presently indicating the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) Prasar Bharati have informed that Doordarshan has no such proposal to launch a 24-hour television channel to forecast weather conditions across the country.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Project Proposal for Development of  
Tribal Villages**

2877. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an integrated project proposal for poverty alleviation through the use of non-conventional energy sources for attaining integrated development of 827 tribal villages in Madhya Pradesh has been submitted by the State Government under the Indo-German Bilateral programme; and

(b) if so, the action taken or being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration.

*[English]*

**Grants-in-Aid to Research and  
Academic Institutions**

2878. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provides Grants-in-Aid to Research and Academic Institutions and Voluntary Organisations for undertaking research in approved labour related matters;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided by the Government in this regard during the 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding misuse of funds by the Voluntary Organisations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In deserving cases, financial assistance is provided to the Organisations by following the prescribed guidelines. The details of assistance provided during the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement. The assistance is not provided State-wise;

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Statement**

*Grants-in-aid to Research and Academic Institutions*

2004-05

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of NGOs/Vos/Academic Institutions	Grants released
1	2	3
1.	Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi	0.99
2.	Institute for Human Development, New Delhi	1.25
3.	Development Initiative, Orissa	0.59
4.	Vision Foundation of Development Management, New Delhi	1.70
5.	Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bangalore	1.00
6.	Centre for Research Action and Training (CREATTE), New Delhi	0.91

1	2	3
7.	National Academy for Training and Research in Social Security, New Delhi	1.00
8.	Asian Society for Entrepreneurship Education and Development (ASEED), New Delhi	1.00
9.	Shri Ram Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources, New Delhi	1.00
10.	Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies, Chennai	1.13
11.	Deep Shikha Sewa Samiti, Meerut (UP)	1.00
12.	Institute for Human Development, New Delhi	1.50
13.	Indian Society of Labour Economics R&D Trust, New Delhi	1.25
14.	Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society, New Delhi	1.00
15.	Mukherjee Knowledge Ware Association, Mumbai	0.52
16.	Manavadhikar Samajik Manch, New Delhi	1.12
<b>Total</b>		<b>16.96</b>

*2005-06*

1.	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Maharashtra	0.46
2.	Deep Shikha Sewa Samiti, Meerut, U.P.	1.00

1	2	3
3.	National Academy for Training and Research in Social Security, New Delhi	2.00
4.	Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society, New Delhi	1.00
5.	Manavadhikar Samajik Manch, New Delhi	1.12
6.	Research Development Centre, New Delhi	1.98
7.	Bhartiya Parivardhan Sanstha, New Delhi	1.00
8.	Centre for Technology and Development, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	0.83
<b>Total</b>		<b>9.39</b>

*2006-07*

1.	Socio-Economic and Education Development Society, New Delhi	0.98
2.	National Academy for Training and Research in Social Security, New Delhi	1.00
3.	Bhartiya Parivardhan Sanstha, New Delhi	1.00
4.	Socio-Economic Educational Development Society, New Delhi	1.00
5.	Noble Social and Educational Society, Tirupati (A.P.)	1.00

**Total** 4.98 (upto January, 2007)

### Forest Land for Construction of Roads

2879. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to release certain area of reserve forest land of Gangotari National Park and Askot Animal Sanctuary for construction of roads along international border with China and Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the animals likely to be affected by said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wildlife in its meeting held on 12.07.2002, recommended diversion to total 106.505 ha. of land from 'Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary' in Uttaranchal subject to compliance of eight pre-conditions for the protection of wildlife and its habitat. The pre-conditions included use of the latest technology to minimize the soil erosion, stabilization of slopes on both the sides of the road, use of road only for the movement of troupes and *Mansarovar* pilgrims and placing special staff to check wildlife crimes after road construction, etc. No proposal with respect to Gangotri National Park, Uttaranchal has been received in the Ministry for diversion of land.

### Procurement of Cotton in Maharashtra

2880. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited is not getting any subsidy from the Union Government through it purchases the raw cotton and help the Government in maintaining Minimum Support Price (MSP);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to notify the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited as an agent for procurement of cotton;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(e) the present status of the proposal and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is not giving any subsidy to the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited for procurement of cotton.

(b) The Government of India reimburses losses incurred, if any, to the Central agencies only for procurement of raw cotton under Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(c) to (e) The Government of Maharashtra had requested the Union Government to notify the Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited (MSCCGMF) as an agent for procurement of cotton. The proposal has not been agreed to, so far.

[Translation]

### Contract Farming

2881. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE :

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE :

SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY :

SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :

SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some private companies/big industrial houses have resorted to contract farming by leasing land of farmers and making advance payments to the farmers for procurement of agricultural produce including foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such companies;

(c) whether any loan have been advanced to such companies by public sector banks/financial institutions for undertaking contract farming;

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

(e) whether such contract farming is likely to create shortage of various agricultural produce including foodgrains in the country; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA) : (a) to (f) The information being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Scheme for Bihar

2882. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the Government of Bihar for environment regeneration in various cities of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on certain projects has not been started yet despite approval of the said projects;

(d) if so, the names of the cities where work has not been started yet; and

(e) the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) As per the information furnished by the State Government of Bihar, as of now, no such proposal has been submitted by the State Government to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, Further, that the State Government has been implementing urban area plantation schemes with its own resources, which has direct bearing on Environmental regeneration.

(b) to (e) The question does not arise.

[English]

#### Outsourcing of Research

2883. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the organisations which were awarded the research contracts during the last three years and the progress made in this regard so far; and

(b) the processes involved in deciding the topics of these research contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) Ministry of Steel do not award research contract. However, financial assistance is provided from Steel Development Fund (SDF) for undertaking research and development work by steel plants, national research laboratories, academic institutions etc. with the approval of an Empowered Committee (EC) operating under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Steel) comprising of representatives from Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Scientific and

Industrial Research (DSIR), National Research Laboratories, major steel producers and other experts in the field. Organization-wise details of the research proposals approved by the EC during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Steel plants, national research laboratories, academic institutions etc. formulate their own research projects depending upon their need. Received proposals are evaluated by an Evaluation Group (EG) comprising of Industrial Adviser, Ministry of Steel, Representatives of DST

and DSIR. Consultations are also held with the experts of the field as and when required by the EG. The recommendations of EG are placed before the EC who once again discuss the proposals threadbare before approving and sanctioning the projects for financial assistance from SDF. The progress of large value (>Rs. 1.00 crore) projects are reviewed by specially constituted Empowered Board (EB) of experts who also help in deciding the course of action to be followed in a project.

