

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

**Fifteenth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

## Statement

Wednesday, February 25, 2009/Phalgun 6, 1930 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Such a loud voice makes me afraid.

[English]

All right, thank you very much. Today is last but one day.

[Translation]

Are all of you ready for the elections?

11.01 hrs.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 121, Shri M. Raja Mohan Reddy.

[English]

#### Compulsory Rural Posting of Doctors

\*121. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) whether the Government has approved any proposal for compulsory rural posting of doctors after completion of their graduation as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated 31 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for implementing the said proposal?

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

In order to ensure availability of doctors in rural areas of the country, the Central Government has decided to make one year combined rural posting in Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and District headquarters under the State Government, a mandatory condition for eligibility for MBBS graduates to seek admission to Post graduate medical courses, as recommended by Sambasiva Rao Committee. It is proposed to be implemented from the next academic session for which modalities are being worked out. This decision was also endorsed by the States in the meeting of the Central Council for Health and Family Welfare on 30th January, 2009.

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the ambitious National Rural Health Mission launched by the Government to provide medical facilities in villages has yielded desired results. Is there any shortage of qualified doctors and para-medics? It is because the hon. Minister in his reply has said he is going to make it mandatory for the MBBS doctors who seek post-graduation to work in the rural areas. Many people will think that MBBS itself is enough for them. So, how do you enforce the doctors to go to the rural areas? I would like to know the answer from the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: How do you enforce it? It is a very good question.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, time and again I have been telling about the success of the National Rural Health Mission. People in India and world wide from the UN agencies, like Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, the Ambassador for Poverty Alleviation for the UN Secretary-General, have been saying that India's National Rural Health Mission is the biggest and the fastest expanding public health programme in the entire world. This is attributed by our Government which has been so insistent on health. In fact, this year the total Budget for my Ministry is about Rs.16,500 crore, out of which, approximately Rs.12,000 crore has been invested only in the National Rural Health Mission.

About its success, in the State like Bihar, before this National Rural Health Mission, the average patient attendance monthly in a Primary Health Centre was about 40 patients. In three years it has increased from 40 to

4000 patients. It is because of the National Rural Health Mission, the institutional delivery has increased seven-folds, which no country in the world has achieved just in a short span. All these attribute to infrastructure. In the last three years, nearly 80,000 health personnel have been enlisted under the National Rural Health Mission, which was never attempted earlier. These include specialists, doctors, nurses, para-medics, ANMs and ASHAs in the new cadre. Nearly about 6,40,000 ASHAs have been put in place. So, all these are health personnel.

But coming to the focus point about availability of doctors, whether they are there or not, overall in the country we still have a shortfall of doctors. There are approximately about 7,00,000 modern medicine doctors, not MBBS doctors, allopathic doctors in the country. Our requirement is another 8,00,000 more. There are about one million nurses in our country. Our requirement is another one-and-a-half million more. So, we are investing in infrastructure building.

We are supporting the Government medical colleges. There is a scheme for nearly about Rs.1,350 crore in the Eleventh Plan where we are giving to all the Government medical colleges about Rs.10 crore minimum for producing more specialists so that they do that. At the same time, we are, in fact, relaxing some of the conditions of MCI Regulations so that the hard areas like the Northern States and the North-Eastern States should start more medical colleges and bring out more doctors. That is why, now we have decided that we have to make some of the rural postings mandatory. A year ago when we had wanted to bring out this proposal that before the MBBS registration certificate we wanted to make the students go to the rural areas to work there for one year mandatorily, there was lot of opposition from some State Governments.

In fact, some of the Members of Parliament had also raised opposition. Then, the students went on strike and all that. Then, we had formed Dr. Sambasiva Rao Committee who went across the country—discussed with the students, professors, doctors, vice-chancellors, public and everybody—and gave us the recommendation saying that we could have a scheme that if anybody wants to apply for a post-graduate course after finishing the MBBS, he or she should undergo one year mandatory rural posting in a PHC, in a CHC and in a district headquarters hospital. That is why, we have come to this conclusion and we have brought out this that from next academic year onwards, all the students who want to apply for a post-graduation, they have to work in a rural posting.

MR. SPEAKER: What about those doctors ....

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The Minister should be precise and the answer should be readymade.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I hope the questions are also precise.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : He should not answer this way. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. I was trying to exercise the simple authority of putting a clarification. You did not even allow the Speaker to speak. That shows your very alertness, extra alertness. I only wanted to know...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Please do not record this.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: If an MBBS doctor does not wish to read for a post-graduate course, is there any mandatory requirement that he cannot practice unless he puts in one year in the rural areas?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: No, Sir. It is not there.

MR. SPEAKER: How many doctors go for PG course?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, today there are about 289 medical colleges in India, out of which 141 are in the public sector and 148 in the private sector. Therefore, approximately 33,000 ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Therefore, 95 per cent go scot-free.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you ask second supplementary. I am sorry to have interrupted.

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central

Government is envisaging any health scheme for providing medical care to all BPL and middle-class families in the country on the lines of State Government of Andhra Pradesh where 85 per cent to 90 per cent of the people are covered under medical aid under Rajiv Arogyashri Scheme, where 942 various diseases ....

MR. SPEAKER: It is a little different question. The Question is about compulsory rural posting. Please restrict yourself to that.

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: It is incurring an expenditure of Rs. 2 lakh per annum per family.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. We are happy to get the information.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I would like to answer that question as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Be careful of Shri Radhakrishnan's response!

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, under the National Rural Health Mission, we have given the flexibility to the States to have health insurance scheme according to the State-specificity and we are supporting a part of the schemes the States have been doing. Some States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Gujarat have taken up these health insurance schemes and they are rolling them out.

Nevertheless, under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana of the Labour Ministry, nearly Rs. 33,000 for BPL patients have been envisaged. Under the scheme, they are issued Credit Card or Cash Card and they can go to any of the accredited facilities and get them tested. It is per family per year expenditure under the scheme.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fundamental duty of the Government of India as well as the State Government is to provide medical care to the citizens of this country. Now, Sambasiva Rao Committee has made this recommendation, and I am appreciating it, but this is not sufficient at all. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would put a condition before giving a degree that he should work in the rural areas. We are providing money, constructing buildings, providing infrastructure and everything. So, you have put a clause for post-graduation.

If they go abroad, after doing graduation, they are not subject to it. Only five per cent of doctors will come under this condition and 95 per cent will not. That is why, we have to put a condition. We will support it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you move the resolution and we will accept it unanimously.

MR. SPEAKER: Wait for the 15th Lok Sabha. Nobody will take notice of the dying ....

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, people in the rural areas are suffering a lot. ...(*Interruptions*) They do not get medical facility. ...(*Interruptions*) Even in the tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, thousands of people are dying. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. Shri Radhakrishnan will object! That is why, no answer to this question.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister put a clause before giving them degree to make compulsory to work in the rural areas? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to give chance to as many as possible.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, please do not speak now. I am sorry.

Do not record anything else.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot be speeches.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, as much as I want to accede to the hon. Member's request to which I have already answered in my first supplementary that last year we had put up the proposal that before completion of the MBBS Degree or before giving them the permanent registration they have to do a mandatory one-year rural posting. There were a lot of objections within and outside the Parliament as well. There were protests from the students, and there were a lot of black flag protests. ...(*Interruptions*)

---

\*Not recorded.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: You move the Resolution ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, do not respond to it as it is unauthorized.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record it.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, it means that he does not want to hear any reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The next supplementary to be asked by Shri Mahavir Bhagora.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one year combined rural posting has been mentioned in the reply of the question. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what does it mean?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good, brief and specific Question. Kindly give a very brief and specific reply to it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, can you please ask him to repeat the Question?

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about the meaning of this one year posting as has been mentioned in the reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: What does it mean?

*[English]*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, you have also translated in Hindi only, and that is the problem.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry to have created a problem.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, the Central Council for Health and Family Welfare is the highest decision-making body of the Government of India and the Ministry of Health where all the Health Ministers of the country are representatives in it. Recently, we had a meeting of the Central Council, and they unanimously accepted this proposal of making mandatory one-year rural posting before applying for a Post Graduate (PG) course.

One-year rural posting is the responsibility of the State Government, and the State Government can post them in a District HQ Hospital for four months; in a Community Health Centre (CHC) for four months; and a Primary Health Centre (PHC) for four months. The new doctors will be under the guidance of a District Medical Officer, and the District Medical Officer will be posting these doctors. We will be giving them a minimum stipend of Rs. 10,000, and the State Government can contribute more also. The other modalities of how they will work, etc., are currently being worked out.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will it just be an internship or ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, what are you doing? You do not have to reply to it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Sir, the Government of Kerala has already implemented the programme of rural posting of all doctors after the completion of Graduation. As a result of this, we are able to post 700 and odd MBBS Graduates.

I want to know this from the hon. Minister. Will the Ministry take any steps to make it compulsory for the All India Services? Would any steps be taken to make it applicable while filling an application for PG course that in the prospectus itself a mandatory provision will be made that rural service is necessary? Will any special provision be made or any special consideration be given to these doctors who are serving in the rural areas for accommodation facilities?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Some of the States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and a lot of other States also have made it mandatory that a

service candidate or doctor should undergo rural posting. In some States it is one-year hard rural posting; three-year rural posting; soft rural posting; etc. There are the categories if they want to apply for a PG. In fact, in Himachal Pradesh, nearly 75 per cent of the PGs are enlisted only for the service candidates, and some other perks like this. In some other States it is 50 per cent. Therefore, all these things are there.

This criteria in application of doing up rural posting is both for States as well as All-India quota in private as well as public colleges, and everybody is included in it. If anybody wants to apply for a PG from next academic year onwards all over the country, then they have to undergo a mandatory rural one-year posting.

As regards the issue of accommodation, it is a good Question. In fact, under the National Rural Health Mission also we are upgrading the facilities. We are building quarters for doctors and nurses, etc., and it has been according to the demand of the States. We have left it to the discretion and flexibility of the States, and if States demand it under the Programme Implementation Plan—which they submit every year—then they could go ahead and build all these infrastructure, etc. Nevertheless, we are saying a four-months' posting in PHC; four-months' posting in CHC; and four-months' posting in a District HQ Hospital. Therefore, they will be going around and looking up there. They will be seeing the realities of what the social problems and health problems of the village people are.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has specially mentioned Bihar in his reply and said that efforts have been made to improve health services there. It is true that he has made efforts and allocated a handsome amount to improve the health services in villages. But, I do not know the level at which he has received these figures because even today there are so many health centers in Bihar where doctors and medicines are not available.

Sir, hon. Minister has said that after post-graduation, doctors will be posted in villages. I would like to know as to why doctors are not being posted in rural health centers? Even today doctors are not available in 90 per cent village hospitals. Doctors are not at all posted there ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Doctors are posted there, but nobody goes.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Doctors do not go to villages but we too are not able to compel them to go.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be done by the State Government, how can it be done from here?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Hon'ble Minister should get the rules and laws formulated for this purpose. ...*(Interruptions)* when he is allocating such a hefty amount for villages, he should ensure that ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You are an experienced Member, you should know how to put a question. You are an expert.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, it is a good question the Member asked about the rural service posting of doctors. Some States do it. We want all the States to adopt it. Initially when the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was started, there were discrepancies in recruitment at cadre level. We had a State cadre. We asked the some of the States to do it as a District cadre so that they are transferred within the District near to their own places. If some of the States want, they are free to do it. We will be supporting them under the NRHM. My experts have gone around; there have been a lot of surveys done. In fact, recently we had a common review mission of 13 States. These national and international level experts went around by themselves; they visited these PHCs, CHCs all over and gave us a very positive record and statistics saying that there has been a resurgence of activity in almost all the Northern States which were lagging behind, including the North-Eastern States.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are going to implement the system of compulsory posting of doctors in rural areas from 2010. But, such postings are already being made by many States. Facilities should also be provided to them at their place of posting then only they will agree to go there. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, the Question relates to rural posting of doctors. Urban posting, not doing anything and everything else is coming under rural posting now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Sir, general ratio of doctors and patients is 1:1722. Similarly, what is the ratio in this regard in rural India, because we can implement the rural health schemes keeping this ratio in mind.

*[English]*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, even though today in India the doctor to population ratio is, as the hon. Member said, 1720 for one doctor, most of the doctors are in the urban areas, in cities and towns. They do not go to the rural areas. That is why we are forced to bring out some of the rules/regulations like to ensure that they go there. Coming back to the question of the hon. Member whether there are facilities available for them, it is four months in a District Headquarters hospital. A District Headquarters has got all facilities. It is four months in a community health centre. It is mostly a Taluka Headquarters where facilities are there. And then it is four months in a PHC. They could come and go and there are already doctors available. We are making PHCs 24x7. Till date under the NRHM, approximately 12,000 facilities including PHCs and CHCs have been made 24x7. We are giving them a stipend of minimum Rs. 10,000. The State Governments can contribute towards their stay, accommodation and food. This is not a salary. This is a one-year stipend for their services in the rural sector.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudhakar Reddy, please restrict yourself to rural posting of doctors. Otherwise I will disallow it.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Sir, the proposal of the hon. Minister to have more specialists in the country is necessary and the rural posting is one of the essential qualification for applying for postgraduate courses.

Here, I would like to request the hon. Minister to think of increasing the number of seats in the Post-Graduation because in each Faculty, there are only one or two seats in each Medical College. We need several lakhs of specialists and we need several lakhs of doctors to go to the rural areas.

MR. SPEAKER: No, Shri Reddy. I am sorry.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: This is very much connected. If we want to send the doctors to rural areas.... *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The trouble is, I have to decide finally. Your certificate will not help.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Yes, Sir. I am requesting the hon. Minister to think on these lines. I wanted to know as to whether any decision is taken in this regard to encourage more doctors to go to the rural areas.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: It is a good question.....

MR. SPEAKER: The trouble is, you know so much that you think that every question is a good question.

*...(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: About the Specialists, I would say that we have an acute shortage of all Specialists in our country. Coming to MBBS, out of 289 colleges, about 33,000 doctors come out or will come out of these institutions. But compared to the MBBS, about 11005 PGs are coming out every year. To off set this balance, as a first mode, we have now changed the regulations of the Medical Council in regard to post-graduation. Earlier, the criteria for admitting the PG doctor was one professor, one student; today, we have made it as one professor, two students. Even three students could be taken. They have all the capacity. With one stroke, from 11,005, 22,000 students would be admitted.

Secondly, regarding the Indian doctors who are working abroad, we have approved the Foreign Medical Degree...

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. We have already spent 21 minutes on this question.

*...(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: We have taken a number of steps. The National Board of Examinations have also been making efforts in this direction. We are making all efforts to have more Specialists available in the country. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Country's health should be protected. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That we can look at ourselves in the mirror whether the health is good or bad!

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is related to rural posting of doctors for one year before obtaining the degree. Through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that there are a few doctors in Maharashtra, whose turn for posting in rural areas for

one year has yet not come after obtaining their degree and hence these doctors are still temporary though a period of 12 years has elapsed, they have not been made permanent. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is related to the rural posting, and this question is totally different.

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: I want to ask whether you are going to make the rural posting mandatory and if so whether the hon. Minister proposes to do something about the doctors, who are working in rural areas for last 12 years.

[*English*]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I have completely not followed his question.

MR. SPEAKER: He says, for those who are working for more than 10 or 12 years in the rural areas, what are you going to do for them?

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I do not see any doctor working in the rural areas on a temporary basis.

MR. SPEAKER: Anyway, they do not work there. They get the posting and do not work.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: These are some of the policies of the State Government.....

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow any other supplementary. We have already taken 25 minutes for this question.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: The Central Government under the National Rural Health Mission have been giving a lot of incentives, along with the State Government. For these doctors working in the rural areas, they are made eligible for post-graduation and incentives of monetary benefits and other allowances are also given. The National Rural Health Mission have also been supplementing the efforts of these Governments. In some of the States, it is the policy decisions of those States, to take up temporary or permanent facilities. We cannot interfere much on the State's policies

MR. SPEAKER: We have a very bad record. This was stated in the last week's Question Hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed eight hon. Members to take part in one question. Kindly watch the clock.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, I am also waiting for my turn ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You would get time here, but after question hour you will not get any time.

Q. 122—Dr. Chinta Mohan—not present.

Q. 123—Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

#### Shortage of Coal

+  
\*123. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:  
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of coal to meet the domestic demand including that of thermal power plants in the country;

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

(c) the details of the quantity of coal supplied to the thermal power plants in the country during the last three years and the current year and the present stock of coal in various thermal power plants in the country;

(d) whether coal is being imported to tide over the situation;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year; and

(f) the other steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure regular supply of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no acute shortage of coal. However, as per Annual Plan 2008-09, Planning Commission has estimated that as against the estimated raw coal demand of 550 Million Tonnes (506 MT non-coking coal and 44 MT coking coal), the indigenous availability would be 497.29 Million Tonnes, which will leave a gap of 52.71 Million Tonnes (25.05 MT of coking coal and 27.66 MT non coking coal). This gap is likely to be met through imports by consumers from different sectors.

(c) The details of supply of coal by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) to thermal power plants (power utilities) during the last three years and during April, 2008 to January, 2009 are given below:-

Year	Coal supplies made by CIL to power utilities (million tonnes)	Coal supplies made by SCCL to power utilities (million tonnes)	Total coal supplies made (million tonnes)
2005-06	256.40	25.53	281.93
2006-07	261.80	26.88	288.68
2007-08	280.00	29.85	309.85
2008-09 (April 2008 to January 2009) (provl.)	242.80	24.62	267.42

(d) and (e) By and large, the coal demand in the country, including coal demand of power utilities, was met by indigenous sources. However, some consumers including power sector are importing coal due to limited indigenous availability of coking coal and low ash non-coking coal, environmental considerations, location specific landed cost, increase in Plant Load Factor, building up of stocks by power utilities etc.

The total coal imported during 2005-06 to 2008-09 (upto Aug. 2008) is given below:—

Year	Total coal imports (million tonnes)
2005-06	38.57
2006-07	45.00
2007-08	49.79
2008-09 (upto Aug. 2008) (provl.)	24.93

(f) Following measures have been taken by the Government to ensure regular supply of coal:—

- (i) a comprehensive New Coal Distribution Policy has been introduced to streamline distribution including supply of coal in terms of Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs).
- (ii) a large number of coal blocks have been allocated to augment indigenous availability of coal.
- (iii) supply of coal to critical sectors like power, cement and steel is closely monitored by the Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee headed by Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat.
- (iv) an Inter-Ministerial Sub-group, presently headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, regularly reviews the coal stock position in various power utilities which are having less than 7 days coal stock and take appropriate and plant specific measures to ensure that adequate coal supplies are maintained to such power plants.
- (v) Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies and Singareni Collieries Company Limited are augmenting coal production by introduction of high capacity shovels and dumpers, mechanization of underground coal mines, by taking up of new coal projects etc.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has replied that there is no shortage of coal. The Chairman of Coal India Limited, Mr. Bhattacharya said in the Coal Summit held in New Delhi that the total requirement of coal in our country would be two billion tonnes by the year 2017. The present growth rate of coal in the country is 6-7 per cent and to achieve the production level of 2 billion tonnes a growth rate of 16-17 per cent is required and then only domestic requirement of coal in our country can be met. Once the target of coal production was fixed at 34.25 million tonnes but despite all our efforts, growth rate of not more than 9 per cent in respect of coal production could be achieved. I would, therefore, like to ask the Minister as to how they will meet the growing demand of coal in the country and what measures the Government proposes to take in this regard.

*[English]*

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, if I give the statistics, the hon. Member will know the actual position on import of coal which will give a brief idea on what is happening in production and demand.

The actual import is 45 million tonnes which was done last year, out of which about 25 million tonnes was coking coal which is just not available. That shortage is there. The balance is 20-22 million tonnes; 10-12 million tonnes were meant for units at the port areas which themselves want to import because they get better quality and their equipment is suitable for imported coal. So, actually, total shortage is about 10 million tonnes which has been imported, on record. We had a stock of 45 million tonnes as on 1.4.2008, which is now reduced to 37.2 million tonnes. So, there is no shortage as such. But what is happening is that there is a mismatch sometimes. It looks as if there is an acute shortage. But there is mismatch because of movement of stock from one end to the other, because of some law and order problem, because of movement of rakes from one place to another. But there is not a single power unit in the country—I claim this—that is closed down this year for lack of coal. They always continued with production.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very often reported in the newspapers about the thermal plants that power generation targets fixed for thermal power plants could not be achieved due to inadequate supply of coal or supply of inferior quality of coal. The Minister has stated that a stock of coal for seven days is kept in the thermal power plants. I do not agree with him as such reports are frequently reported and generally come to the notice of the House and all are aware of it.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government propose to issue guidelines to ensure supply of quality coal to the thermal plants.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. Thank you.

[*English*]

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: When it is the question of quality of coal, we are supporting the coal pithead plants, because that is where question relating to the quality of coal becomes much lesser. When it goes to distant places, according to the environmental laws also, we cannot give ash content beyond 42 per cent. So, the quality of coal—whatever is available in the country—is going to different plants. There is no problem in that. What you are listening about the shortage of coal, I think, is related to different utilities. The Plan was made

by the Planning Commission for all the five years. Last year it was decided that during 2008-09 we will import 20 MT. But what has happened? Out of that, the utilities have imported only 12 MT...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has asked about the shortage in thermal stations.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, he is talking about the shortage. Every plant has to have 21 days production, 21 days stock requirement and 15 days at the pithead and 21 days at the distant place. If they do not keep the stock as per the plan, naturally it appears that there is a critical condition. Actually, there is no critical condition, as I said. It is all being talked. If the hon. Member wishes to know about the Madhya Pradesh, I can give him more details also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been considerable uncertainty in the supply of coal to 77 thermal plants in the country. The Government states that many a thermal power plant have a stock for seven days. A demand of 731 million tonnes has been projected during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and the production is likely to be 680 million tonnes, whether the distribution and mining system in case of coal also leads to scarcity of coal? The scarcity of coal results in black marketing. In order to rectify its monitoring system, I would like to put a supplementary to the hon. Minister through the House whether any change has been made in the monitoring system for supply of coal for power generation and cement production? If so, whether any improvement has been made in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: You can reply in yes or no.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Improvement is, indeed there.

[*English*]

Let me give you some figures. Annual Action Plan Programme target for 2008-09 by Coal India was 239 MT against which we have dispatched 242 MT which means there is an increase by 1.5 per cent. Percentage growth of last year dispatches is 6.3 per cent. It has never happened in the last five or even ten years. Singareni Coal has also increased from 22.94 MT to 24.62 MT which is an increase by 111 per cent. This means 111 per cent supplies have been made. As I said, as per the plan the supplies are being made but imports are not being made and that is why it appears

that the stock level is not maintained. The utilities do not have enough funds and as a result they do not want to keep the stock. They want to run hand to mouth. It is not the coal which is a problem but their own systems all over the country. I am not talking about one particular State.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HEMANT KHANDELWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Minister as has himself admitted in his reply that there is a shortage of 52.71 million tonnes of coal in the country as a whole so I would like to know as to how many projects for commissioning of new underground mines are under consideration in the entire country, including Madhya Pradesh and the time by which these projects are likely to be commissioned so that there is no shortage of coal in thermal power plants?

*[English]*

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I have already explained as to why we have to import and why it appears that there is a shortage.

MR. SPEAKER: He is a new Member. So, I have allowed him.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Actually, there is no shortage. The import is being made because this is a special coking coal or non-coking coal which is especially required by them. So, actually, there is no shortage. Whatever new plans are coming, it is a continuing process. I can give you year-wise plan.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need for it. They all know it. They are very knowledgeable Members. Shri Sunil Khan, you may ask a brief question otherwise, I will disallow it.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Yes, Sir. I would like to know from the Minister whether to meet the shortage of coal he is ready to stop illegal mines. Mining actually should be given to the local cooperative so that the revenue is increased and illegal mining is stopped.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: We are not allowing any illegal mining. As far as Coal India or the Ministry of Coal is concerned, illegal mining is a local problem, the State Government's problem and it is the law and order problem. Our own officers are trying to the best of their ability to stop it but it is the local Government which has to stop it.

MR. SPEAKER: My best wishes to everybody.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH:- Mr. Speaker, Sir, the consumption of coal can further be curtailed.

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak simple Hindi. Why do you use words like 'khatpat'?

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, at least, let some one to speak Hindi. Ramdasji speaks English. He does not speak Hindi at all.

Sir, consumption of coal can further be reduced if we focus more on captive power plants because there are no transmission or distribution losses in those plants and there are major losses in I.P.P.s. Unfortunately, the I.P.P.s have received more thrust from the Government and lesser importance has been given to C.P.P.s. A level playing field was put in place in the Electricity Act, 2003 but today it is not so. The C.C.P.s are not being given the importance which should have been given. I would like to know as to what steps are proposed to be taken to give boost to the captive power plants, so as to reduce consumption of coal and mitigate transmission and distribution losses?

*[English]*

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I would like to inform the hon. Member that the total demand for the CPP today in the country – if I go for all demand – does not go beyond 3500 MW or so. The CPP is not viable. They are all small units and CPP is for your own consumption. Can you produce something only for yourself and not give it to others? Can every consumer produce for himself? So, this is a misnomer. There is no question of loss that you are talking about. It is a separate issue, that is why, we are developing, propagating and our policy also says that we should have pit-head plants. If we have CPPs, all the plants will be in different remote and difficult areas of the country. How do we send small quantities of coal everywhere? So, that is not a practical proposition at all. In fact, CPPs should be reduced and we should have more IPPs which will be more viable because cost will be lesser and the quality of power will be much better.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. 124 – Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil – Not present.

Shri S. Ajaya Kumar

**Rise in Chronic Diseases**

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\*124. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR;  
SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:

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

(a) whether cases of chronic disease like cardiac problem, diabetes, renal failure and cancer etc. are on the rise in the country including rural areas over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to find out the reasons for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to control such diseases and provide medical treatment to the patients at low cost, particularly in the rural areas?

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

**Statement**

(a) to (e) As per the available literature on various National Communicable Diseases like coronary heart diseases, diabetes, cancer there is an increase in their incidence in the country including rural areas.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates, there were 32 million diabetics in India in the year 2000 and these are likely to increase to 80 million by the year 2030.

As per the study on 'Assessment of Burden of Non-Communicable Disease' carried out by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the number of Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD) was estimated to have increased from 18.6 million in 1998 to 22.37 million in 2004 whereas the number of deaths are projected to have increased from 2.56 lakh to 5.54 lakh. Also, as per National Commission on Macro Economics and Health (NCMH) background paper titled 'Forecasting Vascular Diseases and Associated Mortality in India' by A. Indrayan, it has been forecast that the cases of Coronary Heart Diseases (CHD) in rural India shall increase approximately from 16.57 million in 2000 to 31.04 million in 2015.

Data on community based prevalence or incidence of kidney diseases is limited. The available studies indicate that a Chronic Renal Failure (CRF) in adult population is about 0.8% in India. However, due to rise in diabetes and hypertension cases, the chronic kidney disease is expected to rise.

The data available from National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) of ICMR does indicate a rise in cancer cases in India. There are about 9 lakh new cancer patients occurring every year in the country.

ICMR has informed that meta analysis on studies on hypertension have indicated an increasing prevalence of hypertension and cardiovascular disease (CVD) amongst both rural and urban population between 1962-2000.

The four major risk factors which are directly or indirectly associated with the causation of chronic non-communicable diseases are as follows:-

- (i) Tobacco use; smoking, chewing of tobacco products;
- (ii) Alcohol use;
- (iii) Physical inactivity; and
- (iv) Unhealthy diet.

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) is operational since 1975 and the pilot phase of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPDCS) has been launched in January, 2008, to prevent and control these chronic diseases.

The NCCP is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and has been carried forward in the 11th Five Year Plan at an outlay of Rs. 2400 crore. This year's budget outlay is Rs. 120 crore. Further, the Government has set up the "Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund" (CPF) to provide financial assistance to Below Poverty Line (BPL) cancer patients for treatment of this chronic disease, treatment of which is highly expensive and prolonged. The Cancer Patient Fund has been established as a separate corpus within the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) with a total outlay of Rs. 100 crore within the approved plan allocation for NCCP to be utilized specifically for treatment of BPL cancer patients in the country. A maximum of Rs. 1 lakh will be provided to each individual case.

An out lay of Rs. 1660.50 crore has also been allocated for the NPDCS in the 11th Five Year Plan. On pilot basis, the NPDCS has been initiated in 10 districts in 10 States.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: As per the World Health Organisation's report, by 2020 chronic illness would have claimed 350 million lives of which a major portion would be from India and within India a major portion would be from rural India. Heart disease is the number one killer in rural India. The growth of conditions like diabetes is going to drive in a huge increase in heart disease and stroke in regions that are not well equipped to deal with them which the hon. Minister is well aware of. Therefore, many experts have advised the Government to have a new health service to address chronic diseases especially in rural India. Today's condition is that the people in rural areas have to travel hours to reach a good hospital to get instant treatment for the disease like the one said above. Therefore, I would like to know what steps are being taken by the Government to make available affordable treatment in rural areas on a time bound basis.

MR. SPEAKER: It is on chronic disease and you reply with regard to chronic diseases only and not generally.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, the hon. Member is right when he says that the World Health Organisation and the other bodies have been warning not only India but globally that there has been rise in chronic diseases. In India today deaths attributed to chronic diseases are nearly about 53 per cent of all the deaths. In the past decades, most of the deaths were due to communicable diseases but today deaths are more due to non-communicable diseases. In the next 40 years to 50 years, India is going to suffer heavily because of diabetes, cardio vascular diseases, mental health disorders, cancers, strokes and also because life expectancy is increasing, we will be having senior citizens who are going to be affected and afflicted by these diseases. So, the Government has taken steps to do a lot of awareness campaign and that is what is needed today. In fact, deviation from tobacco, from alcohol and on importance of physical activities and Yoga, then life style problems like diet, unhealthy foods and all such things should be avoided. A lot of noise has been made, but a lot of things need to be done, especially we have to tune the younger people. We have been seeing that younger people are getting affected by heart attacks. I know personally a case where a 22 year old boy got heart attack which was completely not expected.

MR. SPEAKER: He must have been a smoker.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, maybe. There was a survey by WHO on school children where it was found that 14.1 per cent of school children between the age

of 13 and 15 years were using tobacco products. Then on alcohol, the average age of initiation at one point of time was 28 years. It came down to 19 years and today it is 13 and a half years. One can well imagine the plight of children. We want to have a good policy. We have a tobacco policy and definitely today we need a policy on alcohol.

MR. SPEAKER: You are extending your area.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, today alcohol is considered to be the mother of all public health problems. Article 42 says that States should voluntarily have compliance on total prohibition but except for the States of Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir no States have prohibition. But article 47 says that we have to do it.

MR. SPEAKER: We have to do it and violate it with impunity!

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Today alcohol is not just a health issue. It is a social issue. It causes homicides; it causes suicides, it causes mental disorder and family problems.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you have to find out how many tobacco companies and how many alcohol manufacturers are there in your constituency. You have to be careful.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I need the support of the entire House for making a National Alcohol Policy. The hon. Members should insist on their State Governments to come out with a comprehensive policy on alcohol.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Sir, in urban areas people have options to choose hospitals with modern technologies of their choice to get treatment. The Government has plans to set up hospitals on AIIMS model in the capital cities of select States. I would like to urge upon and suggest the Government to set up many AIIMS like hospitals in every district headquarters so that people from rural areas can have access to instant and timely treatment.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, who himself is a doctor, whether the Government is planning to set up such hospitals in all the district headquarters in the country.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, under the National Rural Health Mission the Government has been investing a lot of money in the district headquarters hospitals and CHCs. They have to maintain public health standards

where specialists have to be there. There have been mobile medical units. Initially, there was one per each district and later on we have expanded it to one per each block. Funds for 318 districts have been released for one mobile medical unit in each district.

Under another scheme by name EMRA – 108, nearly seven to eight States in the country have been taken care of. Also, the Government has launched a new programme, namely, National Programme on Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardio-Vascular Diseases and Strokes last year. Initially we had ten States and one district per State in ten districts have been taken up. The scheme includes school children; it includes community participation; it includes work place awareness. Apart from this the Government proposes to start a new programme, namely, the National School Children Health Programme where all the school children in the country are going to be screened on different health parameters like heart problem, diabetes, oral problems and if any children are found to be having any problem, immediately their problem would be rectified. What we need is a massive awareness campaign. That is what is needed most urgently.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chandrappan, you may put your question very briefly and please be specific. It is just the third Question that we have taken up today. It is a very bad record.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Sir, the hon. Minister has depicted a very horrible picture of the state of health that we would be having in the coming days. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether another dimension of the problem has been missed that in the coastal areas where there are mineral deposits, due to radiation a lot of people are getting affected by Cancer. It is medically reported in the coast of Kerala. I want to know whether the Government would make certain enquiries and studies about it to find solutions to the problem.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, if the hon. Member mentions about the exact part of the State which is affected by this, then we will definitely be asking the Indian Council of Medical Research about it.

MR. SPEAKER: You may send it by a letter.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: If you could send it by a letter, we will ask the ICMR to explore about it.

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the Government will take action against the iatrogenic drugs and against

the slow poison which is caused by insecticides, pesticides and fertilizers as well as by pollution. Is the Government having any plan to coordinate with other Ministries to reduce such types of poisons such as insecticides and pesticides so that chronic diseases will not occur?

MR. SPEAKER: Are you an allopath?

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, you are against ayurveda?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, he is also one of my predecessors. Today, insecticides are inevitable in our agricultural policies and priorities. The food we eat or the water we drink or the milk and vegetables which we consume have some quantity of insecticides. Some of them are blatantly used. Till we have a Good Agricultural Practice, GAP, there will not be a fixed solution. Nevertheless, we have a fixed minimal residual pesticide for a lot of products including milk, water, fruits, etc. We have been working with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Fertilizers. We are now fixing up the minimal residual level which people will be entitled to use. It is there in the website. I will definitely pass on more information to the hon. Member.

We have taken one more step which will be a little deviation from the main point. From 19th March onwards, we have said that all food packets sold in India should mandatorily have ingredients on the one side and nutritional value on the other side including trans fats. This is a mandatory obligation and last July, we have notified it and we have come a long way. From 19th March onwards, the entire country will know what they are eating, what quantity and what nutritional values are there in the food items.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, let us have a supplementary from the recent patient, Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar. I hope you are all right now.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Yes, Sir. In Wayanad area, among the tribals, sickle-cell anemia is very rampant. It is found in the North-Eastern part also. They say that ayurvedic treatment is effective and some people recently came to Delhi to represent this matter to you. Will you look into it because it is a very rampant disease among the tribals?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: We will definitely look into it. The problem is there among the tribals of Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and the North-East. The sickle-cell anemia is rampant among those tribals. In fact, we will definitely look into the Wayanad area and we will advise the State Government on the policies to be taken accordingly.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV : Sir, chronic diseases are on the increase and we know that heart attacks, renal problems and brain attacks are increasing. The Government institutions are deprived of facilities like intensive care units, cardio-catheterization labs, dialysis units and transplant units. Most of these facilities are available in private hospitals.

My pointed question to the hon. Health Minister is this. Is there a methodology by which he can supplement the hospitals in the State Governments and specifically the Medical Colleges of the State Government which need infrastructure tuned to increase the facilities of dialysis, cardio-catheterization labs, cardiac surgery and other ancillary facilities?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I agree with the hon. Member. In fact, he is also a cardiologist. He knows the ground realities. Most of the hospitals are State Government-owned hospitals. And health is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government to augment the capacity and infrastructure equipments. Nevertheless, under the Eleventh Plan, the Central Government have envisaged to spend nearly Rs. 1350 crores - precisely on what the hon. Member has been saying - to give more infrastructure equipment and machinery for post-graduation, to bringing out more post-graduates, thereby having more facilities in this area. Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, we have six new AIIMS-like institutions and two more institutions, that is, eight AIIMS like institutions. Initially, we have upgraded 13 institutions and now, we are upgrading another five institutions. For these, we are spending about Rs. 120 crore to Rs. 150 crore in almost all the States in the country. There also, the Government Medical Colleges are being upgraded and equipment like cardio labs, speciality and trauma centres are being put under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can say this on the basis of my personal experience that we are now receiving requests from people suffering from such ailments on a large scale. Surgery and treatment of a cancer patient requires an expenditure of Rs. 5-6 lakh. Similarly, treatment of kidney ailment involves an expenditure of Rs. 7-8 lakh. Only a meagre amount of Rs. 50,000-60,000 is sanctioned from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund on our written request. This relief from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund on the written request of the Members of Parliament has been restricted to only 24 cases in a year. We get 20-25 such requests but only one or two requests are expedited. I would like to

know from the Minister of Health whether a comprehensive fund is proposed to be created out of the health related budgetary allocations, so as to, provide direct relief to those chronic patients who are admitted to the specialized hospitals and there is no need for any sanction or recommendation by a Member of Parliament or any other public representative? Is creation of such a comprehensive fund proposed to be considered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

*[English]*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, pertaining to cancer, India is having a huge problem today and the problem is going to expand manifold in the future. Today, cancer is one of the costliest diseases to treat. Compared to the Tenth Five Year Plan, between 2002-07, when the total allocation for cancer was about Rs. 280 crore in the five years, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, my Prime Minister has envisaged increasing the Budget for National Cancer Programme to Rs. 2,400 crore. So, the increase is from Rs. 280 crore in the Tenth Five Year Plan to Rs. 2,400 crore in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, precisely for awareness, early detection infrastructure being set up for cancer.

Also, in my reply, it is clearly stated that recently we have initiated a proposal for Health Ministers' Cancer Fund. This is our voluntary initiative. Initially, in this Plan, Rs. 100 crore has been envisaged to be given to the poor patients belonging to below poverty line.

With your permission, I would like to ask the hon. Ministers to contribute to this Health Ministers' Cancer Fund in their capacity. If you are willing, from the MPLADS Fund, they could contribute so that the poor people are taken care of.

We have a Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi for taking care of poor patients. The Prime Minister's Illness Fund is also there. So, all these funds are there. Definitely we are supporting a lot of patients. Some of the States are having health insurance schemes to take care of heart patients and cancer patients. For example, in Andhra Pradesh, under this, the cancer patients are taken care of. For those insurance schemes, a part of the support is given by the National Government, that is our UPA Government as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Anant Gudhe.

Shri Gudhe, I understand you have lost your constituency like me.

[*Translation*]

Now, your constituency has been reserved.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, besides heart diseases, kidney failure and diabetes etc. there are other disease also from which poor people suffer such as heart valve failure. Today, we see that valve of a two year old child is damaged and he needs to be operated. This disease is also one of the main reasons behind suicide of farmers. If any one of the family falls ill due to this disease or the other, then even after selling all his belongings, he would not be able to get him treated. As a result, he has no other way left, except committing suicide. You have said about giving a new life to sick members of BPL families. I would like to tell you that if anyone's income limit is rupees one lakh per year and he falls ill then he gets Rs. 50,000 from the Prime Minister Relief Fund, this amount should be enhanced Rs. one lakh and another rupees one lakh should be provided by the Health Ministry. Whether there is any such scheme and if not, whether the Ministry propose to evolve such a scheme so that the family could get some relief?

[*English*]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Under the Prime Minister's Relief Fund or under the Health Ministers' Relief Fund, there is a Budgetary allocation for that. There have been requests coming from all over the country for a lot of people and priority is being given for the patients belonging to below poverty line. I have already said that expanding health insurance scheme is the only solution in the future. We have the programme called the *Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana* under the Ministry of Labour where initially now Rs. 30,000 is coverage for a family per year which we will be expanding also. The State Governments also have been getting a lot of health insurance-related flexible schemes. But according to the priority of the States, this has been worked out. We are well aware of this problem and we have taken cognisance of that. We are trying to initiate a lot more schemes with the help of the State Governments to have more active health insurance schemes. Like, in Karnataka, there has been a very active health insurance scheme. The public-private participation is also there whereby they screen these children in the village and if any of the children is having any heart problem, then they are taken immediately to the nearest accredited hospital and then the surgery is free. So, the State Governments are empowered to take up the schemes. We supplement the efforts of the State Governments on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us grow from health. We are all feeling ill. I allowed seven supplementaries to the last question and nine to the earlier question. I am trying to do the needful, but it has become a mockery.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, you have not given me a chance.

MR. SPEAKER: You were not there. We have come to a different question now.

Let us see if I get a chance.

[*Translation*]

#### Cost-overflow in Projects under NHDP

\*125. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently enhanced the cost of projects being implemented under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) as reported in The Economic Times dated 26 January, 2009;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the targets fixed for development of the National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU: (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Government has approved increase in Total Project Cost (TPC) by 20% and 10% for the projects under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) for which the project reports were prepared in 2006 and 2007 respectively, with a view to improve the bankability of these projects offered for bidding on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode and also keeping in view substantial increase in price of key inputs. The details of various projects and the increase in Total Project Cost are indicated in Annexure-I enclosed.

(c) The details of steps taken by the Government to achieve targets fixed for development of the National Highways are given in the enclosed Annexure-II.

**Annexure I**

Sl.No.	Project Name	Year of Project Feasibility Report preparation	Length (Km)	TPC (Rs. Cr)	Revised* TPC (Rs. Cr.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>NHDP Phase - III Projects</b>					
1.	Goa/KNT Border - Panaji section of NH-4A in Goa	2005	65.07	364.86	438.00
2.	Trivendrum - Kerala / TN Border section of NH-47 in Kerala	2005	43.00	822.41	986.89
3.	Kerala / TN Border - Kanyakumari section of NH-47 & NH-47B in Tamil Nadu	2005	70.00	851.05	1021.26
4.	Walayar-Vadakkancherry section of NH-47 in Kerala	2005	58.00	596.96	717.00
5.	Vadakkancherry-Thrisur section of NH-47 in Kerala	2005	30.00	514.05	617.00
6.	Pimpalgaon - Nasik - Gonde section of NH3 in Maharashtra	2006	60.00	752.48	940.00
7.	MP/Maharashtra Border - Dhule section of NH3 in Maharashtra	2006	97.00	675.00	835.00
8.	Panikoili - Keonjhar - Rimouli section of NH215 in Orissa	2006	163.00	1085.89	1303.00
9.	Chandikhole - Duburi - Talchar section of NH 200 in Orissa	2006	133.00	810.00	972.00
10.	Hyderabad - Vijayawada section of NH9 in Andhra Pradesh	2006	181.00	1460.20	1752.00
11.	Rimouli - Roxy - Rajmundra section of NH 215 in Orissa	2006	106.00	654.00	785.00
12.	Vijaywada - Machlipatnam section of NH-9 in Andhra Pradesh	2006	65.00	467.67	562.00
13.	Pune-Sholapur section of NH-9 (Package I) in Maharashtra	2006	110.00	922.47	1110.00
14.	Rohtak - Hissar section of NH-10 in Haryana	2006	89.36	695.32	834.00
15.	Kannur - Kuttipuram section of NH-17 (Package II) in Kerala	2006	81.50	1108.47	1330.16

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Cherthalai - Ochira section of NH-47 in Kerala	2006	83.60	1283.80	1540.56
17.	Ochira - Thiruvananthapuram section of NH-47 in Kerala	2006	85.57	1240.79	1488.95
18.	Kannur - Kuttipuram section of NH-17 (Package I) in Kerala	2006	83.20	1143.66	1372.39
19.	Ghaziabad-Aligarh section of NH-91 in Uttar Pradesh	2007	126.30	1325.30	1458.00
20.	Amritsar- Pathankot section of NH-15 in Punjab	2007	102.42	704.00	775.00
21.	Tirupati - Tiruthani - Chennai section of NH-205 in Tamilnadu	2007	124.77	802.00	882.00
22.	Jaipur - Reengus section of NH-11 in Rajasthan	2007	54.00	343.04	377.00
23.	Kishangarh-Beawar section of NH-8 in Rajasthan	2007	93.60	722.24	795.00
24.	Kundapur-Surathkal & Mangalore-KNT/Kerala Border section of NH-17 in Kamataka	2007	90.08	616.00	677.00
25.	Kuttipuram-Edapally section of NH-17 in Kerala	2007	112.00	1157.92	1273.71
26.	Coimbatore-Mettupalayam section of NH-67 Ext. in Tamilnadu	2007	50.00	499.82	550.00
27.	Pune-Sholapur section of NH-9 (Package II) in Maharashtra	2007	110.00	809.85	891.00
28.	Talegaon - Amravati section of NH-6 in Maharashtra	2007	66.73	618.57	680.00
29.	Nagapatnam - Thanjavur section of NH-67 in Tamilnadu	2007	76.70	619.12	681.03
30.	Karaikudi - Ramanathapuram section of NH-210 in Tamilnadu	2007	80.00	454.12	499.53
31.	Trichy - Karaikudi section of NH-210 in Tamilnadu	2007	120.00	338.00	371.80
32.	Tindivanam- Krishnagiri section of NH-66 in Tamilnadu	2007	199.94	1073.60	1180.96

1	2	3	4	5	6
33.	Dindigul - Perigulam - Theni section of NH-45 Extn. & Theni - Kumili section of NH-220 in Tamil Nadu	2007	130.00	813.00	894.30
34.	Mokama - Munger section of NH-80 in Bihar	2007	70.00	755.59	831.15
35.	Patna - Hazipur - Muzaffarpur section of NH-19&77 in Bihar	2007	63.37	570.06	627.06
36.	Sonbarsa - Muzaffarpur section of NH-77 in Bihar	2007	89.00	920.52	1013.10
37.	Gopalganj- Chapra - Hajipur section of NH-19 & 85 (Pkg II) in Bihar	2007	71.70	957.49	1053.80
38.	Gopalganj - Chapra - Hajipur section of NH-19 & 85 (Pkg I) in Bihar	2007	83.50	917.36	1008.70
39.	Delhi -Agra section of NH-2 in Haryana/ Uttar Pradesh	2007	180.00	1917.63	2110.00
40.	Kishangarh-Udaipur section of NH-79, 79A & 76 in Rajasthan	2007	315.00	3076.38	3384.00
41.	Chandikhol-Jagatpur-Bhubaneswar section of NH-5 in Orissa	2007	70.00	951.32	1047.00
42.	Vijayawada-Eluru-Rajamundri section of NH-5 in Andhra Pradesh	2007	198.00	2416.63	2658.00
43.	Varanasi-Aurangabad section of NH-2 in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar	2007	190.00	2588.38	2848.00
44.	Indore-Dewas section of NH-3 in Madhya Pradesh	2007	45.00	410.00	451.00
45.	Nellore-Chilikaluripet section of NH-5 in Andhra Pradesh	2007	184.00	2163.90	2380.00
46.	Krishnagiri-Walahipet section of NH-46 in Tamil Nadu	2007	148.00	1489.55	1639.00
47.	Belgaum-Dharwad section of NH-4 in Karnataka	2007	80.00	637.50	702.00
48.	MP/Maharashtra Border - Nagpur section of NH-7 in Maharashtra	2007	95.00	1064.11	1170.52

**Annexure II*****Steps taken by the Government to Achieve Targets Fixed for Development of the National Highways***

- a. The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHA. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHA, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways.
- b. State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the NHDP such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest / pollution / environment clearances etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.
- c. A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre - State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Rail over Bridges (ROBs).
- d. The procedure for issue of Land Acquisition notifications has been simplified. Earlier all the notification under NH Act were vetted by the Ministry of Law. Recently, an amendment has been made in the Allocation of Business Rules by which these notifications are not required to be sent to the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law has approved the standard formats of various notifications keeping in view the similar nature of the notifications of Land Acquisition.
- e. To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHA to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. MOU has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.
- f. Action has been taken against non performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in existing contracts.

- g. Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) etc.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker Sir, 17 National Highways were proposed to be constructed under National Highway Development Project during 2008.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: There should be silence in the House.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, please be very brief and specific.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Only 56 per cent target has been achieved till date. When target is not achieved during a fixed time schedule, projects get delayed and the construction cost increases. During 2005-06 estimated cost of road construction was Rs. 1.25 crore and 20 per cent construction cost has been increased during the year 2008. Probably the Government is considering to enhance this by 40 per cent.

Sir, I would like to tell from the hon. Minister that construction cost has been increased due to increase in inflation from the year 2004-05 to 2008, whether construction cost has been increased in that ratio? I would also like to know whether the Government have fixed responsibility against the persons found guilty for non-completion of projects in time?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Minister reply to your question.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, cost- overrun is not only due to delay, but, at the same time, there are a lot of inputs pertaining to the road construction which have

increased. For instance, bitumen has increased 133 per cent, cement – 35 per cent, steel 39 per cent and diesel – 38 per cent. Over and above, from 2005 onwards, we have prepared the feasibility study to arrive at a rough indicative cost only and not to the exact amount and from the rough cost, we go for bidding. It is because of rough cost bidding, the percentage of plus or minus will definitely increase or decrease. But, at the same time, I could only say that in 2008-09 alone, we have received 21 bids; out of that ten bids have already been finalised for about 1,300 kms costing Rs. 13,481 crores and 11 bids are under process, costing Rs. 12,164 crores for 1,233 kms which is under process of finalisation and being sent to the CCEA for finalisation.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked through you that construction cost increases due to targets not achieved in time, whether any action has been taken against those found guilty?

After completion of a National Highways, the cost of construction is recovered from the common people by imposing toll tax. Even after imposing toll tax, cess of Rs. 2 has also been imposed on diesel and petrol.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: There should be silence in the House. Shri Ramji Lal Suman, you would not get a reply unless you stop.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for construction of highways, cost is recovered from the common people in the form of toll tax and cess of Rs. 2 has also been imposed on diesel and petrol. Through you, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government intend to withdraw this cess?

12.00 hrs.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please say either "yes" or "no."

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Actually, when we arrive at the running cost of the trucks as well as the four-wheelers,

the economic cost will be Rs. 6 per kilometre for the trucks. The savings in respect of trucks will be Rs. 6 per kilometre whereas for the cars, it is Rs. 2 per kilometre. Even if you compare the total savings in respect of cars and trucks per year, per kilometre for the National Highway Network, it is not less than Rs. 2 crore. When we compare the cost-benefit ratio to the toll, it is beneficial to the users only. It is not just like that we are acquiring money from the public.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks

\*122. DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the average Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of the public sector banks during the current financial year, till December, 2008;

(b) whether there is a difference in the average CDR in various States of the country;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to minimise regional imbalances in credit deployment?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) The latest information on the average Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as available upto September, 2008 is given in the enclosed Statement I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of the State-wise CDR of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) for the year ending 2006, 2007 and 2008 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The Government appointed an Expert Group chaired by Shri Y.S.P. Thorat on 5th November, 2004 to, inter alia, study the State-wise differences in the CDR, identify the impediments to flow of credit in various

Regions/States, examine the role of various agencies such as banks, State Governments, etc. in improving the flow of credit and suggest agency-wise action plan for implementation and monitoring of this ratio. Based on recommendations of the Expert Group which were accepted by the Government in September, 2005, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued an advisory to all SCBs on 9th November, 2005 to constitute a Special Sub Committee (SSC) under the District Level Coordination Committee (DLCC) for drawing up Monitorable Action Plans (MAPs) in those districts where CDR was less than 40%. For districts with CDR less than 20%, in addition to the above measures, Banks were also asked to give greater focus and attention to improving CDR in consultation with State Governments.

Consolidated reports based on the feedback received from the DLCCs regarding progress of implementation of MAPs are tabled at SLBC meetings for discussion and further action. The SLBC also monitors and is required to take corrective action if CDR for the entire State is low. The total number of districts having CDR less than 40% came down from 181 as on 31.3.2006 to 158 as on 31.3.2008.

**Statement I**

*Bank-Wise Credit Deposit Ratio for Public Sector Banks as on last Friday of September 2008*

Sl.No.	Banks Name	Credit Deposit Ratio in Per Cent
1	2	3
1.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	77.3
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	71.0
3.	State Bank of India	75.8
4.	State Bank of Indore	80.6
5.	State Bank of Mysore	80.9

1	2	3
6.	State Bank of Patiala	69.4
7.	State Bank of Travancore	78.2
8.	Allahabad Bank	68.8
9.	Andhra Bank	71.3
10.	Bank Of Baroda	71.5
11.	Bank Of India	73.1
12.	Bank Of Maharashtra	71.9
13.	Canara Bank	69.8
14.	Central Bank Of India	70.0
15.	Corporation Bank	71.4
16.	Dena Bank	70.6
17.	Indian Bank	76.8
18.	Indian Overseas Bank	75.9
19.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	69.8
20.	Punjab and Sind Bank	76.8
21.	Punjab National Bank	71.0
22.	Syndicate Bank	70.2
23.	Uco Bank	75.0
24.	Union Bank of India	75.8
25.	United Bank of India	66.9
26.	Vijaya Bank	69.3
27.	IDBI Bank Limited	119.3
Total		74.3

Source: Basic Statistical Return (BSR)-7, RBI

**Statement II**

*State-Wise Credit Deposit Ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks as at the end of  
March 2006, March 2007, March 2008*

Regions/State/UTs	Credit Deposit Ratio in Per cent		
	Credit Deposit Ratio As on March 31, 2006	Credit Deposit Ratio As on March 31, 2007	Credit Deposit Ratio As on March 31, 2008
1	2	3	4
<b>1. Northern Region</b>	65.5	68.6	66.6
Haryana	57.4	57.6	60.6
Himachal Pradesh	40.5	41.5	43.6
Jammu and Kashmir	44.9	47.3	48.1
Punjab	56.6	62.4	66.3
Rajasthan	78.4	82.5	82.0
Chandigarh	80.2	94.7	94.0
Delhi	68.9	70.9	65.7
<b>2. North-Eastern Region</b>	39.3	40.8	39.0
Arunachal Pradesh	25.1	26.8	29.1
Assam	42.0	43.3	41.2
Manipur	50.6	53.5	47.2
Meghalaya	39.3	35.8	30.4
Mizoram	51.4	53.8	55.9
Nagaland	22.3	28.9	33.2
Tripura	31.6	34.0	33.9
<b>3. Eastern Region</b>	49.7	52.5	51.2
Bihar	30.2	30.1	29.7
Jharkhand	33.7	34.0	35.1
Orissa	65.2	64.0	56.6

	1	2	3	4
Sikkim		45.3	52.4	47.5
West Bengal		57.2	62.6	61.4
Andaman and Nicobar		27.9	28.1	31.4
<b>4. Central Region</b>		45.2	47.7	47.2
Chhattisgarh		50.2	53.0	52.3
Madhya Pradesh		60.0	62.2	60.3
Uttar Pradesh		42.0	45.1	44.9
Uttaranchal		25.8	27.0	26.6
<b>5. Western Region</b>		91.5	91.2	88.8
Goa		23.0	26.3	29.2
Gujarat		56.4	64.5	65.2
Maharashtra		101.5	98.0	94.7
Dadra and Nagar Haveli		49.8	19.8	25.5
Daman and Diu		11.1	13.8	14.9
<b>6. Southern Region</b>		83.6	87.3	89.3
Andhra Pradesh		82.0	87.6	91.6
Karnataka		76.8	77.5	78.0
Kerala		61.7	63.6	65.3
Tamil Nadu		105.9	112.3	113.4
Lakshadweep		11.5	10.1	7.7
Pondicherry		44.8	47.2	49.4
<b>All India</b>		72.5	75.0	74.2

Source: Basic Statistical Return (BSR)-7, RBI

*[English]***Rural Emergency Health Transportation System****Statement****2006-07**

\*126. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(Amount in Lakhs)

(a) whether absence of dependable transportation facilities acts as a serious hindrance in the utilization of healthcare services by the rural poor in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the funds allocated under the National Rural Health Mission for undertaking various emergency health transportation facilities during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance rural emergency health transportation services in the country?

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

(b) to (d) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has provision for ambulances including emergency health transportation facilities for all Primary Health Centres (PHCs)/Community Health Centres (CHCs)/District Hospitals for better utilisation of health care services by the rural poor in the country. States/UT Governments decide their requirement on the basis of case load and need specific to that State/UT.

The requirement for ambulances by States/UT Governments as reflected in their annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) is examined and approved by the National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC) as per the norms available in frame work for implementation of NRHM. These ambulances are to be kept under the supervision of Rogi Kalyan Samitis/User Groups. The State-wise details of financial assistance for ambulances including emergency transport system as approved under NRHM is given in the enclosed Statement. Besides above, referral transport is an approved expenditure under the Janani Suraksha Yojana in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Assam and Jammu & Kashmir.

Sl.No.	State/UT	Amount Approved
1	2	3
1.	Madhya Pradesh	588.00
2.	Rajasthan	500.00
3.	Assam	750.00
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	240.00
5.	Manipur	54.00
6.	Nagaland	35.00
7.	Meghalaya	90.00
8.	Andhra Pradesh	1000.00
Total		3257.00

**2007-08**

1.	Bihar	1000.00
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1040.00
3.	Uttar Pradesh	4740.16
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	400.00
5.	Gujarat	319.00
6.	Goa	48.00
7.	Assam	1000.00
8.	Sikkim	72.00
9.	Mizoram	90.00
10.	Tripura	97.08
Total		8806.24

**2008-09**

1.	Bihar	8.40
2.	Jammu and Kashmir	1000.00

1	2	3
3.	Madhya Pradesh	3826.34
4.	Rajasthan	2500.00
5.	Uttar Pradesh	1843.81
6.	Uttarakhand	1000.00
7.	Andhra Pradesh	10000.00
8.	Gujarat	4006.24
9.	Karnataka	679.00
10.	Kerala	1147.67
11.	Maharashtra	610.50
12.	Tamil Nadu	954.97
13.	Assam	5045.00
14.	Arunachal Pradesh	90.00
15.	Manipur	61.20
16.	Meghalaya	82.20
17.	Mizoram	182.40
18.	Nagaland	119.00
19.	Sikkim	201.01
20.	Tripura	97.80
21.	Daman and Diu	48.23
Total		33503.77

[*Translation*]

**Shortfall in Revenue of States**

\*127. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:  
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revenues of some States have sharply declined recently because of the current economic recession;

(b) If so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor:

(c) Whether the Government has received requests from some of the State Governments for provision of assistance in the wake of the present economic recession: and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Based on the VAT data collected by the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers (EC), there has been no decline in collection of VAT in any State during the current financial year (cumulatively 'up to January 2009). CST data provided by the EC shows that collections have come down in some States but have grown in some others. Data on other taxes of the States is not compiled. Available CST collection figures obtained through the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers are as follows.

*Unaudited CST Collections of major States during 2007-08 (up to December) and 2008-09 (up to December) in crores of rupees*

Sl.No.	State/ UT	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1073.31	925.94
2.	Assam	295.79	349.67
3.	Bihar	37.83	28.16
4.	Chhattisgarh	323.44	405.87
5.	Delhi	753.58	739.28
6.	Haryana	1014.26	1076.18
7.	Gujarat	1138.53	1178.24
8.	Goa	36.46	40.87
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.83	4.25
10.	Jharkhand	318.47	301.33
11.	Karnataka	801.30	792.42

1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	359.54	333.19
13.	Maharashtra	1694.78	1920.74
14.	Orissa	368.35	397.80
15.	Pondicherry	139.65	129.57
16.	Rajasthan	288.87	332.23
17.	Tamil Nadu	1265.32	1256.62
18.	Uttar Pradesh	964.37	930.49
19.	Uttarakhand	94.98	110.75
20.	West Bengal	511.94	566.87

NB: The Empowered Committee has figures of CST collections from the above States only

No specific reasons have been advanced by the States for the above trend in CST revenues though with the consent of the EC, the rate of CST was reduced from 3% to 2% with effect from June 2008. The Central Government however compensates States, as per mutually agreed guidelines, for the loss of the CST revenue occasioned by the reduction in CST rate.

(c) and (d) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Kerala, Uttarakhand and Goa have, for tiding over the impact of slowdown emerging in the various industrial sectors, sought for provision of additional funds and for the relaxation of borrowing ceilings fixed for 2008-09 under the FRBM Act. A letter was also received from the Chairman of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers requesting the Centre for a special central grant of Rs.20,000 crore to the States for financing activities of construction and improvement of infrastructure.

It may be mentioned that the Union Government has provided an additional plan outlay of Rs. 20,000 crore in 2008-09 under various centrally sponsored schemes for Rural Development, Power and the JNNURM etc. and also allowed the State Governments to raise Rs.30,000 crore as additional market borrowings in the

current financial year in relaxation of the existing borrowing ceilings to undertake capital expenditures. The States have also been enabled to increase their fiscal deficits during the current year from 3 to 3.5% through additional market borrowings without losing the benefits of debt waiver and interest relief under the Debt Consolidation and Relief Facility (DCRF) guidelines. In addition, the requirement for elimination of revenue deficit by 2008-09 to claim benefits of DCRF as per the Twelfth Finance Commission recommendations has also been relaxed.

*[English]*

#### Denudation of Forests

\*128. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of actual forest cover against the targets fixed during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether large-scale deforestation has taken place in the country;

(c) if so, the details of the area where denudation of forests has taken place during the last three years, State-wise alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check further denudation of forest area in the country;

(e) whether the Government proposes to launch a new initiative involving local-level institutions and private sector to expand forest cover in the country, especially in the rural areas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) The national goal is to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover with hills and mountainous regions maintaining two-

third of the area under such cover. The data on forest cover for the last three years is not yet available. The assessment of forest cover is made on biennial basis by the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun. The results of the last assessment have been published in the State of Forest Report, 2005. As per this report, the State-wise details of forest cover are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, there are no such reports of any large scale deforestation in the country during the last three years. However, as per the assessments made in the years 2001, 2003 and 2005, the forest cover has more or less stabilized in the country. The forest cover as per these assessments is given below:

Assessment Year	2001	2003	2005
Forest Cover (in km <sup>2</sup> )	653,898	677,816	677,088

As can be seen the forest cover increased by 23,919 km<sup>2</sup> between 2001 and 2003 assessments, and

marginally decreased by 728 km<sup>2</sup> between 2003 and 2005 assessments. The States where reduction in the forest cover has been reported along with the reasons thereof are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The Ministry provides financial assistance to the States and UT Governments under the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme for strengthening their forest protection machinery by way of improving infrastructure, mobility, communication, and for prevention and control of forest fire. In addition, under the National Afforestation Programme, treatment of degraded forest area is undertaken by assisting natural regeneration and taking up plantation activities with the involvement of Joint Forest Management Committees.

(e) and (f) The Ministry has issued guidelines for participation of private sector through involvement of NGOs and Forest Departments in afforestation and rehabilitation of degraded forests. Further, with a view to expanding forest cover in the country, the Ministry has mooted a new scheme for afforestation on non-forest lands with involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

#### *Statement I*

##### *State/UT-wise details of Forest Cover as per State of Forest Report, 2005*

States/UTs	Geographic Area (G.A.) (km <sup>2</sup> )	Forest Cover (km <sup>2</sup> )	Percent of G.A.
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	275,069	44,372	16.13
Arunachal Pradesh	83,743	67,777	80.93
Assam	78,438	27,645	35.24
Bihar	94,163	5,579	5.92
Chhattisgarh	135,191	55,863	41.32
Delhi	1,483	176	11.87
Goa	3,702	2,164	58.45
Gujarat	196,022	14,715	7.51
Haryana	44,212	1,587	3.59
Himachal Pradesh	55,673	14,369	25.81

1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir	222,236	21,273	9.57
Jharkhand	79,714	22,591	28.34
Karnataka	191,791	35,251	18.38
Kerala	38,863	15,595	40.13
Madhya Pradesh	308,245	76,013	24.66
Maharashtra	307,713	47,476	15.43
Manipur	22,327	17,086	76.53
Meghalaya	22,429	16,988	75.74
Mizoram	21,081	18,684	88.63
Nagaland	16,579	13,719	82.75
Orissa	155,707	48,374	31.07
Punjab	50,362	1,558	3.09
Rajasthan	342,239	15,850	4.63
Sikkim	7,096	3,262	45.97
Tamil Nadu	130,058	23,044	17.72
Tripura	10,486	8,155	77.77
Uttar Pradesh	240,928	14,127	5.86
Uttarakhand	53,483	24,442	45.7
West Bengal	88,752	12,413	13.99
Andaman and Nicobar	8,249	6,629	80.38
Chandigarh	114	15	13.16
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	221	45.01
Daman and Diu	112	8	7.14
Lakshadweep	32	25	78.13
Pondicherry	480	42	8.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,287,263</b>	<b>677,088</b>	<b>20.60</b>

**Statement II**

States/UTs	Change in FC	Importance Reasons
Andhra Pradesh	-40	Felling of matured plantations by APFDC.
Assam	-90	Illicit felling in insurgency affected areas, encroachment, shifting cultivation in hill districts.
Chhattisgarh	-129	Submergence (Champi dam, Bilaspur), shifting cultivation (Bhojmad area, Bastar), illicit felling.
Gujarat	-99	Large scale uprooting of <i>Prosopis juliflora</i> (Kuchchh district).
Madhya Pradesh	-132	Submergence due to construction of dams on Narmada river (Indira Sagar, Omkareshwara, Madikheda).
Maharashtra	-38	Felling of matured plantations by the FDC.
Manipur	-173	Shifting cultivation, flowering of bamboo.
Nagaland	-296	Shifting cultivation, flowering of bamboo.
Uttarakhand	-18	Rehabilitation of the displaced people in forest areas (Haridwar) and rotational felling of Eucalyptus (Udhamsingh Nagar).
Andaman and Nicobar	-178	Tsunami

**Commonwealth Games, 2010**

(Rs. in crores)

\*129. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount released and utilized so far in connection with the preparations for the Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) whether the utilization of funds has been in consonance with the budgetary allocations and ongoing preparations;

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

(d) the present state of preparedness for the Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) The details of amount released by this Ministry and utilized so far for the Commonwealth Games, 2010 are given below:

Sl.No.	Purpose	Amount Released	Amount utilized
1.	Organizing Committee, CWG 2010 for Organization of Games	349.72	318.81
2.	University of Delhi for sports infrastructure	87.00	62.00
3.	Jamia Millia Islamia University for sports infrastructure	3.00	2.36
4.	Sports Authority of India for sports infrastructure	608.68	550.00
5.	All India Tennis Association for sports Infrastructure	14.00	11.25
6.	Sports Authority of India/National Sports Federations for training of teams	27.22	26.22

(b) and (c) The funds released to above organizations from budgetary allocations are as per requirements.

(d) After obtaining the necessary regulatory clearances, work on the Competition venues and most of the Training venues has commenced and is continuing apace. Time Lines, against monitorable parameters are being monitored, on a web-based monitoring system developed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The work on the major stadia is progressing and is expected to be completed well in time for the Games. Core probabilities for most sports disciplines included in the Commonwealth Games 2010 have been identified for training. State of the art training with adequate sports sciences back up is sought to be imparted to about 1200 elite medal probabilities. In addition to above, the work at the Games Village is also progressing at a fast pace, which will accommodate around 8000 athletes and officials. Infrastructure of Delhi is also being upgraded.

#### **Selection of Sports Persons**

\*130. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sports authorities exercise autonomy in the selection of sports persons for various games/events;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any special provision to encourage the talented sports persons belonging to weaker sections for various international sports meets;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the efforts made by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage the sports persons and upgrade their standards for such competitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (d) National Sports Federations (NSFs) are primarily responsible for judicious selection of sports persons/teams for participation in various international events with the objective of enhancing national prestige. However, with a view to ensuring transparency in the selection procedure, it has been decided by the Government that the Selection Committee will be constituted by the Federation, comprising of the President, the National Coach, and eminent sportspersons. The Government also appoints its observers for each sport discipline, who are associated

with all the activities of the NSFs, including selection of sports persons/teams, and submit their report directly to the Ministry. An attempt is made to select the best possible sports persons and encourage sports persons from all sections.

(e) To upgrade the standard of Indian sportspersons, the Government through the Sports Authority of India provides for training of national athletes by making available state-of-the-art infrastructure support, best coaching facilities, scientific, technical and equipment support, and competition exposure. The Government also provides financial assistance to elite sportspersons, for specialized training under Indian and foreign coaches, participation in international events in India and abroad and purchase of equipment, under National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training.

#### **Eradication of Leprosy**

\*131. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a slow progress in the leprosy eradication programme undertaken in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of the findings and the response of the Government thereto;

(e) the efforts made by the Government to check the discrimination against the people suffering from this disease; and

(f) the efforts made by the Government in creating awareness among the people in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) The National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) has achieved remarkable progress in reducing the burden of Leprosy in the country. The number of registered Leprosy cases have come down from 39,46,516 (with Prevalence Rate of 57.60/10,000 population) in March 1981 to 87,206 (Prevalence Rate 0.74/10,000) in March 2008. The

progress of NLEP reflected by the comparative state-wise Prevalence Rate during 1981 and 2008 is given in the enclosed Statement-I. The number of annual new cases detected have also reduced from 4,82,000 in the year 1981 to 1,37,685 in 2007-08.

India achieved the goal of elimination of Leprosy as a public health problem, defined as less than 1 case per 10,000 population at National level in December, 2005, as set by National Health Policy, 2002.

29 States/UTs have also achieved Leprosy elimination status. Only 6 States/UTs viz. Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chandigarh and Dadra and Nagar Haveli are yet to achieve elimination.

(c) An independent evaluation of NLEP was carried out by Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR), Jaipur, during February—May 2005 to assess the programme achievement status at the close of World Bank supported Second National Leprosy Elimination Project.

(d) Details of findings of the study and the response of the Government is given in the enclosed Statement-II. Another study to assess quantitative & qualitative achievements made under different components of the programme until March 2007 was carried out in 2008. The findings of the study is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(e) Following efforts have been made by the Government to check the discrimination against people suffering from leprosy:

- (i) Leprosy services have been integrated with general health care services through Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and Government Hospitals all over the country.
- (ii) Through efforts of Government, the Lepers' Act, discriminating against persons affected with leprosy, was repealed in 1985.
- (iii) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, as the nodal agency, has already taken initiative for amendment of various discriminatory acts/laws against the persons affected with leprosy. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has taken up the issues with Ministries concerned for their consideration and suitable action.
- (iv) Reconstructive Surgery (RCS) services for correction of disability in persons affected with

leprosy are being accelerated by inclusion of more centres conducting RCS. Correction of visible disability will further help in reducing social stigma and discrimination against leprosy affected persons.

- (v) Government of India has given guidelines to all the State Governments to work towards reduction of stigma and discrimination under various programme activities.

(f) Government of India has intensified Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities in all the States including the behavior change communication by launching Intensive IEC Campaign. The theme of campaign is 'Towards Leprosy Free India' which aims at further reduction of stigma and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy.

Awareness is created by mass media, rural & outdoor media and advocacy meetings. Messages regarding signs and symptoms of the disease, availability of free treatment, complete curability of the disease and importance of early treatment are highlighted. It is also being emphasized that Leprosy is like any other disease and there should not be discrimination against leprosy affected persons.

#### *Statement I*

##### *State-wise progress of National Leprosy Eradication Programme reflected by the comparative prevalence rate*

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	1981	March, 2006
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	117.20	0.70
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.90	0.41
3.	Assam	7.50	0.38
4.	Bihar	54.30	1.04
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	2.34
6.	Goa	45.90	0.76
7.	Gujarat	29.30	0.82
8.	Haryana	0.70	0.13
9.	Himachal Pradesh	16.40	0.30

1	2	3	4
10.	Jharkhand	—	1.11
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.30	0.17
12.	Karnataka	59.80	0.52
13.	Kerala	29.50	0.23
14.	Madhya Pradesh	23.00	0.68
15.	Maharashtra	63.70	0.71
16.	Manipur	42.30	0.15
17.	Meghalaya	45.50	0.05
18.	Mizoram	20.40	0.17
19.	Nagaland	64.90	0.25
20.	Orissa	121.40	0.81
21.	Punjab	11.90	0.33
22.	Rajasthan	2.90	0.19
23.	Sikkim	50.00	0.40
24.	Tamil Nadu	151.40	0.55
25.	Tripura	48.80	0.18
26.	Uttar Pradesh	37.90	0.94
27.	Uttarakhand	—	0.56
28.	West Bengal	78.80	1.04
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	52.60	0.57
30.	Chandigarh	45.40	1.23
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	20.20	1.88
32.	Daman and Diu	45.90	0.05
33.	Delhi	4.50	0.67
34.	Lakshadweep	250.00	0.15
35.	Puducherry	125.00	0.22
	<b>Total</b>	<b>57.60</b>	<b>0.74</b>

**Statement II***Independent evaluation of National Leprosy Eradication Programme by Indian Institute of Health Management Research, Jaipur (IIHMR)*

An independent evaluation of NLEP was carried out by Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR), Jaipur during February—May'05 to assess the programme achievement status at the close of World Bank supported Second National Leprosy Elimination Project. The study was carried out in 13 different endemic States.

**Following are the major findings of the study.**

The PR reduced from 3.74 in March 01 to 1.99 in December'04, a 47% reduction and Annual New Case Detection Rate (ANCDR) reduced from 5.6 to 3.1 (45% reduction). MB proportion increased in almost all States & percentage of female in new cases increased from 35.5 to 36.2%. Child percentage reduced in most of the states indicating success in controlling transmission. The percentage of Grade-II disability in new cases significantly reduced from 2.24% in March'01 to 1.5% in December'04.

Median delay in diagnosis decreased from 8 months to 5 months. More than 80% of facilities had completed integration, but the integration process was weak in urban areas. Except the Simplified Information System (SIS) guideline all other SIS formats were found available in most of the health facilities. The quality of MDT services was found highly satisfactory. The overall MB cure rate was 88% and PB cure rate was 94%. About 80% of General health workers received training on leprosy.

Level of awareness was high but was more or less stationary. IEC was more high risk centric and less community centric. The partnership between GOI & NGO's was extremely useful to weaken the bottlenecks against integration.

**The Major Recommendations suggested were—**

(a) Internal monitoring system at Primary Health Centre level should be strengthened (b) Counseling of RFT cases, patients & their family members needs to be emphasized (c) For spreading community awareness, target groups in high endemic areas should be identified and embark on Inter Personal Communication (IPC) (d) IEC messages should also target community in low endemic areas (e) District Technical Support Teams

(DTST's) should intensively focus on capacity building of the District Nucleus Team.

*Independent Survey to Monitor Performance at close of Second National Leprosy Elimination Project*

	March 2001	December 2004	% of Change
PR	4.22	2.24	-46.90
ANCDR	5.60	3.10	-45.20
PD ratio	0.76	0.73	-3.95
MD%	33.79	38.88	+15.06
Female%	35.53	36.20	+1.80
Child %	18.54	13.94	-24.80
Disability %	2.24	1.50	-33.00
Median delay in diagnosis (in months)	8	5	-37.50

- Integration of MDT services with general health services- > 80% of facilities.
- Training - 80% of general health workers received training on leprosy
- MB cure rate - 87.9%
- PB cure rate - 94%

**Government of India has taken the following action based on the recommendations of the evaluation of the programme—**

- Strengthening of the programme by establishing of District Nucleus under leadership of District Leprosy Officer.
- Involvement of District Nucleus teams in programme implementation through General Health Care System.
- Training of General Health Care staff in leprosy.
- Strengthening of referral services.
- Need based IEC activities alongwith Block & Urban based leprosy awareness campaign in high endemic areas.

**Statement III**

*Independent Evaluation of National Leprosy Eradication Programme—2008*

The study was carried out by Indian Institute of Health Management Research, Jaipur to assess quantitative & qualitative achievements made under different components of the programme until March 2007. The study was carried out in 19 States. The institute has recently submitted the study report.

**Following salient findings have come out in the study—**

- Integration of Leprosy programme with General Health Care system resulted in reduction of Prevalence Rate at the end of March 2007 to 0.72/10,000 population. States with high PR also ranked high in new case detection.
- Almost all the health facilities were providing leprosy diagnosis & treatment services.
- Defaulter rate among MB cases was 12.8% and PB cases was 6.7%.
- Chandigarh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Assam reported higher percentage of visible deformity. Factors affecting visible deformity identified were delay in diagnosis, lack of doctors knowledge & skill and misdiagnosis of cases.
- Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan & Punjab reported higher percentage of misdiagnosis.
- 92% of patients did not face difficulty in accessing MDT services.
- MDT storage at district level was good, however at state level it was not found to be satisfactory. Average buffer stock patient month was MB (A)-1.55, PB(A)-1.25, MB(C)-0.54 & PB(C)-0.49.
- Most of the facilities used SIS format for data reporting. However there was minor difference in reporting of PR & ANCDR by states as compare to records at CLD.
- Vertical process of treatment by NGOs has decreased & more intensive role of social mobilization, capacity building, rehabilitation was seen. However, participation of local-level NGOs was not adequate.

- (x) Community awareness about early signs of leprosy, its curability and availability of free MDT was fairly good. However in some states there was not significant change in communities perception towards the disease.

The study will help the states to further streamline the various activities under the programme. Government of India will take appropriate action based on the findings of the evaluation study.

#### Healthcare Insurance

\*132. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress in the field of healthcare insurance is slow in India;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) The health insurance premium in India has grown from about Rs. 700 crores to over Rs. 5100 crores between 2001-02 to 2007-08 which reflects a compounded annual growth rate of 39% over this period. During the first half of the current financial year *i.e.* 2008-09 the health insurance premium has grown by 47% over the corresponding period in the previous year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Balanced Growth Rate

\*133. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the actual growth rate *vis-a-vis* the projected growth rate during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to improve the growth rate across the country in a balanced manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) As per the Central Statistical Organisation, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, the actual growth rate measures by GDP (gross domestic product) at factor cost (constant 1999-2000 prices) available for the past three years are 9.5% in 2005-06, 9.7% in 2006-07 and 9% in 2007-08. The actual State-wise growth rates available for the three years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement. The Planning Commission projects growth rate for the year plans and not on annual basis. The growth target projected for the Tenth Five Year Plan, covering the period 2002-03 to 2006-07 was 7.9% per year. The growth target projected for the eleventh five year plan, covering the period 2007-08 to 2011-12 is 9% per year.

(b) The Government has been taking several measures to improve the growth rate across the country in a balanced manner. The policy instruments in this regard include plan and non-plan transfer of resources from the Centre to the States favouring less developed States, establishment of public sector units, tax incentives for setting up of private industries in the backward regions, etc. A number of programmes have been initiated to reduce income disparity between States. These include, Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Hill Area Development Programme/Western Ghats Development Programme, Border Area Development Programme, etc.

#### Statement

*Actual Growth Rate of Gross State Domestic Product (%)*

(At constant 1999-2000 prices)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.96	8.72	8.87
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.46	-4.86	12.69
3.	Assam	3.74	4.94	6.97
4.	Bihar	11.32	2.79	20.27
5.	Jharkhand	15.21	2.58	9.95
6.	Goa	10.19	9.93	11.96

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gujarat	8.88	11.18	9.17
8.	Haryana	9.06	9.15	11.44
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.56	8.54	9.20
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.23	6.17	6.25
11.	Karnataka	8.05	7.45	6.23
12.	Kerala	9.97	9.17	11.10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3.62	4.23	4.20
14.	Chhattisgarh	6.62	10.33	12.38
15.	Maharashtra	8.21	9.29	9.69
16.	Manipur	9.70	3.95	5.24
17.	Meghalaya	7.11	6.08	5.34
18.	Mizoram	4.15	7.10	7.54
19.	Nagaland	6.65	5.22	NA
20.	Orissa	12.61	6.35	9.35
21.	Punjab	5.20	5.54	6.32
22.	Rajasthan	-1.85	6.71	7.17
23.	Sikkim	7.72	8.94	8.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	11.45	9.39	9.36
25.	Tripura	8.14	9.09	8.43
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4.22	5.64	7.52
27.	Uttarakhand	12.99	6.42	10.40
28.	West Bengal	6.72	7.49	8.86
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.69	8.77	NA
30.	Chandigarh	10.30	11.38	11.67
31.	Delhi	10.68	8.64	11.98
32.	Pondichery	-10.73	6.21	7.43

Source: Central Statistical Organisation.

### National Knowledge Commission

\*134. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the main issues dealt with by the National Knowledge Commission in its recommendations;

(b) whether the Government has constituted any committee to study these recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) The Planning Commission has examined the following recommendations of National Knowledge Commission till date:

(i) Libraries, (ii) Translation, (iii) Teaching in English Language in Schools, (iv) Integrated National Knowledge Network, (v) Portals, (vi) Right to Education, (vii) IRAHE, (viii) Medical Education, (ix) Higher Education, (x) Vocational Education & Training, (xi) E-Governance, (xii) Legal Education, (xiii) Open & Distance Education, (xiv) Open Educational Resources, (xv) Management Education, (xvi) Health Information Network, (xvii) National Science & Social Science Foundation, (xviii) Legal Framework on Public Funded Research, (xix) Intellectual Property Rights, (xx) Traditional Health Systems, (xxi) School Education, (xxii) Attracting Talented Students to Maths & Science, (xxiii) Innovations, (xxiv) Attracting More Quality PhDs, (xxv) Engineering Education.

The Planning Commission undertook two inter-ministerial meetings to review the status of action taken on the recommendations of NKC (on 7.2.2008 and 15.4.2008).

The updated status as on 31.12.2008 on the recommendations of NKC processed in the Commission is given in the enclosed Statement. A high level Committee was constituted to look into the establishment of an Integrated National Knowledge Network.

**Statement***Planning Commission**Education Division*

*Follow up on Recommendations of National Knowledge Commission — Updated Status as on 31.12.2008*

**I. Libraries***Recommendations of NKC:*

- *Set up a National Commission on Libraries*
- *Prepare a National Census of all Libraries*
- *Promote ICT application in all Libraries*
- *Revamp and encourage PPP in Library Information Services*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Based on the recommendations of NKC the Ministry of Culture (MoC) proposed setting up a National Mission for Libraries during the 11th Plan as a Central Sector Scheme. The EFC Memo is under revision by the MoC and is being restricted to Rs. 180 crores earmarked for the same during the 11th Plan. The NML will cover only libraries under the MoC. The project/mission will cover a 4-year period from 2008-09—2013. The activities under the NML include: National Census of Libraries; Modernization including networking of Libraries under DOC; establish Knowledge Centres; establish Digital Libraries.

**II. Translation***Recommendations of NKC:*

- *Propagate Indian language and literature through high quality translation*
- *Provide impetus for developing translation as an industry*
- *Establish a store-house of information on all aspects of translation involving Indian languages*
- *Create and maintain various tools for translation, including machine translation*
- *Provide quality training and education for translators*

- *Translate pedagogic materials at all levels*
- *Set up a National Translation Mission and web portal for this purpose*

**Action Taken - updated status**

The National Translation Mission (NTM) has been approved for implementation. This Mission has a 11th Plan outlay of Rs. 75 crore. The CIIL, Mysore would be the nodal agency for implementation of the mission. The Project Advisory Committee under MHRD is working out details.

**III. Teaching In English Language in Schools***Recommendations of NKC:*

- *Introducing English from Class I and modify Pedagogy, train teachers, revise textbooks, use multi media for English language teaching.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

25 States have already introduced English subject from class I. With the help of NCERT and CIEFL the MHRD is guiding English Teaching in schools in the States/UT's by developing appropriate curriculum, materials and training of teachers with skills in English.

**IV. Integrated National Knowledge Network (INKN)***Recommendations of NKC:*

*Proposes inter-connecting all knowledge institutions throughout the country through an electronic digital broadband network with adequate capabilities to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research.*

**Some specific recommendations are:**

- *Build a National Knowledge Network with gigabit capabilities to connect all universities, libraries, laboratories, hospitals and agricultural institutions to share data and resources across the country in a time bound manner. Implementation could be in phases targeting 500 to 1000 nodes in the first phase.*
- *One time capital support should be given to user institutions to set up Fast Ethernet LANs to enable them to hook on the grid.*

- *A special working group of experts should be set up to finalise specifications, implementation plans, cost estimates, network plans, carry out the actual task of procurement and commissioning of the network.*
- *A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) consisting of major stakeholders should manage the day to day working.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

During 2008-09 Rs. 100 crores has been allocated for the INKN which proposes interconnecting knowledge institutions with gigabit capabilities for sharing resources and research. A high level committee in DIT has been constituted. Separate committees under different ministries would work out content development in their respective application areas for use with in NKN. The NIC (under DIT) would be the main implementer of the NKN. The network would be operationalised in two phases. The core and distribution network covering 1000 nodes with gigabit capacity would be initially set up. The network is scalable and its coverage can grow up 10,000/nodes/institutions. The High Level Committee in DIT has met thrice in the current year in May, July and November 2008 and is firming up the proposal. Thereafter, the proposal shall be appraised by the EFC.

#### **V. PORTALS**

##### *Recommendations of NKC:*

- *Creation of national web based portals for basic needs on certain key sectors such as Water, Energy, Environment, Education, Food, Health, Agriculture, Employment, Citizen Rights.*
- *A consortium consisting of representatives from a wide range of stakeholders from the sectors should own and manage the portal.*
- *Provide access to Government held data.*
- *Encourage collaborative funding.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

NKC has facilitated the setting up of four portals: one on Water ([indiawaterportal.org](http://indiawaterportal.org)), championed by Arghyam Trust; one on Energy ([indiaenergyportal.org](http://indiaenergyportal.org)) championed by The Energy Research Institute (TERI); on Environment ([indiaenvironmentportal.org.in](http://indiaenvironmentportal.org.in)),

championed by Centre for Science and Environment; a National portal for teachers ([teachersofindia.org](http://teachersofindia.org)), championed by Azim Premji Foundation. A portal on biodiversity being developed by the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) will be launched in December.

Planning Commission in its earlier reviews has given the following suggestions: Each Ministry should establish its individual Portals/websites under "indiagov.in" under guidance of NIC (DIT) which has developed guidelines for standard and security for portals.

#### **VI. Right to Education Bill**

##### *Recommendations of NKC:*

- *Steps to be taken to enforce Right to Education*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill 2008 was introduced in the Parliament.

#### **VII. Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE)**

##### *Recommendations of NKC*

- *Setting up IRAHE, an overarching body, which will be responsible for setting criterion and deciding on entry of institutions.*
- *Eligibility of setting up new institutions of higher education, technical education, medical education, distance/correspondence universities and colleges, management institutes, law colleges and universities would be decided by IRAHE.*
- *The entry regulatory functions of the AICTE, MCI, BCI would be performed by the IRAHE so that their role is limited to that of professional associations.*
- *The role of the UGC shall be redefined to focus on disbursement of grants and maintenance of public institutions in higher education.*
- *The MCI will function only as a professional association with powers to conduct examinations and provide licenses to those who want to join profession.*

- *IRAHE would be the only agency authorized to accord degree granting power to higher education institutions.*
- *IRAHE be responsible for standards and settling disputes.*
- *IRAHE will be responsible for maintaining quality, standards and accreditation in education.*
- *The Autonomous Standing Committees of IRAHE will look after education in various areas.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

The UGC/AICTE Review Committee now named as Committee for Rejuvenation and Renovation of Higher Education is examining the regulatory set up for Higher Education. The report is awaited.

#### **VIII. Medical Education**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

- *Only one All India Common Entrance Test for students seeking admission in self-financing medical colleges.*
- *An independent and standardized National EXIT exam at the end of four and half years of study to conduct national assessment of skills and knowledge.*
- *PG admission to be based on credits received in national EXIT examination.*
- *Additional capacity for nursing staff to be created. Every district hospital should have attached nursing school offering diploma.*
- *Para-medical Council should be set up to look into quality of paramedics such as compounders, lab technicians and health workers.*
- *Pharmacy education must be encouraged.*
- *ASHA must be viewed as an accessible and effective health workers. Their training working conditions and pay should be improved.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

MOHFW has stated that at the apex level, regulation of medical education may be done by MOHFW. If needed

the IMC Act will be suitably amended and the functions of the MCI refined to accommodate views of the NKC. Setting up an Inter-Ministerial Consultation Group may be considered to achieve uniformity and higher standards across all educational institutions. Proposal is under consideration of MOHFW to enact a Central legislation for regulating fee and admission in private medical institutions. Regulations relating to UG/PG medical education, minimum standard requirements for medical colleges including teachers eligibility qualifications etc. are under review for carrying out suitable amendments.

#### **IX. Higher Education**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*NKC has proposed a series of initiatives for expansion, excellence, and greater access in Higher Education covering regulation, accreditation, governance, curriculum, research, faculty development, financing, asset management, affirmative actions.*

##### **Some specific recommendations are:**

- *Create 1500 universities for a GER of at least 15 per cent by 2015.*
- *Increase public spending; diversify sources of financing for raising funds through fees, land utilization, philanthropic contributions and private investment.*
- *Establish 50 National Universities as exemplars offering a variety of disciplines and students on an all India basis.*
- *Reform universities: curricula revisions, course credit system, internal assessment, governance, accountability etc.*
- *Restructure the system of affiliated undergraduate colleges-issue of autonomy.*
- *Promote enhanced quality through faculty development, salary differentials and promotion of research.*
- *Ensure access for all deserving students through well funded scholarships, and affirmative action that takes into account multi dimensionality of deprivation.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

Various committees have been set up by the UGC and the DHE on reforms including one for review of

UGC/AICTE now named as Committee for Rejuvenation and Renovation of Higher Education. The reports of these committees are awaited.

#### **X. Vocational Education and Training (VET)**

- *Recommendation of NKC: a major expansion, redesign and quality enhancement of VET.*

##### **Action Taken - updated status**

A three tier structure has been constituted in July, 2008 consisting of (a) National Council on Skill Development, (b) National Skill Development Corporation, and (c) National Skill Development Coordination Board.

- The functions of the National Council on Skill Development under the Prime Minister would be to lay down policy objectives, strategies, financing and governance model to promote skill development.
- The National Skill Development Coordination Board shall enumerate strategies to implement decisions of the Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development. It would develop operational guidelines and instructions for meeting larger objectives of skill development needs of the country and also make appropriate practical solutions and strategies to adopted by the union and State Governments.
- The National Skill Development Corporation will develop a system of institutionalizing measures to this end.

#### **XI. E-governance**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*A set of initiatives to ensure that the Government makes the most optimum and effective use of ICT in the service of citizens.*

##### **Action Taken - updated status**

The Plan envisages creation of core infrastructure like SWAN, CSCs and State Data Centres. The updated status from DIT in the context of following NeGP initiatives is as follows:

Till Date SDCs approved for 26 States (50% of DIT share for the first year released).

Under approved CSC scheme which envisages establishing 100000+CSCs across India (@ 1 CSC per 6 villages)—Till date 20,558 CSCs rolled out. Process of roll out started for another 250968 CSCs.

#### **XII. Legal Education**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*A package of reforms covering regulation, curriculum, examination, research, faculty development etc. Some specific recommendations are: setting up IRAHE to deal with all aspects of legal Education; give autonomy to National Law Schools to decide core and optional courses and level of fees; have independent rating system to assess institutions teaching law; set up CALSARs in four regions for cutting edge research in Legal Education;*

##### **Action Taken - updated status**

The Ministry of Law and Justice has conveyed in principle approval on the following: Standing Committee on Legal Education under IRAHE and consequent changes in role of BCL, curriculum development, developing research tradition in law schools/universities.

MHRD does not support IRAHE and is of the view that professional councils (MCI, BCI, AICTE, DCI, etc.) should be responsible for that part of the standard of education that they deal with. The role of the BCI can be redefined-BCI can be asked to conduct examination for granting licenses to practice.

The 7 National Law Schools established at Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Jodhpur, Bhopal, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Raipur are deemed universities under the UGC purview.

These National Law Schools and other law institutions already have autonomy in designing their curricula. The curricula and syllabi determined by the Bar Council are the basic minimum to be met. Each school is free to go beyond the Bcl determined syllabus. UGC committee is designing model curriculum for various subjects including Law.

MHRD does not support the setting up of CALSARs. "as this may result in a disconnect between research pursuits and the university system. Instead the National Law Schools should be encouraged to strengthen

LLM and research programmes, in addition to undergraduate teaching. The concept of CALSAR may not be relevant as all that it would do, is to wean away a few of legal researchers in each national law school or university, depriving the existing institutions of the modicum of research ambience and enthusiasm that exist in the university system". Further, The MHRD is of the opinion that the present Indian Law Institute (ILI) can be strengthened instead as it performs the same functions of the proposed CALSARs. *Proposal for setting up CALSAR for the northern region at Manesar (Gurgaon) was submitted by the Deptt. of Legal Affairs to Planning Commission. The Dept. has been advised to make budget provision for the scheme of CALSARs in the 11th Plan.*

- *Leverage global open educational resources.*
- *Encourage open access.*
- *Create faculty and institutional development programme to realize the benefits of extended access and improved quality through OER.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from MHRD.

#### **XV. Management Education**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*A package of reforms covering regulation, quality, accreditation, and rating, quality, governance, access, social relevance etc.*

##### **Some specific recommendations are:**

- *Mushrooming Private Management Educational Entities (MEEs) necessitate a reliable rating system to help market function better and enable students employers to compare different MEEs.*
- *Two stage rating process recommended.*
- *Grading norms should be established with experts like CRISIL and ICRA.*
- *Widen the scope of management studies, enhance relevance in the social context.*
- *Mentoring - to achieve excellence leading management institutions must adopt 3-5 MEEs.*
- *Promote faculty development.*
- *Governance : Board of Governors for all MEEs should consist of 50% independent members.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from MHRD.

#### **XVI. Health Information Network**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*Promote use of ICT in health services such as connecting all health care establishments in both private and public sector, establishing national standards for clinical terminology and health informatics and creating a common electronic health record.*

#### **XIII. Open and Distance Education (ODE)**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*A package of initiatives covering regulation, quality, use of ICT, use of open courseware, convergence with conventional universities etc.*

##### **Action Taken - updated status**

- *The ODL System which includes IGNOU, 13 SOUs, and 119 correspondence course institutes has considerably expanded in recent years. The cumulative enrolment of the students at IGNOU is over 1.48 million as on January 2007. The student support system network of IGNOU consists of 60 regional centres, 7 sub-regional centres and 1409 study centres.*
- *In principle approval has been given for new activities of IGNOU namely—(i) IGNOU-skill development programme, (ii) New community colleges—skill development for through ICT.*
- *The proposal for establishment of DEC under Act of Parliament as an independent statutory authority has been referred to GOM.*

#### **XIV. Open Educational Resources (OER)**

##### **Recommendations of NKC:**

*A series of initiatives for encouraging the development and use of open educational resources.*

##### **Some specific recommendations are:**

- *Support production of quality content by a select set up Indian institutions.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Committee set up under MoHFW, DIT, DOT and MHRD are represented on this Committee. Report is awaited.

**XVII. National Science and Social Science Foundation (NS3F)****Recommendations of NKC:**

- *Set up National Science and Social Science Foundation (NS3F) to look at knowledge as one seamless entity.*
- *The foundation will suggest policy initiative to make India a leader in the creation and use of Knowledge, to ensure that science and technology are maximally used for the betterment of the lives of people, and to develop the scientific temper in the country.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

MHRD is of the view that NS3F not necessary. There are various institutions in government and private engaged in R&D activities like ICAR, ICMR, CSIR, etc. An umbrella NS3F will have adverse effects on their autonomy. Further, freedom of universities/institutions like IITs engaged in research in emerging areas will be curbed.

DST generally supports this foundation without duplication of effort with National Science and Engineering Research Board. (It may be stated that "The Science and Engineering Research Board Bill 2008" has been introduced in Parliament).

Comments from DBT awaited.

**XVIII. Legal Framework on Public Funded Research****Recommendations of NKC:**

*A legislation to give universities and research institutions ownership and patent rights over inventions arising out of government funded research to create an enabling environment for commercialization.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Draft Bill on the subject supported by Planning Commission.

**XIX. Intellectual Property Rights****Recommendations of NKC:**

*A package for scaling up the efforts of creating a world class IPR infrastructure, covering infrastructure, HRD and processes.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

- **Transparency and accessibility (with stakeholder participation).** IP Office has put on its website, the relevant acts, rules, manuals etc. There is no restriction on access to these materials.
- **National patent database needs to make available online all decisions, applications (including complete claims and specifications) etc.** Digitization of all patent records underway. 45,000 patent records already on IP website.
- **National Institute of Intellectual Property Management (NIIPM) to be set up at Nagpur.**
- **IPR Tribunal on all aspects of IPR.** An IP Appellate Board already set up for trademarks, geographical indications and patents. The extension of the scope of the Board to designs requires amendment to the Designs Act which is under examination.
- **The issue of sui-generic legislation for protection of traditional knowledge.** DIPP examining the issue. Chairman desired a note on the issue to be sent to Department of AYUSH with copy to Planning Commission.
- **The Patent Office already requested Department of AYUSH for allowing access to the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL).** Department of AYUSH stated that once the agreements with the USPTO and the EPO are finalized they could consider providing access to the TKDL to the Patent Office.

**XX. Traditional Health Systems (THS)****Recommendations of NKC:**

*A set of initiatives to promote THS covering education, research, pharmacopeias, clinical trials, knowledge protection etc.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

- AYUSH industry be given higher subsidy for quality control.
- 100 clusters of AYUSH industry sanctioned.

**XXI School Education****Recommendations of NKC:**

- *Some specific recommendations include: Reorient SSA bringing in a strong rights focus to make Right to Education a reality: ensure basic learning condition; special focus on Math., Science and English; Common Syllabi and Curriculum & Pedagogy.*
- *Gradually reduce Central Governments funding over the Plan period rather than move immediately to 50:50.*
- *Ensure minimum standards for norms in public and private schools and address systemic issues of accountability, decentralization of decision making, teacher recruitment, teacher training.*
- *Recognise and encourage role of private providers.*
- *Special focus on disadvantaged groups and educationally backward areas.*
- *Strengthened teacher training.*
- *Use ICT based Pedagogy and learning aids.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from Deptt. of school Education and Literacy, MHRD.

**XXII. Attracting Talented Students to Maths and Science**

*The recommendations cover different aspects of strengthening Science and Mathematics in Schools as well as in colleges and universities such as infrastructure expansion, curriculum changes and reforms, faculty improvement, Science Outreach Programmes, Industry Participation, etc.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been solicited from Deptt. of School Education and Literacy and Deptt. of Higher Education. These are awaited.

**XXIII. Innovations****Recommendations:**

- *Put in place a National Innovation Policy which encourages competition among enterprises, greater diffusion of knowledge and increased support to early stage technology development initiatives and grass-root level innovators.*
- *Foster increased collaboration among the R&D institute, universities and private sector enterprises and leverage upon their cumulative strengths in designing and implementing various innovation programmes.*
- *Create new interface structures to forge partnership between academia and industry.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been sought from Ministries/Depts. of Heavy Industries, SME, Textiles, Food Processing, Labour, DST, DBT, DIPP. These are awaited.

**XXIV. Attracting More Quality PhDs.****Recommendations:**

*NKC has recommended steps so improve the quality of PhDs. These include massive investment in education and research at all levels, together with renovation and reform of the university system and the fostering of a global outlook in research. Further steps have to be taken to rejuvenate the doctoral programme across disciplines and develop vigorous industry - academia interaction.*

**Action Taken - updated status**

DST is being requested to expedite the National Research Mission under the National Science and Engineering Research Board. The Bill to set up Science Engineering and Research Board has been introduced in the Parliament. Recommendations of NKC are being forwarded to State Governments for favour of implementation in universities and other academic institutions in their jurisdiction. Recommendations being forwarded to MHRD with the request to implement the same on a priority basis by leveraging 11th Plan outlays for Higher Education.

**XXV. Engineering Education****Recommendations:**

*Proposed a series of initiatives for improving quality, regulation and governance of engineering education.*

**Some specific recommendations for engineering education are:**

**Reforming the Regulatory Framework:** (*IRAHE to decide entry of institutions, admission, standards and other criteria*).

**Improving Governance of Institutions**

**Attracting and Retaining Faculty:** *Incentives like better salary, modern infrastructure; professional development; use of ICTs to overcome shortage of faculty.*

**Curriculum Reform** *to provide greater flexibility; inter-disciplinary perspective and choice of electives; laboratory courses to be revamped.*

**Integrating Science and Engineering Education****Encouraging Research****Industry-academia Interaction****Improve Access**

**Mentoring of State engineering colleges by NITs and RECs**

**Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been solicited from MHRD. These are awaited.

**Performance Review of Major Ports**

\*135. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance capacity of the major ports in the country in the light of their traffic handling capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the findings thereof, port-wise;

(c) whether the Government has chalked out any plan for development/expansion of the major ports in view of the increased volume of traffic being handled by these ports; and

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

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

(b) A Statement showing the Port-wise handling capacity as well as Traffic Handled during the year 2007-08 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Government has already launched the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) involving a total investment of Rs. 1,00,339 crores. In the Port sector, the total anticipated investment is Rs. 55,804 crores for 276 projects covering the entire gamut of activities namely, construction/up-gradation of berths, deepening of channels, rail/road connectivity projects, equipment up-gradation/modernization schemes and other related schemes. To address the huge requirement of investment required for development of berths, etc. in the Ports, private sector investment is required. To attract and encourage private sector investment in the Port sector, the Government of India has finalised Model Request for Qualification (RFQ) Request for proposal (RFP) and Model Concession Agreement (MCA) to ensure uniformity and transparency in the bid process. New guidelines for upfront fixation of tariff have also been issued for berths and terminals to be bid out to private operators so that prospective bidders are aware of the projected revenue follows from the concerned project.

**Statement**

*The handling capacity as well as Traffic Handled during the year 2007-08*

(In Million tonnes)

Name of Port	Handling Capacity	Traffic Handled
1	2	3
Kolkata	14.56	13.74
Haldia	46.70	43.58
Paradip	56.00	42.43

	2	3
Visakhapatnam	61.15	64.59
Chennai	53.35	57.15
Ennore	13.00	11.56
Tuticorin	20.75	21.48
Cochin	28.37	15.81
New Mangalore	43.50	36.01
Mormugao	33.05	35.12
Mumbai	44.70	57.03
Jawaharlal Nehru	54.34	55.83
Kandla	62.60	64.92
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>532.07</b>	<b>519.31</b>

#### **Guidelines for Selection of Coaches**

\*136. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines recently for selection of coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to inject more professionalism in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (b) The guidelines for selection of National Coach and other members of the coaching team by the National Sports Federations (NSFs) are given in the Scheme for Assistance to National Sports Federations. The Government has only reiterated the same guidelines to be strictly followed by the NSFs.

(c) With a view to infusing greater professionalism, efforts are being made to strengthen coach development programme in the Sports Authority of India through in-service refresher courses conducted at the National Institute of Sports, Patiala. Further, coaches are also being sent to international institutes of repute to undergo advance training in specific sports and general

conditioning to further enhance their coaching skills. The Government also appoints foreign coaches for training of elite athletes, who are also encouraged to hold training camps and workshops for coaches.

#### **Financial Assistance to Health Projects**

\*137. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any external financial assistance for the implementation of health projects;

(b) if so, the details of the funds received during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the programmes undertaken in this regard; and

(c) the benefits accrued/likely to accrue as a result thereof?

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

(b) The external financial assistance received for health sector projects is Rs. 2234.92 crores in the year 2005-06, Rs. 1885.71 crores in the year 2006-07, Rs. 2985.73 crores in the year 2007-08 and Rs. 3089.60 crores in the year 2008-09.

The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), a comprehensive flagship Programme, encompassing a number of interventions, was launched by the Government of India in April, 2005, to improve the availability of and access to quality health care by people. Under NRHM, Programmes such as Reproductive and Child Health Programme-II (RCH-II), Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) and Polio Eradication Programme receive external assistance. Besides, National AIDS Control Programme launched with the objective of containing and reversing spread of HIV/AIDS also receives external assistance.

The various Health Sector Programmes/Projects are supported by Domestic Budget as well as External Assistance. The External Assistance is provided by various international organisations such as World Health

Organisation (WHO), World Bank/International Development Association (IDA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), German Assistance (Kfw & GTZ), Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), Department for International Development (DFID), UK, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Denmark, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), European Commission (EC), Global Alliance for Vaccine Immunization (GAVI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

(c) The health sector in India has been strengthened and service delivery has improved substantially after the launch of NRHM. The Mission has helped in operationalizing First Referral Units (FRUs), 24x7 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), setting up of centres for skill based training and orienting the programme managers and health professionals in the implementation of different activities in improving public health care. NRHM has improved public health services in the country. It has also galvanized the systems for higher Out-Patient Department (OPD), In-Patient Department (IPD), institutional deliveries, immunization, diagnostics and referral ambulance service. The availability of skilled human resources drugs and supplies, better, cleaner facilities has rejuvenated the public health system. Till date, over 6,50,000 Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) have been appointed in the states to function as the link between the citizens and the health system. As part of the community led action for health, 3,61,000 Village Health and Sanitation Committees (VHSCs) have been constituted in the country. In order to ensure community ownership of the health facilities, 26,262 Hospital Management Societies [Rogi Kalyan Samitis (RKS)] have been set up. The NRHM is also helping the states in addressing the critical gaps in operationalizing the Health Facilities. Under the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, there has been an appreciable decline in the disease prevalence and mortality on account of malaria. The National AIDS Control Programme has articulated a clear and effective response to increase access to services and effective behaviour change communication. The Revised National TB Control Programme has been consistently achieving global cure and detection rate targets. Deaths due to TB have declined from 42/lakh population in 1990 to 25/lakh in 2006. The Polio Eradication Programme has achieved significant success in terms of reducing number of cases and number of infected districts.

### National Population Stabilisation Fund

\*138. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has set up Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (National Population Stabilisation Fund) as reported in the 'Hindu' dated 26 December, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the objectives of this Kosh; and

(c) the success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The "Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh" (JSK) (National Population Stabilisation Fund) has been registered as an autonomous Society established under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. The Union Health Minister heads the General Body of JSK and the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Women and Child Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Rural Development and Planning Commission are represented by their Secretaries on the General Body of JSK. All State Governments are members of JSK.

Objective of JSK is to promote and undertake activities aimed at achieving population stabilisation at a level consistent with the needs of sustainable economic growth, social development and environment protection by 2045 as envisaged in the National Population Policy. JSK has initiated following strategies in this direction:

- \* JSK has mapped 485 districts through a unique amalgamation of GIS Maps and Census Data which gives a picture of each district, its sub-division and the population of every village along with its basic health infrastructure.
- \* JSK has established a Call Centre to give authentic information on reproductive and infant health in English and Hindi, using computer based software. The service is provided by trained agents to give advice to adolescents, newly married and about-to-be married couples and others who seek guidance.
- \* JSK has introduced a "Responsible Parenthood" model called Prerna to reward couples in high

focus districts who voluntarily delay the age of marriage, allow girls to stay in school and to couples that plan their family in the interest of the health of the mother and child. Prerna strategy of JSK is aimed at pushing up age of marriage; registration of marriage; promote birth spacing and sterilization after the second child. The awards ceremony gets State wide news coverage for honoring Role Models from the community. Success is determined by advocacy efforts in favour of women's empowerment and health which impact on child births and mortality.

- \* JSK has started a Virtual Resource Centre for Maternal and Child Health where posters, films and audio visual materials can be downloaded or asked from JSK on CDs free of cost.

#### **New Coal Distribution Policy**

\*139. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any difficulties are being experienced in the implementation of the New Coal Distribution Policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the current status of the implementation of the Policy;

(c) whether the Government has constituted any Committee to examine the Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government for effective implementation of the New Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) The provisions of New Coal Distribution Policy of October, 2007 are being implemented by Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited, as per the provisions specified in the policy. A statement showing the major provisions of policy and status on its implementation is given below:-

Sl.No.	Action point for implementation	Status of implementation
1.	Classification of consumers	Implemented
2.	Distribution and pricing of coal to different consumers/sector(s)	Implemented
3.	Distribution of coal to small and medium sector consumers	Implemented
4.	Replacement of linkage system by Fuel Supply Agreement (FSAs)	Partly implemented. Fuel Supply Agreements, with majority of consumers, barring power utilities, have been concluded.
5.	Policy for new consumers/Letter of Assurance for New Consumers and FSA with new consumers	Under implementation. This is a continuous process.
6.	E-auction of coal	Implemented. A revised scheme of e-auction has been introduced.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (c) above.

(e) The status of implementation of various provisions of the new Coal Distribution Policy is reviewed by the Ministry of Coal from time to time and appropriate action taken, wherever required, for expeditious implementation

of the provisions of the Policy.

#### **Introduction of Headend-In-The Sky**

\*140. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has cleared the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to introduce the Headend-In-The Sky (HITS) Broadcasting Service in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it will help in improving transmission and distribution of television signals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) The policy of Headend-in-the Sky (HITS) based on the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is at a final stage for decision.

(c) HITS is a digital delivery mode of distribution of TV channel and would speed up the process of digitalization of cable services located in Non-CAS areas of the country. It serves the whole country providing its signals through satellite to many MSOs/cable operators who can further send digital signals through set top box to the customers using their cable networks. HITS operationalization would not only help increase the penetration of cable market further into rural areas where it has so far been absent because of unviability but will also help in further reduction of prices of Set Top Boxes. It may also lead to further consolidation of the cable market and enable better service to the consumers. HITS would benefit subscribers with a wider choice of digital channels, better picture quality and value added service at affordable price. HITS would provide greater channel capacity from the present limited capacity of channels placed in prime/non-prime band. Unlike CAS, HITS would be purely voluntary.

*[Translation]*

#### **Pending Loan Applications**

620. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines against keeping of loan applications pending by banks without any reasons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) vide their circular dated May 5, 2003 issued guidelines on Fair Practices Code for Lenders which are required to be framed by banks/financial institutions duly adopted by their Boards. These guidelines are revised periodically and the most recent being on November 25, 2008. These guidelines inter-alia, stipulated that:

- (i) Banks and Financial Institutions should devise a system of giving acknowledgement for receipt of all loan applications. Time frame within which loan applications upto Rs. 2 lakhs will be disposed off should also be indicated in acknowledgement of such applications.
- (ii) Banks/Financial Institutions should verify the loan applications within a reasonable period of time and if additional details/documents are required, they should intimate to the borrowers immediately.
- (iii) In case of all categories of loans irrespective of any threshold limits, including credit card applications, the lenders should convey in writing, the main reason/reasons which, in the opinion of the bank after due consideration, have led to rejection of the loan applications within stipulated time.

*[English]*

#### **Supply of Coal to MTPS**

621. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eastern Coalfields Limited is supplying coal to Mejia Thermal Power Station (MTPS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) is supplying coal to Mejia Thermal Power Station (MTPS) since 1997-1998. The year-wise details of despatch of coal from Eastern Coalfields Limited to Mejia Thermal Power Station during 2004-05 to 2008-09 (upto January, 2009) are given below:-

Year	Despatch of coal from ECL to Meja Thermal Power Station (figures in tonnes)
2004-05	62,000
2005-06	1,91,000
2006-07	12,71,000
2007-08	3,99,000
2008-09 (upto January, 2009) (Provisional)	4,29,000

*[Translation]***Loan to States**

\*622. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of loan made available to States for the agricultural sector during the last three years, State-wise including Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The State-wise details of loans made available for the agricultural sector during the last three years, including Jharkhand, is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise Flow of Ground Level Credit (GLC) data for agriculture and allied activities from 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

(Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	162231	385202	280007
2.	New Delhi	1307623	1546895	1378437
3.	Haryana	1084743	1199275	1228236
4.	Himachal Pradesh	95482	108169	142872
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	90545	59036	36287
6.	Punjab	1547980	1988580	2433686
7.	Rajasthan	756234	1058643	1236470
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	1337	2328	2069
9.	Assam	66332	54118	64104
10.	Manipur	5766	3034	4833
11.	Meghalaya	5657	4501	3627
12.	Mizoram	2432	3282	3719
13.	Nagaland	2402	4611	4051
14.	Tripura	8476	9350	9391

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Sikkim	1169	1305	1493
16.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1528	6015	416
17.	Bihar	212458	304621	313802
18.	Jharkhand	50588	61949	56518
19.	Orissa	312919	392291	432564
20.	West Bengal	644134	774480	889984
21.	Chhatisgarh	123321	149461	192242
22.	Madhya Pradesh	690396	955597	1226563
23.	Uttar Pradesh	1405866	1882625	1775776
24.	Uttaranchal	93782	141629	139980
25.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	158	767	289
26.	Daman and Diu	40	745	1044
27.	Goa	13134	18147	27110
28.	Gujarat	1110647	1192297	1362736
29.	Maharashtra	1493814	2140106	2327400
30.	Andhra Pradesh	2050124	2466909	2908761
31.	Karnataka	1291353	1549616	1858968
32.	Kerala	1032413	1254998	1458429
33.	Lakshadweep	115	115	153
34.	Pondicherry	23521	19636	31191
35.	Tamil Nadu	1953680	2729989	3056226
<b>Total</b>		<b>17642400</b>	<b>22470322</b>	<b>24889434</b>
Other Bonds**		300	0	
RIDF**		405857	469666	69106
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>18048557</b>	<b>22939988</b>	<b>24958540</b>

\*Provisional.

**Fake Medicines**

623. SHRI PUSP JAIN: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding distribution of fake medicines in the Government hospitals have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No such cases of distribution of fake medicines have been reported from Central Government Hospitals viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Harding Medical College & Associated hospitals. In these hospitals drugs are procured through Government Medical Store Depot (GMSD), which are accompanied with rest report conforming to required quality. To ensure quality, random testing is also carried out by the respective hospitals from Government approved laboratories from time to time.

**Rashtriya Samvikas Yojana**

624. SHRI HANSRAJ G AHIR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be please to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints from any State regarding non-allocation of funds from Rashtriya Samvikas Yojana;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir. No complaints have been received from any State in this regard.

(b) and (c) The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) has been subsumed into the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme. A total of 147 districts in 27 States were covered under the erstwhile RSVY Programme, of these, 108 districts have claimed their total entitlement under the programme. Out of the 39 remaining districts, 33 districts have to claim one instalment of Rs.7.5 crore each and 6 districts have to claim two instalments, i.e., Rs. 15 crore each. The details of releases and expenditure reported under RSVY so far are given in the enclosed Statement. Details of district-wise release of funds under RSVY are available on the website: [www.brgf.gov.in](http://www.brgf.gov.in) The districts can claim their next instalments on spending 60% of the last release. No eligible district has been denied its allocation.

**Statement*****Backward Districts Initiatives-Release of Funds to RSVY districts (Rs. in Crore)***

(As on 20.2.2009)

Sl.No.	State	No. of RSVY districts	Total amount to be released	Amount released from 2003-04 to 05-06 by Planning Commission	Amount released in 2006-07	Amount released in 2007-08	Amount released in 2008-09	Total amount released	Percentage of release made	Balance entitlement	Cumulative Expenditure reported by State Governments	Utilisation Certificates received
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	450	150.00	82.5	105.00	90.00	427.50	95.00	22.50	332.74	332.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	45	15.00	7.5	7.50	7.50	37.50	83.33	7.50	29.98	30.00
3.	Assam	5	225	45.0	52.5	52.50	45.00	195.00	86.67	30.00	145.89	145.69

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
4.	Bihar	21	945	292.50	232.5	97.50	187.50	810.00	85.71	135.00	574.66	553.86
5.	Chhattisgarh	8	360	187.54	127.5	45.00	0.00	360.00	100.00	0.00	343.83	310.86
6.	Gujarat	3	135	52.50	37.50	7.50	15.00	112.50	83.33	22.50	81.19	81.36
7.	Haryana	1	45	22.50	22.5	0.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	90	45.00	30	15.00	0.00	90.00	100.00	0.00	66.66	61.91
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	135	52.50	22.5	15.00	15.00	105.00	77.78	30.00	80.89	80.89
10.	Jharkhand	16	720	300.00	315.00	82.50	22.50	720.00	100.00	0.00	594.02	579.05
11.	Karnataka	4	180	52.50	37.50	45.00	30.00	165.00	91.67	15.00	140.43	137.49
12.	Kerala	2	90	52.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	75.00	83.33	15.00	65.34	63.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	10	450	315.00	135.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	100.00	0.00	348.83	449.76
14.	Maharashtra	9	405	142.50	90.00	107.00	58.00	397.50	98.15	7.50	299.88	279.84
15.	Manipur	1	45	30.00	15.00	0.00	0.0	45.00	100.00	0.00	39.99	39.99
16.	Meghalaya	1	45	7.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	37.50	83.33	7.50	27.81	30.00
17.	Mizoram	1	45	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
18.	Nagaland	1	45	22.50	22.50	0.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
19.	Orissa	5	225	97.50	45.00	52.50	30.00	225.00	100.00	0.00	183.37	188.46
20.	Punjab	1	45	15.00	15.00	7.50	7.50	45.00	100.00	0.00	35.14	35.14
21.	Rajasthan	3	135	120.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	135.00	100.00	0.00	131.55	131.58
22.	Sikkim	1	45	15.00	22.5	7.50	0.00	45.0	100.00	0.00	35.60	131.58
23.	Tamil Nadu	5	225	172.50	30.00	22.50	0.00	225.00	100.00	0.00	211.64	195.72
24.	Tripura	1	45	22.50	15.00	7.50	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	36.65	36.65
25.	Uttarakhand	3	135	45.00	37.50	30.00	22.50	135.00	100.00	0.00	104.93	104.93
26.	Uttar Pradesh	21	945	427.50	300.00	135.00	30.00	892.50	94.44	52.50	677.26	666.28
27.	West Bengal	8	360	135.00	60.00	82.50	82.50	360.00	100.00	0.00	284.74	284.74
28.	NABARD		9.3	4.32	3.30	0.00		7.62	81.94	1.68		
Total		147	6624.3	2854.32	1818.30	954.50	658.00	6277.62	94.77	346.68	5007.81	5086.02

*[English]***Re-Structuring of NHAI**

625. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to fix the tenure of the Chairman; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Re-structuring of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been approved by the Government with the following salient features:-

- (i) Selection of the Chairman by a search committee with tenure fixed for at least three years which may be extended upto five years;
- (ii) Increase in the number of full time Members from five to six and the number of part-time Member from four to six;
- (iii) Creation of additional posts of Chief General Managers (CGMs);
- (iv) Creation of Cell with experts in the areas of finance, legal, safety, quality control, Project Appraisal etc., and
- (v) Empowering the NHAI to engage where required outside experts.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It is envisaged that the Chairman will have a minimum fixed tenure of three years extendable by two years, with relaxation in age upto 62 years, if required for three-year minimum tenure.

**Diversion of Surplus Coal**

626. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some private sector coal companies have requested for diversion of surplus coal available with

them for selling to other companies engaged in thermal power generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) to (c) The Government have given in principle approval for use of surplus coal produced from Moher, Moher-Amlori Extn. and Chhatrasal coal blocks allotted to M/s Sasan Power Ltd. in other power projects of M/s Reliance Power Ltd. on the following conditions:-

- (i) Incremental coal quantity would be determined based on the Mine Plan approved by Ministry of Coal.
- (ii) The 3960 MW Sasan UMPP will always have the first right and overriding priority over all coal produced from the allotted blocks and the allottee shall always ensure that the generation from the UMPP for the entire contracted period will not be allowed to be affected by utilization of incremental coal by any other project of the Group. Any loss in generation in the awarded UMPP at Sasan shall only be on account of genuine reasons such as maintenance, repairs etc.
- (iii) End use of coal from these locks would be restricted to power generation.
- (iv) The power generated by utilizing incremental coal from these captive coal blocks would be sold through tariff based competitive bidding.

However, specific permission shall be considered on submission of specific proposal at the appropriate time.

*[Translation]***Spread of Communicable Diseases**

627. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided any assistance to various States including Uttar Pradesh in view of increasing numbers of death cases reported due to communicable diseases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) TB The Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme in all the States and Union Territories of India including State of Uttar Pradesh.

RNTCP is an application to India of WHO-recommended strategy of Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS). The objectives of RNTCP are (i) to achieve and maintain a cure rate of at least 85% among newly detected infectious TB cases and (ii) achieve and maintain detection of at least 70% of such cases. The diagnosis and treatment including a supply of anti TB drugs are provided free of cost to all TB patients irrespective of caste, creed, socio-economic status, minority status and geographical region.

The programme is consistently achieving the Global targets of 85% cure rate and 70% case detection of new sputum positive cases for past few years. Death rates due to TB have declined from 42/lakh population in 1990 to 29/lakh population in 2006 (as per WHO Global TB Report 2008).

In 2008 alone Uttar Pradesh placed 2.78 lakh cases on DOTS. The overall performance of RNTCP has been showing consistent improvement in the State of Uttar Pradesh with treatment completion rate of 87% amongst new smear positive cases for the year 2007 and death rate of 3% among registered patients.

The detail of financial assistance provided to different States including State of Uttar Pradesh for last three years including current year is given in the enclosed statement-I.

### **Leprosy**

(a) Since deaths are not reported due to Leprosy, assistance to states is not based on number of deaths due to the disease. However under National Leprosy Eradication Programme all the States are provided financial assistance for implementation of programme activities. The state-wise funds allocated under the programme for the last three years is given in the Statement-II.

(b) Not applicable

### **Dte. of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme**

(a) and (b) Yes Sir, Details of assistance provided by Directorate of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme in terms of cash and commodity during 2008-09 (till date) is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Whole country including Uttar Pradesh		Uttar Pradesh	
Cash	Commodity	Cash	Commodity
9600.09	3537.70	578.53	104.53

### **NICD**

(a) Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) is a decentralized state based disease surveillance programme being implemented in the country, including Uttar Pradesh, in phased manner including Uttar Pradesh, with the, objective to detect disease out breaks at the earliest point of time and rapid response thereto to contain impending outbreaks.

IDSP delivers technical guidelines from time to time for prevention and control of Communicable diseases. In addition to this IDSP participates in outbreak investigations conducted by NICD. IDSP has established video conferencing facility and electronic data transmission facility in all district head quarters, Medical Colleges and ID Hospitals, to initiate early warning signal for impending disease outbreaks to generate alert in this regard to minimize loss of lives and resources. Strengthening of district laboratories and a state level laboratory is being carried out by IDSP for diagnosis of causative organisms. IDSP is also imparting training to Medical Officers, Paramedical workers and laboratory technicians in the districts and state headquarters for early detection and response to disease outbreaks.

(b) Details of release of funds as Grants-in-aid to Uttar Pradesh under:

(1) Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) are as follows:

2005-06	Rs. 23.00 lakhs
2006-07	Nil
2007-08	Rs. 2.50 crore
2008-09	Nil
<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Rs. 2.73 crore</b>

(2) Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP) IS IN OPERATION IN Sonbhadra and Mirzapur districts of Uttar Pradesh. An amount of Rs. 4.00 lacs was released during 2006-07. However, an amount of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only ) has been refunded by the state in January 2009.

There is no death due to Yaws disease.

**Statement I**

*Revised National TB Control Programme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Cash Releases			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto 12.02.09)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	620.00	1140.00	1300.00	1295.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120.00	100.00	160.00	137.00
3.	Assam	460.00	430.00	450.00	450.00
4.	Bihar	377.39	479.26	655.00	475.00
5.	Goa	25.00	29.80	28.00	43.50
6.	Gujarat	620.00	900.00	271.74	1027.00
7.	Haryana	200.00	325.00	193.05	422.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	190.00	210.00	215.00	240.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	243.00	155.00	230.00	250.00
10.	Karnataka	470.00	820.00	710.00	797.00
11.	Kerala	338.46	259.00	541.47	332.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	600.00	667.00	877.72	810.00
13.	Maharashtra	1300.00	1025.00	1495.00	2053.00
14.	Manipur	132.00	158.00	180.00	185.00
15.	Meghalaya	85.00	74.00	105.00	111.00
16.	Mizoram	78.00	90.00	94.00	123.00
17.	Nagaland	75.00	128.00	170.00	162.00
18.	Orissa	350.00	382.00	800.00	582.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Punjab	150.00	350.00	365.00	432.00
20.	Rajasthan	450.94	400.00	940.70	673.46
21.	Sikkim	50.00	65.00	50.00	67.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	710.38	800.00	925.00	900.00
23.	Tripura	0.00	13.00	33.84	75.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1580.27	2075.00	2525.00	3333.75
25.	West Bengal	950.00	1100.00	1330.00	1425.00
26.	Delhi	455.00	610.00	700.00	648.00
27.	Puducherry	10.00	15.00	5.00	14.00
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	12.00	14.00	16.00	9.00
29.	Chandigarh	33.40	59.00	48.00	56.00
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.00	25.00	21.00	30.00
31.	Daman and Diu	3.50	24.00	11.00	10.00
32.	Lakshadweep	0.00	7.00	10.00	
33.	Jharkhand	200.00	420.00	360.00	390.00
34.	Uttaranchal	125.00	129.44	150.00	206.00
35.	Chhatisgarh	272.62	440.00	390.00	397.00
Total		11296.96	13918.50	17090.47	18160.07

**Statement II***National Leprosy Eradication Programme  
Statewise Budget Allocation during last 3 years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UTs	Budget Allocation			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.34	113.41	174.91	196.49
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.03	75.39	130.51	146.61
3.	Assam	54.45	88.91	161.77	181.73

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	388.37	358.42	290.97	326.88
5.	Chhatisgarh	204.73	209.99	130.09	146.14
6.	Goa	17.61	17.45	7.03	7.90
7.	Gujarat	130.35	157.83	159.15	178.79
8.	Haryana	38.84	38.72	64.39	72.34
9.	Himachal Pradesh	43.67	49.02	64.39	72.34
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	63.38	61.16	57.52	64.62
11.	Jharkhand	345.08	320.04	162.01	182.00
12.	Karnataka	83.99	59.21	136.40	153.23
13.	Kerala	30.39	36.57	102.43	115.23
14.	Madhya Pradesh	389.65	250.49	136.76	153.64
15.	Maharashtra	179.71	210.96	196.56	220.82
16.	Manipur	32.09	31.50	41.84	47.00
17.	Meghalaya	33.15	42.19	42.29	47.51
18.	Mizoram	35.07	45.23	58.12	65.29
19.	Nagaland	78.57	78.22	43.46	48.82
20.	Orissa	261.33	242.20	147.96	166.20
21.	Punjab	50.88	62.92	68.09	76.49
22.	Rajasthan	82.02	76.47	125.41	140.89
23.	Sikkim	23.92	23.00	33.11	37.20
24.	Tamil Nadu	90.50	138.53	150.38	168.94
25.	Tripura	21.12	21.00	35.64	40.04
26.	Uttaranchal	109.19	432.98	76.94	86.43
27.	Uttar Pradesh	447.03	81.80	454.06	510.09
28.	West Bengal	234.70	275.96	287.29	322.74
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11.19	11.18	11.23	12.62

1	2	3	4	5	6
30.	Chandigarh	10.75	11.00	10.21	11.47
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.65	9.00	7.54	8.47
32.	Daman and Diu	15.54	15.00	17.52	19.68
33.	Delhi	63.41	61.00	55.65	62.52
34.	Lakshadweep	7.02	7.00	2.03	2.28
35.	Pondicherry	11.28	11.15	6.34	7.12
<b>Total</b>		<b>3762.00</b>	<b>3725.00</b>	<b>3650.00</b>	<b>4100.56</b>

[English]

#### **Cleaning of Sabarmati River**

628. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cleaning of Sabarmati river under project phase II has been approved by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the fund allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the present status of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The proposal received from the State Government of Gujarat for cleaning of Sabarmati River Phase-II at Ahmedabad could not be considered due to budgetary constraints. Accordingly, the State Government was advised to explore alternative sources of funding, including external assistance.

#### **Income from Cable Companies**

629. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has generated income from the various private cable network companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any monitoring mechanism to check and inspect the *modus operandi* of these cable network companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, no separate statistics on the total amounts received from various private cable network companies in the country are centrally maintained. Local Cable Operators obtain registration/renewal from a Head Post Master of a Head Post office of the area by paying Rs. 500/- for a period of twelve months. Taxes of Local Self Government/State Government and Central Government are also applicable on them.

(c) and (d) The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, contains provisions to regulate the operation of cable television networks in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The cable operators are required to conform to the provisions of the said Act in their operations. The Act provides for Authorized Officers to take action for violation of certain provisions of the Act.

#### **Setting up of Medical Colleges in Neighbouring Countries**

630. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide any assistance to the neighbouring countries for setting up medical colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any preferences likely to be given to the Indian students who are willing to pursue their studies in such overseas colleges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, a 50 seat (currently 100 seat) medical college and a 350 bed hospital was built with Indian assistance of Rs. 120 crore and was formally handed over to the Government of Nepal in 1999. Presently Government of India is extending assistance in the form of providing Indian faculty support to the college.

The Royal Government of Bhutan has requested the Government of India to assist in setting up a Medical College in Thimphu, Bhutan.

(c) and (d) 10 seats are earmarked for Indian nationals in the MBBS Course conducted by the B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, Nepal.

*[Translation]*

#### NH Projects in Rajasthan

631. SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development of National Highways in the country is in consonance with the existing Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof mentioning *inter alia* the names of the stretches of NHs and the States where such development are not as per the revised programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE II, THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The development of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process. Works are taken up according to the Annual Plan programme for sanction of development works prepared on the basis of traffic density, condition of roads, inter-se priority and availability of funds. The revisions of Annual Plans are also taken up from time to time depending upon the

requirements. The Government reviews and monitors the progress of the sanctioned projects at various levels and takes necessary corrective actions on a continuous basis with a view to complete the projects in a time bound manner.

#### Supply of Uranium

632. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI RAMESH DUBE:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether India has signed any agreement with the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) countries for supply of Uranium;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the time by which actual supply is likely to be resumed alongwith the details of quantity from each country; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) India has signed inter-governmental agreements with France, USA and Russia for Civil nuclear co-operation. NPCIL has signed a MOU with Kazatomprom, Kazakhstan for supply of Uranium.

(b) and (c) Pursuant to IGA signed with France, a contract was awarded to M/s AREVA, France for supply of 300 MT of natural uranium. Pursuant to IGA signed with Russia, two contracts have been signed with Russia, one is for supply of 58 tonnes of enriched Uranium and the other is for supply of 2000 tonnes of natural uranium. Before France can make the shipment, certain documents needs to be exchanged. These are being finalized. Actual shipment will take place immediately after documents have been finalized.

(d) Imported uranium will be used in power reactors under IAEA safeguards. It will improve capacity factors of nuclear power plants thereby making more electricity available to the country.

**Rates of Pay Channel**

633. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rates being charged for each pay channel in the country;

(b) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India determines these rates;

(c) if so, the details of norms laid down for determining the said rates;

(d) whether the Government has received complaints on exorbitant rates of pay channel; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard and remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the a-la-carte and bouquet rates as reported by the pay channel broadcasters are available at the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) website [www.traI.gov.in](http://www.traI.gov.in).

(c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regulates the rates of pay channels under section 11(2) of the TRAI Act, 1997 as per following norms:

- (i) The average monthly cable TV bill and average number of pay channels watched by viewers.
- (ii) The prices made available by the stakeholders during the process of consultation.
- (iii) Inference drawn from the agreements between the broadcaster and the MSO;
- (iv) Available data from CAS ares in Chennai
- (v) Offers made by DTH operators. The determination methodology adopted by TDSAT in its judgement in the case involving ASC Enterprises Limited and Star India Private Limited.
- (vi) Reported mismatch between the actual subscriber and chargeable subscriber (inference drawn from the prevailing practices)

(vii) Arrangements of revenue sharing with a reference to advertisement, carriage and revenue generated from the subscribers.

(viii) With regard to rates in Non CAS areas, since the Tariff Amendment Order dated 4.10.2007 has been struck down by TDSAT, the current wholesale rates of pay channels are based on the market driven rates prevalent as on 26.12.2003 with inflation linked increases.

(ix) The rates of new pay channels or free to air channels converted to pay channels thereafter are decided based on the rates of similar genre and language.

(d) and (e) Complaints regarding the rates charged by pay channels come under the preview of TRAI which is the regulator for carriage issues. To protect the interest of the consumer for cable TV services in CAS notified areas, TRAI had made it mandatory to provide pay channels to the consumers on a-la-carte basis and a ceiling of Rs. 5.35 (excluding taxes) per pay channel per month at subscriber level has been prescribed. In non CAS areas, the Authority vide its tariff amendment order dated 04.10.2007, had prescribed habitation wise ceiling based on number of pay channels provided to the cable TV subscribers. However, Hon'ble TDSAT on 15.1.2009 has set-aside the Tariff Amendment Order dated 04.10.2007. TRAI has made an appeal in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the order of Hon'ble TDSAT and the matter is sub-judice.

*[English]*

**Health of Coastal People**

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

(a) whether the health of the people living in the coastal areas of the country is very poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study on the health status of the coastal people;

(d) if so, the findings of the study; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to upgrade the health of the coastal people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Government is not aware of any such study. However, National Rural Health Mission provisions for health care for all including coastal regions. The States prepare their Annual Programme implementation Plan based on morbidity, mortality profile including for coastal areas which is appraised and approved by the National Programme Coordination Committee under NRHM. In the year 2008-09 Government of Kerala had projected requirement for conducting camps with the help of trained ANMs and Medical Officers of nearby institutions to support immunization programme in coastal areas covering 10 districts. The same was considered and approved.

[Translation]

#### Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi

635. SHRI RAMESH DUBE: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any difficulties have been faced in the implementation of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi Scheme in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to simplify the existing procedure with regard to Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereto; and

(e) the State-wise details of funds released for the year 2008-2009 under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) the statewise details for the year 2008-09 are as under:

Punjab	Rs. 4.75 lakh
Kerala	Rs. 200.00 lakh
U.P.	Rs. 250.00 lakh

#### Election Campaign on FM Radio

636. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for allowing election campaign on FM Radio;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All India Radio and Association of Radio Operators of India requested that the airing of political advertisements over Radio during general elections of Lok Sabha and State Assemblies may be permitted on the lines of TV Channels.

(c) Election Commission of India vide their order dated 21.11.2008 have allowed political advertisements over Radio, during the period the Model Code of Conduct is in operation, in connection with the General Elections to the House of the People or to the Legislative Assembly of any State/Union Territory subject to the condition imposed by the Election Commission of India.

[English]

#### MNIC Cards

637. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Administrative Reforms Commission in its report has recommended to issue Multipurpose National Identity Card (MNIC) to check illegal immigration into the North-Eastern parts of the country; and

(b) if so, details thereof alongwith the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Administrative Reforms Commission in the Seventh Report titled "Capacity Building for Conflict Resolution: Friction to Fusion" has, *inter alia*, recommended that the Multipurpose National Identity Card (MNIC) project needs to be taken up a priority basis. The Commission has opined that it would provide a user friendly interface between the citizen and the government and would function as a deterrent for future illegal immigration.

The Citizenship Act, 1955 has been amended in 2003, making it compulsory for registering every citizen of India and issuing national identity card to him. The Government has already set up a UID Authority of India which would undertake this task.

#### **Mismanagement in CGHS Dispensaries**

638. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

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

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding supply of fake medicines or non-issue of specific medicines, mismanagement, irregularities and non-indenting of local purchase medicines etc. to the CGHS beneficiaries in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of such complaints received during the last two years and current year dispensary-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the said complaints including the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such irregularities in the CGHS dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The CGHS dispensaries have been instructed by the Medical Store Depot, CGHS, that against the prescription of the Specialists the medicine of potency and therapeutical value, where ever it is available in the Medical Store Depot and supplied to the dispensary, may be supplied to the beneficiaries. The prescribed medicines should be indented only in case no such medicine is available in the stock of the dispensary.

The authenticity and quality of medicine is being ensured by insisting on a Good Manufacturing Certificate as per-requisite for eligibility of any manufacturer to supply medicines to MSD and MSO. All the medicines procured by the Medical Store Depot and the Medical Stores Organization and supplied to the CGHS dispensaries undergoes double sample testing at a Government and

a Government Approved Laboratory before delivery to the MSD and MSO. However, beneficiaries can lodge their representation with the Additional Director, Medical Store Depot, CGHS, Gole Market, New Delhi, in case of any complaint about the quality of medicines supplied to them.

#### **Schemes for Basic Sports Facilities**

639. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for providing basic facilities for the development of sports in the country;

(b) the details of facilities being provided under these Schemes in the States; and

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has recently introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled 'Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan' (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner, over a period of 10 years, and access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels.

Under the scheme, each village panchayat and block panchayat would be given one-time capital grant of Rs. 1.00 lakh and Rs. 5.00 lakh, respectively for undertaking development of sports infrastructure viz., development of playfield, athletic track, fencing of playfield, goal posts, poles for net games, outdoor fitness equipment, etc. The State share in this will be 25% for normal states and 10% for special category States. In addition, while village panchayats would be given annual acquisition grant for procurement of sports equipment and annual operation grant to meet operational expenses of non-competition nature at Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 12,000 per month, respectively, block panchayats would be given Rs. 20,000, and Rs. 24,000 respectively. Each block panchayat would also be provided annual competition grant of Rs. 50,000 for holding block level competitions, and each district will be provided competition grant of

Rs. 3.00 lakh for holding district level competitions. Further, prize money would also be provided to the winners (first three positions) in block level and district level competitions.

(c) This Scheme is being implemented from the current financial year *i.e.*, 2008-09. Details of the funds sanctioned and released State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Scheme for Basic Sports Facilities*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Total Amount approved for sanction (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2819.77	14,65,38,500
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	98.50	73,87,500
3.	Assam	695.54	1,61,25,000
4.	Bihar	1043.66	5,21,83,000
5.	Chhattisgarh	1011.20	—
6.	Goa	35.19	—
7.	Gujarat	1420.11	—
8.	Haryana	650.71	3,25,35,500
9.	Himachal Pradesh	402.40	2,01,20,000
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	531.72	2,65,86,000
11.	Kerala	159.85	79,92,500
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2364.77	11,82,38,500
13.	Maharashtra	2754.98	—
14.	Manipur	108.24	—
15.	Mizoram	106.66	85,32,800
16.	Nagaland	147.90	—
17.	Orissa	734.20	3,67,10,000
18.	Punjab	1390.17	7,28,96,000

1	2	3	4
19.	Rajasthan	943.49	3,70,87,500
20.	Sikkim	75.32	6,00,000
21.	Tamil Nadu	1382.39	5,00,00,000
22.	Tripura	181.24	1,34,74,200
23.	Uttar Pradesh	5390.49	10,00,00,000
24.	Uttarakhand	889.40	3,00,00,000
25.	West Bengal	463.22	—
Total		25801.12	77,80,07,000

**Overlapping Work of Panchayati Raj Ministry**

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

(a) whether multiple agencies have been entrusted with the responsibility of implementing the anti-poverty programmes, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Rural Health Mission and National Horticulture Mission, which actually fall within the ambit of Panchayati Raj, which in turn has undermined the role of Panchayats;

(b) whether the Government proposes to merge all the above schemes into one to be entrusted to the Panchayati Raj for their better implementation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Guidelines for implementation of anti-poverty programmes, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Rural Health Mission and National Horticulture Mission are issued by respective Central Ministries and are followed by orders issued by the State Governments. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been actively pursuing the matter of according centrality to Panchayats in planning, implementation and monitoring of Centrality Sponsored Schemes, including the flagship schemes, with respective Central Ministries.

Anti-poverty programmes like the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) are being implemented through the Panchayats. Under the provisions of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), eligible households apply to the Gram Panchayat which, after due verification, issues the job card. Each district has to prepare a shelf of projects, which is done on the basis of priority assigned by the Gram Sabha. At least 50% of the works have to be allotted to Gram Panchayats for execution. Social audit has to be done by the Gram Sabha. Similarly, under the Indira Awas Yojana, Panchayats ensure that selection of beneficiaries is according to the prescribed criteria. Panchayats are responsible for stage wise payments to the beneficiaries.

In the case of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), District level and Block level core teams *inter-alia* with representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions have been formed to implement and supervise the activities under the Abhiyan at the respective levels. At the village level, Village Education Committees (VECs) implement the programme. It has been decided that the VEC would function under the overall supervision and control of the Standing Committee on Education under Gram Panchayat. State Governments are to ensure that all tiers of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are given roles of supervision over the elementary education programmes/SSA.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) guidelines, planning and implementation of the programme is mandated through Panchayats. The District Health Mission, which guides and manages all public health institutions in the district, sub-centres, Primary Health Centers (PHCs) and Community Health Centers (CHCs), is headed by the President of the Zilla Parishad. The Village Health and Sanitation Committee (VHSC) that is a sub-committee of the Gram Panchayat is responsible for village health planning. Likewise, Panchayats are involved in the supervision of Sub Health Centers and PHCs.

The National Horticulture Mission is implemented to provide holistic growth of agriculture sector covering fruits, vegetables, roots and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants and plantation crops by adopting area based differentiated strategies which includes research, technology promotion, extension post harvest management, processing and marketing, in consonance with comparative advantage of the State/region and its

diverse agro-climatic feature. Under the scheme guidelines, at the district level, Panchayat members and the District Planning Committee will be involved in implementing the programme depending on their expertise and available infrastructure.

(b) There is no proposal to merge all the above schemes into one to be entrusted to the Panchayati Raj at present. Each scheme is designed to serve its specific objective, but it is expected that the centrality of the Panchayats in each of such schemes is progressively ensured.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Assigning the functions with regard to planning, implementation and monitoring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Panchayats is a continuous process. It has been the endeavor of the government to assign centrality to Panchayats in the planning, implementation and monitoring of developmental programmes/schemes. Activity Mapping Matrices delineating functions to be assigned to each tier of Panchayats have been drawn for each of the above-mentioned schemes by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Respective line Ministries have been requested to issue necessary guidelines to the States to follow these activity mappings in the implementation of the programmes/schemes.

#### **Development of Mumbai as IFC**

641. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the status of implementation of the recommendations made by High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) for developing Mumbai as an International Financial Centre (IFC)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The report of the High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) for developing Mumbai as an International Financial Centre (IFC) was submitted on 10th February 2007. The report was circulated among all major Central Ministries/Departments, Chief Secretaries of State Governments, the regulations viz. RBI, PFRDA, SEBI, IRDA, and certain other non-government agencies/organizations. The report was also posted on the

Ministry's website seeking public comments through a dedicated e-mail-id. The feedback received on the report was processed by the government. The steps taken in the direction of implementing the recommendations of the report *inter alia* include the launch of exchange traded currency futures on the NSE, BSE and MCX, setting up of an internal working group on debt management and establishing a National Treasury Management Agency, processing the report of the said internal working group, continuous interaction with various regulators and Ministries/Departments of the government in taking forward the HR and other initiatives as well as steps required to carry out proposed changes in India's regulatory and financial architecture.

#### KBK Long Term Plan

642. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has submitted the project proposal for development of KBK region of Orissa under long term action plan during the Eleventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken by the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of funds provided for KBK plan during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Orissa has recently submitted the draft Eight-Year Special Plan for the KBK districts for the period 2009-17.

(b) The overall objectives of the draft Special Plan, as stated in the document, are to improve the productivity of the region, to reduce poverty, achieve development saturation in a sustainable manner, and to achieve regional balance, equity and social justice. The draft Special Plan has projected resource requirement of Rs. 4550 crore over a period of eight years. The draft Special Plan is under examination in the Planning Commission.

(c) The details of funds provided by the Planning Commission for the Special Plan for the KBK districts during the last three years and the current financial year are as under:

(Rupees in crore)

Year	Funds provided
2005-06	250.00
2006-07	250.00
2007-08	130.00*
2008-09	130.00*

\*Over and above, funds are also being provided for the KBK districts under the Districts Component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund.

#### Pending Proposals for New Medical Colleges

643. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present status of proposals for new medical colleges pending with the Government for clearance; and

(b) the time by which such proposals are likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Ministry has sent 68 proposals for establishment of new medical colleges to Medical Council of India (MCI) during the year 2009-10 for technical evaluation and recommendations as per the provisions of the MCI Regulations 1999. As per the time schedule prescribed in the MCI Regulations, 1999, the last date for grant of permission by Central Government is 15th July 2009 for the academic year 2009-10.

[Translation]

#### Funds Allocated to NRHM

644. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to State:

(a) whether the amount allocated by the Government to various States under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is inadequate to meet the increasing healthcare-needs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof? and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHAMI): (a) to (c) Under the National Rural Health Mission, the allocation for the health sector has been consistently increasing over the years. During FY 2005-06, NRHM was allocated an amount of Rs. 7189.20 crores, which was increased to Rs. 9,000 crores during FY 2006-07, Rs. 10890 during FY 2007-08 and Rs. 11930 crores during FY 2008-09. Almost the entire allocation to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is distributed to States on the basis of the predefined transparent formula. States utilize the allocation on basis of the approved Annual Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) and capacity to undertake comprehensive Health sector reforms with substantially enhanced funding under NRHM has been increasing in all the States.

[English]

#### Suggestions for Road Safety

645. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of suggestions have been received from Road Safety Forums/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for reducing accidents on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has also received representations from various quarters regarding closure of liquor shops along the National Highways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) This Department received suggestions from Dr. P. Pullarao, President, Road Safety Forum, Andhra Pradesh and other NGOs from time to time for reducing the number of accidents on National Highways. Dr. P. Pullarao has given suggestions for removal of toolbooths/liquor shops on national highways, efficient system of issuing drivers' licenses and construction of over-bridges at Gundugolanu etc. In the recently concluded 11th National Road Safety Council meeting, held in New Delhi on 28th January 2009, a

number of NGOs namely Dr. Maya Tandon, Chairperson, Dr. M.N. Tandon Memorial Charitable Trust, Jaipur, and Dr. Subroto Das, CEO, Lifeline Foundation suggested measures to reduce road accidents. The suggestions were largely on training of general public for helping road accident victims and training of operators of ambulances.

(c) to (e) In the year 2003, this Department had received a representation from Dr. P. Pullarao, President, Road Safety Forum, Andhra Pradesh, in which he had suggested that the Government of India and NHAI can insist that it would not construct roads if the respective Excise Policy is not changed and make it a condition that highways will be constructed only if liquor shops are removed along highways. The matter of removal of liquor shops along Highways was discussed in the 7th meeting of the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) held on 15.1.2004 in New Delhi and it was unanimously agreed that the licenses for liquor vends should not be given along National Highways. The Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Transport) of all States/UTs were requested on 26th October, 2007 to ensure that no license is issued to the liquor vendor along National Highways. The State Governments were also requested to review such cases where license had already been given for liquor vendors along National Highways for taking corrective action.

#### Unique Identification Number

646. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI RAMESH DUBE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a National Authority for providing Unique Identity numbers to its citizens as reported in the *Mail Today* dated 27 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof outlining the functions of the Authority;

(c) the role of State Governments envisaged in this regard;

(d) the time by which all the citizens of the country are likely to be issued this number;

(e) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof;

(f) whether Unique Identity Data base (UID) smart cards will be different from Multi Purpose Identity Cards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has been notified on 28th January, 2009 to generate and assign unique identity numbers to all Residents.

(b) UIDAI has been notified as an attached office under the aegis of Planning Commission with an initial core team of 115 officials and staff at Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and State/UT units of UIDAI. The UIDAI shall have the responsibility to lay down plans and policies to implement Unique Identification (UID) scheme, shall own and operate UID database and be responsible for its updation and maintenance on an ongoing basis.

(c) A governance structure needed to manage the UID system throughout its lifecycle is under the process of establishment. State Governments would be active partners in this activity.

(d) It is proposed to cover all the resident population in a phased manner starting with 18 years plus population using electoral roll data base and subsequently build other databases to cover population of below 18 years.

(e) The advantages envisaged as an outcome of the project are that the Unique ID will be helpful in better monitoring and targeting of social benefit and employment programmes and identifying synergies between various ID initiatives prevalent in the country.

(f) There is no proposal to issue UID-based smart cards.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Mis-Utilization of Funds by NGOs**

647. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) were blacklisted for mis-utilization of funds meant for Phase-III of the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP);

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. During the annual evaluation of 2007-08, 17 NGOs were discontinued on the basis of evaluation tool duly approved by the World Bank.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Accountability of IOA**

648. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the operation and financial autonomy enjoyed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA);

(b) whether there is any mechanism to ensure accountability on the part of IOA; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) Indian Olympic Association (IOA) is a society registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

Government provides assistance to IOA for participation of Indian contingent in multi-disciplines sports events such as Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games etc. under the scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations. Further, the Government also provides assistance when IOA bids for hosting multi-disciplinary international sports events in the country.

(b) and (c) The IOA is required to submit annual accounts and audited statement of accounts and utilization certificate for each grant released by the Ministry. After examination of the audited accounts, the Ministry releases the admissible balance amount. Further, the Comptroller & Auditor General of India also conducts the audit of IOA.

*[Translation]*

#### **Rebate to Industries in Himachal Pradesh**

649. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had given substantial rebate in income-tax, excise duty and capital subsidy upto 2013 for setting up of industries in Himachal Pradesh and later curtailed the said rebate and period;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for curtailment in the above rebate; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to restore the earlier rebates and period so as to encourage the setting up of industries in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Union Government has allowed deduction under section 80-IC of the Income-tax Act in respect of the profits or gains derived by assesseees from specified business of undertakings set up in specified areas in the State of Himachal Pradesh. This deduction is available to any undertaking or enterprise which has begun or begins to manufacture or produce specified articles or things or which manufactures or produces specified articles or things and undertakes substantial expansion during the period beginning on the 7th day of January, 2003 and ending before the 1st day of April, 2012, in specified areas in the State of Himachal Pradesh. There has been no curtailment of this deduction under the Income-tax Act.

Further in 2003, Union Government provided exemption from Central Excise Duty to new industrial units set up in the state of Himachal Pradesh or to industrial units undertaking substantial expansion in capacity. This exemption is available, to new units and existing units for a period of 10 years, from the date of commercial production. This period of 10 years has not been curtailed. However, Government has restricted the benefit of excise duty exemption to goods other than those in respect of which only peripheral activities like preservation during storage, cleaning operations, packing, repacking, labelling or re-labelling of containers, sorting, alteration of retail sale price etc taking place in that region.

(b) The rationale behind such a measure was to ensure that the benefit of the scheme is extended only to genuine industries activity taking place in the region so as to promote rapid industrial growth and generation of employment in Himachal Pradesh.

(c) In view of the (a) & (b) above Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Cess on Royalties on Tobacco COs**

650. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:  
DR. ARVIND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Tobacco companies are repatriating substantial amount of foreign exchange by way of royalty/technical fees to its foreign collaborators;

(b) if so, the details of repatriation made by each such tobacco company during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Union Government is consulted by the tobacco companies for making such payments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to levy some cess on the royalties or fees that are expatriated to foreign companies by the big tobacco companies to fund the Government programme on tobacco related diseases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Impact of Global Economic Crisis**

651. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the overall impact of the global economic crisis on Indian economy as to the closure of industrial units, loss of jobs, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the result of various measures taken by the Government to reduce the impact the said crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The global financial crisis has adversely affected certain segments of the Indian Economy, particularly, the industrial sector. The growth of the index of industrial production declined to 3.2 per cent and exports to 17.1 per cent in April-December, 2008-09 as compared 9.0 per cent and 23.5 per cent respectively in the corresponding period of the previous year (2007-08). At this juncture it is not be possible to assess the 'overall impact' on employment at the All India level since the latest available data on employment,

is based on the All India Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) for 2005-06.

The Government has taken several measures to instil confidence in the country, and to minimise the adverse impact. The stimulus package *inter alia* consist of RBI measures to enhance liquidity in the market and an economic package by the Government of India, mainly comprising expansionary plan expenditure and sector-specific measures for textiles, housing, infrastructure, automobiles, micro and small sector and exports. These measures are expected to contain the effects of the crisis.

#### **Funds for Supply of Ayurvedic Medicines**

652. SHRI ABU AYES MONDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allocated funds for supply of ayurvedic medicines in the ayurvedic dispensaries in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the 'Centrally Sponsored Schemes for AYUSH Dispensaries' of the Department of AYUSH, financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/U.Ts. for procurement and supply of essential drugs to State-run ISM&H Dispensaries (including Ayurvedic Dispensaries) and PHCs/CHCs where ISM&H facilities are available @ Rs. 25,000/- per unit. Under the Scheme, funds are also allocated to Ayurvedic Dispensaries of the States in addition to other ISM&H Dispensaries.

(b) During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 funds amounting to Rs. 49.50 crore and Rs. 53.50 crore respectively have been allocated for the Centrally Sponsored for ISM&H Dispensaries.

#### **Maintaining Financial Stability**

653. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI in its recent report has observed that there could be some downside risks in certain areas that might impinge on stability in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) In the Report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India 2007-08 released on 17.12.2008, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) indicated that while the financial system as a whole is quite robust, there is a need to be aware of certain downside risks in certain areas, which could have a bearing on the stability of the financial system in the near future, such as adverse international developments, moderation in growth and asset prices. The adverse global developments have led to moderation of growth in industrial and services sectors in the first half of 2008-09. The Report suggests that the banking sector in India continues to be healthy, sound and resilient. The profitability of the banking sector, which has shown remarkable resilience in the last few years, improved further during the year. The performance indicators such as operational efficiency, asset quality and soundness indicators of the Indian banking system currently compare well with the global standards. Although non-performing loans in absolute terms increased during the year, showing a reversal of the trend observed during the last few years, the gross Non-Performing Asset (NPA) ratio (gross NPAs as percentage of gross advances) continued to decline. As per assessment of RBI in its Report, Financial stability India has been achieved through perseverance of prudential policies which prevent institutions from excessive risk taking, and financial markets from becoming extremely volatile and turbulent. The policy stance of RBI is aimed at assuring financial stability, while maintaining the growth momentum at reasonable levels and giving a high priority to price stability. The Report indicates that RBI has kept a close vigil on the entire financial system to prevent pressures from building up in the financial markets, including liquidity enhancing measures to ease liquidity pressures. The Report and the details of measures taken by RBI to ensure uninterrupted and adequate credit to the productive sectors of the economy are available at RBI website [www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in) Government of India has also announced two stimulus packages for the economy on 7.12.2008 and 2.1.2009, details of which are available at its website [www.pib.nic.in](http://www.pib.nic.in).

#### **Manipulation of Share Price by Companies**

654. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:  
SHRI RAMESH DUBE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI initiated an in-depth investigation into the large scale price manipulation in the share price of some of the companies including Jai Corp. Ltd.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) remains vigilant at all times to detect any malpractices in the market and wherever warranted, takes action against the entities violating the provisions of SEBI Act, Rules and Regulations etc. SEBI and the Exchanges have also put in place surveillance systems to monitor trading activity of the listed companies. SEBI has informed that no formal investigation has been initiated by SEBI in the matter of manipulation in the share prices of Jai Corp. Ltd.

#### **Production and Cost of Newsprint**

655. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of newsprint has risen in the last one year;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase the production of the newsprint;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the publication of Small Scale newspapers are on the verge of closure due to high price of newsprint; and

(e) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the small newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Majority of Paper Mills manufacturing Paper, Paperboard and Newsprint are in private sector. Expansion-cum-diversification project to augment the capacity of Government run M/s. Hindustan Newsprint

Limited-a subsidiary of M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited, with swing facility to produce Newsprint or Writing Paper depending upon the remunerative sales realization and demand is under implementation.

(d) and (e) Representations against price rise and hardship being faced by the print media have been received. The Government has waived Customs Duty on import of newsprint to help the print media industry. Due to increase in newsprint price the Government enhanced the DAVP advertisement rates by 24% w.e.f. 1.9.2008. Further as per the Advertisement Policy effective from 2.10.2007, 15% of total display advertisements goes to Small Scale Newspapers.

#### **Private Investment in Education**

656. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Planning Commission was held recently to discuss the issue of private investment in the Education sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations of the Commission in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **New Nursing Colleges in Gujarat**

657. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up more Nursing Degree Colleges in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such colleges are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to set up a College of Nursing namely Centre of Excellence in Ahmedabad in the State of Gujarat during the XI plan period. The various programs will include courses in PH.D. in Nursing, M.Sc. (Nursing), Continuing Education (Training Cell), Nurse Practitioner Course and Speciality Courses. The timing of starting of the Colleges depends *inter-alia* on receiving of mandatory clearance and availability of land for the institute.

#### National Heritage Route

658. SHRI BHARATSINH MADHAVSINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development work on National

Heritage route passing through Anand District has commenced;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated and incurred including the status of the ongoing work; and

(c) the time by which the development work on this route is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of works commenced are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The development work under phase-I of Dandi Heritage Route is likely to be completed by March, 2010.

#### Statement

Sl.No	Name of Work	Date of sanction by Ministry	Name of Agency	Sanctioned Project Cost. (Rs. in Lakh)	Length (in km)	Date of Start	Anticipated Date of Completion	Up to date Progress	
								Physical (in % age)	Financial (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Strengthening in Km. 78/580 to 104/940 (Borivsi jn.-Borivsi-Anand-Borsad) of NH-228 (Dandi Route) in Gujarat	3.9.2008	M/s Kalathia Engineering & Construction Ltd. Above Kuh Automobile, Nilam Baug, Bhavnagar-364001	1428.91	26.36	29.11.2008	28.1.2010	60	337.00
2.	Strengthening in Km. 104/940 to 119/580 (Borsad-Kansari-Kansari Ras Approach road) including Borsad approach road, Napatalpad approach road, Dedarda approach road and Borsad by pass of NH-228 (Dandi Route) in Gujarat	12.11.2008	M/s. Bhagirath Associates, 72, Tribhuvan Industrial Estate, Opp. Triangle Water Tank, Near Kalthwada G.I.D.C., Kalthwada, Ahmedabad-382430 Gujarat (India)	1389.15	22.53	29.12.2008	28.3.2010	15	159.00
3.	Strengthening in Km. 119/580 to 125/150, Km. 128/730 to 129/930 and Ras bypass and Widening & Strengthening in Km. 125/150 to 128/730 (Ras-Amberavpur-Kankapura) of NH-228 (Dandi route) in Gujarat	12.11.2008	M/s. Bhagirath Associates, 72, Tribhuvan Industrial Estate, Opp. Triangle Water Tank, Near Kalthwada G.I.D.C., Kalthwada, Ahmedabad-382430 Gujarat (India)	576.3	12.36	15.12.2008	14.9.2009	15	0.00

[*Translation*]

**Strike by Transport Operators**

659. SHRI SURAJ SINGH:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether the transport operators had gone on a strike in the country recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the demands set forth by the operators; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Transporters under the banner of All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) went on a nationwide strike w.e.f 5.1.09 to 12.1.09. The demands of the transporters include reduction of diesel prices, reduction in tyre prices, moratorium on instalments and waiver of interest on truck finance for atleast six months, moratorium on toll for six months, seamless movement of all vehicles without state/national permit and related taxes, abolition of service tax, exemption of limit for paying cash to the transporters, non deduction of tax (TDS) from payment freight etc.