#### Statement

*Organization-wise details of the research proposals approved by the EC during last three years  
(2003-04 to 2005-06)*

Name of Organization	No. of the proposals approved	No. of the proposals completed	No. of the proposals in progress	No. of the proposal(s) dropped
National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology and All India Induction Furnace Association	1	1	—	—
Tata Metalicks Ltd.	1	—	—	1
RDCIS, SAIL, Ranchi	2	—	2	—
NML, Jamshedpur	2	—	2	—
Jadavpur University	1	—	1	—
Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute	1	—	1	—
Bappa Ray Production	1	—	—	1
MECON Ltd.	4	—	3	1
Steel Research and Development Mission	1	—	1	—
Kalayani Carpenter Special Steel Ltd.	2	—	2	—
RDCIS, SAIL, and IIT Kanpur	1	—	1	—

### River Valley Project

2884. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the watersheds in which river-valley project has been sanctioned in Satara District of Maharashtra;

(b) the amount sanctioned for each watershed project and the area to be covered alongwith the period in which the works are to be completed;

(c) whether due to non-availability of funds the works under the river valley project are hampered; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) Tarali irrigation project benefiting an area of 19.498 th. Ha. located on Tarali River in Krishna Basin in Satara district of Maharashtra has been accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources. Irrigation is a State subject and planning, execution and funding as well as priority of execution of projects is within the purview of State Government. Central Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is provided by the Government of India to irrigation projects in accordance with guidelines of AIBP in from time to time and on the basis of proposal for AIBP submitted by the State Government. One of the primary conditions for inclusion of a projects in AIBP is that the project should have investment clearance from Planning Commission. The investment clearance from Planning Commission is yet to be obtained by the State Government of Maharashtra for Tarali Project.

### Transfer Policy In AIR/DD

2885. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether officers/staff if AIR and Doordarshan posted in Delhi continue to hang around in Delhi for quite long period, whereas officers/staff posted in other parts of the country are transferred regularly;

(b) if so, the steps contemplated by the Government to have an equitable transfer policy for all officers/staff;

(c) whether officers/staff in AIR and Doordarshan have been given ad-hoc promotions; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which they are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no discrimination in transfer of staff between Delhi and other parts of the country. The transfer policy guidelines are implemented objectively as far as possible and are subject to the exigencies of public service. Efforts are made from time to time to transfer all officers/officials who complete their tenure at a Station. There are some officers who are continuing in Delhi and other parts of the country, due to exigencies of work and on family/medical grounds.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ad-hoc promotions have been made in various grades due to various reasons such as ongoing court cases, vigilance cases, administrative constraints, non-finalisation of seniority list of the feeder grade etc. No time limit can be given as on date.

### Population of Wild Animals

2886. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated population of wild animals in the country as on date;

(b) whether the Government proposes to get funds from external agencies for the development of Project Tiger and Project Elephant;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to declare Mudhumalai Sanctuary as tiger conservation centre; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA) : (a) The State-wise details of some major wild animals pertaining to last estimation, as reported by States, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. "In principle approval" has been accorded for declaring Mudhumalai Wildlife Sanctuary (Tamil Nadu) as a tiger reserve, based on proposals received from state and as recommended by the Steering Committee of the Project Tiger in its 37th meeting held on 23-01-2003.

### Statement

#### Population Estimation of Some major wild animals as reported by States

S. No.	Name of State	Tiger 2001-02**	Leopard 2001-01	Asiatic Lions 2001	Elephant* 2002
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	192	505	NIL	74
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	61	NR	NIL	1607
3.	Assam	354	248	NIL	5246
4.	Bihar/Jharkhand	110	164	NIL	772
5.	Goa/Daman and Diu	5	41	NIL	NIL
6.	Gujarat	NIL	999	327	NIL
7.	Haryana	NIL	NR	NIL	NIL
8.	Himachal Pradesh	NIL	NR	NIL	NIL
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	NIL	7	NIL	NIL
10.	Karnataka	401	NR	NIL	5838
11.	Kerala	71	NR	NIL	3850
12.	Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	397	2206	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	238	513	NIL	NIL
14.	Manipur	NIL	NR	NIL	12
15.	Meghalaya	47	NR	NIL	1868
16.	Mizoram	28	NR	NIL	33
17.	Nagaland	23	42	NIL	145
18.	Orissa	173	457	NIL	1841
19.	Rajasthan	58	481	NIL	NIL
20.	Sikkim	NIL	NR	NIL	NIL
21.	Tamil Nadu	60	41	NIL	3052
22.	Tripura	NIL	NR	NIL	40
23.	Uttar Pradesh/ Uttaranchal	535	2168	NIL	1667
24.	West Bengal	349	331	NIL	328
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NIL	NR	NIL	NIL
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NIL	NR	NIL	40
Total		3642	8203	327	26413

\*Figures for elephant have been adopted by the Steering Committee of Project Elephant in its meeting in December, 2003

\*\*Under compilation/vetting.

NR = Not received.

[Translation]

Revision of BPL List

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

2887. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU : Will the Minister of

(a) whether several States especially Bihar have

sent any revised list of the families living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) to the Government so that the quantity of foodgrains being allocated for distribution to the BPL families may be increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether some discrepancies have been noticed in the list of the BPL families in several States due to which many families living below the poverty line are deprived of the benefits under Antodaya Anna Yojana, Public Distribution System and Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);

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

(e) the steps taken to remove such discrepancies and include all poor families under TPDS on basis of recommendations of Prof. Lakadwala Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (e) Request from State Government of Bihar and some other State Governments were received for increasing the allocation of foodgrains on the basis of Cards (Below Poverty Line) issued or proposed to be issued by them. The matter was examined in consultation with Planning Commission. At present the Department is following the 1993-94 poverty estimation of Planning Commission which is projects into the population figures of Registrar General of Census on March, 2000 according to which 6.52 crores BPL families (including 2.50 crore AAY families) are targeted to be covered under TPDS. The matter was taken up with Planning Commission who have opined the following:-

\*refixing the number of BPL households for purpose of TPDS should involve not only the growth in population but also the change in the incidence of

poverty. It would lead to an incorrect result if one parameter is changed but not the other. The poverty incidence as per the 55th NSS Round (1999-2000) has come down sharply to 26% as compared to 36% in 1993-94. Under the circumstances it is strongly suggested that no change should be made in TPDS allocation at this stage. In so far as the Task Group on Food and Nutrition Security recommendation is concerned, the 10% grace margin has been more than exhausted by the revision in 2000. Moreover, the Task Group has also recommended that the number should remain fixed for the next five years."

[English]

#### Pagladia Project

2888. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Pagladia Project in Assam alongwith its original sanctioned cost and funds released so far;

(b) the causes of delay in execution of project and cost escalation so far;

(c) the remedial steps being taken by the Union Government for early completion of the project; and

(d) the contribution made so far by the State Government of Assam in the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) and (b) Preparatory works like preparation of tender drawings and documents, construction of approach roads, etc. for the Pagladiya dam project have been carried out by Brahmaputra Board. The project was held up due to opposition from a section of project affected people (PAP) in carrying out the Zirat survey by Government of Assam on the basis of which Resettlement

and Rehabilitation (R&R) is finalized. The sanctioned cost of the project is Rs. 542.90 crore at 1999 price level. An amount of Rs. 46.47 crore has been released to Brahmaputra Board for the project since 2000-01 till December, 2006. However, the project authorities have refunded back Rs. 14.00 crore to Government of India due to non-utilization. The delay in execution of projects has been due to non completion of Zirat Survey and non availability of land for the project. The revised cost estimate of the project at January, 2004 price level is Rs. 1069.40 crore. The increase in cost estimate is mainly due to change in design, additional requirement as per actual conditions and price escalation since last estimate.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Brahmaputra Board is pursuing the matter with Government of Assam for completion of the Zirat survey and making the land available for the project. Government of Assam had formed a Cabinet Committee on implementation of the project. Two meetings of the Committee were held so far. The Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) has intimated Brahmaputra Board in December, 2006 that the BTC has no objection for the implementation of the project. Government of Assam have also taken up initiatives to remove the hurdle in the implementation of the project and recently instructed the Civil Administration to prepare fresh land acquisition proposal for the project.