(c) Consequent upon the signing of an agreement with this Department, AIMTC withdrew their strike unconditionally effective from the evening of 12.1.09. As per the agreement, the Government has set up a Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (Road Transport & Highways) to look into the issues relating to National Permit system and rationalization of taxes on motor vehicles.

[*English*]

**Borrowing Limits of States**

660. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments have approached the Union Government for increasing their borrowing limits in the current fiscal year 2008-09;

(b) if so, the names of States and the details of requests made by them in this regard;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala had also requested for sanction to borrow Rs. 1000 crore from the market for infrastructure development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Some State Governments like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand have requested the Government of India for increase in their borrowing limits in the current financial year (2008-09).

As a part of the second economic stimulus package announced by the Government, the States have been allowed to raise in the current financial year additional market borrowings of 0.5% of their Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), amounting to about Rs. 30,000 crore, for capital expenditures.

(c) and (d) State Government of Kerala had requested for additional market borrowing of Rs. 1000 crore for expenditure on infrastructure development in agriculture, industry and allied sectors. However, based on 0.5% of GSDP, Kerala has been allowed additional market borrowing of Rs. 800.00 crore in 2008-09 in addition to the borrowing approved by the Planning Commission for the State's annual plan for the current financial year.

**Chandrayaan Mission**

661. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:  
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chandrayaan mission is progressing as per schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the data received since the launch of Chandrayaan-I; and

(c) the details of the areas where these data are proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After the launch of the spacecraft on 22nd October 2008, Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft has been successfully placed in the Moon's orbit on 8th November 2008. Moon Impact Probe (MIP) impacted on the surface of the Moon at a pre-selected location near the South Polar Region on 14th November 2008. MIP has taken close-up pictures of the lunar surface where it impacted. All the Scientific instruments onboard Chandrayaan-1 are functioning satisfactorily and are sending data on the Moon's surface characteristics and mineral composition.

(c) The data will enable preparation of a detailed map of the moon in terms of topography, mineral and chemical composition, which will enhance our understanding of lunar evolution.

*[Translation]*

#### Segregation of Coal at Coal Washeries

662. SHRI D. P. SAROJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a two-way conveyer belt in order to segregate the 'utility coal' and the 'rejected coal' in various washeries of Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) if so, the details alongwith the current status; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) Presently there is no such proposal to set up two-way conveyer belt in order to segregate the 'utility coal' and the 'rejected coal' in various washeries of Coal India Limited (CIL). However, all the washeries operating under CIL are having separate handling facility for "Utility Coal & Rejected Coal" through separate belt conveyors.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above.

*[English]*

#### Development of NH-47

663. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA:  
DR. K.S. MANOJ:

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

(a) whether upgradation work of NH-47 has started;

(b) if so, the details thereof including widening of bridges across the river Pazhayar in Kerala;

(c) the present status of the work undertaken on this National Highway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Total length of National Highway No. 47 is 655 km, out of which 52 km has already been four laned. Four laning is under progress in a length of 157 km. Four laning of 364 km. is at bidding stage and feasibility study for the balance length of 82 km has been completed. The Pazhayar river is not crossing NH-47 in Kerala.

*[Translation]*

#### Rubberised Roads

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

(a) the current status of the ongoing research in connection with the construction of rubberised roads in the country alongwith funds earmarked and spent so far;

(b) whether the government proposes to construct such roads in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Ministry has no on-going Research Scheme on construction of rubberized roads in

the Country. However, currently Ministry's Research Scheme "R-85-Investigation of the field performance of the Bituminous Mixes with Modified Binders" is in progress in the State of Karnataka. This Research Scheme includes the performance evaluation of various bituminous mixes like bituminous mixes with Crumb Rubber Modified Bitumen (CRMB) and Polymer Modified Bitumen (PMB) etc. The sanctioned cost of this Research Scheme is Rs. 37.5 lakh. The expenditure incurred so far by the Ministry on this Research Scheme is Rs. 30 lakh.

(b) and (c) Guidelines have been issued providing for the use of bitumen with modified binders like CRMB, PMB etc. in the top wearing course on the National Highways of the Country, and these are being provided in the Country on National Highways having heavy traffic.

*[English]*

#### Insurance Rates by IRDA

665. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) brings out data regarding rates of Insurance Premium of insurance companies;

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

(c) the total number of people insured by conventional life insurance business and Unit Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs), company-wise;

(d) whether the insurance policies sold in India have any sort of guarantee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMANTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has reported the total number of people insured by conventional life insurance business and Unit Linked Insurance Plans, company-wise. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) IRDA has further informed that there are two types of "Unit Linked" products, viz. with guarantees and without guarantees. Out of about 253 unit linked products currently in the market, guarantees are available only in respect of about 60 products.

Types of guarantees offered for unit linked products are as follows:

- Return of a proportion of premiums paid
- Guaranteed loyalty addition
- Guaranteed "Net Asset Value" of the unit
- In the form of minimum rate of return.

In case of non-linked products, surrender and death maturity benefits are guaranteed and guarantees are met in the traditional way.

#### Statement

##### *Conventional and Unit linked (No. of Policies\* and Lives Covered)*

Sl.No.	Insurer's Name	2007-08 Individual (policies)		2007-08 Group (lives)	
		Conventional	ULIP	Conventional	ULIP
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	155358	3588988	1942989	56336
2.	Birla Sun Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	157579	530732	159648	1107
3.	HDFC Standard Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	318721	629809	167042	126572

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	874232	2038878	592400	474887
5.	ING Vysya Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	96976	263093	120214	4566
6.	Max New York Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	321901	537574	482236	7266
7.	Met Life India Insurance Co. Pvt. Ltd.	26596	208556	201766	29192
8.	Kotak Mahindra Old Mutual Life Insurance Ltd.	50272	263218	560139	87713
9.	SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	135410	790119	1134290	2281
10.	Tata AIG Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	258249	238700	543033	39894
11.	Reliance Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	72056	1001659	592755	156527
12.	Aviva Life Insurance Co. India Pvt. Ltd.	37587	352481	652203	17057
13.	Sahara India Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	48472	60612	319	52
14.	Shriram Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	11454	97675	15429	0
15.	Bharti AXA Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	11638	62436	9012	0
16.	Future Generali India Life Insurance Co.Ltd.	0	0	0	0
17.	IDBI Fortis Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	146	2606	0	0
18.	Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	0	0	0	0
19.	Aegon Religare Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	0	0	0	0
20.	DLF Pramerica Life Insurance Co. Ltd.	0	0	0	0
<b>Private Total</b>		<b>2576647</b>	<b>10667136</b>	<b>7173475</b>	<b>1003250</b>
21.	Life Insurance Corporation of India	17980610	19609385	26708907	29234
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>20557257</b>	<b>30276521</b>	<b>33882382</b>	<b>1032474</b>

\*In case of Individual Policies the details of no. of lives covered is presently not captured.

**Norms to Regulate/Control the  
Private Nursing Homes**

666. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any norms to regulate/control the private nursing homes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has already introduced a Bill namely "Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Bill, 2007" in Parliament. The Bill is aimed to provide for the registration and regulation of clinical establishments in the country with a view to prescribe minimum standards of facilities and services which may be provided by them.

**Decline in Foreign Investments**

667. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:  
SHRI KIREN RIJJU:

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

(a) whether there has been a sizeable decline in the investments made by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs) in the country during the last year owing to global recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the investments made by the NRIs, PIOs and OCBs in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to encourage NRIs, PIOs and OCBs to make more investments in the country?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No, Sir. There has been no decline in the investment due to global recession during 2008 as compared to 2007.

(b) and (c) The data on investment of NRIs, PIOs and OCBs are not centrally maintained. The State-wise break-up for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Foreign Technology Cases (FTCs) during last three calendar years from 2006 to 2008 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) To facilitate greater investment by the Overseas Indians, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has established the Overseas Indian Facilitation Center (OIFC) as a not-for-profit trust in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). OIFC organizes the investor meets in India and abroad to attract investment from overseas Indians.

**Statement**

*Calendar Year-wise break up for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) & Foreign Technology Cases (FTCs) approved by Government during January 2006 to September 2008 Country NRI*

(Amount in million)

Sl.No.	State	2006			2007			2008			Total		
		January-December			January-December			January-September			FIN	FDI in Rs.	FDI in US\$
		FIN	FDI in Rs.	FDI in US\$	FIN	FDI in Rs.	FDI in US\$	FIN	FDI in Rs.	FDI in US\$			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	156.90	3.39	2	199.64	4.90	5	121.16	3.07	10	477.70	11.36
2.	Gujarat	1	5.02	0.11	0	0.00	0.00	1	16.80	0.40	2	21.82	0.51
3.	Haryana	1	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.00	0.00
4.	Karnataka	2	33,750.50	750.86	1	3.29	0.07	3	17.77	0.43	6	33,771.55	751.36
5.	Kerala	1	0.92	0.02	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	0.92	0.02
6.	Maharashtra	7	255.97	5.76	4	103.20	2.43	0	0.00	0.00	11	359.17	8.19
7.	Tamil Nadu	3	50.75	1.14	2	280.00	7.10	1	0.00	0.00	6	330.75	8.24
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1.80	0.04	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	1	1.80	0.04
9.	West Bengal	1	9.00	0.20	0	0.00	0.00	1	203.11	5.03	2	212.11	5.24
10.	Delhi	9	271.66	6.10	2	0.00	0.00	2	44.11	1.12	13	315.77	7.22
11.	Goa	1	1.25	0.03	0	0.00	0.00	1	300.00	7.01	2	301.25	7.03
12.	State not indicated	0	0.00	0.00	3	72.00	1.64	0	0.00	0.00	3	72.00	1.64
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>34,503.77</b>	<b>767.66</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>658.13</b>	<b>16.14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>782.94</b>	<b>17.06</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>35,864.84</b>	<b>800.86</b>

### **Voluntary Relocation of Human Settlements**

668. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a project proposal for voluntary relocation of human settlements in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary from the State Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the current status of the project alongwith the details of the amount sanctioned and released so far, and

(d) the number of tribal and non-tribal families identified so far to be relocated alongwith the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had received a project proposal from Government of Kerala for the voluntary relocation of 983 families (593 tribal and 390 non-tribal families) in Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary at a cost of Rs. 85.00 crores. The Ministry has requested Government of Kerala to modify/recast the proposal in tune with the revised guidelines of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' for further consideration of the proposal subject to the availability of funds and fulfillment of necessary procedural requirements. The response from the State Government is awaited.

### **Plastic Waste Management**

669. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to deal with Plastic waste management in the country;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government for disposal of plastic waste in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government has notified Plastics

Manufacture, Sale and Usage Rules, 1999 and amended these in 2003 to regulate the use and manufacture of plastic carry bags, containers and recycling of plastic wastes. These have provisions to regulate the use, collection, segregation, transportation, and disposal of plastic wastes. The manufacturing and recycling of plastic wastes is required to be undertaken by registered units only. As per the provisions of these Rules, carry bags and containers made of virgin plastic shall be in natural shade or white. Carry bags and containers made of recycled plastic and used for purpose other than storing and packaging foodstuffs shall be manufactured using pigments colourants as per IS:9833:1981 entitled "List of pigments and colourants for use in plastic in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water". The recycling of the plastics shall be undertaken strictly in accordance with IS 14534: 1998 entitled "The Guidelines for Recycling of Plastics".

### **IT Exemption**

670. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the status of State Maritime Boards has been excluded from the definition of "Local Authority" under the Finance Act, 2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some of the States have made representations to the Union Government for waiving of income tax from the State Maritime Boards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Vide Finance Act, 2002, definition of "local authority" under clause (20) of section 10 was made restrictive so as to include Panchayats, Municipalities, Municipal Committee and District Boards and Cantonment Boards only. This amendment was made effective from 1st April, 2003. Entities like State Maritime Boards thus went outside the scope of exemption available under that section.

(b) The above amendment was based on the recommendation of Advisory Group on Tax Policy and Tax Administration for the Tenth Plan which had

suggested deletion of exemption provided under section 10(20) of the Income-tax. Act. The restrictive definition was adopted considering the need to phase out exemptions consistent with a moderate tax regime. However, exemption in the case of Panchayats, Municipalities, Municipal Committee etc. was retained as they are local self-government institutions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The request was examined and not found feasible.

#### **Construction of Flyovers on National Highways**

671. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flyovers constructed/proposed to be constructed on National Highways in the country, State-wise and stretch-wise including Punjab;

(b) whether the construction of flyovers at Khanna in Punjab has not commenced so far;

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

(d) the time by which the work on these flyovers are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The State-wise and stretch-wise details of flyovers constructed and proposed to be constructed on National Highways in the country are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II respectively.

(b) to (d) Flyovers at Khanna, in Punjab form part of the Project for 6-laning of Panipat to Jalandhar section of NH-1 on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-V. The six laning of Panipat-Jalandhar section of NH-1 including construction of flyovers at Km. 272.530, Km. 273.05 and Km. 274.00 at Khanna has been awarded and the work is likely to be started by March 2009 with completion period of 30 months.

#### **Statement I**

*State-wise and stretch-wise details of flyovers constructed (as on 31.01.2009)*

Sl.No.	Name of State	NH No.	Stretch
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Km 297/094, Ongole (AP)
		5	Km. 20.00 (Anandapuram)
		5	Km. 30.00 (Rajapulova Junction)
		5	Km. 99/1 (Srikakulam)
		7	Over Bridge at Km. 464.6
2.	Assam	37	Km. 154.341
3.	Bihar	2	Km. 162 (Pkg. IV D)
		2	Km. 143
		2	Km. 69 Mohania
		2	Km. 87 (Pkg IV B)

1	2	3	4
		2	Km. 211.5 (Sheraghati)
		2	Km. 222 (pkg V A) Dhobi
		2	Km. 112 Fly Over (Tarachandi)
		2	Km. 119 Lerua
		2	Km. 126 (pkg IV C)
4.	Delhi	8	RTT-Palam junction (Km. 13.943 to Km. 15.548)
		8	Mahipalpur & IGI Junction (Km. 18.200 to Km. 19.000)
		8	Rajokri Junction (Km. 22.200)
5.	Haryana	22 & 21A	Baldevnagar
		8	Shankar Chowk/Udyog Vihar Junction (Km. 24.840)
		8	IFFCO Chowk Junction (Km. 28.200)
		8	South City (Km. 29.697)
		8	Sector 31 (Km. 30.950)
		8	Jharsa (Km. 32.110)
		8	Rajiv Chowk Junction (Km. 33.200)
6.	Jharkhand	2	Km. 283.2 (Barhi), Km. 284
		2	Km. 354.35 Dumri
7.	Karnataka	4	201+073
		4	219+150 Sirigere Junction
		4	228+650 Baramsagara Bypass
		4	273+665 Shimoga Junction
		4	277+615 Tungabhadra Bypass
		4	Shiggaon Flyover Km. 363.574
		4	Tadas GS Km. 385.641
		4	Kundgol VC Km. 401.000
		4	259+640 Hadadi Junction
		4	Dharwad Flyover Km. 433.000
		4	MK Hubli Km. 474.000
		4	Km. 192.48 (Chitradurga)

1	2	3	4
8.	Maharashtra	17	ROB at D point
		6	Km. 97.500 (Telegaon Flyover)
9.	Orissa	5	Ch. 413.468 at Baramunda Bus Terminal in Bhubaneswar city (FL-3)
		5	Ch. 417.745 at Jaydev vihar in Bhubaneswar city (FL-5)
		5	Ch. 78.65 at Kuakhia (FL-1)
		5	Ch. 90.60 at Panikoili (FL-2)
		5	Ch. 124.58 at Bhadrak (FL-3)
		5	Ch. 147.45 at Jamijhadi (FL-4)
		5	Ch. 188.05 at Kuruda (FL-5)
		5	Ch. 193.55 at Remuna (FL-6)0
		60	Balasore Km. 0.00
		5	Km. 233.00 to Km. 284.00
10.	Punjab	22 & 21	Zirakpur
11.	Rajasthan	8	Km. 220.00
		11	Km. 34.100
		8	Km. 273.5
		8	Km. 275.885
		8	Km. 294.200
		8	Km. 329.491
		8	Km. 363.885
		8	Km 21+010 Chittorgarh bypass
12.	Tamil Nadu	5	Km 11/479 [Madhavan (TN)]
		4	Poonamalee (Grade separator at Km. 18/105 of NH-4)
		4 & 45	Adyar Km. 9/140
		4 & 45	Porur Bridge Km. 15/400
		4 & 45	Cooum Km. 19/600
		205	Padi Km. 81/5
		45	Kathipara Km. 12/3

1	2	3	4
		45	Airport (Flyover) Km. 17/3
		7	Km. 106
		7	Km. 116.9
		7	Km. 134.00
		7	Km. 137.00
		7	Km. 142.00
		45B	Between Km. 24 and 28.1 of proposed Bypass Flyover in Viralimalai Bypass
		45B	Between Km. 96.9 and 102.3 of proposed Bypass flyover in Melur Bypass (across Melur Thirupattur road) & Flyover in Melur Bypass (across Melur Sivagangai road)
		66	Km. 36/8 of NH-66 Tindivanam (Flyover at Tindivanam proposed bypass alignment)
		45	Km. 265/2 Elambalur (Clover leaf flyover at Perambalur Four Road)
		45	Km. 266/6 Thoramangalam (Grade separator at Thoramangalam)
13.	Uttar Pradesh	2	Km. 0-VRM bypass Mohan Sarai
		2	Km. 200.653 (pkg I A)
		2	Km. 239.441 (Firozabad)
		2	Km. 30 of VRM bypass
		2	Km. 221.789 (Tundia)
		2	Km. 492 (Kanpur)
		2	Km. 11 (Chakeri)
		2	Km. 160.161 Allahabad bypass Kokhoraj
		2	Km. 185.544 Allahabad bypass Nawabganj
		2	Km. 196.805 Allahabad bypass Shivgadh
		2	Ramadevi flyover
		2	Km. 216.816 Bharatpur Allahabad bypass
		2	Km. 240.575 ROB cum Grade Seaprator (Handia)
		24	Km. 58, Km. 86, Km. 105, 149

1	2	3	4
		2	Km. 218.341 (Tundla)
		2	Km. 264.500 (Shikohabad)
		2	Km. 320 (Etawah)
		2	Km. 478 (Kanpur)
14.	West Bengal	2	Arambagh Grade Separator at Km. 562+725
		2	Overpass at Km. 575+710
		2	Palsit Interchange (across Flyover) at Km. 581+157.285
		2	Flyover at Km. 588+400
		2	Flyover at Km. 595+300
		2	Flyover at Km. 602+522
		2	Flyover at Km. 614+05
		2	Across Flyover at Km. 628+700
		2	Flyover at Km. 635+000
		6	At Km. 21.980
		6	At Km. 24.60
		60	Belda town Km. 80.00

**Statement II**

*State-wise and stretch-wise details of flyovers under construction/proposed to be constructed (as on 31.01.2009)*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	NH No.	Stretch	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	Km. 196.10	In progress
		7	Over Bridge at Km. 471.7	
		7	Over Bridge at Km. 21.56	
2.	Assam	31	Km. 1125.00	Under implementation
		37	Km. 164.00	
		37	Km. 171	
3.	Bihar	28	2 Nos. at Km. 453.6 & Km. 519.66	In progress
		57	3 Nos. at Km. 82.390, 62.796, 5.980, 83.840	

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Delhi	24	Km. 2.4	In progress
		24	Km. 7.2 (Ghazipur Xing)	
		10	Km. 18.96 to Km. 19.98 (Najafgarh & Kirari Mor Intersection)	
5.	Gujarat	6 & SH 80	Near Nirjhar Km. 102+038	Under implementation
		6 & SH 173	At Songadh Town Km. 84+368	
		6 & SH 5	At Bajipur Km. 50+780	
		6 & SH 187	At Valod Junction Km. 36+855	
		6 & SH 88 & SH 165	At Bardoli junction Km. 34+927	
		Realigned NH 6 & SH 6	At Sachin Km. 11+600	
		Realigned NH 6 & SH 6	At Un Junction Km. 12+200	
		Realigned NH 6 & SH 66	At Magdalla Km. 25+500	
		Realigned NH 6 & SH 168	At Ichhapore junction Km. 12+612	
		8C	Km. 20/800 near Adalaj in Gandhinagar city	In progress
		8C	Km. 39/0 at Iscon Junction	Under implementation
		8	Jetpur to Gondal and Rajkot Bypass Section Km. 117.00 to Km. 143.00 and Km.	In progress
6.	Haryana	22	Km. 46.400 (Majri Chowk) Km. 47.746 and Km. 49.427	In progress
		10	Km. 33.445, Km. 38.44, Km. 55.47, Km. 76.082 and Km. 85.387	
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	1A	4 laning of Km. 286.0 to Km. 303.8 Hyderpora	In progress
		1A	4 laning of Km. 0.0 to Km. 15.00 Kunjwani	
8.	Jharkhand	33	Integrated ROB cum Flyover cum HL Bridge at Km. 130-131 at Namkum	In progress
9.	Karnataka	4	66.34 Batawadi	In progress

1	2	3	4	5
		4	62.76 Kyatasandra	
		4	192.48 Chitradurga	
		4	197.315 Chitradurga	
		4	199.218 Chitradurga	
		4	199.976 Chitradurga	
		4	262.253 Shamanur	
		4	295 Renabennur Bypass	
		4	300.84 Haligere Road	
		4	256.732 Davangere Bypass	
		7	Elevated Highway From Km. 8/765 to Km. 18/750	
		7	Bommasandra Flyover at Km. 21/175 to 22/050	
		7	Chandapura Flyover at Km. 23/700 to 24/640	In Progress
		7	Attibele Flyover at Km. 31/640 to 32/453	
		7	Surathkal	
		7	Kulur	
		7	Kottara Chowki	
		7	Kuntikan	
		7	Nantoor	
		7	Maroli	
		7	BC Road	
		4	Access controlled highway from Km. 10/15 to Km. 14/50 ch 15/835	
		4	Km. 18/010	
		4	Km. 20/300	
		4	Km. 22/050	
		4	Km. 23/820	
		4	Km. 26/680	
		4	Km. 27/833	

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Kerala	47	Puthur Km. 272.323	In progress
		47	Thrissur Bypass Km. 277.190	
		47	Kodakara Km. 294.004	
		47	Potta Km. 299.489	
		47	Chalakyudy Km. 303.000	
		47	Aluva Km. 330.940	
11.	Madhya Pradesh	76	Parora flyover	In progress
		76	Kaulbara	
		3	Mhow bypass Ch. 12+830 (Overpass)	
		3	Mhow bypass Ch. 13+230 (Overpass)	
		3	Mhow bypass Ch. 59+740 (Overpass)	
		3	4 Flyover in proposed Gwalior bypass	
		75	8 Flyover at Km. 32.83, 38.48, 43.37, 47.44, 54.46, 65.18, 75.84 & 90.87 in Gwalior-Jhansi	
		86	Flyover at Sagar bypass at Ch. 202.280 crossing Kanpur road	
		26	Flyover at crossing of NH-26 and NH-12 at Rajmarg Chauraha (Km. 296.200)	
		26	Chindwara Flyover at Km. 336.564	
		26	Jabalpur Flyover at Km. 343.470	
		26	Flyover at Km. 405.770	
		7	Flyover at Km. 606.159 (Nagpur-Jabalpur section)	
12.	Maharashtra	7	8 Flyovers proposed in the project for four laning from MP/Maharashtra border to Nagpur section	In progress
		6	Km. 48.800 (Kondhali flyover)	Under implementation
		6	Km. 120.500 (Mozari flyover), Km. 140.300 (Morshi junction flyover)	
		3	SH 4 junction (Chopada Phata-Km. 199/675)	

1	2	3	4	5
		3	SH 4 junction (Km. 201/180)	
		3	MDR-34 junction (Shirpur Phata-Km. 203/700)	
		3	SH 6 junction (Nardana bypas-Km. 219/450)	
		3	MSH-1 Junction (Songir phata-Km. 242/300)	
		3	Devpur junction (Km. 257/400)	
		3	NH 6 junction (Parola phata Km. 262/700)	
		3	Malegaon (Manmad junction-Km. 315.000)	
		3	Pimpalgaon (Km. 386)	
		3	Pimpalgaon (Onion Mandi Km. 389/200)	
		3	Ozar (HAL Km. 396/600)	
		3	Nashik city (Km. 413/359 to Km. 418/671)	
		3	Pathrdi junction (Km. 422/00)	
		3	Garware junction (Km. 424/00)	
		3	Chaufulla junction (Km. 55/00)	
		3	Daund Baramati cross Road (Km. 73/800)	
13.	Orissa	5	One flyover between Km. 233.00 to Km. 284	In progress
14.	Punjab	21	Km. 41.650 (Roppar) & Km. 71.00 (Kiratpur)	
		1	Km. 463.350	In progress
		1A	Chakki flyover Km. 110.6	
		1A	Mukerian flyover Km. 72.216	
		21	Km. 41.650 (Roppar) & Km. 71.00 (Kiratpur)	
		1	Km. 272.530	Under implementation
		1	Km. 273.050	
		1	Km. 274.000	

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Rajasthan	76	MP/Raj Border Km. 476	In progress
		76	MP/Raj Border Km. 478	
		76	MP/Raj Border Km. 473	
		76	MP/Raj Border Km. 431	
		76	MP/Raj Border to Kota Km. 411	
		76	Kota to Chittorgarh Km. 301	
		76	Chittorgarh Bypass Km. 6.63	
		76	Chittorgarh Bypass Km. 5.16	
		76	Chittorgarh Bypass Km. 0.0	
		76	Swaroopganj to Bekariya Km. 0.406	
		76	Swaroopganj to Bekariya Km. 0+000	
		76	Gogunda to Udaipur Km. 95.080	
		76	Kota Bypass Km. 25.528	
		76	Kota Bypass Km. 20.895	
		76	Kota Bypass Km. 16.443	
		76	Kota Bypass Km. 13.11	
		14	Palanpur to Swaroopganj Section Km. 330.436	
		14	Palanpur to Swaroopganj Section Km. 296.000	
		14	Palanpur to Swaroopganj Section Km. 282.978	
		11	Over Bridge (Flyover) at Mahua Bypass crossing Bhiwadi-Ahwar- Karauli Highway	
		11A	Dausa bypass with crossing of NH-11A	
		76, 79	Km. 21+010	
		77, 79	Km. 23+420	
		11	Over Bridge (Flyover) at Mahua bypass crossing Bhiwadi-Ahwar- Karauli highway	

1	2	3	4	5
		11A	Dausa bypass with crossing of NH-11A	
		3	Flyover in Km. 53 in Dholpur town	
		3	Flyover at Gulab Bagh crossing at Km. 54.520 Dholpur town	
16.	Tamil Nadu	4	Maduravoyal	In progress
		4	Ambattur	
		4	Koyambedu	
		7	Mudaliapatti	
		7	Villipuram	
		7	Pugalur	
		7	Velur Bypass	
		7	Karur Km. 298.275	
		7	Dindigul Junction (at NH-45) Km. 375	
		7	Dindigul (at NH-209) Km. 377	
		7	Dindigul (at NH-36) Km. 380	
		7	Mettur gate Km. 394.850	
		47	Magudanchavadi Km. 20.538	
		47	Vaigundham Km. 23.150	
		7	Km. 188.850	
		7	Km. 207.600	
		7	Km. 211.825	
		7	Km. 228.600	
		7	Crossing of Tiruchandur Road & Tutucorin Km. 159.800	
		45B	Between Km. 0 and 5.1 of proposed Bypass, Flyover in Trichy Bypass (Trichirappalli city road)	
		45B	Between Km. 75.6 and 79.2 of proposed Bypass, Flyover in Kottampatti Bypass	

1	2	3	4	5
		45	Km. 3 of proposed Bypass ROB in proposed Trichirappalli Bypass alignment	
		45	Km. 308/0 S. Kannanur (Grade separator at Samayapuram bypas alignment)	
		45 & 67	Km. 319/4 of NH-45 & Km 135/8 of NH-67 Tharanallur (flyover at Thanjavur road junction in existing Trichy bypass)	
		45 & 210	Km. 323/100 of NH-45 & Km 0/0 of NH 210 Kottappattu (Flyover at Pudukkottai road junction in existing Trichy Bypass)	
		45	Km. 156/0 Mundiambakkam ROB	
		45	New Bypass alignment, Villupuram Bypass	
		45	New Bypass alignment, Ulundurpet Bypass	
		45	Km. 165/4 Kandambakkam ROB	
17.	Uttarakhand	72	Km. 175 at Lacchiwala	In progress
18.	Uttar Pradesh	26	Flyover at Km. 13.860	In progress
		3	5 flyovers proposed in Agra bypass project	
		24	Km. 58, Km. 86, Km. 105, 149	
		25	Jajmau Bridge to Ramadevi Crossing	
		25	Orai-Jhansi Section (ROBs at Km. 217, 121.53, 0)	
		25	Jhansi Bypass (03 Nos. at Km. 96.320, 97.083 and 101.401)	
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 449 to Km. 422	
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 444	
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 442	
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 435	

1	2	3	4	5
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 425	
		2	Baran to Orai Km. 422	
		28	8.25, 122.975, 126.325, 126.875, 130.425, 50 and 5.40 in Ayodhya bypass, 196.615, 203.764, 233.726	
		2	Km. 160.161 Grade Separator (Kokhoraj)	
		2	Km. 185.544 Flyover (Nawabganj)	
		2	Km. 188.749 ROB (Kanjia & Madhapur)	
		2	Km. 196.605 Flyover (Shivgadh)	
		2	Km. 199.810 ROB (Abdalpur-Tulapur)	
		2	Km. 216.816 Flyover (Bharatpur)	
		2	Km. 240.575 ROB cum Grade Separator (Handia)	
		58	Km. 70.95	
		24A	Km. 8.44 to 9.10	
19.	West Bengal	41	Mecheda Flyover (3/4) UP Lane	In progress
		41	Mecheda Flyover (3/4) Down Lane	
		41	02 Nos. Km. 445.2 & 472.64	

#### Employees of IDBI

672. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) is retaining its Development Financial Institution (DFI) status as a Public Sector Bank and also protecting service conditions of its erstwhile employees as enshrined in Clause 5(1) of the IDBI Repeal Act, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the transfer of erstwhile IDBI employees from DFI segment to Retail Banking operations has violated the provisions of the existing Repeal Act; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. IDBI Bank Ltd. (formerly known as Industrial Development Bank of India Ltd.) continues to perform its development banking functions in addition to its commercial banking activities. Further, IDBI Bank Ltd. is also adhering to the provisions of Section 5(1) of IDBI Repeal Act, 2003 by protecting the conditions of service of its eligible officers and employees with regard to tenure; remuneration; obligations; rights and privileges as to leave, leave fare concession, welfare schemes, medical benefits schemes, insurance, provident fund, other funds, retirement, voluntary retirement, gratuity and other benefits; etc., as provided in the Act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### **Response of G-8 Countries to Major Challenges**

673. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G-8 nations have decided to work with some developing countries, including India, for a joint response to major challenges facing the world economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features;

(c) the response of the Indian government thereto; and

(d) the benefits that are likely to accrue to India as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) to (d) The current challenges faced by global economy are being addressed by the international community in several international fora including multilateral financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF, the meeting of G-20 leaders, the G-7 Finance Ministers' meeting and in regional institutions.

### **Advertisement by Banks**

674. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector Banks give advertisements in certain magazines/periodicals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria adopted by banks including the Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Bank of Baroda for the release of advertisements in magazines and the selection of magazines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) In order to derive maximum publicity and mileage, the Public Sector Banks give advertisements in magazines/periodicals from time to time based on broad guidelines enumerated in publicity policy of the banks approved by their respective Boards.

The criteria adopted by the banks, including Union Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Bank of Baroda, for release of advertisement is based on aspects like the subject matter of the advertisement, the content, readership, publicity mileage and reach. In addition the advertisement budget and advertisement tariff form the criteria for release of advertisement in magazines and selection thereof.

### **Production of Antigens**

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

(a) whether the Government has permitted the production of Antigens in Public Sector Units in the State of Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase and improve the quality of Antigens in such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The manufacturing licenses of the three Public Sector vaccine Institutes namely, the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu and the BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai, Tamil Nadu were suspended by the Drugs Controller General of India [DCG(I)] in January, 2008 since they were not found in compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as provided under Schedule M of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945. This has not been revoked till date.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### **Medical Facilities to Banks Employees**

676. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides medical facilities to the employees of Public Sector Banks including employees of Central Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also provides medical facilities to the retired employees of Banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to provide medical facilities to the such retired Bank employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The employees of Public Sector Banks including Central Bank of India are governed by the service conditions as per the industry level Bipartite Settlements/Officers Service Regulations, which, *inter-alia*, relate to medical facilities.

At present Central Bank of India is providing reimbursement of medical expenses (on declaration basis) at the rate of Rs. 1,500/-, 3,750/- and Rs. 5,000/- p.a. to award staff, Junior and Middle Management grade and Senior Management & Executive grades, respectively. Besides this, hospitalization charges are reimbursed to the extent of 100% in the case of employees and 75% for their dependent family members, subject to limits prescribed in the Bipartite Settlement/Officers Service Regulations. The difference between the actual expenses incurred and the amount reimbursed as per Bipartite Settlement/Officers Service Regulations are reimbursed under Central Bank of India Staff Welfare Scheme, subject to certain ceilings/limits.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government have requested Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to advise Public Sector Banks, to allocate some funds for welfare of their retired employees (including medical expenses) with the approval of their respective Boards.

#### Revised BDS Course

677. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dental Council of India (DCI) has increased the course duration of the Bachelor in Dental Science (BDS) Course as per the BDS Course Regulation, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the impact of such regulation on the career prospects of the dental students who are yet to complete their course;

(c) whether the Government has received any representations against the regulation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The Dental Council of India DCI Course Regulations 1983 envisage duration of the BDS Course as four years followed by one year rotating internship in the dental colleges i.e. duration of the course is five years, whereas in the Revised BDS Course Regulations 2007, the duration of the course is five years also thereby the internship has been integrated into five years programme itself. Therefore there is no increase in the duration of the BDS Course. The Regulations 2007 have come into effect from 10.9.2007, the date of which these were published in the Gazette of India. The students already undergoing training as per pre-2007 Regulations would be governed by the 1983 Regulations. As such, the Revised Regulations will not impact their career prospects.

A few representations were received for retention of one year compulsory internship after four years instead of integrating the internship in the five year BDS course. The requests were forwarded to the Dental Council of India for taking appropriate action.

#### Pneromone Artificial Hormone Technique

678. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has applied Pneromone Artificial Hormone Technique to arrest the mosquito breeding in Alappuzha District of Kerala;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend the said programme to other parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Alappuzha, about 1500 houses were selected in three localities viz. Vetalkal, Kadakarapally and Muhamma and about 6000 ovitraps were placed. In each

house 2-4 ovitraps i.e. one treated and others untreated were kept as experiment and control respectively.

The numbers of eggs in positive experimental ovitraps were found to be significantly higher than control ovitraps. It indicates that the attracticide attracts the female. As aegypti mosquito to lay their eggs.

As per data collected so far the numbers of larvae were found almost equal in both experimental and control ovitraps as the eggs were not able to hatch due to presence of Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) (the attractant) in the Experimental ovitrap. The study revealed that in Muhamma locality of Kerala, a total of 3498 experimental ovitraps were found positive against 3769 positive ovitraps in control. Similar type of result was observed from other localities of Kerala.

(c) and (d) The decision to extend the use of Pheromone Artificial Hormone Technique to other parts would depend on the final results.

#### **Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana**

679. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of development works proposed to be implemented during the Eleventh Five Year Plan under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY);

(b) the details of funds allocated to various States under this scheme; and

(c) the details of the funds spent in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) covered 147 districts in 27 States. The RSVY has been subsumed into the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme since 2006-07. The Programme commenced in 2003-04, with an allocation of Rs. 45 crore per district to be drawn in six installments in 3 years at the rate of two equal installments per year. Each district, therefore, had an allocation of Rs. 15 crore per year to be drawn in 2 equal installments of Rs. 7.5 crore in each year. The RSVY has the main objective of putting in place programmes and policies with the joint efforts of the Centre and the States which would remove barriers to growth, accelerate the development process and improve the quality of life of the people. The scheme aims at focused development programmes for backward areas which would help reduce imbalances and speed up development. Accordingly, various types of development work, e.g., construction of Anganwadi centers, veterinary health centers, irrigation structures, school buildings, roads, culverts, bridges, fish ponds, rural market sheds, income generation schemes, etc. have been taken up under the programme by the districts in various States.

So far, 108 districts have claimed their total entitlement under the programme. Out of the 39 remaining districts, 33 districts have to claim one instalment of Rs. 7.5 crore each and 6 districts have to claim two instalments, i.e., Rs. 15 crore each. The details of releases and expenditure reported under RSVY so far are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Backward Districts Initiative-Release of Funds to RSVY districts*

(Rs. in Crore)  
As on 20.02.2009

SLNo.	State	No. of RSVY districts	Total amount to be released	Amount released from 2003-04 to 2005-06 by Planning Commission	Amount released in 2006-07	Amount released in 2007-08	Amount released in 2008-09	Total amount released	Percentage of release made	Balance entitlement	Cumulative Expenditure reported by State Governments	Utilisation Certificates received
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	450	150.00	82.5	105.00	90.00	427.50	95.00	22.50	332.74	332.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	45	15.00	7.5	7.50	7.50	37.50	83.33	7.50	29.98	30.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3.	Assam	5	225	45.0	52.5	52.50	45.00	195.00	86.67	30.00	145.69	145.69
4.	Bihar	21	945	292.50	232.5	97.50	187.50	810.00	85.71	135.00	574.66	553.86
5.	Chhattisgarh	8	360	187.50	127.5	45.00	0.00	360.00	100.00	0.00	343.83	310.86
6.	Gujarat	3	135	52.50	37.50	7.50	15.00	112.50	83.33	22.50	81.19	81.36
7.	Haryana	1	45	22.50	22.5	0.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	90	45.00	30	15.00	0.00	90.00	100.00	0.00	66.66	61.91
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	135	52.50	22.5	15.00	15.00	105.00	77.78	30.00	80.89	80.89
10.	Jharkhand	16	720	300.00	315.00	82.50	22.50	720.00	100.00	0.00	594.02	579.05
11.	Karnataka	4	180	52.50	37.50	45.00	30.00	165.00	91.67	15.00	140.43	137.49
12.	Kerala	2	90	52.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	75.00	83.33	15.00	65.34	63.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	10	450	315.00	135.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	100.00	0.00	348.83	449.76
14.	Maharashtra	9	405	142.50	90.00	107.00	58.00	397.50	98.15	7.50	299.88	279.84
15.	Manipur	1	45	30.00	15.00	0.00	0.0	45.00	100.00	0.00	39.99	39.99
16.	Meghalaya	1	45	7.50	15.00	7.50	7.50	37.50	83.33	7.50	27.81	30.00
17.	Mizoram	1	45	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
18.	Nagaland	1	45	22.50	22.50	0.00	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	45.00	45.00
19.	Orissa	5	225	97.50	45.00	52.50	30.00	225.00	100.00	0.00	183.37	188.46
20.	Punjab	1	45	15.00	15.00	7.50	7.50	45.00	100.00	0.00	35.14	35.14
21.	Rajasthan	3	135	120.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	135.00	100.00	0.00	131.55	131.58
22.	Sikkim	1	45	15.00	22.5	7.50	0.00	45.0	100.00	0.00	35.60	131.58
23.	Tamil Nadu	5	225	172.50	30.00	22.50	0.00	225.00	100.00	0.00	211.64	195.72
24.	Tripura	1	45	22.50	15.00	7.50	0.00	45.00	100.00	0.00	36.65	36.65
25.	Uttarakhand	3	135	45.00	37.50	30.00	22.50	135.00	100.00	0.00	104.93	104.93
26.	Uttar Pradesh	21	945	427.50	300.00	135.00	30.00	892.50	94.44	52.50	677.26	666.28
27.	West Bengal	8	360	135.00	60.00	82.50	82.50	360.00	100.00	0.00	284.74	284.74
28.	NABARD		9.3	4.32	3.30	0.00		7.62	81.94	1.68		
	Total	147	6624.3	2854.32	1818.30	954.50	658.00	6277.62	94.77	346.68	5007.81	5086.02

*[Translation]***Low-cost Ayurvedic Treatment Centre**

680. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an American capital venture company proposes to make investment to start low-cost ayurvedic treatment centres all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the places identified for the same;

(c) whether the Government proposes to issue any directives in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) This Department has no information regarding the proposal.

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

*[English]***Corruption Cases in SECL and WCL**

681. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of investigations/inquiry being conducted by CBI regarding corruption cases in respect of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and Western Coalfields Limited (WCL); and

(b) the findings of the inquiry alongwith the action taken by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by Coal India Limited (CIL), there are 10 cases in SECL and 42 cases in WCL registered by CBI. In one case the accused has been exonerated by the court. Out of remaining 51 cases, 41 cases are pending in various courts and 10 cases are being investigated by CBI.

The findings of CBI in these cases in brief are as under:

Sl.No.	Findings	No. of cases		
		SECL	WCL	Total
1.	Demand and acceptance of illegal gratification	03	22	25
2.	Irregularities in award of contract	00	09	09
3.	Possession of disproportionate assets	03	04	07
4.	Others	04	07	11

*[Translation]***Funds for Controlling Pollution**

682. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has released funds to various States to check the level of pollution in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the details of works undertaken with the help of funds allocated for pollution control;

(d) whether the Government has undertaken any review of the said works; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment & Forests provides funds to the States and Union Territories (UTs) under the Scheme of Assistance for Abatement of Pollution for strengthening of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). Funds are also provided for setting up Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs), creation of common hazardous wastes Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDFs) as well as demonstration projects for municipal solid waste etc. The details of funds provided under these schemes for the last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The details of funds made available to various States and UTs under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) for abatement of water pollution in rivers are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) also provides financial assistance to various SPCBs/ PCCs for undertaking various activities relating to abatement of pollution. The details of funds released to various SPCBs/PCCs by the Central Pollution Control Board under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme, Water Quality Monitoring Programme and Spatial Environment Planning are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(c) The SPCBs / PCCs have undertaken strengthening of laboratories and purchase of equipments. Financial assistance provided to 14 CETPs in 3 States

during last three years and current year. Nine TSDFs have also been sanctioned during the said period. 114 Detailed projects Report (DPR) sanctioned covering 3 new rivers / 6 towns during last three years and current year under NRCP. Beside 21 DPR were also sanctioned in 3 towns covering 21 new lakes under NLCP during the said period.

(d) and (e) Implementation of the above schemes is monitored / reviewed regularly by the Central and State Governments as well as the Central Pollution Control Board. The review inter-alia includes policy issues, funding patterns and the progress and quality of work done from time to time. The funds are released to various SPCBs / PCCs and other agencies after receipt of utilization certificate and satisfactory progress report for previous releases. The CPCB conducts inspection of various projects like CETPs / TSDFs etc. and timely corrective action is taken.

#### **Statement I**

*A. State-wise and year-wise funds released under the scheme 'Assistance for Abatement of Pollution during the last three years and current year*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	SPCB/PCC	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (as on date)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	00.00	1.72	00.00	00.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
3.	Assam	112.00	109.00	13.95	14.98
4.	Bihar	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
5.	Chhatisgarh	100.00	15.00	00.00	00.00
6.	Chandigarh	11.91	13.04	12.57	12.00
7.	Delhi	36.22	28.30	27.33	40.00
8.	Gujarat	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
9.	Goa	30.00	103.26	00.00	59.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Haryana	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
11.	Himachal Pradesh	00.00	00.00	26.23	00.00
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
13.	Jharkhand	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
14.	Karnataka	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
15.	Kerala	00.00	55.25	31.90	00.00
16.	Lakshadweep	3.95	3.68	00.00	00.00
17.	Manipur	3.21	00.00	35.29	15.32
18.	Maharashtra	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
19.	Madhya Pradesh	00.00	75.00	16.33	62.67
20.	Meghalaya	12.00	26.72	2.00	00.00
21.	Mizoram	37.13	11.94	18.54	16.28
22.	Nagaland	1.96	9.46	20.00	25.13
23.	Orissa	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
24.	Punjab	00.00	16.00	00.00	00.00
25.	Rajasthan	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
26.	Sikkim	1.50	4.91	2.13	1.00
27.	Tamil Nadu	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
28.	Tripura	33.70	65.18	59.39	09.00
29.	Uttar Pradesh	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
30.	Uttaranchal	6.50	00.00	1.10	00.00
31.	West Bengal	00.00	00.00	00.00	00.00
Total		390.08	538.46	316.77	305.38

*B. State-wise and year-wise funds released for Promotion of the Common Effluent Treatment Plants to cover 25% of the Project cost as central subsidy during the last three years and current year*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	SPCB/PCC	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (as on date)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	00.00	00.00	00.00	72.00
2.	Gujarat	23.00	211.97	137.91	00.00
3.	Maharashtra	410.00	223.03	252.09	123.73
<b>Total</b>		<b>433.00</b>	<b>435.00</b>	<b>390.00</b>	<b>195.73</b>

*C. Assistance released under the Scheme Creation of Infrastructure for Management of Hazardous Substances to States during last three financial years and current year*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	SPCB/PCC	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.50	2.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	40.00	30.00	56.75
4.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Bihar	12.00	4.92	0.00	0.00
6.	Chandigarh	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Chhatisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Dehi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Gujarat	0.00	112.50	4.95	0.00
11.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	8.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Karnataka	0.00	66.85	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Kerala	0.00	83.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Maharashtra	30.87	25.29	84.78	160.00
20.	Manipur	0.00	5.135	0.00	3.90
21.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Mizoram	13.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.54
25.	Pondicherry	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00
26.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Uttaranchal	6.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	West Bengal	0.00	23.00	0.00	3.00
30.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.60

**Statement II**

*State-wise and Year-wise funds released for last 3 and current years under National River/Lake Conservation*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Plan/State	Funds Released			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>National River Conservation Plan</b>					
<b>A. (NRCP)</b>					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5200.00	4785.00	6796.00	2538.00
2.	Bihar	33.72	7.19	0.00	0.00
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	25.00	148.76
5.	Goa	100.00	0.00	70.00	0.00
6.	Karnataka	580.00	0.00	275.00	225.00
7.	Maharashtra	1069.77	1009.00	521.47	35.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	200.00	415.00	675.00	335.00
9.	Orissa	825.00	1104.00	706.00	502.79
10.	Punjab	1274.00	1535.00	4430.00	0.00
11.	Rajasthan	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	10307.40	8271.77	1840.00	825.00
13.	Delhi	100.00	2650.00	1487.08	3110.00
14.	Haryana	424.00	777.20	315.23	2000.00
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1678.00	3865.00	3766.43	9244.91
16.	Uttaranchal	450.00	825.00	337.42	250.00
17.	West Bengal	4848.00	1800.00	2369.84	2960.16
18.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
19.	Sikkim	166.00	504.50	479.00	263.00
20.	Nagaland	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub Total (NRCP)		27723.89	27548.66	24193.47	22537.62

**National Lake Conservation Plan****B. (NLCP)**

1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Jammu and Kashmir	4000.00	3000.00	3166.00	1250.00
3.	Maharashtra	100.00	230.00	100.00	75.50
4.	Tamil Nadu	2.23	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Karnataka	410.00	449.70	259.00	484.00
6.	Uttaranchal	350.00	733.00	427.54	340.00
7.	Rajasthan	300.00	0.00	1343.50	732.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	West Bengal	0.00	111.00	0.00	400.00
9.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Kerala	429.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Orissa	21.31	100.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh		149.00	100.00	400.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh		458.00	875.00	60.00
Total (NLCP)		5613.34	5230.70	6271.04	3742.00

**Statement III***A. Details of Payment Released to Various Monitoring Agencies under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP)*

Sl.No.	State	2005-06 (Amount in Rs.)	2006-07 (Amount in Rs.)	2007-08 (Amount in Rs.)	2008-09 (Amount in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	927917	573750	Nil	9335917
2.	Assam	Nil	368334	2025834	991667
3.	Bihar	2598000	394305	Nil	Nil
4.	Chandigarh	Nil	1615000	920833	Nil
5.	Chhatisgarh	658750	871250	Nil	682500
6.	Gujarat	1381250	4324583	1884167	2110000
7.	Goa	Nil	1190000	Nil	495833
8.	Jharkhand	Nil	1728333	2406667	1185833
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	1376000	1747000	Nil
10.	Haryana	Nil	Nil	441527	Nil
11.	Himachal Pradesh	2147666	2295000	3992056	Nil
12.	Karnataka	935000	3105000	538333	1625417
13.	Kerala	1281667	1097917	942083	1922916
14.	Maharashtra	1023485	1133333	5581667	2799583
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	524167	Nil	697667

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	Nil	225000	Nil	Nil
17.	Madhya Pradesh	3319861	510000	Nil	2155695
18.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	425000	472500
19.	Nagaland	Nil	1586590	198333	623334
20.	Orissa	545416	1211250	892500	186708
21.	Punjab	1416667	250000	1133333	586000
22.	Pondicherry	Nil	255000	1020000	405000
23.	Rajasthan	2699167	2871250	3143333	1385000
24.	Tamil Nadu	1175833	1112084	Nil	Nil
25.	Tripura	Nil	345000	Nil	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	4016250	904306	3819445
27.	Uttaranchal	115694	288055	690000	368333
28.	West Bengal	1112083	Nil	1501667	1960416
29.	NEERI	Nil	5986171	6324306	Nil
Total		21338456	39253622	36712945	35690140

*B. Details of funds released (in Rs.) to SPCBs/PCCs towards National Water Quality Monitoring Programme (NWMP) during last three years and current year*

State/UT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	496359	663793	553354	765034
Assam	162240	661360	465400	1054260
Bihar	251282	281859	1456	576878
Chhatisgarh	—	539275	348180	284460
Goa	—	447080	92715	—
Gujarat	—	918260	523030	980785
Haryana	—	186225	82482	—
Himachal Pradesh	484630	585495	291160	52660

1	2	3	4	5
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand	—	34500	222630	112755
Karnataka	403797	628010	658749	552959
Kerala	507959	601997	597584	974184
Madhya Pradesh	380030	1112750	461556	816033
Maharashtra	625937	822753	946349	1093849
Manipur	—	241730	165285	74875
Meghalaya	129345	96615	—	105455
Mizoram	—	63500	39020	63315
Nagaland	—	113200	81680	82985
Orissa	385040	329648	612113	381970
Punjab	—	470894	407947	246404
Rajasthan	165669	282181	217651	308102
Sikkim	212760	215640	—	456120
Tamil Nadu	—	642698	481544	593590
Tripura	—	151260	70440	—
Uttar Pradesh	210631	1152281	659566	504796
Uttaranchal	145245	37240	187470	64085
West Bengal	25012	489083	311301	701341
Chandigarh	—	57220	54435	107140
Lakshadweep	—	10940	—	—
Pondicherry	—	150945	90960	93555
<b>Total</b>	<b>4585936</b>	<b>11986432</b>	<b>8624057</b>	<b>11047590</b>

Note: the payment for 2008-09 till December, 18, 2008.

*C. Fund released to various SPCBs/Ex. Agencies during the last three year and current year under Spatial Environmental Planning Programme and Eco-city Programme of CPCB*

(in Rs.)

Sl.No.	States	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Andhra Pradesh	761317	1157522	400000	0
2.	Assam	818534	180396	400000	0
3.	Bihar	300000	466785	1000190	712901
4.	Chhatisgarh	300000	0	0	0
5.	Gujarat	338035	323000	0	0
6.	Goa	200000	692336	675000	0
7.	Himachal Pradesh	600000	611227	299123	0
8.	Karnataka	247806	300000	0	189418
9.	Kerala	1142382	964333	2747947	240559
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1264175	710122	756000	150000
11.	Maharashtra	799130	1248712	1013760	0
12.	Meghalaya	200000	399684	472495	114006
13.	Nagaland	300000	0	0	0
14.	Orissa	760909	633143	400000	0
15.	Punjab	16930	480321	400000	175000
16.	Rajasthan	400000	9000	339000	0
17.	Tamil Nadu	1331573	1216645	400000	150000
18.	Tripura	393751	0	0	0
19.	Uttaranchal	300000	400000	0	0
20.	West Bengal	445477	952145	714828	409200
<b>Total</b>		<b>10920019</b>	<b>10745371</b>	<b>10018343</b>	<b>2141084</b>

*[English]*

**Building Stadium In Rural Areas  
and Small Towns**

683. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any scheme to assist in the building of sports infrastructure including stadia in rural areas and small towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Stadia that have been built in the rural areas of Gujarat with the assistance of the Union Government under the scheme during the last three years;

(d) whether the funds are inadequate for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide adequate funds in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has recently introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan" (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure in all villages and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels. The scheme provides for financial assistance for playfield development, procurement of sports equipment and organizing rural sports competitions.

Government has accorded in principle approval for an amount of Rs. 1420.11 lakh for covering 1369 village panchayats and 22 block panchayats in Gujarat under the scheme, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

**Expansion of Central Government Health Scheme**

684. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:  
DR. SEBASTIAN PAUL:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposed to set up CGHS hospitals in the metropolitan cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Due to resource constraints CGHS is unable to expand to areas presently not covered in it.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

*[Translation]*

**Hearing of Complaints by CIC/SIC**

685. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commission (SIC) hear complaints/appeals relating to information sought under Right to Information Act;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints/ appeals during the last two years and the current year;

(c) the number of Public Information Officers found guilty during the said periods; and

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

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of appeals and complaints received and disposed of by the Central Information Commission is given below:

Period	Received	Disposed
2006-07	6839	4074
2007-08	11,261	7722
2008-09 (up to September, 2008)	5401	3519

The information in respect of the State Information Commission is not maintained centrally.

(c) The Central Information Commission imposed penalty in 211 cases and recommended disciplinary action in 21 cases during this period.

(d) The recommendation of the Central Information Commission for disciplinary action against the guilty Central Public Information Officers is to be acted upon by the respective cadre controlling authorities. Information regarding the disciplinary action taken by the cadre controlling authorities is not centrally maintained.

*[English]*

#### **Pollution Due to Ship-Breaking Activities**

686. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ship-breaking activities at Alang in Gujarat have led to severe environmental degradation and pollution problems;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) has opened a new Regional Office at Bhavnagar in December, 2003 to check the pollution in and around Alang, including Bhavnagar District. The Regional Office is regularly monitoring Alang area for checking pollution in respect of sea water, ambient air quality and noise level. Further, Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) has developed a scientifically designed Treatment, Storage & Disposal Facility (TSDF) at Alang for final disposal of hazardous waste generated from ship breaking activity which is in operation at present. Earlier, ship breakers were disposing of their hazardous wastes at TSDF located in Ahmedabad. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had constituted a committee of technical experts vide their order dated 24.3.2006, with members having technical expertise in the subject of ship breaking and management of hazardous wastes relating to ship breaking activities. The Committee submitted its report with several recommendations for protection of environment and workers' safety.

The GPCB is implementing the recommendations of the committee of technical experts and monitoring the ship breaking activity at Alang. Monitoring of coastal water at Alang is periodically carried out by GPCB through National Institute of Oceanography (NIO).

#### **Declining Population of Snow Leopards**

687. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of snow leopards has been declining over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their current population;

(c) whether any project has been launched for their conservation;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount earmarked for the purpose;

(e) whether the local communities will be involved in the task of their conservation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) and (b) Snow Leopard is a globally endangered species. It is estimated that there are about 400-700 Snow Leopards in India.

(c) to (f) A detailed project for the conservation of Snow Leopard has been prepared recently by Government of India. There is now earmarked budget exclusively for this project. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', Central Government provides financial and technical assistance to State/UT Governments for various activities aimed at the conservation of wildlife including Snow Leopard. Besides, under the component of 'Recovery programmes for critically endangered species' of the said Scheme, Snow Leopard has been included as one of the species for support. Total outlay for the Scheme 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats'—for the current financial year i.e. 2008-09 is Rs. 80 crores. Further, the involvement of local people is envisaged in planning, capacity building and strengthening institutions at village and landscape level for Snow Leopard conservation.

### **Rajiv Arogyashree Health Programme**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement 'Rajiv Arogyashree' health programme throughout the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No Sir. Rajiv Arogyashree is a health insurance scheme being implemented by Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide health insurance cover to BPL population of the State.

(b) The Question does not arise.

### **Health Care Facilities to Children**

689. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 50 per cent children under the age of 5 years in the country live without basic healthcare facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present position of India in comparison to other developing countries in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide basic healthcare facilities to the children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Save the Children, an international organization in its 'State of the World's Mothers Report 2008', has claimed that in India, 53 per cent of the total population of under five children do not have access to basic health service.

The International Organization has not shared the process or methodology of this report with the Government of India.

(c) The Basic Health Care Report Card as per the 'State of the World's Mothers Report 2008' indicating the positions of various countries, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) (2005-2012), launched by the Government of India in the year 2005, aims to improve access to equitable, affordable, accountable and effective primary health care, in the rural areas of the country, especially for poor women and children, with a special focus on 18 States which have weak public health indicators and weak infrastructure. Strengthening of District Hospitals, Community Health centres Primary Health Care centres and Sub-centres to provide basic essential maternal and child health care.

- Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a cash benefit scheme to promote Institutional Delivery with a special focus on Below Poverty Line (BPL) and SC/ST pregnant women.
- Appointment of an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for every village to facilitate accessing of health care services by the community including pregnant women.
- Operationalising Community Health Centers as First Referral Units (FRUs) and 50% of all Primary Health Centers for providing 24x7 services.
- Augmenting the availability of skilled manpower by means of different skill-based trainings such as for providing Skilled Attendance at Birth.
- Training of MBBS Doctors in Life Saving Anesthetic Skills and Emergency Obstetric Care including Caesarian Section.
- Strengthening of District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Care Centres and Sub-Centres to provide basic essential maternal and child health care.
- Provision of 24 hours service in Primary Health Care Centres and Skilled Attendance at Birth.
- Strengthening of CHCs for first referral care-Provision of Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care at FRUs & Training of MBBS Doctors in Life Saving Anesthetics Skills for Emergency Obstetric Care.
- Supplementary nutrition to pregnant and lactating mothers.
- National nutrition anaemia prophylaxis programme.

- Essential newborn care (care at birth — protection from hypothermia-provision of warmth, cord care - protection from infection and early initiation of breastfeeding).
- Universal Immunisation.
- Infant and young Child Feeding (Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months & timely introduction of complimentary feeding).
- Vitamin A+ supplementation.
- Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation.
- Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI), early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI), Diarrhoea and other infections among new born and under five children.

**Statement**

*State of the World's Mothers Report 2008  
Basic Health Care Report Card*

Priority country	Population under age 5 (thousands) (2006)	Children under age 5 without basic health care (2006)		Rank
		Percent (%)	Absolute no. (thousands)	
1	2	3	4	5
Philippines	11,027	31	3,391	1
Peru	2,815	32	912	2
South Africa	5,254	34	1,807	3
Indonesia	21,720	35	7,599	4
Turkmenistan	491	35	173	4
Azerbaijan	547	39	215	6
Gabon	158	39	61	6
Bolivia	1,243	40	493	8
Lesotho	272	41	112	9
Congo	587	42	245	10
Benin	1,488	44	647	11
Brazil	18,092	44	7,929	11
Gambia	261	44	116	11
Zambia	2,012	45	904	14
Cambodia	1,690	46	772	15
Tanzania, United Republic of	6,953	46	3,167	15
Morocco	2,978	47	1,406	17

1	2	3	4	5
Mozambique	3,670	47	1,733	17
Tajikisten	858	47	401	17
Egypt	8,634	48	4,117	20
Madagascar	3,142	48	1,521	20
Cote d'Ivoire	2,849	49	1,395	22
Senegal	1,913	49	931	22
Swaziland	147	49	71	22
Burkina Faso	2,605	50	1,300	25
Central African Republic	668	52	347	26
Eritrea	808	53	428	27
Ghana	3,195	53	1,686	27
India	126,843	53	67,127	27
Malawi	2,425	54	1,311	30
Uganda	5,840	54	3,133	30
Pakistan	19,012	55	10,478	32
Angola	3,082	56	1,738	33
Guinea	1,544	56	872	33
Kenya	6,161	56	3,423	33
Mali	2,247	56	1,247	33
Cameroon	2,851	57	1,632	37
Sierra Leone	999	57	572	37
Guatemala	2,066	58	1,202	39
Togo	1,045	59	619	40
Guinea-Bissau	322	60	192	41
Haiti	1,244	60	744	41
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	11,843	61	7,229	43
Bangladesh	18,951	62	11,656	44
Nepal	3,626	62	2,265	44

1	2	3	4	5
Niger	2,713	62	1,688	44
Rwanda	1,617	63	1,017	47
Burundi	1,461	64	933	48
Mauritania	456	65	298	49
Nigeria	24,503	66	16,090	50
Lao People's Democratic Republic	715	69	491	51
Yemen	3,639	71	2,573	52
Chad	1,943	78	1,521	53
Somalia	1,507	82	1,236	54
Ethiopia	13,439	84	11,317	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>368,171</b>		<b>196,485</b>	

#### **Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme**

690. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of Travancore and United India Insurance Co. have jointly launched an insurance policy namely "Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme";

(b) if so, the details salient features thereof;

(c) the amount of insurance cover and the monthly premium to be paid by the policy holder;

(d) whether the above scheme also covers and benefits in case of disability of Policy-holder; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The policy covers the risk of death, permanent total disablement for Savings Bank account holders of State Bank of Travancore.

(c) The Sum Insured is Rs. 5 lakhs per policy holder and annual premium payable is Rs. 50/-.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Scheme covers the risk of permanent total disability.

#### **Procurement of Medicines under NRHM**

691. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for procuring medicines under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) Scheme;

(b) whether any complaints regarding violation of norms in the procurement of medicines under the (NRHM) Scheme has been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) procurement of medicines and consumables is decentralized to the states concerned. The NRHM envisages setting up decentralized procurement systems like the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation model (TNMSC) and a few states have operationalised the same. The Government has not received any complaints regarding violation of norms in procurement of medicines under the NRHM.

**Efforts to Curb HIV/AIDS**

692. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

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

(a) the details of the efforts made by the Government in restraining the menace of HIV/AIDS during the last three years;

(b) the details of guidelines issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in this regard; and

(c) the details of assistance provided by the Government to various States in the field of medicinal research for curing HIV/AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Following schemes are being implemented by the Government under NACP-III to prevent and control HIV/AIDS in the country:

- (i) Free voluntary counseling and HIV testing through 4817 Integrated Counseling and Testing Centers;
- (ii) Targeted interventions to cover High Risk and vulnerables population through 1309 Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)/Community Based Organizations (CBOs);
- (iii) Treatment of sexually transmitted infections by providing free drugs in Government and selected private facilities;
- (iv) Easy access to free/subsidized condoms through various outlets, social marketing and condom vending machines;
- (v) Provision of safe blood by supporting blood banks and up-scaling voluntary blood donation;
- (vi) Prevention of HIV transmission from infected pregnant women to new born by providing free Niverapine to mothers and new born babies;
- (vii) Free investigation and treatment of eligible HIV/AIDS patients through 197 Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) Centres and 208 Community Care Centres.

(viii) Public awareness through various media focusing on prevention of HIV, utilization of services and alleviating stigma and discrimination of People Leaving with HIV/AIDS.

(b) National Operational Guidelines have been published under NACP-III for various schemes. WHO guidelines have been incorporated in national guidelines where applicable.

(c) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is funding studies on medicinal research in four states namely, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh through Golden Triangle Partnership on development of medicines for curing HIV/AIDS. This multi-centric study entitled "Phase III randomized controlled open multi-centric trial" would be testing ayurvedic formulations for anti-HIV activity and efficacy. The centres participating in the study are National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali, SASTRA, Thanjavur, National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune and National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad.

**Killing of Tigers/Wild Cats**

693. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of killing/poaching and death of tigers/wild cats have come to the notice of the Government;

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

(c) the details of the poachers identified by the Government so far;

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such poaching and death alongwith action taken against the poachers; and

(e) the details of funds allocated and utilised during the last three years and the current year for protection of tigers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) to (c) Incidents of killing and death of wild cats including tigers have been reported from the States time to time. Such killing/death of wild animals generally occurs due to poaching, infighting, old age and natural calamities. As reported by the States, the details of death of tiger, lion and leopard during the last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Since day-to-day management of Tiger Reserve is done by States, details of action taken against individual poachers are not collated at Government of India level. The steps taken by the Government of India to protect tiger and other wild animals are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The details of fund allotted to the tiger range States and utilized under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during last three years and in the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### **Statement I**

(As reported by States)

Sl.No.	Tiger				Leopard (within and nearby tiger reserves)				Lion		
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2006	2007	2008	2009	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	14	30	14	9	17	08	08	1	35	52	Nil

#### **Statement II**

*Steps taken by the Government of India to protect tiger and other wild animals*

##### **Legal steps**

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

##### **Administrative steps**

2. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

3. 100% Central Assistance provided to 17 Tiger Reserves as an additionality for deployment of Tiger Protection Force, comprising of ex-army personnel and local workforce.
4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.9.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual/audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 comprising of officers from Police, Forest, Customs and other enforcement agencies to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Approval accorded for declaring eight new Tiger Reserves.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger

conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, inter alia, include funding support to States for enhancing village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.

8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including copredators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. An area of 26749.097 sq. km. has been notified by 14 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (AP, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Kerala, Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Orissa and West Bengal). Three tiger States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh and UP) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (4264.282 sq.km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified/notified the core/critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).
10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

#### **Financial steps**

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife habitats for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

#### **International Cooperation**

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade

in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.

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

#### **Reintroduction of Tigers in Sariska Tiger Reserve**

15. A male tiger and a tigress have been reintroduced in the Sariska Tiger Reserve (Rajasthan), based on a recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The tigers are being closely monitored by radio telemetry.

#### **Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)**

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *inter alia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Advisory has been sent to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand for initiating steps for deploying in Dudhwa, Ranthambhore and Corbett tiger reserves, with 100% Central assistance during the current financial year.

**Statement III**

*State-wise release and Utilisation of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during the last three years and current year*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		Release	Utilized	Release	Utilized	Release	Utilized	Release upto 18th Feb. 2009	Utilized upto 18th Feb. 2009
1.	Andhra Pradesh	68.7930	35.0000	35.0000	46.6750	73.9175	50.0005	26.0830	0.0000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	172.4180	149.1000	237.3730	212.8900	110.2542	110.0347	54.7805	0.0000
3.	Assam	86.4900	97.1000	87.4310	65.0000	95.6140	66.8830	221.2690	0.0000
4.	Bihar	6.4920	73.2290	37.1450	73.8500	98.3205	47.9936	49.6730	0.0000
5.	Chhattisgarh	24.3340	32.0100	10.0000	12.8200	35.2250	32.3547	92.1297	43.7500
6.	Jharkhand	164.1780	149.9680	155.9670	103.8720	45.1600	18.3765	48.2165	40.5590
7.	Karnataka	427.7550	389.1570	287.8170	373.8720	1159.7149	1126.8433	382.2488	236.2944
8.	Kerala	116.1710	58.5300	109.0000	135.7600	153.2449	134.8449	86.8000	105.0000
9.	Madhya Pradesh	777.2680	934.4110	759.2360	869.8070	2975.9411	2878.0761	2180.7158	636.6810
10.	Maharashtra	334.1900	396.5260	229.5100	242.6500	295.7191	253.8468	233.1276	189.7225
11.	Mizoram	65.1560	69.8230	115.1600	77.9740	82.9000	82.9000	80.0000	65.1380
12.	Orissa	107.0020	104.6500	150.2500	139.1850	43.2800	42.0400	473.7600	240.4151
13.	Rajasthan	281.2480	191.7110	100.8760	194.0050	410.6800	325.9826	2477.3026	126.2400
14.	Tamil Nadu	136.9530	89.7200	85.1650	79.4280	45.0000	44.2360	679.3860	142.1100
15.	Uttaranchal	159.9210	141.2950	180.2950	201.8600	202.0050	188.5550	270.8400	100.8200
16.	Uttar Pradesh	162.8780	162.6500	75.0000	101.7700	134.8900	260.2435	111.5694	0.0000
17.	West Bengal	228.2940	232.1400	177.3000	226.9200	308.6741	117.4000	182.5100	79.7500
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,319.5390</b>	<b>3,307.0200</b>	<b>2,792.5250</b>	<b>3,157.9380</b>	<b>6,270.5403</b>	<b>5,780.6112</b>	<b>7,650.2119</b>	<b>2,006.4800</b>

**Insomnia among Children**

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

694. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(c) whether any research has been conducted in this regard; and

(a) whether a large number of children are suffering from insomnia;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Insomnia is a symptom with many causes, i.e., anxiety, depression, physical pains, etc. A study conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore shows that the prevalence of anxiety disorders as a whole in children is nearly 4%. However, data on prevalence of insomnia in children in India is not available.

Under the National Mental Health Programme, efforts are made to provide mental health services as a part of general health system. In this regard, Central Government supplements the State Governments' efforts through District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), upgradation of psychiatric wings of Govt. medical colleges/general hospitals and strengthening/modernisation of State run mental hospitals to make them as therapeutic units. The Central Government has proposed to re-strategise the National Mental Health Programme during the 11th Five Year Plan to extend DMHP to more districts in the country with added components of suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges.

#### Tri-Nation Gas Pipeline Project

695. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the negotiations on the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline project;

(b) whether Iran has offered to host a meeting of the Energy Ministers of these countries to negotiate the outstanding issues;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Pakistan has offered to Iran to buy Indian share of gas from the proposed pipeline;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) to (c) The Project was last discussed by India and Iran during the 15th Joint Commission Meeting held in Tehran in November 2008 and during the 6th Foreign Office Consultations between India and Iran held in New Delhi in December 2008. India had proposed a trilateral discussion of the project between India, Iran and Pakistan. A response is awaited.

(d) and (e) Government has not received intimation of this.

(f) Government is committed to a gas pipeline project which is financially viable, secure and in which continuous supply is assured.

*[Translation]*

#### AED on Petrol and Diesel

696. Dr. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Additional Excise Duty (AED) at the rate of Rs. 2 a litre on both petrol and diesel is being collected from the ordinary consumers in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the total amount realised from the consumers by way of this duty during each of the last three years till September, 2008;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to abolish the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of the amount spent under various items from this fund during the said period, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Rs.2/Litre Additional Duty on Petrol is collected as per Section 111 of Finance Act, 1998, as amended by Section 159 of the Finance Act, 2003 and Section 119 of the Finance Act, 2005 .

Rs 2/Litre Additional Duty on High Speed Diesel is collected as per Section 113 of Finance Act, 1999, as amended by Section 160 of the Finance Act, 2003 and Section 120 of the Finance Act, 2005.

(b) The details of AED collected for last three years are given below.-

Year	Amount Collected (Rs in Crore)
2005-06	11313.71
2006-07	12206.54
2007-08	13264.41
2008-09 (up to September, 2008)	7511.5.4

(c) At present, there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

(d) The amount collected as additional excise duty is initially credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and thereafter, Parliament by appropriation, transfers the

amount after adjusting cost of collection, to the Central Road Fund (CRF). The CRF is thereafter, distributed by Planning Commission amongst three Ministries, i.e. Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways (Department of Road Transport & Highways) in a manner prescribed under Section 10 (viii) of the Central Road Fund Act, 2000. The Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways uses CRF for National Highway Development Projects and development of state roads (other than rural roads) and Centrally sponsored roads of Economic Importance (EI) and Interstate Connectivity (ISC). The details of the amount spent by Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways are given in the enclosed Statement I and II. The details of the amount spent by Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Rural Development are given in the enclosed Statement III and IV.

#### **Statement I**

*State-wise Number of Works and Amount Approved out of CRF for the year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (Till date)*

Sl.No.	State/UTs	(Rs. in crore)							
		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (till date)	
		CRF Works approved		CRF Works approved		CRF Works approved		CRF Works approved	
		No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66	171.37	3	10.4	81	197.27	106	247.8
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	11	42.31	5	25.32	0	0
4.	Assam	9	27.99	4	15.96	7	91	8	90.45
5.	Bihar	0	0	8	25.34	9	68.16	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhatisgarh	4	28.22	10	24.54	2	10.03	10	102.95
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	0	0	26	47	0	0	3	29.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	Goa	0	0	3	10.59	0	0	3	14.13
11.	Gujarat	117	179.86	27	55.69	77	183.08	49	216.45
12.	Haryana	9	77.71	1	17.09	7	89	8	129.72
13.	Himachal Pradesh	8	25.71	2	4.25	4	12.8	0	0
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	8	51.64	0	0	8	87	0	0
15.	Jharkhand	1	3.48	8	88.95	0	0	0	0
16.	Karnataka	140	110.2	249	228.6	8	15.01	228	311
17.	Kerala	13	72.58	4	28.51	8	67.37	8	58.18
18.	Madhya Pradesh	37	128.43	28	108	18	107.99	0	0
19.	Maharashtra	86	229.4	64	195.47	45	171.37	69	303.83
20.	Manipur	1	2.96	2	7.02	1	3.98	0	0
21.	Meghalaya	2	8.59	0	0	3	14.39	0	0
22.	Mizoram	0	0	4	11.48	10	16.33	0	0
23.	Nagaland	1	3.6	0	0	2	9.81	0	0
24.	Orissa	11	53.6	11	44.36	14	84.44	9	76.58
25.	Pondicherry	1	2.88	0	0	1	3.6	0	0
26.	Punjab	12	61.15	6	46.89	0	0	5	38.81
27.	Rajasthan	173	227.87	85	184.04	50	163.92	35	112.64
28.	Sikkim	0	0	3	1.75	0	0	2	2.1
29.	Tamil Nadu	19	36.36	28	77.7	14	31.55	11	30.27
30.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	3	20.4	0	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	17	183.83	0	0	20	336.4
32.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	West Bengal	19	286.72	2	47.16	0	0	2	91.51

**Statement II**

*State-wise number of works of Roads of Economic Importance (EI) and Inter-State Connectivity (ISC) and Amount Sanctioned for the year 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (Till Date)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (Till date)	
		EI & ISC Works sanctioned		EI & ISC Works sanctioned		EI & ISC Works sanctioned		EI & ISC Works sanctioned	
		No	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	16	2	17.39	8	50.72	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	18.67	1	14.47	1	14.85	1	23.39
3.	Assam	0	0	2	4.95	1	4.95	0	0
4.	Bihar	2	12.17	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhatisgarh	0	0	0	0	1	11.53	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	17	34.1	1	3.04	5	14.18	0	0
8.	Haryana	1	4.76	1	7.92	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	10.34	1	4.63	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	1.18	0	0	0	0	1	73.33
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	1	6.51	5	55.11
12.	Karnataka	15	59.67	2	27.08	5	27.75	1	12
13.	Kerala	0	0	1	14.24	3	20.38	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7	5.93	0	0	6	29.98	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	14	26.83	1	4.27	4	16.23	0	0
16.	Manipur	1	4.56	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	1	18.11	1	10.05	0	0
19.	Nagaland	3	33.43	1	29.32	2	45.51	0	0
20.	Orissa	2	23.46	2	6.27	5	27.88	1	9.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
21.	Punjab	3	19.89	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	6	14.4	5	12.49	5	16.69	1	2.15
23.	Sikkim	1	12.99	4	46.25	2	14.93	1	16.47
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	2	24.8	1	2.62
25.	Tripura	1	7.53	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttarakhand	2	12.88	1	3.5	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2	11.5	0	0	1	11.02	0	0
28.	West Bengal	1	13.4	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Statement III**

*The expenditure incurred by Ministry of Railways on road safety works (level crossing & road over/under bridge) during last three years*

Sl.No.	Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)
1.	2005-06	262.24
2.	2006-07	359.94
3.	2007-08	533.35
4.	2008-09 (upto Sept. 08)	160.14

**Statement IV**

*The expenditure incurred by Ministry of Rural Development on Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) during last three years*

Sl.No.	Year	Amount (Rs. in crore)*
1.	2006-07	3725.62
2.	2007-08	3825
3.	2008-09	4046.25

\*The amount allocated during each financial year has been fully utilised for construction of rural roads under PMGSY.

**Loans to Small and Medium Enterprises**

697. SHRI SURAJ SINGH:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of loans granted to small and medium enterprises during the current financial year by Public Sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The total outstanding credit given by Public Sector Banks to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises as on December 31, 2008 is Rs.2,84,095 crore (provisional).

[English]

**Additional Routes to Kailash-Mansarovar Pilgrimage**

698. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims visited Kailash Mansarovar during the last three years and the current year alongwith the expenditure incurred/subsidy provided by the Government during each of these years;

(b) whether India has suggested additional routes for Kailash-Mansarovar pilgrimage to China for their consideration;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the Chinese Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the matter with the Chinese authorities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) The number of people who have undertaken the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and in the last three years is as follows:

Year	No of people who undertook the Yatra
2006	592
2007	674
2008	401

For the current year, the process of selection of Yatris is still underway.

The expenditure incurred by the Government each year on communications, logistics, security and administrative arrangements related to the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is between Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs.

(b) to (d) During the visit of President Hu Jintao of China to India from November 20 to 23, 2006, the two sides agreed to explore the possibility of opening an additional route. We have proposed additional routes to the Chinese side for their consideration.

#### Impact of American International Group

699. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of the collapse of American International Group (AIG) on the Indian Insurance Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Insurance Regulatory and

Development Authority (IRDA) has reported that they have assessed the impact of the American International Group (AIG) collapse on the Indian Insurance Sector. AIG has participation in 2 joint ventures in the Indian Insurance Sector viz. (a) Tata AIG Life Insurance Company Limited (TALICL); and (b) Tata AIG General Insurance Company Limited (TAGICL).

Shareholding pattern of TALICL as on 31.12.2008 was as under:

	(Rs. in crore)
Tata Sons Limited	1,057.83
AIG Co. Limited	371.67
Total	1,429.50

The solvency position of the company as on 31st December, 2008 was 3.23 as against the minimum required ratio of 1.5

Shareholding pattern of TAGICL as on 31.12.2008 was as under:

	(Rs. in crore)
Tata Sons Limited	222.00
AIG Co. Limited	78.00
Total	300.00

The solvency position of the company as on 31st December, 2008 was 1.88 as against the minimum required ratio of 1.5.

The performance of the two joint ventures between Tata Sons and AIG (74:26) has exceeded the projection made by the two entities at the time of registration in the year 2001. To meet the commitments of the growing operations the two shareholders have continued to provide financial support to the respective life and non-life ventures.

Further AIG Inc. announced on 23.09.2008 that it had signed a Definitive agreement with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for a two year \$85 billion revolving credit facility which addresses the liquidity issues and policyholders concerns. In view of the present comfortable solvency position and the assurance of continued availability of future capital contribution by the JV partner, IRDA has no immediate regulatory concerns.

**Policy on Bio-Medical Research**

700. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether Asian Institute of Public Health proposes to evolve any policy for undertaking bio-medical research in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Asian Institute of Public Health is a private institute and the Government does not maintain information about any policy/research being undertaken by them.