[Translation]

#### Extraction of Iron-Ore by NMDC

2889. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Minerals Development Corporation (NMDC) has increased the extraction rates of iron-ore;

(b) if so, whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the impact of such increase on the small and medium industries;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) whether the Government has issued any directions to the NMDC to decrease the extraction rates of iron-ore;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the NMDC thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

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

(d) and (e) No, Sir. On the contrary, the directions to NMDC are to increase the production of iron ore, for meeting the domestic requirements of steel plants/sponge iron plants.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.

[English]

#### Racist Ads

2890. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU :  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR :  
SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received a number of complaints against private broadcaster Nimbus Communication for showing racist ads on its sports channel during the India-Sri Lanka cricket series as reported in "Hindustan Times" dated February 16, 2007; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government on the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Taking cognizance of the ads, this Ministry issued a show cause notice dated 14.2.2007 to M/s. Nimbus Communication. In their reply the channel submitted that the campaign is a metaphor for what a foreign cricket team would experience while playing in Indian conditions. The matter was then placed before the Inter-Ministerial Committee whose recommendations will be placed before the competent authority.

**Integrated Afforestation/Eco-Development  
Project**

2891. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has launched a centrally sponsored Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the objectives of the scheme;

(c) the number of States in which the scheme is being implemented;

(d) the targets set and achievements made in this regard during each of the last three years;

(e) the total number of trees/plantations grown along the coastal areas in each of the State where the scheme has been implemented so far; and

(f) the total amount sanctioned, released and spent under the scheme during each of the last three years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (f) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS), launched during 1989-90, is not being continued in the Tenth Five Year Plan. During the Tenth Plan, a new umbrella scheme titled National Afforestation Programme (NAP) was formulated

by merger of IAEPS and three other Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme (AOFFPS), Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme (NTFPS) and Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufruct Sharing Basis Scheme (ASTRPS). Consequent upon the formulation of NAP as stated above, no new projects have been sanctioned under IAEPS during the Tenth Plan.

**Export Promotion Council for  
Entertainment Industries**

2892. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish Export Promotion Council for Entertainment Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its terms and conditions; and

(c) the manner in which it is likely to benefit entertainment industries?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) Government of India has requested the stakeholders of the entertainment industry on 6th March, 2006 to consider the desirability of setting up of an Export Promotion Council/ Forum for the film and television sector in terms of the guidelines of Deptt. of Commerce. As per the guidelines, the EPC/EPF is to be constituted by at least 50% of the exporters representing at least 75% of the value of exports of the film industry in the previous year. Further action would be taken on receipt of proposal from the industry.

(c) Export Promotion continues to be a major thrust area for the Government. In view of the prevailing emphasis on exports and to facilitate various measures

being undertaken to stimulate and diversify the country's export trade, Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme is under operation through the Department of Commerce to assist Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) to undertake export promotion activities for their products and commodities. Recognised EPCs are eligible for MDA assistance for development and promotion of activities to promote exports of their products and commodities from India. This is expected to benefit entertainment industry as a whole.

#### **Sanction of projects for Forest Development Agencies**

2893. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted proposals for sanction of project for various Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) during 2006-07;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and
- (d) the funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of Gujarat had submitted proposals for sanction of projects for advance works to be carried out by 21 Forest Development Agencies, during 2006-07. These proposals have been approved and an amount of Rs. 563.85 lakhs has been released by this Ministry.

#### **Standards for STP**

2894. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) presently working in the country;
- (b) whether the government has fixed any standards for STPs;
- (c) if so, the number of STPs out of the above that meet the standards; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the standards of the remaining STPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) As per a report of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB, 2006), there are 231 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) presently working in Class-I cities, Class-II and other smaller towns in the country. The notified effluent standards for STPs, for discharge in surface water bodies are: Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)-30 mg/l and Total Suspended Solids-100 mg/l. Based on the performance evaluation of 115 STPs conducted by CPCB, 70 STPs were reported to achieve the standards for discharge in surface waters.

(d) The steps to improve the performance of the STPs include proper operation and maintenance of plants, adequate resource mobilization by the States and availability of dedicated power supply.

#### **Funds for Wildlife Protection**

2895. SHRI MANI CHARENAMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of protected forest areas, state-wise;
- (b) the percentage of Protected Areas to the total Forest Areas of various states in the North-East Region, state-wise;
- (c) the funds earmarked for Protection of wildlife in Protected Areas; and

(d) the role of wildlife wing for protection of wildlife outside protected areas and funds earmarked for protection of wildlife outside protected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report (2003) of Forest Survey of India the details of Protected Forest areas in various states is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The percentage of Protected Areas to total forest areas in North East States is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Financial assistance for protection of wildlife are provided under three major Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, 'Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant'. During the current financial year i.e. 2006-07 an amount of Rs. 99.59 crores has been earmarked under these schemes. The scheme-wise break up of funds is as given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Funds earmarked
1.	Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	Rs. 53.50 crores
2.	Project Tiger	Rs. 31.00 crores
3.	Project Elephant	Rs. 15.09 crores
Total		Rs. 99.59 crores

(d) Protection of wildlife is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. While Protected Areas are normally managed by the Wildlife wing, wildlife outside the Protected Areas is looked after by the Forest Wing. Provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are applicable both in Protected Areas and outside Protected Areas. Necessary technical inputs, wherever required, are provided by the State Wildlife Wings to their counterparts who manage the forest areas outside the Protected Areas.

Government of India also provides necessary technical and financial assistance to the State Governments for wildlife conservation. However, there is no earmarked funds for protection of wildlife outside Protected Areas.

**Statement-I**

*Details of Protected Forests in the Country*

S. No.	States/UTs	Area under Protected Forests (in Sq. kms)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12365
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9536
3.	Assam	0
4.	Bihar	5779
5.	Chhattisgarh	24036
6.	Goa	822
7.	Gujarat	395
8.	Haryana	1158
9.	Himachal Pradesh	33043
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	17643
11.	Jharkhand	19185
12.	Karnataka	3585
13.	Kerala	170
14.	Madhya Pradesh	35587
15.	Maharashtra	8196
16.	Manipur	4171
17.	Meghalaya	12

1	2	3
18.	Mizoram	3568
19.	Nagaland	508
20.	Orissa	15525
21.	Punjab	1137
22.	Rajasthan	17652
23.	Sikkim	389
24.	Tamil Nadu	2183
25.	Tripura	664
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2425
27.	Uttaranchal	10673
28.	West Bengal	3772
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4242
30.	Chandigarh	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5
32.	Lakshadweep	0
33.	Daman and Diu	1
34.	Delhi	7

**Statement-II**

*Details of percentage of Protected Areas to total forest area in North East India*

S. No.	States/UTs	Percentage of Protected Area to total Forest area
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.20

1	2	3
2.	Assam	14.47
3.	Manipur	4.52
4.	Meghalaya	3.18
5.	Mizoram	5.93
6.	Nagaland	2.57
7.	Sikkim	37.27
8.	Tripura	9.59

**Schemes for SCs/STs**

2896. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes for the benefits of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes alongwith the areas and States where these are being implemented;

(b) the funds provided by the Union Government under these Scheme during the last two years and current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has devised any mechanism to monitor these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) The Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing an exclusive Scheme for the Welfare of SC/ST job seekers which aims at enhancing their employability by providing Vocational Guidance/Career Counselling through Special Coaching/Training. This scheme is implemented through a network of 22 Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres for SC/ST located in different

States/UTs, details of which may be referred in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Details of funds provided under the scheme may be referred in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Scheme is regularly monitored through periodical Reports>Returns.