**Handover of NEITCO**

701. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to handover the management and control of North Eastern Industrial Technical Consultancy Organisation (NEITCO), a sick unit promoted by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and other banks to the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER);

(b) if so, the present status thereof;

(c) whether any proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of DONER in this regard;

(d) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a), (b) and (e) IDBI Bank Ltd. has requested the Government to bring the North Eastern Industrial & Technical Consultancy Organisation Ltd. (NEITCO) under

the management control of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER). IDBI Bank has been requested by the Government to submit a detailed proposal with adequate justification in this regard.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Fudging of Accounts by Housing Companies**

702. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of housing companies misled the Income Tax Department regarding their income and profits;

(b) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years;

(c) whether Income Tax Department has ordered a special audit of the account of these companies including Darbari Lal Foundation (DLF) for allegedly trying to lower its tax liability by understating sales for 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken or likely to be taken by the Government against the guilty housing companies including DLF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are being collected from the field offices and will be tabled in the House shortly.

(c) and (d) A special audit under section 142 (2A) of the Income tax Act has been ordered in the case of Delhi Lease & Financing Ltd. also known as DLF for the Assessment Year 2006-07. No special audit has been ordered in the case of Darbari Lal Foundation. Information in respect of other companies is being gathered and will be tabled before the House shortly.

(e) The audit report in the case of Delhi Lease & Financing Ltd. (DLF) has been received on 31.12.2008 and is being examined during the scrutiny proceedings.

for taking necessary action as laid down under the law. Details of other companies in whose case special audit, has been ordered, are being collected and will be tabled before the House shortly.

#### Loans to Agricultural Sector

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

(a) whether the Government is giving priority in providing loans to agricultural sector as compared to industrial sector and individual loans; and

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise, bank-wise and sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has been according priority in providing loans to agricultural sector, which is evident from the following facts:

(i) Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 has been able to deplug the line of credit by benefitting around 3.6 crore

farmers making them eligible for fresh credit from the institutional credit system;

- (ii) The Government is providing interest subvention to the lending institutions so that farmers get short term crop loans up to Rs. 3 lakh at a rate of interest of 7 per cent per annum;
- (iii) Loans upto Rs. 50,000/- have been made collateral and margin free and the requirement of 'No Dues Certificate' has been dispensed with;
- (iv) Kisan Credit Card norms have been revised to allow broader credit support viz. consumption credit, allied activities and Term Credit also;
- (v) Banks have simplified the procedure for documentation for agriculture loans.

All these have yielded result in agricultural credit increasing almost three times—from Rs. 86,981 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 2,43,570 crore in 2007-08. The target for 2008-09 is Rs. 2,80,000 crore.

(b) Data Reporting System does not generate State-wise and bank-wise information. However, sector-wise information in respect of agriculture, industry and personal loan is as follows:

(Rs. Crore)

Sector	As on 31.03.2005	As on 31.03.2006	As on 31.03.2007	As on 31.03.2008
Agriculture and Allied Activities	124269	173972	230398	273658
Industry (Small, Medium & Large)	423136	550444	697334	871900
Personal Loans	256348	360248	456734	505390

#### Coastal Management Zone Notification, 2008

704. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any final decision on the draft Coastal Management Zone (CMZ) Notification, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has received a large number of suggestions and objections on the draft Coastal Management Zone Notification issued on 21.7.2008 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which provides for 365 days from the date of issue of the draft notification for finalizing the same.

#### South Asian University in India

705. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the agreement signed by the SAARC member countries for the establishment of a South Asian University; and

(b) the role assigned to the member countries as per the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b) The Intergovernmental Agreement for setting up the South Asian University (SAU) was signed during the 14th SAARC Summit held in New Delhi on 4 April 2007.

The Intergovernmental Agreement states that the purpose of the University is to be create a world class institution of learning that will bring together the brightest and the most dedicated students from all countries of south Asia—irrespective of gender, caste, creed, disability, ethnicity or socio-economic background to impart to them liberal and humane education and to give them analytical tools needed for the pursuit of profession and inculcate in them the qualities of leadership.

The agreement also provides that the University shall be governed by a Governing Board, composed of two members from each member state and will be headed by a chairperson. The chairperson shall be elected from among the members of the Government Board.

The Intergovernmental Agreement envisages an active participatory role for all Member States of SAARC in the establishment and running of the University. As it is a regional project, the participation of SAARC member states is required at every stage.

#### **Interest Subsidy on Housing Loan**

706. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy on interest on housing loans to low income groups; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A new scheme of Interest

Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) has been approved by the Government, to provide interest subsidy of 5% on home loans upto Rs. 1 lakh availed by Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG). The loan can be taken for acquisition of house or construction of house provided the beneficiary does not already own a house. The nodal agencies for implementation of the Scheme are the National Housing Bank (NHB) and the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), whereas loans for the Scheme can be given by commercial banks as well as housing finance companies.

#### **Space Research**

707. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed any agreement with overseas countries in the field of space research during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far by India in the field of space research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last three years 2006-08, India has signed 29 Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with space agencies of USA, Russia, France, Europe, Japan, Brazil, Spain, Egypt, Brunei and other International Space Agencies. During 2009, so far, India has signed one Agreement with National Space Agency of Kazakhstan. These Agreements and MoU broadly provide for co-operation and joint research activities in the areas of Remote sensing, Satellite Navigation, Communication, Meteorology and Space Sciences.

(c) India has made remarkable progress in space research and has achieved self reliance in making world class satellites, launch vehicles and associated ground infrastructure. Two major operational space systems have been established namely—Indian National Satellite System (INSAT), for telecommunication, television broadcasting and meteorological services and Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) for resources monitoring and management.

Two operational launch vehicles namely—Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) for launching remote sensing and scientific purpose satellites into polar/low earth orbits and Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) for launching communication and meteorological satellites into geosynchronous transfer orbit, are providing self reliance in launching the satellites. India has also launched Chandrayaan-1, spacecraft to Moon, for planetary research/studies.

[*Translation*]

#### Branches of PSBs Abroad

708. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks functioning abroad as on date;

(b) the number of such branches running in losses; and

(c) the amount these banks have to pay to the Governments of those countries where they have their branches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) 120 branches of 11 public sector banks are functioning abroad, out of which 8 branches of 4 PSBs were loss making branches as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2008.

(c) The foreign branches of Indian banks are required to pay income/corporate tax, licence renewal fees, social security taxes, etc., as applicable in the host country. However, the amount of such taxes/fees vary across the jurisdictions.

[*English*]

#### CGHS Facility in Assam

709. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed CGHS card holders in the State of Assam to avail health facilities at private hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the hospitals;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase CGHS dispensaries in the State of Assam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Guwahati is the only city in Assam where CGHS presently exists. In non-emergent situations CGHS beneficiaries, with the approval of the competent authority, can take treatments in the two private hospitals empanelled under CGHS Guwahati. In emergency situation, CGHS beneficiary can go to any hospital for treatment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### Tax Collection

710. SHRI KIREN RIJJU:  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of targets and actual collection of direct and indirect taxes during each of the last three years and the current year till date, Chief Commissionerate-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed by the Government to improve the collection in wake of global economic recession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The overall target and collection of Direct Taxes for last three years and up to Jan'09 during the current year is as given below.

Financial Year	Budget Estimate (Rs in Crore)	Revised Estimate (Rs in Crore)	Actual Collection (Rs in Crore)
2005-06	177077	170077	165208
2006-07	210684	229272	230184
2007-08	267490	304760	312202
2008-09	365000	345000	247396**

\*\*Collection upto Jan'09, figures of 2008-09 are provisional.

The Chief Commissionerate wise - statement in respect of targets and actual collection of direct taxes during each of the last three years and upto 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2009 is given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

Chief Commissionerate (Zone) wise Central Excise and Customs Revenue Targets, and actual collections from 2005-06 to December, 2008 are given in the enclosed statement III and IV respectively. As the Service Tax figures are not collected Zone wise, the Budget & Revised Estimates and revenue collected from Service Tax. is separately indicated in the enclosed statement V.

(b) The Government has taken the following steps to maintain the momentum of tax collection.

- All CCsIT/DGIT have been advised to take up more Surveys with a view to detect undisclosed income, lower and non-deduction of tax at source(TDS).
- Tax machinery is being made more tax payer friendly by expeditious issues of refunds, response to the grievance of the tax payers etc.

- Identification of cases involving substantial amount of arrears which are pending before Commissioners (Appeals), ITAT and Settlement Commission and asking these authorities to dispose off such appeals expeditiously.
- Monitoring of advance tax payments by top taxpayers by the senior officers of the Department.
- Further computerization of the Departmental business processes and databases for linking of information and reporting of high value transactions to the tax authorities.
- Quoting of PAN being made mandatory in most of the financial transactions.
- Multi-media campaign to encourage voluntary compliance of tax laws.
- Administrative steps to improve data collection and analysis, audit and anti evasion measures and plugging loopholes in law and procedures have also been taken to improve the revenue position in Central Excise.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Target and Actual Collection of CCIT (Cadre-Controlling) vis-a-vis Budget Estimate*

CCIT Charge (Cadre-Controlling)	Target	Actual Colins 2007-08	Excess/ Shortfall	Target	Actual Colins 2006-07	Excess/ Shortfall	Target	Actual Colins 2005-06	Excess/ Shortfall
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Ahmedabad	10582	11528	8.94%	7783	9101	16.93%	6458	6143	-4.88%
Bangalore	23906	32537	36.11%	19633	20225	3.02%	15194	15063	-0.87%
Bhopal	5045	5488	8.79%	4575	4089	-10.62%	4419	3443	-22.08%
Mumbai	87491	114161	30.48%	69548	74935	7.75%	57723	52656	-8.78%
Calcutta	13388	12056	-9.95%	9897	11623	17.44%	7656	7548	-1.41%
Cochin	2597	2733	5.23%	2310	2116	-8.41%	2305	1702	-26.16%
Hyderabad	11660	13428	15.17%	8479	10128	19.45%	6401	6627	3.54%
Jaipur	4815	4913	2.04%	2721	4375	60.76%	2173	2148	-1.11%
Chennai	17473	18603	6.47%	13872	14843	7.00%	11234	10716	-4.61%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Delhi	43682	46865	7.29%	33646	37347	11.00%	27623	26158	-5.31%
Chandigarh	8265	9724	17.65%	6373	7002	9.87%	5686	5011	-11.88%
Kanpur	1193	1057	-11.38%	913	1007	10.30%	890	701	-21.22%
Meerut	13989	10089	-27.88%	13627	11203	-17.79%	11867	10306	-13.15%
Lucknow	2136	2235	4.61%	1726	1781	3.18%	1595	1339	-16.03%
Pune	10578	12365	16.89%	8414	8924	6.05%	7282	6436	-11.61%
Patna	2345	2641	12.62%	1879	1950	3.79%	1972	1440	-27.01%
Guwahati	2229	1775	-20.36%	2165	1765	-18.49%	2000	1673	-16.37%
Bhubneshwar	3957	3829	-3.23%	3249	3308	1.83%	3093	2469	-20.18%
Nagpur	1843	2149	16.61%	1470	1553	5.67%	1252	1154	-7.85%
<b>Total</b>	<b>267173</b>	<b>308176</b>	<b>15.35%</b>	<b>212281</b>	<b>227276</b>	<b>7.06%</b>	<b>176823</b>	<b>162733</b>	<b>-7.97%</b>

**Notes:**

1. The figures of collections are exclusive of collections under Central TDS, which is received centrally through book transfer.
2. The Growth rate indicated are growth over BE target not over previous year collection.

**Statement II***Zonal Collections with Last Years Figures*

CGIT Charge	Corporate Income Tax				Personal Income Tax				Total				Target		
	Actual Collection (Crore) 2007-08	Actual Collection (Crore) 2008-09	Excess/ Shortfall (Crore)	Growth Over Last Year (%)	Actual Collection (Crore) 2007-08	Actual Collection (Crore) 2008-09	Excess/ Shortfall (Crore)	Growth Over Last Year (%)	Actual Collection (Crore) 2007-08	Actual Collection (Crore) 2008-09	Excess/ Shortfall (Crore)	Growth Over Last Year (%)	Target for 2008-09	Target Growth Rate for 2008-09	CCIT Charge
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mumbai	53588	57926	4338	8.09%	21869	25155	3286	15.03%	75456	83080	7624	10.10%	150011	30.46%	Mumbai
<b>West Zone</b>															
Ahmedabad	4160	4938	778	18.69%	3723	4218	494	13.27%	7884	9156	1272	16.13%	14545	25.50%	Ahmedabad
Nagpur	462	1064	602	130.36%	814	745	-69	-8.46%	1276	1809	533	41.78%	2657	23.42%	Nagpur
Pune	3813	4179	366	9.59%	5121	5195	74	1.45%	8934	9373	440	4.92%	14841	27.29%	Pune
Bhopal	1316	2953	1637	124.35%	2362	1324	-1038	-43.93%	3678	4277	599	16.29%	6972	25.74%	Bhopal
<b>Total</b>	<b>9751</b>	<b>13133</b>	<b>3382</b>	<b>34.68%</b>	<b>12020</b>	<b>11482</b>	<b>-538</b>	<b>-4.48%</b>	<b>21771</b>	<b>24615</b>	<b>2844</b>	<b>13.06%</b>	<b>39015</b>	<b>26.07%</b>	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>South Zone</b>															
Chennai	7501	9626	2125	28.32%	6100	6285	186	3.04%	13601	15811	2310	16.99%	23861	25.70%	Chennai
Bangalore	11931	13422	1491	12.49%	9229	9135	-93	-1.01%	21180	22557	1367	6.60%	33312	26.30%	Bangalore
Hyderabad	4813	7542	2728	56.69%	4858	4818	-241	-4.95%	9671	12159	2488	25.72%	19193	30.08%	Hyderabad
Cochin	791	1119	328	41.46%	1035	1200	165	15.96%	1826	2319	493	27.01%	3475	23.70%	Cochin
<b>Total</b>	<b>25037</b>	<b>31709</b>	<b>6672</b>	<b>26.65%</b>	<b>21222</b>	<b>21238</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0.08%</b>	<b>46258</b>	<b>52947</b>	<b>6689</b>	<b>14.46%</b>	<b>79841</b>	<b>26.89%</b>	
<b>North Zone</b>															
Delhi	24882	31038	6156	24.74%	8779	11860	3081	35.10%	33681	42888	9237	27.44%	64599	28.15%	Delhi
Meerut	8065	7165	-900	-11.16%	1452	1212	-240	-16.54%	9516	8377	-1140	-11.98%	14827	19.79%	Meerut
Chandigarh	3034	3595	561	18.49%	4055	3843	-212	-5.23%	7089	7438	349	4.92%	10514	25.16%	Chandigarh
<b>Total</b>	<b>35981</b>	<b>41798</b>	<b>5818</b>	<b>16.17%</b>	<b>14286</b>	<b>16915</b>	<b>2629</b>	<b>18.40%</b>	<b>50267</b>	<b>58713</b>	<b>8447</b>	<b>16.80%</b>	<b>89740</b>	<b>26.37%</b>	
<b>East Zone</b>															
Guwahati	869	564	-325	-36.56%	866	583	-123	-17.96%	1575	1126	-448	-28.47%	2377	11.35%	Guwahati
Bhubaneswar	1212	2456	1244	102.59%	1341	1032	-309	-23.04%	2553	3488	935	36.62%	4827	23.58%	Bhubaneswar
Calcutta	5885	7022	1137	19.33%	2403	3244	841	34.98%	8288	10266	1978	23.87%	15639	24.70%	Calcutta
Patna	819	980	141	17.23%	978	1035	57	5.81%	1797	1995	198	11.01%	3204	25.01%	Patna
<b>Total</b>	<b>8804</b>	<b>11001</b>	<b>2187</b>	<b>24.96%</b>	<b>5408</b>	<b>5873</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>8.60%</b>	<b>14212</b>	<b>16874</b>	<b>2662</b>	<b>18.73%</b>	<b>26147</b>	<b>23.18%</b>	
<b>Central Zone</b>															
Jaipur	2149	1813	-336	-15.62%	1243	1448	205	16.53%	3392	3262	-130	-3.84%	6040	24.63%	Jaipur
Lucknow	448	562	114	25.52%	971	1198	227	23.37%	1419	1760	341	24.05%	2749	22.75%	Lucknow
Kanpur	285	368	83	29.17%	444	546	102	22.95	729	914	185	25.38%	1456	24.01%	Kanpur
<b>Total</b>	<b>2881</b>	<b>2743</b>	<b>-138</b>	<b>-4.80%</b>	<b>2658</b>	<b>3192</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>20.10</b>	<b>5539</b>	<b>5935</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>7.15%</b>	<b>10245</b>	<b>24.03%</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>136042</b>	<b>158310</b>	<b>22268</b>	<b>16.37%</b>	<b>77462</b>	<b>83855</b>	<b>6393</b>	<b>8.25</b>	<b>213503</b>	<b>242164</b>	<b>28285</b>	<b>13.24%</b>	<b>395000</b>	<b>27.68%</b>	
Central TDS (upto Dec. 08)	68.75	39.05	-29.7	-43.20%	1136.21	1877.02	740.81	65.20	1204.96	1916.07	711.11	59.02%			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>136111</b>	<b>158349</b>	<b>22238</b>	<b>16.34%</b>	<b>78598</b>	<b>85732</b>	<b>7134</b>	<b>9.08</b>	<b>214708</b>	<b>244080</b>	<b>28372</b>	<b>13.68%</b>	<b>395000</b>	<b>25.60%</b>	

Note: Collections are based on OLTAS figure generate dthrough PAN based query.

PIT includes FBT

Central TDS is as per Pr. CCA

**Statement III**  
*Zone wise Central Excise Revenue Targets and Actual Revenue Realisation*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Zone	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (Prov.)	
		Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised (April-December)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Mumbai-I	3800	3995	4767	5071	5520	5391	5660	3641
2.	Mumbai-II	7700	8650	9610	10299	11194	10802	11340	6589
3.	Pune	4900	4456	4450	4326	4680	4317	4530	1476
4.	Nagpur	3250	2807	3002	2784	3100	3141	3460	1793
5.	Vadodara	10200	10317	11100	11303	12320	12339	13135	7760
6.	Ahmedabad	10200	8508	8600	5189	5800	3526	6225	5127
	<b>Western Region</b>	<b>40050</b>	<b>38732</b>	<b>41529</b>	<b>38972</b>	<b>42614</b>	<b>39516</b>	<b>44350</b>	<b>26386</b>
7.	Bangalore	4330	4165	4550	4167	4810	4744	5300	3103
8.	Mangalore	6520	5278	4850	5835	6210	7301	7885	5186
9.	Cochin	4200	3681	4320	4539	4820	5045	5445	3268
10.	Hyderabad	3000	2788	3000	2879	3300	3004	3305	1919
11.	Visakhapatnam	7238	6100	6700	7043	7100	7186	7545	4874
12.	Chennai	8000	7666	7800	7984	8350	7554	8450	4749
13.	Coimbatore	1700	1870	2020	2159	2700	2504	2630	1285
	<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>34988</b>	<b>31547</b>	<b>33240</b>	<b>34605</b>	<b>37290</b>	<b>37337</b>	<b>40560</b>	<b>24384</b>
14.	Lucknow	7200	6238	6810	6933	7430	6494	6885	4750
15.	Meerut	4680	4295	4383	4488	4850	4723	5100	3312
16.	Ranchi	7630	6844	6900	7451	8600	8410	9165	5762
17.	Delhi	7500	7100	8400	7570	9200	9020	10150	5806
18.	Chandigarh	840	1275	1290	1465	1660	1529	1745	723
19.	Jaipur	1600	1762	1850	1967	2300	2408	2650	1516
20.	Bhopal	5100	4794	5215	5493	6600	7011	8130	5216

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Northern Region</b>									
21.	Kolkata	7000	5500	5850	5906	6300	6463	7500	5273
22.	Bhubaneshwar	1980	1792	1800	2066	2200	2445	3180	1742
23.	Shillong	2700	2774	3100	3133	3320	3362	3630	2436
<b>Eastern Region</b>		<b>11680</b>	<b>10170</b>	<b>10750</b>	<b>11105</b>	<b>11820</b>	<b>12270</b>	<b>14310</b>	<b>9451</b>
Excise drawback paid by customs houses		3000	2050	2400	3402	3321	5778	6435	6187
<b>All India Total</b>		<b>118268</b>	<b>110707</b>	<b>117967</b>	<b>116646</b>	<b>129043</b>	<b>122939</b>	<b>136610</b>	<b>81118</b>

Source: Directorate of Data Management, CBEC

Note: Exclusive of cess administered by northern Department of Revenue.

**Statement IV***Zone-wise Customs Revenue Targets and Revenue Realisation*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Zone	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09 (April-December provisional)	
		Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised	Target	Actual Revenue Realised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Mumbai-I (CUS)	5685	6394	7510	7830	9000	8391	9095	5480
2.	Mumbai-II (CUS)	12691	14943	18080	21311	18215	19660	25360	17626
3.	Mumbai-III (CUS)	555	455	550	577	6535	6357	7255	4948
4.	Mumbai-I (CEX)	20	20	20	12	10	12	10	4
5.	Mumbai-II (CEX)	6	8	10	11	10	15	20	14
6.	Pune	375	346	410	522	910	1221	2050	908
7.	Nagpur	215	278	340	344	390	343	340	280
8.	Ahmedabad (CUS)	7810	10734	12330	13054	14940	15307	13940	11785
9.	Ahmedabad (CEX)	45	15	20	5	6	578	165	149
10.	Vadodara	30	6	10	6	6	450	490	221
<b>Western Region</b>		<b>27432</b>	<b>33199</b>	<b>39280</b>	<b>43672</b>	<b>50022</b>	<b>52334</b>	<b>58725</b>	<b>41415</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11.	Bangalore (CUS)	3835	3848	4540	5009	5730	4117	5400	3079
12.	Mysore	10		10	12	15	10	10	3
13.	Cochin (C.EX)	70	86	100	113	130	1696	1900	1071
14.	Hyderabad (C.EX)	420	495	600	782	890	906	1080	730
15.	Vizag (C.EX)	1840	2346	2730	2698	3090	3364	3240	2721
16.	Chennai (CUS)	8100	9471	11340	12818	14670	16581	20115	14376
17.	Chennai (PREV.)	1120	1140	1380	1685	1930	1489	1720	1205
18.	Chennai (CEX)	45	63	80	100	110	212	275	313
19.	Coimbatore	30	-72	-92	-42	0	-44	-45	-37
	<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>15470</b>	<b>17377</b>	<b>20688</b>	<b>23175</b>	<b>26565</b>	<b>28331</b>	<b>33695</b>	<b>23461</b>
20.	Lucknow (C.EX)	10	-59	-72	-8	0	22	30	23
21.	Meerut (C.Ex)	160	791	960	1195	1370	1706	2200	1612
22.	Patna (Prev.)	210	211	250	177	200	134	155	121
23.	Ranchi	1	0	0	0	0	0		4
24.	Delhi	6545	6785	8180	9672	11070	11101	12670	9256
25.	Delhi (Prev.)	45	448	60	115	60	131	170	67
26.	Delhi (C.EX)	845	805	970	696	800	810	1045	756
27.	Chandigarh	285		490	580	660	702	765	593
28.	Jaipur	25	29	40	33	40	24	30	26
29.	Bhopal ((C.EX)	95	134	160	179	200	207	240	193
	<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>8221</b>	<b>9144</b>	<b>11038</b>	<b>12639</b>	<b>14400</b>	<b>14837</b>	<b>17305</b>	<b>12651</b>
30.	Kolkata (CUS)	4390	4873	5690	6638	7600	7643	7525	4303
31.	Bhubaneshwar	160	304	350	417	480	970	1650	1153
32.	Shillong	9	13	20	28	30	30	30	13
	<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>4559</b>	<b>5190</b>	<b>6060</b>	<b>7083</b>	<b>8110</b>	<b>8643</b>	<b>9205</b>	<b>5469</b>
	<b>All India Total</b>	<b>55682</b>	<b>64911</b>	<b>77066</b>	<b>86569</b>	<b>98770</b>	<b>104146</b>	<b>118930</b>	<b>82993</b>

Source: Directorate of Data Management, CBEC In 2007-08 Rs. 327 crore taken as draw back

**Statement V***Service Tax Revenue*

(Rs. in crore)

Head	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
BE	17500	34500	50200	64460
RE	23000	38169	50803	65000
Actuals	23055	37598	51301	

Revenue realised during April-December, 2008 is at Rs. 45521 crore.

Source: Receipts Budget and PrCCA.

[English]

**CLIA Scheme**

711. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced "Chief Life Insurance Advisors" (CLIA) scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CLIA scheme diversified the agents who are the resources for the Development Officers to achieve the targets and to produce business; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced the Chief Life Insurance Advisors Scheme, 2008 (CLIA) with effect from 01.04.2008. The details of the schemes are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) LIC has developed this strategic channel for recruitment of agents given the changed market scenario in the Insurance Industry. The CLIA model aims to help the LIC to develop a strong and stable agency force, increase market penetration and to reduce the chances of poaching of senior agents by private companies. The intention is to empower senior agents to play a supervisory role given their long experience,

knowledge and understanding of the market. The Development Officers shall continue to get credit for business done by their agents even if such agents have become CLIAs.

**Statement***Details of the Chief Life Insurance Advisor (CLIA) Scheme***ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The applicant should be member of any of the following clubs for Agents:

1. Corporate, 2 Chairman's, 3. Zonal Manager's, 4. Divisional Manager's, or The applicant should be Financial Service Executive having at least 3 years standing. or The applicant should be a Retired Employee of the Corporation in the Class I, II and III cadre including who has taken voluntary retirement under Pension Rules and having LIC agency.

**AGE:**

The applicant should have completed minimum age of 25 years and should not have completed 65 years of age. The Zonal Manager incharge can relax the upper age limit in deserving cases. The Maximum age upto which an applicant can work a Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall be 70 years.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

The applicant fulfilling the above eligibility criteria will be authorized to act as Chief Life Insurance Advisor (CLIA) on the basis of an interview by a 3 Member Committee constituted by the Sr. Divisional Manager incharge of the Divisional Office. The committee will be headed by an officer not below the rank of Assistant Divisional Manager and the other members of the committee will not be below the rank of Administrative Officer. Such selected applicants will enter into a separate agreement with the Life Insurance Corporation of India on such terms and conditions as may be defined from time to time. The agreement would be signed by Marketing Manager or a person authorized by Sr/ Divisional Manager I/C on behalf of the Corporation and the applicant would be authorized to act as a Chief Life Insurance Advisor. The contract would be for a period of Five Years and renewable thereafter for a period of five

years or less in case of CLIA attaining 70 years of age. The Competent authority may terminate this agreement by giving one month's notice thereof in writing even if the CLIA has fulfilled minimum performance norms as specified from time to time. However, the CLIA during this notice period shall continue to be responsible for the quality of business brought by his supervised agents.

#### **FUNCTIONS OF A CHIEF LIFE INSURANCE ADVISOR:**

- (a) Every Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall recommend names of candidates suitable for appointment as new agents. These individuals, after passing the necessary pre-recruitment test as specified by Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (Licensing of Insurance Agents) Regulations, 2000 as amended from time to time, shall be placed under the supervision of the Chief Life Insurance Advisor.
- (b) Every Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall make attempt for re-appointment of terminated agents of the Corporation by motivating them. Such agents on reappointment shall be placed under the supervision of the CLIA who motivated them subject to existing provisions in force.
- (c) The Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall be responsible for Post Recruitment mentoring, counseling, and performance of the Agents supervised by him. The Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall also be responsible for the quality of business and professional conduct of the agent supervised.
- (d) Every Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall be responsible for activating the agent placed under him/her and shall motivate him to perform satisfactorily.
- (e) Every Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall help the supervised agent to perform his duties as per Agents Rules 1972 and IRDA Rules and Regulations as applicable from time to time.
- (f) Every Chief Life Insurance Advisor shall perform such other duties as may be entrusted or assigned to him/her by the Corporation from time to time.

#### **British Foreign Secretary's Visit to India**

712. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British foreign Secretary recently visited India; and

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed and agreements signed during his visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The British Foreign Secretary Mr. David Miliband was on an official visit to India from 13-16 January, 2009. The visit was part of the annual bilateral dialogue held at the level of Foreign Ministers. The two sides held extensive discussions on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest. No agreement was signed during the visit.

*[Translation]*

#### **Launch of Space Craft**

713. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to send Space Craft to the Moon and the Mars;

(b) if so, the details thereof outlining the type of Manned or Unmanned Space-crafts proposed to be launched;

(c) the details of the schedule chalked out in this regard alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) India has already sent Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft (Unmanned) to Moon on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008. Further, Government have approved undertaking Chandrayaan-2 mission. Chandrayaan-2 is an unmanned spacecraft and is intended for *in-situ* scientific exploration of polar regions of Moon. Presently, there is no proposal to send a spacecraft to Mars.

(c) The Chandrayaan-2 is scheduled for launch during 2011-12 timeframe. The total budget approved for Chandrayaan-2 is Rs.425 crore.

(d) Chandrayaan-2 will enhance the scientific understanding of Moon's surface and environment, upgrade India's technological capabilities and provide opportunities for younger generation in the country for planetary research.

*[English]***Compassionate Appointments in Banks**

714. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for compassionate appointments received in the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) during each of the last three years and the current year, Bank-wise; and

(b) the number of such applications accepted and rejected during the said period, Bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

**Amendment in the Emigration Act, 1983**

715. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY:

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

(a) whether the proposed amendments in the Emigration Act, 1983 have been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the proposed amendment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) The proposed amendments to the Emigration Act, 1983 are currently under finalization. The proposed amendments are intended to facilitate legal emigration, to curb illegal emigration and to make emigration a simple, transparent, efficient and humane process.

**Emergency Treatment of Patients**

716. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaint cases reported against hospitals and other medical establishments refusing urgent and emergency treatment to patients;

(b) the action taken against such hospitals/ establishments to make them more responsive to healthcare needs of the patients;

(c) whether the Government proposes to establish a comprehensive mechanism responsible for formulating standards for classifying clinical establishment and to compile, maintain and update their national register for regulating hospitals and private clinical units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Health being a State subject such information is not centrally maintained. However, in so far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are concerned no complaint regarding refusing urgent and emergency treatment to patients has been reported. Complaints/Grievances Cells are already in existence in all these hospitals to address complaints/grievances of patients, if any.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already introduced a Bill namely—"The Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Bill 2007" in the Parliament. The Bill is aimed to provide for the registration and regulation of clinical establishments in the country with a view to prescribe minimum standards of facilities and services which may be provided by them.

**Extradition Treaty between India and Nepal**

717. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal have mutually agreed to modify the existing extradition treaty;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) An extradition treaty, concluded on October 2, 1953, is currently in force between India and Nepal. A need to revise this treaty had been felt as the treaty had proved to be inadequate in view of changes in the

nature of crime and revised international norms of extradition.

(c) The text of a new extradition treaty has been finalised between the two Governments. The new treaty would significantly strengthen the bilateral legal framework to combat cross-border crime and terrorism. The new extradition treaty was initialled in January 2005. It awaits formal signature.

*[Translation]*

#### Conservation of Medicinal Plants

718. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the work of the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) entrusted with the work of conservation of medicinal plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Work of Non-Government organizations (NGOs) entrusted with the projects on conservation of medicinal plants under the scheme of National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) is reviewed through following measures:

- Presentation by the NGOs before Committee of experts regarding the work done and the achievements made before release of further instalments.
- Monitoring and evaluation by the State Medicinal Plants Boards for which the State Medicinal Plants Boards are eligible for an assistance of 2.5% of the project costs.
- Monitoring and Evaluation through Agricultural Finance Corporation Ltd. as the national level organization for monitoring of projects funded by the NMPB.

*[English]*

#### Schemes for Development of Sports

719. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing Central Schemes for the development of sports in the country;

(b) the amount allocated for each discipline of Sports under these schemes during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the details of expenditure incurred on Sports each year during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) At present, the following central schemes are being operated for the development and promotion of sports and games in the country:

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Main objective of the scheme
1	2	3
1.	Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan	Creation of basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and providing access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels.
2.	Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)	To provide assistance to NSFs for conducting National Championships and International Tournaments in India, participation of national teams in International tournaments abroad, organizing coaching camps, procuring sports equipments, engagement of foreign coaches, etc.
3.	Talent Search & Training	To provide assistance to promising and budding sportspersons for training, competitive exposure and the purchase of equipment.
4.	National Sports Development Fund	To provide tailor-made assistance to elite athletes for their training and preparation for participation in major international competitions.

1	2	3
5.	Schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI) viz National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, Army Boys Sports Companies Scheme, SAI Training Centres Scheme, Special Area Games Scheme, Centres of Excellence Scheme, National Coaching Scheme and Capital Projects	To broad-base and promote excellence in sports, including talent identification and development, organizing national coaching camps, and development of sports academics.
6.	Laxmibai National University of Physical Education, Gwalior	To prepare qualified leaders in the field of physical education; to undertake, promote and disseminate research and also publish literature in the field of physical education; to provide professional and academic leadership to other institutions etc.
7.	Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches	To encourage and motivate outstanding sportspersons for higher achievements and to attract the younger generation to take sports both as amateurs and professionals.
8.	Awards Schemes viz Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement in sports and games, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy	To recognize and honour the outstanding sportspersons, coaches and top overall performing university in the Inter-University Tournaments.
9.	Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons	To reward the meritorious sportspersons for their outstanding achievements with life time assistance in the form of assured monthly pension.
10.	National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons	To provide assistance to retired sports persons who brought fame and glory to the country but now living in indigent circumstances.
11.	National Sports Championship for Women	To promote sports and games among women.
12.	Promotion of Sports & Games in schools and colleges	To raise the standard of sports at the school level and to encourage participation in inter-school competitions.
13.	Scheme of Sports Scholarships	To assist talented boys and girls for their outstanding performances by way of sports scholarships.
14.	Scheme of Assistance for Anti-Doping Activities	To provide financial assistance for anti-doping measures.

(b) The sports specific assistance is provided under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) only and following allocations were made for the scheme during the last three years and current year:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Year	Allocations	
		Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates
1	2	3	4
1.	2005-06	45.00	40.00

1	2	3	4
2.	2006-07	40.60	34.08
3.	2007-08	51.49	54.49
4.	2008-09	54.00	41.00

(c) The details of expenditure NSFs-wise during the last three years and the current year under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***Details of Grants released to the National Sports Federations*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Federation	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (upto December, 2008)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	All India Carrom Federation	13.98	12.69	15.21	11.88
2.	All India Chess Federation	78.94	112.46	239.94	51.26
3.	All India Karate-Do-Federation	00.00	3.46	00	00
4.	All India Sports Council of the Deaf	13.43	19.15	17.24	28.35
5.	Amateur Baseball Federation of India	07.00	15.49	9.00	10.50
6.	Amateur Handball Federation of India	34.57	38.64	18.03	43.55
7.	Atya Patya Federation of India	12.00	15.50	8.50	10.00
8.	Ball Badminton Federation of India	00.00	0.00	Nil	00
9.	Basketball Federation of India	41.21	36.31	71.44	33.67
10.	Cycle Polo Federation of India	0	30.01	14.82	13.73
11.	Fencing Association of India	43.78	45.70	6.61	21.75
12.	Gymnastics Federation of India	14.88	66.47	39.65	7.80
13.	Indian Body Building Federation	0	0.00	0	00
14.	Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association	36.50	21.23	43.52	20.24
15.	Indian Polo Association	01.10	1.55	2.11	4.97
16.	Indian Power lifting Federation	15.00	8.50	11.50	8.00
17.	Judo Federation of India	64.66	48.62	92.23	17.25
18.	Kho-Kho Federation of India	12.00	2.00	00	00
19.	Korfball Federation of India	09.00	12.50	13.50	9.47
20.	All India Tennis Association	77.45	90.07	92.63	64.61
21.	National Rifle Association of India	433.43	373.19	717.24	325.25
22.	Netball Federation of India	11.50	9.50	14.99	18.78
23.	Roller Skating Federation of India	09.00	0.00	0	00

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Rowing Federation of India	51.65	9.75	65.20	41.00
25.	Sepak Takraw Federation of India	10.50	13.00	11.95	9.00
26.	Shooting Ball Federation of India	00.00	0.00	0	00
27.	Softball Federation of India	9.80	12.00	9.00	00
28.	Squash Racket Federation of India	15.42	21.94	11.37	8.27
29.	Swimming Federation of India	53.33	13.59	84.14	8.09
30.	Table Tennis Federation of India	165.10	178.75	332.97	55.93
31.	Taekwondo Federation of India	00.00	0.00	0	00
32.	Tenni-Koit Federation of India	11.00	13.00	9.00	12.00
33.	Tennis Ball Cricket Federation of India	17.00	11.50	8.00	10.50
34.	Tug of War Federation of India	11.50	20.75	3.50	8.50
35.	Volleyball Federation of India	94.97	58.17	104.81	56.39
36.	Yachting Association of India	141.30	78.40	117.91	12.33
37.	Wushu Association of India	07.10	13.50	11.41	23.57
38.	Throwball Federation of India	09.00	0.00	19.82	00
39.	Paralympic Committee of India	13.50	33.34	219.19	10.70
40.	Archery Association of India	51.75	96.48	81.67	66.82
41.	Billiards & Snooker Federation of India	28.57	16.13	33.49	20.39
42.	Indian Amateur Boxing Federation	142.74	81.79	154.76	138.92
43.	Indian Hockey Federation	96.46	92.09	125.16	116.78
44.	Indian Women Hockey Federation	78.81	111.64	191.65	71.51
45.	Indian Amateur Kabaddi Federation	24.69	13.95	25.66	15.43
46.	Indian Weightlifting Federation	51.41	3.28	0	00
47.	Athletics Federation of India	227.95	86.83	233.19	215.51
48.	Badminton Association of India	271.94	117.65	199.75	139.43
49.	Equestrian Federation of India	31.20	29.06	61.99	44.85
50.	All India Football Association	70.37	30.55	68.15	21.65
51.	Indian Golf Union	37.84	23.65	56.64	1.06

1	2	3	4	5	6
52.	Wrestling Federation of India	209.82	32.58	6.15	141.86
53.	Winter Games Federation of India	12.51	1.65	0	2.03
54.	Women's Cricket Federation of India	00	1.00	1.87	00
55.	Cycling Federation of India	11.73	1.00	27.91	00
56.	Special Olympic Bharat	0.00	4.50	87.22	9.00
57.	Indian Olympic Association	28.53	538.10	244.28	201.16
58.	Sports Authority of India	950.00	500.00	1700.00	800.00
59.	Malkhamb Federation	0	0	3.75	10.25
60.	Amateur Soft Tennis Federation of India	0	0	0	7.50
61.	Bridge Federation of India	0	0	0	1.50

#### Reduction in Interest Rate on Loans

720. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received representation from the Government of Kerala to reduce the interest rate on loans granted under programmes for strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), the nodal Government Agency for implementation for Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), has not received any representation from Government of Kerala for reduction in rates of interest on loans for strengthening of infrastructure for quality and clean milk production under RIDF.

#### Setting up of IIBM

721. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of a branch of Indian Institute of Bank Management (IIBM) at Gandhinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

#### Presence of Dangerous Fats Content in Edible Oil

722. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAMESH DUBE:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) whether traces of trans fats were found in edible oil as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 4 February, 2009;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Recent reports appearing in the press are based upon the report, titled "Fatty acid profile of edible oils and fats in India", brought out in January, 2009, by Centre for Science and Environment, regarding presence of trans fatty acids in edible oil. Edible vegetable oils normally do not contain Trans fatty acids (TFA) however TFAs are formed when vegetable oils are subjected to hydrogenation i.e. in production of vanaspati, margarine, etc.

The Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 do not prescribe any limit of Trans Fatty Acids in oils and fats. However, through a Notification No. GSR664(E) dated 19.9.2008 relating to food labeling under the PFA Rules, 1955, provisions have been made that in case any hydrogenated vegetable fat or bakery shortening is used in preparation of any food, the declaration that it contains trans fatty acid shall be given. Further in case of claim that the product is free from trans fatty acids then the amount of trans fatty acid shall not be more than 0.2 gm per serving.

#### **Viability of CIL Projects**

723. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) proposes to rework the viability of all its projects under Eleventh Plan as reported in the 'Hindu' dated 4 February, 2009;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Coal India Limited's (CIL's) subsidiary, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) has been assigned to re-work the economics/viability of the projects being taken up during XI Plan period due to increase in wages of the employees in view of National Coal Wage Award-VIII (NCWA-VIII).

(c) No such proposal has been received by the Government till date.

#### **Loan Consultancy Centres**

724. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to establish loan consultancy centres in the country to provide information regarding opening of bank accounts and recovery of loans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines on 24.04.2008 on 'Recovery agents engaged by banks'. In terms of these guidelines, banks are encouraged to utilise the services of the credit counsellors for providing suitable counselling to the borrowers as per the provisions of the guidelines.

#### **Amendment in Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995**

725. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received from the State Governments including Maharashtra to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 to make it mandatory for the Cable Operators to get themselves registered;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, whether the said proposals are pending with the Government; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be accepted/rejected by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Proposal from State Government of Maharashtra for amendment in Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 has been received.

(b) State Government of Maharashtra is of the view that there is no provision in the said Act to check the cable operator evading payment of entertainment duty and has therefore, proposed an amendment in the Act enabling the registering authority to refuse to grant or renewal of registration certificate of those cable operators, who have not paid entertainment tax under the State Act.

(c) to (e) The amendment of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in the light of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding "restructuring of cable services" received by the Government on 25.7.2008 are under consideration of Government. The proposal of State Government will also be taken into consideration while deciding the matter.

(f) No time frame could be given in such policy issues.

#### Expansion Plan of IREL

726. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the proposed expansion plan of Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL) for exploitation of raw sand at Manavalakurichi;

(b) the funds allocated and spent so far in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Expansion plan of Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) for exploitation of raw sand at Manavalakurichi (MK) is held up for want of clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and renewal of mining leases by the Tamil Nadu Government.

(b) Funds amounting to Rs. 11 crore and Rs. 45.50 crore were allocated for the project in the X and XI Plan respectively, but no amount has been spent so far.

(c) MoEF in their Terms of Reference (ToR) meeting held on 25.11.2008 have rejected the Manavalakurichi expansion project on the ground that expansion of industrial activity is not permissible in Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ) area. An appeal has been filed with National Environment Appellate Authority on 4.2.2009 for reconsideration of the decision.

IREL is actively pursuing with the State Government authorities for land acquisition and renewal of mining leases.

#### Sickle Cell Anaemia Disease

727. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people in our country suffer from Sickle Cell Anaemia Disease (SCAD);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sickle cell anaemia disease (SACD) is a hereditary blood disorder caused due to defective hemoglobin structure resulting in early destruction of RBC's and resulting in anemia. It is estimated almost 5-6000 newborn are born with SCAD every year.

(c) The Indian Council of Medical Research has recently completed a multicentric study on sickle cell anemia amongst primitive tribes from four States, *i.e.* Gujarat, Orissa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Under this project simple intervention methods to reduce the sickle cell crisis in the affected individuals was adapted, which included Folic acid and iron tablets to be given to cases of nutritional anemia and SCAD with iron deficiency, electrolyte powder and plenty of fluid during crises, preventive vaccines (Hepatitis) B, H influenza and pneumococcus) to all children with SCAD. Genetic counselling has been offered to affected

population. State Governments have been requested to implement these intervention methods in the respective States.

*[Translation]*

#### **Bank Draft Fraud**

728. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding alleged fake bank draft frauds in Tripura; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that on perusal of 'Fraud Reporting and Monitoring System' package, it is observed that no bank has reported any fraud case on account of fraudulent encashment of cheques, drafts in Tripura State.

RBI had issued guidelines/modus operandi circulars to all the Commercial Banks on fraudulent encashment of fake/forged/stolen/altered instruments so that adequate safeguards could be taken by the banks to prevent frauds in this area. Further, RBI has instructed all the banks for strict adherence to Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines which are very exhaustive and explicit. The Annual Financial Inspection conducted by RBI also takes a close look into this aspects.

*[English]*

#### **Thyroid Disease**

729. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians suffer from bloated thyroid due to iodine deficiency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether consumption of iodized salt has any effect in reducing iodine deficiency;

(d) if so, the details of the same; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide iodized salt to the poorer sections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) As per surveys conducted by Director General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research, Health Institutes and State Health Directorates, covering all States/UTs, 263 districts out of 324 districts surveyed are endemic to Iodine Deficiency Disorders including goiter where the prevalence is more than 10%. The visible goiter has reduced significantly in the entire country as a result of consumption of iodated salt under centrally assisted National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP).

(e) In order to provide iodated salt to the weaker sections in the country several States/UTs have included iodated salt under Public Distribution System as an essential item.

#### **Pollution by Processing Industries**

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

(a) the details of the measures taken/proposed to be taken to contain pollution being spread by the processing industries;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to seek help from environmental experts and other agencies in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The measures taken to contain pollution being spread by the processing industries include the following:

- (i) Notification of general and industry specific environmental standards.
- (ii) Prescribing protocols for Hazardous Wastes Management, handling and storage under The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (iii) Environment Surveillance and inspection of industries by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) to enforce the prescribed norms.

- (iv) Issue of directions under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (v) Mandatory Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) clearance for certain categories of industrial projects.
- (vi) Issue of consent under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, mandatory for polluting industries.
- (vii) Promotion of establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDFs) by the Government of India.
- (viii) Promotion of Clean Technology and Waste Minimization by undertaking research and dissemination.
- (ix) Preparation of zoning atlas for siting of industries based on environmental considerations.
- (x) Implementation of Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) through voluntary initiatives by the Industries.

(b) and (c) Environmental experts and other agencies including industrial associations are consulted, among others, for prescribing national environmental standards for industries. Six sector specific Committees have been constituted, which also include experts from different fields, to process the grant of environmental clearances. Experts of other agencies like Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) institutions are also involved in various research projects on Clean Technologies and Waste Minimization.

*[Translation]*

#### **Chambal Project**

731. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the State Government of Rajasthan has submitted the revised proposal with regard to cleaning of Chambal project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) A revised project proposal with an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for "Environmental Improvement Plan of River Chambal at Kota" to be taken up under the National River Conservation Plan on 70:30 cost sharing basis between the Central and the State Governments. The Planning Commission has been requested by the Ministry to give their 'in-principle' approval for the project.

*[English]*

#### **Issue of Passports to Haj Pilgrims**

732. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saudi Arabia has asked India to issue passports to the Haj Pilgrims instead of issuing 'Special Passes';

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

(c) the efforts/steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide passport and other logistic facilities to the poor people in the rural areas, who wish to go for Haj pilgrimage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has informed all the countries, including, India, that from the year 2009 Haj pilgrims should travel with international passports; and

(c) Passport Offices will facilitate issuance of passports to Haj pilgrims by opening special counters during the Haj season. Issue of passports under the Tatkal scheme will be available to Haj pilgrims. In addition, the Government has issued instructions to all Passport Offices to ensure availability of passport booklets to meet the additional demand during the Haj season.

However, the Government intends to approach to Saudi Authorities for a reconsideration of our request and allow the existing system to continue for one more year.

#### **Banking Ombudsman Scheme**

733. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the increasing number of complaints relating to the Internet Banking, the Reserve Bank of India proposes to widen the scope of its Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 to include deficiencies arising out of Internet Banking;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether RBI has simplified the format for lodging complaints to the Banking Ombudsman;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to put a check on Internet Banking Frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has amended the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 vide Notification dated February 3, 2009. Clause (8) of Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 (i.e. grounds of complaints) has been amended to include the complaints arising out of internet banking.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir, However, RBI has advised that the submission of complaint in the prescribed format is not mandatory and complainant has the option to lodge the complaint with the Banking Ombudsman on the plain paper or through e-mail or on line. Further, if the complainant desires to use a specific format for lodging complaint, he may use the simplified format.

Reserve Bank of India as part of its supervisory process has issued a number of guidelines circulars to all the commercial banks on the *modus operandi* so that adequate safeguards could be taken by them to prevent/reduce the incidence of frauds in banks. Some of the important measures taken by RBI are furnished below:

(i) RBI had issued guidelines/caution circulars on internet banking, observance of KYC norms and also issued *modus operandi* circulars in this regard.

(ii) RBI had issued guidelines on internet banking to all commercial banks vide circular dated June 14, 2001 covering technology and security standards, legal issues and regulatory/supervisory issues with regard to internet banking in India.

(iii) RBI had also issued a caution circular on February 16, 2006 to all commercial banks on phishing attacks. The circular contained details of the *modus operandi* on such attacks and minimum set up preventive/detective measures to tackle Phishing attacks.

[Translation]

#### Private Telephone Operators

734. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI V. K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued show-cause notices to several private telephone operators in connection with income-tax;

(b) if so, the details for the last three years, company-wise along with the amount involved in each such case; and

(c) the reaction of such companies thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The answer is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

Name of the Company	CCIT charge	Type of notice issued	Amount of tax involved (in crore of rupees)			Reaction of the company
			2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vodafone Esaar Gujarat Ltd.	Ahmedabad	notice for recovery of demand	48.8	150.01	Not yet determined	Notices not challenged
Bharti Airtel	Bhopal	notice for non deduction of tax at source	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	No reaction

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vodafone Essar space Tel. Ltd.	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Tata Indicom	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Idea Cellular Ltd.	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Bharat Sanchar Nigam	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Reliance Telecom	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Reliance Communication	Bhopal	As above	As above	As above	As above	No reaction
Vodafone Essar Ltd.	Chadigarh	notice for assessment proceedings	2.55	Not yet determined	Not yet determined	Appeal filed before Commissioner (Appeals) for 2005-06
Idea Cellular Ltd.	Mumbai	notice for assessment proceedings	Nil (as it is a loss case)	Nil (as it is a loss case)	Nil (as it is a loss case)	Appeal filed before Commissioner (Appeals)
Vodafone Int. Holdings B.V. Netherlands	Mumbai	notice for non deduction of tax at source	N.A.*	N.A.*	N.A.*	Assessee's writ dismissed by Mumbai High Court and SLP dismissed by Supreme Court
Hutchison Essar South Ltd. (Now called Vodafone Essar South Ltd.)	New Delhi	notice for assessment proceedings	Nil	Nil	N.A.	Appeals have been filed for the relevant years above (CIT Appeals)
Hutchison Essar Mobile Services Ltd. (Now called Vodafone Mobile Services Ltd.)	New Delhi	notice for assessment proceedings	Nil	Nil	N.A.	No reaction
Bharti Airtel Ltd.	New delhi	notice for non deduction of tax at source	23.53	14.30	18.14	Payment of Rs. 40.80 crores has been made
Bharati Hexacom P Ltd.	New Delhi Delhi	notice for assessment proceedings	N.A.	0.78	N.A.	No reaction

\*The non deduction of tax at source was on a transaction that took place in financial year 2007-08. The order determining tax payable has not yet been passed.

### Certified Emission Reduction Units

735. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Certified Emission Reduction (CER) units issued to Indian Industries by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);

(b) whether the approval of the host country is required under the UNFCCC norms and regulations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce carbon emission in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The number of Certified Emission Reduction (CER) units issued to India as on date is 58.25 million.

(b) and (c) As per UNFCCC norms and regulations any entity that desires to participate in the CDM under UNFCCC has to obtain Host Country Approval (HCA) from the Designated National Authority (DNA) of that Country. The National CDM Authority is India's DNA and accords HCA to eligible CDM projects. The procedure for obtaining Host Country Approval has been clearly stated in the National CDM Authority Website [www.cdmindia.nic.in](http://www.cdmindia.nic.in). In brief it is a single window clearance, wherein Project Proponents submit their 'Project Concept Note' and 'Project Design Document'. The Project Proponent and his consultant is requested to be present in the National CDM Authority meeting where they explain the details of their project and respond to questions that may be raised by members of the Authority. If the members are satisfied, Host Country Approval is issued later by the Authority.

(d) India has no binding commitments to reduce emissions. However, we are following a sustainable development path by adopting a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change, some of which include:

- (i) ensuring energy conservation and improved energy efficiency in various sectors as well as setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency.
- (ii) promoting use of renewable energy.
- (iii) power sector reforms and active renewable energy programme.
- (iv) use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport.
- (v) fuel switching to encourage cleaner energy.
- (vi) afforestation and conservation of forests.

(vii) promotion of clean coal technologies.

(viii) reduction of gas flaring, and

(ix) encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems.

Further steps taken by the Government to earn carbon credits include capacity building of industry and other stake holders through various seminars and workshops. Also, with assistance of Asian Development Bank, the Ministry had published a booklet on 'How to implement Small Scale CDM Projects - A Guide and Toolkit', which was widely distributed to all states. The Government, along with other bilateral agencies, is also helping in development of specific methodologies for CDM.

#### **Nehru Yuva Kendras**

736. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state the amount of money incurred on Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYK) in various States including Chhattisgarh and Orissa, NYK-wise during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): Annual Block grants are released to Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) for implementing regular and Special Programmes through its 500 District Kendra. Rs. 95.85 Crores and Rs. 101.76 Crores were made available during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively for these 500 Kendras which include 8 Kendras in Chhattisgarh and 16 Kendras in Orissa.

#### **FDI in Insurance Sector**

737. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to frame a policy not to increase the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the insurance sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) On the recommendations of Law Commission (190th Report), KPN Committee and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, Government has introduced the Insurance Laws

(Amendment) Bill, 2008 - to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999 in Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2008. This includes the provision of enhancement of FDI limit in Indian insurance companies except cooperatives from 26% to 49%.

#### **Over Exploitation of Medicinal Plants**

738. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether the medicinal plants used in the traditional drugs for combating diseases like cancer and malaria are being over-exploited as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 11 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Medicinal Plants constitute the main raw material for the majority of the traditional drugs of Ayurveda, Sidha and Unani systems of medicine. As per a nationwide study done by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), 77% of the production of medicinal plants in the country is sourced from the forests and wastelands. Due to open access nature of the forest resources, over-exploitation of certain medicinal plants cannot be ruled out.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests is responsible for implementation of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 which have provisions for protection of forests and wildlife, including medicinal plants. The National Biodiversity Act, 2002 regulates the access to forest resources, including medicinal plants. The Ministry of Environment & Forests is also supporting a number of projects on conservation by setting up Medicinal Plants Conservation Areas (MPCAs) that are primarily located in forest areas. Plantation of medicinal plants in degraded forest lands is also supported through schemes of the National Afforestation & Eco-development Board (NAEB), Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Government has also set up Medicinal Plants Board to coordinate matters relating to medicinal plants with Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders for ensuring availability of medicinal plants of quality to the industry on a sustained basis.

The Board also supports schemes for conservation and resource augmentation of rare, endangered and threatened species of medicinal plants under its Central Sector Scheme of conservation, development and sustainable management of medicinal plants which has an outlay of Rs. 320 crores during the 11th Plan.

#### **Production of Documentary Films**

739. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Film Division has invited any proposals from film producers for producing documentary films;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications received from the North Eastern Region (NER);

(d) the number of films proposed to be made on NER;

(e) the criteria for selection of films to be produced; and

(f) the total funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise including North Eastern Region (NER)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Films Division has, under its new plan scheme "Production of Documentary Films", issued an advertisement calling for proposals for production of documentary films on various subjects and duration are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) 100 applications have been received from documentary film makers from North Eastern Region (NER).

(d) and (e) A production committee to study the proposals received has been constituted by the Ministry.

This committee consists of members from the Ministry and Films Division and non-official members who are eminent personalities in the field of documentary film production. This committee will finalise the proposals to be taken up for production.

(f) The total funds allocated for the plan scheme "Production of Documentary Films" for the entire Eleventh Plan period is Rs. 20.00 crore of which Rs. 2.00 crore has been earmarked for North Eastern Region (NER). There will be no state-wise distribution of these funds.

**Statement**

1. Films of 30 seconds to 2 minutes duration in Eastman Colour in 35mm size conveying social message(s) on the following subjects, for release in theatres and telecast on different channels/media.

1. Social Justice
2. Health and Family Welfare
3. Women and Child Development
4. Panchayat Raj
5. Environment
6. Agriculture and Rural Development
7. Promotion of Tourism
8. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
9. Road Safety
10. Civic Sense
11. Organ Donation
12. Water shortage (save water)/Water Harvesting
13. HIV and AIDs
14. Dowry and Child Marriage
15. Communal Harmony and National Integration
16. Global Warming
17. Child Labour
18. Social Evils
19. Anti Terrorism

20. Social Unrest
21. Crime against Women

Documentary Films (26/52 Minutes duration in Video format) for telecast on TV channels on the following subjects:-

1. Agriculture (Animal Husbandry/Farming/Freecstry/Horticulture/Misc)
2. Archaeology and Monuments
3. Health, Community Development & Co-operation
4. Cottage Industry
5. Crafts
6. Art and Culture
7. Food and Festivals
8. Tourism
9. Natural Resources
10. Trade & Commerce
11. Social Welfare
12. Rehabilitation and Employment
13. Geography and Travel
14. Education and Youth Activities
15. History/Freedom Struggle
16. Famous Personalities etc.

**Demand for Tax Concessions**

740. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has demanded income tax holidays, import duty concessions on machinery and incentives eco-cars to give a boost to the struggling Indian auto industry;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the response of the Government thereto; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Foreign Exchange Reserves

741. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign exchange reserves of India have fallen significantly in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, the reasons therefor and its impact in the Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The foreign exchange reserves comprising Foreign Currency Assets (FCA), Gold, Special Drawing Rights and Reserve Tranche Position with IMF, declined from US \$ 295.31 billion at the end of August 2008 to US \$ 251.53 billion on February 6, 2009.

(b) Intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the foreign exchange market to smoothen exchange rate volatility and valuation changes due to inter se movement of US dollar against other currencies were

major factors responsible for decline in foreign exchange reserves. Since the foreign exchange reserve position continues to be at comfortable level, there is no direct impact on the economy.

[*Translation*]

#### Loans By NABARD

742. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned loans for the development of basic infrastructure such as roads, bridges and new irrigation projects in rural areas during the last three years;

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

(c) the funds allocated and utilised during the said period, State-wise, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State-wise position of number of projects sanctioned and amount of loans sanctioned and disbursed by National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund during the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

*Statewise No. of Projects Sanctioned and Disbursements under RIDF-2005-06 to 2008-09  
(Position as on 31 December 2008)*

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	RIDF XI 2005-06			RIDF XII 2006-07			RIDF XIII 2007-08			RIDF XIV 2008-09			State Total 2005-06 to 2008-09		
	No. Proj.	Sanc.	Disb.	No. Proj.	Sanc.	Disb.	No. Proj.	Sanc.	Disb.	No. Proj.	Sanc.	Disb.	No. Proj.	Sanc.	Disb.
1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Gujarat	423	859.47	596.13	272	987.60	238.28	789	649.03	308.54	4023	985.06	197.01	5607	3481.16	1339.96
Andhra Pradesh	2539	1285.98	821.96	2181	756.98	336.36	3471	1277.09	381.06	3206	1109.20	221.84	11397	4429.25	1761.21
Arunachal Pradesh	7	136.00	37.48	15	139.21	34.58	2	29.22	8.76	3	28.82	4.00	27	333.25	84.82
Assam	256	402.44	254.67	150	282.74	103.60	84	88.49		112	113.23	0.00	602	886.90	358.27

1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Bihar	4145	459.41	236.19	204	589.80	141.43	1686	621.68	207.32	45	392.40	47.10	6060	2063.29	632.04
Chhatisgarh	36	116.84	62.90	23	51.00	15.33	13	66.29	13.92	13	71.88	7.99	85	306.01	100.14
Goa	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00		3	27.27	5.35	0	0.00	0.00	3	27.27	5.35
Haryana	53	157.20	155.69	230	255.88	141.86	133	310.49	117.64	116	301.32	61.23	532	1024.89	476.22
Himachal Pradesh	266	224.67	145.78	651	273.48	117.66	370	299.40	88.49	1741	374.76	112.43	3028	1172.31	464.36
Jammu and Kashmir	91	79.55	45.46	256	461.05	212.93	382	602.13	202.33	223	376.84	103.06	952	1519.57	563.78
Jharkhand	1253	107.44	82.20	398	331.03	214.33	2893	406.86	140.87	111	265.20	44.38	4655	1110.53	481.78
Karnataka	1750	449.46	326.63	3204	497.54	192.59	5335	958.08	50.87	435	78.03		10724	1983.11	570.09
Kerala	342	205.09	95.34	163	260.50	110.93	401	287.03	62.68	36	449.89	89.98	942	1202.51	358.93
Madhya Pradesh	667	396.62	231.51	83	728.72	504.36	165	1264.97	375.43	2	974.92	189.94	917	3365.23	1301.24
Maharashtra	1	100.81	33.94	1215	513.09	341.06	8717	1083.71	398.05	680	895.17	33.50	10613	2592.78	806.55
Manipur	2452	27.59	0.00	1	6.89	5.49	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	2453	34.48	5.49
Meghalaya	35	32.03	14.17	26	31.96	8.51	116	56.85	29.42	0	0.00	0.00	177	120.84	52.10
Mizoram	12	19.41	19.33	9	8.19	8.19	23	22.33	2.21	3	1.07	0.00	47	51.00	29.73
Nagaland	10	34.47	17.19	102	24.60	16.89	11	14.57	10.31	11	237.94	0.00	134	311.58	44.39
Orissa	7059	396.95	217.80	16635	497.93	139.23	2037	508.96	12.24	29248	680.91	0.00	54979	2084.75	369.27
Punjab	649	283.30	190.22	390	552.66	418.22	457	418.07	141.86	889	400.94	35.07	2385	1654.97	785.17
Rajasthan	3317	605.13	463.15	2772	766.99	432.23	2405	824.97	334.87	913	948.10	98.92	9407	3145.19	1329.17
Sikkim	70	6.33	5.81	62	18.21	11.30	117	42.16	16.31	277	77.09	0.00	526	141.79	33.42
Tamil Nadu	1929	603.56	460.08	2858	827.06	537.41	2906	956.83	354.37	2972	905.42	181.08	10665	3292.87	1532.94
Tripura	0	0.00	0.00	304	161.30	38.65	84	153.69	15.37	176	305.03	0.00	564	620.02	54.02
Uttar Pradesh	953	788.09	469.82	6713	1035.38	368.90	781	1091.59	329.53	12624	896.30	0.00	21071	3813.36	1168.25
Uttarakhand	128	49.85	38.28	50	31.82	18.26	137	138.41	50.66	451	63.89	19.11	786	283.77	126.31
West Bengal	1443	459.22	280.96	3315	513.36	240.36	3441	583.89	128.99	21329	655.45	128.39	29528	2211.92	778.70
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29886</b>	<b>8286.91</b>	<b>5302.68</b>	<b>42282</b>	<b>10602.97</b>	<b>4948.74</b>	<b>36959</b>	<b>12784.06</b>	<b>3787.25</b>	<b>79639</b>	<b>11580.86</b>	<b>1575.03</b>	<b>188786</b>	<b>43264.60</b>	<b>15613.70</b>

*[English]***Theft of Cheques from Drop Boxes**

743. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of theft of cheques from the drop boxes of several banks have been reported over a period of time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such thefts in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that a few such incidents have been reported by the complainants to the offices of the Banking Ombudsman. RBI has further reported that the details of such cases are not compiled separately as they are categorized as 8 (1) (a) of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006 i.e. non-payment or inordinate delay in the payment of collection of cheques.

RBI has advised the banks that they should ensure that customers are not compelled to drop the cheques in the drop box. Further, in the context of customer awareness in this regard, banks should invariably display on the cheque drop box itself that "Customers can also tender the cheques at the counter and obtain acknowledgement on the pay-in-slips". Banks have also been advised to make absolutely full proof arrangements accounting for the number of instruments each time the box is opened so that there are no disputes and the customer's interest are not compromised.

**WHO Guidelines on Breast Feeding**

744. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines regarding breast-feeding for the infants; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for ensuring compliance of these guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines on infant feeding envisage initiation of breastfeeding within an hour of birth, exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life followed by continued breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding for upto two years and beyond.

(b) The Government is already complying with the WHO guidelines by adopting them and issuing appropriate guidelines to the states through the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) programme and through the Ministry of Women and Child Development under the Integrated Development of Child Services (ICDS) scheme. Steps taken by the Government to implement these guidelines are:

- Behaviour change to promote breastfeeding by involving all grass root workers viz. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs).
- Using all available channels to promote improved breastfeeding—health related contacts as well as mass media.
- Augment counseling on breastfeeding and complementary feeding through antenatal and postnatal contacts with mothers and through Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs).
- Provide for training of health personnel on infant and young child feeding i.e. breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding.

**Risk to River Ganges**

745. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the river Ganges has been termed as one of the world's top ten rivers facing the greatest risk due to diversion of water affecting natural flow;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the suggestions made in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government with a view to keeping the natural sources clean and safe and the outcome of such steps taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) In a report entitled "World's top 10 rivers at risk", the World Wildlife Fund, an International Non-Government Organization (NGO), has listed the river Ganga as one of the World's ten rivers facing risk. The Central Government is not aware of the data-base and the methodology adopted by the said NGO for making this Report. The report profiles the biodiversity of river Ganga, and perceives over extraction of water for agriculture and excessive water diversions affecting natural flows as major threats to the river. The report suggests, among others, improving efficiency in water use and irrigation of crops, end to perverse subsidies, capping of water extraction levels, further community education & awareness, and an integrated river basin management.

(c) and (d) The flows of river Ganga are being monitored by Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Water Resources at various places on regular basis. There is no apparent reduction in the available water in river Ganga at its terminal point at Farakka Barrage even during the critical season. The CWC has formulated a plan for water resources development in the country that envisages inter-linking of rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water-deficient basins for optimum utilization of water in the country. The Ministry of Environment & Forests launched Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I in 1985 as a centrally funded scheme with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards by intercepting, diverting and treating the sewage, which was extended to GAP Phase-II during 1993-96. GAP Phase-II was merged in late 1996 with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for pollution abatement in major rivers of the country. A sewage treatment capacity of 999 million litres per day (mld) has been created for river Ganga alone under the Ganga Action Plan so far, besides other pollution abatement works like low cost sanitation works, crematoria etc.

The Government has further decided to set up a "National Ganga River Basin Authority" as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for the Ganga river to address the problem of pollution in the Ganga in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

#### Investment by Insurance Companies

746. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) are investing in Indian stock market on a regular basis;

(b) if so, the quantum of investments made by these companies during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment about the quantum of investment in the Indian stock market by the private insurance companies during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise including the quantum of royalty/fees expatriated by these companies during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported the quantum of investments made by them during the last three years:

(Rs. in crore)

Name of Co.	Year		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
LIC	14,172.93	23,401.67	53,162.89
GIC	1,719.00	1,610.00	982.00

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the compliance by insurance companies with the statutory ceiling prescribed for investments in the Approved Investment and 'Other Investments' are being monitored by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) on a quarterly basis.

#### Early Detection of Cancer

747. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian scientist has developed technology to detect cancer in the early stages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken for prevention of cancer during the last three years; and

(d) the allocation of funds for early detection of cancer cases and free medicines for poor cancer patients in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) An Indian scientist based in California claims that he has developed a technology named "Method for early detection of cancer" to detect cancer in early stages and has been patented.

(c) Health being a State Subject, it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. The Central Government have evolved a National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) wherein special emphasis is now being laid on prevention and early detection of Cancer. The Central Government is also supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance for setting up of Radiotherapy Units in Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for providing treatment facilities.

(d) Under the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) financial assistance is provided to the Regional Cancer Centres/Government Medical College/Hospitals for Development of Oncology Wing and for implementation of District Cancer Control Programme. The grant-in-aid is provided only on the recommendations of the concerned State Government. A one time grant upto Rs. 3.00 crore is provided to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for Development of Oncology Wing and Rs. 90.00 lakhs spread over a period of 5 years is provided for implementation of District Cancer Control Programme.

#### **Recapitalisation of RRBs**

748. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to recapitalise Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to improve their viability;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which RRBs are likely to be recapitalised by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) In order to make the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) having negative networth financially viable and sustainable, the Government initiated the process of recapitalization in the year 2007-08. The number of RRBs required to be recapitalized were identified as 27 (11 amalgamated and 16 unamalgamated) for recapitalization for an amount of Rs. 1795.97 crore.

The share capital of RRBs are contributed by the Central Government, State Government and the sponsor banks in the ratio of 50:15:35, respectively. All the three stakeholders are required to contribute their share to complete the process of recapitalization. As of now, out of 27 RRBs having negative networth, 20 RRBs have been fully recapitalized and 6 partly. The Central Government would contribute its entire share of contribution for recapitalization in the current fiscal year subject to the contribution of their share of contribution by the State Government and sponsor bank concerned.

#### **New Eco-Tourism Policy**

749. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the monitoring committee set up by the National Tiger Conservation Authority has come up with a new eco-tourism policy to restrict movement of tourists and construction activities in and around the tiger reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the new eco-tourism policy is likely to protect tigers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted a Committee, whose mandate, *inter alia*, includes providing inputs for an ecotourism strategy to benefit fringe dwelling local people and relocated villagers.

(c) The new guidelines would be in conformity with the Tiger Task Force recommendations for strengthening tiger conservation in the country.

#### **IT Returns Processing Centres**

750. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up income tax return processing centres in the country;

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

(c) the manner in which such centres provide assistance to income tax payees in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Income Tax Department is in the process of setting up a "Centralized Processing Centre" (CPC) at Bengaluru. The work for establishing and operating has been awarded to a consortium led by M/s Infosys Technologies Ltd., Bengaluru. The CPC is expected to be commissioned during the first quarter of the financial year 2009-10.

(b) The CPC at Bengaluru is expected to process income tax paper returns of Bengaluru in the first year along with all electronic returns received by the Income Tax Department. The work load will be incrementally raised.

(c) The CPC will enable following benefits/assistance to the taxpayers of the country:

- CPC would result into faster processing leading to speedy delivery of refunds and reduced grievances of the taxpayers.
- Tax payers would have little or no interface with Income Tax Offices for refunds/processing of returns.
- It would allow the department to bring in speedy processes and citizen centric services similar to the ones offered by the best tax administrations across the globe.
- It will have a dedicated call center to address tax payer grievances.

#### **Development of Colachel Port**

751. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared the Techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the development of Colachel Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of the project;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be commenced?

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

(b) to (d) Colachel is a Non-major Port in the State of Tamil Nadu. On the request of Government of Tamil Nadu, Sethusamudram Corporation Ltd. (SCL) has been assigned to undertake a Techno-Economic Feasibility Report and Detailed Project Report for the development of Colachel Port. Appointment of Consultant is under process in this regard.

#### **Ban on Pouches**

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the State Governments for banning the pouches used for packing various items as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 6 February, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of NCT of Delhi has sent a request for banning of coloured, recycled plastic bags and multilayer and metallic pouches.

(c) The Government has constituted a Committee to evolve a road map on management of waste in India including the plastic wastes.

**Easing Credit Norms for Exporters**

753. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to ease credit norms for the exporters in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Indian exporters are likely to be benefited thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Exporters are especially hit by recessionary conditions globally. RBI has taken the following measures to ease credit norms during last few months:-

- (i) Enhancing the period of pre-shipment and post-shipment Rupees Export Credit by 90 days each;
- (ii) Extending the applicability of prescribed interest rate as applicable to post-shipment rupee export credit to overdue bills upto 180 days w.e.f. date of advance till further notice;
- (iii) Reducing CRR, SLR, Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate, with a view to increase liquidity to the Banks;
- (iv) Enhancing the limit of Export Credit Refinance (ECR) facility for commercial banks to 50% of the outstanding Rupee Export Credit;
- (v) Increasing the time period of export realization for non-status holder exporters to 12 months;
- (vi) Reintroduction of Interest Subvention of 2% w.e.f. December 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 on pre and post shipment rupee export credit for certain employment oriented export sectors. The Finance Minister in his interim Budget Speech 2009 has announced to extend Interest Subvention by further 6 months i.e. upto 30th September, 2009;
- (vii) The ceiling rate on export credit in foreign currency raised to LIBOR plus 350 basis points from the present ceiling rate of LIBOR plus 100 basis points with effect from February 5, 2009. Consequently, the ceiling interest rate on the lines of credit with overseas banks for the banks providing export credit raised from six months LIBOR Plus 75 basis points to six months LIBOR plus 150 basis points;

(viii) Authorised Dealers Category-I Banks permitted to consider applications for pre-mature buy-back of FCCBs from their customers;

(ix) Refinance facility to the EXIM Bank for an amount of Rs. 5000 crores for providing pre-shipment and post-shipment credit in Rs. or dollars;

(x) FOREX liquidity has been provided to Indian Public and Private Sector Banks upto June 30, 2009, through forex swaps of tenure upto 3 months;

(xi) Prudential Guidelines on Restructuring of Advances by banks have been relaxed, including those for exporters.

*[Translation]*

**Allotment of Captive Coal Blocks**

754. SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:  
SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of captive coal blocks identified in the country;

(b) the number of blocks allotted to the private sector, State Government and the Government undertakings and the revenue generated therefrom separately;

(c) whether these blocks have been allotted through auction;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the additional revenue, if any, earned by auction process;

(e) the number of blocks where mining/production has started; and

(f) the details of coal production in the blocks allotted to the private sector during the last three years and the current year?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) As on date, a total of 229 coal blocks with approximate 50 billion tonnes of geological reserves have been identified for allocation to public and private sector companies.

(b) As on date, a total of 198 coal blocks to various public/private sector parties with approximate geological reserves of about 42 billion tonnes have been allocated. The details are given below:

Sl.No.	Sector	No. of Coal blocks allocated	Geological Reserves (MT)
1.	Central Government Undertakings	22	9636.42
2.	State Government Undertaking	78	17719.57
3.	Private Sector	98	14931.37
<b>Total</b>		<b>198</b>	<b>42287.36</b>

The revenue generated in terms of royalty, cess, excise duty, sales tax and other taxes paid by the captive blocks which have come into production is as follows:

Sector	Revenue Generated (Figures in Lakh Rupees)		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Central Government Undertakings	NIL	NIL	Nil
State Government Undertaking	9106.57	11316.00	14844.25
Private sector	5204.41	7539.72	10080.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>14310.98</b>	<b>18855.72</b>	<b>24924.67</b>

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (c) of the question.

(e) Till December, 2008, coal production has started in 23 coal blocks allocated to public and private companies.

(f) The details of coal production in the blocks allotted to private sector companies during the last three years and the current year is given below:-

Year	Production (In Million Tonnes)
2005-06	9.589
2006-07	11.243
2007-08	13.14
2008-09 (Upto December, 2008)	13.58

### Upgradation of Nagpur Medical College

755. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the Government Medical College at Nagpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of the proposal;

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose; and

(d) the time by which the said college is likely to be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) It is proposed to upgrade Government Medical College, Nagpur in the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). Approval of Cabinet was obtained on 5.2.2009. Under the upgradation scheme, it is proposed to incur one time capital expenditure for upgradation of the medical college institution, upto a maximum of Rs. 150 crores, out of which the Central Government will invest Rs. 125 crores and remaining capital expenditure of Rs. 25 crores will have to be borne by the Government of Maharashtra. The State Government will also need to bear the recurring expenditure in terms of manpower and maintenance of all the upgraded facilities.

Gap analysis/requirements in Government Medical College, Nagpur in terms of civil construction and provision of equipment was carried out by the Central team comprising of MOHFW officials, CDB officials and AIIMS/LHMC faculty members in January, 2009 with the State government officials. As per the joint assessment by the Central team and the State Government officials, Government of Maharashtra was requested to modify the assessment and upgradation proposal. Detailed Assessment Report from the State Government is awaited. The upgradation of the institute is likely to get completed by early 2011.

### Settlement of Claims by Insurance Companies

756. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the process of settlement of claims by insurance companies;

(b) whether various courts including consumer courts are also deciding the settlement of claims;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring transparency and efficiency in the settlement process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

*[English]*

#### LIC Career Agents

757. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the qualification prescribed for appointment of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) Career Agents and stipend paid to them;

(b) the minimum number of policies a Career Agents is required to make in first, second and third year;

(c) whether the stipend is stopped in case the Career Agents fail to make minimum required number of policies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that the qualification prescribed for appointment of Career Agents [as stipulated in Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Regulations, 2002] are:

#### Rural Career Agents Scheme:

**Education Qualification:** As stipulated in the IRDA Regulations, 2000, 12th pass or equivalent where place of residence of the agents is an Urban area. Where the population of the place of residence of agent is less than 5000, the educational qualification required is pass in 10th standard or equivalent examination.

#### Urban Career Agents Scheme:

**Educational Qualification:** Secondary School Certificate (SSC) with 60% marks or Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) or Graduate.

Stipends paid to the Career Agents are as under:

	Urban Career Agents	Rural Career Agents
1st Year	First 3 months @ Rs. 1,250/- per month and for subsequent 9 months @ Rs. 2,500 per month	First year Rs. 1,500/- per month
2nd Year	Rs. 2,500 per month (stipend Rs. 1,400/- per month plus finance Rs. 1,100/- per month)	Rs. 1,200/- per month

(b) The minimum business criteria for Urban and Rural Career Agents are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### Statement I

##### *Minimum Business Criteria for Rural & Urban Career Agents*

Rural Career Agents (RCA):

Month Wise	No. of Lives
1st Six Months	2 per month

Next Six Months	3 per month
Next Six Months	2 per month
Next Six Months	3 per month

Urban Career Agents (UCA):

Quarter Wise	No. of Lives
1st Quarter	4
2nd Quarter	8
3rd Quarter	12
4th Quarter	15

5th Quarter	15
6th Quarter	15
7th Quarter	15
8th Quarter	15
9th Quarter	15
10th Quarter	15
11th Quarter	25
12th Quarter	25

**Statement II*****Minimum Requirements for Stipend***

- Business Review will be done on a monthly basis.
- If any Rural Career Agent (RCA) does more than the minimum required business in any month then he will continue to get the stipend for those many months for which he has already given the business even if he is not able to give the quota business for those months.
- A Rural Career Agent will have to get minimum of 30 lives in the First Year for getting stipend.
- If he does not get the minimum number of lives and First Year Commission (FYC) as specified, he does not get the stipend for that month. However, if he is able to make good the short fall in future then he will get the stipend for the previous months for which he has been able to fulfill the business quota.
- First, the quota for the month will be adjusted, then the shortfall for the previous months in the reverse order will be adjusted (both for Number of Lives (NOL) and First Year Commission (FYC) and if still their is a balance then it will be set against the future months.
- Hence, if any Rural Career Agents (RCA) does not bring in minimum business for the initial

months but later is able to make good the shortfall both on account of NOL and FYC, then the stipend for the earlier months will be released. He will have the opportunity to make good the shortfall until the end of the 12th month.

- Similarly, if he has given the entire year's business in the initial month then he will continue to get the stipend for all the stipendiary months.
- In case of Urban Career Agents (UCA) in any one Quarter, First Year Commission (FYC) deficiency is 25% or less, the Career Agent will be given a chance to make up in the next Quarter. Monthly stipend may however continue to be paid for the next Quarter. If even in the next Quarter, the deficiency in FYC is not fully made up, but is deficient by 10% or less for both Quarters but together, a second chance may be given (to be communicated in writing) to make up in the following Quarter. If the efficiency is not made up by performing at the level stipulated for the three relevant quarters in chain, the Career Agency will be terminated and the career agency should cease and Career Agent should be transferred as an ordinary agent.

**Special Package to Backward Districts**

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

- whether the Government proposes to provide special package to most backward districts in the country;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the districts; and
- the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to provide special package to the backward districts. However, Ministry of Panchayati Raj provides funds to the 250 districts,

identified as backward for coverage under the Districts Component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund. The last of 250 districts is enclosed as Statement.