**Statement-I**

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of the area
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.	Assam	Guwahati
3.	Delhi	Delhi
4.	Gujarat	Surat
5.	Haryana	Hissar
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
8.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
9.	Karnataka	Bangalore
10.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
12.	Maharashtra	Nagpur
13.	Manipur	Imphal
14.	Meghalaya	Jowai
15.	Mizoram	Aizwal
16.	Nagaland	Kohima

1	2	3
17.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
18.	Punjab	Jalandhar
19.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
20.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur
22.	West Bengal	Kolkata

**Statement-II**

(Figures Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	Funds provided for the year		
		2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.03	17.67	19.51
2.	Assam	7.98	11.12	12.49
3.	Delhi	32.32	34.92	35.50
4.	Gujarat	11.42	12.86	14.23
5.	Haryana	9.63	12.23	12.83
6.	Himachal Pradesh	5.61	5.67	8.44
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.90	5.00	5.50
8.	Jharkhand	12.99	12.26	14.96
9.	Karnataka	14.62	14.90	17.00
10.	Kerala	13.48	16.08	18.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	11.84	13.80	15.66

1	2	3	4	5
12. Maharashtra		12.90	12.57	14.98
13. Manipur		12.10	11.14	13.71
14. Meghalaya		1.86	1.75	1.50
15. Mizoram		3.23	5.46	6.15
16. Nagaland		5.35	5.80	6.10
17. Orissa		9.34	9.97	14.49
18. Punjab		5.02	4.30	4.90
19. Rajasthan		7.54	8.69	11.17
20. Tamil Nadu		13.80	14.11	17.79
21. Uttar Pradesh		14.30	18.80	20.07
22. West Bengal		13.74	15.90	19.02
<b>Total</b>		<b>240.00</b>	<b>265.00</b>	<b>304.00</b>

#### Great Indian Bustard

2897. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Great Indian Bustard is severely endangered and is nearly extinct;

(b) if so, whether the Bombay History Society (BNHS) has sought permission from the Ministry to take up breeding of this bird from the second breeding season between February and March, 2007;

(c) whether permission has been given for their breeding;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Great Indian Bustard is an endangered bird species and has been listed in the Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.00 noon.

11.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, in West Bengal...*(Interruptions)* Hundreds of people were killed...*(Interruptions)* Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will be word after Papers are Laid.

*(Interruptions)*

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6009/07]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6010/07]

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English version) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6011/07]

- (4) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6012/07]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Narmada Control Authority,

Indore, for the year 2005-2006 along with Audited Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6013/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : On behalf of Shrimati Ambika Soni, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6014/07]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, 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 6015/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6016/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6017/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : Sir, I lay to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology, Gurgaon, 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 Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology, Gurgaon, 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 6018/07]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6019/07]

- (5) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6020/07]

- (6) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6221/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6022/07]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Posts for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6023/07]

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department

of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6024/07]

- (4) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6025/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Kantilal Bhuria, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, 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 6026/07]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh State

Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6027/07]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6028/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : On behalf of Shri Prithviraj Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6029/07]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6030/07]

- (3) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6031/07]

- (4) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed to Library. See No. LT 6032/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Taslimuddin, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986:-

(i) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Terms and conditions of Service of Employees) Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R.53(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007.

(ii) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Recruitment of Administration, Finance and Other Posts) Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R.54(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007.

(iii) The Bureau of Indian Standards (Recruitment of Laboratory Technical Posts) Regulations, 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R.55(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st January, 2007.

[Paced in Library. See No. LT 6033/07]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Veterinary

Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6034/07]

- (4) A copy of the Removal of (Licensing Requirements, Stock Limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs (Amendment) Order, 2007 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.297(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 2007 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6035/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6036/07]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6037/07]

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 of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6038/07]

- (2) A copy of the Guidelines for International Collaboration Research Projects Involving Transfer of Exchange of Biological Resources or Information relating thereto between institutions including government sponsored institutions and such institutions in other countries (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.1911(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th November, 2006 issued under section 5 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6039/07]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.262(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2007 giving the names and designations of the members of the National Biodiversity Authority issued under section 8 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6040/07]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 2004-2005.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6041/07]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6042/07]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6043/07]

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

[Translation]

After papers are laid, only one report is left.

(Interruptions)

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Fourteenth Report

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Sir I on behalf of Dr. (Col.) Dhani Ram Shandil beg to present a copy of the Fourteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on "Issues relating to Overseas Indians".

12.04 hrs.

*(At this stage Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

12.04½ hrs.

## STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

*[English]*

- (I) **Status of Implementation of the remaining two recommendations contained in First Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2004-2005), pertaining to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation**

\* THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : I beg to lay this Statement on the status of implementation of the remaining two recommendations contained in the First Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture (2004-05) in pursuance of the direction 73-A of Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, dated September 01, 2004.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture examined the Demands for Grants of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) for the year 2004-05 and presented to Lok Sabha on 17.08.2004. The report contained 16 recommendations. The Action Taken Replies of the Government were sent to the Committee on 5th January, 2005. A statement indicating the action taken/status of all the recommendations contained in the Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture was also made in Lok Sabha on 2nd May, 2005.

The status of Action Taken regarding implementation of the remaining two recommendations of PSCA is indicated in the statement enclosed.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 6044/07.

12.05 hrs.

- (II) **Status of Implementation of the recommendations contained in 39th Report of Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2006-07) pertaining to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : I beg to lay this statement on the implementation status of the recommendations contained in the Thirty Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance in pursuance of Direction 73-A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The Standing Committee on Finance examined the Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for the year 2006-07 and presented their Thirty Ninth Report to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on May 22, 2006. There are 09 recommendations made by the Committee in the said report where action is called for on the part of the Government. The major recommendations mainly relate to:-

- (i) Adherence to the laid down schedule for implementation of work on the remaining components of Tier-I of the India Statistical Strengthening Project so that Tier-II of the project takes off without further delay;
- (ii) Undertaking Family Living Survey to enable revision of CPI (UNME) series;
- (iii) Revision of wholesale price index (WPI) within a predetermined time frame and release of new series of CPI(IW) on base 2001=100;
- (iv) Pivotal role of the CSO in coordinating with the Ministries in the Central Govt., State Governments., and other Statistical Agencies for maintenance of quality of core statistics;

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 6045/07.

- (v) Apprising the Committee on the action taken on the Implementation of the recommendations of the COCSSO held in October, 2004 and holding of COCSSO annually; and
- (vi) Implementation of adequate measures for minimizing time and cost escalations in project implementation and operationalisation of OCMS.

The present status of implementation of the various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement which is laid on the Table of the House. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out the contents of the Annexure. I would request that this may be considered as read.

*(Interruptions)*

12.06 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377 may be treated as laid on the Table of the House and they will form part of the proceedings.

*(Interruptions)*

- (i) **Need to release a Postal Stamp and a 'First Day Cover' in the memory of Thillaiyadi Valliammai, an associate of Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani) : Sir, this is the 100th year of Satyagraha Movement started by Mahatmaji in South Africa. Thillaiyadi Valliammai who was born on 22-2-1898 at Thillaiyadi to Sri Munusamy Mudaliar and Smt. Mangalam Janaki was one of the earliest associates of Mahatma Gandhi. Basically her parents were weavers and they carried their weaving profession at Thillaiyadi in

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

Tamil Nadu. Since weaving profession was totally neglected, they decided to go abroad for achieving excellence. They left to South Africa as coolies and got settled at Johannesburg. In the year 1893, Dada Abdulla Company requested Mahatmaji to plead a case on their behalf. After reaching South Africa on seeing this kind of slavery, Mahatma Gandhi decided to stay for a further period to two years to solve the problem of slavery. On 11th September 1906, Gandhiji convened a meeting of Indians and local people. Nearly 3,000 people participated in that meeting. It was decided to agitate through Ahimsa. Due to the intervention of Gokaley, a compromise was arrived between Gandhiji and general Smartz in October 1912. As per the compromise, the Black Act enacted by General Smartz for payment of three sovereign on each Indian was cancelled. On 14th March 1913, Justice Shiarley declared all the marriages conducted other than the marriages conducted as per local Law were null and void. It badly affected the Indian women. All the Indian community and others started an agitation against the judgment. The agitation was started by Gandhiji. For all these agitations, the small girl, Valliammai participated and delivered lectures. During the age of eleven, even though she was sick, she travelled all the places Viz., New Castle, Charles town, Dando, Ladismith, Maritsbark, Durban alongwith Kasturba Gandhi and conducted the meeting. On 22 December 1913, she was arrested by police and convicted for three months. She was lodged in Maritsberg Jail.

Day by day her health condition deteriorated. Since then, her condition became very bad and she was released on 11th February 1914. She was taken to home and she passed away 22nd February 1914.

She worked with Gandhiji in the early years when he tuned his non-violent methods in South Africa, fighting the apartheid there and Gandhiji has himself admitted that her sacrifice has increased his resolve to fight against the Britishers.

To honour such a women patriot, I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT to release a

[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

Special Postage Stamp and a First Day Cover which will fulfill long pending dream of the Tamil people.

**(ii) Need for proper maintenance of roads on Virpur and Gandhinagar railway crossings on Surat-Dhuliya National Highway No. 6 in Gujarat**

DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY (Mandvi) : I wish to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister of Railway towards the dilapidated condition of roads on Virpur and Gandhinagar Railway crossings in Gujarat.

Virpur and Gandhinagar Railway Crossings are on Surat Dhuliya National Highway No. 6. The condition of the roads on these crossing maintained by Railways is very poor. The roads are broken and there are huge pits on these roads due to that the traffic on this road is always very much disturbed. Traffic jam on this road is a daily routine which causes hindrances in smooth movement of the traffic. The people who use these roads feel very inconvenience due to the bad condition of the roads on these railway crossings.

Keeping in view the genuine problem of the people, I request the Ministry of Railways to repair the roads on Virpur and Gandhinagar railway crossings at the earliest and ease the problems being faced by the public due to bad condition of the roads.

**(iii) Need to re-open the Fertilizer factory at Sindri, Jharkhand**

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad) : I would like draw the attention of the Union Government towards the initiatives, taken by them to re-open the only fertilizer factory (Public Undertaking) at Sindri, Jharkhand, which was lying closed since 2002. I would like to inform that the Experts team of P.D.E.L. appointed by the Government had submitted its report to Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in the year 2004. The Experts had recommended re-opening of Factory.

It is well known that through Sindri Fertilizer factory, which is a public undertaking, fertilizers were supplied to Jharkhand, Bengal, Bihar and North-Eastern States. Despite the fact that it was running in profit the Government closed it down in the year 2002. Due to that the said area is facing shortage of fertilizers.

Therefore, I would finally like to demand from the Government to re-open the Sindri factory, which is useful for people on priority basis. The future of farmers and labourers is linked with this factory.

**(iv) Need to take measures to construct a road between Junagarh and Kodinar in Amreli, Gujarat**

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli) : The road construction work of 25 kilometre stretch in Junagarh-Kodinar under my parliamentary constituency Amreli is impeded due to laws related to forests. This road passes through Gir forest. Due to non-construction of this road people have to take a long route of many kilometers extra to travel from Amreli to Kodinar. Due to this people are agitated. The local administration had sent a proposal for construction of this road with a view to facilitate people, it is still pending.

Through the House, I would like to request the Government to grant sanction for construction of 25 kilometres stretch of road between Junagarh and Kodinar, which is pending for more than one and a half years.

**(v) Need to explore an alternative shorter route via Shipki-la-pass for Kailash Mansarover**

[English]

SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH (Mandi) : As you are aware MEA organises Kailash Mansarover Yatra every year. Traditionally, the route to Kailash Mansarover, which lies in Tibet, passes through Uttaranchal. This journey is long and arduous, mainly on foot, and the round trip takes almost one month.

The H.P. Government has for sometime now been exploring the possibility of an alternate, easier and shorter route via Shipkila Pass which is on the border district Kinnaur and Tibet. Our Government has conducted detailed study and found that an alternate route through this area is possible. It would reduce the journey time by almost half, not only would this benefit the pilgrims but also become much easier for the Ministry of External Affairs to organize the logistics for the Yatra. Therefore, I would urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister that it may be necessary to examine this proposal by consisting a team of MEA and H.P. Government officials to survey the route on ground, so that this route could be firmed up. If it is feasible, it would give a big boost to tourism activity in the remote tribal District of Kinnaur and Himachal State in general.

**(vi) Need to provide stoppage of Ashram Express and Train No. 4311 (Bareilly to New Bhuj) at Rajgarh, Alwar, Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Rajgarh is a very important station of my parliamentary constituency, Alwar. Rajgarh station caters to needs of hundreds of Adivasi villages. The stoppage of Ashram Express Train No. 2915 and 2916 for 2 minutes at this station will prove beneficial for the people of this area. Similarly, Train No. 4311, Bareilly New Bhuj used to halt at this station, but since last year it has been discontinued. In view of demand of people, I demand from the Ministry of Railways to provide stoppage of said trains at this station on experimental basis.