**Statement**

*List of 250 Districts covered under the Districts Component of the Backward Regions Grant Fund*

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

1. Adilabad
2. Anantapur
3. Chittoor
4. Cuddapah
5. Karimnagar
6. Khammam
7. Mahbubnagar
8. Medak
9. Nalgonda
10. Nizamabad
11. Rangareddi
12. Vizianagaram
13. Warangal

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

1. Upper Subansiri

**ASSAM**

1. Barpeta
2. Bongaigaon
3. Cachar
4. Dhemaji
5. Goalpara
6. Hailakandi

7. Karbi Anglong
8. Kokrajhar
9. Lakhimpur
10. Marigaon
11. North Cachar Hills

**BIHAR**

1. Araria
2. Aurangabad
3. Banka
4. Begusarai
5. Bhagalpur
6. Bhojpur
7. Buxar
8. Darbhanga
9. Gaya
10. Gopalganj
11. Jamui
12. Jehanabad
13. Kaimur (Bhabua)
14. Katihar
15. Khagaria
16. Kishanganj
17. Lakhisarai
18. Madhepura
19. Madhubani
20. Munger
21. Muzaffarpur
22. Nalanda
23. Nawada
24. Pashchim Champaran
25. Patna

26. Purbi Champaran
27. Purnia
28. Rohtas
29. Saharsa
30. Samastipur
31. Saran
32. Sheikhpura
33. Sheohar
34. Sitamarhi
35. Supaul
36. Vaishali

**CHHATTISGARH**

1. Bastar
2. Bilaspur
3. Dantewada
4. Dhamtari
5. Jashpur
6. Kabirdham
7. Kanker
8. Korba
9. Korea
10. Mahasamund
11. Raigarh
12. Rajnandgaon
13. Surguja

**GUJARAT**

1. Bans Kantha
2. Dahod
3. Dang
4. Narmada

5. Panch Mahals
6. Sabar Kantha

**HARYANA**

1. Mahendragarh
2. Sirsa

**HIMACHAL PRADESH**

1. Chamba
2. Sirmaur

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

1. Doda
2. Kupwara
3. Poonch

**JHARKHAND**

1. Bokaro
2. Chatra
3. Deoghar
4. Dhanbad
5. Dumka
6. Garhwa
7. Giridih
8. Godda
9. Gumla
10. Hazaribagh
11. Jamtara
12. Koderma
13. Latehar
14. Lohardaga
15. Pakur
16. Palamu
17. Ranchi

18. Sahebganj
19. Saraikela Kharsawan
20. Simdega
21. West Singhbhum

**KARNATAKA**

1. Bidar
2. Chitradurga
3. Davangere
4. Gulbarga
5. Raichur

**KERALA**

1. Palakkad
2. Wayanad

**MADHYA PRADESH**

1. Balaghat
2. Barwani
3. Betul
4. Chhattarpur
5. Damoh
6. Dhar
7. Dindori
8. Guna
9. Jhabua
10. Katni
11. Khandwa
12. Khargone
13. Mandla
14. Panna
15. Rajgarh
16. Rewa

17. Satna
18. Seoni
19. Shahdol
20. Sheopur
21. Shivpuri
22. Sidhi
23. Tikamgarh
24. Umria

**MAHARASHTRA**

1. Ahmednagar
2. Amaravati
3. Aurangabad
4. Bhandara
5. Chandrapur
6. Dhule
7. Gadchiroli
8. Gondia
9. Hingoli
10. Nanded
11. Nandurbar
12. Yavatmal

**MANIPUR**

1. Chandel
2. Churachandpur
3. Tamenglong

**MEGHALAYA**

1. Ri Bhoi
2. South Garo Hills
3. West Garo Hills

**MIZORAM**

1. Lawngtlai
2. Saiha

**NAGALAND**

1. Mon
2. Tuensang
3. Wokha

**ORISSA**

1. Balangir
2. Boudh
3. Deogarh
4. Dhenkanal
5. Gajapati
6. Ganjam
7. Jharsuguda
8. Kalahandi
9. Kandhamal
10. Keonjhar
11. Koraput
12. Malkangiri
13. Mayurbhanj
14. Nabarangpur
15. Nuapada
16. Rayagada
17. Sambalpur
18. Sonepur
19. Sundargarh

**PUNJAB**

1. Hoshiarpur

**RAJASTHAN**

1. Banswara
2. Barmer
3. Chittorgarh

4. Dungarpur
5. Jaisalmer
6. Jalore
7. Jhalawar
8. Karauli
9. Sawai Madhopur
10. Sirahi
11. Tonk
12. Udaipur

**SIKKIM**

1. North District

**TAMIL NADU**

1. Cuddalore
2. Dindigul
3. Nagapattinam
4. Sivaganga
5. Tiruvannamalai
6. Villupuram

**TRIPURA**

1. Dhalai

**UTTAR PRADESH**

1. Ambedkar Nagar
2. Azamgarh
3. Beharich
4. Balrampur
5. Banda
6. Barabanki
7. Basti
8. Budaun
9. Chandauli

10. Chitrakoot
11. Etah
12. Farrukhabad
13. Fatehpur
14. Gonda
15. Gorakhpur
16. Hamirpur
17. Hardoi
18. Jalaun
19. Jaunpur
20. Kaushambi
21. Kheri
22. Kushi Nagar
23. Lalitpur
24. Maharajganj
25. Mahoba
26. Mirzapur
27. Pratapgarh
28. Rae Bareli
29. Sant Kabeer Nagar
30. Shravasti
31. Siddharth Nagar
32. Sitapur
33. Sonbhadra
34. Unnao

## UTTARAKHAND

1. Chamoli
2. Champawat
3. Tehri Garhwal

## WEST BENGAL

1. 24 Parganas South
2. Bankura
3. Birbhum
4. Dinajpur Dakshin
5. Dinajpur Uttar
6. Jalpaiguri
7. Maldah
8. Medinipur East
9. Medinipur West
10. Murshidabad
11. Purulia

**Coal-to-Liquid Project**

759. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited applications from public and private sector companies for allocation of coal blocks for Coal-to-Liquid Project;

(b) if so, the number of applications received by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has completed scrutiny and evaluation of each of such applications;

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

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the work related to scrutiny and evaluation of such applications and further action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In response to the advertisement, 28 applications have been received from 22 public and private companies.

(c) to (e) An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) was constituted by the Government on 3.6.2008 under the

Chairmanship of Member (Energy), Planning Commission to undertake detailed scrutiny and evaluation of applications received for Coal-to-Liquid Project and to make recommendations to the Government. After detailed deliberations/scrutiny, the IMG has submitted its report. The Government is examining the report for allocation of coal block for coal to liquid project.

#### Forest-based Projects

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

(a) the state-wise details of the forest-based projects approved by the Union Government during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether some of these projects have been pending since long;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the clearance of these pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY):

(a) So far, 5350 proposals during the last three years from 1.4.2005 to 31.3.2008 and 1529 proposals during the current year from 1.4.2008 to 20.2.2009 involving diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes pertaining to different State/Union Territory Governments have been accorded approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) As far as feasible, the Central Government takes decision within the time limit prescribed under the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. So far, 220 projects out of 5,350 projects approved by the Central Government were delayed during the last four years due to some unavoidable reasons such as directions of the Supreme Court in regard to the channel of submission of projects, delayed site inspections due to non-availability of officers in the Regional offices of the Ministry etc. These constraints have, however, now been taken care of to a large extent during the current year.

#### Statement

##### *Details of approved Projects (Approved+Inprinciple)*

Category : All Categories

As on : 20.2.2009

State/UT	Period 1.4.2005 to 31.3.2008	Period 1.4.2008 to 20.2.2009
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14	5
Andhra Pradesh	121	81
Arunachal Pradesh	30	18
Assam	66	35
Bihar	39	18
Chandigarh	5	0
Chhattisgarh	127	51
Dadar and Nagar Haveli	25	23
Daman and Diu	0	1
Delhi	3	3
Goa	14	19
Gujarat	235	127
Haryana	796	302
Himachal Pradesh	497	107
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
Jharkhand	55	37
Karnataka	166	38
Kerala	22	4
Lakshadweep	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	144	62
Maharashtra	166	78
Manipur	3	1
Meghalaya	8	6

1	2	3
Mizoram	1	3
Nagaland	0	0
Orissa	102	42
Pondicherry	0	0
Punjab	1223	234
Rajasthan	136	33
Sikkim	94	47
Tamil Nadu	35	19
Tripura	43	50
Uttar Pradesh	262	8
Uttaranchal	908	70
West Bengal	10	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>5350</b>	<b>1529</b>

#### LIC Policies

761. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is showing a negative trends of 22 per cent in number of Policies (NoP) and 36 per cent in First Year Premium Income (FPI) while the private sector insurance companies have been shown a growth of more than 80 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has reported that for the period April, 2008 to January 2009, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has shown a negative variation of 1.89% and 5.63% in First Year Premium and in number of Policies respectively. For the same period, the private sector has shown a growth of 13.22% and 20.36% in First Year Premium and in number of Policies respectively.

The recent meltdown in the financial market more specifically in the capital market has impacted the Insurance Industry—especially the unit linked products. Efforts are being made by all the insurance companies to end the financial year 2008-09 with encouraging growth rates. Intensified field activity, introduction of innovative products, aiming to get the best productivity from the distribution channels are aggressively being taken up by all companies.

LIC has reported that it had recently launched a new product "Jeevan Aastha", which was widely accepted by the customers and helped LIC to collect more than Rs. 10,000 crore in a limited period. With the success of this product, LIC is confident to improve both the growth rate as well as market share in the coming months. LIC has also launched another new product "Jeevan Varsha" with guaranteed additions on February 16, 2009 and is hopeful that this product also will repeat the success story of "Jeevan Aastha" and will help the Corporation to close the year with a reasonable growth.

#### Heavy Metal Contents in Ayurvedic Products

762. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of lead, mercury and arsenic in some of the ayurvedic products exported by the Indian manufacturers has been found beyond the permissible limit;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The permissible level of lead, mercury and arsenic in Ayurvedic products as per WHO standards, which has been acceptable by the Department is 10 ppm, 1 ppm and 3 ppm respectively.

As per the article published in Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) dated 27th August 2008, one fifth of the Indian manufactured Ayurvedic products bought on the internet contain detectable levels of lead, mercury and arsenic. After the report is published, Government have taken immediate steps to test the reports appearing in JAMA article by reputed and accredited laboratories.

Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) has also undertaken a study to test the toxicity/safety profile of metal based bhasmas. The study is jointly being carried out with the Indian Toxicological Research Center (ITRC), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Lucknow, Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine (PLIM), Ghaziabad has also been directed to procure samples of all the products mentioned in JAMA article and send them to Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad for heavy metal analysis by electron spectroscopic chemical analysis as well as X-ray fluorescence spectroscopic.

The manufacturers of Ayurvedic medicines have been directed to get safety/toxicity studies carried out for their products by National Accreditation Board of Laboratories/Good Laboratories Practices (NABL/GLP) accredited laboratories and send their report in respect of acute, sub acute and chronic safety/toxicity drugs studies.

After examination it is found that no exported herbal ayurvedic medicine from India contain heavy metals beyond the permissible limit. As far as purely herbal Ayurvedic formulations are concerned presence of heavy metal is not detected. As regard herbo-mineral and herbo-metallic preparations metals are an essential ingredient of these formulations and therefore are bound to be present in these, however they are permitted to be used only after due purification and only in small quantities to act as catalysts for activation of other herbal ingredients in order to increase the efficacy of the medicines. The metallic preparations in the form of compounds of metals triturated in the form of Bhasmas are rendered safe after purification with herbs and burning in fire for a prescribed number of times.

- A Press release was issued on 2nd September, 2008 with detailed comments by the Department of AYUSH, after article published in JAMA (U.S.) 27th August, 2008 alleging heavy metals in Ayurvedic medicines.
- The following other necessary orders have also been issued by the Central Government to ensure safety and efficacy of AYUSH products in the country and abroad.
- Government has introduced mandatory testing for heavy metals in all purely herbal Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines to be exported with effect from 1.1.2006 onwards. This has been

done to meet the regulatory requirements of importing countries.

- State Drug Licensing Authorities have been directed to ensure full compliance by all ASU drug manufacturers of the provisions of Rule 161(1) and (2) relating to displaying on the label of the container or in a leaflet to be inserted in the package of an ASU drug, the true list of all the ingredients used in the manufacture of the preparation together with the quantity of each of the ingredients incorporated therein.
- A research project has been sanctioned to various laboratories of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) under the Golden Triangle Partnership Project to study the physicochemical characteristics of 8 most widely use Bhasmas and to carry out their toxicity studies.
- Good Manufacturing Practices have been made mandatory for all Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drug manufacturing units in the country.
- Department of AYUSH has discussed with Minister of Commerce to set up an AYUSH Export Promotion Council under the Department of AYUSH to take care of critical issues like testing and certification of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines for export.
- Government have constituted Pharmacopoeia Committees of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani systems of medicines for preparation of Pharmacopoeias to ensure the quality of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drugs.
- Captain Shreenwasmurti Drug Research Institute for Ayurveda, Chennai, India Toxicology Research Centre (presently IITR, Indian Institute of Toxicological Research), Lucknow and Sri Ram Institute for Industrial Research, New Delhi have analyzed about 600 plants and it was found that lead arsenic and mercury levels were within the permissible limit.
- State Licensing Authorities have been directed to constitute an Expert Committee under the provision of Rule 154(2) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rule, 1945 for streamline the system for licensing of patent and proprietary Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani products.

[*Translation*]**Delay in Completion of Central Projects**

763. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:  
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI SURAJ SINGH:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of infrastructure projects are running behind their respective time schedule of completion;

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

(c) the details of cost escalation as a result of time-overrun; and

(d) the steps taken to complete such projects within the stipulated time period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K.VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2009 out of 853 infrastructure projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 318 projects are delayed with respect to their approved original schedule. The details of projects reporting delays is given, Ministry-wise, in the enclosed

Statement-I. Some of the reasons for time overrun in delayed projects are fund constraints, delay in land acquisition, slow progress by contractors, delay in supply of equipment, delay in award of contracts and law and order problems.

(c) Out of 318 delayed projects, cost escalation has been reported by 116 projects. The original approved cost of these 116 projects has escalated from Rs. 91841 crore to Rs. 129560 crore. Details of projects with cost overruns, Ministry-wise, is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The steps taken by the Government for projects on time include:

- (i) in-depth review of projects on monthly and quarterly basis by the Government;
- (ii) follow up with the State Governments in respect of problems relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation related issues, forest clearances, infrastructure facilities, ensuring law and order at project sites, etc.;
- (iii) setting up of Empowered Committees in the administrative Ministries for review of departmentally executed projects;
- (iv) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving unresolved problems;
- (v) setting up of Standing Committees in the Ministries/Departments to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns;
- (vi) appointment of nodal officers for each project with continuity of tenure; and
- (vii) issue of guidelines on standard bidding documents.

**Statement I**

*Extent of Time Overrun in Projects with respect to Original Schedule  
(Status of Mega and Major projects as on 1.1.2009 and Medium Projects as on 1.10.2008)*

Sl.No.	Sector	Total Projects				Projects with time overrun			
		No. of Projects	Original Cost (Rs. crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. crore)	Cost Overrun %	No. of Projects	Original Cost (Rs. crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. crore)	Range of delay (Months)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Atomic Energy	5	24291.26	23360.26	-3.83	3	16586.26	16586.26	16-31
2.	Civil Aviation	29	2056.65	2156.36	4.85	17	1043.91	1137.59	3-50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Coal	115	28387.28	29813.25	5.02	17	1100.29	1251.19	3-108
4.	Information and Broadcasting	1	35.00	35.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	-
5.	Mines	1	4091.51	4091.51	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	-
6.	Steel	46	46652.62	51151.39	9.64	17	11757.89	15942.04	2-28
7.	Petroleum	47	69511.38	76173.37	9.58	29	45074.05	53112.13	1-61
8.	Power	69	116364.83	120354.86	3.43	31	63912.19	67537.26	1-68
9.	Health and Family Welfare	1	71.18	443.15	522.58	0	0.00	0.00	-
10.	Railways	250	42368.29	79827.26	88.41	61	14616.91	31530.00	1-180
11.	Road Transport & Highways	186	52089.74	52744.40	1.26	96	21972.89	22304.71	1-92
12.	Shipping & Ports	43	7356.62	7571.65	2.92	19	1632.38	1763.46	4-96
13.	Telecommunication	38	13625.38	12930.80	-5.10	20	5852.69	5349.57	2-54
14.	Urban Development	19	15265.50	15828.94	3.69	7	8329.54	8887.04	3-49
15.	Water Resources	1	542.90	1187.00	118.64	1	542.90	1187.00	60
16.	Information Technology	2	64.90	86.86	33.84	0	0.00	0.00	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>853</b>	<b>422775.04</b>	<b>477756.06</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>192421.90</b>	<b>226588.25</b>	

**Statement II**

*Extent of Time Overrun in Projects with respect to Original Schedule  
(Status of Mega and Major projects as on 1.1.2009 and Medium Projects as on 1.10.2008)*

Sl.No.	Sector	Total Projects				Projects with time overrun			
		No. of Projects	Original Cost (Rs. crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. crore)	Cost Overrun %	No. of Projects	Original Cost (Rs. crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs. crore)	Range of delay (Months)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Civil Aviation	29	2056.65	2156.36	4.85	5	194.50	288.18	6-39
2.	Coal	115	28387.28	29813.25	5.02	5	248.96	400.40	4-48
3.	Steel	46	46652.62	51151.39	9.64	7	9902.27	14086.42	4-28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Petroleum	47	69511.38	76173.37	9.58	18	32690.69	42633.29	1-61
5.	Power	69	116364.83	120354.86	3.43	16	25870.46	30465.48	4-44
6.	Railways	250	42368.29	79827.26	88.41	45	11099.90	28042.55	1-180
7.	Road Transport & Highways	186	52089.74	52744.40	1.26	9	2348.72	2708.05	7-68
8.	Shipping & Ports	43	7356.62	7571.65	2.92	6	291.34	426.21	8-96
9.	Telecommunication	38	13625.38	12930.80	-5.10	3	533.55	646.56	32-54
10.	Urban Development	19	15265.50	15828.94	3.69	1	8118.00	8676.00	3
11.	Water Resources	1	542.90	1187.00	118.64	1	542.90	1187.00	60
<b>Total</b>		<b>853</b>	<b>422775.04</b>	<b>477756.06</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>91841.29</b>	<b>129560.14</b>	

*(English)*

**Sponsoring of Officials of North-East States for Training**

764. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had provided any assistance for training of officials of North-East States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the places/institutes identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry has sponsored training programmes for officials of the State Governments of the North Eastern Region in various fields under the Ministry of DONER's scheme of Capacity Building and Technical Assistance. Reputed institutes like the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata, the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Noida, and the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad have been engaged to impart training in various fields such as General Management Programme, Disaster Management, Development Strategies in the Social Sector, Project Evaluation & Management Customer-oriented Public Services, and Micro-Finance Management. During

2007-08 and 2008-09, Rs. 76.25 lakh and Rs. 107.77 lakh respectively were sanctioned to these Institutes for training officials of the State Governments of the North Eastern Region.

**Meeting with CEOs**

765. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has held discussions with the Chief Executive Officers of Public Sector Banks recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The Finance Minister held discussions with the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of Public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions on 2nd February, 2009 at New Delhi.

(b) Various banking and economic issues including Agricultural Credit Flow, Financial inclusion, performance of the Banks were discussed. The CEOs of Banks apprised the Finance Minister on these issues.

### State-of-the-Art National Cancer Institute

766. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up any state-of-the-art National Cancer Institutes in the country;

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

(c) the time by which the proposed Institutes are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) This Ministry has decided in principle to establish a State of art National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu has offered 50 acres of land for the construction of this Institute at Kancheepuram District.

The entire complex is likely to be completed within a period of five years with the proposed budget of Rs. 850 crores.

*[Translation]*

### Air Pollution In Rural Areas

767. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion of industries has led to increase of air-pollution in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted regarding the impact of air-pollution in the rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase awareness amongst the common people regarding air-pollution in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The level of air pollution, particularly in terms of Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) in ambient air, is showing an increasing trend in many areas in the country. This is due to industrialization including expansion of existing industries as well as rise in population, increasing number of vehicles and DG sets,

rapid urbanization, construction activities and agricultural practices including burning of post-harvest residual stalks.

(b) to (d) A comprehensive study has not been conducted in this regard. However, as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, new projects or capacity expansion of existing projects for certain categories of industries require prior environmental clearance (EC). This involves study of probable impact of the projects and mitigation measures. Public hearing is also a part of the process.

Further, studies have been carried out by the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB) in the rural areas of Punjab relating to assessment of quality of ambient air due to burning of post harvest residual stalks in agriculture fields. The PPCB has taken up a mass awareness programme to educate the common people in general and farmers in particular in this regard.

*[English]*

### Welfare Fund for Indians Working Abroad

768. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Welfare Fund envisaged for the benefit of emigrants has now been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the measures taken to ensure the safety and security of Indians working abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry has set up an Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide funding support to the Indian Missions in the 17 ECR Countries for meeting contingency expenditure incurred by the Missions for the welfare of Indian workers who are in distress. The ICWF envisages providing a host of welfare measures such as boarding and lodging for stranded overseas Indian workers, transportation of the mortal remains, emergency medical care, air passage to stranded overseas Indians, etc.

**Japanese Encephalitis Vaccination Programme**

769. SHRI. M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japanese Encephalitis (JE) vaccination programme could not make progress in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. JE vaccination programme has made progress in the country. JE vaccination campaign was launched initially during 2006-07 in 11 high endemic districts of Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Assam and West Bengal achieving an overall coverage rate of 88.39%. During 2007-08, 28 districts in 9 States, namely, Haryana, Assam, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bihar were covered under JE vaccination achieving an overall coverage rate of 84%. During 2008-09, 21 districts in 10 States have been covered achieving an overall coverage of 81.15%. Due to intensified efforts by Government of India, JE vaccination has significantly contributed to the decline of JE positive cases from 35.88% as reported during 2005-06 to 7.28% as reported during 2008-09 in the State of Uttar Pradesh which contributes more than 80% of cases and deaths respectively in the country.

**Acquisition of Mines in Indonesia**

770. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) proposes to buy mines in Indonesia;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the locations identified for this purpose;

(c) the details of the terms and conditions agreed upon the Government of Indonesia in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) through its joint venture company International Coal Ventures (ICVL) and its internal Coal Videsh division, intends to acquire coal properties in Indonesia due to combination of factors like availability of reserves amenable to low cost opencast mining and lower ocean freight to India. The recent enactment of new Mining Law in Indonesia has also opened up a new regime for foreign direct investment in coal mining in Indonesia.

(c) and (d) The implications of New Mining Law is under examination by CIL prior to taking any investment decision.

**Agricultural Gold Loan Scheme**

771. SHRI A.V. BELLARAMIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the borrowers who are eligible for Agricultural Gold Loan Scheme, are being denied the benefits by the Banks;

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

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No specific complaint about any eligible borrower under Gold Loan Scheme being denied the benefits of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008 has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(c) The Guidelines of ADWDR Scheme provide that any farmer who is aggrieved on the ground that his name has not been included in the lists of waiver/relief or on the ground that his name has been included in the wrong list or on the ground that the relief granted to him has been calculated wrongly, may make a representation through the branch from which he received the loan or directly to the GRO of the lending institution concerned and every such representation shall be disposed of within 30 days of receipt thereof by passing appropriate orders thereon.

### Flyover Corridors for Elephants

772. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to build a flyover corridors for elephants to link major pilgrim towns through Haridwar and Rishikesh in Uttarakhand as reported in the *Times of India* dated 7 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the fund allocated for the purpose alongwith the time by which the proposed corridors are likely to be completed; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The four lanning of Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar-Dehradun section of NH-58 & NH-72 is being taken up under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) phase-III on Build, Operate & Transfer (BOT) basis. This project passes through Rajaji National Park and Elephant flyover/underpass corridors are proposed in National Park Area.

(c) No fund is allocated for construction for Elephant flyover corridors as they are to be construction on BOT basis. The project is being taken up on BOT with construction period of 30 months, however, no response has been received during instant bidding process. It is too early to indicate the likely date of completion of project.

(d) The road users will pass through this area without disturbing the wild life of the Rajaji National Park.

### Health Regulatory Body

773. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up an independent health regulatory body to monitor the services provided in States under National Rural Health Mission as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 9 February, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States where such regulatory bodies have been set up; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government has not decided to set up a National Independent "Health Regulatory Body to monitor the services provided in the states under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

[Translation]

### BPL Families

774. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER Be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the families living Below Poverty Line at present, State-wise;

(b) whether special financial assistance has been provided to deal with the poverty in the State;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to consider giving a special package to the poorer State; and

(e) if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PRALIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The estimation of poverty is done by the Ministry of Rural Development by conducting BPL census to cover them under various programme. Comparative statement indicating the number of house hold on the basis of poverty estimate of 1991-2000 and Adjusted Share is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d): Two major poverty alleviation programmes namely Swrana Jayati Gram Swrojgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guaranty Act (NREGA) are under implementation. SGSY is a self employment programme covering all aspects such as organise self help groups (SHGs), skill development, provided credit from bank, providing subside from GOI etc, go get incremental income on a sustainable basis. Since 1977 under SGSY 32 lakh SHGs have been formed and 7 lakh SHGs have been provided economic assistance. Total 115 lakh Swrojgaries have been provided economic assistance.

Under NREGA, which was launched on 2nd February, 2006 wages employment up to 100 days is provided to all the rural house hold in a financial year for adult numbers to are willing take up manual work. Performance of NREGA is given as under:

Year	Rural House hold benefited (in crore)	
2006-07	90.50	2.10
2007-08	143.59	3.39
2008-09 (up to January 09)	152.12	3.70

(e) Borth these scheme are demand driven and poorer states are encouraged to achieve highest target. Therefore, a special is packages is not under consideration.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of BPL families as per 1999-2000, poverty estimate	No. of BPL as per Adjusted Share
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.626	27.526
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.760	0.760
3.	Assam	18.434	18.434
4.	Bihar	55.380	66.322
5.	Chhatisgarh	14.802	15.019
6.	Delhi	0.014	0.039
7.	Goa	0.022	0.063
8.	Gujarat	7.960	10.361
9.	Haryana	2.388	6.096
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.968	2.567
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.594	3.177
12.	Jharkhand	19.922	23.851
13.	Karnataka	11.982	20.786

1	2	3	4
14.	Kerala	4.194	9.327
15.	Madhya Pradesh	28.762	30.687
16.	Maharashtra	25.024	41.089
17.	Manipur	1.306	1.306
18.	Meghalaya	1.578	1.578
19.	Mizoram	0.280	0.280
20.	Nagaland	1.042	1.042
21.	Orissa	28.738	31.484
22.	Punjab	2.040	2.962
23.	Rajasthan	11.012	15.784
24.	Sikkim	0.400	0.400
25.	Tamil Nadu	16.102	24.339
26.	Tripura	2.506	2.506
27.	Uttar Pradesh	77.836	93.768
28.	Uttaranchal	4.566	5.468
29.	West Bengal	36.022	36.022
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.116	0.146
31.	Chandigarh	0.012	0.015
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.060	0.146
33.	Daman and Diu	0.002	0.005
34.	Lakshadweep	0.006	0.010
35.	Pondicherry	0.128	0.185
	All India	386.584	493.550

**Import Duty on Agricultural Product**

775. SHRI HANSRAJ G.AHIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the taxes levied on agricultural products imported in the country;

(b) whether the Government has received representations from some quarters for increase in taxes on the import of cotton, paddy and vegetable oils; and

(c) if so, details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM):

(a) Agricultural products imported in the country are chargeable to basic customs duty, additional duty of customs equivalent to excise duty, additional duty of customs @ 4% ad valorem to counter balance state levies such as value added tax, sales tax, etc., Education cess and Secondary and Higher Education cess. Some of the major agricultural products such as wheat, semi or wholly milled rice, pulses, crude edible oils (other than soya-bean crude oil) and raw cotton are fully exempted from these duties. Other products like oil seeds, refined edible oils and rice (paddy/husked) attract basic customs duty ranging from 5% to 80% ad valorem.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has received representations requesting for increasing customs duty on cotton and vegetable oils. However, no such demand or representation has been received with regard to increasing customs duty on paddy. The rates of duty applicable to agricultural products are reviewed by the Government from time to time taking into account their domestic availability, domestic and international prices, general level of inflation, etc. The Government has decided, for the time being, to maintain the present customs duty rates on cotton, paddy and vegetable oils.

*[English]*

#### **Good Manufacturing Practices for Drugs**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any norms for manufacture and quality control known as

Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) notified under Schedule M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Norms for manufacture and quality control of drugs are contained in the Schedule M to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. No fresh norms are proposed to be introduced for the purpose.

#### **Mobile Dispensaries**

777. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has started mobile dispensaries in the country;

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

(c) the details of such dispensaries proposed to be opened in country during the current financial year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) With the objective to take health care to the door step of the public in the rural areas, especially in the under-served areas, financial assistance is provided to the State/UT Governments by the Union Ministry of Health & FW under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for Mobile Medical Units (MMU) @ one MMU per district.

(b) The State-wise list of number of districts with MMU as per State Data Sheet as on 31.12.2008 given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The funding for the MMU under NRHM is an ongoing process. The States project their requirement for MMUs keeping in view their diversity, ensuring the adoption of most suitable and sustainable model for the MMU as per their local requirement. This requirement is reflected in their annual Programme Implementation Plan under NRHM. Funds are released to State/UT Governments as per the approval of National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC) under NRHM.

**Statement***Status of Mobile Medical Unit*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of District
1.	Himachal Pradesh	1
2.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
3.	Jharkhand	24
4.	Madhya Pradesh	20
5.	Uttarakhand	3
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
7.	Assam	10
8.	Manipur	9
9.	Meghalaya	7
10.	Mizoram	9
11.	Nagaland	11
12.	Sikkim	4
13.	Tripura	4
14.	Andhra Pradesh	17
15.	Goa	2
16.	Gujarat	22
17.	Haryana	19
18.	Kerala	7
19.	Punjab	16
20.	Tamil Nadu	29
21.	Chandigarh	1
22.	Daman and Diu	1
23.	Delhi	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>243</b>

**Merger of Pension Fund with Provident Fund**

778. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to withdraw the suggestion for merger of Pension fund with Provident Fund;

(b) whether there is any proposal to invest the above money in the stock market;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the statutory Pension system is going to be fulfilled with the revival of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Bill; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) There is no proposal for merger of Pension fund with Provident Fund.

(b) No, Sir. The proposal regarding investment in equities was discussed in the 178th meeting of the Central Board of Trustees (Employees' Provident Fund) and it was decided not to invest in equities.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Pension scheme will continue to be implemented as per the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. However, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Bill, 2005 has been submitted to Parliament for their consideration.

**Healthcare Infrastructure**

779. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insufficient healthcare infrastructure is one of the major hindrances to widen the scope of healthcare insurance in the country as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 10 December, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to build any alternative system to meet the deficiency in the existing healthcare infrastructure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Health insurance as a form of health financing prerequisites a high level of public health expenditure and preparedness of facilities as it tends to push the cost of health care. India's public health expenditure at around 1% of GDP is one of the lowest in the world. Government is committed to raise the same to 2 to 3% of GDP. In this scenario investment in the health insurance mode of financing to the exclusion of public health structure strengthening may not be the most viable option for India.

Therefore to provide comprehensive affordable and accessible health care to the rural and the vulnerable population, the Government has launched the National Rural Health Mission to meet the deficiency in the existing public care infrastructure in the country.

The National Rural Health Mission provisions for funds to the States through the State Programme Implementation Plans for strengthening the public health facilities, for improved access and better care to the poor and the vulnerable in the country.

#### **Killing of Rhinos**

780. SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Rhinos have been killed by poachers during the last two years at the Kaziranga National Park in Assam;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Assam with regard to protection of Rhinos;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the Rhinos?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Instances of poaching of rhinos have been

reported from Kaziranga National Park during the last two years. As per the information received from the State Government, 18 rhinos were poached in 2007 and 6 in 2008 in Kaziranga National Park and adjacent areas in Assam. Lucrative price for rhino horns in clandestine international markets is the main motive behind the poaching of rhinos.

(c) and (d) During the financial year 2008-09, the Government of Assam had submitted an Annual Plan of Operation (APO) for an amount of Rs. 1630.12 lakh for Kaziranga Tiger Reserve under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - "Project Tiger". Based on this proposal, the Central Government has approved an amount of Rs. 457.4129 lakh to Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, of which Rs. 150.00 lakh has been released so far.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to protect wildlife including rhinoceros, *inter alia*, include the following:

1. The Central Government has enacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with the issues of wildlife conservation. Stringent penalties are imposed on the offenders for the contravention of the provisions of the Act.
2. Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) is included in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according it the highest degree of protection.
3. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, with a network of five Regional and three Sub Regional Offices, has been set up to control wildlife crime.
4. Financial and technical support is being provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* - *Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant* to State/UT Governments for the conservation and protection of wildlife including rhinoceros and its habitats.
5. Intensive patrolling in sensitive areas is carried out in coordination with other law enforcement agencies for the conservation of rhinoceros.
6. Nature awareness campaigns for the public are conducted regularly.
7. Eco development activities are taken up in fringe villages of rhino habitats to solicit people's participation in conservation.

**NABARD Assistance to PHCs**

781. SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) is assisting the Government of Gujarat in the construction of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of PHCs likely to be constructed in Gujarat with the assistance of NABARD during the Eleventh Plan period; and

(d) the amount proposed to be given by NABARD to Gujarat for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) Construction of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) is an eligible activity for financing under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for which National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is the nodal Government Agency for implementation.

NABARD has received a proposal from Government of Gujarat on 19 January 2009 for a loan under RIDF to construct 80 Primary Health Centres, 395 Sub Centres and 6 Community Health Centres, with a project cost of Rs. 115.87 crore. The proposal is to be examined and sanctioned as per the normative allocation of Gujarat under RIDF.

*[Translation]*

**Accountability Of Sports Federations**

782. Shri RAM DAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial autonomy of various sports federations in the country;

(b) whether these federations file income tax returns;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the manner in which the Government ensure their accountability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a)

The National Sports Federations (NSFs) are required to submit audited statement of accounts alongwith a report on the utilization of funds and outcome.

(b) to (d) The Ministry does not maintain a record of Income tax returns filed by NSFs.

(e) The Government releases only 75% of the admissible grant as advance to the federations and the balance is released only after receipt of a statement of actual expenditure certified by a practicing Chartered Accountant on the utilization of funds for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. The accounts of Association/ federations are also liable to be scrutinized by the Ministry and audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

*[English]*

**Recommendations of NISG for Issue of Passports**

783. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations made by the National Institute of Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad on issue of passports;

(b) whether the Government has finalised the locations for setting up of the Passport Seva Kendras in various parts of the country as recommended by NISG;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria fixed for the identification of sites for the said purpose, location-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to bring out any amendment in the existing act to facilitate issue of passport; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The Government had entrusted the National Institute of Smart Government (NISG), Hyderabad with the task of undertaking a time-bound study on the passport issuance system, including its IT aspects with the objective to deliver passport related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner and in a comfortable environment, through streamlined procedures and committed, trained and motivated workforce. To achieve this objective, the NISG recommended setting up of Passport Seva Kendras all over the country where the non-sovereign functions, involved in the passport issuance process, such as initial scrutiny of the application forms, acceptance of fee, scanning of the documents,

taking photos, etc. will be performed by the service provider selected as a result of an open bidding process. The sensitive activities, such as verification of documents, decision on grant of passports will be performed by the Government staff. Police verification will be expedited through electronic linkage of the Passport Seva Kendras with the police authorities in Districts/State Capitals. The service levels to be achieved include issue of passports within 3 days and in cases, which require prior police verification, within 3 days after the completion of the verification process.

(b) and (c) The Government accepted the NISG report and the Cabinet approval for the Passport Seva Project was obtained in September, 2007. The NISG also recommended the allocation of the Passport Seva Kendras on the basis of a study conducted by them on the number of passport applications received from various districts under each Passport Office. The proposal is to have 77 Passport Seva Kendras whose proposed locations are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) No amendment to the Passports Act is envisaged.

**Statement**

*Proposed distribution of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs)*

Passport Office Location	Passport Seva Kendras Location	Total No. of Passport Seva Kendras
1	2	3
Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad 1 Ahmedabad 2 Rajkot Baroda	4
Amritsar	Amritsar	1
Bangalore	Bengaluru 1 Bengaluru 2 Mangalore Hubli	4
Bareilly	Bareilly	1
Bhopal	Bhopal	1
Bhubaneshwar	Bhubaneshwar	1
Chandigarh	Chandigarh Ambala Ludhiana	3

1	2	3
Chennai	Chennai 1 Chennai 2 Chennai 3	3
Cochin	Cochin Thrissur Alappuzha Emakulam Rural Kottayam	5
Coimbatore	Coimbatore	1
Dehradun	Dehradun	1
Delhi	Delhi 1 Delhi 2 Gurgaon	3
Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad	1
Goa	Goa	1
Guwahati	Guwahati	1
Hyderabad	Hyderabad 1 Hyderabad 2 Hyderabad 3 Nizamabad Vijayawada Tirupati	6
Jaipur	Jaipur Jodhpur Sikar	3
Jalandhar	Jalandhar 1 Jalandhar 2 Hoshiarpur	3
Jammu	Jammu	1
Kolkata	Kolkata Bahrapur (Murshidabad)	2
Kozhikode	Kozhikode 1 Kozhikode 2 Kannur 1 Kannur 2	4

1	2	3
Lucknow	Lucknow Gorakhpur Kanpur Varanasi	4
Madurai	Madurai Thirunelveli	2
Malappuram	Malappuram	1
Mumbai	Mumbai 1 Mumbai 2 Mumbai 3	3
Nagpur	Nagpur	1
Patna	Patna	1
Pune	Pune	1
Raipur	Raipur	1
Ranchi	Ranchi	1
Shimla	Shimla	1
Srinagar	Srinagar	1
Surat	Surat	1
Thane	Thane Nashik	2
Trichy	Trichy Thanjavur Nagarkovil	3
Trivandrum	Trivandrum Trivandrum rural Killam	3
Vishakhapatnam	Vishakhapatnam	1

#### Visit of External Affairs Minister to Bangladesh

784. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of External Affairs has recently visited Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed and the agreements signed during the visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) EAM visited Bangladesh on February 9, 2009. During his visit he called on the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, and met with the Foreign Minister, Home Minister, Commerce Minister and Industries Minister of the Government of Bangladesh. In his meetings, he discussed issues related to India's bilateral relations with Bangladesh including connectivity, water, trade and commerce and security issues. Both sides also signed a Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA) and an India-Bangladesh Trade Agreement during the visit.

#### Asthma Risk in Babies

785. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research has been conducted to assess the side effects of certain drugs which are likely to cause asthma risk in babies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of these drugs;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban these drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) For certain anti-asthmatic Drug inhalers (combination of Salmeterol/formeterol with fluticasone, budesonide) researchers have raised concerns that long action beta-2 agonist can worsen asthma by increasing symptoms severity. These drugs may also increase in risk for asthma. However, Corticosteroids works overtime to reduce inflammation and prevent permanent injury in the lungs. Many studies have shown that the use of inhaled corticosterods in patients with moderate to severe asthma significantly reduces the rate of re-hospitalization and deaths from asthma. The FDA USA is continuing to evaluate the safety of salmeterol for children and its benefits outweigh its risk.

**Permission to OIC Card Holders for Profession**

786. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow Overseas Indian Citizenship (OIC) card holders to practise their professions in India as reported in *The Hindu* dated 9 January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) A notification No. S.O. 36(E) dated 5th January, 2009 granting parity to registered Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) with Non-resident Indians (NRIs) for pursuing their professions as doctors, dentists, nurses, Pharmacists, advocates, architects and chartered accountants, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the relevant Acts, has been issued by the Government on 6th January, 2009.

**FEMA by RIL**

787. DR. RAJESH MISHRA:  
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has referred the case relating to violation of provisions of Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 by Reliance Infrastructure Limited (RIL) in regard to utilization of External Commercial Borrowings proceeds to the Enforcement Directorate (ED); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the ED in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Directorate of Enforcement is conducting investigations which are at nascent stage.

**Maternity Benefit Scheme**

788. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the allocation under Maternity Benefits Scheme in Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Maternity Benefits Scheme is being implemented under the umbrella of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The funds for the scheme are being released as part of RCH Flexi-pool. Allocation for RCH Flexi pool for each year is decided through the institutional mechanism of National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC), after a review of expenditure incurred during the last year and projected demand for the next year.

**US Restrictions on H-1B Visa Holders**

789. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether restrictions have been imposed by the US Government on hiring foreign workers holding H-1B Visas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the US Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes. The US Government has imposed restrictions on hiring foreign workers with H-1B visas by US firms receiving bailout money under the Troubled Assets Relief Programme (TARP). Companies that have received federal bailout money are mostly banks, insurance companies and auto companies. The new guidelines require that a company receiving TARP funds and applying for workers under H-1B must operate as an "H-1B dependent company". That means it should attest to actively recruiting American workers, not displacing American workers with H-1B visa holders; and not replacing laid off American workers with foreign workers. The H-1B dependent companies are those which have 15% of their workforce carrying H-1B visas.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is fully committed to protecting the interests of Indian professionals working in the US. In our regular interaction with the US Government, we have been conveyed that employment protectionism does not help the US or any other country, neither it is good for the global economic order. It has been our constant endeavour to sensitize the US authorities about the fact that India happens to be the largest contributor of highly skilled workers to the US economy and any protectionist policy would hurt the interest of US companies the most.

#### **Transportation of Coal in SECL Areas**

790. SHRI D.P. SAROJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to introduce 'Open Tender System' in the Gevra and Deepka areas of South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to put in place Global Positioning System and Electronic Surveillance System in order to ensure efficient transportation of coal in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) and (b) In Gevra and Dipka areas Open Tenders are being called for the work of transportation of coal from surface to surface, wagon loading and removal of over-burden.

(c) and (d) For the purpose of introduction of the Global Positioning System (GPS) based Truck Dispatch System in Dipka area, tender documents are under preparation. Action is being taken to upgrade the Truck Dispatch System in Gevra area to the GPS based Operator Independent Truck Dispatch System. In order to introduce Electronic Surveillance System in the transportation of coal, the vehicles deployed for transportation of coal at Dipka and Gevra Projects are intended to be provided with Radio Frequency Identity Card (RFID) based Boom Barrier System. For this purpose, an open tender has been floated and the technical and commercial evaluation of offers is in progress.

#### **Environmental Clearance to RPL**

791. DR. RAJESH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reliance Power Ltd. (RPL) obtained environmental clearance from Government by submitting false information as reported in the 'Mint', dated 20 November, 2008;

(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 ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Green House Gas Emission from Crops**

792. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any action to check the green house gas emission from crops and their residues; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome of the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has prepared the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) under which 8 national missions are envisaged to address Climate Change issues in important areas like agriculture, energy and water resources. ICAR, along with Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has prepared the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture which has the objective of making Indian agriculture more resilient to climate change. The Action Plan includes adaptation and mitigation strategies to counter the adverse effect of climate change. These include development of temperature tolerant varieties, conversion of C3 plants to C4 in rice, scientific water and nutrient management with special focus on rice paddies, promotion of resource conservation strategies, carbon sequestration by residue management,

restoration of degraded soils, conservation agriculture and agroforestry, site specific nutrient management strategies and better utilization of weather forecasts in crop production.

*[English]*

**Illegal Practices by Private Financial Institutions/Banks**

793. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that certain private financial institutions/banks, especially, foreign financial institutions/banks are indulging in illegal hedging and luring traders and exporters under some schemes violating RBI guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against such institutions/banks; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed by the Government to prevent the business houses/exporters from such trappings by these financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

**Utilization of the Skill of Overseas Indians for National Development**

794. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to utilize the expertise of the overseas Indian Community for National Development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The Global-Indian Network of Knowledge (Global-INK), a Diaspora Knowledge Network was launched by the Prime Minister in the last Pravasi Bhartiya Divas convention in Chennai on 8th January, 2009. Global INK will connect people of Indian Origin from a variety of

disciplines recognized as leaders in their respective fields, not just in their country of residence but globally as well, with knowledge users at the National and sub-national levels in India. The network would serve as a high level electronic platform to facilitate knowledge transfer from wherever it may be based without the overseas experts having to relocate. The network will serve as a strategic virtual think tank. The outcome targeted will be the germination of ideas on development, identification of the key elements in addressing the challenges to development and articulating and mapping out solutions through innovation and technological/interventions.

(ii) Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of people of Indian Origin.

Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of people of Indian origin is a high level committee to draw upon the experience and the knowledge of eminent people of Indian origin in diverse fields from across the world. It has been constituted to serve as a platform to draw upon the experience, knowledge and wisdom of the best Indian minds.

**Losses of the Government in RIL**

795. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been incurring huge losses of taxes and duties due to the conversion of an existing refinery of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) in to an Export Oriented Unit (EOU);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by the Government to recover these losses from Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir. The petroleum refinery of M/s Reliance Industries Ltd., was converted into an Export Oriented Unit (EOU) in accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2004-09.

(b) In view of (a) above, no action is required.

**Delay in Registration of Maritime Vessels**

796. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any delay in clearance of registration of maritime vessels at ports including Mormugao Port;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No Sir. The average time taken for registration of vessels at ports depends on the submission of the required documents by the owner of the vessel as prescribed in the Merchant Shipping (Registration of Indian Ships) Rules. If the documents are in order, the average time for registration of ships is not more than two days. No delays are reported to have occurred at the Mercantile Marine Department, Goa for registration of vessels.

#### Reliance Power IPO

797. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of small investors has still not received the refund under retail category of IPO of Reliance Power Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the promoters/lead managers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reliance Power Ltd. has informed Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) that out of 47,91,073 refund cases amounting to Rs. 99,292 crore, the number of pending cases as on February 20, 2009 is 5243 amounting to Rs. 11 crore.

(c) Reliance Power Ltd. has informed SEBI that out of 5,243 pending cases, in 1,302 cases refund orders were returned undelivered by postal authorities for various reasons and in the remaining 3,941 cases the warrants have not been encashed by investors and therefore no action is proposed to be taken by SEBI.

#### Death of Infants due to Vaccination

798. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of infant deaths due to vaccination have come to the notice of the Government;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of deaths after vaccination during 2009 are as under:

States	Number of reported deaths
Andhra Pradesh	1
Bihar	2
Gujarat	1
Madhya Pradesh	6
Maharashtra	2
Punjab	1
West Bengal	1
Total	14

In year 2009, total 14 deaths have been reported as AEFI (Adverse Event Following Immunization) out of which 10 PIR (Preliminary Investigation Reports) were received. 6 cases were classified as coincidental death and other 4 cases were classified as unknown.

(c) Government of India has taken following steps in this regard:

1. National AEFI Committee and AEFI Committees in all States have been constituted to investigate and respond to such events.
2. Monitoring and Review of Cold Chain and Logistics is undertaken periodically.
3. Conduction of Health Workers (Vaccinators) training for taking all necessary precautions during vaccination.
4. Distribution of "Guidelines for Safe Immunization Practices" to States/UTs.

**MoU with Overseas Countries on Manpower**

799. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with any overseas country for protecting the interests of the Overseas Indians working in these countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the name of the countries with whom MoUs are proposed to be signed?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India had signed labour agreements with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s. An MoU in the field of Manpower was signed with UAE on 13th December 2006 and with Kuwait on 10th April 2007. MoU in the field of Manpower with Oman was signed during the Prime Minister's visit to Oman on 8th November, 2008. MoU on Employment of Workers was signed with Malaysia on 3rd January, 2009. A similar MoU with Bahrain on Labour and Manpower Development has been finalized and will be signed soon.

**Issue of Tax-Free Bonds by NPCIL**

800. SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) proposes to issue tax-free bonds to raise money for augmenting nuclear power generation capacity and distribution of power at reasonable prices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) There is currently no proposal under the consideration of the Government for issue of tax-free bonds by NPCIL. Augmentation of nuclear power capacity and generation of power at reasonable costs is always kept in view.

**Funds Released to States for the Development of Sports**

801. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:  
SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:

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

(a) the details of funds released to various States for the development and promotion of Sports activities in the State during the last three years;

(b) the details of proposals from various States received for development of Sports;

(c) whether the funds have been fully utilised by the States;

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

(e) the effective steps taken by the Union Government to monitor and ensure proper utilisation of Central funds by the State and to expeditiously clear the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) to (d) For the development and promotion of sports activities in the States, funds were earlier made available by the Central Government to the State Governments under the erstwhile centrally sponsored scheme of Grants for the Creation of Sports Infrastructure, which has been transferred to the State Sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005.

With a view to addressing the inadequacy of basic sports infrastructure at the grassroots level throughout the country, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has recently introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled 'Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan' (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels. The scheme provides for financial assistance for the development of playfields, procurement of sports equipment, and organizing competitions.

During 2008-09, which is the first year of implementation of PYKKA Scheme, proposals from 25 States covering around 25,000 PYKKA centres have been

approved. State-wise details of funds approved for sanction and funds released under PYKKA Scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) For ensuring proper utilization of the funds released by the Ministry to the States, the funds are being released to the State Governments under two instalments. The funds under second instalment are to be released only after the State Governments submit the progress report in respect of the funds released under the first instalment. The funds for the next financial year are to be released to the State Governments after the State Governments submit the utilization certificate for the funds released in the previous year. Further, a web-enabled Management Information System for monitoring the PYKKA Scheme is also being introduced.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of State	Total Amount approved for sanction (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2819.77	14,65,38,500
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	98.50	73,87,500
3.	Assam	695.54	1,61,25,000
4.	Bihar	1043.66	5,21,83,000
5.	Chhattisgarh	1011.20	—
6.	Goa	35.19	—
7.	Gujarat	1420.11	—
8.	Haryana	650.71	3,25,35,500
9.	Himachal Pradesh	402.40	2,01,20,000
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	531.72	2,65,86,000
11.	Kerala	159.85	79,92,500
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2364.77	11,82,38,500
13.	Maharashtra	2754.98	—
14.	Manipur	108.24	—
15.	Mizoram	106.66	85,32,800
16.	Nagaland	147.90	—

1	2	3	4
17.	Orissa	734.20	3,67,10,000
18.	Punjab	1390.17	7,28,96,000
19.	Rajasthan	943.49	3,70,87,500
20.	Sikkim	75.32	6,00,000
21.	Tamil Nadu	1382.39	5,00,00,000
22.	Tripura	181.24	1,34,74,200
23.	Uttar Pradesh	5390.49	1,00,00,0000
24.	Uttarakhand	889.40	3,00,00,000
25.	West Bengal	463.22	—
Total		25801.12	77,80,07,000

**Renovation of AVM Canal**

802. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for renovation of the Anantha Victoria Marthanda Varma (AVM) canal in Kanyakumari District;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from Shri S. Jayapal, MLA along with a write-up titled Scientific opinion on Anantha Victoria Marthanda Varma (AVM) canal with a request that "the abandoned stretch of AVM Canal between Neerodi and Mandaikadu may be revived and water transportation between Ernakulam of Kerala to Kanyakumari of Tamil Nadu may be restored".

(c) Pursuant to a techno-economic feasibility study, Government of India has decided that extension of NW-3 can be considered only after the existing National Waterway is fully developed.

**Quality Certification to Estables**

803. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) proposes to collaborate with Quality Control of India (QCI) to issue quality certification to eatables;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is supporting an initiative by Industry, State Government and other agencies including Quality Council of India (QCI) to develop safety and hygiene standards for eating establishments in Delhi in preparation for the Commonwealth Games 2010.

#### **Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008**

804. SHRI PRATIK P. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaint against certain provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No complaint has been received against the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008, as the date of implementation has not yet been notified. Representations have, however, been received from the manufacturers association and other stake holders apprehending that the amended penal provisions have the potential of being misused.

(c) Suitable guidelines for implementation of the provision of the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008 would be forwarded to the State Licensing Authorities before it is implemented for uniform enforcement in the country.

12.01 hrs.

### **PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10713/09]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10714/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2007-2008.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10715/09]

- (7) A copy of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (Amendment) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 858(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2008, under Section 36 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10716/09]

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Public Enterprises Survey, 2007-2008 (Volumes I to III) (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10717/09]

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table...

MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you can lawfully place it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 36(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 2009 specifying the rights, mentioned therein, to which the persons registered as the overseas citizen of India under Section 7A of the Citizenship Act, 1955 issued under sub-section (1) of Section 7B of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10718/09]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): Mr. Speaker Sir, on behalf of Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the WAPCOS Limited [Formerly known as Water and Power

Consultancy Services (I) Limited], New Delhi, for the year 2007-08.

- (ii) Annual Report of the WAPCOS Limited [Formerly known as Water and Power Consultancy Services (I) Limited], New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10719/09]

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10720/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10721/09]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10722/09]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10723/09]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, for the year 2007-2008.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10724/09]
- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 31 of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003:-
- (i) The Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 417(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th May, 2008.
- (ii) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labelling (Amendment) Rules), 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 693(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2008.
- (iii) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labelling (Amendment) Rules), 2007 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 633(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2007.
- (iv) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labelling) Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 182(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 2008.
- (10) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10725/09]
- (11) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2814(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2008, containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 693(E) dated the 29th September, 2008, under Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and

Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10726/09]

- (13) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10727/09]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10728/09]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working

of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10729/09]

- (18) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (National Population Stabilisation Fund), New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10730/09]

- (20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.

- (21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10731/09]

- (22) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Voluntary Health Services, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008.

- (23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10732/09]

(24) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 20 of the Dentists Act, 1948:-

- (i) The Dental Council of India Post Graduate Diploma Course Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. DE-130-2007 in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2008.
- (ii) The Dental Council of India Dental Hygienists Course Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. DE-54-2007 in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 2008.
- (iii) The Dental Council of India Dental Mechanics Course Regulations, 2008 published in Notification No. DE-54-2007 in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 2008.
- (iv) The Dental Council of India Post Graduate Diploma Course Regulations (Dental Materials), 2008 published in Notification No. DE-130-2007 in Gazette of India dated the 27th August, 2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10733/09]

- (25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Post-Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Post-Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, for the year 2007-2008.

(26) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (25) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10734/09]

- (27) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 2007-2008.

(28) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (27) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—10735/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-

- (i) S.O. 1515(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for construction of Grade Separator at Koyambedu Junction, in Koyambedu and Arumbakkam villages of Egmore-Nungambakkam Taluk in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) S.O. 1568(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for construction of Chennai By-Pass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) S.O. 1633(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iv) S.O. 1638(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1943(E) dated the 15th November, 2007.
- (v) S.O. 1642(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1902(E) dated the 12th November, 2007.
- (vi) S.O. 1643(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 115(E) dated the 21st January, 2008.
- (vii) S.O. 1644(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 making certain

- amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1738(E) dated the 10th October, 2006.
- (viii) S.O. 1648(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ix) S.O. 1650(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Extn.) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (x) S.O. 1731(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1582(E) dated the 22nd September, 2006.
- (xi) S.O. 1733(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xii) S.O. 1749(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 47, including construction of bypasses (Salem-Coimbatore Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xiii) S.O. 1877(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 497(E) dated the 13th March, 2008.
- (xiv) S.O. 1878(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 4 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xv) S.O. 2055(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Karur-Coimbatore Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvi) S.O. 2069(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1436(E) dated the 11th June, 2008.
- (xvii) S.O. 2087 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xviii) S.O. 2136 (E) and S.O. 2137(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruppukottai-Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xix) S.O. 2138(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xx) S.O. 2139(E) and S.O. 2140(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 66 (Pondicherry-Tindivanam Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxi) S.O. 2177(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th September, 2008 making certain amendments in the three Notifications, mentioned therein.
- (xxii) S.O. 2178(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th September, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxiii) S.O. 2183(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th September, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of

- National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Vilupuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxxi) S.O. 1750(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxiv) S.O. 1564(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 68 (Salem-Ulundurpet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxcii) S.O. 1837(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxv) S.O. 1625(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxciii) S.O. 1870(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvi) S.O. 1632(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxciv) S.O. 1885(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvii) S.O. 1640(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 68 (Salem-Ulundurpet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxcv) S.O. 1886(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th July, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 299(E) dated the 12th February, 2008.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1641(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxcvi) S.O. 1895(E) to S.O. 1897(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruppukottai-Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxix) S.O. 1732(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (including Bypasses) (Trichy-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxcvii) S.O. 1898(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxx) S.O. 1734(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu. (xxcviii) S.O. 1899(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.),

- maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxix) S.O. 2723(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xi) S.O. 2725(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Trichy-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xii) S.O. 2735(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Karur-Coimbatore Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xlii) S.O. 2811(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Viluppuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xliii) S.O. 2830(E) and S.O. 2831(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xliv) S.O. 2836(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45B (Tiruchirappalli-Viralimalai-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xlv) S.O. 2837(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Viluppuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvi) S.O. 2917 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 47 (Salem-Coimbatore Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvii) S.O. 2914(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xviii) S.O. 2915(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xix) S.O. 2916(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (i) S.O. 2918(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) S.O. 3002(E) and S.O. 3003(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 68 (Salem-Ulundurpet Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) S.O. 11(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd January, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Trichy-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (lii) S.O. 2369(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruppukottai-Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (liv) S.O. 2444(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Vilupuram-Tiruchirappali Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lv) S.O. 2464(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45B (Tiruchirappali-Viralimalai-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvi) S.O. 2469(E) to S.O. 2471(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvii) S.O. 2474(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 47 (Salem-Coimbatore Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lviii) S.O. 2475(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lix) S.O. 2507(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Vilupuram-Tiruchirappali Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lx) S.O. 2508(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Vilupuram-Trichy Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxi) S.O. 2521(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 66 (Puducherry-Tindivanam Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxii) S.O. 2522(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxiii) S.O. 2566(E) and S.O. 2567(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxiv) S.O. 2568(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxv) S.O. 2587(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Vilupuram-Tiruchirappali Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxvi) S.O. 2599(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 2008 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2083(E) dated the 4th December, 2007.
- (lxvii) S.O. 2602(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 2008 regarding

- acquisition of land for construction of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxviii) S.O. 2603(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for construction of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxix) S.O. 2724(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxx) S.O. 2726(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Tiruchirappalli-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxi) S.O. 2829(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxii) S.O. 2884(E) and S.O. 2885(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruuppukottai-Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxiii) S.O. 2886(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruuppukottai-Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxiv) S.O. 2887(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxv) S.O. 3004(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxvi) S.O. 3005(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 2008 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxvii) S.O. 368(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 218 (Bijapur-Hubli Section) in the State of Karnataka.
- (lxxviii) S.O. 209(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from users of Tarihal Road Interchange on Hubli-Dharwad Bypass on National Highway No. 4 in the State of Karnataka.
- (lxxix) S.O. 2950(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd December, 2008 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from users of bridge across Kali River on Panjim-Mangalore Section of National Highway No. 17 in the State of Karnataka.
- (lxxx) S.O. 367(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building/construction, maintenance and operation of Kodungallur Bypass (Chandappura-Kottappuram) on National Highway No. 17 in the State of Kerala.
- (lxxxi) S.O. 201(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-

laning, etc.), maintenance and operation of National Highway No. 31, including construction of bypasses, in the State of Assam.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10736/09]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 413(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th February, 2009 entrusting (Bharatpur-Mahua-Jaipur Section) of National Highway No. 11 in the State of Rajasthan to the National Highways Authority of India issued under Section 11 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10737/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Information Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, under sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Right to Information Act, 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—10738/09]

- (3) A copy of the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Third Amendment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 20(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2009 under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10739/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): On behalf of Shri S.S. Palanimanickam, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961:-

(i) The Income-tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 220(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st January, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) The Income-tax (First Amendment) Rules, 2008 published in Notification No. S.O. 50(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 2008, together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iii) The Industrial Park Scheme, 2008 published in Notification No. S.O. 51(E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th January, 2008, together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item Nos. (ii) and (iii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10740/09]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 2813(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 2008 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Industrial Park Scheme, 2008, issued under sub-section (4) of Section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10741/09]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 46 of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957:-

(i) The Wealth-tax (First Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 379(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) The Wealth-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. S.O. 470(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10742/09]

- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

- (i) G.S.R. 91(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-Cus., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (ii) G.S.R. 8(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd January, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 103/2008-Cus., (N.T.) dated the 29th August, 2008.
- (iii) G.S.R. 9(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd February, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 89/2005-Cus., dated the 4th October, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10743/09]

- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

- (i) G.S.R. 92(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 8/2003-C.E., dated the 1st March, 2003.
- (ii) G.S.R. 93(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 2009, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2002-C.E., dated the 1st March, 2002.
- (iii) G.S.R. 883(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 2008, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 32/2005-C.E., dated the 17th August, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10744/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): On behalf of Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the use of very low power remote cardiac monitoring radio frequency wireless medical devices, Medical Implant Communication Systems (MICS)

or Medical Implant Telemetry Systems (MITS), and other such very low power medical radio frequency wireless devices or equipments (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 673(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 2008, under sub-section (4) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and sub-section (4) of Section 10 of the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10745/09]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10746/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): On behalf of Shri Namonarain Meena, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, Chennai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10747/09]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section(3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

- (i) S.O. 2979(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 2008, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 671(E) dated the 30th September, 1996.
- (ii) S.O. 2674(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 2008, constituting State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority and the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee for the State of Orissa.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10748/09]

(4) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 195(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 2009, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1533(E) dated 14th September, 2006 issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10749/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Accounts under sub-section (3) of Section 20 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10750/09]

(2) A copy of the Notification No. F. No. IRDA/IAC/6/48/2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th January, 2009 appointing members, mentioned therein, as members of the Insurance Advisory Committee with effect from 26th December, 2008 issued under sub-

section (1) of Section 25 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10751/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10752/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) 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 Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2007-2008.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10753/09]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of

India, Dehradun, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2007-2008.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10754/09]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal, for the year 2007-2008.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—10755/09]

12.03 hrs.

### MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2009, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th February, 2009 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th February, 2009 agreed without any amendment to the National Capital Territory of Delhi Law (Special Provisions) Bill, 2009 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th February, 2009."

12.03<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Minutes

[*English*]

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur): I beg to lay on the Table minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the 11th sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House held on 1 December, 2008.

12.03<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

36th and 37th Reports

[*English*]

DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA (Rajkot): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2008-09):-

- (1) Thirty-sixth Report on the Functioning of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited.
- (2) Thirty-seventh Report on Airports Authority of India—Safety and Security Aspects (Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report) of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Fourteenth Lok Sabha).

12.04 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS****48th to 50th Reports***[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions:-

- (1) Forty-eighth Report on the following subjects:-
- (a) Petition concerning the Ministry of Finance from Shri Gurudas Das Gupta, MP regarding policies of the Banking Sector and related issues.
  - (b) Representations concerning the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).
- (2) Forty-ninth Report on the following subjects:-
- (a) Petition concerning the Ministry of Civil Aviation from Shri Basudeb Acharia, MP regarding grievances of the employees of the Alliance Air concerning their employment etc.
  - (b) Representation concerning the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- (3) Fiftieth Report on the representations concerning the Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Power.

12.04<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE****47th Report***[English]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture on 'Impact of Global Climate Change on Agriculture and Allied Sectors in India'.

12.04<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR****40th Report***[English]*

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, I beg to present the Fortieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour (2008-09) on 'Problems being faced by workers due to sickness of HMT Units'.

12.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION****Statements***[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker Sir I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution:

- (1) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Twenty-first Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2007-08) on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Eighteenth Report of Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2007-08) on Demands for Grants (2007-08).
- (2) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Twenty-second Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2007-08) on Action by the Government on the recommendations contained in Nineteenth Report of Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2007-08) on Demands for Grants (2007-08).

12.05 hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

*[English]*

### *Statements*

MD. SALIM (Calcutta – North East): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development:

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the 24th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 17th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Central Public Works Department (CPWD)'.
- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 26th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendation contained in the 20th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Urban Development.
- (3) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the 27th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 21st Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.
- (4) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the 28th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 22nd Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Directorate of Printing'.

(5) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the 30th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 25th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS)'.

(6) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 33rd Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendation contained in the 31st Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Urban Development.

(7) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 34th Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2008-2009) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

12.05<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

### (I) 45th and 46th Reports

*[English]*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2008-09):

- (1) Forty-fifth Report on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- (2) Forty-sixth Report on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-second Report on the subject "Rural Housing".

**(ii) Statements**

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Rural Development:-

- (1) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Fifteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2005-06) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2004-05) on 'Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj'.
- (2) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Sixteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2005-06) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Tenth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2004-05) on 'Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (3) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Twenty-third Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2005-06) on 'Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (4) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Twenty-fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2005-06) on 'Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (5) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Thirty-first Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-08) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on 'Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (6) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Thirty-second Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-08) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-eighth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on 'Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (7) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Thirty-third Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-08) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on 'Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development)'.
- (8) Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Thirty-fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2007-08) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of Standing Committee on Rural Development (2006-07) on 'Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj'.

12.05<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

- (i) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 60th and 68th Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively) pertaining to the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I would like to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 60th and 68th Reports of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively), pertaining to the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

12.05<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

- (ii) (a) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 127th and 135th Reports of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively) pertaining to the Department of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, in pursuance of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Eleventh Edition) and direction 73A issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin - Part II dated September 1, 2004, I am laying this Statement on the status of implementation of Recommendations contained in the 127th and 135th Reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.

The Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture had held its meeting on 18th January, 2008 and 24th April, 2008 to consider 127th and 135th Reports respectively. The Committee had also taken the Oral

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10756/09)

Evidence of officers of the Department. The 127th Report was presented to the Rajya Sabha on 04.03.2008 and was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 04.03.2008. The 135th Report was presented to the Rajya Sabha on 28.04.2008 and was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 28.04.2008.

I am also laying down on the Table of the House a Statement (Part I and Part II) giving the status of implementation of those recommendations contained in the 127th and 135th Reports.

- (b) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 128th and 134th Reports of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively) pertaining to the Department of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways\***

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): Sir, In pursuance of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Eleventh Edition) and direction 73A issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin - Part II dated September 1, 2004, I am laying this Statement on the status of implementation of Recommendations contained in the 128th and 134th Reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture.

The Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture had held its meeting on 18th January, 2008 and 15th April, 2008 to consider 128th and 134th Reports respectively. The Committee had also taken the Oral Evidence of officers of the Department. The 128th Report was presented to the Rajya Sabha on 04.03.2008 and was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 04.03.2008. The 134th Report was presented to the Rajya Sabha on 17.04.2008 and was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 17.04.2008.

I am also laying down on the Table of the House a Statement (Part I and Part II) giving the status of implementation of those recommendations contained in the 128th and 134th Reports.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10757/09)

\*\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10758/09)

12.06 hrs.

**(III) Status of implementation of the Components of Bharat Nirman relating to Ministry of Rural Development\***

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am laying a statement on the status of implementation of the components of Bharat Nirman relating to Ministry of Rural Development in the Lok Sabha on the Table of the House.

The commitment of the United Progressive Alliance Government for all round development of the rural areas of the country reflected in the time bound Business Plan of Bharat Nirman which envisaged an investment of Rs. 1,74,000 crore for building rural infrastructure during the 4 years period of 2005-09. Three of the six components of Bharat Nirman, i.e. Rural Roads, Rural Housing, and Rural Drinking Water Supply are being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development with an estimated investment of Rs. 85,000 crores.

I am glad to report to this House that since 2004-05 till now, the Ministry has been able to utilize Rs. 67858 crores for implementing these three components and an amount of Rs. 6563 crores is planned to be utilized by the end of this financial year. Component-wise targets, achievements and some salient features are as follows:-

**Rural Roads**

Under rural road component, an investment of Rs. 48,000 crore was planned during the timeframe of Bharat Nirman against which Rs. 33531 crore has been utilized so far and Rs. 3496 crore are planned to be utilized by the end of this financial year. As against the target for construction of 1,46,185 km of new roads, 75396 km of new roads have been built and work is going on in 33,222 km of roads. As regards upgradation, 1,30,949 km of roads has been upgraded as against the target of upgradation of 1,94,130 km of roads and work is in progress in 53,118 km.

Under Bharat Nirman, against the target of connecting 59564 habitations, 26230 habitations have been connected and work is going on connecting another 23405 habitations.

For ensuring high level of quality in road works, three tier quality control arrangements have been put in position.

Transparency through Citizen Information Boards is being ensured. People's participation including the participation of the public representatives have been ensured through joint inspection of works. Online Management Monitoring and Accounting System (OMMAS) have been made functional. Road-wise details are available in public domain on [www.omms.nic.in](http://www.omms.nic.in)

This House has already been informed of Government's decision to allow construction of bridges upto 50mt. length by Government of India funding in place of earlier existing provision of 25 mt. The cost of causeways, irrespective of length, would be borne by the Government of India. In order to ensure transparency and competitiveness in the bidding process, State Governments have been advised to recourse to e-procurement with effect from April, 2009.

**Rural Housing**

Under Rural Housing, against an estimated investment of Rs. 11,100 crores during Bharat Nirman period so far Rs. 16,988 crore have been released and Rs. 1336 crore are proposed to be released by the end of this financial year. It was targeted to complete 60 lakh houses against which 63.48 lakh houses have already been completed and 16.92 lakh houses are under constructions.

For ensuring transparency in selection of the beneficiaries, system of "Permanent IAY Waitlist" have been operationalised.

The achievements under this component have to be seen by taking into account the fact that the unit cost of house has been enhanced to Rs. 35,000 in plain areas and Rs. 38,500/- in hilly and tribal areas and funding pattern for North-Eastern States including Sikkim has been changed from 75:25 to 90:10. A provision in the current year budget has also been made for financial assistance for provision of the land for house sites to the housesiteless families.

**Rural Water Supply**

Under Rural Drinking Water Supply component, during the four years of Bharat Nirman period, the allocations have increased from Rs. 2900 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 4050 crore in 2005-06 (40%), from Rs. 4050 crore in 2005-06 to Rs. 5200 crore in 2006-07 (28%), from Rs. 5200 crore in 2006-07 to Rs. 6500 crore in 2007-08 (25%), from Rs. 6500 crore in 2007-08 to Rs. 7300 crore in 2008-09 (12.3%). Funds to the tune of Rs. 4098 crore in 2005-06, Rs. 4560 crore in 2006-07 and Rs. 6441.69

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library See No. LT-10759/09.

crore in 2007-08 has been utilized by my Ministry. In 2008-09, against a budgetary allocation of Rs. 7,300 crore, the Ministry has been able to provide to States Rs. 5803.54 crore so far. Under Bharat Nirman programme, as against the target of covering/addressing 6,03,639 uncovered, slipped-back and quality affected habitations so far my Ministry has been able to cover/address 5,90,725 habitations which is about 97.86% of the target. We are hopeful to cover/address the balance habitations by the end of March, 2009.

For ensuring decentralized management of water quality, the National Drinking Water Quality/Monitoring & Surveillance Programme has been taken up. 5 persons in every village are being trained as quality monitors and State and District Water Quality Testing Laboratories have been fully supported in all the States by Government of India with 100% grant.

I am extremely satisfied to report to this August House that the Ministry of Rural Development have performed as per the business plan of Bharat Nirman and have achieved the stated objectives with full sense of dedication and commitment.

12.06 $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

- (iv) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report of the Standing Committee on Urban Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of Kumari Selja, I beg to lay this Statement in pursuance of the direction 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, which reads as under:-

"The Minister concerned shall make once in six months a statement in the House regarding the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of Departmentally Related Standing Committees of Lok Sabha with regard to his Ministry".

I would like to inform for the benefit of the Hon'ble Members of the House that the 32nd Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10760/09

Urban Development of the 14th Lok Sabha was presented to Lok Sabha on 16th April, 2008. The Report contains 13 recommendations. Action Taken Notes on these recommendations as prevailing in July, 2008 were sent by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation to the Standing Committee on Urban Development on 8th July, 2008. Latest status of Action Taken by the Government has been indicated against each recommendation in the enclosed Statement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that further follow up action wherever necessary will be taken.

The Annexure to this Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

12.07 hrs

- (v) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 208th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): Sir, I am laying this statement on the status of implementation of comments contained in the 208th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated 1st September, 2004.

The 208th Report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development was laid in the Lok Sabha on 23.04.2008. The Report relates to the action to be taken by the Government on the comments of the Committee.

The present status of implementation of various comments made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. I would request that this may be considered as read.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10761/09

12.07<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

- (vi) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 27th and 29th Reports of the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) and Health Research respectively, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare\*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Sir, in pursuance of Directions 73 A of the directions by the Hon'ble Speaker, I wish to inform the House the status of implementation indicated in the statement being laid on the Table of the House, of various recommendations contained in the 27th and 29th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on the Demand for Grants for the year (2008-09) of the Department of Health & Family Welfare and Department of Health Research, respectively, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

- (b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 28th Report of the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) and Health Research respectively, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare\*\*

SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI: Sir, in pursuance of provision of Rule 266 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I wish to inform the House the status of implementation indicated in the statement being laid on the Table of the House, of various recommendations contained in the 28th Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on the Demand for Grants for the year (2008-09) of the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10762/09

\*\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10763/09

12.08 hrs.

- (vii) (a) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1st, 14th, 19th and 25th Reports of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice on Demands for Grants (2004-05, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively) pertaining to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions\*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice had made 25 recommendations in its First Report on the Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. This Hon'ble House has already been informed on 30.04.2008 that out of the above 25 recommendations, 22 recommendations had already been implemented or no further action remains to be taken on them. In regard to the remaining 3 recommendations, Sir, with your permission I lay two Statements on the Table of the House which indicate the status as on 30.11.2008 on these recommendations. Statement No. I indicates the position regarding one of these recommendations which has since been implemented. Statement No. 11 lists the status of remaining two recommendations which are at various stages of implementation. The progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee is being closely monitored by my Ministry.

Sir, with your kind permission I further state that the Committee had made 48 recommendations in its 14th Report on the Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. This Hon'ble House has also been informed on 30.04.2008 that out of these, 35 recommendations had already been implemented or no further action remained to be taken on them. In regard to the remaining 13 recommendations, Sir, with your permission I lay 2 Statements on the Table of the House which indicate the status as on 30.11.2008 of these recommendations. Statement No. III indicates the position regarding three of these recommendations which have since been implemented. Statement No. IV lists the status of

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\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10764/09

remaining *ten* recommendations which are at various stages of implementation. The progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee is being closely monitored by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.

Sir, with your kind permission I further state that the Committee had made 74 recommendations in its 19th Report on the Demands for Grants (2007-08) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. This Hon'ble House has also been informed on 30.04.2008 that out of these, 43 recommendations had already been implemented or no further action remained to be taken on them. In regard to the remaining 31 recommendations, Sir, with your permission I lay 2 Statements on the Table of the House which indicate the status as on 30.11.2008 of these recommendations. Statement No. V indicates the position regarding 11 of these recommendations which have since been implemented. Statement No. VI lists the status of remaining 20 recommendations which are at various stages of implementation. The progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee is being closely monitored by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.

Sir, with your kind permission I further state that the Committee had made 87 recommendations in its 25th Report on the Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Sir, with your permission, I lay two more Statements on the Table of the House, i.e. Statement No. VII and Statement No. VIII which indicate status as on 30.11.2008 of these recommendations. The Statement No. VII indicates the status of 59 recommendations which have either been implemented and no further action is envisaged on the same. Statement No. VIII lists the status of the remaining 28 recommendations which are being implemented. The progress of implementation of the recommendation of the Committee is being closely monitored by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.

- (b) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 19th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forest on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Department of Atomic Energy\***

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, One hundred ninety-eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary

Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment & Forests (Rajya Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the One hundred ninety-first Report of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests on the Demands for Grants (2008-09) is laid on the Table. The report had been forwarded to the concerned authorities in the Department for implementation.

12.09 hrs.

- (viii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 26th Report of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances and Law and Justice on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): Sir, I am laying this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty Sixth Report of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances and Law & Justice on Demands for Grants (2008-2009) of the Ministry of Law and Justice. The present status of implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House and I request that the same may be considered as read.

12.10 hrs.

- (ix) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 69th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Ministry of Planning\*\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, I am laying the statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Sixty-Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the direction 73 A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10766/09

\*\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10767/09

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10765/09

The Sixty-Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Finance (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 16th April 2008. The report relates to the examination of Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Planning for the year 2008-09. Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/observations contained in the Sixty-Ninth Report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Finance on 12.9.2008.

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 all the contents of this Annexure. I would request that this may be considered as read.

12.11 hrs.

- (x) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 56th and 58th Reports of the Standing Committee on Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to the Department of Posts and Information Technology respectively, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology\***

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, I, in person, on the Direction 73 A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, would like to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 56th and 58th Reports of the Standing committee on Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Departments of Posts and Information Technology respectively, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 10768/09

12.13 hrs.

### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORATANCE

**Situation arising out of the action by the management of IDBI against their employees by changing Service conditions and suspending and transferring employees, thereby violating the RBI Act and steps taken by the Government in this regard**

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, before I call the attention of the hon. Minister, I would like to draw your attention that today there is a very important subject under Rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: Not now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the time has not been fixed... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, sorry. This is not the time to raise it. Mr. Acharia, you are a very experienced Member. I have asked you for a specific subject and you are raising question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, when will that be taken up?

MR. SPEAKER: That we will decide. This is not the way to discuss here.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Situation arising out of action by the management of IDBI against their employees by changing service conditions and suspending and transferring employees, thereby violating the RBI Act and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can lay it on the Table of the House. I think, it has been circulated to you, Mr. Acharia.

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR

\*Speech was laid on the Table.

**BANSAL:** Sir, with your permission, I wish to lay the statement on the Table of the House:

IDBI Bank is a government banking company and in terms of Article 4 of Articles of Association of IDBI Bank, the Government of India being the major and single largest shareholder shall at all times maintain not less than 51% of the issued capital of the Bank. Accordingly, IDBI Bank Ltd. is a Public Sector Bank and is categorized as an "other public sector bank" by RBI. IDBI Bank Ltd. is strictly adhering to the provisions of IDBI Repeal Act, 2003 including the protection of service conditions of employees in adherence to clause 5(1) of IDBI Repeal Act, 2003.

Consequent to IDBI Repeal Act, 2003, IDBI Bank has undergone two mergers viz. with erstwhile IDBI Bank Ltd. in April 2005 and with erstwhile United Western Bank Ltd. in October 2006. Both these banks were commercial banks. In order to achieve integration of the three previous Banks into one seamless bank, it became necessary to streamline Bank's business strategy and fully integrate the different segments and Strategic Business Units (SBUs), to achieve synergy and operating efficiency. For this, Bank has converted its operations into six business verticals viz (i) Infrastructure Corporate Group (ii) Large Corporate Group (iii) Mid Corporate Group (iv) Small & Medium Enterprises (v) Personal Banking Group and (vi) Agricultural Business Group that are fully integrated. These verticals, besides operating on a common business model, bring into sharp focus the core activity in each of the verticals, thereby enabling the bank to derive optimum efficiency.