**(vii) Need to sanction grants expeditiously for providing incentives to the power utilities for reduction in T&D loss in Orissa**

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi) : The State Government of Orissa has submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Power in June 2005 in the prescribed format

claiming incentive to the tune of Rs. 264.94 crore for the year 2003-04. This is 50% of the actual loss reduction achieved by the utilities with 2000-01 as the base year based on loss reduction achieved by GRIDCO (transmission and bulk supplier of Power), a state owned Utility and the four distribution Licensees engaged in the retail supply of electricity in the State.

So, I request that the Ministry of Power should sanction the grant on the ground that the distribution companies in Orissa are joint venture companies and are not solely private owned as GRIDCO holds 49% and the private sector holds 51% with management control. The delay in release of grants has virtually stopped the electrification process and the target achievement for 2012 (electricity for all) cannot be achieved.

**(viii) Need to give financial assistance to States particularly Madhya Pradesh for piped drinking water**

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain) : There is a need to give financial assistance or grants for formulation of Comprehensive Work Plan for making pure water available for drinking purposes, taking measures to make potable water available from potable water resources for setting up water purifying plants and for laying quality pipelines for supplying drinking water, construction of high water tanks for water storage and for setting up public taps. There is also a need to pay special attention towards taking extra measures for carrying potable water, boring of tubewell and handpumps. Therefore, I urge the Union Government to give financial assistance to states particularly Madhya Pradesh for piped drinking water.

**(ix) Need to withdraw the hike in railway charges for pilgrimages undertaken through rail**

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI (Rewa) : There are several big and small companies in the country who take the pilgrims to various pilgrim places like Prayag, Kashi,

[Shri Chandra Mani Tripathi]

Ayodhya, Gaya, Gangasagar, Puri, Tirupati Balaji, Madurai, Rameshwaram, Kanyakumari, Shri Shailam, Bangalore, Mysore etc. via trains and reserve III tier coaches of railways. Since the pilgrimage lasts for several days and even for months so the halt of railway coaches at various stations also becomes necessary and for this the companies pay halt charges to the railways. On one hand this facilitates pilgrimage and on the other hands it adds to the revenue of the railways.

But recently the Railways have issued an order effecting a substantial increase in its charges for pilgrimage. Earlier, Rs. 3120 per day were charged in the form of detention charge, which have now been increased to Rs. 14,400 per day. Besides, other charges have also been increased substantially. This way Railway used to charge Rs. 3 lakh approximately for pilgrimage and now it has soared to more than Rs. 6 lakh 25 thousand.

This way these excessive charges have caused wide resentment among people.

Therefore, the hon. Minister of Railways is requested to review its decision of increase of the said railway charges and revoke these orders so that the people going on pilgrimage in the country do not face financial difficulty.

**(x) Need for proper maintenance of National Highway in Gujarat**

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Maintenance and Repair of Shamlaji-Ahmedabad-Vadodara-Surat-Mumbai section of National Highway till June-2002 and Porbandar-Junagadh-Rajkot Bamanbore-Samkhyali-Palanpur-Abu Road Section of National Highway till May, 2005 was undertaken by State Government as Agency of Government of India. Thereafter, these roads have been transferred to NHAI. Till the time highways were with State Government, within allocated funds, highways were

maintained in good condition and no complaints were received. NHAI has started work of four laning but proper attention is not being given towards maintenance and repair of existing roads. Traffic safety during construction is totally ignored by contractors of NHAI. Government of Gujarat has received lot of complaints from Hon'ble MPs, MLAs and public about bad condition of roads in past as well as after current monsoon. In spite of representation at various levels to NHAI, condition of roads is not brought back to the standard of National Highways, due to which road users are facing lot of difficulties in moving along the roads. This also results into wastage of time and fuel.

So, I urge upon the Government to complete the work of maintenance and repair of roads under NHAI Jurisdiction as soon as possible.

**(xi) Expansion of Government Opium and Alkaloid works, Neemuch, Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Codene Phosphate is produced in the country from opium with a view to save sufficient foreign exchange. There is an Alkaloid factory at Neemuch Madhya Pradesh for its production where large quantity of opium is produced. However, owing to the production of opium from the point of view of export and its relative insufficient sale in the internal market, the stock of opium is gradually increasing which is in several tonnes and from this point of view there is a dire need to increase the production of by products of Codene and Opium. The Government had taken up the case of expansion of factory at Neemuch and the production was increased by running two shifts instead of one shift run in the past. However, the demand of Codene Phosphate is not being fulfilled and is being imported on which a lot of foreign exchange is spent. The Government is requested to increase the production capacity of Alkaloid factory at Neemuch so that Opium produced in the country could be consumed in the country alongwith saving the foreign exchange.

The Government in principle is in favour of enhancing its production and expanding the factory however, owing to some reasons, delay is being caused therein. I would also like to say here that sufficient water is available in Neemuch, which is particularly necessary for its production and the land required for the expansion of factory is also available. Therefore, it is requested that this factory at Neemuch should be expanded and the production of Codene and its by-products should be increased, since we are unable to meet the demand of Codene Phosphate and as a result it has to be imported and we have to spend a substantial amount of foreign exchange.

Therefore, it is requested that proper measures should be taken for it on Priority basis.

**(xii) Need to provide sufficient infrastructure for promotion of tourism in coastal area of Digha, West Bengal**

*[English]*

SHRI PRASANTA PRADHAN (Contai) : The Sea shore of the Bay of Bengal from Digha to Haldia in West Bengal is much sought after tourist destination especially sea beach at Digha. However, there are no durable tourist spots at Digha, Sankaspur, Madermoni, Janpur, Patuaghat, Khejuri-Masnadiala. These tourist spots are interlinked by a coastal highway. The infrastructure need to be built under a mega tourist plan so that tourists are able to reach the place comfortably. The connecting roads from the main road (Nandakumar to Digha) is not properly maintained. The condition of roads need to be improved and made attractive. If this project is approved, the protective walls of the sea-shore can help against sea-erosion. In the meanwhile, two villages (Mouzas) have been already submerged into the sea due to the erosion.

Sir, I draw the attention of the Ministry of Ocean Development, Water Resources and Tourism in this regard.

**(xiii) Expansion of Regional Rural Banks in the country for improving credit delivery mechanism**

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod) : Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have emerged as the third arm for delivering rural credit. The recommendation of Rangarajan Committee about the role of RRBs on "Financial inclusion" has not been made public. This should be made public. It is very necessary that RRBs should cover all the uncovered areas of the country. So far, 80 districts and the States of Sikkim, Goa, Andaman, Lakshadweep are uncovered. Though the productivity of RRBs has been increased nearly five times but no recruitment is taking place since 1990. The expansion is only possible with the manpower planning supported by immediate recruitment and promotion. The report submitted by the task force appointed by the RBI which had a detailed Manpower planning lined with business and other factors must be implemented immediately.

The Task force appointed by RBI with Shri K.G. Karmakar, MD, NABARD have recommended in favour of State level RRB. If such State-level RRBs are formed having one Apex rural at the top then, this will reduced the present number of RRBs and also the loss making RRBs and ensure unique and uniform rural bias. This will also ensure cross subsidization. Bank will be able to provide credit to priority sector on directed rate of interest. Surplus funds can boost investment in electricity, irrigation etc. which can enhance GDP in Agriculture production, will provide funds to State Governments on reasonable rate to accelerate development process and completion of projects within the scheduled time. This will also reduce burden on State Government.