#### **Change in Service Conditions**

As regards the change in service conditions, the IDBI has confirmed that there have been no changes to the service conditions and the Bank has adhered to clause 5 (1) of IDBI Repeal Act, 2003. The clause states as follows:

#### **Provisions in respect of officers and other employees of Development Bank:-**

'Every officer or other employee of the Development Bank (except a director of the Board or the chairman and managing director or any whole-time director) serving in the employment immediately before the appointed day shall, in so far as such officer or other employee is employed in connection with the undertaking, which has vested in the Company by

virtue of this Act, become, as from the appointed day, an officer or, as the case may be, other employee of the Company and shall hold his office or service therein by the same tenure, at the same remuneration, upon the same terms and conditions, with the same obligations and with the same rights and privileges as to leave, leave fare concession, welfare scheme, medical benefit scheme, insurance, provident fund, other funds, retirement, voluntary retirement, gratuity and other benefits as he would have held under the Development Bank if its undertaking had not vested in the Company and shall continue to do so as an officer or, as the case may be, other employee of the Company or until the expiry of a period of six months from the appointed day, if such officer or other employee opts not to continue to be the officer or other employee of the Company within such period.'

It can be observed from the clause that it specifies the following:

- a. same tenure;
- b. same remuneration;
- c. same terms & conditions;
- d. same obligations;
- e. same rights and privileges as to leave, leave fare concession, welfare scheme, medical benefit scheme, insurance, provident fund other funds, retirement, voluntary retirement, gratuity and other benefits;

#### **Transfer of Employees**

The transfer of erstwhile IDBI employees from the DFI Segment to Retail Banking operations has not violated the provisions of the existing Repeal Act. None of the provisions of IDBI Repeal Act, 2003 curtail or take away the right of IDBI Bank to deploy its personnel for better utilization and efficient customer service. In fact, clause 5 (1) of the Repeal Act, by explicitly stating that the employees would be governed by the same tenure and same terms & conditions of service prevailing before the appointed day, reiterates IDBI Bank's prerogative to deploy its personnel in gainful and productive activities.

It is a matter of record that AIDBEA in the past successively has been raising the issue of mobility and postings to the retail branches of the Bank and in fact

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threatened strike and other forms of agitations if their demand was not met which had necessitated conciliation meetings before the conciliation officer at Mumbai and at that time in the written submissions made by IDBI Bank, the management of IDBI Bank had assured that at appropriate time the demand of AIIDBEA of inter-mobility and postings to the retail business segment would be considered and inter-mobility in postings to the retail segments would be done. The present transfers only demonstrates the steps and initiative taken by IDBI Bank for meeting the demands and aspirations of the members of AIIDBEA to be part of retail business segment and fulfilment of the promise extended by the management of the Bank.

#### **Suspension of employees**

As regards the contention that the Bank has suspended certain employees, the Bank has submitted that any organization needs to maintain discipline and when there were violations of applicable conduct rules, appropriate action have to be initiated including disciplinary action. In Mumbai, the Conciliation Officer had advised the All India IDBI Employees Association (AIIDBEA) and IDBI Workers Union (IDBWU) to maintain industrial peace and harmony during the pendency of the conciliation and adjourned the proceedings to December 18, 2008. However, on November 21, 2008, members of AIIDBEA & IDBWU had become extremely aggressive and threatened to forcefully drove out employees of the vendors, who carry out various activities including maintenance of electrical equipments, communication network and fire fighting equipments at IDBI Tower, the Registered and the Corporate Office of IDBI Bank Ltd. at IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai – 400005 and thereby in the process brought the entire business operations to a standstill. The aforesaid acts of omission and commission on the part of AIIDBEA & IDBWU office bearers and members created panic amongst the employees of the vendors. Fearing injury and bodily harm they abandoned the workstations and left the premises of the Bank. The fear and trauma created in the minds of the employees of the vendors by the aggressive acts of AIIDBEA & IDBWU office bearers and members and ganging up at the gates could not be erased notwithstanding the assurances extended by the management of the Bank to the employees of the vendors that they would be given adequate security and protection and they should return to their respective workstations immediately. As the entire situation was going out of control, there was no option left to the Bank but to seek police help and intervention to maintain law and order including assurance to the employees of the vendors that

they are safe and they should return. The police authorities rushed to IDBI Tower and only thereafter, the employees of the vendors returned to their workstations. During the period, there was utter chaos, confusion and this adversely affected the business operations and the normal banking transactions could not be conducted. This has resulted in financial loss to the Bank and adversely affected the customer services. AIIDBEA & IDBWU office bearers and members were moving freely on and illegally loitering on all the floors of IDBI Tower by abandoning their workstations and indulging in slogan shouting thereby disrupting the Bank's functioning and business operations. Further, S/Shri S.A. Parab, SOA and B.D. Sawant, SOA, two of the 17 employees who were transferred to the branches in Mumbai, along with one Shri D.R. Shirke, SOA, an employee posted at Board Department, entered the Resograph Room of the Board Department and forcibly took all the resographed copies of 12 Executive Committee Agenda papers in spite of the concerned officers of the Board Department requesting them not to take away the confidential papers. The Agenda papers were to be dispatched to the Bank's Board of Directors for the EC Meeting scheduled to be held on November 28, 2008. These acts were in the nature of refusal to abide by the seniors' orders and direction and forceful deprivation of the Bank's property. This is an extremely serious issue and a matter of great concern for the Bank resulting in embarrassment in the eyes of the top government officials as the copies of the aforesaid documents were sent to Finance Secretary and the documents contained important credit proposals to the tune of approximately Rs. 12400 Crore relating to various reputed public and private sector companies/corporate houses. Keeping in view the sensitivity and seriousness of the issue, the matter was immediately brought to the notice of the appropriate Competent Authorities and the respective Competent Authorities based on the reports submitted to them, directed that the three employees, who were directly involved in the acts of forcibly taking away of the Board's agenda papers, be placed under suspension with immediate effect, lest they cause further damage to Bank's business and property. Accordingly, keeping in view the gravity of the misconduct and to arrest the situation, the three employees who had indulged in the aforesaid gross acts of indiscipline and misconduct were placed under suspension with immediate effect. – IDBI Bank had also filed a complaint with Cuffe Parade Police Station, under whose jurisdiction the Corporate Office falls.

In Chennai, certain workmen employees on January 10, 2009, threatened the General Manager (GM) with the closure of the branch on January 12, 2009 if some of

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their illegal demands were not met. On January 12, 2009, about 40 employees unauthorisedly absented from the duties but came to the office premises and shouted slogan against the Bank. Three electricians, who were responsible for maintaining electrical installations, in essential services, not only absented themselves but at the instigation of an office bearer, disrupted the electric power supply and water supply to the premises with the result that hundreds of officers and non striking employees and customers had to suffer without power and water supply throughout that day. Bank's operations and reputation suffered irreparable damage. The acts, which are in the nature of subversive of discipline, with total disregard to Bank's functioning and reputation were brought to the notice of the appropriate Competent Authority, who directed that these employees involved in disrupting the electric power and water supply in the Bank's premises be placed under suspension forthwith lest they repeat such acts and cause further damage to Bank's property and operations.

In view of the factual position indicated in the preceding paragraphs, it may please be appreciated that IDBI Bank Ltd has not taken any action, which can be viewed or seen as arbitrary, coercive and violative of the IDBI Repeal Act, 2003.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, when the IDBI Act was repealed, you know because you were in the House, there was a long debate. We were in the Opposition and we tabled a number of amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: Still you are in Opposition.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: My amendment got one vote more than the amendment opposed by the Treasury Benches.

MR. SPEAKER: I voted for you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You voted in favour of my amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, of course. Otherwise, I would have lost my job earlier.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But there was some manipulation and then it was equal in favour of my amendment and against my amendment. Then, the hon. Deputy-Speaker requested me to withdraw my amendment.

It is because he would have to exercise his casting vote against my amendment. When I got the assurance

from the Finance Minister of that period, Mr. Jaswant Singh – he very categorically assured the House – on the basis of his assurance, I withdrew my amendment. You also requested me to withdraw in view of the assurance given by him.

MR. SPEAKER: That is the usual courtesy shown.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In deference to your wishes, I withdrew the amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: Naturally, you had to listen to me then; I was the leader.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I would like to quote the assurance, what he stated:

"I give an assurance to this House that the development finance aspect of the IDBI shall not be diluted."

What is happening today? An article appeared in *The Indian Banker* in January this year. What has been stated in that article written by the present CMD of IDBI? It says:

"Here in IDBI, I had to convert a development financial institution into a pure commercial bank. Converting IDBI into a commercial bank is essential for its survival."

After giving such an assurance on the floor of the House by the then Finance Minister, how the present CMD of IDBI can state that? Without bringing an amending legislation, how the character of IDBI could be changed? With this article, the intention of the present CMD is very much clear. The IDBI was created for industrialization in our country, to help industrialization in our country. It has played a major role in our country towards industrialization. That role is being violated now.

The other issue, which was raised by many of the Members sitting in the Opposition, particularly Shri Rupchand Pal who participated in the debate, was in regard to service condition of the workers, the employees. His assurance was very categorical. This assurance was given on 8th December, 2003 by the Finance Minister of the National Democratic Alliance, which says:

"We have attempted to take full care of the protection of the employees of the IDBI. I would like to assure hon. Members that the provision that we have been making will, in fact, be beneficial to the employees.

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

It is possible that you do not agree with what I say. But I assure you that we cannot afford not to take fully satisfactory measures for the employees. The Standing Committee considered all these aspects. But even after all this, should we find in the implementation of what we are doing that there were and are some difficulties or lacunae or shortcomings, I assure the hon. Members that we will come back to the House and amend this or strengthen those particular aspects."

Already five years have elapsed since IDBI Act was repealed and assurance was given. The first assault on the employees of IDBI was when the question of wage revision came in 2005.

Sir, prior to that, salaries and allowances of the employees of IDBI were at par with the employees of the Reserve Bank of India. Up to September, 2005, the employees of IDBI used to get wages, salaries and allowances at par with the employees of the Reserve Bank of India. That parity was disturbed. This question was raised on the floor of this House through Calling Attention, and again an assurance was given but that was not honoured.

Sir, as it is the recognized Association of the employees, the office bearers of the Association have certain responsibilities and those responsibilities are being discharged. They have a right to protest against if anything happens in IDBI which is contrary to the mandated objects of IDBI, which is contrary to the assurance given on the floor of this House, and which is contrary to Section 5 of the IDBI Act.

There was a peaceful protest. There was no violence in their protest. When this parity was disturbed in 2005, at that point of time also, there was an agitation throughout the country, and there was a settlement. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please put your question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the former Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram, sent me an agreed Resolution or text of the agreement. Sir, after discussion there was an agreement; wages of the employees of IDBI were revised at that point of time.

Now, what is happening? Sir, without issuing show-cause notices, the officer-bearers – the General Secretary and the Vice President – are being suspended. Sir, even a charge-sheet has not been issued. All these are being done on a flimsy ground.

Sir, outsourcing is being done in IDBI. The works done in the Regional Office are being shifted to the headquarters and thereby the job opportunity in the Regional Office is restricted. There is a natural resentment among the employees and the workers. Instead of discussing these issues with the recognized Association, the management of IDBI is resorting to victimization. If the office-bearer is transferred from the headquarters of the Regional Office to a branch far away from the Regional Office, how will he be able to discharge his responsibility? ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please put your question. You have already taken 12 minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is nothing but to weaken the bargaining power of the recognized Association. Without discussing all these issues, the management of IDBI is resorting to such measures.

Sir, there is a harmonization process of terms and conditions including wages and placement because IDBI took over a private bank. The discussion regarding the harmonization process with this bank is pending.

There was a scope to settle this issue by discussing mutually with the recognised Associations. But the IDBI Bank has taken a unilateral decision to effect inter-mobility of the workman staff from the erstwhile Development Financial Institution (DFI) segments to Branches dealing with retail business segments.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, please put your question. There are so many businesses to be transacted. We have to take up the Discussion under Rule 193 also.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of State for Finance whether the shifting of the workmen staff from the Development Financial Institutions to the Commercial Branches would affect the service conditions of the employees or not.

The assurance was given on the floor of the House by stating that the IDBI would be converted into a pure Commercial Bank. By it converting from the Development Financial Institution to a Commercial Bank, whether it would impact the service conditions of the employees.

Sir, I am saying so because what the hon. Finance Minister has stated in his written statement is just a one-sided view of this problem. But this is not the ground reality.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you may please ask your second question now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In order to justify the arbitrary action of the IDBI Bank, so many things have been stated in his statement, which are not based on the facts. For example, disconnecting electricity and water supply.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already said about the violation of Service Conditions. Please put your question, now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There was no human intervention. There was some breakdown. The office-bearers of the Association were held responsible for disconnection of electricity and water. But the fact is that they were not at all responsible for this disconnection.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Acharia, sorry, I cannot allow you anymore.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In this regard, I would like to quote the last paragraph of the statement, which says:

"In view of the factual position indicated in the preceding paragraphs, it may please be appreciated that the IDBI Bank Limited has not taken any action, which can be viewed or seen as arbitrary, coercive and violative of the IDBI Repeal Act, 2003."

But transferring from Mumbai to Jammu is not coercive.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the IDBI Management would be asked to start discussion with the recognized representatives of the recognized Associations. It has been stated that the IDBI has incurred losses because of these agitations. So, to bring about a peaceful atmosphere and to see that the labour laws are not violated in future by the IDBI Management, it is necessary to create a peaceful industrial relation in the IDBI.

Therefore, would the hon. Minister impress upon the IDBI Management to start negotiations with the representatives of the recognized Associations?

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked about the violation of Service Conditions and to start discussion with the Associations.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would look into the cases of victimization, suspension of the employees... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Acharia, please cooperate with the Chair. You cannot take 20 minutes for a Calling Attention. I have been very accommodative, but I am sorry, you are not cooperating.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: He may reply about the transferring of some the office-bearers from the Headquarters to the Branches.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset, I would like to allay the fears of the hon. Member when he says that the IDBI Bank after being converted into a Bank, has given up its functions as that of a Development Financial Institution.

Even today, the bank's development finance aspect covers as much as 84 per cent of its total business and the retail banking is confined to 16 per cent. That is the status as on today. It has been said earlier and the hon. Member is fully aware of it that in a changing economic scenario where competition is the *sine qua non* of the stress, it became imperative for the IDBI also to take up certain retail banking functions. But that is not at the cost of development financial work but as the business expands, it is obvious that there the percentage would differ but the volume of the development finance financed by the IDBI would always be one of its important areas of activities.

I do not really have to take the time of this hon. House here to say that the Government of India attaches utmost importance to development finance, and that is the reason why we had even the Investment Financial Institution, IFI also.

There are two points primarily made by the hon. Member. The first he says is that over the passage of time the service conditions of the employees have been changed to their detriment. I again beg to differ with him, and with all the humility at my command, I would like to say that this is not the correct position. The service condition, etc., are governed by Section 5 of the Industrial Development Bank Transfer of Undertaking and Repeal Act, 2003 as the hon. Member has very briefly referred to it. Though I have mentioned that in my statement, I

have to refer to that. It talks of maintaining the same tenure, same remuneration, same terms and conditions, same obligations and also same rights and privileges as to leave, leave fare concession, welfare scheme, medical benefit scheme, Insurance, Provident Fund and other funds, retirement, voluntary retirement, gratuity and other benefits.

As on today also, though the future course of action has to be governed by Section 5, the employees of the IDBI Bank have the same pay and allowances as the employees at parallel or equivalent positions in the RBI, as the hon. Member is aware of it.

I am coming to the basic genesis of the problem which led to some suspensions. As you would and the entire House would agree with me, discipline is the most important thing for any institute to succeed.

MR. SPEAKER: He is referring to some assurance given by your predecessor.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The assurance the hon. Member referred to is that there will be protection afforded to the employees.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What about the article that appeared?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I suppose we should not really go by the article. The hon. Member has called my attention to this matter here.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you answer on the points.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: That was written by the CMD of IDBI. He himself has stated it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: It is a matter of record that the Associations of the employees, that is, the All-India IDBI Employees' Association and the All-India IDBI Workers' Union had been asking for mobility and postings. That is the matter of record. They had raised the issue of mobility and postings to the retail branches of the Bank, and in fact, they had threatened. Maybe, my hon. friend has not been probably briefed about that. They had threatened strike and other forms of agitation. That matter was continuing. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, it cannot be a running commentary.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: That necessitated conciliation proceedings in Mumbai. In the written submission of the IDBI, the management of the IDBI had assured that at the appropriate time the demand of the All-India IDBI Employees' Association regarding inter-mobility and postings to the retail business segment would be considered and inter-mobility and postings to the retail segment would be done. This was our statement at the time of the conciliation proceedings. When the postings are now made, firstly, I would again like to submit that the postings in the same institution from one place to another, from the DFI, that is, the Development Financial Institution Segment, to the retail segment does not in any way alter any service condition of those people.

The postings have all been made in the same city. They have not been posted outside. The postings in Mumbai were carried out in Mumbai only and those 17 people, who had been posted to different places, have joined their duties. I would like to bring this to the notice of the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

As I said, in the context of what was submitted by us earlier, these were effected and these do not in any way alter the service conditions of those people. There is no question of victimization ever in this matter. Though I have submitted in detail in the reply, I have to submit it again that during the conciliation proceedings, though they were advised that they should maintain peaceful atmosphere at the bank – the hon. Member has referred to it – there was disruption in the services. There were certain services being provided by the vendors from outside, like electricity, and we have it on record by the Electricity Board that there was no shut down or break down whatsoever. The employees were threatened, rather the people who were maintaining those services fled that place in Mumbai, and in three cases ...*(Interruptions)* I suppose that it would be absolutely important to say in what circumstances the IDBI management was constrained, forced, much though they did not want to, to take action against them, the disciplinary action in that case.

It was in November, 2008 that these two Associations became aggressive and threatened to forcefully drive out the employees and also disrupt the communication – electrical equipments, communication network and fire-fighting equipment.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is not based on fact.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, if he challenges it ...*(Interruptions)* I am making a statement here.

MR. SPEAKER: No, this is not the place for challenge and counter-challenge. You just refer to his questions.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, two of the seventeen employees who had been transferred and another employee with them posted at the Board Department — indeed, this was a very serious thing — entered the Risograph Room of the Board Department where there were documents, which they forcibly took, which were supposed to be circulated for the meeting of the Board and despite the request, they refused to abide by the seniors' orders, and that was deemed an extremely serious offence. The management was left with no alternative but to take action against them.

MR. SPEAKER: What he is asking is whether you are going to start negotiation.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Because of that reason, the three employees were suspended. For other acts of violence, four employees are under suspension in Chennai.

Sir, when he talks of the negotiations, I would again say that we do believe that discussion is the essence of democracy and the democratic functioning of any institute, whatever it is. It is with that democratic temper that we approach the issues and under whatever rules which are there under which discussions can take place, the IDBI would never desist from doing that. Beyond the agreed things, we cannot go. Again, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member that none of the employees, against whom action was taken regarding suspension, is protected worker.

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[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up Matters of Urgent Public Importance.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record that.

(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is over.

Chaudhary Lal Singh.

[*Translation*]

CHUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know very well...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, when will discussion under Rule 193 on Satyam Computer matter be taken up? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I am really feeling bad that they are not listening to me...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are not being fair to me.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not fair to me. On my own, I had given it on the first day, but Members were not agreeable to discuss it. Then, you are imposing on me. I will call it as and when I like.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, tomorrow is the last day of the Session. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: They do not want to discuss. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It does not concern me whether they want it or not. You have to accept that statement of mine. If you do not do it, then I will not allow it at all. If you question my integrity, I will not allow it.

Shri Lal Singh.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything except what Chaudhary Lal Singh speaks.

(*Interruptions*)... \*

[*Translation*]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: It is unfortunate that they are not listening to me. I request them to listen to me. My people have been mailing for 60 years...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Only Chaudhary Lal Singh's statement is to be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the time for the discussion should be fixed...*(Interruptions)* When will this discussion come up before the House?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are supposed to be here until the end of the day's Session. I cannot take up that matter for discussion just to suit to your convenience.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not shoot.

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Acharia ji, it is unfortunate that you are interrupting my speech. People are sitting on 'dharna' at Jantar-Mantar, why are you interrupting...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please continue your speech.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, I would like to submit that refugees who came from West Pakistan to Jammu and Kashmir are still waiting to be given the right to vote and PRC. They are facing identity crisis as their status is still not settled. They have not been allotted houses under IAY and education and jobs are still out of their reach. They are sitting on 'dharna' at Jantar Mantar after 60 years...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Lal Singh ji please lower your voice.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking loudly so that refugees of West Pakistan could also listen.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the matter has not been taken seriously. It is unfortunate that they are still living in hutments and facing all kinds of deprivation. They do not have land, houses and jobs even now. They do not have the right to vote. I request the Government to send a representative to the place where they are sitting on dhama and listen to their grievances...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Chaudhary Lal Singh ji and request you to please allow me to speak for just one minute...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please submit your name. Your name has been associated.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the manner in which to do it. No, I would not allow it.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please give your name in writing. You have not even taken the trouble to give any notice in this regard.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. The next issue is to be raised by Shri Santosh Gangwar. You can raise only one matter.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring it to your kind notice when the tenure 14th Lok Sabha is about to finish that the Government has not been able to make proper arrangement for the distribution of LPG cylinders.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a serious problem regarding LPG distribution since supply of LPG has been reduced to 60 per cent to every dealer and it is being delivered after 25 days due to which people are facing problems. I would like to submit that a Standing Committee has given its report that each family should have one connection. Definition of family should be re-defined because some families consist of only four members and some have 15 members. I would like to suggest that each adult member should be provided one connection. The Government should consider this aspect and take decision in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my request that the Government should pay attention towards this. NDA Government provided gas connections in rural areas to check felling of trees and number of people began using LPG. It is unfortunate that the Government is not paying attention towards this problem and has failed in meeting the demand of LPG. I would request the Government to take immediate action in this regard.

\*DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Mr. Speaker Sir, the Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of India and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland NSCN(IM) has been violated by the NSCN (IM). The wilful murder of one SDO, his driver and one Mandal in Manipur by the NSCN(IM) cadre is nothing but breach of trust and violation of the existing Ceasefire Agreement. They have accepted that the murders were committed by their cadre. One NSCN(IM) Lt. Colonel and his followers are responsible for this heinous crime. The alleged culprits should be surrendered to the concerned authority.

Through you Sir, I would like to urge upon the Government of India to pull up the NSCN(IM) for this crime and for the violation of the Ceasefire Agreement. This also amounts to breach of trust while the peaceful negotiation is taking place between the NSCN(IM) and the Government of India. All the culprits should be handed over to the concerned authority and they must be tried and punished according to the law of the land. Finally, Sir, the NSCN(IM) camps in Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh if there is any, should be shifted out immediately.

*[English]*

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, I had given a notice to raise a matter of urgent importance.

MR. SPEAKER: The next issue is to be raised by Shrimati K. Rani. She is not present in the House.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Calling 'Sir' does not help at all, and you know it. Why do you say it? You have tolerated my torture for five years.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The next issue is to be raised by Shri Hannan Mollah. You can raise only one matter. Oh! He has left the House.

*... (Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me see who all are cooperative with me. Shri Hansraj Ahir, one subject please.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the Government of Maharashtra has provided loan at 4 per cent interest

rate to women Self-Help Groups for running industries. I would like to request the Union Government to provide loan at 4 per cent interest rate to women Self-Help Groups operating throughout the country. I would also like to request the Union Government to instruct state government to set up shopping complexes in villages and cities to help the women Self-Help Groups in marketing their products.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We should follow Mr. Ahir's example. I hope in the next House you will have the same record. I wish you all the best.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to draw the attention of this august House to the matter of ceremonial opening of the Circuit Bench of Kolkata High Court at Jalpaiguri for which people have been waiting for the last two decades. The District Authorities have handed over the completed infrastructure to the judiciary on 11th January, 2006. The District Authorities left no stone unturned in construction of residences of judges. Necessary inspections have already been conducted. However, the reason for delay in inauguration is beyond our guess. Since you lent your wholehearted cooperation and support from the year 1998, I urge upon the Government, through you, Sir, to take prompt and proper action so that the legitimate, much wanted and much publicized Circuit Bench of Kolkata High Court at Jalpaiguri is opened shortly.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my parliamentary constituency Rampur is predominantly sugarcane producing district and thousands of people are engaged in sugarcane farming. There is only one sugar mill, namely, U.P. State Sugar Corporation in Rampur, which was shut down in the year 1999. The said mill was required in 2005 by the then Chief Minister Shri Mulayam Singh. Rs. 62 crore have been sanctioned for the said project under the revival scheme and the work has already been started by releasing first installment of Rs. 25 crore and around 30 per cent work has been completed. Now work on this project has been discontinued due to the change of regime.

For completing this work around 56 crore rupees are still left and it is deposited in P.L.A at Lucknow. Although this scheme has not been scrapped by the Central Government, yet the State government has stopped its work.

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Manipuri.

Sir, thousands of people of Rampur have been rendered jobless and hundreds have become homeless due to closure of sugar mill. It has resulted in increasing poverty and starvation owing to which people are facing a lot of problems. Because of closure of this government mill the private mill owners are bungling. They are even not dealing fairly with the slips issued by the government mill. So, through you I urge the central government to direct the state government that whatever money is left, it should be released immediately so that the sugar mill could be run again and provisions could be made to protect lakhs of people of that area who have been facing starvation, poverty and various other problems.

*(English)*

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (Vijayawada): Even before our Independence, OBCs used to have reservations in Southern States but after the Mandal Commission Report, OBCs are given reservations all over India. Even in Sixties, in Southern States, not only in the appointment of posts in Government jobs for OBCs, but also for promotions, there used to be some reservation. Article 16(4) deals with the reservations for jobs; but Article 16(4)(a) deals with the reservations for promotions also in the jobs. In fact, SCs and STs not only get reservation in jobs, but they also get proportional opportunity in the promotions. Similarly, OBCs also, before the agitation and before they raise their voice, it is for the Government to ensure that there is equality for OBCs also in the promotion of various jobs. For SCs and STs, promotions are given up to Class 'A' posts but whereas for OBCs, even for 'D' class posts, there is no reservation for promotions. Hence, I urge the Government, through you, Sir, to look into it and ensure that agitation should not bring out equality but natural justice should be given to the OBCs. ...*(Interruptions)* by providing reservation in promotion of Government jobs.

MR. SPEAKER: You should be brief. Everybody should be brief.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I am also extending my support to the issue raised by Shri L. Rajagopal. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (Hanamkonda): I am supporting the reservations in promotion for OBCs as raised by Shri L. Rajagopal.

MR. SPEAKER: You send your names.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): Thank you, Sir, for permitting to raise a very important matter from my State. The National Council of Teachers Education is giving recognition to self-financed PTC colleges without no objection certification of the concerned State Government (Gujarat). It is feared that the exclusive recognition being given by the NCTE without Government's NOC will create severe unemployment in the near future. Hence, I urge the Government to resolve the issue as early as possible.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (Ottapalam): I had moved Private Members Resolution in this august House on 09.07.2004, seeking reservation for SCs/STs and Backward communities in private sector employment.

A total of 29 hon. Members had participated in the discussion and all of them welcomed and supported the said Resolution.. However I had withdrawn the said resolution on the assurance from the hon. Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment that she will do it (reservation for SCs/STs and Backward communities in private sector employment). It was also informed that the Government of Dr. Manmohan Singh, under his Prime Ministership, is fully committed to it. However, it is very sorry to say that the assurances were remained only on papers of the Lok Sabha and nothing achieved even after expiry of more than four and a half years. The term of current Lok-Sabha is also nearing an end. The reservation for SCs, STs and other backward classes in private sector has become a necessity because due to privatization of most of the public sector companies and governmental activities. They have been deprived the benefit guaranteed in the Constitution. So I wish to remind the Government, please do something on this before you conclude the current Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: Current Lok Sabha is concluding tomorrow!

Shri Srichand Kriplani — not present.

Shri Francis George — please be brief.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): I will be brief, Sir. Various Members have raised the issue of reservation for Dalit Christians and Muslims of this country. Sir, successive Governments have been denying this right to these two sections. Just because the person chose a particular religion, it does not mean that his social status immediately changes. It is a constitutionally guaranteed right of every citizen to profess and practice any faith which he would like to. On the basis of faith, there should not be any denial of justice. The Government had

appointed the Justice Ranganath Misra Commission under the direction of hon. Supreme Court and the Commission had submitted its Report long back but the Government has not accepted the recommendations.

Yesterday, the Forum of Dalit Christians held a Parliament March demanding the implementation of the Ranganath Misra Commission Report and I would request the Government to immediately go through the Report, accept the recommendations and grant the reservation status to millions of Dalit Muslims and Christians in the country and do not deprive them this right....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: What are saying? If you want to be associated, then get yourself associated to it.

[*English*]

All the names will be added.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You know that for this you are required to give a slip. If all the hon'ble Members will rise for association, then it will not serve the purpose. You send your slip.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN (Trichur): I am associating with the issue raised by Shri Francis George.

SHRI ANWAR HUSSAIN (Dhubri): I am associating with the issue raised regarding Ranganath Mishra Commission.

[*Translation*]

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad): Sir, Government of Saudi Arabia has issued an order this year whereby international passport has been made compulsory for Hajjis. Till today Hajjis used to go there on pilgrim passport for which Haj Committee of India used to take only two hundred rupees. If they will have to go after showing international passport, then thousands of rupees will have to be spent and they will have to face a lot of problems. So, I demand that the hon'ble Prime Minister should arrange to get this order scrapped by holding talks with the Government of Saudi Arabia so that the Hajjis do not face difficulties.

The second thing is that the Haj Committee of India is not having any facility. I want and it is a request on behalf of all the Muslims that it should be given status

of a commission. This year Government of Saudi Arabia had given additional quota of 13 thousand hajjis to Government of India but the Government of India divided it itself which was not used properly. So, I want that whatever quota is given next time, it should be given to Haj Committee of India so that it could be properly divided and Hajjis could get the benefit of it. This is what I have to submit?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: There will be no functionaries.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice on this.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You can associate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, I will take a little time. As Shafiqur Rahman Barq Saheb has just now stated that Government of Saudi Arabia has told that international passport has been made compulsory. I would like to say that people's religious feelings are attached to Haj Journey. These people do not go there for doing some business. It is a very serious issue. Previously they had to spend two hundred rupees on pilgrim passport but now they will have to spend more money and they will have to face problems too.

Sir, through you, I would like to make one more request. This time quota was increased and 13 thousand Haj pilgrims were permitted in addition. This quota could have been divided all over the country proportionate to population of Muslims in the states but the government kept this quota with itself and distributed it as per its convenience. We, the Members of Parliament can hardly manage to send two haj pilgrims on our recommendation. The Government distribute the quota according to its convenience, which I think is not proper. In future, whenever quota is increased, then, it should be distributed proportionate to the population of minorities in the States.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ram Chandra Dome. With you all the best!

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to raise an important issue. The Central Food Laboratory, Kolkata and a few other such offices were established under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. This lab functions in a noble

area, to protect people from adulterated and contaminated items of food and other edible articles used for human consumption. The samples of food are collected, tested and analyzed in the CFL, to be declared fit and suitable for consumption. The offenders are liable to be prosecuted under relevant Acts of Criminal Procedure.

But in contravention of those provisions, this Government has recently enacted a new law, that is, Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Under this Act, the provisions are grossly liberalized. The worry and the anxiety of the people are that the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 has been promulgated to pave the way for entry of private sector in the field of food safety.

13.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I have allowed him to speak with my best wishes. He is contesting elections from my constituency.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: It is apprehended that the provisions of the Act may be utilised by the unscrupulous players in the fields of food production, manufacture and trading. The offenders are not liable to be prosecuted by the criminal law. Instead, they will be prosecuted by the civil law.

The CFL Kolkata should continue to discharge its responsibilities by being retained in the Government sector that is under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. And also, CFL should continue to act as a trial court. Its position should not be disturbed.

I also urge upon the Government not to transfer the staff and employees of this laboratory without finalising the terms and conditions of service in consultation with the staff there.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The intervention being made by the hon. Member should not go on record.

*(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, he has very ably raised it. Why are you diluting his importance?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Minister is here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you understand the seriousness of the matter. The Leader of the Party has also agreed. You do not have to respond.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA (Salumber): Mr. Speaker, Sir, nuclear Power project having 220 Megawatt capacity was set up in Rajasthan and with the setting of its first and second unit, their full capacity was being utilized and power was being supplied to Rajasthan. But, due to repairing and maintenance work, these units have been closed in July, 2007 and since then these units have not been restarted. Due to this, power supply to Rajasthan has been stopped completely and all development works have come to standstill. Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you, I request the Minister of Power that out of the forthcoming units *i.e.* the second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth unit and specially the Nuclear Power Project which is going to be started at Banswara, the complete share of Rajasthan should be taken care of.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I will now call only Shri Radhakrishnan because he has to relieve me; come and sit here in the Chair. Shri Radhakrishnan, have you heard the condition that you have to come here?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I stand to raise a very important issue. We all know that elections are fast approaching. Thousands of people employed in Gulf countries are being retrenched and they will come back to our country. The question is that they do not have any employment. They were earning foreign exchange to the credit of our nation. These poor people, who will return to our country because of the international economic situation, may run in lakhs. We will find it very difficult to rehabilitate all these people. The resources of the State Government are quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the Gulf returnees. So, I would request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and see how these people can be accommodated, employed in our country. It is only just and fair that the Central Government should come to the rescue of these poor people who are thrown out of employment due to no fault of theirs. They were getting employment in Gulf countries but the Kerala Government as well as the Southern States may not be able to provide them with employment. So, because elections are coming, the Central Government may also face the same difficulty. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think they have much chance in your State?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: So, I would request the Central Government to take immediate steps to rehabilitate these people who are returning from the Gulf countries. I think the Government should give a serious thought to this matter and come to the rescue of these people.

13.04 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377, listed for the day, may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

#### (I) **Need to start a F.M. Radio Station in Amreli, Gujarat**

[*Translation*]

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Sir, my constituency, Amreli is totally dependent on farming. People of my constituency have given many representations requesting to provide F.M. roadcasting in Amreli. The labourers and farmers of this area have no means of entertainment available to them and they are not capable of buying modern equipments of entertainment. Radio is one such equipment which farmer and labourer can buy. At present, the government is providing means of entertainment through F.M. but till now F.M. broadcasting has not been started in my constituency. The people of this area have demanded to start F.M. broadcasting which is needed to be done urgently. In the House, I have raised questions in this regard many times and have also raised this issue as a matters of urgent public importance on the demand of people and have also sent many letters to the concerned hon'ble Minister.

Sir, through the House, I request that F.M. broadcasting should be started from this financial year in my constituency, Amreli.

#### (ii) **Need to allow private sector companies to purchase cotton from farmers in Andhra Pradesh**

[*English*]

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (Guntur): Sir, it is a well known fact and the Government is also aware that cotton farmers have been agitating as their stocks of cotton are being purchased only by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI). CCI have fixed the procurement price of cotton at Rs. 3,000 per quintal. Due to non-operation of private traders, shifting and buying is taking place at a very slow pace.

At present, only CCI is buying cotton throughout the State of Andhra Pradesh. Even if the cotton farmers off-load their produce at CCI, weighing is done only after a week or 10 days. CCI is claiming that there is no space in its warehouses to unload the stock. Hence, farmers have to keep their produce in the trucks itself as there is paucity of space.

Under the circumstances, I would like to suggest to the Hon'ble Minister that he should immediately pass directions to the concerned authorities to allow private traders to buy the Cotton from the farmers and it should be ensured that stocks of farmers are not kept for weighing for a week or ten days. Immediate attention should be paid to this to help the farmers who wait for days to unload their stocks.

#### (iii) **Need to grant a special status to the State of Rajasthan and announce tax-holiday to augment development of the State**

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, geographical conditions of Rajasthan are very intricate. Because of it, the cost incurred on roads, railways, energy, potable water etc. to be provided in the state is more in comparison to other states. Rajasthan is a border state and areawise it is the largest state of the country. 12 districts of the north western region of the state are desert area which forms 61.11 percent of the total area of the state. 5.85 percent region of the state is tribal dominated area where 12.6 percent population of the state lives. The development of the state gets affected due to scarce water resources, dependence on inadequate and uncertain rain, drought and famine. In most parts of Rajasthan agriculture is also dependent on monsoon. Water is a scarce resource in Rajasthan. The state having 10.41

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

percent of total geographical area of the country and 5.50 percent population of the country has availability of only one percent of the total surface water. There are no other all weather rivers in the state except Chambal.

So, the Government of India is requested that keeping in view the special and intricate geographical conditions of Rajasthan, it should be provided special economic assistance by giving it special status and announcing it a tax free area for a few years on the lines of the hill states.

- (iv) Need to expand and upgrade the Silsuan airport in Keonjhar district, Orissa and Tonto airport in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand**

*[English]*

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar): Keonjhar district in Orissa has a prominent place on the mineral map of India. It is known in the International market for its high grade Iron ore, Baudite, Manganese and several other minerals. These minerals are being procured from the mineral belt of Keonjhar and exported to countries like China, Japan and South Korea through Paradip and Haldia ports. Thousands of workers are deployed in the mining areas in Keonjhar and these ports for loading, unloading and transport of these minerals for export purpose.

Keeping in view the prospect of mineral trade, a large number of companies have set up Sponge Iron plants and proposed to set up steel plants in that district. The officials working in these companies need to go by plane to Delhi, Kolkata, Bhubaneswar and other cities in connection with their business. Further, the growth of trade, industry, tourism and cultural activities will be practically not possible due to lack of Air connectivity. There exist two minor airports at Silsuan in Keonjhar district of Orissa and another at Tonto in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. There is a scope for expansion of these two airports.

As such, I demand that the airports at Silsuan and Tonto be expanded and upgraded as full-fledged domestic airports and facilitate the people of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj districts in Orissa and West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand to make use of the air connectivity to these airports without any further delay.

- (v) Need to start new trains connecting Ujjain with Amritsar, Ajmer, Baroda and other cities of Madhya Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

Dr. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Sir, Ujjain has historical cultural and spiritual importance in the country where lakhs of pilgrims arrive every year. So, starting of new train services is needed for comfort of the train passengers. There is a need to run a train between Ujjain and Amritsar and also trains from Ujjain to Ajmer via Ratlam-Neemach, Ujjain to Khandwa via Indore-Omkareshwar and also an Intercity from Indore to Baroda via Ujjain-Nagda-Ratlam.

Alongwith it, trains passing through Nagda, Khachroad, Mahidpur Road, Vikramgarh Aalot should be provided stoppages at the above mentioned stations.

- (vi) Need to set up a bench of High Court In Udaipur, Rajasthan**

SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA (Satumber): Sir, Udaipur Division of Rajasthan is a tribal dominated area and the inhabitants of this area are economically weak and backward. The apex Bench of the High Court of Rajasthan is at Jodhpur and its another Bench is at Jaipur which is around 550 k.m. from Kushangarh and Around Tehsil, the remotest regions of Udaipur Division. Not only that, these regions are not even connected with direct bus or train service.

The objective of justice is that everyone should get inexpensive and easily available justice, but the people of this region are not getting it, the reason of it is the non-existence of a Bench of High Court at Udaipur Divisional headquarters. I draw the attention of hon'ble Minister of Law and Justice towards this matter of urgent public importance and urge that a Bench of High Court should be set up for providing inexpensive and easily available justice to the people of tribal dominated Udaipur Division of Rajasthan.

- (vii) Need to expedite the gauge conversion work of railway Line from Lumding to Agartala in Tripura**

*[English]*

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the people of Tripura had been fighting for more than sixty years for

extension of Railways from Kumarghat to Agartala. As a result, in the current year, Agartala, the capital of Tripura has been connected by Railway. In order to achieve full and complete integration with the Railway network in the country, there is an urgent need to convert railway line from meter gauge to broad gauge from Lumding to Agartala. But the progress of conversion work from Lumding to Badarpur, Badarpur-Baraigram-Kumarghat and Lumding Shilchar sector is far behind the schedule and the people of North East particularly the people of Barrack valley and Tripura are getting utterly frustrated due to its tardy progress. I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Government to take immediate measures to complete the conversion work within the scheduled time-frame.

**(viii) Need to include "KANU" caste of Bihar in the list of Scheduled Castes**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, it is being demanded for a long time to include "Kanu" caste among the Scheduled Castes in Bihar. This demand has been raised vigourously in the fourth state level conference of Kanu development federation held recently. The State Government has also sent a request in this regard to the Central government by getting it passed by both Houses in Bihar but the government is not taking any step in this regard. The condition of people of "Kanu" caste in the state is very pitiable and they are also economically very weak. In spite of getting status of backward caste (OBC) their upliftment could not take place properly, so, if this caste is included among the Scheduled Castes, then the economic and social conditions of these people of weaker section can be improved through reservation. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Prime Minister towards this matter of urgent public importance and urge him that the process of inclusion of this caste among the Scheduled Castes may be initiated in this session itself.

**(ix) Need to withdraw the decision to convert the status of Kayamkulam Power Station and maintain its earlier status as a power station dedicated to Kerala**

*[English]*

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): The Kayamkulam Thermal Generating Station with 359.58 MW capacity is envisaged as a dedicated power station to Kerala and Kerala State Electricity Board had entered into a PPA with NTPC on 6-1-1995 for availing entire power

generated from the Station. Due to the unviability of paying the full fixed charges due to the hike in the price of Naphtha by Kerala State alone, an arrangement was entered for sharing the fixed charges of the station between TNEB and KSEB and since then KSEB is availing only 180 MW of power from the station. Now the Union Ministry of Power has directed the Southern Region Power Committee to discuss the issue of allocation of power from the station to Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh by converting the status of Kayamkulam Station as a dedicated power plant to a Central Generating Station which will deprive Kerala the major share of power from the Station.

This will aggravate the power crisis faced by Kerala due to failure of monsoon and reduction of the Central Pool allocation and so I request the Government to reverse the above decision with regard to Kayamkulam Thermal Station.

**(x) Need to prepare a Master Plan for prevention of massive erosion by the river Brahmaputra in Assam**

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Attention of the Government is drawn regarding massive erosion by the river Brahmaputra and its tributaries in Assam. The proposal of DONER Ministry for preparing a Master Plan for controlling Brahmaputra and for an integrated development plan should receive highest priority of the Government. An independent regional implementing agency should be created by the Union Government with concerned Ministries, CWC and Brahmaputra Board with exclusive power and authority for designing the mathematical model and for planning and execution of the Master plan including mobilization of fund from National and International funding agencies in addition to the usual budgetary support. To start with, the extensive erosion of Lali Siang channel of Brahmaputra in the Jonai Civil sub-division of Dhemaji District of Assam bordering Arunachal Pradesh should be surveyed by a Central team immediately since it has threatened the famous Poba forest Bio-reserve and Koku Chapori river island besides posing a great threat to the Jonai town. Already large number of families in the Koku Chapori and Bera Chapori area from the point of Oiramghat to Songkong of Majorbari ghat were uprooted because of severe erosion. Raising of boulder spurs along both sides of the river should be taken up immediately before the proposed Master plan is finalized.

I also urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister for urgent action towards creating the aforementioned independent

agency with effective collaboration of the Ministry of DONER, Water Resources and the Planning Commission besides tackling the erosion of Jonai area with top most priority.

- (xi) **Need to expedite the conduct of draw of lots for housing units built by D.D.A. and various Co-operative housing societies in Delhi**

DR. SEBASTIAN PAUL (Ermakulam): The Ministry of Urban Development has embarked upon a Master Plan for Delhi, with a perspective for the year 2021, which focuses on planned development with provision for housing for different categories of inhabitants of the city. The U.P.A. flagship programme 'Housing for all' is a step in the right direction for overcoming shortage of housing in Delhi. Delhi Development Authority, the Cooperative Department of Delhi and private players too are involved in meeting the ever-growing demand of housing needs of the city. There are more than 300 housing cooperative societies, who have built more than 10,000 dwelling units. The members of these cooperative societies are mostly retired/ serving Government servants and other middle class persons. Some of the shoddy societies are under CBI scanner. The office of Registrar Cooperative society through a Public Notice invited proposals from some 50 odd societies in Jan/Feb. 2008 which were not under CBI probe last year, for draw of lot. However, clearance has been given only to 18 societies so far. In spite of Delhi High Court's direction to conduct draw of lot for societies not under CBI probe within a period of one month, the concerned departments are showing no interest and violating the direction of High Court. The Committee constituted to screen proposals from societies which are not under CBI investigation have met seldom and cleared only 15-16 proposals, out of 50 odd proposals

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Urban Development to direct DDA and Cooperative Department of Delhi to conduct draw of lot within a fixed time frame as directed by Delhi High Court.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All the other matters listed for 'Zero Hour' will be taken up at the end of the day. Shri Hannan Mollah, you were not there when your name was called.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I am sorry, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, saying sorry will not serve any purpose.

[English]

The discussion under Rule 193 will be taken up at 5.00 p.m.

Now we will take up item No.38 and the hon. Minister to reply.

13.05 hrs.

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009 – contd.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank my colleagues for having participated in the deliberations on the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2009.

13.05 $\frac{1}{4}$  hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Sir, the education scene in our country today is at a tipping stage where opportunities are abundant but at the same time challenges are also unprecedented. The 21st century is acknowledged as a knowledge century which means knowledge of brain power must be reflected in any country's competitiveness, its advancements and also in the human capabilities. It is here that education plays a very pivotal role in the economic growth and development of any country. Therefore, it is very important that we are able to provide for the children of our country quality education so that they could become very instrumental, pivotal and could play a very important role in the economic growth and development of our country.

Even as we speak of the importance of education, there are challenges in the educational sector pertaining to quality, equity, relevance and also access to higher education. Access and equity would go hand-in-hand because today our gross enrolment ratio in higher education sector is around 11 per cent and it is very essential that for a country to be economically sustainable, our gross enrolment ratio in higher education should be 20 per cent. But realizing fully well that we cannot achieve 20 per cent gross enrolment ratio overnight, a conscientious decision has been taken that we should be able to achieve a gross enrolment ratio of around 15 per

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

cent by the end of 12th Five Year Plan, that is by the end of 2012. I think it is a very reachable target but even as we talk of accessibility, we also need to talk of equity wherein we ensure that children living in the remotest areas of our country belonging to marginalized sections of our society can also avail quality higher education. Many programmes and initiatives have been initiated to ensure that children belonging to these sections of society living in the remotest areas of our country can also access higher education. Just to enumerate one or two, to identify the educational backward blocks and ensure that institutes come up there, these blocks would be blocks where the gross enrolment ratio is much lower than the national gross enrolment ratio so as to ensure that children living in these areas can access higher education.

Similarly, recently launched flagship programme of MHRD is the education through ICT wherein through distance education mode, quality education can be provided to children living in the distant areas of our country. Similarly, several initiatives have been taken up and we must ensure that children belonging to these marginalized sections of society and the minorities could also be able to avail higher education.

Sir, against this background, one of the commitments under the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) is the protection of the fundamental rights of minorities under article 31 of the Constitution. In keeping with this promise under the NCMP, a National Commission for Minority Education Institutions or the NCMEI has been established through an Act of Parliament. The objective of the Commission is to provide, *inter alia*, the right for minorities to establish and administer institutions and also to seek affiliations to universities of their choice and also to address issues that might rise when these institutions go to seek no objection certificates for disputes relating to the minority status.

Therefore, for the first time article 30(i) of the Constitution which gives the Minorities the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice would be effectively implemented through NCMEI Act.

Sir, apprehensions were raised by hon. Members as to why we were coming to Parliament with amendments time on and again. This is an evolving law.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There was an amendment in the past.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I am explaining as to why we are coming to the House for amendments. This is an evolving law. In the process of implementation there are certain practical problems that have arisen in the implementation of certain Sections of the law and therefore, wherever it was felt necessary we have reverted to the House to seek consent of the House for ushering in amendments.

Sir, even as my colleagues participated in the debate, the major concern that was raised by Shri Rawat was the dropping of the phrase "in consultation with the States" as it was felt that this could impair the federal spirit and dilute the right of the States to scrutinize the antecedents of the organizations which could, in all probability, cause harm to the security of our country. An appeal provided under Section 12(b) says that if it is to be decided with the consent of the State, then the procedures will be offending the privilege of natural justice. It virtually takes away the substantive right of appeal created in favour of the aggrieved party as a result of which the appeal will not depend on the merits of the case, but will depend on the consent of the respondent and this, in all fairness, would result in gross injustice to the aggrieved. It is well settled that any statutory appeal cannot be settled or decided without the consent of the opposite party wherever an appeal is filed with the Commission, the State or the concerned competent authority would be ushered in and both the sides would be heard and this would well be with the principle of natural justice. That is why the phrase "in consultation with the States" was dropped. I am sure the hon. Members of the House would appreciate this point.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): This is the reason you are giving, but have you come across any example as to which States have objected to this? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I may be allowed to answer this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let her reply.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has received many suggestions and recommendations pertaining to this Section of the Act and these concerns were raised by various stakeholders across the Board. All the suggestions and recommendations which were received by the Ministry of Human Resource Development were referred to the Commission and the Commission after scrutinizing all the suggestions and taking into consideration the concerns

[Shrimati D. Purandeswari]

of the stakeholders across the board has recommended to the Ministry of Human Resource Development that such an amendment should be brought in. I am sure this will answer the concern of the hon. Member.

Sir, some of the hon. Members also felt that probably quality of education would be affected if the NOC is not given by the States. However, the proposed amendment will ensure that the issue of NOC wherever required is made subject to the law in force and not left to the executive discretion of the State. We have AICTE and the UGC and such other various bodies which actually look into the quality aspect. Therefore, the hon. Members can rest assured that quality would not be affected.

Sir, my colleague Shri Owaisi had an issue. He voiced concern that there is very slow disposal of cases which are pending before the Commission. That is exactly why we are seeking indulgence of the House for ushering in this amendment so that the strength of the Commission could be increased from two to three other than the Chairman.

He also had issued concern on the definition of minorities. Minority has been defined by the Supreme Court on the basis of the number of people of a particular community at the State level. However this issue pertains to the Ministry of Minority Affairs, and I am sure that the Minister for Minority Affairs will be competent enough to define it.

With these words, I have, to the best of my competence, been able to address the concerns and issues raised by our hon. Members and I seek the indulgence of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: 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 and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

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13.18 hrs.

### NATIONAL WATERWAY (LAKHIPUR-BHANGA STRETCH OF THE BARAK RIVER) BILL, 2007

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to move:"

"That the Bill to provide for the declaration of the Lakhimpur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak river to be a national waterway and also to provide for the regulation and development of the said Stretch of that river for the purposes of shipping and navigation on the said waterway and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

"With your permission, I would like to express my views while moving the Bill namely 'National Waterway (Lakhimpur-Bhanga stretch of Barak River) Bill, 2007 for consideration and passing of the same. From time immemorial, inland water transport has served as a cheap and economic means of transport in India. With the advent of faster means of transport, i.e., rail, road and air, inland water transport got neglected.

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\*Moved with the Recommendation of the President.

\*.....\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

Inland water transport has, however, maintained its edge over the other modes of transport in certain areas where it enjoys natural advantages.

Today, it is recognised all over the world for its inherent advantages of being the cheapest mode of transport for bulk haulage over long distance between places situated along the waterfront. Its energy efficiency, low pollution and potential for employment generation are universally accepted.

The Government is seized of the need for developing inland water transport infrastructure to restore its rightful place in the overall transport scenario of the country.

The subject of inland water transport finds place in all the three Lists of the 7th Schedule to the Constitution of India. The role of the Union is, however, limited to regulating shipping and navigation on the National Waterways declared, as such, by the Parliament. The responsibility and executive authority for development and maintenance of all waterways other than those declared as National Waterways rest with the State Governments.

Keeping in view the slow pace of the development of inland water transport in our country, several Committees were constituted by the Government of India, which have recommended declaration of important inland waterways as National Waterways. This august House has already enacted five Acts and declared the following inland waterways as National Waterways:-

- Allahabad-Haldia stretch (1,620 kms) of the Ganga- Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system as National Waterway No.1;
- Sadiya-Dhubri stretch (891 kms) of Brahmaputra river as National Waterway No.2;
- Kottapuram-Kollam stretch of West Coast Canal along with Champakkara canal and Udyogamandal canal (205 kms) as National Waterway No.3;
- Kakinada-Puducherry stretch of Canals and the Kaluvelly Tank, Bhadrachalam-Rajahmundry stretch of River Godavari and Wazirabad-Vijayawada stretch of River Krishna (1,095 kms) as National Waterway No.4; and

- Talcher-Dhamra stretch of Rivers, Geonkhali-Charbatia stretch of East Coast Canal, Charbatia-Dhamra stretch of Matai River and Mahanadi Delta Rivers (623 kms) as National Waterway No.5.

The Government of India has constituted the Inland Waterways Authority of India in 1986 for development, maintenance and regulation of National Waterways for shipping and navigation. The infrastructure facilities on the first three National Waterways are being created by it to make them fully functional. The Authority is also gearing up to develop infrastructural facilities on the remaining two National Waterways which have been notified as National Waters in November 2008.

Most of the State Governments do not have resources to develop their waterways for shipping and navigation due to which most of the waterways other than National Waterways have remained neglected and unexploited for navigation.

Keeping in view the negligible share of inland water transport, which is less than 1%, it has become inevitable to give impetus to this mode of transport in the overall interest of the country. For this purpose, it is considered necessary to include more inland waterways which are to be declared as National Waterways.

Before a waterway can be considered for being declared as a National Waterway, it is essential to undertake techno-economic feasibility study including hydrographic survey and traffic studies of such waterways to assess the extent of improvement works required for their development and their financial implications.

Based on such a study and the potential of improvements in inland water transportation, for enhancing connectivity of the North-Eastern Region of the country, it is now being proposed to declare the 'Lakhimpur-Bhanga stretch of Barak River (121 kms) as a National Waterway.

I would like to mention here that development of this waterway with required inland water transport infrastructure is essential for providing improved connectivity of the southern part of the North-Eastern Region with the rest of the country as waterway in Bangladesh connecting Barak River with Haldia and Kolkata Ports are already a part of Indo-Bangladesh Protocol.

I would like to apprise this august House that the Bill for declaration of this Waterway was introduced in this august House on 29th August 2007 and subsequently

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture for examination and report. The Parliamentary Standing Committee submitted its 130th Report on 4th March 2008, duly recommending that the Bill be passed with formal amendments and updated Financial Memorandum be appended to it. The revised Financial Memorandum has since been appended to the Bill.

With these words, Sir, I now move the motion that the 'National Waterway (Lakhimpur-Bhanga stretch of Barak River) Bill, 2007, be taken up for consideration.\*\*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the declaration of the Lakhimpur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak river to be a national waterway and also to provide for the regulation and development of the said Stretch of that river for the purposes of shipping and navigation on the said waterway and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration"

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIYA (Karimganj): Sir, I stand to support the National Waterway (Lakhimpur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak River) Bill, 2007.

Sir, it has been a longstanding demand of the people of Barak Valley to establish the water transport system in the valley which existed earlier. We had the water transport system from Kolkata-Karimganj-Bhanga-Badarpur-Lakhimpur and for the last many years, it has been abandoned. Now, this declaration of national waterway within the Indian territory of Barak Valley, that is, from Lakhimpur to Bhanga is a significant step because after declaration this stretch will get better infrastructure facilities for safe and sustained navigation. This water transport has its own advantage also because it is a low cost one, it is energy efficient and it is eco-friendly. This can also generate employment for the poor people in large number.

This stretch will be developed by the Government of India and with this, Karimganj will be linked and from Karimganj to Kolkata, there is a route existing. So, after development of this route, we will get a link upto Kolkata and we can have our goods transported from Kolkata to Barak Valley, from Lakhimpur on Barak River which originates in Manipur, wherefrom we have water line upto Myanmar.

So, one day we hope that we will have a link through this waterways to Myanmar. If we can develop this, there will be scope for international trade and commerce. Mizoram, Barak Valley and Tripura will be flourishing and this area will be developed. After the establishment of this water transport, the mechanised ships will be moving through the river. The movement of ships will prevent silting of river. As there was no such movement of ships, rivers have lost their depth and the depth of the rivers got reduced, thereby reducing the water carrying capacity of the rivers. It resulted in devastating flood in our area and in neighbouring States. So, after its introduction, the flood problem will also be reduced, at least its intensity will be reduced. So, I hope that this Bill will help us to develop our Valley and to develop Tripura and Mizoram.

We had a very nice water system – I already told that – from Kolkata to Karimganj and Karimganj to Bodarpur to Silchar. I request the hon. Minister that when this will be effected, after passing of the Bill, to develop that stretch from Karimganj, to develop infrastructure which we have demanded many times. Though it is in existence, it is not developed. In lean season, there no steamer can move. So, there is a need for infrastructure facility for dredging. I hope that will also be done. In fact, this will help us greatly.

I support the Bill whole-heartedly as this will help our people by fulfilling our unasked demand.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a good Bill and I am supporting the Bill. This Bill intends to provide for the declaration of the Lakhimpur-Bhanga stretch of the Barak river to be a national waterway and also to provide for the regulation and development of the said stretch of that river for the purposes of shipping and navigation on the said waterway and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

This inland water transportation which has trailed other modes of transportation all these years is set to emerge as an important mode of inland cargo movement and the water route will be used for navigation and shipping. In the past, because of this water route, India was occupying a very prestigious position in the international trade. Today also, in the era of global market economy, waterway stands as the most economical from the commercial point of view.

I would like to bring some points to the attention of the hon. Minister. This route was not the original route. Following an objection from the Ministry of External Affairs, the outer boundary of the Sixth National Waterway in the

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

Lakhimpur-Bhanga stretch of the Barak River has been cut short at Bhanga. The original proposal was to stretch the boundary upto Karimganj and Laffasil, the boundary of India and Bangladesh. This was the original proposal.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Surface Transport and Shipping, while looking into this Bill, the National Waterway (Lakhimpur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak River) Bill, 2007 has suggested that this national waterway No. 6 be developed into an international waterway.

This could be an international waterway. This is the suggestion of the Standing Committee which is looking after this Bill. As it is between India and Bangladesh, they should have discussed it with Bangladesh and they should make it an international route.

Sir, this route will pass through the Indo-Bangladesh protocol routes. The Standing Committee also recommended that security concerns should not be compromised during this process. It is also needed that the Ministry of Shipping should take up the matter of stepping up the security arrangements because this will go through the international border with Bangladesh. So, it is needed that we should make necessary arrangements for security purposes. The Government should make the security arrangements in the Sundarbans –protocol routes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has done so before going ahead with this project.

Sir, the Border Security Force (BSF) should be entrusted with the job to keep a vigil on illegal migrants and movement of illegal commodities and unauthorised goods at all check points because this route will pass through Bangladesh. So, I would like to know whether the Government has made necessary arrangements in all the check points to see the security matters because the unauthorised goods and migrants will go through this route.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, first of all, I would like to thank both the hon. Members – Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy as well as Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya — for having deliberated for the cause of this inland waterway which is going to be established between Lakhimpur and Bhanga in Assam.

Sir, I would only say, as everybody has said, it is a low-cost transport, energy-efficient and eco-friendly

transport which has to be encouraged and developed wherever it is possible and necessary. This waterway pertains to the length of 121 km. and the cost will be around Rs. 91.5 crore. Fairway development and navigational aids would cost around Rs. 55.5 crore and terminals will be developed around Rs. 34.5 crore, and administrative expenditure will be around Rs. 1.5 crore. Sir, within three years, the entire development will be fulfilled. During the first year, we estimate that the traffic will be to the tune of 6.34 lakh tonnes; during the fifth year, it will be around 8.62 lakh tonnes; and during the tenth year, it will be around 10.53 lakh tonnes. It is mainly envisaged to transport coal, tea, food grains, bamboo, paper, timber, sugar, salt, cement, edible oils, pulses, petroleum oil and lubricants.

So, taking advantage of availability of all these materials, the transporters will definitely make use of this opportunity to develop this particular waterway for multi-fold profits.

Sir, as you all know, previously a lot of waterways have been nationalised. As far as the UPA Government is concerned, it has declared Waterways No. 4 and 5 and so on 25th November, 2008. Inland Vessel (Amendment) Act has been passed in the Parliament in 2007. A new Central sector scheme for development of IWT sector in the North-Eastern region has been introduced. Revised Action Plan has been prepared for making the National Waterways NW-1, NW-2 and NW-3 fully operational by 2010 at a cost of Rs. 961.64 crore.

Seven terminals on NW-3 at a cost of Rs.10.32 crore have been commissioned. Low level jetty capable of handling containers was constructed at Patna on NW-1 and a high level jetty under construction is an ongoing project. Low level jetty at Pandu (Guwahati) on NW-2 has been completed and a high level jetty is under construction. Night navigation facilities system was installed in about 364 km. in NW-1, 460 km. in NW-2 and 205 km. in NW-3. Project for providing state-of-art 24 hours navigational aids on the three NWs was sanctioned and implemented. Approval for setting up 6 Joint Venture Projects has been through. Acquisition of 6 cutter suction dredgers, 6 work boats and 6 accommodation boats for carrying out dredging operation in NW-1 and NW-2 was made and sanctioned, and orders were placed for their construction. Two cutter suction dredgers and 2 work boats for NW-3 are under construction and the work is

[Shri T.R. Balu]

going on. So, these are the developments, I think, that have taken place during the UPA Government.

Now, I come to some of the things which our hon. friends highlighted. Shri Shri Lalit Mohan Shukdavaidya has said about the link with Myanmar through Kaladan River. He is worried about the link with Myanmar through the Kaladan River. It is being developed by the Indian Government. It will be ready within five years. Next, he is worried about dredging. Dredging is included in Fairway Development at a cost of Rs.55 crore.

Shri Tripathy has highlighted some of the points. He has said about the new National Waterway and the connectivity. The new National Waterway provides for connectivity to Kolkata and Haldia through Bangladesh for which protocol already exists. The Border Security Force is maintaining the vigilance already at the international borders. There is no worry about security at this point. Customs post is already available. So, these are the things which I want to highlight.

With these words, I would request all the hon. Members to support it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the declaration of the Lakhimpur-Bhanga Stretch of the Barak river to be a national waterway and also to provide for the regulation and development of the said Stretch of that river for the purposes of shipping and navigation on the said waterway and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 1**

**Short Title and commencement**

*Amendment made*

Page 1, line 4, —

for "2007", substitute "2009". (2)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Enacting Formula**

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fifty-eighth", substitute "Sixtieth". (1)

(Shri T.R. Baalu)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The Long Title was added to the Bill.*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

13.36 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL  
SECURITY FORCE (AMENDMENT)  
ORDINANCE, 2009  
AND  
CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY FORCE  
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House will take up item nos. 40 and 41 together.

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move the following resolution:-

"That the House disapprove the central Industrial security force (Amendment) ordinance, 2009 (No. 2 of 2009) promulgated by the President on 10 January, 2009"

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Central Industrial Security Force has been constituted under the Act of 1968. It was declared as an Armed Force of the Union through an amendment of 1983. Initially, its area of duty covered only the public sector enterprises of the Central Government, but through an amendment of the Act in 1999, it could also be deployed on any other duty by the Central Government. This amendment also enabled them to provide technical consultancy services to industrial establishments in the private sector.

Besides public sector enterprises, CISF also provides security cover to most of the airports, critical and vital atomic energy, nuclear power and space installations, major sea ports, thermal and hydel projects, petroleum and natural gas installations, industries including mines

in naxalite affected areas, Delhi Metro and important Government buildings. It is also deployed on internal security, disaster management and election related duties.

The Act, at present, does not allow deployment of CISF in private sector industry. Government has received demands from the private sector and the joint sector for extending CISF cover to their establishments on a cost reimbursement basis. Therefore, the Act needs to be amended. Sections 3 and 14 are being amended for this purpose. There are a few other amendments of a purely administrative nature.

CISF is presently deployed in our Embassy and Consulate in Nepal and one of its units has also been deputed to Haiti on a UN Peace Keeping Mission. It is proposed to suitably amend the Section 15 of the Act to cover their deployment outside India also.

The Resolution moved by hon. Member Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat actually takes objection to the fact that we had made an Ordinance when the Bill had been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The Ordinance was necessary. I had expected that the Bill would be passed in the last Session. In fact, I had requested that the Bill should be taken up. However, for paucity of time, the Bill could not be taken up. Subsequently the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. In the meanwhile, we felt that it would be unsafe not to have this power of the CISF. After the Mumbai terrorist attack, everything has to be done with a sense of urgency. Therefore, we promulgated the Ordinance. There was no intention to bypass the Parliament. I have come before the Parliament to replace that Ordinance.

13.39 hrs.

*[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]*

The Standing Committee was told the reasons for promulgating the Ordinance. They have since approved the Bill making some recommendations, but they had not suggested any amendments. But we had made official amendments now. So, I would request that the Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, be passed by this House also. While I appreciate the spirit of the Resolution moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, I would request him not to press the same.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 2009 (No.2 of 2009) promulgated by the President on 10 January, 2009."

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has introduced the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Bill and informed the House regarding the area of duty of the CISF in detail. I would like to say that the objective of the Bill is good and the intention is also good. But, the trend of promulgating ordinance is on rise in the last days of the Lok Sabha. Its need was felt when Mumbai attacks took place. A small session of Lok Sabha has already taken place. This Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha, it could have been passed in the Lok Sabha at that time. But, I do not know why the Government has shown carelessness in this regard. The Government has not been taken such care regarding security as it could have been. There could have been a problem with them. This Bill could have been introduced in the small session that took place in the month of December. This session was ensuing in February but this ordinance was promulgated in the month of January. There was no such need of promulgating ordinance. Our country is the largest democracy of the world. Rules should have been followed in this regard. This Bill could have been introduced in the House. It could be better if it would have been passed after consideration and discussion by the Members. The hon. Minister has said that under some circumstances the Government could not get it passed in the Rajya Sabha, therefore, he has introduced the Bill in the House now. However, the objective of the Bill is good.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you know that an ordinance can be promulgated during Emergency of any crisis or unavoidable circumstances. According to the Constitution of India, the honourable President can exercise the powers to promulgate an ordinance under Article 123(1). But, I think that no such situation was there. I hope that such a thing would not happen in the future. Now, the elections will take places. The new Government should not follow the habit of the earlier Government of promulgating ordinance and it should not be an autocratic one and keep in mind that Parliament is supreme. I would like to further state that Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are proud of our para-military forces. We are proud of the three

wings of our Armed Forces and all the para-military forces. We are proud of the three wings of our Armed Forces and all the para-military forces, whether it is CRPF, CISF, ITBP, Assam Rifles, RAF or BSF. Wherever these para-military forces have been deployed be it at the borders or in the industrial establishments, they have discharged their duties meticulously and with utmost devotion. I would like to congratulate these para-military forces through this august House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister recently told that CISF was constituted in 1968. At that time, it was entrusted with the work of security of industrial units of the public sector. After in 1983, it was declared as an Armed Force of the Union. Other duties were entrusted to the Armed Forces through an Amendment in 1996. This Amendment also enabled them to provide technical consultancy services to industrial establishments in the private sector. CISF was also entrusted with the job of providing security cover to the airports. These were empowered to discharge various types of functions. They are committed towards the Parliament and their track record has been very good.

The retired and serving officers of the Armed Forces deserve congratulation. Sir, we have been suffering from the scourge of terrorism for the past many years. Nobody knows when and where the terrorists will attack. The terrorists detonated bomb at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in July last year. We have experienced many attacks in many public and private sector undertaking by SIMI or HUJI or Laskare-Toeba or terrorists trained in foreign camps. The terrorists carried out attacks in the country. Recently, they had attacked the Taj and Oberoi Hotel in Mumbai. That time it was felt that the private security personnels who were posted there were not trained enough to face these terrorists nor were they equipped with any arms and weapons. At that time, the private sector and joint sector requested the Government to extend the services of the CISF personnels to them. The dignity of their posts has always been enhanced.

Sir, our private sector and joint sector industries have made a significant contribution to the development of our economy. Therefore, the ambit of security cover of the CISF has been expanded. I welcome this step. This is a good thing and the private sector will pay for it. Later on, you fix a formula for calculating the expenditure in this regard. I wish that such things should not happen with the CISF as it was happened in the case of Kendriya Vidyalaya. Earlier, Kendriya Vidyalayas were opened in the public sectors enterprises with the condition that the

concerned public enterprises would bear the expenses of the Kendriya Vidyalaya. The public enterprises ran in loss and the kendriya Vidyalaya were also closed. Such thing should not happen that private sector has to pay the salaries and allowances of CISF personnels and they do not get salary at time. The Government may provide the services of CISF to the private sector but it should be the responsibility of the Government to pay their salary and allowances. The Government may realize money from the private sector, joint sector and private institutes but it should be the responsibility of the Government to see that payment of salaries and allowances of the officers and jawans are made on time. They should be provided accommodation facility at the place of their posting. Their children should also be given the school facility at the place of their posting. It should be ensured that we are not leaving them at the mercy of the private sector. It creates resentment. I think the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is very prompt and he will pay attention in this regard.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a few things. As hon. Minister has stated that certain words have been changed in this Act and a few new words point towards its affiliation to public sector.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Their Services will be extended to the embassies abroad and even for United Nations Mission. This has also been mentioned herein.

Sir, I would like to say two important things here. You have rung the bell, however, I would like to have your support. I have already given a notice regarding disapproval and only I am the lone figure to speak on behalf of the party.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken a lot of time. Some more Honourable Members from your Party have to speak. Shri Shah Nawaj Hussain is also there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I would like to say two to three points in this regard. First thing is that CISF Personnel must not be deployed anywhere as bodyguard or private security guards. The purpose for which CISF is to be deployed in Public Sector Undertakings as well as private sectors or joint sectors, they must not be entrusted with the job of personal guard or in somebody's personal duty or at home. This factor may please be properly taken care of.

Sir, the implementation of Sixth Pay Commission has been appreciated all across the country. All Union Officers, staff and Civil servants agreed to it but, unfortunately, discontentment grew among the military Personnel. Then you constituted a Committee, Group of Ministers met and then again you made certain recommendations. More or less the same is the case with para-Military Forces. I would like to submit that their scales of pay may also be kept in view in the Sixth Pay Commission.

The scales of pay and allowances of our Para-Military Forces should be fixed in view of the severe hazards confronting them in combating terrorists and ensuring the security of the country. Hon'ble Minister must throw light upon this aspect while responding to this Bill. They should be facilitated with state of the art training. Today, the terrorists are equipped with sophisticated weapons and techniques. They have all instruments of communication. In such a situation, our CISF personnel need to be equipped with sophisticated weapons in place of old traditional weapons in order that they may be enabled to detect the terrorists. They should also be linked to the other Para-Military Forces and intelligence network so that they may pre-empt the potential threat, if any.

In the first place, Jamnagar based Reliance Refineries put forward a proposal before us. Subsequently came a proposal from Infosys. Thereafter, proposals have come up from TATA and OBEROI. Definitely its area of operation will be extended further. Its recruitment should be enhanced. The strength of CISF Battalions is very low. The jawans from all the States fulfilling the laid down criterion of educational qualification and physical standards should be taken into consideration. Such jawans from all the States should be recruited and its strength should be enhanced.

With these words, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I would request Shri Bajju Ban Riyan to speak. Please be brief.

SHRI BAJJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East): Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Bill.

Actually this Bill was thoroughly examined by the Standing Committee on Home Affairs, the officials from CISF and also the Home Secretary had clarified whatever questionnaire raised by this Standing Committee. Sir, the

[Shri Baju Ban Riyan]

recommendations of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs did not find any place in this Bill. Most probably this Bill was drafted before the Standing Committee on Home Affairs had submitted its Report. I hope, in future the Government will consider the views and suggestions expressed by this Standing Committee.

Sir, in the year 1964 there was a fire accident in HEC, and later on it was found that it was sabotage by some miscreant or somebody. At that time, in the year 1966 the Government felt that this type of Force should be created to fight this type of sabotage and this type of menace in the nation. In the year 1968, this Force was first created. In the subsequent years, the CISF Act got amended many times. The latest amendment is being done in this year, and the hon. Minister has suggested a proposal to extend the deployment of CISF which was earlier limited to Government establishments and public sector units only. Now, after we pass this Bill, the Government can deploy them in the private sector and also outside the country if it is necessary and needed.

Of course, the proposed amendment has a new feature. As we all know, terrorist attack took place in Mumbai on 26th November, 2008. After that attack, the Government felt that the CISF should be deployed in the Non-Governmental Organisations also. The main target of the terrorists at that time was the Taj Hotel, the hotel industry. A lot of casualties happened there. Some foreigners also lost their valuable lives. Some security personnel, who tried to combat this heinous terrorist attacks, also sacrificed their valuable lives. After that incident, the Government had passed one law in the Parliament to combat the terrorists attacks.

Now, again, the Government has proposed to amend this earlier law of 1968. A number of amendments are there. I agree with the proposal of the amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Sir, I have just started.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are speaking in such a low pitch, then what can I do?

[English]

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Then, what do I do?

Sir, if you do not have time of the House, I can sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Please, carry on.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: No, I have nothing to say.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Sir, as there is no time in the House, I am sitting down.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Bill, 2009.

My hon. good friend, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat has already explained that it has become a tendency of the Government now, to come with a legislation through Ordinance. It is not a good parliamentary practice. However, there was no urgency also as the Session of Parliament was convened very shortly. It was not required to come with a legislation through an Ordinance.

Sir, the Bill intends to cover and deploy the CISF in private sector. We are proud of the contribution of the CISF. After the terrorist attacks at the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore and recent terrorist attacks at Mumbai, etc., the heightened threat perception has necessitated for incorporation of some enabling provisions in the CISF Act, 1968.

We find that there is an increasing workload on the CISF. Therefore, I would request the hon. Home Minister that the efforts should be made to augment the strength of the CISF and to increase the promotional avenues in all the cadres, in general, and in the affected cadres, in particular. We have come to know that the CISF personnel in some of the cadres are not very much happy, and they are expressing their resentment because of the stagnation in their promotional avenues. Therefore, I would request the hon. Home Minister that he should also consider to see that the cadres of the CISF get due promotion in time.

Sir, the Government should also conduct an initial comprehensive security audit for private sector before deployment of the CISF there. The Government should consider the claim of the public sector units first to serve before the services of the CISF are extended to the private sector. There should be some scientific study be conducted before the deployment of the CISF to the

private sector. The private sector may ask for deployment of so much of the CISF and we are not in a position to provide such a number of staff.

Now, the services of the CISF is intended to be extended to the private sector.

14.00 hrs.

Now, this service is intended to be extended to the private sector. What will be the natural inclination amongst the CISF personnel to seek lucrative postings in the private sector? It is a new sector that the CISF staff is entering. Naturally, there will be a tendency amongst the CISF staff to go to the private sector for postings. So, under these conditions, I would request the hon. Minister that there is a need for putting in place a suitable personnel policy in the CISF Act. It is because of the changing circumstances, the Government should consider to see that there should be a suitable personnel policy in the CISF.

The Government is intending to extend the security cover of CISF to the private sector. It would be appropriate if the extended coverage could also include the Co-operative sector, which is also contributing to the economic growth and development of the nation. We know the contribution of the Co-operative sector in the growth of our national economy. So, when we decide to extend the service of the CISF to the private sector, I would also request the hon. Minister to accept the demand of the Co-operative sector. There is also a demand, and there is also a request from the corporate sector for engagement of the CISF forces in their industries.

When the Government will finalise its decision for providing CISF protection, it should be very much scientific, reasonable and transparent based on the ground realities such as threat perception to the security and integrity of the country. Otherwise, the private sector will require or demand that the CISF personnel to be posted for them. So, when the Government will extend the service, they should consider in a very scientific way and in a transparent manner whether the CISF posting is very much necessitated, then it will be provided. Otherwise, the demand will be so much that it is not possible on the part of the Government to provide everybody the CISF forces when there is no question of any threat or any threat to security or integrity of the nation and the security is not much necessitated.

It is also necessary to give training to look after the cyber related cases. Now because of the changing

situation, we have seen that threat is coming and cyber crimes are increasing everyday in our country. So, when our CISF forces will be posted, they should be properly trained. Otherwise, our CISF forces are not so much trained to equip themselves to handle the cyber crimes. When they will be posted in the IT-related industries, they should be properly trained to meet the requisites and requirements.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am coming to the last point. The CISF should not be deployed for the industrial houses to interfere into the industrial dispute, land dispute and other local issues. Now, we are going to post them in the private sector. So, they will engage the CISF forces for their personal, industrial dispute cases, for land disputes and other local issues. So, there should be some restriction for the private sector that the CISF personnel should not be engaged in all their personnel cases like land disputes, industrial disputes. The CISF personnel should not come to their way to save their interests. So, the Government should take into care all these things, and I hope the Government will consider all these points.

The Standing Committee on Home Affairs has recommended so many good things. The Government will incorporate all these things when they will implement and pass the Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHANWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I express my thanks to you. Prof. Raza Singh Rawat and Shri Brij Kishore Tripathy have put forward very important views on the subject that came up for discussion here. While Central Industrial Security Force Bill was moved here. We all are acutely aware of the fact that this security force is deployed in security of as many as 189 public sector undertakings, 49 Government buildings, 57 Airports and Delhi Metro and Gandhi Memorial at Rajghat.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I personally and as youth leader compliment Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs. Ever since, when he took over as Home Minister, he has enacted very strict laws, for which he deserves compliments.

Sir, when I was Minister of Civil Aviation then the decision was that CISF should be deployed at the Airports. Through you I would like to congratulate the CISF that

[Shri Syed Shahanwaz Hussain]

ever since CISF has been assigned the security of airports, the security of airports has witnessed much improvements. Earlier where CISF used to be deployed, numerous complaints were sent, particularly from the Members of Parliament, but now we have seen that the behaviour of the CISF personnel at the Airport is very good. When I was Minister of Civil Aviation, the Government had issued directions that the educated and graduate people in the CISF personnel who are familiar with the polite language should be deployed at the Airports. The CISF has taken proper care of that direction. When private sector and public sector companies were lying on the verge of closure, it occurred that this force will be faced with uncertainty but in view of the prevailing situation in the country it seems to me that the country is prepared to face any unprecedented situation as we have a very potent force like CISF. Words are insufficient to define its efficacy.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a few things. While you want to provide security cover to the private sector, their MD or Chairman must not be allowed to move out with CISF personnel as a status symbol. The issue raised by Shri Brij Kishore Tripathy is very accurate. Now you are making deployment of Forces to prevent terrorist attack. Therefore, it is incumbent upon you to frame such guidelines as it may not be misused. If it may not be so then this force may be deployed by the company against the agitation launched by some Employees Association. Attention should have to be paid towards it. Private sector plays a significant role in the economy of our country. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Government to provide complete security to them and you are also providing this security to them. As I have already said, it is necessary to take care of certain things. CISF is facing a lot of difficulties even today.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was watching television now wherein it was shown that in Bangladesh, B.D.R. personnel have raised protest against their own officer. When Armed Forces are in operation, we need to focus on their moral. On several occasions, attention is not paid towards granting leaves to Jawans and providing them with other facilities. As a result, they become very demoralized. We need to pay complete attention towards it and efforts should be made that they do not get demoralized. CISF is discharging its duties in a very fine and honest manner. While you are going to privatise it, take care that its ownership right should not be transferred

to that private company. The complete ownership right over CISF should remain with the Government. Government should provide them complete equipments. Depending on the nature of the duties of the Force, complete equipments should be provided to them. If you are deploying them at airports, they should be equipped with latest machinery and equipments. Along with this, it should be also kept in mind that nothing is going to affect their moral adversely.

Sir, with these words, I fully support this Bill. CISF has got many demands. Many times they have met us and have briefed us about their demands. Therefore, when the Minister of Home Affairs is going to entrust them with the huge responsibility of security of the country, attention should also be paid towards their demands. I have gone through many reports. When Parliament House was attacked, initially the intention of the terrorists was to go to the airports, however, after witnessing the alert and agile security system at the airport, they failed to muster courage to go there. Therefore, CISF should be congratulated that no one has dared to carry out any type of terrorist activities wherever they were posted. Whenever similar kind of incidents took place, CISF has essayed to play a very big role in preventing it.

Sir, since the matter pertained to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and it is a matter of security of the country, I will conclude my speech with only two lines that the then Government contemplated about providing a separate arrangement for their uniforms and there was even a proposal that CISF personnel at the airports should have separate uniforms as their present uniforms were not considered passenger-friendly. The uniform of the CISF personnels posted at airports should be passenger friendly. Through you, I would like to make a request to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that people should not feel that panic prevails at the airports and they are packed with forces. Specific demands for those places should be fulfilled. I fully support this Bill and hope that this will not be misused, the Minister of Home Affairs will pay special attention towards it. I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate.

At the outset, let me clarify that there was no intention to bypass the Parliament while promulgating the Ordinance. As I said in the opening remarks that it was

my fervent hope that the Bill will be passed in the last Session of Parliament. Since it could not be passed in the last Session of Parliament and I could not have taken the risk of a gap of about 50 days when CISF cover could not be extended to a joint sector or a private sector — if it became necessary — therefore, I was obliged to promulgate the Ordinance. There were many installations in the West Coast of India that were extremely vulnerable, and requests were pouring in for CISF cover. Therefore, we had to be prepared and armed with the legal powers that if it became necessary, then we can extend CISF cover. This was the reason for the Ordinance. I believe that the reasons were explained to the Standing Committee, and the Standing Committee has more or less appreciated the circumstances under which the Ordinance was passed.

Today, CISF is one of our larger forces. It has a strength of 1,12,534. We would have to raise the strength of CISF before we extend cover to private sector and joint sector establishments, and that is being done. It is not as though overnight I can extend the cover to all the establishments, which have asked for it. It will be done over a period of time. But the first claim on the CISF will be of the Public Sector Enterprises and the Government establishments. We can actually meet the needs of the private sector and the joint sector only when we raise more forces.

The way the definition is being made, it includes the cooperative sector. We have taken legal advice. The amendment takes within its scope private sector, joint sector as well as the cooperative sector.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will it be covered?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There need be no apprehension on this account. If we look at the amendment, the amendment defines it as follows:

“private industrial undertaking” means an industry owned, controlled or managed by a person other than the Central or State Government or any industrial undertaking in public sector;”

Therefore, ownership is other than the Central Government or the State Government. It can be a private owner; it can be a joint sector owner; and it can be a cooperative sector owner. Therefore, there need be no apprehension on that ground.

As far as the cost is concerned, the Section is very clear. It is on a cost-reimbursement basis. There are standard billing procedures. The same principles that apply to the public sector will also be applied to the private sector and the joint sector. It is not intended to make a profit by deploying the CISF. It is intended to recover every pie of the cost of providing the security cover. There would be no discrimination between public sector on the one hand, and the private and joint sector on the other nor will any favour be shown to the private sector or joint sector. The same billing principles will be applied, and the cost will be fully recovered.

As you look at the duties of the CISF, you must refer to Section 10 of the Act, which is the operative section. It obliges the CISF to provide, protect and safeguard the industrial undertakings and installations. This is the only purpose of the CISF. It is not intended to protect the CMD or the MD. It is not intended to intervene in any industrial dispute. In fact, the standard operating procedures make it very clear that the CISF will not intervene in land disputes, labour disputes or industrial disputes. If an industrial dispute or a labour dispute arises, then that is a matter for the local police to handle and not for the CISF to handle. The CISF will only guard the establishments, and the installations of the establishments.

We are also now making it clear that since CISF is a highly-trained and highly-paid workforce, it cannot be deployed for peripheral duties. Critical functions alone will be under the CISF. It will not do watch and ward work. They will have to engage other security forces to do the routine watch and ward stuff. CISF will perform the critical duties. The difference the CISF will make is, it will have fire power and striking power. So, it will be employed to react in a situation where there is a terrorist attack or a terrorist threat on the establishment or installation. CISF will be in command of the security. If any other force or any other employee of the establishment is also employed for security work, he will have to work under the command and control of the CISF.

I think we have taken care of all the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee did not propose any amendment. It accepted the Bill as we presented it and made some observations which will all be taken care of while the rules are framed and the standard operating procedures are revised.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for their broad support to the Bill. I request that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, would you like to press your Statutory Resolution?

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, I withdraw this motion keeping in view the utmost utility of this Bill on account of security and keeping in view certain security circumstances which arose.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Statutory Resolution moved by Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat."

*The motion was adopted.*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I withdraw my Statutory Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 5 do stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 6

Amendment of Section 10

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Amendment No.1, Clause 6, Shri Sudhangshu Seal—Not present.

The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 7 to 9 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

14.20 hrs.

### AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2008\*

Amendments made by Rajya Sabha

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): In the last Session, the Lok Sabha had amended the APEDA Act of 1985 to empower APEDA to apply for the geographic indication for Basmati rice. Subsequently the Bill, after the passage of Lok Sabha went to Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha also gave its approval. So, the present Bill that is now before the consideration of the House is with very minor amendments and corrections. This Bill has already been passed by Lok Sabha. I would like to request that these amendments and corrections be carried without discussion. I beg to move:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Agricultural and

\*The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha on 23rd December, 2008 and transmitted to Rajya Sabha for its concurrence. Rajya Sabha passed the Bill with amendments at its sitting held on the 16th February 2009 and returned it to Lok Sabha on the 17th February 2009 (Message from Rajya Sabha, Debate dtd.18.2.09).

Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, be taken into consideration:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. that at Page 1, line 1, -  
*for "Fifty-ninth", substitute "Sixtieth"*

Clause 1

Short title and commencement

2. That at Page 1, line 3, -  
*for "2008", substitute "2009" -*

NEW CLAUSE 6A

Insertion of new Section 35

3. That at page 2, *after* line 24, *insert* the following:-

"6A. After section 34 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely,-

"35. All things done, or, omitted to be done, and actions or measures taken, or not taken, during the period beginning on or after the 13th day of October, 2008 and ending immediately before the date of commencement of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, shall, in so far as they are in conformity with the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, be deemed to have been done, or omitted to be done, or taken, or, not taken, under the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, as if such provisions were in force at the time such things were done or omitted to be done and actions or measures taken or not taken during the said period."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, be taken into consideration:-

ENACTING FORMULA

1. that at Page 1, line 1, -  
*for "Fifty-ninth", substitute "Sixtieth"*

Clause 1

Short title and commencement

2. That at Page 1, line 3, -  
*for "2008", substitute "2009" -*

NEW CLAUSE 6A

Insertion of new Section 35

4. That at page 2, *after* line 24, *insert* the following:-

"6A. After section 34 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely,-

"35. All things done, or, omitted to be done, and actions or measures taken, or not taken, during the period beginning on or after the 13th day of October, 2008 and ending immediately before the date of commencement of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, shall, in so far as they are in conformity with the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, be deemed to have been done, or omitted to be done, or taken, or, not taken, under the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, as if such provisions were in force at the time such things were done or omitted to be done and actions or measures taken or not taken during the said period."

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as the Minister is saying, it is very correct that discussion was held in Lok Sabha on this matter and the Bill was passed. As right now, you have mentioned Basmati rice, India covers vast areas, but if you notice, Pakistan also produces almost the same quantity of Basmati rice as India does. During this session, the export of our Basmati rice was banned. Whatever maybe the reasons, I don't want to go into details in this regard. Pakistan has exported Basmati rice and they also

reduce the price as compared to us. I hail from plains where Basmati rice is produced in abundance. Rice growers are saying to us that as a result of the policy formulated by the Government, they have been incurring losses, could have earned money this time, our financial condition would have improved. I would like to say to you that the amendments made by you in this Bill were necessary, that we can understand, but the way in which we are carrying out this in international sector, if rice growers are not getting appropriate prices for their produce, then we will have to carry out a review about all policies that for whom we are formulating such policies. I request you that whatever you have done, you will definitely get it passed, but I have told you a specific thing that all the producers of the Basmati rice from the area to which I belong are worried a lot. There a lot of rice mills in our area. All of them are of the opinion that they are unable to figure out which type is being formulated by the Government, we are not able to compete with Pakistan. Keeping in view the strategy for the future, I urge you to take a decision in such a way that will enable us to take the processed food industries and agriculture in the right direction to the benefit of the common man.

*[English]*

SHRI SUDHANGSHU SEAL (Calcutta-North West): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to support this Bill. But while supporting this Bill, I must request our hon. Minister, Shri Jairam Ramesh that APEDA is definitely doing well for promoting exports. Regarding Basmati rice, whatever decision the Government has taken, I do agree. Though Pakistan had taken earlier stand and we are late but we should take some precautionary measures. For that, it is needed and the Government should take it. But I must request the hon. Minister – he knows everything – that our potential in our country for fruits and vegetables is so good, we can have a very good export market, global market but only because of not having the required infrastructure, we are not in a position to do it. As we know, these are perishable items. So, we need to have a number of cold storages; we need to have a cool chain; we need to have a proper mechanism to export these goods conforming to the international standard of packaging.

Our hon. Minister, I have seen on various occasions, is taking corrective steps as per the need of the day but still we are lagging behind. As we know, in West Bengal where we are producing potato – our production is more than 83 lakhs MT but our consumption is only 53 lakh MT. That way we are producing 30 lakh MT surplus.

With our efforts, we are in a position to export our potato to different countries for the last three or four years. But inspite of requesting repeatedly the fact remains that we do not have the refrigerated container of our own in our country. We have to hire these containers from other countries, paying hire charges. I would request the hon. Minister, if we are really interested in exporting the potatoes or any other perishable items, we must have the required infrastructure; we should not be dependent on other countries. We should have our own fleet of containers. That should be procured or it should be given to some agency who can handle properly, procuring this.

When we are talking about exports, we must have the idea of the global requirement. As I said, we are exporting potatoes. But what is the actual scenario in potato. Whatever we are producing, that is a particular variety. But in the global market, the global consumers' mental set up is only on a particular variety, that is, Holland variety, the 'Yellow Meat' is a very famous variety. We need to have these seeds from Holland. So, we will have to get permission from the authorities concerned to obtain seeds from Holland. We have already taken up the issue; the hon. Minister from the State Government has already written to the hon. Agriculture Minister, Shri Sharad Pawar. We had a meeting last week; he was kind enough to sanction so as to bring the Holland variety seeds from Holland. If we get the import licence, what will happen is that we will start producing all these special variety potatoes in the Indian soil. We are confident of producing this. Bangladesh is doing it; Bangladesh is bringing the same seeds and getting the Holland variety, conforming to the international standards. They are exporting also.

So, we have already tested it; we brought some sample seeds. Only last month, we had got the results. The yield is very good; the product is very good; our global buyers are asking in good quantities. So, I will request our hon. Minister to look into this.

As far as mango is concerned – I will not talk about other fruits – in West Bengal, we are producing a good quality, Himsagar mangoes and Langra. But in the global market, only Alphonso is known; only Alphonso is exported from Mumbai. We tried two years back to export Himsagar quality mangoes to London market and we were successful. But we need to have the support from the Central Government. For the perishable items, the main thrust should be given on infrastructure which should be built, the cold chains should be maintained. The anomalies in air freight, etc. that we are having at the moment should be minimized and the problem of containers should be looked into.

[Shri Sudhangshu Seal]

That way, I can give you the guarantee that only for potatoes, we can have a very big global market. This is particularly a job-oriented sector where lakhs and lakhs of growers will be benefited and the nation will be definitely benefited.

With these words, I again support this and thank you for the time.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I am grateful to the two hon. Members, Shri Gangwar and Shri Seal, for giving support to the amendments.

I would like to respond to some of the points and issues that they had raised. I would like to clarify to the hon. Member, Shri Gangwar, that there is absolutely no restriction on export of basmati rice that has been imposed by our Government, except to specify a minimum export price. The MEP, the Minimum Export Price, is \$1100 a tonne. Now, the reason why the MEP has been imposed is that at various points in time, the Government has been sensitive to the domestic price situation and there was a lot of rice that was being exported from India. non-basmati rice that was going under the guise of basmati rice, because basmati rice was being imported duty-free into the European market, and it commands a huge premium.

It is in this context, it is because the Government wanted to control inflation in the domestic market, that we imposed first a physical ban on the export of non-basmati rice, and we imposed a certain MEP for basmati rice. It was 1200 dollars a tonne a couple of months ago and it has now become 1100 dollars a tonne. This year, in the year 2008-09, the hon. Member would be glad to know that the total exports of basmati rice from India is about 1.6-1.7 MT valued at about Rs. 7,200—Rs. 7,300 crore.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Pakistan has made an export of 1.3 million ton.

[*English*]

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I am coming to that. If the hon. Member will have a little patience I will talk about Pakistan as well.

About 3-4 lakh basmati growers in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Western U.P. and two districts of Jammu and Kashmir have benefited from this.

Sir, the hon. Member has talked about Pakistan. It is true that Pakistan is also a very significant exporter of basmati rice. This year, my estimate is that Pakistan would have exported close to 1.2 MT to 1.3 MT of basmati rice— a little lower – about .2 MT to .3 MT lower than that of India. There is no denying the fact that Pakistan is also an exporter of basmati rice. It is this India-Pakistan factor that gave certain urgency to this Bill.

As you know, Sir, the word 'basmati' is a Geographical Indication that applies to the entire Himalayan belt crisscrossing both India and Pakistan. Unless we protect the word 'basmati', unless we protect basmati variety domestically we do not have a case to protect it internationally. In fact, the Basmati Growers Association of Lahore has got a trademark, from registrar of trademark from Pakistan, on basmati. APEDA went on appeal and that appeal has been admitted. Our legal case is strengthened when we go to the federal court in Karachi, Pakistan and say that Parliament has empowered APEDA to protect basmati by law. That is why this amendment has been brought forward. I am glad and I am happy that the Members have extended their support.

We have consistently fought in international markets infringement on basmati. In various countries there have been over 300 cases where the word basmati has been tried to be usurped. The Government of India has fought these cases very successfully. We are now going to apply for the GI in the European Union. But before we do that we need to apply for the GI in India. In November we have applied for the GI in India and I expect that by June or July 2009 we will get the GI, Geographical Indication, from the GI Registry in Chennai.

I might indicate here, Sir, that about 104 GIs have already been granted. The first and the most famous of which is the Darjeeling tea. After the grant of the GI the value that Darjeeling tea has fetched in international markets has increased by 10-12 per cent and we expect the same thing to happen in basmati as well. But I want to enter one word of caution here that I am repeatedly inundated by letters from Members of Parliament particularly that rice grown in their areas be also classified as basmati. I have got request from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Kerala as well that theirs is also basmati rice. Sir, we are going to make a mockery of the word basmati if we are going to universalize the Geographical Indication of basmati. My request to the hon. Members is that basmati rice is a long-grain, aromatic aroma rice grown in the foothills of the Himalayas in Pakistan, in India only in designated areas. Let us keep it that way. If we are going to classify much of the rice

[Shri Jairam Ramesh]

that is produced in India as basmati rice, we are going to lose the real legal and technical meaning of GI and internationally we will not be made to look good.

Sir, the hon. Member from West Bengal has made a large number of comments on the export of fruits and vegetables. He is not only an hon. Member but is also a very energetic exporter himself. I have been in close touch with him. We are trying, through APEDA, to promote export of processed food which requires cold chain, refrigerated vans and infrastructure at airports. We have set up perishable cargo complexes in various airports of the country and one of which happens to be in Kolkata. We have set up perishable cargo complexes in almost all airports in the North-East which will help provide an impetus for export of processed food from the North-East, an area of great potential.

I agree with the hon. Member that there is great market for mango from Malda and all the other varieties in West Bengal. After 20 years, Indian mango is now being sold in Japan. After a long time, alphonso and other Indian varieties are also being sold in the United States of America. We have had good breakthrough as far as mango exports are concerned. Over a period of time, we are going to expand the basket of mangoes that are going to be exported. Right now, it is alphonso, banganapalli, chousa, langra and I am sure over a period of time, these varieties will increase. We are setting up vapour heat treatment plants to destroy the fruit fly which is a big health hazard in markets like Japan. We have also set up an irradiation facility in Nhava Sheva because without irradiation, our mango cannot be exported to the American market.

Sir, I am very glad to hear from the hon. Member from West Bengal particularly as he is talking about global markets; he is talking about global marketing and it is music to my ears that an hon. Member belonging to Communist Party is singing the virtues of global markets. I am sure that he knows that our Government has supported the West Bengal Government in the export of potatoes, flowers and many other processed goods which we are doing in other States as well. I want to re-assure the hon. Member that when the UPA comes back to power in a couple of months from now, this process will be continued irrespective of whether you support us or not. We would continue with this process of supporting the agricultural exports and exports of processed foods.

With these remarks, I would like to request the hon. Members to pass the amendments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the motion for consideration of amendments.

The question is:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to amend the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, be taken into consideration:-

#### ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1 –  
*for "Fifty-ninth", substituted "Sixtieth"*

#### Clause 1

Short title and commencement

2. That at page 1, line 3 –  
*for "2008", substitute "2009" -*

#### NEW CLAUSE 6A

Insertion of new section 35

3. That at page 2, *after* line 24, *insert* the following:-

"6A. After section 34 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely, -

"35. All things done, or, omitted to be done, and all actions or measures taken, or, not taken, during the period beginning on or after the 13th day of October, 2008 and ending immediately before the date of commencement of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, shall, in so far as they are in conformity with the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, be deemed to have been done, or, omitted to be done, or taken, or, not taken, under the provisions of this Act, as amended by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Act, 2009, as if such provisions were in force at the time such things were done or omitted to be done and actions or measures taken or not taken during the said period."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the amendment Nos. 1 to 3 made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha, be agreed to."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the amendment Nos. 1 to 3 made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha, be agreed to."

*The motion was adopted.*

14.39 hrs.

RE: SCHEDULED CASTES AND THE  
SCHEDULED TRIBES  
(RESERVATION IN POSTS AND SERVICES)  
BILL

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Bill related to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is the next one. It had been opposed earlier also. I would like to know the attitude of the Government towards this Bill whether the Bill will be presented in the House or not?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister, Hon'ble Member has asked about the status of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bill which was scheduled to be presented in the House.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, we have written to the offices of the hon. Speaker and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that we have received a legal advice from the Ministry of Law that there has to be a mandatory consultation with the Chairman, National Commission of Scheduled Castes. So, we will now

proceed to have formal consultations with the Chairman, National Commission of Scheduled Castes. Therefore, we are not bringing it today.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Sir, when will the discussion under Rule 193 take place?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): We have requested the concerned Minister to be here at 4 p.m. Otherwise, we can take up the discussion at 5 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We would see after we have finished this Bill.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: We will have to call the Members who want to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whether will you be able to seek adverse from him within a day or two as tomorrow is the last day of the session.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, right now, we have got the advice from the Law Ministry and that is why we asked you not to take up it today. We would try to have consultations with them as early as possible...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This had caused pandemonium in the House.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had assured that he would bring the Bill with amendments. On 19th February, such assurance was given. After the meetings with Scheduled Castes leaders and other leaders, it was decided to bring the Bill with amendments. The point on which pandemonium was caused was that.

*[English]*

Clauses II to IV and the Schedule will be removed and as far as Clause 9 is concerned, the word 'desirable' will be removed.

*[Translation]*

Such an assurance was given.

*...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, if I may place before this House the fact that a reference was made by the Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes to the hon. President. That reference was received by the Government and that reference was examined by the Law Ministry. We got the opinion of the Law Ministry just this morning. The Law Ministry has opined that consultation with the National Commission will be necessary. We just got the advice of the Law Ministry. We will carry on the consultation as soon as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (Sitapur): Even after giving assurance in the House, Bill is not brought in the House. Today, it is being said that, that has been sent to the Commission. The Minister had said in the House that this Bill would come and would come with amendments. Today, what kind of situation has emerged?...(Interruption). The Minister had assured that the Bill would come with amendments. What kind of situation has developed today that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bill has been sent to the Commission. The Government backtracks from what it says. The Parliament Session is about to end. To assure here and change the tune afterwards is not good. I do not know what the Government want to do. What is the helplessness against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes that the Government is making excuses. If the assurance is given here, then why the Government is not fulfilling it. There should be debate on this. It was passed hastily in Rajya Sabha in the month of September within two minutes. That day the whole House was against the Bill. The Government assured that this Bill was brought with amendments. There should be debate on the situation that has developed due to which the Bill is referred to the Commission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill has come but not with the amendments. That is the problem.

[English]

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, I carefully made a statement. The Members from the party of the hon. Member was making some protests and demanded the withdrawal of the Bill. They also staged a walk out. In between I said that there was a discussion in the morning with some of us including Shri Paswan and others. Some proposals have been made and it is being looked into.

That is what I said. Again I reiterate that these proposals have been made and it is still under the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has answered. What you have got to say now?

SHRI RAJESH VERMA: This is a fraud with all the people of the country. In the last days of the Parliamentary Session, this Bill is being taken lightly.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us take up item No. 43.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, we have not sent it. The Commission had wrote that it should be withdrawn. We have not withdrawn...(Interruption)

[English]

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN (Mathurapur): I want to know from the hon. Minister why should it be taken in haste. ...(Interruptions) The observations made by the Scheduled Tribes Commission must be circulated and we must go through them before taking any decision. I request the Government through you not to take any decision in haste. I moved some amendments also. So, I want to take part in the debate. I request the Government not to do anything in haste. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH VERMA: By taking the House into confidence, he talked about amendments...(Interruptions) Today, you are not bringing amendments. What is this?...(Interruptions) The Government had assured in the House about amendments the why amendments were not made?...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): This Commission is SCs, STs Commission...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH VERMA: I am talking with the Chair, do not interrupt when the Government had said that the Bill would come with amendments, then why the amendments were not made?...(Interruptions) This is not

a question of support, we do not need your support. What is this procedure? When the Government had assured that it would bring the Bill with amendment then why it was sent to the Commission?...(*Interruptions*)

14.47 hrs.

*(Shri Rajesh Verma and some other hon. Members then left the House)*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Let us move to item No. 43.

14.47½ hrs.

### TRADE MARKS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2007

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Trade Marks Act, 1999, be taken into consideration."

Sir, with your permission, may I make a few opening remarks about the Bill? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the Minister's statement will be recorded.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, I would like to make a brief opening statement on the merits of this Amendment Bill. The objectives of the Bill are primarily to align the Indian trade marks statute with the various provisions of the Madrid Protocol to enable India's accession to the Protocol and to facilitate simultaneous grant of trade mark registration in 71 member countries of the Protocol. It is also to facilitate and enable our registry of trade marks to entertain applications for international registrations filed in India and those received from International Bureau for being processed in India.

I would like to very briefly indicate why this Bill is so important. In a globalised economy, we all know that trade marks, being a part of the intellectual property regime are instruments of quality in the armoury of Government, to facilitate investments, to protect the sources of origin and to take our product abroad globally

in a global market. We have been receiving various representations over the past many years. There have been judicial pronouncements over the past many years recommending that in view of the changing global reality of trade and commerce, we should be enabled and empowered to accede to Madrid Protocol and to facilitate international filing of trade marks and registration of trade marks.

14.49 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN SETHI *in the Chair*]

After considering all aspects of the matter, we introduced the Bill in Lok Sabha on 23rd August. The Standing Committee of Parliament, after detailed deliberations, gave its recommendations on the 19th March and on 20th November, the Cabinet okayed the proposals of the Department and that is how, we are before this august House.

There are no substantive changes in the Trade Marks Act of 1999 which this amendment seeks to introduce. All it seeks to do is to align our Trade Marks law with the Madrid Protocol without which we cannot accede to the Madrid Protocol. The virtue of acceding to the Madrid Protocol essentially is that merely by paying one fee and by making one application, that too in English and not in the number of languages of other countries, our trade mark owners will have the protection of their trade marks in the member countries of the world. I see no objection either on principle or on any other account to the amendments that I seek to bring forward.

I would like to say just a word about one of the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, which we have not been able to accept. The Parliamentary Standing Committee had proposed insertion of section 36 (h) regarding the application of same trade mark description as to the standards of quality of goods as they apply in other countries. The point of distinction here is that trade mark is not a guarantee of quality or homogeneity or uniformity of quality of a particular product. Trade mark distinguishes only the source of the services or of the product in question. So, for this reason, on an understanding of the trade marks, in terms of law, in terms of policy, in terms of utility, we have been unable to accept that one solitary recommendation of the Standing Committee. Therefore, this Bill that I have brought forward for consideration and passage by the hon. Members and by this House, seeks to enable us to take our trade marks globally and to facilitate the registration in our country of trade mark applications received from the International Bureau.

[Shri Ashwani Kumar]

This is only to be accepted as an inevitable corollary of India's emerging status in global trade. We are, today, one of the fastest growing economies of the world. We are increasing our global engagement in terms of trade. Our global engagement today is about half a trillion dollars in terms of imports and exports, which makes India as a very substantive global trading partner.

With all these considerations in mind, this Bill has been brought forward for consideration and passage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Trade Marks Act, 1999, be taken into consideration."

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhitwara): I stand to speak on the Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, 2007 to amend the Trade Marks Act of 1999. The Minister has clarified the reasons as to why these amendments were required to the 1999 Act. When the 1999 Trade Marks Act came into existence and when we passed it, it was one of the six or seven IPRs at that time, which were required in the international trade and before signing the WTO those were the necessity.

What I want to know from the Minister is that when in 1999 we passed this, and the protocol that the Minister has talked about was adopted in 1989, why is it that when our Bill and the Act came into existence in 1999, this was not considered? So many years have passed. How is it that we have risen to this problem now and we are accepting this protocol? This is a big thing.

Now, we have had problems of trade marks. India, at one time, was not a global player. We were not MNCs. We did not have many players. ... (*Interruptions*) But, now we have a lot of players in the international market. We have big names. The Reliance is an international player. We have the TATAs which is an international name and so many other organisations and companies which are today known in the world. There are other small players who are becoming big players in the international market. They would have a problem because if they want to have a trade mark of their own, which is going to be accepted not just in the country but in the whole world, it is a necessity that we sign this protocol. It is in only 71 countries today.

Sir, what I want to know from the hon. Minister is that what about the other countries? Now, will that name have the same impact in the countries which are not

part of this protocol? If it is not, if that name is not given the same status and registration is not accepted, what happens there, and if in those countries the acceptance is not there, out of this protocol which he is being talking about the Madrid Protocol, what is the status of the trade marks which are registered here and which are accepted in 71 countries, which are accepted by the UN, what is going to happen to them? That is also very important and the hon. Minister must give me a reply to that as well.

Sir, I must also say that he has also talked about the quality and he said, that was not accepted. It is true because if you have a registered trade mark and if it does not have the quality, it is the trade mark itself which has to get that quality and the quality comes with the trade mark.

Sir, I remember some years ago, the original Sony and the person who started that company was a very small player. He wrote his autobiography and I had gone through it. He said that he got the first big order in America and when he went to States, he got a very big order of - I do not know how many thousand pieces of Sony radios that he had started. When he went there, they said that we will not accept the trade mark of Sony. We will put our own trade mark and sell it. Mr. Sony said that "I will not sell it to you till the Sony name is also given to the radios which I am selling". He himself writes in that autobiography that it was a great decision that he had to take. If he had said that I accept this order and they put their trade mark on it, Sony would not have been today what Sony is today. So, what I am trying to say is that quality comes from the product and not from the trade mark. You cannot say and very rightly this was not accepted. It is not accepted internationally also.

But I have put a few questions to the hon. Minister and I would like to have answers on them. But along with that, I support this that we follow this Protocol and the amendments.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate our hon. Minister and senior Advocate, Shri Ashwani Kumar, for presenting this Bill with respect to trade mark in international level.

Sir, the Bill elaborately explained the Trade Mark Registry to deal with international applications by India and international applications originating from India. It is clearly mentioned that based on the Madrid Agreement, the Madrid Protocol was reached.

[Shri S.K. Khaventhan]

15.00 hrs.

The Madrid Agreement means the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks adopted at Madrid on the 14th day of April 1891 as subsequently revised and amended. Then, the Madrid Protocol means the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks adopted at Madrid on the 27th June, 1989 as amended from time to time. This present Bill, through clause 36C, paves the way for the trade mark registration of international applications. Clause 36 deals with applications from our country to be registered abroad. I am supporting this Bill. While I am supporting this Bill, I would like to say that even though the Trade Mark Patents Act is in force in our country from the date of the implementation of the Trade Marks Act, yet we are seeing a number of cases about trade mark and patents in various High Courts. The High Courts are dealing with a number of cases. But this Bill fully explains the registration at the international level. What is the way out if any dispute arises? Suppose violation of the trade mark and patents under these rules is not mentioned anywhere here. For example, some of the industries started working in our country and they are working at the international level also. They are sending the goods on the same trade mark. It will help them. For example, in our State in Tamil Nadu in Southern India, Sakthi Masala is one of the products sold at the international level. This company is exporting the product at the international level. It will help them. Throughout the world, they are selling the food products. But the trade mark is registered in our country, in Tamil Nadu alone. Through this Bill, it will help them. They can register the trade mark throughout the world. In the same manner, outside companies are working under registered trade mark in our country and they are selling the goods. Suppose any third party, not a member under the Indian Registration or registration done abroad violates these rules, and bogusly or falsely uses the trade mark and sells the goods. What is the remedy? Should we go by the same provision, existing provision or will any special provision be made for taking civil remedy or criminal remedy to stop cheating? In respect of the most of the products, nowadays, food products or non-food products, people are cheated by the false trade mark. We are seeing the criminal cases. This aspect has to be explained. It is a good approach at the international level. It is a welcome Bill.

Another thing is that in this Bill, clause 36D, sub-clause (1) deals with international applications originating from India. It says:

"Where an application for the registration of a trade mark has been made under section 18 or a trade mark has been registered under section 23, the applicant or the registered proprietor may make an international application on the form prescribed by the Common Regulations for international registration of that trade mark."

Here again, I want to know who is going to frame these rules for preparation of an application for international registration. Where have they to apply? From where have they to get the applications? What will be the fee for registration? So, all these things have to be explained.

Next, clause 36E deals with international registrations where India has been designated. Sub-clause (1) says:

"The Registrar shall, after receipt of an advice from the International Bureau about any international registration where India has been designated, keep a record of the particulars of that international registration in the prescribed manner."

In the same way, the effects of international registration is dealt with in Section 36F, sub-clause (1) which says:

"From the date of the international registration of a trade mark where India has been designated or the date of the recordal in the register of the International Bureau about the extension of the protection resulting from an international registration of a trade mark to India, the protection of the trade mark in India shall be the same as if the trade mark had been registered in India."

This Bill also deals with service given by the applicants and it shall not bind the Registrar with regard to the determination of the scope of the protection of the trade mark.

The hon. Minister has explained about the quality. The quality and trade mark cannot be changed. The hon. Member from the Opposition also explained about the trade mark value like Sony. People want to purchase goods based on the trade mark. But if the quality is very low, automatically consumers will be affected. If bad quality goods are supplied under a good trade mark, what is the purpose?

Then, this Bill also deals with international business. We are acknowledging the trade mark of foreign

[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

companies also which are registered in India. But they are not able to send good quality goods. If this continues, this will not only affect the industry but it will also affect our country. In the same way, an American company registered under Indian registration rules is sending their goods, but the goods are not up to the mark and so our customers are affected. So, what is the safeguard for the quality of goods? That is why, the Standing Committee also recommended very strongly that quality of goods should be safeguarded. This has to be considered. This is my suggestion.

Then, there is amendment which deals with registration of assignment or transmission. These are all good steps taken by the hon. Minister. I support these measures. But at the same time, we have to think about the quality. Further, I would like to know as to what is the jurisdiction for filing of cases. Suppose an American company registered in our country under our Trade Mark Act is eligible to sue in our High Court or in their country. These doubts have to be clarified by the Minister.

Sir, I, once again, welcome the measures taken by the hon. Minister. I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill and I support this Bill wholeheartedly.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Sir, I am on my legs to support the Trade Mark Amendment Bill, 2007. This amendment is in the right direction. Through this Bill, the Government propose to increase the periphery of trade marks and it is the need of the hour. It is an attempt to give it a global form. For this, hon. Minister Shri Ashwini Kumar jee deserves thanks. Many characteristics of this Bill have been discussed by previous Speakers. With this, people from all over the world can get their trade mark registered in India and small scale used to face a lot of difficulties when their products were got duplicated. By duplicating their products, foreign companies or the other indigenous companies used to take trade mark in their own name or get it registered in their own name. This amendment under Madrid Protocol would further strengthen the trade system of our country. Apart from simplifying the process of registration, more and more companies would be able to use the intellectual property rights which has been discussed for long. A debate is going on since long on patenting. It will help in all these things. Many Indian companies would get any opportunity to become multinational companies. The registrar has been empowered a lot. The powers vested

in the Central Government, High Courts, Supreme Court to decide its cases has also been vested in the registrar. Besides, we will have to pay attention on certain things since earlier this system has not been very strong in India. We are making it global. But the situation in the country is such that many companies which have taken trade marks is being misused by other companies by duplicating their products. They are selling their duplicate goods by using trade marks of other companies. As my previous Speaker has said that in the name of products of Sony or other such companies are sold in the market by adopting their trademark. This is not only causing heavy loss of revenue to the Government but also a lot of difficulty to the consumers. Consumers will certainly decide about the quality. The task of trade mark system is only that it distinguishes the source from which the products coming but the decision about the quality will be taken by the end user or the market. This is true but in our country the market is flooded with duplicate products that needs to be controlled and stern laws needed to be enacted. Full arrangements have to be made for implementing these laws strictly. The small industries amongst the software industries are also facing many problems. The system of patenting has never been easy. When it comes to getting a trademark, it is very confusing how a product is to be got patented. Provision of trademark has also been in made for Service Industries as well. In this regard, some service industry may achieve success in establishing its identity through a fixed trademark at a global level. Many reforms have been done.

[*English*]

Like other things, this thing is also going global, so I congratulate the hon. Minister and our Government for taking this step in the positive direction.

I support this Bill.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Chairman Sir, we are discussing the Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill 2007. The trade mark allows customers to visually distinguish a company's product from those of its competitors. The importance of a corporate name hardly needs emphasis considering the fact that it not only reflects the goodwill of the company but also its brand name in business.

Its importance can be easily equated with that of Intellectual Property Rights like the trade marks owned by the company. It intends to facilitate Indian names as well as foreign nationals to secure the simultaneous protection of trade marks in the country.

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

The Madrid Protocol is administered by WIPO. The Madrid Protocol is intended to facilitate international registration, which is a cost-effective system. This legislation will facilitate the trade mark registration by businessmen and the business houses in our country. Definitely, we can have registration automatically with single application in 71 countries. Naturally, this amendment will help the business houses.

The Trade Mark Act was passed in 1999, but because of lack of infrastructure, like there are not sufficient registration offices and properly trained people just to make the registration easier. So far, it has not been so much popular in our country. So the Government should also facilitate extension of the services. The trade mark offices are to be opened in all the States to facilitate the business houses. Sufficient staff is to be posted so that this legislation will properly be implemented and we can extend better services to our people and to our business houses.

There is also a provision in this Act itself that Government has to decide for the location of the Appellate Court and its Benches for any litigation and other things. But the Government is not deciding for the location of the Appellate Court and for the location of its Benches. Naturally, with this legislation, we are not extending the services. The Government, under the rules, should also provide other facilities. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that the Appellate Court should be located immediately. The location of the Benches of the Appellate Court should also be decided so that the services can be extended for any litigation.

The hon. Minister was telling that the trade mark will not give guarantee for the quality. We are observing that with the same trade mark a business house is producing so many products. With one trade mark, they are producing so many products. Naturally, if a big business house is producing so many products with one trade mark, it is giving more facilities to the customers. A business house having one business with the same trade mark cannot compete because the customers are in the habit of purchasing so many things in one shop with one brand. The competition will not be better. The Government should also consider facilitating the other business houses so that they can have a single trade mark for two or three items.

Secondly, regarding quality, I would like to give an example of 'Lux' soap. It is available abroad; it is available in our country. They are having the same trade mark, but the quality is not same. By allowing this trade mark,

they are cheating the customers. A customer is purchasing the same item, the same commodity sent better in quality abroad in comparison to the commodity that is available in our country. So, there should be some legislation for the customers.

If we do not give guarantee about quality, then naturally the customers will be affected, and in that way we are cheating the customers. So, in order to give protection to the customers and also to the consumers, the Government should also make necessary legislation that under one trademark they cannot produce so many items with different qualities. Sir, the quality of Lux soap available in London is not the same quality that is available in India. In London, the quality of Lux soap is better than the quality of Lux soap that is available in India. If you purchase Lux soap in Chicago or in other countries, you will find that the quality of Lux soap is better. I have given an example of an item which is very commonly used by the people.

So, under the provision of this legislation, the Government should make necessary amendment so that we can give protection to the customers and also to the consumers.

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill since it is piloted by my good friend, an eminent lawyer, someone who has practised and understands the Intellectual Property Rights, and also an intellectual himself.

Of course, this Bill is very innocuous that way. It tried to introduce a system whereby a single application made in India would be able to protect the trademarks globally because of India being a part of the Madrid Protocol. Therefore, this Bill, of course, is something which should try to welcome.

I think, it is time that we should try to evaluate and also to revisit our Intellectual Property Rights regime in India generally. After the TRIPS agreement, we have now got a regime in which almost all inventions that take place globally are protected by virtue of the TRIPS agreement that we also signed. It also covers the medical inventions that take place. Development of a new molecule, development of new drug delivery system and all these get covered by the Intellectual Property Rights. I think, it is time we really need to look at whether such protection really helps the common people in India. Of course, there is always an argument against not lifting the IPR regime generally because then new invention will not take place. So, having considered that point, I

[Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu]

think, it is time that we should try to look at it because India is known to be one of the largest developments of pharmaceutical industry. Our pharmaceutical industry is so well developed and so well penetrated that for a long time we have been able to do what is called 'reverse engineering'. We have been able to develop a new molecule; if not a molecule, when the drug goes out of patent we could actually develop that. Now, because we have moved towards a Product Patent System than a Process Patent System, I think, we really need to find out how far it has really worked and helped our Indian pharmaceutical industry. This is something which we should try to look at very seriously.

The generic industry globally is also facing this problem. It is not just India which is worried about it. The countries like Brazil are also equally concerned about it. So, I would request the hon. Minister to look at this issue a little more carefully.

Sir, also the issue which is now emerging in the global place is the issue of climate change. The only way by which we can address the climate change is by developing new technologies. If technologies are the cause of the problem, then technologies are going to be a part of the solution. We need new technologies to be developed, new technology particularly in the renewable energy field, new technology particularly to address fossil fuel challenges. Now, we have to do all these. Climate change is such a serious threat, and we must reduce our emissions in the next ten years. Today, our emissions are 385 ppm. People are saying that we must try to reduce it to 350 ppm in another 15 years. If you want to reduce it from the current level of 385 ppm to 350 ppm, it is almost impossible. But even if you have to do that, then a new technology will be needed. Now, if the new technologies, which are going to be developed, are going to be protected by Intellectual Property Rights, how do you expect people in India to actually benefit from the renewable energies that are required?

Therefore, I think, it is high time that the hon. Minister and the Government look at these issues more carefully.

As I said in the beginning, I am also a strong proponent of protecting intellectual medicines. Otherwise, no invention will ever take place. India has always respected the intellectual capabilities of others. Therefore, we never say, 'do not have IPR regime in India'. But I must say, Mr. Minister, that you must have it in a very selective manner. As I said, the areas like pharmaceuticals and more so, renewal energies and new technologies

need to be developed to combat climate change challenge.

Sir, I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to look at the issue of climate change because it is a very relevant and contemporary issue now. We are going to Copenhagen in the next eight to nine months. When we are thinking of coming out with a new success or Protocol to Kyoto Protocol, which is going to expire in 2012, we should have the new regime. The whole world is talking about that whatever regime we should have, that should be able to deal with the problems of the climate change.

If you cover new inventions and if you think that only the Intellectual Property Rights-covered products can solve this problem, we are actually fooling ourselves. Look at the dubious and duplicity involved in it. Industrialised countries are saying: "We cannot do anything about it though we would like to give technologies to the developing countries like India. We cannot do much because the technologies are owned by the private sector."

Therefore, the Government cannot do anything; the State cannot intervene because the market-dominated developments have been taking place. But when the banks in the US were failing, when the companies in the UK were facing problems, their Governments used the public money to bailout those companies. At that time, they did not make any distinction between the private capital and the public capital! So, why should now — when we are facing the challenge of magnitude of climate change — Intellectual Property Rights come in the way of disseminating technologies, which should go round to the country like India?

Therefore, while supporting this Bill, I would request the hon. Minister to look at the larger issues because, in my opinion, these are really the issues on which the future negotiations are going to be based. We must look at these issues more carefully.

Sir, Intellectual Property Rights is something, which should not be used as a trade barrier. Every pharmaceutical company, is going to hike prices only because of this, which is absolutely counterproductive. I would say, in a sense, that it is inhuman. Just imagine, the people in the world are dying of AIDS and companies are going to say: "We will develop a new drug provided we get Intellectual Property Rights protection." It is very unfair.

My last point is on the administration of the trademark offices. I do not know how many of us have been fortunate or unfortunate enough to be visiting these offices. This is a real nightmare experience. I know that some improvements have taken place. Thanks to some of the new grants that are coming. But the moment you file an application there, probably your competitor knows about it sooner than you know that your application has been accepted. This is something, which also needs some sort of a re-look. Some proper innovative measures should be adopted. If you can make this happen, it would be helpful.

Now, we get global protection. If you make one single application, you get it globally. But I think, first and foremost, we must try to dispose of these applications at fastest possible rates. Some of the things have been renovated in the last few years, but we really need a complete revamp of the administrative system that exists in our trademark offices.

With these words, I conclude.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (RAJGARH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the amendments brought by the Hon'ble Minister. Many issues have been covered by Hon'ble Members who have spoken before me. The speech just delivered by Shri Suresh Prabhu has covered whatever little was left to say. I will not take much time. I want clarification on two-three points from Hon'ble Minister. We have been talking about international trade and globalization for the last 15-20 years. It has been 15 years since we signed the GATT. The problems that have been arising till date, could have been avoided if this amendment would have been brought earlier.

Sir, I am in favour of international trade but the people still have many misconceptions about it even today. There was a division in the Congress itself over the international trade and GATT treaty but later on they sorted their differences because they felt that globalization is a step in the right direction. Anyway, these things have nothing to do with this Bill. Our country is one of the 71 countries who have signed Madrid Protocol and it has therefore been necessary to bring this amendment. My first question to Hon'ble Minister is that a period of 12 months has been fixed for registration with the condition that whatever application is filed it should be in French. Now perhaps this might have been amended and English might have been added but there was a time when it was French

only. If English has been added then it is good otherwise there are so many countries, which are not French speaking. They may face many problems owing to it.

Secondly, as other Hon'ble Members have asked about legal proceedings, crores of court cases are pending in our country. How we will deal with the objection and legal hurdles arising out of the trademark agreements. Whether we will set up more LPOs in the country? What efforts are being done by us to set up these LPOs? These will facilitate early disposal of trademark related cases. This is my thinking and my suggestion, and if you find it improper then you can ignore it.

Many of our Bar Associations and able advocates in small towns do not have work. If this subject which is limited to big cities only is outsourced to small cities through LPOs or IT then our lawyers in the small towns will get a lot of work and they will be able to earn a lot. As I had said earlier and I am saying it again that there is no dearth of talent in our country. See, one film, *Slumdog Millionaire*, has won so many awards. Our children who are residing in slums have shown the world what India is. India is a force to be reckoned with even if some of its population lives in slums. Therefore, I would like to request that such a mechanism be evolved in which legal work through outsource goes to small towns so that lawyers in these towns could get an opportunity and are able to progress in their lives.

With these words I support this Bill. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

*[English]*

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, I am more than gratified that the Amendment Bill that I have brought before this House has received bipartisan support. I think all the Members, who have spoken on this subject, have in a sense supported the measure. I am indeed most grateful to all the distinguished Members who have lent their voice in support of the Bill and who have given insightful remarks and thoughts on the subject.

I would seek to very briefly respond to some of the major points that have been raised. May I first take some of the points that were raised by Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy? Regarding the issue of Benches of the appellate bodies to be set up in different parts of the country, I can immediately say that we have already established—and this is fully functional with effect from 2007—an Appellate Board in Chennai, and its Benches are functional in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Ahmedabad.

[Shri Ashwani Kumar]

The second point that was talked of was with reference to one trade mark not being permitted for a variety of services and goods by a single producer or owner. The first principle of trade mark law is that it distinguishes the origin of the goods or services. Now, we, as a matter of law, cannot tell a person that he shall only produce one service or one good or that he should take not one trade mark for his goods and services but a multiple of them. It is a business decision. As long as the promoter of the trade mark or the owner of the trade mark feels that it is more useful for him to propagate or to familiarize the people with one trade mark so that his goods and services are easily sold, he shall do that.

Let me allay the apprehension. Since as a matter of law, trade marks are never a guarantee of uniform quality of goods or products, there should be no need for an apprehension on this score. There are any number of other laws in our country as well as in other countries that protect consumers' interest on quality issues. In our country, we have the Consumer Protection Act which takes care of the quality. We have the Drugs and Cosmetics Act which also refers to quality. We have the Fair Trade Commissions in various parts of the world which address those issues. So, there are number of different legislations that occupy different fields and address different subjects. The purpose of this particular measure that is being debated by hon. Members in this House is very limited and that is whether we should allow a single application to afford trade mark protection to our people and *vice versa* in the member-countries of the Madrid Protocol.

Sir, the Madrid Protocol has been acceded to by 71 countries. So, as far as those 71 countries are concerned and members of those 71 countries are concerned, once an application is made in the home country, they would have automatic protection. That is the sum and substance of the measure. It seeks to do nothing more and nothing less than that.

Sir, there is another question. Of course, my good friend, Shri Suresh Prabhu, has raised very pertinent points, as he always does, in the context of climate change, in the context of pharmaceuticals, but I am afraid that these rightfully belong to the domain of patent and that is not what is being considered here. As far as trade marks are concerned, trade marks have a direct relevance to trade and goods and services to the extent that a particular good or service gets to be associated with a trade mark. It still is not a guarantee of the quality of what you are producing or what you are rendering, but it does, in public mind, gives rise to certain images

and that is really the intellectual property in the trade mark.

Sir, the other question of why after so long we are coming up with this Bill was raised by my good friend, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh. It is a very pertinent question and I will straightaway and candidly answer. The answer is that we could not have moved in with the Madrid Protocol without first modernising our administration, our intellectual property laws, and administrative and institutional structures. It is only now that we have digitised our records; it is only now that we have gone in for e-filing; and it is only now that we can ensure, and give an affirmative reply, that we will be able to process the trade mark within the mandatory 18 months. That is necessary as far as the accession to Madrid Protocol is concerned. So, the earliest when we were ready, we brought in the measure. That is the short answer to that very pertinent question.

One other issue that has been raised as to which courts will have jurisdiction. Apparently, it will be our courts which will have jurisdiction. If the infringement takes place within the country, it is the country where the infringement takes place, where the offence is committed, which will have jurisdiction and that will be so *mutatis mutandis* when it comes to other countries as well. It will be us, it will be the Indian laws and Indian rules that will be applied. Therefore, there can be no doubt or no apprehension on that score that it would be the Indian legal system that would enforce the Indian law that we are now debating.

Sir, this is in substance my reply to a very meaningful and purposive debate that I have had the honour and privilege of attending and listening to. Considering the broad support – in fact, the unanimous support – for the measure in principle and considering my feeble attempts to answer some of the questions raised, I do hope that hon. Members would, in their wisdom, support the Bill.

I commend, with these concluding remarks, the passage of this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up motion for consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Trade Marks Act, 1999, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

**Clause 2**

Amendment of Section 21

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 8, —

for "three", substitute "four" (3)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 4**

Insertion of new chapter IV A

*Amendments made:*

Page 2, after line 16, insert—

"Explanation.—For the purposes of this clause, "real and effective industrial or commercial establishment" means and includes any establishment where some *bona fide* industrial or commercial activity takes place and need not necessarily be the principal place of business;" (4)

Page 3, line 16, —

for "as soon as may be", substitute "within the prescribed period." (5)

Page 3, line 50, —

for "without any delay", substitute "within the prescribed period." (6)

Page 4, line 32, —

for "36G.", substitute "36G.(1)" (7)

Page 4, after line 34, insert "(2) Subject to payment of a surcharge fixed by the regulations, a grace period of six months shall be allowed for renewal of the International Registration." (8)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 5**

Substitution of new section for Section 45

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was negated.*

**Clause 6**

Omission of Chapter X

*Amendments made:*

Page 5, line 1, —

for "made", substitute "filed" (9)

Page 5, line 3, —

after "mark", insert "without the knowledge of assignment or transmission" (10)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 7 and 8 were added to the Bill.*

## Clause 9

Power of Central Government to remove difficulties

*Amendments made:*

Page 5, for lines 14 and 15, *substitute*, —

"(ixc) the time within which the international application is to be forwarded to the International Bureau and the manner of certifying the particulars by the Registrar under sub-section (4) of Section 36D;". (11)

Page 5, for lines 20 and 21, *substitute*, —

{ixd) the manner of advertising the international registration and the time within which the international registration shall be advertised under sub-section (3) of Section 36E;". (12)

Page 5, *omit* line 22. (13)

Page 5, for lines 23 to 25, *substitute* —

'(c) after clause (xiii), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

"(xiiia) the manner of application to the Registrar under sub-section (1) of Section 45;

(xiiib) the period within which the Registrar shall dispose of an application under sub-section (3) of Section 45;". (14)

Page 5, line 26, —

for "(e)", *substitute* "(d)". (15)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

## Clause 1

Short title and commencement

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 3, -

for "2007", *substitute* "2009". (2)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

## Enacting Formula

*Amendment made:*

Page 1, line 1, -

for "Fifty-eighth", *substitute* "Sixtieth". (1)

(Shri Ashwani Kumar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The Long Title was added to the Bill.*

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.48 hrs.

## DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

### Situation arising out of alleged mismanagement of affairs of Satyam Computer Services Limited

*(English)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up Item 45.

Hon. Members, the discussion on situation arising out of the alleged mismanagement of the affairs of the Satyam Computer Services Limited has been admitted in the names of Shri Basu Deb Acharia and Shri P. Karunakaran. Shri Basu Deb Acharia has requested the hon. Speaker to allow Shri Rupchand Pal to raise the discussion on his behalf. The hon. Speaker has acceded to his request. Now, hon. Member Shri Rupchand Pal will initiate the discussion.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): Sir, at long last, this House has got the opportunity to discuss this multi-crore, multi-dimensional - what should I say - fraud-plus or scam-plus or super scam. I do not have the vocabulary to describe this super scam.

It is not an aberration as claimed by the Minister. The Minister had said that it is an isolated case. It is a telling commentary on the gaping holes in the system. The whole galaxy of institutions, regulators, Government agencies, and all concerned, is in the dock. Politicians are in the dock. Key functionaries in the Government of Andhra Pradesh as others related to the Government are in the dock. So, I thank you, Sir, that at long last we have been given this opportunity to discuss this issue.

In the past, we had discussed the scam of Harshad Mehta variety, Ketan Parikh variety, of the Rupan Panchal IPO scam and many other scams. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: These institutions were assigned by the Constitution and Parliament specific responsibilities. They have failed miserably. Be it the capital market regulator, SEBI; be it the RBI; be it the

different banks; be it the other agencies including the Income-Tax Department, Enforcement Department and a lot of others about whom I shall mentioned in the course of the deliberations.

On 7th of January, the whole nation was shocked to know that a confessional letter has been written by the CEO of the fourth IT major, who has 185 clients, many of whom are Fortune 500 companies, who was an icon, who was the person allowed to sit by the side of Mr. Bill Clinton, when he came, while Ratan Tata, Mukesh Ambani and others have been sitting in the audience. That icon discovered as a conman. Is it that suddenly it has happened? He has admitted, "I have been doing all these falsification of accounts, siphoning of funds, manipulation. I have been doing all these for the long seven years." Not that, it was suddenly discovered. The person's name came as long back during the days of Ketan Parikh's time. Subsequently, Income-Tax Department, in 2002, it was discovered that Raju had been using accounts opened in the names of relatives, parents, in-laws, brothers and cousins to divert money and carry out insider trading. It was their Government in 2002.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Should we name the person who is not present inside the House? You can say as CEO.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Whose name I am taking, Sir? Yes, I am naming one lady inspector, her name is given here, it is well known to the nation. It is written that the lady who had detected the massive tax evasion and irregularities. Instead of looking into the issue, she was transferred. It was their Government. CBDT was there. This man has bungalows and villas, even Nizam would have envied, in 63 countries. Massive mansions in 63 countries. He has more than 2,000 pairs of shoes, even Imelda would have envied such a situation. He has been doing all these manipulations, siphoning of funds, all the crimes possible for a white-collar criminal, had been committed by him. Now, what has happened? After this exposure on 7th of January, 2009, till today, although the Prime Minister has said that the whole fraud would be exposed; the nature of the fraud would be investigated and within three months time, the offenders would be punished appropriately. What has happened till today? It is more than six weeks now. There is nothing - there is no progress at all. The Minister of Company Affairs is responsible for two agencies - Serious Fraud Investigation Office and the Registrar of Companies. They have their responsibilities. SFIO did not have any access to

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\*Not recorded.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

investigate and interrogate the CEO of Satyam. It was a conspiracy – I charge that it was a cover up conspiracy made by the key functionaries of the AP Government – the CID had appropriated the whole responsibility – Satyam Chief surrendered on his own and he was given judicial custody. It had been discussed as 'protective custody and not preventive custody'. Now, he is enjoying 7-Star luxury. A criminal who has duped thousands of the shareholders, who has looted money, who has siphoned public money, is enjoying 5-Star and 7-Star luxury, and the SFIO did not have access to it, because it is a complex fraud. The CID of AP has no wherewithal to go deep into it; but still it appropriated the authority; they did not even cooperate with SEBI. There was insider trading. That means, just before the 7th of January confession, 92 lakhs of shares changed hands in one day. Actually the transfer or sale of shares was of the order of Rs.2.45 crore. Was it done by one single individual? No. There was insider trading. There lies the tragedy.

The Executives, the Vice-Presidents sold lakhs and lakhs of shares just before this confession. Even the present CEO – the tragedy or the irony – has done this. I am reminding the Minister present here. He said, what can be done? It may be that the person may sell. Even the present CEO, Mr. Murthy, I am naming and if you like, you can delete – he has been made the CEO – has been involved in insider trading. He has also sold his shares; now, he is the CEO.

The names of the Board of Directors, famous names, celebrities, former Cabinet Secretary, very important names from the International Business Schools are there. Independent Directors are there. The very concept of having them there is different.

Once a Public Sector Chief commented – you are subjugating us to such control, without any level playing field. We are a public sector undertaking; the Government is delaying in the matter of appointment of Independent Directors and you are saying, we are subjected to the CAG, we are scrutinized by the Parliamentary Committee, we are under the jurisdiction of CBCE, CBI, everything. You are looking at us only. Where is your Independent Director? They are just *Navrathnas*. It is a statement made by one of the most important Chairman of the public sector undertakings – that, SEBI is with us in respect of Independent Directors in such a manner and the Government is sitting idle. What are they doing? If it is the Executive Chairman, then 50 per cent will be

Independent Directors. Who are these Independent Directors? Who appointed them? They are celebrities. After what has happened in Satyam, daily, Independent Directors, the celebrities are resigning from different Boards.

16.00 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

They have no responsibilities, but they were supposed to be the watch dog to protect the interest of the small investors. They are enjoying life. Money was being given and because of huge fees being given to them, they remained silent. We do not have any idea. The Government decided to absolve them. Why is this concept of Independent Directors? They are appointing their own distant relatives and very freely picking up people. Who were the Independent Directors during all these seven years? I am told that in case of some people, their passports have been seized. Who were the Independent Directors on the Board of Satyam? I know them. But I am not naming them. There were important people. There was the former Cabinet Secretary; key professors of important business schools, famous and reputed people. He had set up more than 358 companies and many of them were fictitious and vanishing companies. Money was only transferred from the IT sector to the real estate sector. 17,000 acres of land was given in certain areas by the Andhra Pradesh Government. Prestigious contracts worth Rs. 38,000 crore in the power and irrigation sector was given to them. Even the Chief Minister's favourite drinking water scheme, namely, the Krishna Drinking Water Scheme was given to them. Not only projects from power and irrigation sector, even the prestigious Hyderabad Metro was given to them. Shri Sreedharan, the renowned personality who is associated with the works of Delhi Metro had made a complaint to the Planning Commission saying that the way in which the whole plan is sought to be changed by the Andhra Pradesh Government is not acceptable. But nothing has happened. The Central Government did not intervene. The Planning Commission did not care for it. It was done by one company, namely, M/s Maytas Infra, a subsidiary of M/s Satyam. Actually there are two such companies, one is M/s Maytas Infra, a listed company and the other is M/s Maytas Properties. Contracts worth hundreds and thousands of rupees were given in violation of all norms. If the person doing all these things is considered to be the *Raja* of corruption, who can say it is not correct? There is a saying going on in Andhra Pradesh about this *Raja* of corruption. There is a nexus. There is an important political functionary whose name is coming again and again in all the land

deals. The name is common, the address is common. He is a political leader. Who is that person? They should know better. Nothing has happened. I am charging this Government that they are engaging in a cover up operation. First, all the papers were taken away by the CID. The SEBI and others were not allowed to interrogate. Only after the intervention of the Supreme Court, SEBI was given some opportunity to interrogate the discredited Satyam Chief. But it was the primary responsibility of SEBI to do what CID tried to do. The CID did not cooperate. The Chief Minister said as to what can be done in such a situation. He said that he is requesting and writing to the hon. Prime Minister to give the case to the CBI. Ironically, a news item was published in the national newspapers on the same day. When was it published? It was when the Supreme had commented in the Mulayam Singh case that CBI is working at the behest of the Law Ministry of the Central Government. Almost at the same time, a court had commented on the Nithari killing by its judgement. The people of this country are well aware that CBI has totally tarnished its image because of its malfunctioning and corrupt practices as has been demonstrated by the arrest of the DSP. at Kolkata who had been engaged in the Tagore's Nobel Medal investigation and in the Singur case and all such other cases. He was caught red-handed in the Kolkata street by the CBI officers themselves while taking bribe. It is all known about CBI and in such a situation, yesterday, a news item has come about CBI. It is said there that they have been given the assignment and that they have been told to investigate into the issue. But there is no room available in Hyderabad where we can set up an office. There is no telephone available, there is no space available where we can put all the records collected. ... *(Interruptions)* The State Government is cooperative by not giving the CBI any space to run the investigation. This is the charge made by the CBI itself. I am not making any charge. The CBI is under you. It is not under me. CBI is making the charges like where can they have the room, the space where they can keep all the records. It is a farce and mockery of democracy. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (Rajahmundry): Is it the press article which you are quoting? Can you tell us the name as to who has said it? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: When I am speaking here, I am speaking with authority that it has come in the press. If you have any information to the contrary, you can quote and refute my charge. I am charging. If you have any information to the contrary, you can quote and refute my charge. I am charging. You can say that space has been made available, rooms have been made

available or a house has been made available and that the CBI is happy that they are going to start the investigation.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): So far the State Government has not issued any denial. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I am doing it on the basis of my own information. I am speaking it on the basis of my own information. If there is any information to the contrary, you are at liberty to refute it and put it on record. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Rupchand Pal.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Please leave it to me. Why are you appropriating the responsibility of the Minister? You are yet to be a Minister. ... *(Interruptions)* If you come back in the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, you may be... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pal, only your speech will be on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I shall address only the Chair. I will not listen to them.

Sir, 18 banks have their exposure and what about Know Your Customer? Money is pouring into the banks. In whose account, what account, where from the money has come? If I go to the bank, even as a Member of Parliament, they ask my photograph, the address, EPIC, etc.? It is just like the IPO scam. They are going with the voter list to a slum and just open accounts in fictitious names. Fictitious accounts were opened. I charge the RBI also. BNP Paribus, HSBC, Citi Bank, HDFC, ICICI are involved in this. What has happened to the RBI? This I am saying because I have asked the RBI about this. The Pricewaterhouse Coopers, the auditors, got a very bad name because of their functioning or for their involvement in the Global Trust Bank scam. They were banned. But after three years the RBI had withdrawn the ban. I did ask the RBI as to why they did it. They asked: "What can we do?" The Indian Chartered Accountants Institute, the ICAI, is the self-regulatory body. They are

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\*Not recorded.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

supposed to look after that. We have written to them about this Pricewaterhouse Coopers and about their misdeeds. But they have not replied, they have not taken cognizance of the offence and they have not acted upon it. So, what could we do? We have withdrawn the ban.

Nowhere in the world such self-regulation is done in the case of a key audit body. Pricewaterhouse Coopers, particularly, is involved in a number of scams earlier, and not just in the Global Trust Bank scam. They were paid heavily. You make a comparison with the auditor fees in respect of other IT companies like the Infosys, TCS or Wipro, it was far more than that. There was connivance. But unfortunately the Institute of Chartered Accountants did not do anything. I have told that already.

The Income Tax Department knew from 2002 that tax evasion is taking place. No step has been taken from that day, from the NDA days till today. All the information are with the Government. Why did not they act? It cannot happen in isolation. There was connivance. At some level there was connivance, at the Board level and at other levels. Otherwise, such a super scam could not have taken place. It has tarnished our name, it has tarnished the country's name. It is a stigma on the corporate India. It has endangered the livelihood of more than 50,000 employees. Moreover, it has affected hundreds and thousands of small investors who had put their money in good faith. It has put a question mark on the institutions.

If the statutory body, which is considered to be a watchdog, behaves in such a manner, if the Independent Directors, who are celebrities, act in such a manner, what will happen to this country? Placing of shares was going on even after what has happened. There should be full disclosure of placing of shares. I am saying that this is not an isolated case because the UK Noble Research Group is saying that 500 such Indian companies are involved in such falsification of accounts. This is the report of the UK Noble Research Group. There is another report. What is that report? It is the report from Shri Pai, who has given the assignment to investigate into the Harshad Mehta case. He is an income-tax expert. He has commented, in the backdrop of Indian money stashed in the Swiss banks, that more than fourteen billion dollars is stashed in Swiss banks. The largest amount in the Swiss banks is the Indian money. He is commenting that only 25 per cent of the profit is shown by the Indian corporate sector. What has happened in the case of Satyam? There is an Enforcement Directorate. There are

villas in 63 countries. Money has been collected or falsely accumulated through the Mauritius route. There is a Mauritius connection also. There is a Mauritius company also. That is also under the investigation, but nothing has come out. The Enforcement Directorate is making so many comments and all these things. It has global dimensions. The US class action has taken place is a different story. Some lobbies are pressurising that there should be a distress sell of Satyam. We are opposed to that. That is a different story. The Government is coming out with a salvage package, but the Government's more concern should be the credibility of the institutions. One company may come and one company may go, but the institutions and the systems that they have set up over the years, this very system is in question. There are gaping holes in the system. There is a feeling among the people that deliberately there is a connivance to allow these gaping holes to be used; otherwise how could this man, who was caught as long back as 2002 by the IT investigator, was allowed to loot public money from 2002 to 2009? It is not new.

Sir, I now refer to land deals in Andhra Pradesh. The contracts were given in 14 States. How could it happen without the assistance, cooperation and help of the powers at Delhi? Without that it could not have happened. In 14 States, contracts, major contracts, irrigation, roads, power, railways, airport, port and what not were given. You will find that the land deals have made him the biggest land baron not only in Andhra Pradesh but also in the whole of South. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken 30 minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I will conclude within ten minutes.

I am charging the Government. The Government does not seem to be serious about it. It is not a simple question of providing some money. The IDBI will give Rs. 600 crore, someone will search for the strategic investors; SEBI will waive the take over roles so that some competitor can come in such and such manner. The names are coming and the pressure for distress sale is coming. That is one part of the story. It is to save Satyam, its employees and the interests of the stakeholders and all these things. It has got national and international dimensions. It concerns the image of corporate India. That is true. But more important is our system and our institution – whether SEBI will condone that and did not SEBI know anything what is happening in the market? Did not ROC know; is it not the responsibility of the

Registrar of Companies to know what is happening? Now, suddenly they have woken up. There is no commercial intelligence system. I charge that it was the creation of both these Governments – the NDA Government and the UPA Government – and that tarnished the image of the people of this country and the image of the corporate houses who have built up the international corporate image. It hurts them also. So, saving Satyam cannot be the only option. The operation cover up cannot be the only option for this Government.

Sir, avoiding a discussion on the floor of the House will never save them. They will have to answer for long seven years what they have been doing, both the NDA and the UPA Governments. I charge both the Governments that they had allowed this thing.

Sir, in the case of Harshad Mehta, there was one JPC. Our respected hon. Minister was a colleague in the Second JPC also. We had made certain recommendations. Yes, the hon. Minister was with me in the JPC. In some other capacity, we had inquired into the IPO Scam and other scams also. But never before have we seen that such a blatant attempt of operation cover up happened where the CID would appropriate everything; the police will allow the protective custody and the Judiciary will not allow the real agencies such as the SEBI, the SFO and the ROC who can unravel the truth. Ultimately, everything has been managed – I am not using the other words. I am using the soft words. You can put the real words in place of the managed. – through writing a letter to the hon. Prime Minister for a CBI inquiry. Everyone knows what the CBI means these days. At least I know about Singur which is in my constituency. The person who was behind the bar Shri Suhrud Datta is now free. He has been freed on bail. The person who booked him is behind the bar. He was caught red-handed on the streets of Kolkata by the CBI people themselves. We know about the CBI, what the Supreme Court has said in the Mulayam Singh case, in the Nithari case and all these things. My question is this: Should the Government rethink about certain key areas of the system?

Number one, my demand is about the independent Directors. How should we select them? Will it be left to the whims of the promoters as it has happened? I have asked for the names of the persons who are on the Board, who are the independent Directors on the Board of Satyam. My information is that in the case of some of them, the passport has been impounded. There are some NRIs also related to the Satyam Board. There are some

others who are absconding. There are some names which have been absolved. There are some others in the case of whom the Government has said no arrest warrant should be issued. The Government should come clean on this. Who are they? Why have you done it? Everyone is equal in the eye of law. If you have committed any mischief or committed any crime, there is punishment. ...(*Interruptions*)

Now, I am coming to my second demand. The first demand is about no protection. What about the independent Directors? There are many suggestions coming. The second demand is about the auditors. If the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India goes on taking its own time, what should you do? Will it be a case of Sukh Ram which took 13 or 14 years? The Prime Minister has said that within three months, it would be done. 90 days will be over on 6th April. We want an assurance before the election. Tomorrow, the Fourteenth Lok Sabha may come to an end. It may be the last Session. Who knows it? We want an assurance even today itself. By this time, the people of our country must know that this is the outcome.

The third demand is this. Why should this man, a criminal of the worst type, the Satyam Chief, enjoy the seven-star luxurious life? He has tarnished the image of this country. It is such a great crime. Why should he enjoy the seven-star luxurious life even after what he has done?

The fourth is that the other people on the Board should not be spared.

16.24 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I come to my last point. It is the most important one. Disgorge whatever he has swallowed. ...(*Interruptions*) You should take out whatever he has swallowed by this time.

Then, adequate compensation should be given to all the stakeholders at the earliest.

There should not be any hesitation to punish this offender who has tarnished the name of India, emerging India, corporate India and who has just exploited the trust and faith imposed on Satyam in such dubious, heinous siphoning off of funds, falsification of accounts, insider trading etc.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

I believe the Government owes it to the nation to come out clean on the Satyam issue.

**SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to participate in the discussion under Rule 193 on the situation arising out of the alleged mismanagement of the affairs of the Satyam Computer Services Limited.

Sir, Satyam Computer Services Limited is not an ordinary Indian IT company. Satyam's Ramalinga Raju was not a fly-by-night operator. Satyam was listed on the New York Stock Exchange. It used to boast of having 185 companies of the Fortune-500 and Fortune-1000 as its clients, including the US Government. When Enron scam blew up in the US, it sent ripples in the whole corporate world. Satyam is no less. We have lost credibility of our IT sector in the whole world. Today small investors do not want to invest in IT companies any more.

Sir, in India we love hero worship and we have examples in the Stock Market manipulations. We have heroes everywhere and we had heroes like Harshad Mehta, Ketan Pareikh, Ramesh Gelly etc. Satyam's Ramalinga Raju seems to be the latest addition. Shri Ramalinga Raju was a poster image boy, had red carpet treatment, had State-sponsored recognition, hobnobbing with the bigwigs of Andhra Pradesh, including the Chief Minister, Ministers, bureaucracy, VVIPs from abroad and more and great soaring market perceptions and all that. Raju was all that I had mentioned and he had friends from the list as I had mentioned earlier from Fortune-1000 companies.

When Satyam wanted to buy Maytas firm, I used to wonder what Maytas is. Maytas is actually the reverse of Satyam. If you spell out 'Satyam' and put it reverse, it becomes Maytas. When the shareholders challenged them, then only they stopped. Actually, you should look at it the other way.

This transaction which was to take place and was aborted is, I think, the one which is talking about the related party transactions. It is the Raja or the King of the related party transactions which was taking place. Pushed to a corner, Raju admitted to a fraud of Rs.7,000 crore and admitted that Satyam Computer's financials had been manipulated by him for very many years and he was showing high profits and high figures.

While we have to wait for the findings of the investigation, we also want to eagerly understand the proximity of Ramalinga Raju with the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, the Ministers and the bureaucracy there. Raju's family floated firms like Maytas, depended on businesses from the State Government on infrastructure projects which need huge capital and that also has to be investigated into.

His overriding ambition, greed for owning Maytas along with Satyam was his downfall. There are a few things that crop up. The Satyam Computer fudged their figures to be in line with the top-most IT services market. Did they actually have lower sales and lower earnings and therefore, there is no money in the company? In this scenario by fudging the numbers and figures, the company could have benefited by the volatility in the stock market and would have waited for an opportunity to bridge the gap of false financial or Satyam Computer did have the financials right and therefore, a lot of cash lying in the company. But Raju and his company siphoned the money out, using fictitious payment accounts mechanism including pay-rolls for about 10,000 non-existent ghost employees. What is need is an investigation which can throw light and all that I have said.

Something which is very important is that we must have an enquiry.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please conclude.

**SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH:** Sir, I am the only speaking from BJP.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have got another name from your Party.

**SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH:** Sir, I was under the impression that mine was the only name from my Party.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Another hon. Member's name has been given by your Party. Every Party has agreed for two hours' discussion on this. Very well, you may take another two-three minutes.

**SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH:** But more important is the fact that we need to take urgent steps to protect the country's image and also bring to light whether they or any such Satyams are in the hiding today.

I recommend to the hon. Minister the following things from my side: They should put a safeguard or SEBI

should be told regarding these; high levels of transparency of finances including certifications by financial institutions and banks; clear review of audited results by another accounting firm; mandatory disclosure of shares pledged by promoters and terms of such pledging.

Fourthly, I would recommend for tighter insider trading norms and to include a larger group of people and advance notice of sale by promoters and senior management. Fifthly, I would recommend for regulating and monitoring real estate investments by IT companies. Lastly, I would recommend for regulating large cash reserves and forcing IT companies to give higher dividend to shareholders.

It is important to mention that when ENRON went bust in the US, 'A' grade accounting firm, Arthur Andersen, shared the ENRON's disgrace. Will something like this happen to the Price Waterhouse also?

Sir, I would also like to talk about internal auditors because Price Waterhouse is an external auditor. My colleague was talking about the internal auditing and the independent Directors. After ENRON, what happened was that SEBI put a clause 47 which said that the internal auditors will have a say and it will be under independent Director, and those independent Directors will be looking at every transaction. If that had happened, then this scam would have been blown many years ago because seven years' manipulation has taken place. What were the internal auditors doing? If the internal auditors were under an independent Director, what was that independent Director doing? This is something to be looked into.

I think it is the first time that the Minister – he was also with me on the JPC – has taken such a prompt action. I wish that the Minister takes it all the way and puts forth to us, to the country because the whole country is worried about the scam. We must have results; we must have the investigations. Tell us exactly what has happened? Where did the money go? Were there ghost employees? Or, has this money gone into somebody's coffers? This has to be looked into.

In the end, I must just say that we have to be worried also about the professionals and the IT technocrats of Satyam because they are also worried. It is one of the largest IT companies. We are worried about the families of those professionals and IT technocrats. That has to be looked into also.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank Mr. Rupchand Pal. He is such

a senior-most Member, and I think I am the junior-most, first-time MP. In his speech he said that the Department is not able to do anything; the Government is not able to do anything; the courts are helping the accused; and the CBI is a useless organization. Finally, I did not understand, being a first-timer, as to what has to be done. We cannot just bring someone and shoot them saying that you are accused. It is because Telugu Desam is saying, because Telugu Desam is friendly with us: "We are going to kill you now; we are going to hang you now." There is a law; there is a system here. We know that justice is delayed, but justice is never denied. It may take some time. But Mr. Rupchand Pal, may be because of his Communist background right from the beginning, and being such a senior man, wanted to make this also a country where without any trial we can eliminate a person, the Government feels that he is not fit to be there.

I thank the Member from BJP, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh, for congratulating the Government for taking appropriate steps.

If the then NDA Government took certain steps at that time, there would not have been a scam like this. In 2002, Shri Ramdas Athawale, who is also in the House ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is happy to receive your compliment.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Thank you Athawale ji. Sir, I had brought out one financial scam in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly in 2006. In the same House, I did not raise it. Shri Advani, the tall leader of BJP himself has said that we are controlling the Press and curbing the Press in Andhra Pradesh. Sir, I had made an allegation against the Press man, not against his paper, against his financial dealings, against the violation of the Section 45 (s) Reserve Bank of India Act, against collection of funds. When I had made that allegation and when an inquiry had started, that gentleman went to court and brought a stay, but he had accepted my version and paid back Rs. 1800 crore to the depositors. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is worth to note how he did it.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, he sold his property. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: How did he make that money?

[Shri Arun Kumar Vundavalli]

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: If Shri Rupchand Pal is here, I would have asked him that question because he is now very close to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, this is Satyam fraud. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please wait for your chance. You need not address now sitting there. It is not good. You are such a senior Member.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Please have patience. Whatever I speak is 'satyam'. 'Satyam' means 'truth'. *Satyamev jayte*. I am speaking *satyam*. I know he is your *Rajaguru*. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not record any interruptions except what Shri Aruna Kumar says.

*(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Then, I was wondering how a person could collect Rs. 2,600 crore violating the RBI Act. He says openly: "Yes, I can do it. Nobody can question me." That is what he said. He came on television and said: "I know, I can do it." I was wondering as to how he could do it. He did it because the then TDP Government ..."

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not mention his name.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I am sorry, Sir. I am withdrawing that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, no problem. He can mention his name. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, I have a problem. I do not need your certificate.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: You will be given an opportunity to speak on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me do my job for the last but one day.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, I was wondering how he could do it. He could do it with the support of the then Government, the then NDA Government. Somebody had complained in 1999; they kept the complaint on. I had brought out the complaint token copy and I had shown it. Now, the matter is in the Supreme Court, High Court, District Court and every other court.

Now, also when the Satyam thing happened, I was wondering how Satyam could do anything without the support of the Government. Some people in the Government would have supported him. On the next day, Shri Ramdas Athawale's statement appeared, which said that in 2003 he had written a letter to Mr. Vajpayee, the then SEBI Chairman pointing out the fraud that there was a fraud in Satyam. He said that these are fraudulent accounts, and asking the Government to take action. A copy of the Petition which he had filed with SEBI was sent to Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the then Prime Minister of this country. As a result, the Income Tax Officer, one lady, said that there was some mismanagement in accounting; immediately she was asked to keep quiet and she was transferred. This statement was also given by Shri Ramdas Athawale. Then, he was there in this House.

I am reminding Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh that this had happened in 2003. Satyam Computers had become an icon. He had become such a big man. He was sharing dais with Bill Clinton. There were so many stalwarts who were sitting down; Ratan Tata was sitting down. We all saw on television and wondered: "Who is this man?" We never knew about him. Only three people were there on dais. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaidu, you will have your chance. I will not allow you to interrupt like this.

I know that not only Parliament election but the Assembly election is also coming.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I can understand, Shri Yerrannaidu. Unless you interrupt me, you will not get marks. So, you will interrupt me; you will be happy in Hyderabad with your boss, your Rajaguru. I know that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Not one word of Shri Yerrannaidu will be noted down unless he speaks with my permission.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I would also tell you what are the other friendships. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I know, every State was trying to persuade him to kindly invest in their State. I have seen that. I was the Chairman of an Industrial Development Corporation.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: The then Chief Minister went all the way to the US, near New Jersey and inaugurated one of the offices of the Satyam Computers there. The son of the then Chief Minister and the son of the then Chairman of the Satyam Computers both went to the Stanford University. The Stanford University had received an amount as a donation, or whatever you may call it as a charity, from the Satyam Computers in the form of a cheque. Then, within two months, the son of the then Chief Minister was enrolled into that college without producing the papers required for joining that college. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not mention anybody, who is not present here.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: It would be better to appoint a sitting Judge to inquire into this. I am requesting the UPA Government. ...*(Interruptions)* I am challenging him...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, he is interrupting me...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, I would deduct this time from your allocated time when you speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, do not get upset. You are speaking without my permission.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not write anything.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I am telling you, Mr. Yerrannaidu, that whatever I am speaking is *Satyamev Jayate... (Interruptions)* We speak only truth. This is *Satyamev Jayate*. We speak only *satyam* and you support Congress *satyam... (Interruptions)* That is your background and this is our background...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, this is very unfortunate. You sit down. Take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, it is very unfortunate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let me see. If there is anything unparliamentary said, I shall delete it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Making a donation to a university is not unparliamentary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: He has said that the Satyam Computer has paid a cheque...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has not taken any name. I am quite alert about this. I never allow any derogatory statement.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, I did not make any derogatory statement. I stand by my words. This is like a temple for me. Whatever I speak, I speak only truth. If they can prove that there is another student in the Stanford University of the same marks and same standard...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, why are you so upset? You will get your turn to speak. I would deduct all the time due to these interruptions from your allocated time.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, I would advise Mr. Yerrannaidu to please go to the internet, go to the Google Search, just type Stanford University, and see the names.

MR. SPEAKER: No names should be spoken.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, he knows that name. After typing the Stanford University, he would see what are the minimum marks required to get an admission in the Stanford University and how many marks he got.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not material.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: He would also come to know what is the amount given by way of donation. That is also there in the website of Stanford University. So, I am not creating anything; I am not lying.