I urge upon the Government to implement the findings of the Task Force appointed by RBI to strengthen the RRBs.

**(xiv) Need to open more branches of nationalized banks in Salempur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Almost all the areas of my parliamentary constituency, Salempur are backward and the farmers are not getting any financial assistance, owing to which people migrate to other states in search of employment and some have even gone aboard. They have to face lots of difficulties in sending money to their families. Mehrauna Market of my parliamentary constituency is in development block Lar. This is along the banks of Gaghra and the small Gandhak river and many people of this area are in foreign countries and the farmers are very poor. Another area is Padri falling in development block Bankata and there is no bank even at a distance of five kilometers in this area. Third area Virpur Mishr falls under Bhaluani Development Block and there is not even a single bank even at six kilometers distance from this area. Owing to the absence of banks in these areas, the farmers are not getting any financial assistance and facility. How the farmers would be benefited without financial assistance? The benefits of agriculture investment and other loan facilities of the Central Government would not accrue to the farmers here.

Through the House, the Government is requested to open smaller branches of nationalized banks in Mehrauna Padri Market and Virpur Mishr so that financial assistance could be provided to farmers.

**(xv) Need to widen and strengthen the National Highway passing through Hamirpur Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.) : There is an urgent need to widen and strengthen the national highway from Hamirpur-Mahoba, Deori Bandh in Jhansi-Mirzapur from District Jhansi to Matondh to Banda district and National Highway passing through Kanpur-Sagar from Hamirpur to Kaimaha upto district Mahoba by

including this work in the annual plan. Approximately Rs. 22 crore were sanctioned for the bypass of Sumerpur, district Hamirpur, however, neither this fund has been released nor the construction work has begun so far. The construction work between Kabrai and Mataundh is going at a slow pace in violation of quality norms.

The construction work going on from Hamirpur to Kabrai on Kanpur-Sagar National Highway is going on at a very slow pace and not in compliance of quality norms. The compliance of the stipulated norms should be ensured for construction. At present roadways buses, Private buses run along Mahoba to Kanpur and thousands of truck loads of stones run from Kabrai and trucks full of sand ply everyday from Hamirpur while this road has not been constructed in compliance with those quality norms. The road is in a dilapidated state. Owing to heavy traffic vehicles have to be run on rickety roads at a very slow pace leading to routine problems of traffic jams and accidents. It takes 6-7 hours to travel a distance of 130 kilometres by bus from Mahoba to Kanpur.

Therefore, through the House, the hon. Minister is requested to ensure immediate construction by including the widening and strengthening of the said road in the annual plan in compliance with quality norms and needs of the people for smoothening of traffic in my parliamentary constituency.

**(xvi) Need to construct a bridge over river Sikarhana at Pirapanti Ghat, Bihar**

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Sikarhana river flows between East and West Champaran of Bihar. This is the reason that the people from Ramgarhwa, Raksul, Adapur, Chodadano, Bankatawa blocks and blocks of Sitamarhi district and Nepal have to travel a distance of 200 kilometres to reach Bettiah. In the meantime the construction under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is being done from Ramgarhwa to Adhkaparia Pirapanti Ghat and the construction of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is proposed from Majhauilla block Garhwa of West Champaran district to Pirapanti Ghat via Bhogodi mean-

while there is an urgent need to construct a bridge over river Sikarhana in the Public interest.

I request the Minister of Rural Development to accord approval for the construction of a bridge over river Sikarhana at Pirapanti Ghat.

**(xvii) Need to release the second instalment of financial assistance under Indira Aawas Yojana for the year 2006-07 to 23 districts of Orissa**

*[English]*

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : Even as the financial year is coming to an end, uncertainty looms large over Union Government releasing second dose of financial assistance under Indira Aawas Yojana (I.A.Y.) to 23 districts of Orissa. Although the second installment of the central assistance is generally released in December, only seven out of 30 districts have received funds under the scheme. Orissa has set a target to construct 80 thousand 228 houses during the current year. In the first installment the centre released its share of Rs. 85.17 crore in April last year. The State had an open balance of Rs. 116.63 crore under the scheme including the State's share and the spillover amount from 2005-06. Orissa Government has claimed that 30 thousand 933 houses have been completed by December end, 2006 and the state submitted utilization certificate for Rs. 91.54 crore to the Union Government with a request to release the second installment.

However, the Government has refused to release the second dose of assistance citing reason that there is failure of non-submission of utilization certificates and audit reports for the special allocation of Central assistance during the super cyclone. The NDA government had given a special assistance for construction of 7 lakh houses under the scheme in the super cyclone affected districts. As the funding pattern under IAY is in the ratio of 75:25 between centre and the state and as the matching share of the state was to be released by February 28 and as the second installment by the centre is yet to be released, Orissa is going to lose around Rs. 100 crore under this programme.

I would urge upon the Government to reconsider the case and release the second installment before the completion of this financial year which amounts to Rs. 68 crore 34 lakh 65 thousand.

**(xviii) Need to accord the status of Scheduled Tribes to the tribal communities of Puducherry**

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry) : The Scheduled Tribe communities constitute one of the segments of the population of the Union Territory of Puducherry. But the Census of India has neither included them in their Report nor classified them as Scheduled tribes in various censuses taken so far. The plea for recognition of these communities was raised many times by Scheduled Tribe population of Puducherry. However, the Government of India refuses to recognize these communities on the ground that they are not the original inhabitants of the Union Territory. This is a myth. The Scheduled Tribe population have been living in the Union Territory for ages together and more specifically before the advent of freedom to the Union Territory of Puducherry in 1954. In fact, the villages of the Union Territory are named after the names of their communities such as Irulansandai, Vettaikaran Pudur, etc. The Government of Puducherry has recognised the existence of these communities and passed Resolutions in the Assembly requesting the Government of India to recognize these communities as Scheduled Tribe communities. The study by the Anthropological Survey of India, the Backward Classes Commission and a specially designed study for identification of Scheduled Tribes by Pondicherry University have conclusively proved the existence of Scheduled tribes in the Union Territory of Puducherry. However, it is unfortunate, the Government of India refuses to acknowledge these evidences and accord recognition to Scheduled tribe population. Consequently, we are rendering a grave injustice to these communities. They are neither classified as Scheduled Castes nor Backward Classes and extended reservation in education, employment, policies and schemes.

[Prof M. Ramadass]

The UPA Government which is now addressing the issue of social justice should look into this issue with utmost importance and arrange to accord recognition to tribal communities of the Union Territory of Puducherry.

**(xix) Need to sanction Rs. 370 crores as Central assistance for drought relief operations in Andhra Pradesh**

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Andhra Pradesh is reeling under severe drought consecutively for the last 7 years. Currently 9 districts in the State are facing acute drought. State Government has undertaken relief measures in 298 mandals that were drought affected and has already spent Rs. 277 crores. Though drought conditions have been prevailing in the State for the last 4 months, it is unfortunate that only recently a Central team visited the state and toured the drought affected places. The team had acknowledged the fact that drought conditions in the State were acute and had assured to recommend liberal financial assistance to the State. The State Government has requested for sanction of Rs. 370 crores as assistance for the drought relief operations. However, till date the Central team has not submitted its Report and as a result the financial assistance to the State is yet to be announced.

The most disquieting fact is that despite promise of waiver of loans and announcement of Special package by Prime Minister, State Police have arrested farmers in my constituency at the instance of Banks filing cases for recovery of loans. Two farmers were put in jail for having allegedly failed to repay loan. They were released from jail only after a part of the loan amount was repaid. It is requested that Government should direct the banks from refraining to file cases in the courts for recovery of loans from the farmers.

In view of the severe and acute drought conditions prevailing in the State, it is requested that liberal financial assistance should be released to the state expeditiously. It is also requested that guidelines with respect to grant of assistance under Input Subsidy Scheme should be relaxed so that the benefits of the scheme are given to

all farmers irrespective of whether they are covered under Crop Insurance or not.

**(xx) Need to distribute surplus land available in the country to landless labourers and increase the Budget-allocation of SCs/STs Finance Development Corporation**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : On one hand there is approximately 8 crore hectares 20 acres surplus land in the country which is lying unutilized and on the other there are crores of citizens belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes who are landless.

There are more than 26 per cent people in the country living below poverty line. The budget of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation should be increased for facilitating special jobs opportunities to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward class communities alongwith evolving a comprehensive scheme for uplifting people living below poverty line in the next 10 years in the country.

The Central Government is requested to allot surplus land available in the country to the landless people and evolve a comprehensive scheme for the upliftment of the poor living below poverty line alongwith taking necessary measures to increase the Budget allocations of SCs/STs Finance Development Corporation.

12.07 hrs.

TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL\*, 2007 -

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up the Legislative Business, namely, the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill.

(Interruptions)

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 19.3.07.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move\*:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 and the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957, be taken into consideration."

The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2007 has been introduced in order to carry out the necessary amendments to the Central Sales Tax Act (CST) Act, 1956 and the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957 with a view to commence the process of phasing out the CST in line with the consensus arrived at between the Central Government and the State Governments. ...*(Interruptions)*

The CST, being an origin-based tax, is inconsistent with VAT (which is a destination-based tax). Moreover, CST results in cascading of tax. Due to these reasons, there has been a consensus that the CST should be phased out. This is also a pre-requisite for introduction of an integrated Goods and Services Tax (GST), which the Government proposes to introduce by 1st April, 2010. ...*(Interruptions)*

In this connection, I had meetings with the State Finance Ministers on 16th December, 2005, 17th February, 2006, 22nd March, 2006, 3rd January, 2007 and 22nd February, 2007. And I report that a consensus has been arrived at between the Central Government and the State Governments on the roadmap for phasing out of the CST as also on the package of compensation to the States for revenue loss on this account. The implementation of the above proposals requires the amendment of the CST Act as also the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957. Consequently, the CST Act is proposed to be amended to provide for reduction of the CST rate. ...*(Interruptions)*

With these words, I request that the Bill be taken into consideration.

*(Interruptions)*

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me. This Bill is very important. Let us discuss and pass it. Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 and the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957, be taken into consideration".

*The motion was adopted.*

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 11 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 11 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

*(Interruptions)*

12.09 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL  
OF NATIONAL TAX TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT)  
ORDINANCE

AND

NATIONAL TAX TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT)  
BILL\*, 2007

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up item Nos. 20 and 21 together. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, Shri Prabodh Pands, Shri Bachi Singh Rawat, Shri, Varkala Radhakrishnan, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Shri Santosh Gangwar, Shri Giridhari Lal Bhargava, Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan and Shri Suresh Prabhu—not moving.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to amend the National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005, be taken into consideration."

The National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005 provides for adjudication by the National Tax Tribunal of disputes with respect to levy, assessment, collection and enforcement of direct taxes. *...(Interruptions)*

It also provides for adjudication by that Tribunal of disputes with respect to the determination of the rates of duties of Customs and Central Excise on goods and the valuation of goods for the purpose of assessment of such duties as well as in matters relating to levy of tax on service, in pursuance of Article 323B of the Constitution. *...(Interruptions)* The Act was brought into force by the notification of the Government of India S.O. 1826(E) on 28th December, 2005. *...(Interruptions)*

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 19.3.07.

The said Act was challenged by Writ Petitions filed in various High Courts throughout the country. *...(Interruptions)* Interim orders restraining the Union of India from constituting the National Tax Tribunal were passed by various High Courts including High Court of Bombay, Orissa and Punjab and Haryana. *...(Interruptions)* In order to consolidate all the Writ Petitions, a Transfer Petition No. 92/2006 was filed on 2nd February in the Hon. Supreme Court. *...(Interruptions)* The Supreme Court after hearing the arguments passed an order on 9th January, 2007 observing that the Court would examine the matters after such amendments as the Government may think appropriate are made in the said Act and the matters are mentioned, and reserving the liberty to the Government to mention the matter for listing after the amendments in the provision of the Act are made. *...(Interruptions)* Keeping in view the observations of the Supreme Court, the Government considered it necessary to amend the Act by promulgating the National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance 2007 so that necessary steps to constitute the National Tax Tribunal may be taken. *...(Interruptions)* Accordingly, the National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 has been promulgated on 29th January, 2007. *...(Interruptions)*

The National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 is now proposed to be replaced by the National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2007. *...(Interruptions)* It is proposed to amend the following provisions of the National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005. *...(Interruptions)*

- (i) Sub-section (5) of Section 5 is proposed to be amended to provide that one Member of National Tax Tribunal shall be transferred by the Central Government without the "concurrence" of the Chairperson. *...(Interruptions)*
- (ii) Sub-section (2) of Section 6 of the Act is proposed to be amended so as to reduce the qualifying period of Member of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal and of the Custom, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal for appoint-

ment as Member of the National Tax Tribunal from seven years to five years; ...*(Interruptions)* and

- (iii) Sub-section (1) Section 13 is proposed to be amended to provide that a party may either appear in person or authorize Chartered Accountant or legal practitioner to appear before the Tribunal. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would request the hon. Members to consider and pass the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

*(Interruptions)*

12.14 hrs.

THE NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT  
GUARANTEE (EXTENSION TO JAMMU AND  
KASHMIR) BILL\* 2007

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the extension of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir expressing my gratitude to the House I would like to thank the House that they first passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and then extended its support, however, that Act was passed barring the State of Jammu and Kashmir under Section 370 of the Constitution of India. Owing to Constitutional compulsions we asked the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir to enact a law after getting it passed from their legislative assembly. However, on their repeated demand to get it passed from this August House I have brought this amendment for consideration by the House. I wish that it may be passed.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the extension of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

*[English]*

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*(Interruptions)*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title  
were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands ad-  
journed to meet again tomorrow, Tuesday, March 20, 2007  
at 11 a.m.

*[Translation]*

12.17 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR.  
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : I beg to move.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of  
the Clock on Tuesday, March 20, 2007/  
Phalguna 29, 1928 (Saka)*

"That the Bill be passed."

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