Sir, what I want to impress upon this House is that yes, Satyam Computers's Ramalinga Raju is a fraud. He himself had admitted it. Till he confessed, till he revealed, nobody knew about it. It is because, we were never even given a chance to suspect him. He was so close to him. He was so close to the then Chief Minister. Wherever the then Chief Minister went and talked to the software engineers, he told them: "Ramalinga Raju is the ideal. You take his life as ideal. Everybody should become like Ramalinga Raju." That was the type of relation they had. We were also thinking that he was a big man, he was there in the 'Fortune 500 Companies.' Their sister concern was coming and quoting for various contracts, like they had quoted in Gujarat, they had quoted in Bengal, and they are doing works in Orissa. They are doing works in the entire country. *...(Interruptions)* But that is not accountable for you. Only in Andhra Pradesh, they should not do any work...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this happening?

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, he has spoken in Telugu. I have taken prior permission to talk in Telugu also. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Think of us, please. It is not an Andhra Pradesh Assembly.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, he is questioning about one work, which was given on nomination.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not recorded here. He is a new Member and he has been inspired by Mr. Yerrannaidu to speak while seated!

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, on 7th January, 2009, the confidence of the investors was shaken by the statement of Mr. Ramalinga Raju. About 53,000 professionals are working in the Satyam Computers, and the company has operations in 50 countries.

When our Chief Minister was here in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, attending the National Security Meeting, immediately he said CBCID to inquire into it.

These people are questioning the CBCID. They do not know that even the attack on Bombay hotels by Pakistanis was immediately inquired by the local police and CBCID. Even when the tallest man in this country is killed, the FIR has to be given to the SHO. Somebody like IG or DG will not come. That is the procedure. Immediately, our State Chief Minister has asked the CBCID to inquire. He spoke to Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Mr. Chidambaram and Mr. Prem Chand Gupta, and they gave a statement. Even though it was a holiday on 8th, they immediately took this matter with them and gave the investigation to the Serious Fraud Investigation office. They have arrived on a holiday, on the very next day to Hyderabad, and they have started inquiring.

This man went and courted arrest. He went to the office and said, please arrest me. In the Telugu Desam's own pamphlet, which I told you just now about the Rs.1,800 crore issue, it has come—look at the life he is leading; such a man having a swimming pool in his house, a man having a theatre in his house, is now on floor. He is given 200 grams of rice and 10 grams of pickle. This is all coming in all the newspapers.

These people say 7-star facilities and 9-star facilities are given. I do not understand this. Who can give? If they are being given 7-star facilities, why should he go to the court and say, I am an income tax assessee;

[Shri Aruna Kumar Vundavalli]

please give me 'B' class. He went to the court and asked the court to give 'B' class. These are all some sorts of rumour. They have nothing now.

Now, to face us in Andhra Pradesh, they have no face. It is because we are giving all sorts of things to the poorest of the poor in the State, which never happened in any other State in the country. We have given rice at Rs. 2 a kilogram. Sir, I am telling you for your information. ...(*Interruptions*) Wait a minute. No, you should have patience.

MR. SPEAKER: No Member is required to speak according to your wishes.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: You had stopped me immediately. Are you going to stop him?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I will stop him. It is because he has the time. You did not have the time. That is why, I stopped you.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: My time is being interrupted. ...(*Interruptions*) I am sorry, Sir.

Sir, I will give you one example for your information. Out of a total 2,01,00,000 pensions that are being given for the widows, old people and physically handicapped, 70,00,000 pensions are given in Andhra Pradesh alone.

MR. SPEAKER: Come to Satyam.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: The rest of India is giving 1,31,00,000.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, all the time is eaten away.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I got the chance after a long time. You have allowed me to come here and talk. Please give me five minutes and I will conclude in five minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: It should have come one day earlier also.

You finish it. Yes, I have got another five Members to speak.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, just now Rupchand Pal ji has left. But they do not know. He was making all the charges against the Government and all that. This has become a habit. I like Communists very much for their simple living and sincerity towards their cause.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you also like the expelled ones?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: But in 2004, they had issued a book, saying '*Babu Zamaana Avineeti Khazana*'; that is, 'Babu's ruling full of corruption'. In that they said, Rs.12,926 crore worth of corruption has taken place in Andhra Pradesh. That is the reason, we are leaving Babu and joining Congress. They came with us. Somehow, we failed and we could not continue. Now, they say we are corrupt and they are joining Babu again. So, people like Rupchand Pal, who have a big image, should control this. When Rs.12,926 crore was misused or eaten by someone, why should we be in politics at all? If you just make an acquisition, then leave it and forget it for our political convenience, then this is not good. I cannot expect this from a tall man like Shri Rupchand Pal. He is a sincere Communist.

MR. SPEAKER: You have inspired him to come here.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Rupchand Pal ji, I was telling that you should take the task. You have taken up Satyam Computers. You said, CBI is not doing. Nobody is doing. You should make everybody do. Do not do like you did in 2004. You are making an accusation that Rs.12,926 crore is eaten by Babu and that is the reason you are leaving Babu. You left Babu and also the issue of Rs.12,926 crore. How can you do it? Being such a tall man, a Communist man, you fight for the people, I wish you took it to a logical end.

MR. SPEAKER: What can he do? He has to do.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Actually, you tell us what has happened now. What has happened that the Government has immediately responded that he is in jail and no bail is given to him? All his properties are attached.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The people will tell this.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I did not hear what he said. Sir, you tell me.

MR. SPEAKER: He said:

"The people will tell that."

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: That is how, we are cheating the people. No, if people can tell, then why are we sitting here? Let them count themselves. Why should we come and sit here?

MR. SPEAKER: Only thing is what the people will tell.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: What will the people tell? What do they know?

You yourself do not know that your own party has given Rs. 12,926 crore ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not question the people's right.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: You yourself do not know that your own party ...*(Interruptions)* sitting next to you ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record anything said without my permission.

*(Interruptions)...*

MR. SPEAKER: Although it is last but one day, I will continue to protest against Members speaking while sitting and addressing the House. This is most condemnable.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Please give me last one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is better if this is really the last minute.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, these are all the books they have printed and distributed. You might have got it. This is like a Perry Mason's book. It is titled *Bad and Ugly*. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is it?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: Sir, it is written on Rajasekhar Reddy, all corruption charges. ...*(Interruptions)* They got all these papers from the RoC. What will people know? Where is Shri Rupchand Pal? ...*(Interruptions)* What will people know with this RoC paper? We have to explain and we have to tell them. On all these things, they have made charges, which were published in their papers in 2005, in 2006, in 2007 and in 2008. They make a book just before elections and bring it.

I want to put this before you. If there is any offence, if there is anybody suspect of an offence that is being committed which is punishable under the law, he should bring it to the notice of the authorities, failing which he is culpable under sections 202 and 120 of the IPC. These people, who have published this book, are punishable under sections 202 and 120 and they cannot escape of it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank Shri Rupchand Palji for raising this matter under Rule 193 with your permission.

Satyam Computer scam is the biggest corporate scam of the country. It has tarnished the image of the country. It is a severe set back for the crucial I.T. sector of this country. It does not only expose irregularities prevalent in the private sector, but it also affects the Indian economy adversely. This scam took place due to large scale bungling, fraud, greed, carelessness and laxity in rules. This scam took place due to lax rules.

Sir, this is a series of scams. You look at an earlier instance that had taken place here. You must be remembering that at that time a JPC was constituted when Harshad Mehta scam took place then a Joint Parliamentary Committee enquired into it. Even certain recommendations, which were made by that Committee, have been ignored. No attention was paid towards them.

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

The recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee were ignored. Corporate sector has lost its credibility completely due to this scam. This scam has tarnished the image of Indian companies all over the world:

As has been discussed amply by Shri Rupchand Palji and other Hon'ble Members, the former chairman of Satyam Computer Shri Ramalinga Raju was behind this scam involving Rs. 7, 136 crore. Investors belonging to middle class have lost nearly Rs. 13,600 crore. Not only that, this scam has completely ruined the future of 53,000 employees of this company. I would like to submit that this scam took shape on the basis of fake documents. This scam took place because the Director of the company continuously for seven years presented an exaggerated statement of income, profit and cash balance. The company showed a revenue of 7136 crore rupees in the accounts for the year 2008 itself.

17.00 hrs.

The value of the total assets of the company was a little less than Rs. 7,281 crore, whereas the cash balance of the company was shown Rs. 5361 crore instead of Rs. 321 crore by forging the accounts. An absurd income of Rs. 376 crore was shown towards interest in total. The company had the liability/loan amounting to Rs. 1230 crore and it was not mentioned at all in the accounts. It was neither shown nor it was mentioned anywhere. I wonder that a scam on such a large scale took place but the mechanism available in the economic department to check economic offences did nothing. Was it sleeping? The regulatory body for the accounts of companies and stock market is SEBI and SEBI also comes under the Ministry of Finance. They all must be getting the intimation in this regard. I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether he had got the intimation or not. SEBI, Ministry of Corporate Affairs as well as Ministry of Finance get the intimation...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, your time to speak is over.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Whatever time allocated to me is over?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You all had agreed for two hours.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, please give me time to speak about the scam...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is a time limit to speak on the scam.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, this is a discussion under Rule 193. I request you...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, I would like to give you one more minute to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Satyam Computer has committed such a big fraud...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: One should not depend only on time to speak as big frauds there should be content also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Well, the way of bureaucracy has turned a blind eye in this case, I will obey your order ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, I would like to give you one more minute to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Please give me at least five minutes to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please conclude in two minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, please give him five minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Who are you?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I am callous about your feelings.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Had the bureaucrats been alert, this scam would not have taken place. Thousands of investors have lost their money...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Parliament would not have lost its time also.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: What the bureaucracy was doing? The role of the bureaucrats responsible for checking such scams should also be looked into. You have fixed time, so I will conclude. The Government should inform the House about the steps being taken by it to check the recurrence of such scams in future. Today there is a big question mark on issues like corporate governance, accounting and business practice. The Minister of Corporate Affairs has announced that this matter will be looked into seriously. I support it. I would like to comment on the situation prevalent today that elements like Raju are spread over everywhere in the big software companies of the country? How will they control them? The virus that Raju has spread, Raju is a person who is good at making contacts. Not only that, he is also good at making good contacts with politicians directly. Raju Ramalinga has only B. Com. Degree...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Honesty does not depend upon degrees.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: You please look at his degree and his work...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Then what happened?

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: You please compare the two. He has done it so dexterously that no one got the wind of the scam till it was exposed...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He applied such a mind that he sat next to Clinton.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: He elevated his image by sitting with Bill Gates and the former President of America Bill Clinton on the same Forum and

established his reputation in the corporate world as a result of which Satyam Computers was awarded with Golden Peacock Award by the corporate world. It is unfortunate for the country to honour such a big fraudulent with an award...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, please conclude your speech.

The next speaker is Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: That is why, I want to say that such a scam is a blot on the reputation of India. I want to say this because the way the economic reforms took place in China in the year 1979, they made their political and administrative system capable of functioning efficiently and carried out basic reforms. But, under the economic reforms being carried out today, we have not made any reform in the administrative system. This is the reason that such cases are happening in the country again and again. In the year 1992, the Harshad Mehta security scam took place...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, only Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy's speech will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry. If you have your retain speech, submit it. Only Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy's speech will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Tripathy, the time earmarked for you is two minutes but I will give you five minutes.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the investigative agencies work properly. That is what is needed.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Enough. No more. I am sorry to interrupt you but I have to do my duty.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, the I.T. industry Satyam Computers scam in the country is the biggest corporate scam of the country. It has blemished the image of the country. This issue reflects the disorder prevailing in the private sector. It also affects the Indian economy. It is a matter of biggest fraud and cheating behind which are the greed, carelessness and lax rules. This scam has hit the credibility of corporate world and tarnished the image of Indian companies.

Former Chairman of Satyam Computers, B. Ramalinga Raju committed a scam of Rs. 7,136 crores and the middle class investors could do nothing but to lose their Rs. 13600 crores. Not only this, but the scam has thrown the future of the 53 thousand employees of the company into darkness.

Sir, the fake documents gave birth to this scam. The Director of the company presented the exaggerated figures of income, profit and cash reserves for continuous seven years. The company has shown a revenue of Rs. 7136 crores which is slightly less than the total assets value of Rs. 7281 crores of the company as reflected in its accounts for the year 2008. The cash balance of Rs. 321 crores was shown as Rs. 5631 crores by committing fraud in the accounts. The unaccounted income of Rs. 376 crores was shown in the form of interest. The company had a liability of Rs. 1230 crores, which was concealed.

Sir, the question is that in spite of the financial scam of such a large proportion having taken place, what the economic mechanism was doing? The accounts of the company are sent to SEBI, the regulatory body of share market, the Ministry of Company Affairs and Ministry of Finance. Why any of them could not detect the fraud of Satyam? This has become a million dollar question?

Had the bureaucracy not turned a blind eye, such a big scam would have not taken place in the Indian Corporate world which ruined the thousands of investors. What was the bureaucracy doing? The role of bureaucrat responsible for keeping an eye on this scam should be

investigated. The Government should taken positive steps so as to check the recurrence of such type of scams in future.

Sir, this episode has posed a question mark on the issues like ethics, corporate Governance, accounting and business conduct. Hon'ble Minister of Corporate Affairs has announced to investigate the matter thoroughly and not getting the culprit go scot free. I support this announcement. It is better to be late than never. The virus which Raju created, percolated from top to bottom in the biggest software company of the country.

Sir, Raju was good at making contacts. He established harmonious relationship with many top political leaders. Raju was highlighted as a new technical expert whereas in reality, Raju Ramalinga is a B.Com degree holder and he meticulously evolved a foolproof formula for this scam. So, nobody could be able to have a slightest hint before the exposure of scam. Not only this, Raju elevated his image by sharing the dais with Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft and Bill Clinton former President of America. He established his dominion in the corporate world as a result of which the corporate world honoured Satyam Computers with Golden Peacock Award. It is highly unfortunate to honour a trickster with an award. This scam is a blot on the reputation of Indian which cannot be washed away easily.

Sir, in the year 1979, when China decided to move in the direction of economic reforms it first carried out certain important basic reforms in its political and administrative system, but in spite of India carrying out reforms for the last two decades, we haven't done any reform in our political and administrative system like China.

Sir, earlier also in 1992, Harshad Mehta security scam happened in the country. In 1996, C.R. Bhansali was charged with siphoning off Rs. 1,031 crores from the account of Central Reserve Bank by using the refund warrant of State Bank of India. In 1998, the plantation companies extracted huge amount of money from the people on the pretext of giving extraordinary profit for making investment with them. In 2001, Ketan Parikh scam took place. But no concrete steps were taken to curb the financial scams of the companies. In this phase of globalisation, there is an urgent need to take concrete steps to check the economic scams of the companies.

Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Government as to what steps are being taken to refund

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\*....\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Devender Prasad Yadav]

the money of investors lost in the form of shares? Whether some package is being considered?

I would also like to know from the Government what is proposed to be done for 53 thousand employees of the Satyam Computers whose future has become insecure.

At last, I would like to demand that necessary reforms should be brought about in the economic, political and bureaucratic set up of the entire country so as to avoid further economic scams in the country and a positive initiative should be taken for making stringent laws to take strict action against persons involved in the Satyam Computers scam. Corruption should not be allowed to become a good conduct."

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Satyam Computers scam is a very severe blow to the image of India. Satyam scandal points to a dirty underbelly of India's corporate world and its regulatory and legal framework. This scam has serious implications as it has brought out a system failure including collapse of corporate governance, unethical management practices, fraudulent accounting, questionable ways of functioning of banks, failure of regulatory organizations, political-corporate nexus, etc. The victims of this scam are the shareholders, a large number of employees of the company, the image of corporate India, and India as a country itself.

Raju's revelation itself says that reserves of Rs.5,361 crore were shown as against the actuals of Rs.321 crore; non-existent interest income of Rs.361 crore; recoverables of Rs.490 crore as against only a nominal such income; and unaccounted loans of Rs.1,200 crore against his shares. In all, inflated income of more than Rs.7,000 crore was reported in the accounts books. Raju had interestingly stated that he had to resign as he was riding a tiger without knowing how to dismount it.

An inquiry has been conducted which has revealed that HDFC Bank and Bank of Baroda had confirmed forgery of Fixed Deposit Receipts. SFIO has even confirmed forgery of FDs of Rs.1,733 crore of Bank of Baroda. Why have HDFC Bank and Bank of Baroda not lodged any complaint against this forgery so far? The CFO of Satyam Computers was to submit Form 16 to SEBI in this regard which was not done. Why has not

SEBI taken any action so far? Why did SEBI agree to buy back the open offer made by Satyam Computers without the approval of its shareholders?

It is now established that Satyam Computers was holding deposits of Rs.3,309 crore as on 31st March, 2007. Where did they vanish subsequently? The SFIO is to submit its report in this matter by 13th April, 2009. With the elections coming soon, will it be able to do that in time or will it ask for extension of time?

There are ample indications that all efforts are being made to hush up the case and to save the key political players involved in the scam. Allegations against Raju are: diversion of funds, money-laundering, foreign exchange manipulation, insider trading, criminal breach of trust, income tax violation, round-tripping of ill-gotten wealth etc. These are the allegations against him.

Satyam scandal is not just about greed, corporate governance and auditors but also about quicker and more punitive indictments under the existing laws. Satyam fiasco emphasis is the need for stronger corporate governance, which we are lacking. The incident like Satyam collapsing under the weight of a Rs.10,000 crore fraud to bring out the horrendous regulatory failure in corporate governance, not just in India but also in the US as well. Satyam has registered both in India and the US.

The agencies caught sleeping on their jobs are overseas auditors, directors, company boards and stock exchanges. They were also sleeping and they have not done anything in this case. Previously, they had not detected the fraud committed by Shri Raju. The Satyam fraud has exposed the inadequacies in India's legal framework and regulatory system to tackle corporate wrongdoing of such unprecedented dimension. If we want to clear up rather than simply wait for the next scandal to erupt. The Government have to do something to rectify the legal system.

In the case of Satyam fraud, apart from the SFIO, SEBI and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India are investigating in different ways and in different dimensions of the scam which are bound to overlap with one another. So, the entire case is not given to one organisation. The Government has given different jobs to different organisations, which would overlap. Naturally, there would be no case in the last.

Mostly we have given this serious fraud case to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office. The record of the SFIO is not good in prosecuting corporate frauds. The record

of the SFIO hardly inspires confidence. The lengthy legal processes have raised a question mark about the SFIO's effectiveness in bringing prosecution to its legal conclusion.

MR. SPEAKER: No more. I am sorry. You have made very good points.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: So far, they have not made any successful effort during this period in the corporate fraud.

MR. SPEAKER: You have exceeded your time three times.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Thus, there is much to be said in favour of creating an effective legal and regulatory environment for successful prevention and prosecution of corporate frauds.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudhakar Reddy's speech to be recorded.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Lastly....

MR. SPEAKER: Genuine last!

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Otherwise, Harshad Mehta, Enron and the present Satyam case will go on. What the Government is doing? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No more.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudhakar Reddy - you have two minutes time. I will give you five minutes.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I would like to know from the Government as to what action they are contemplating to take against this case and to have a legal framework so that in future such frauds do not occur.

17.14 Hrs.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Shri Rupchand Pal has given in detail about the Satyam's Scandal. I do not want to go into the details of the whole scam. I would like to put a few questions. Why the regulatory mechanism failed to detect such a huge fraud resulting in huge losses to shareholders and caused shake of confidence of investors throughout the world? What is the role of the auditors in this fraud? It has not come to the notice very suddenly. For quite some time, this type of fraud was going on and the way the fraud has been exposed, it is clear that the auditors cooperated with the organization. Otherwise, it is not possible to continue it for such a long time. There is another regulatory mechanism that is called the Independent Directors, who are supposed to be 50 per cent in each of these institutes.

None of these Independent Directors could do anything. Something is wrong. These Independent Directors are almost in 16 such enterprises; I do not know how an Independent Director, who is the Director in some 15-16 companies, can manage these things. Is it possible for him to spare any time? Why are you nominating them for all these enterprises? These things are to be taken into consideration by the Ministry of Company Affairs.

The Ministry of Company Affairs should see why, after Ketan Parekh and Harshad Mehta episodes, a proper regulatory mechanism could not be brought forward, to check this type of scams? Naturally, the Ministry itself will be held responsible for this.

My friend, Shri Aruna Kumar was telling that these allegations are intended politically. It is absolutely not political, but at the same time, I would like to say that the role of the State Government is also unfortunately not good in this whole scam. Satyam Computer has started hundreds of new organizations, new companies, in which his two sons were also promoters. The Maytas was given Rs.38,000 crore worth works in AP. Maybe, several others can be given like that.

MR. SPEAKER: Please avoid taking the names or refer to persons who are not present.

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: It is about the State Government.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, it is about the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER: If you question me, then I will not ask you to speak. It is a very bad habit. You are asking the Speaker. It does not behove you!

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: I am not taking any particular name. I am particularly asking about one thing. It was alleged that the Government is paying Rs. 2 per kilo rice, and that is why, we are angry. We are not angry on that. We are angry for only one thing – that is, this Rs. 2 rice is given as 4 kg. per person, and Rs.38,000 crore is given to Satyam. That is our allegation. Why are you doing this? You are trying to help the corporate houses. And when we are asking for a proper inquiry on this, it is said that it is a political vendetta. It is not a political vendetta. Please conduct a proper inquiry.

It is not we, from the Opposition side, who said that, that Satyam is being defended. The former Chairman of SEBI said that Satyam's Ramalinga Raju was not allowed to be questioned by SEBI and he is taken into 'protective custody' of the Government of AP. It is not our allegation; it is the allegation of SEBI. It is the CBI which says that they are not getting cooperation. Naturally at this juncture, we demand that the Government at the Centre should take proper steps.

On this occasion, I would like to say that I raised the issue of Swiss Bank accounts earlier also. Unfortunately the Minister said that only two days back it has come. But 20 days back I have written a letter to the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. Unfortunately, our Prime Minister is not well and I understand that he may not be able to reply. It has come in the Press – US \$ 1456 billion is supposed to be in the Swiss Banks. We are asking whether Ramalinga Raju has diverted his money to purchase lands for Rs.7,000 crore or he invested in Swiss Bank? Not only Ramalinga Raju, but many other such corporate people, the corrupt political leaders, the corrupt officials of India are all having the moneys in the Swiss Banks. Why does the Government feel shy to respond on these things? We demand, on this occasion, that the Government should respond and they should take action and that this money which belongs to the people of this country, should be brought back and those who did not pay the tax and tried to put the money in the Swiss Bank should be booked and arrested. Only with such an action, it will be possible to find out who are the people who are betraying the nation.

On Satyam fraud, I feel that the role of the Government of India is not satisfactory. It is a question of creating confidence once again, in the international investors. So, I would like the Government of India, to take all steps not only on Satyam Computers, but also on other scams that are coming up in AP, particularly the irregularities in setting up several companies ... and others are involved.

MR. SPEAKER: No. No. That will be omitted. That is omitted. This is not the way. Do not misuse the floor of this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Your Party has got only one minute left but I will give you five minutes to speak.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, this is the most important discussion. Please give me another five minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: You may start your speech. I will see if you speak something relevant.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my colleagues, Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Sudhakar Reddy and others have explained about the Satyam Computer scam. The main architect behind this scam is the \*

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. It will be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I will prove it. ...*(Interruptions)* Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister is also the constitutional head. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You may prove it before the investigating agency not in the House. I do not mind. Let them be hanged.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has admitted. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, I will call you.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Satyam Computers has formed two subsidiaries; Maytas Infra and Maytas Property. Till 2004 the Maytas Infra had works worth only Rs. 200 crore. Since the inception of Maytas Infra, in the last four and half a years the Government of Andhra Pradesh awarded Rs. 38,000 crore including,

[Shri Kinjarapu Yerrainaidu]

ports, metro rail and other irrigation projects. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has awarded to the Maytas Infra 3,800 acres of the Government land. He has created 365 subsidiary companies but the Government has no knowledge. The regulatory authorities have no knowledge. How can he start all these companies without the knowledge of the regulatory authorities? The State Government is keeping quiet on this. Though the Union Minister had given direction not to register the sale of land of Maytas Infra, even though\*

MR. SPEAKER: This is to be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I can show that transactions are going on in Andhra Pradesh. Is it not the violation of the direction given by the Union Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Do not make any allegation against any person not present in the House.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, the Government of India should answer this.

Secondly, ...\* in fact he is the Congress leader...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not mention the name. It is expunged. You cannot name a person in the House.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: He is an ordinary person.

MR. SPEAKER: I am following the rules. I am not laying down anything new.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, illegally the amount is transferred to *benami* companies. Satyam Computers and its other subsidiaries purchased 6000 acres of land and the amount is transferred through his *benami* companies to other companies. This has been revealed in the Inquiry. A lot of works were awarded by the State Government. Favours were given to the Satyam Computers and its subsidiaries through *hawala*, through Mauritius route and routed through\* ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Delete that name.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Even\* ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All this is deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, these are companies owned by different persons. What is wrong in it?

MR. SPEAKER: Rules do not permit it. This is the only wrong thing.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: "how did they get all the *hawala* money into this company should be inquired...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The names may be deleted. This is the trouble. You are too near the election.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: This should be inquired by the Ministry. We have already submitted a Memorandum to the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can very well mention all the matters without naming any person. That is what I am requesting you. But you are deliberately doing that and, therefore, those names will be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I have mentioned\* ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you saying?

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (Hanamkonda): There is nothing wrong in the names.

MR. SPEAKER: You have become an expert!

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, favours have been given by the Andhra Pradesh Government to the Satyam Computers Limited and the *Hawala* money was routed through these companies. In the year 2004 these companies had shown property worth only Rs. 41 lakh in the income tax records.

How did they get properties worth Rs. 10,000 crore? That is why, the Minister should inquire into it and take necessary action. Even my colleague, Shri Arun Kumar, pointed out the name of ...\*

MR. SPEAKER: The name will be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: So, I am requesting the Government of India to appoint a sitting

judge of the Supreme Court. We have no faith in CBI. Recently, the Supreme Court has passed strictures against CBI in the ... \* *versus* Government of India case.

MR. SPEAKER: Delete the name.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: That is why, the truth should come out. The truth will come out if you appoint a sitting judge of the Supreme Court. You inquire into all the allegations leveled against...\* and his son and ... \*and his son also.

MR. SPEAKER: All names will be deleted.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, this is a politics-corporate nexus fraud. This is simply a ... \* fraud. That is why, people are very anxious and the Government of India should inquire into these matters so that truth could come out.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with your last sentence fully that there should be a proper investigation, truth should come out and action should be taken. Therefore, why are you getting angry?

Now Shri Vinod Kumar to speak. Although your time is half-a-minute, I will give you five minutes.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (Hanamkonda): Sir, earlier speakers have dwelt upon the issue at length. The hon. Union Minister for Corporate Affairs, Shri Prem Chand Gupta, made a statement immediately after the scam that there is possibly diversion of money from the Satyam Computers. It is a fact. Ramalinga Raju and the corporate sector, particularly, Satyam Computers had deviated from the IT sector and it has entered into the real estate and the civil contracts line which was allured by the temptation for making quick and easy money. It has become the guiding principle of our present State Government.

Satyam Computers' earnings were diverted for the acquisition of lands. Maytas Infra and Maytas Properties are the two sister concerns of the Satyam Computers. This group had acquired thousands of acres of land in Telengana region, that is, in and around Hyderabad by displacing poor farmers who were eking their livelihood by doing agriculture. These two sister concerns whose annual turn over was not beyond Rs.200 crore in the year 2004, are now awarded contracts worth Rs.38,000 crore by the State Government. This is nothing but to make quick money the State Government had encouraged

such corporate sector which, in fact, had deviated from their original motto. As the real estate bubble had busted, Raju could not rotate the money and was unable to meet the financial commitments made to the persons who favoured him in acquiring such huge lands in the Telengana region.

I would like to say that there should be an inquiry at length not only of the Satyam Computers but also the other companies who were awarded huge contracts in my State. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that all those companies come under corporate sector. They are registered under the Companies Act. There is huge fudging in their accounts and balance sheet. Today we are discussing Satyam Computers and in the near future, maybe in the 15th Lok Sabha, we may have to discuss more and more companies.

Such is the extent of corruption in my State which had encouraged the corporate sector. I would like to conclude by saying that the elections are due and I do not think that the investigating agencies may take the matter very seriously and enquire into the matter. I would like to request the hon. Minister to ensure an uninterrupted, objective and timely probe in the matter. If there is some interruption, then they would again fudge so many other accounts and the culprit may not be booked. I would like to know from the Government as to what they propose to do to prevent such scams in the near future.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much for your kind co-operation.

Shri K.S. Rao. Your party has 70 minutes left.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, thank you. It is a very serious issue to be discussed in the Lok Sabha. But unfortunately, the issue has come to light only when the culprit himself has confessed it. It is not that it has been a discovery by some Government agency. Had he not disclosed it himself, I do not think the opportunity for discussion on this issue would have come now.

Sir, when I went into the details, I found that apart from the Chairman, the Managing Director and other responsible persons of Satyam Computers, M/s Pricewater Coopers, the auditors of the company are equally responsible. One can understand over-valuation and under-valuation of property, but here in this particular case the balance-sheet shows thousands of crores of rupees as fixed deposits in banks and in other institutions. This was to be verified by the auditor. It is real surprise and

[Shri K.S. Rao]

a shock that if an auditor were not to check about the fixed deposits lying in a bank for years together. Here, instead of going into the details of the technical aspect, unfortunately my friends are trying to take political advantage out of it.

Shri Rupchand Pal is a very learned and a very experienced Member and everything is good about him. He was trying to find fault with the Chief Minister and the present Government. Does he think that the Chief Minister would have wanted such a big institution, the fourth largest company in the world, to commit a fraud and bring a bad name to itself? Whatever kind of a person he could be but he certainly would not have expected this kind of a thing to happen. Every Government, either the NDA Government or the TDP Government, have encouraged Satyam Computers. I do not want to attribute any motive to anyone. If any Indian corporate sector were to gain the status of being the number four in the world and were growing in leaps and bounds and acquired a wealth of two billion dollars in a span of 20 years, any Government would encourage such a company unless they know that there is something wrong with that company. Till recently nothing came out against this company. Every Government has encouraged it and many Members also have given instances of it. They all mentioned how the American President gave precedence to Satyam Computers over Ratan Tata. He was given the top priority. This kind of an importance was given to him. He had a reputation built around him and also the company had a reputation all over the world. Officers in the Income Tax Department, in the banks, in the Reserve Bank, in lending institutions and even customers were aware of the reputation of the company as well as the person. Who knew that he was inflating the business, the revenue, the profit? It is there on record. Actually, M/s Pricewater Coopers could have brought all these things to light long time back.

It may be that a regulator could have brought it back. You are abusing. ...*(Interruptions)* My colleague was blaming everybody including the Reserve Bank of India. How is the Reserve Bank connected with the fraud that has occurred which has to be shown by auditor or which has to be done by the Auditors Association? I am talking about the Pricewaterhouse Coopers. So, there is no point in blaming everyone in this situation. Let us think in what manner we should evolve a system. It is not merely the party or the Government which is responsible for it. It is the system that should be built and monitored. We should see whether the system that is built is proper, whether it is monitored with total integrity and character. If not, we should think in terms of at least improving upon the

system. We should all discuss about it and improve the system so that it will not repeat. Somebody says that he is responsible. The other one says that he is responsible. All of them have said that it is going on since 2002. When it has been going on since 2002, all of us have kept quiet. And now, when the culprit has disclosed it, we are pursuing it.

My humble suggestion today is, instead of making allegations over one another, I am of the opinion that we must build a system in such a manner that at every stage, a fraud that is being committed must come to light and transparency must be built in the system. I agree with all my colleagues that this has tarnished the image of the Indian corporate sector, more particularly the companies of Hyderabad and the whole of Andhra Pradesh. I really could not understand that Ramalinga has also done this. Having gone to that stage, a few thousands of crores of rupees would not have made much difference for him. Possibly, the circumstances in which he could not come up or with a view that he wanted to become number one in the IT sector, he must have shown increased revenues without real revenue, increased profits without real profit and thereby, share values were going up and all those things. As somebody said, because there was a real situation in Hyderabad in making money in real estate overnight, he might have resorted to purchasing of a lot of land and trying to make that gap. I could visualize it.

On 23rd December, when he proposed to take over Maytas Infra and Maytas Properties, he might have thought that he can transfer all those 17,000 acres or 7000 acres which is lying with Maytas Properties to become property of Satyam Computers without really transferring the deposits to them. A fictitious deposit of thousands of crores of rupees lying in the bank, he could not have given it to Maytas because there is no money. So, obviously it could have been a paper transfer of the fictitious deposit, that was shown in the balancesheet of Satyam Computers, to Maytas so that the property will come to them. That means, it is obviously visible that he wanted to rectify his mistake in that regard. But then the system did not permit. The foreign investors who are also involved and who are not aware of all these intricacies are blown out of proportions. Naturally, it failed. That is the reason why all this has happened but it is detrimental to the interests of the country and everyone of us. There are no two opinions about it.

All of us must unite and think in terms of improving the system. Attributing motives to the State Government and the Central Government will not help. Is there any

[Shri K.S. Rao]

instance where any Chief Minister has acted instantaneously and immediately booked a case? Has anyone asked the CID to investigate into the case? Not being in Hyderabad, but even by being in Delhi, he ordered it immediately. He did not even wait for an hour. Similarly, the Minister for Corporate Affairs of the Government of India has asked overnight, on a holiday, the Registrar of Companies to go into the details and take action. In such a situation, instead of once again making such a big company a zero today, let us all think in terms of how to save the lives of 53,000 people who are working there. They are not just normal human beings but they are accepted as experts in the international area and their services are being sought by 500 companies in the world over. All of us know that UK, Germany and Japan have all asked those engineers to come and work in their countries.

So, in that background, I would request the hon. Minister not to surrender this company or make a distress sale of this company and put the lives of all the 53,000 expert engineers on the roads. So, let the investigation be more quick, more deep and more transparent. Assess the values of all the properties of this company world over and not just in this country. The real value of those assets might be more than what is shown in the books and much of the loss could have been covered. If necessary, we can even suggest to all the 53,000 employees to voluntarily take less salaries, work beyond working hours and see that this company is saved so that this loss also could be recovered in no time. They are such experts in their field. Newspapers, magazines, export companies have said that the services that are being rendered by the Satyam Company were exclusive. They are very competent, very knowledgeable and very special. Many of these companies have asked only this company to serve them. So, in this background, I would request the hon. Minister to hasten the investigation and find out a way how this company can be saved and not to resort to distress sale. Many people are trying to take away the company with the present market share value. It is not necessary. It will certainly bounce back. It does not need to be done with the existing management. He has already superseded the Board. He can, after thorough investigation, put that into the hands of another Indian corporate sector, which has proven background, proven history so that the lives of the people and the reputation of the country could be restored. Today it was misunderstood by many of the multi-nationals that the Indian company sector is not fair, is not transparent. Simply because one company has done it, all the

companies should not be disrespected or under-estimated in this country. The hon. Minister can refurbish and bring back the image of the Indian corporate sector. As he has taken action immediately, similarly he must, if necessary, put some more people with proven integrity to go into the details. Different auditors, with proven integrity, could be appointed, as demanded by our colleagues, and then go in details and then find ways as to how to save this company, how to save the reputation of the Indian corporate sector, how not to throw those 53,000 engineers on the roads and utilise their services properly.

My humble request to all my colleagues also is that, please do not resort to making allegations against somebody and please do not pass on the message to outside the country also that not only the corporate sector but also the Indian politicians are like this. Let us not pass on such an image to the outside world. There may be some people who have committed mistakes, there may be some people who have less integrity. But among ourselves, let us think of how best to improve this company. But please do not pass on a message to the outside world that all of them are like that, that all the companies are like that, all the politicians are like that.

With these words, my request to you would be to please think in terms of practically how best we can improve the situation, how we can strengthen the regulators and how the auditing has to be improved. We have to think of what type of clauses and sections are to be incorporated or what amendments are to be brought to the legislation, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not to be recorded.

(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: You have half a minute, but I will give you five minutes.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, give me ten minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not bargain with the Chair. Please start.

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, we were very proud of the Satyam Computers. The Satyam Computers had tried to make the name of Hyderabad famous not only in India but throughout the world also. We had high hopes and expectations from the Satyam Computers.

Sir, when we were in opposition and you used to sit over there and I also used to sit behind you. At that time, the Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was in power. I raised this issue during the Zero Hour on March, 13, 2003 that I had received an information that the Satyam Computers is involved in a scam to the tune of Rs. 20-25 crores and attention is required to be paid by the Government towards this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issues raised during the Zero Hour by the Members of Parliament are required to be investigated. All the high officials of the administration remain present here and take notes of all these things. I had raised this issue during the Zero Hour on March, 13, 2003. After that I wrote to the then chairman of the SEBI Shri G.N. Vajpayee ji that I have received an information regarding a scam with regard to income tax in the Satyam Computers and that required to be investigated. I had forwarded a copy of the same to the then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji and the then Minister of Finance Shri Jaswant Singh ji. It was investigated by Mrs. S. Padamja, Deputy Director investigation, Income Tax Building, Bashirbagh Range, Hyderabad. The information was that benami properties and Benami accounts are being kept there and I had mentioned that in my written complaint. This scam of worth Rs. 7000 crores would have been avoided if it had been investigated at that time. Shri Yerrannaidu ji is sitting here. The President of his party... (*Interruptions*)\* was then the Chief Minister.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not take his name.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: The Telugdesham party headed by the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was supporting the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. The people should not have gone to their camp. They are secular despite this they supported them. It seems to me... (*Interruptions*)\* I am not taking names.

\*Not recorded.

The then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was supporting the Central Government and under his pressure no investigation was done in response to my letter and the result was that a scam involving an amount of Rs. 20-25 crore turned to be a scam involving Rs. 7000 crores. Ramlingaraju has caused a loss and bungling worth Rs. 23000 crores to the investors. The name of Ram is prefixed to his name but he has cast a lot of slur on this name. He has damaged the reputation of Hyderabad to the extent to which all the people of Andhra Pradesh had brought glory to it. Our Prem Chand Gupta ji is in the Government. Shri Roopchand Pal ji belongs to your party. It means now you do not belong to their party. Your Roopchand Pal ji has raised this matter.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am with complete peace of mind.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Shri Roopchand Pal ji has raised a very important matter. There should not be any scam. Tomorrow is going to be the last day of this session. After this, I am sure to return. As you have stated that those who create disturbances will not be elected but I create more disturbance and that is why I shall be elected.

MR. SPEAKER: I have withdrawn my statement. I have spoken that only those will be elected. Who get the support of people.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: As I create more disturbances so I get more popular support. It is not a controversial point but it is okay.

MR. SPEAKER: Today you are making an impressive and responsible speech. It is too late.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Our Premchand Gupta ji on behalf of the Government has announced the C.B.I. enquiry. Strict action needs to be taken against those found guilty. But Yerrannaidu ji, sever your alliance with them. Ramlingaraju ji is behind the bars and he has caused a very huge scam. It should, therefore, be thoroughly investigated and strict action taken against the offenders. It is my demand. At last, I would like to submit that action should be taken on the matters raised during the Zero Hour. The issue which we raise here as representatives of 20-25 lakh people are needed to be investigated. It should be thoroughly probed.

Sir, may I lay these papers?

MR. SPEAKER: You will have to authenticate them.

[English]

\*SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: This is further to the question I had raised in summer session of parliament on the alleged income tax scam by a reputed company such as Satyam Computers Limited. I had demanded through inquiry by income tax department, which is underway.

However, the other interesting part of the scam is the possibility of massive amount of insider trading/circular trading through whole lot of benami accounts in the names of the promoters and their relatives. The attached report clearly mentions view of Deputy Director-Investigations that what was revealed during the search process seemed mere tip of iceberg. There lay buried deep huge mountain of scam, which I request you authority to dig out in the interest of investors.

The scam in brief is as under. Deputy Director-Investigations. Aaykar Bhavan, Basheerbaug, Hyderabad found benami bank deposits worth Rs. 20 crores in various banks in and around Hyderabad without proper documents and with form 15-II filled for non-deduction of TDS on the interest. Finding this odd, IT officials traced fixed deposits to Satyam Promoters and their family members. On further investigation, the traced scam with wrong doings in register of members which company officials hesitated to show during survey. In fact, IT officials were locked up in the room. IT officials saw a possibility of massive manipulation in register of members through various benami accounts having frequent trading of shares, possibly insider trading and profits from such trading findings its place in above benami fixed deposits. IT officials had a feeling that promoter holding in the company through benami holding could be more than those disclosed to various authorities.

Your investigation should specifically cover following areas:

- Check register of members for the genuinity during the period indicated in the report. This is possibly year 1998 to year 2002. There is a strong possibility of benami holdings belonging to promoter and their family. Trace real owners.
- Frequent trading pattern in benami holding can clearly suggest strong possibility of insider trading. Please investigate in thorough detail.

- Check whether actual holding of the promoter in the company is consistent with the figures disclosed with SEBI, various stock Exchanges and various authorities.
- Investigation may be extended to period prior to 1998, if so required

We request you to take the matter with the office of Deputy Director-Investigations, Aykar Bhavan, Basheerbaug range, Hyderabad for more information. Mrs. Siripua Padmaja, Deputy Director-Investigations then, who also conducted above survey process may be contacted for all details and evidence on the above matter. I am sure that your office will do the needful in the interest of investors and oblige.

Please note my follow-up will continue in the Parliament on the above matter. Your timely investigation will help relevant authorities.\*

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Mr. Speaker, Sir I agree with the views expressed by other hon. Members on the Satyam scandal.

Sir, as the hon. Prime Minister of this country has said, this Satyam scandal is a blot on India's corporate image. It is quite surprising that the system that is in place in India has not unraveled this kind of enveloping situation in the last few years.

It only shows that the system of corporate governance in the liberalisation period is not working. The lesson that the Government of India should understand from this is that wherever the financial sector is given undue importance as compared to the real sector, such kind of happenings are inevitable. This is what the experience of many of the developed countries also show. There should always be a delicate balance between the real sector and the monetary sector or the financial sector so that you will be able to monitor the system in a better way.

17.51 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

But, unfortunately, with the advent of the process of liberalisation, globalisation and the so-called LPG experiment in India, we have given a free hand to the market especially to the financial market, the share market so that the people in the country can play with the market sentiments, indulge in speculative trading activities, manipulate accounts and try to manage with the company

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\*...\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

officers and Directors. Therefore, the Government should realise that the dependence of the economy on the share market, dependence of the Government on the corporate world will always land us in this kind of a problem.

To my mind, the Satyam owners have come forward to accept their follies and failures and therefore we have been able to discover it. There is no system in the country to know what is happening to the other countries or other companies. We only wish that the Satyam Scam is the one and the only scam that is associated with the corporate world. But we have a feeling today that after getting the report about the Satyam deal, we tend to have a feeling that there may be a large number of companies which are committing this kind of a fraud on the public Capital of India. Therefore, we should give serious thought to this problem. We should take severe action against those people who have committed this kind of a fraud. How could this fraud take place when there is a Company Law, when there is an audit system and when there is the income-tax system and laws? With all these things, this scandal has come to the surface. That shows that all the people are in collusion or in nexus and they have brought this episode. It is shocking to this country. Therefore, the Government should unravel the entire truth surrounding this scandal. It should take high level of penal action against the guilty people, whoever has committed it. We should be able to formulate tougher company laws so that these things do not happen. The Ministry of Company Affairs should not be simply satisfied with the framing of laws and regulations. But it should also closely monitor the audited statement of various companies regularly and see whether the audited statements given by the auditors are correct to the best of their knowledge and to the situation. Perhaps, had the system worked properly, the Satyam Company mistake or the episode would not have recurred. Therefore, the Government should think on imaginative lines because on the one hand we are catching up with the West with all the models, share-marketing experiences and all that. But, on the other hand, these kinds of frauds are committed, these kinds of follies are committed and they go unchecked by the Governmental agencies. The Government should seriously think whether the systemic failure should continue or we have to arrest the systemic failure and try to do justice to the people and bring the guilty people to book. It should teach a lesson to the corporate world that this country does not depend only on the corporate world; the real sector is important. They should be contributing to the real sector so that the problems of the country can be solved in a better and amicable manner.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Satyam episode has brought discredit and insult to the country. Many hon. Members have said that the practice of allowing the corporate world to plunder without putting any restrictions on them and to think whatever they do is good for the country as a whole has led to this situation. It was happening for the last so many years and not only Satyam but so many corporates are dictating the economy. We know what happened not only to our economy but also in the whole world. Everybody has admitted that the Satyam scam is unprecedented. It involves thousands of crores of rupees and so many people are involved in it. So, it has to be probed thoroughly.

Sir, I do not want to blame any individuals or institutions, but there is something wrong with the entire system. Otherwise, how could such a thing happen? How could Satyam plunder so much money? How could they cheat the entire system not only in India but also outside our country? This is something very shameful.

Therefore, my party demands that there must be a thorough inquiry and all the culprits should be brought to book. The Government should now open its eyes. When they talk of globalisation and corporatisation, they should realize the danger involved in allowing the country to be dictated by the corporates. I think the Satyam scam should open the eyes of the Government in formulating the future policies. So we demand a thorough inquiry in the whole scam.

\*SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (Bobbili): Sir, the unfortunate revelations by Shri B. Ramalinga Raju (Raju). The then Chairman of Satyam Computer Services Limited, on 7th January, 2009 have shaken the confidence of investors, particularly those in Hyderabad, as Satyam was one of the largest software exporting companies in the country, enjoying the confidence of more than 60 Fortune 500 companies, employing about 53,000 professionals, having operations in more than 50 countries.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was attending National security meeting in Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi, when Raju made the aforesaid revelations to the media. The CM, immediately upon knowing the revelations, ordered from New Delhi itself that CB-CID conduct a preliminary enquiry and ensure that Raju who made a self confession was not let off the hook.

[Shrimati Jhansi Lakshmi Botcha]

The CM, having noted that the most important and immediate requirement to safeguard the interests of the employees and small investors, spoke personally to Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia requesting him to speak to the Prime Minister, who was indisposed at that time, to take immediate steps to appoint a new Management team of eminent people who can give confidence both to the employees and small investors. He followed it up with a letter to Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Prime Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram and Shri Prem Chand Gupta. The CM's press conference in Delhi and his letter to PM were widely publicized and in fact there were many who appreciated the quick action by the Chief Minister.

The Central Government also acted very quickly. The officials of SEBI and Serious Fraud Investigation Office have arrived on the scene in Hyderabad on 8th January, 2009 despite that that day being holiday and straightaway started investigations not only into the affairs of Satyam but also of Eight other group companies, which includes Maytas Infra and Maytas Properties. The CB-CID, based on preliminary investigations arrested Raju, his brother and CFO of Satyam on 9th and 10th January, 2009 and have since then been conducting the enquiry under the scrutiny of the Courts. It is pertinent to note that in an interview given by Shri K. Vijaya Rama Rao, a former Director of CBI, presently a senior member of TDP, to the HINDU Newspaper on 8th January, 2009 (published in Hyderabad edition on 9th January, 2009) categorically said that it was too early for the CBI to enter the picture. It was reported in the HINDU that "he favoured that statutory bodies like the SEBI and the Serious Fraud Investigation Office conduct preliminary probe to pinpoint the areas where lapses had taken place as they had expertise on issues relating to finance and audit procedures. Once the dimensions of the fraud were established, the Finance Ministry could hand over the probe to the CBI".

In response to the request of the Chief Minister, the Central Government dismissed the Board of Satyam and replaced the same by their nominees who are presently running the affairs of the company under direct supervision of the Central Government. In fact, it is everybody's knowledge that during the first few days after the revelation, the Prime Minister himself was monitoring the entire progress of Satyam case and its management. After the PM's admission into hospital for treatment, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has been monitoring the case. The State

Government had no role to play after 7th January, 2009, that is, after handing over the case to CB-CID. There is nothing more that any State Government could have done under the circumstances.

The Chief Minister during several of his Press conferences has clearly said that he will be only too happy if the CBI takes over the case. He in fact wrote a D.O. Letter to Prime Minister on 28th January, 2009 that the State Government would be happy if the CBI took over the case. The Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh wrote a letter on 8th February, 2009 to Shri Madhukar Gupta, the Union Home Secretary requesting that the CBI may take over the case. The CM once again wrote a letter to PM on 9th February, 2009 requesting him to expedite the take-over of the case by CBI.

Despite this, it is absolutely shocking that the opposition political parties in the State somehow or the other want to take political advantage of this most unfortunate incident. They have absolutely no concern for the 53,000 odd employees in the company. They somehow expected that this company would collapse immediately and all the 53,000 employees will be on the road and naturally their anger will be on the ruling Government both at the State and the Centre and that it will explode further with many other software employees joining hands with the employees of Satyam; they expected that the global customers of Satyam will withdraw; they expected all round chaos in the State. But unfortunately for them, due to deft handling by the Prime Minister, the company is running smoothly; the salaries are being paid to the employees; the customers have not cancelled their contracts. The highly complicated investigation by SEBI, Serious Fraud Investigation Office, Income tax authorities etc. is being carried out. The accounts of Satyam are being recast by the Accountants and Auditors appointed by the newly constituted Board. The Board appointed Brahmayya & Co. Chartered Accountants as Internal Auditors. It may not be out of place to mention here that this Chartered Accountants firm is very close to the TDP leader Mr. Naidu. Mr. Devineni Seetaramaiah, the Chief partner of Brahmaiah & Co., Hyderabad is the mentor of Mr. Naidu and is the only outside member of the NTR memorial trust.

Frustrated with these developments, what the opposition and some of their friends in the media are doing now is to thwart a proper investigation in the fear that their links could come out. So raised a big hue and cry and put the blame on somebody else in the hope of escaping from their roles. Because it is now handled by

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

CB-CID, they are asking us why it is not given to CBI. If the enquiry is handed over to CBI they would have had no qualms to say that nothing good can come out of this, as CBI is nothing but Congress Bureau of Investigation and if this is handled by State CB-CID, they would say that the CM of the State is influencing the investigation. The two-pronged strategy of the opposition is to thwart the investigation and to utilize this opportunity to malign the Government to the extent that it is possible.

Their other fear is that the investigation would inevitably lead to Naidu's links with Mr. Raju which are well known throughout the State. In fact, Mr. Naidu was the benefactor of Mr. Raju. There was no occasion when Mr. Naidu did not take credit for the rise of Mr. Raju. His links with Mr. Chandrababu Naidu are well known, as, when Mr. Bill Clinton visited Hyderabad in the year 2000, the only person who was allowed to share the dias with the US president was Sri. B. Ramalinga Raju, in spite of the fact that there were many eminent globally known entrepreneurs present among the gathering. Thus, Naidu and Raju had helped each other. As per a front page news item published in the 'Deccan Chronicle', the leading English daily, in their edition on 27.1.2009, three companies viz Eelam Investments, Fineith Investments and Grace Investments have each contributed a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs to NTR Memorial Trust, the private charitable trust promoted and operated by Shri. Nara Chandrababau Naidu, President of Telugu Desam Party and his wife. All the above companies are said to be the companies promoted/owned by Shri. B. Ramalinga Raju, Mr. Naidu has recently confessed that the NTR-Trust did indeed accept these donations. In addition, Raju paid huge amounts to Naidu and his political party.

The 'Economic Times' has published two major news items one on 13th January and the other on 30th January, 2009 that Mr. Naidu with his clout in Delhi., has successfully scuttled enquiry into serious charges of insider trading and money laundering by the promoters of Satyam by CBDT and SEBI in the years 2002 and 2003 despite the fact there was enough evidence on record. Indeed, Shri. Ramdas Athwale, a Member of Parliament raised this issue on the floor of the Parliament in the year 2003. If only appropriate action was taken at the time, needless to say, the present situation in Satyam would never have occurred. No wonder, Naidu does not neither refute these statements nor filed a defamation case against that paper. Sir, I humbly appeal through you to save thousands of employee's life. No doubt UPA Government could boost up thousands of IT people confidence.

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Members Shri Rupchand Pal, Shri Vijayendra Pal Singh, Shri Aruna Kumar Vundavalli, Yourself, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy, Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, Shri Yerrannaaidu, Shri Vinod Kumar, Shri K.S. Rao, Shri Ramdas Athawale, Prof. Ramadass Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar.

I am happy that some of them were my colleagues in the last Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam. Shri Rupchand Pal and Shri Yerrannaaidu were my colleagues in that Committee. There is no denial that what happened in Satyam was very unfortunate and not only in India, but almost the world over, there was a question mark as to what has gone wrong with our system.

Sir, corporate frauds do happen and that cases of corruption do occur. You would remember that the present economic meltdown in the United States is because of top level corporate frauds in the banking system and other brokering system there and most of the Western countries. Even 150 years old banking and finance companies came down on their knees and the Government had to intervene and support such blatant cases of misutilisation of funds and resources. Not only that, even the sovereign Governments came into question. You would remember that the Government of Iceland had to be bailed out. Otherwise, the entire system in that country would have collapsed.

Sir, as I said earlier, what happened in Satyam is unfortunate. I am not trying to protect them or I am not saying that this is something which we can allow to happen continuously or repeatedly.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, the main concern was that our corporate sector and particularly, the IT companies who are engaged in very crucial and strategic work for many of the sovereign countries – almost 175, Fortune 500 companies the world over – where in millions of youth and youngsters are employed and this industry which earns almost 30 billion dollars annually for our country should not come into question because of misdeed and greed of a particular person and a particular family.

So, our main concern was to ensure that the operations in Satyam do continue, otherwise, 53,000 employees would have been on road. This would have an effect on not only these 53,000 employees, but this

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would also have a cascading effect to the extent which cannot be imagined.

This is the same Satyam, when it was Satyam, most of the State Governments were competing with each other to invite them to come to their States and set up the facilities. This is the same Mr. Raju who was declared IT man of the year. This is the same Satyam which was awarded Gold Peacock Corporate Governance Award by international agencies.

Coming back to the question, our main concern was to ensure that these people, these youngsters, these youth, do not lose their jobs, the country as a whole does not get bad name.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is 6 o'clock now. We have two more Bills for consideration and passing. If the House agrees, the time of the House may be extended by one hour.

MD. SALIM (Calcutta – North East): Sir, is it the way to pass Bills? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, this has been circulated just now. We will take these up tomorrow. We are discussing an important issue and the hon. Minister is giving the reply...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the amendments have been circulated just now...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let him complete and then I will decide after his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, a large number of amendments has been circulated just now and we could not go through those amendments...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: Sir, let him conclude, but this is not the way to pass the Bills...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time of the House is extended till the completion of the reply of hon'ble Minister. The consent of House will be taken after the reply. Thereafter it will be decided as to whether two Bills be taken up. Only that business will be taken up for which the House will agree Salim you need not worry about it.

*[English]*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: As I said, the top priority before the Government was to ensure that the operations in Satyam continue so that our IT sector as a whole should not get a beating in the world market. Secondly, the guilty must be brought to book. They must be given their dues. Thirdly, the investigation could have carried on and whoever found guilty should be brought to book at the earliest so that the time is not lost.

These were the factors. I will come to the question why we did not come to know before or why no action was taken before 17th of January. On that question, I will come later on.

On 7th of January itself, when it was known that Mr. Raju of having committed certain irregularities, *vide* e-mail sent to SEBI, Directors of the company and Stock Exchanges, RoC Hyderabad was ordered to inquire into the report, and investigation was ordered under Companies Act, 1956. The initial report of RoC was received on 12th of January in five days' time. Simultaneously, on 7th of January the Institute of Chartered Accounts of India (ICAI) and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) were asked to look into the allegations and take appropriate action because they are the regulators, they are the institutes who regulate these two professions. On 8th of January, RoC Hyderabad applied to the Judicial Magistrate in Hyderabad to seize the documents and CDs, soft copies, hard copies, from different offices and premises of Satyam. On the same day, that is on 8th of January itself, the inspection of eight companies related to Satyam was handed to Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO). On 9th of January, hon. Company Law Board (CLB) was moved to supersede this Board of Satyam and allowing the Government to appoint up to 10 new Directors. Immediately on 11th and 15th of January, 6 Directors were appointed on the Board of Satyam. These 6 Directors are people of eminence not only in India but internationally. If you want, I can give the names. But, I think, by now, you know the names. I do not have to give the names. On 19th of January, SFIO was allowed to extend their inquires into Maytas Properties and Maytas Infrastructure because certain links were found.

Sir, you would appreciate that without having a proper record – we have rule of law in this country; we have a well-placed judicial system in this country – we cannot just go and tell someone that look, you have done this.

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and that is why you are being hanged. There is a procedure laid down in the law. That had to be followed; otherwise we would have weakened our case.

As I said, on 19th of January, both into Maytas Properties and Maytas Infrastructure, the probe was extended by SFIO. On 20th of January, the next day, keeping in view a strong possibility of siphoning of funds from Satyam and personal enrichment through unfair means by persons closely connected with the affairs of Satyam, on a petition moved by the Government, Mr. Ramalinga Raju, Chairman; Mr. Rama Raju, Director; Mr. Mynampati, CEO and Director; Mr. Vadlamani Srinivas, CFO; and Mr. Jayaraman, Company Secretary; all formerly of Satyam, were directed to declare their properties and assets to the hon. Company Law Board.

The hon. Company Law Board was further requested to restrain them from disposing of or alienating any such properties or assets without the permission of CLB. On 20th itself, this was done.

Sir, in the meantime, SFIO, ROC, SEBI and State CID – all these teams – have been working very closely and with the fullest cooperation between them. I would like to put it on record that there is no evidence of any non-cooperation by any of the State agencies or any of the Central agencies. All the agencies work very closely, and then they found that there was a network of 356 entities connected with the group. Out of these 356 entities, 326 were companies and the rest were individuals and others. So, there was a complete network. They found that there could be a great possibility of siphoning off funds by using these 356 entities. SFIO was authorized to cover these 356 entities in their investigation also.

Then, Sir, on the 17th of February, the next day, the Ministry moved a separate petition before the hon. Company Law Board for removal of the existing Directors of Maytas Infrastructure Limited and Maytas Properties Limited and for an appointment of new Directors on the Board of these companies. On the 17th February, we moved this petition. The matter is *sub judice*. The hon. Company Law Board has completed hearing in one of these cases, Maytas Properties Ltd.; and the Maytas Infrastructure case would be heard by the hon. Company Law Board tomorrow, that is, on 26th February.

Sir, on the 19th of February, on a petition moved by the company, with the support of the Central Government, the hon. Company Law Board allowed the new Board to make a plan for the continuation of business and operation of the company including by inducting a strategic

investor and obtaining necessary approvals from SEBI in context of the SEBI takeover. Approval of CLB would be taken before finally inducting the strategic investor by making allotment of shares to him.

Sir, what I am trying to say is that the action of the Government of India has been appreciated everywhere and by everyone; *Financial Times* of London, *Dow Jones* – all these newspapers have appreciated the firm action taken so far by the Government, the prompt and quick action of the Government.

Sir, it is very easy to blame each other.  
...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: What is our national motto? *Satyamev Jayate*...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Please listen. Please do not ask me what our national motto is. Please also do not force me to disclose something which is not in the interest of anyone to know. Let us not make it a political issue. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We are not making it a political issue. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: This was a very unfortunate case. I am not denying this.

MD. SALIM: It is a shameful thing...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Yes, it is a shameful thing...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Salim Saheb, I am not denying that this was a very unfortunate case. I am not denying it. We should all ensure that these kinds of frauds do not happen again. The hon. Prime Minister rightly said that this was a blot. He was so accurate, he was so correct.

Sir, Mr. Rupchand Pal said that this is an Operation Cover-up. I would like to differ with him and I would say that this is far from the fact.

The next point raised was that the institutions like the SEBI, RBI, Banks, IT Department and the Enforcement Directorate, have all failed. Every country has a system, and if we ridicule our system to this extent, then everything will collapse. We have 8,90,000 companies in this country and each company is supposed to file certain documents. You would appreciate that humanly, it is not

possible to go through all the documents and see what is worth...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: Satyam Computers is not just another company...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, let him complete his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Mr. Salim, do not get agitated. This was one of the frauds...*(Interruptions)*  
Let us not get agitated. Let me complete my reply.

Sir, in order to ensure that the frauds like this or irregularities like this are detected well in time, the Ministry of Company Affairs has introduced MCA-21 Computerization Programme through which the documents can be filed through emails. The officers can look at the returns of the companies, see the irregularity on the screen itself and take action against them. After all, a system works. When the Auditors certified the accounts of a company, what is left? The PriceWater House have seven partnership firms, which they have registered in India including West Bengal. These firms are registered in India. They are authorized by the Instituted of Chartered Accountants to carry out the auditing operations.

MD. SALIM: This is a case of collusion.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Yes, this is a case of collusion. I am not saying 'no'. Who is saying 'no'? I am saying that the Auditors are involved. The Internal Auditors may have also been involved. Their role is being investigated by the SFIO...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The law should take its own course...*(Interruptions)* Let the law take its own course.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: This is what I say.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: You do not interfere in the case...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Yes, I fully agree with you. Now, you, please, do not interfere in my reply...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Radhakrishnan, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, in the last JPC, certain irregularities were pointed out and that JPC had desired that the affairs of the PriceWater House be looked into. A show cause notice was issued to the PriceWater House, Bangalore. The disciplinary proceedings were initiated against them. Action was initiated by the ICAI for three years, in 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003.

For the year 2000-01, the Disciplinary Committee found that Mr. S. Gopalakrishna, Mr. Ramakrishna and Mr. Manish Agarwal were guilty of professional misconduct. Now, the report is being considered by the Council of the Institute. I can assure you that appropriate action would be taken against these three auditors. The punishment can be, removal of the name of the Members from the ICAI permanently and you would appreciate that for a Chartered Accountant to lose his certificate is a big thing.

The Reserve Bank of India had noticed certain irregularities in case of Global Trust Bank. That was another issue raised by the hon. Members. The RBI issued an advisory to banks and NBFCs in October 2004 not to engage Pricewaterhouse. Pending finalisation of disciplinary proceedings by ICAI, the RBI found it not appropriate to continue suspension of PWC indefinitely for irregularities noticed in Global Trust Bank. Therefore, after three years, in August, 2007, on a representation by PWC, the RBI allowed banks to consider PWC. If they considered them, they could give them their audit. That was the decision of RBI.

As far as inspection is concerned, JPC had indicated that there were too many movements in the Satyam stock during KP's time, Ketan Parikh's time and in K-10 shares. You remember, at that time 10 scribes were much talked about. Inspection under Section 209-A of the Companies Act was ordered on 12th September, 2001, and the ROC submitted his report on 19th April 2002. Then, the Regional Director (RD) submitted his report on 30th April, 2002. At that time, our friends when in Government found nothing wrong in the affairs of Satyam and the cases were not pursued further.

Mr. V.P. Singh was also a Member with me on the JPC. You would remember that.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): That exonerates the last CMD, whatever Mr. Athawale was saying.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Well, it depends. Let us not go into that.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Yes, let us not go into that.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: The question is: what is being done now? How do we protect our system from this kind of fraud?

SEBI has already ordered peer review of the accounts of important companies, particularly 30 largest companies in the country. SEBI has further made it mandatory to disclose the pledged shares by the promoters of companies. They pledge their shares. They borrow money from the banks and financial institutions and they use this fund for something else. Like in the case of Satyam, the promoters were left with only half a per cent of the shares at the end of the day, that too, in certain companies and not directly in their names.

The Companies Act, 1956, which was amended 25 times after its enactment, is being revised.

Sir, I have introduced the comprehensive revision of the Companies Bill for consideration by the hon. House and I understand that it is pending with the hon. Standing Committee of Parliament. In this Bill, we have defined the duties and responsibilities of independent Directors. In today's Companies Act, all the Directors are saying that there is no separate mention of independent Directors and all the Directors have same liability. There is no differentiation whereas in the proposed Companies Bill, we are segregating the role and responsibilities of independent Directors because certain Directors, who act as independent Directors, may not be aware of the affairs of the company deeply and they may become a victim of this kind of fraud. So, in the new Companies Bill, we are proposing that the person in charge, the officer in charge, like Managing Director, Executive Director, Finance Officer, Company Secretary, CEO, CFO, would be responsible for any act of omission or commission. The independent Directors will not be responsible unless they were a party to that decision where some sort of fraud or irregularity was committed.

We have provided for stringent penal provisions, minimum punishment for violations of provisions of the Companies Act and we have also provided for clear civil liabilities. In addition to the criminal liabilities, we have provided for civil liabilities also. We have also made provision of special courts for speedy trial. Now, the procedure laid down is lengthy. There is no denial that

our courts are over-burdened and 30 million cases are pending in different courts. We should appreciate and we should not deny the fact of life that on certain issues, nobody can help anything. So, we have provided in the proposed Bill the provision of special courts for speedier trial.

We have also provided for auditing standards. At the moment, the auditing standards are announced by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and Government has no role to play in this. But in the proposed Companies Bill, the Government would be able to provide for the auditing standards so that the erring auditors, if they are found, could be punished properly and action could be taken against them. We have provided for self-regulation but with accountability. An extensive disclosure requirement is being provided in the proposed Companies Bill so that ...(*Interruptions*) and strengthening of Enforcement Wing of SFIO, Serious Fraud Investigation Office. ...(*Interruptions*)

As far as Satyam issue is concerned, I want to tell the hon. Member that all the investigating agencies are working on war-footing and they are in full command of the investigations.

MD. SALIM: Sir, the Minister is utilizing the opportunity to give certificate while the Members were agitated. The company had stated the fateful events and Members are alleging that it is a corporate cover up. He is issuing certificate and telling all the things that are going to come up. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Md. Salim, please let him complete.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Mr. Salim, you may allege anything because ...(*Interruptions*)

MD. SALIM: The Members are saying it ...(*Interruptions*) You may respond to them. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Nobody loses anything by alleging against each other. ...(*Interruptions*) Your Government in West Bengal allotted a plot to Satyam. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please address the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Shri Prem Chand Gupta]

MD. SALIM: No, it is your system's fault.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not fair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: It is your system also.  
...(Interruptions) You have created it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Let him conclude his reply.

...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: We did not create anything.  
...(Interruptions) You do not issue certificates.  
...(Interruptions) I may say something as a customer of Satyam, but you are the monitor and you are the regulator. ...(Interruptions) It is your system that has failed.  
...(Interruptions) It is not a question of allegation.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the reply of the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, you can continue your reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow him to conclude his reply.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of the honorable minister...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

Nothing will be recorded except the reply of the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, please take your seat. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, lately my hon. friend and Member of this House, namely, Mr. Salim has started to lose his temper. ...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: You said this. ...(Interruptions)

Satyam does business all over the country. Are all those criminals and guilty? ...(Interruptions) You are supposed to regulate. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: What I said is  
...(Interruptions) We are regulating. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, please take your seat. Hon. Minister, please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: How do you think that we are not regulating? ...(Interruptions)

MD. SALIM: What did your Government do?  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, the regulatory system is in place. The case is being investigated. ...(Interruptions) I clearly said that the guilty would be punished, and there would be no relaxation. ...(Interruptions) Therefore, I am trying to say it again and with all confidence at my command that let us ensure that our investigating agencies are able to carry out the inspection and investigation without any interference and fear on war footing, and the guilty would be punished.

MD. SALIM: Sir, the Minister's response has raised more questions. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, we are not satisfied with the reply given by the Minister.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing anything.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, you cannot speak without my permission.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, this is not fair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Members can one by one ask one clarification each. Now, I am allowing Shri Yerrannaidu to ask one question from the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Honourable Member was not alert and scam took place during his regime what he has to say?

[English]

The best action has been taken by the Government.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: On 23rd of this month during a TV discussion, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has said that as per his knowledge the Satyam management cannot be punished as per the laws of our country, and that action can only be taken under the laws of the USA. ...(Interruptions) I will also send the cassette of the same to you. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow only one question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: How can he say so? ...(Interruptions) What is the purpose of all these investigations by CBI, FEMA, RBI, etc.?

My second question is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would not allow your second question.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is interlinked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not allowed. Mr. Salim, ask your question.

MD. SALIM: The Minister failed to respond to the questions asked from all sides. Rather his response has given rise to more questions.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is interlinked. It has been established that Satyam Computers had deposits of ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing of what Mr. Yerrannaidu says should go on record now.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijayendra Pal Singh.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Mr. Vijayendra Pal Singh.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yerrannaidu, I have not allowed you. You cannot speak without the permission of the Chair. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I allow only Mr. Vijayendra Pal Singh. Nothing else will go on record. Not a single word will go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, I have gone on record to say that the Minister has taken prompt action. But the *prima facie* findings from the Minister, from the investigating agencies show that the Maytas company, which the Satyam wanted to buy, had been given favours from the CM and the bureaucracy of Government of Andhra Pradesh. Can the Minister give us more findings on this?

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, after listening to the entire reply of the Minister I could not understand as to what is the special enquiry

\*Not recorded.

he is ordering. There is no mention of any specific enquiry except expressing good intentions of what will be done in the future so that these mistakes will not be committed. We would like to know as to what exactly is the enquiry the Government is initiating at this juncture, after all the assurances have been given.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, a number of questions have been raised by our colleagues in regard to the biggest corporate scam in our country. Many of these questions remained unanswered by the Minister while replying to the debate. One of the questions was as to how a criminal was being given five-star treatment and seven-star luxury. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: That is all wrong.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It has come out in all the newspapers. The Minister has not clarified that. What he has stated in reply to the debate is about the future action. What enquiry has been conducted and what action has been taken so far against the perpetrators of this scam?

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Sir, as per Mr. Raju's statement, all the accounts were fudged. As per the Minister's statement as well as the SFIO, the accounts as on 31st March, 2007 showed a figure of Rs. 3,309 crore.

This was the period where there was a boom in the real estate. While I was speaking, I said about the real estate. I would like to know as to what are the properties purchased by Satyam group and also diversion of the funds.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, only one clarification.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Further, diversion of those funds to the Government. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: After the discussion in the House, it is agreed that at appropriate time, action was not initiated and that is the reason Satyam Computers fraud has gone up to Rs.7,000 crore from Rs.20 crore when Shri Ramdas Athawale has complaint. I have given a complaint to the hon. Minister stating that Satyam Computers is involved in fudging of accounts, insider trading, floated SEBI guidelines.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI: I have made a complaint to the hon. Minister on similar charges another company called Heritage which is also involved. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, please start your reply.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I am not allowing.

*(Interruptions)...\**

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you people do not want the reply of Minister then we will conclude the debate here...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

18.42 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon. Members left the House*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing again and again to seek clarification. This is not fair, Shri Naidu.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot set a new precedent in the House. It is impossible.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you do want the reply regarding clarifications of members from honorable Minister, we will conclude the debate here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

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\*Not recorded.

18.43 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Yerrannaidu and some other hon. Members left the House*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, debate is over.

...(*Interruptions*)[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Minister, if you want to speak, then you speak.

[*English*]

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: As I said earlier, and I would like to put the record straight, that for the first time in the corporate history of any country, including India, nowhere such a quick and firm action has been taken so far. ...(*Interruptions*) I do not want to go into this political cross-firing. But the fact of the matter is, all the investigating agencies are doing excellent job; they are working absolutely in a very coordinated manner. We must compliment the Board of Directors that within such a short period, they have been able to take control of the situation. We were at a risk of losing the jobs of 53,000 youngsters.

300,000 shareholders and 175 Fortune 500 companies who were the clients of Satyam were involved; the national prestige was involved. The government, under the Prime Ministership and leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh, under the UPA leader Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, this Government has taken a firm stand; we have taken a coordinated action. This is an example; newspapers like *The Financial Times*, London, *The Financial Times*, Singapore have all appreciated the action taken by the govt. of India. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, this cannot be allowed. I demand quorum. There is no quorum in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The bell is being rung. Since there is no Quorum, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1930 hours.

18.52 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Nineteen of the Clock.*

19.40 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Forty Minutes past Nineteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT  
BILL, 2007  
AND  
LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) BILL,  
2007

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The discussion under rule 193 is over. The House will now take up item Nos. 43A and 43B.

## MOTION UNDER RULE 388

## Suspension of Provisio to Rule 66

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may move the motion for suspension of the provisio of rule 66.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): I beg to move\*:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for taking into consideration and passing of the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 in as much as it is dependent upon the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007."

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, we may take up these Bills tomorrow. These are important Bills and they are being taken up in the absence of the Opposition. ...(*Interruptions*) These were not listed in the original List of Business. ...(*Interruptions*)

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, these important legislation have come with all the procedures being followed and tomorrow, these have to go to the Rajya Sabha. Without being passed here, they cannot go to the Rajya Sabha. So, I appeal to the hon. Members to please cooperate in passing these Bills. Please do not stress on the technicalities as tomorrow Rajya Sabha will adjourn and we have to place them there. I appeal to you all.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the report was submitted in November. Today, at the fag end of the day, such important Bills are being brought before the House. Why were such important Bills not brought at the beginning of the Session? ...(Interruptions) Amendments have been circulated only half-an-hour before and we could not go through them. It can be taken up tomorrow and Rajya Sabha can be extended for one more day.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has already moved the motion. The question is:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motion for taking into consideration and passing of the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 in as much as it is dependent upon the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007."

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that both the Bills may be taken up together.

[English]

The President having been informed of the subject matter of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007 recommends under article 117(3) of the Constitution, the consideration of the Bill by Lok Sabha.

The President having been informed of the subject matter of the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 recommends under Article 117(3) of the Constitution, the consideration of the Bill by Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Sir, I beg to move-

"That the Bill to provide for the rehabilitation and resettlement of persons affected by the acquisition of land for projects of public purpose or involuntary displacement due to any other reason, and for matters concerned therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

"that I beg to move that the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, be taken into consideration."

Simultaneously Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007 and the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 also be taken into consideration.

At the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to the chair that a historical Bill has come in favour of harassed poor people and the farmers of India and for giving me an opportunity to express my views thereon...(Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we are all in favour of the Bill. That is why, I say that it should not be taken up in haste. A wrong precedent is being created.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, it is not wise to discuss this Bill in the absence of the Opposition. These are not there in the original List of Business.  
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is a very important Bill...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Achariaji, you please listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What will happen if this Bill will be introduced tomorrow...(Interruptions). Tomorrow there is a sitting of the House...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Basu Deb Acharia is raising a good issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: You should take the opinion of the House.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, everybody supported this Bill when it was introduced and it was sent to the Standing Committee with the approval of the hon'ble Speaker. The learned Members of the Standing Committee have gone through it seriously. Opinions of the people across the country were taken and it was considered. Advertisements were published and civil society, State Governments and all departments etc. were consulted widely. I may be allowed to read out two sentences from the recommendation given by Standing Committee.

*[English]*

On the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, the view of the Standing Committee is that it is one of the most important legislation introduced after independence.

*[Translation]*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no Bill like this have been introduced after the independence. It is pro farmer, pro poor and it is the achievement of the UPA Government. The Standing Committee has stated about Rehabilitation Resettlement Bill-

*[English]*

Historical and path-breaking piece of legislation with various landmark provisions"

*[Translation]*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of various countries and their representatives across the world participated in the meeting held by the World Bank in New York. This Bill and law have been praised world wide. Farmers, affected people and the people of the entire country will feel elated and appreciated when they will listen and know about it. This Bill is progressive and historical bill and this is pro poor. They may be rehabilitated before displacement. First of all they will be

rehabilitated and resettled and then they will be displaced. There have been good rehabilitation programmes also but that were not implemented. That is why farmers wander here and there and distress like situation emerges.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a provision has been made in this bill to provide relief to the families displaced by the Government or national calamities. Therefore, we urge upon the hon'ble Members to give their suggestion and the Bill be passed. Tomorrow it will be passed in Rajya Sabha...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You may please accept an amendment...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, everyone's participation and co-operation should be there in this historical Bill. We have accepted most of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee. Therefore, today, I request the House to pass it after deliberating on it.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the rehabilitation and resettlement of persons affected by the acquisition of land for projects of public purpose or involuntary displacement due to any other reason, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, be taken into consideration."

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has already moved these Bills. So, we can take up these two Bills tomorrow as the entire Opposition is absent today. These are very important Bills. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, you cannot extend the time of the House without the consent of the entire House. Sir, we are opposing for extension of the time of the House.

Sir, I would request you to consider my request; otherwise on protest, I am walking out of the House. The entire Opposition is absent today and you are taking up these Bills. However, if you want to take them today, then you can do it. I am walking out.

19.51 hrs.

[Translation]

*At this stage, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy  
left the House.*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I am in full support of the Bills, but with a protest. But before that I may be permitted to point out my views. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Hannan Mollah.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, this House is meeting under the provisions of the Constitution. We are governed by some rules. Even in the Library Committee meeting such a procedure will not be adopted. At least, the matter ought to have been brought to our notice even in the morning. We, Members, should not be taken by surprise – whether in the Opposition or on the other side. A Member of the House should not be taken by surprise especially in a matter of legislation. This is an important legislation concerning a national question. It is about the displaced persons through the land acquisition proceedings which is a national issue. There are a lot of affected people who are within the ambit of this Bill. Those people will have to be rehabilitated and they will have to be adequately compensated. This is not a question concerning a particular State, but it is a question concerning the entire nation. We are having projects throughout the nation. Whenever any public project is being implemented, persons will be displaced through the land acquisition. They will not get adequate compensation due to the lethargy of so many people. Though this is a matter pending for long, I fully support it. I oppose the Minister for bringing such a legislation. I agree with the contents of the Bill, but this is not the way to do matters. ...*(Interruptions)* The better way would have been to give us notice. We are Members of the House. I will tell you that even in the meeting of the Library Committee, such a procedure will not be adopted. This is a very important piece of legislation. ...*(Interruptions)* This ought to have been brought to our notice.

So, anyhow, I fully support the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Hannan Mollah says.

*(Interruptions)...*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in addition to the Members of our party, many Members of other parties are present in the House. I rise to support the bill. I have played a vital role in bringing amendments to the bill. I traveled across the country for 3-4 months and these amendments have been suggested after consulting thousands of people. It is a very important bill. On the basis of the suggestions made by the people of our country, we recommend the Committee about the amendments to be made in the bill to make it a better one. The bill was drafted to update those things which has become obsolete and the land reform law which was implemented by the Britishers at that time.

Sir, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad is the best among other Ministers. Other Ministers beat about the bush but he has sympathy with the poor and farmers. Shri Lalu Prasadji is also an able Minister. Many people talk about the poor but they do not have any sympathy. Shri Raghuvansh ji struggled for the poor and brought this bill forward. No reforms have been made by government during the last 60 years. But, when they got our support, bank upon us and finally they brought this bill. However, this bill has been brought under compulsion but by dong so they have done a good job. Therefore, this bill has introduced to address the current challenges.

Sir, it is conveyed in the bill that 60-65 suggestions have been accepted. But the important suggestions have not been accepted. Their serial numbers have been changed. The Government has just feigned to accept our suggestions. The main suggestions have not been accepted.

The Government has not accepted the unanimous opinion expressed by the Members of the Committee comprising Congress, BJP and Left parties. But, the government has not accepted it in toto. We support the bill. We raise finger on the intention of the government because there is doubt in its honesty. The suggestions regarding personal interest and public interest have not been accepted.

The suggestions about the acquisition of tribal land, its relation with tribal areas and rehabilitation are also not accepted in correct form. Even the suggestions to bring all the people who are below 50 years and who are to be displaced under the net of social impact study, that also has not been accepted.

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

In addition to it, the Committee strongly opposed the 70:30 concept of the land acquisition because if a person purchase 70 percent of land then the Government will acquire 30 percent. The farmer will not get any benefit from the 70 percent land purchased by the private party. Social impact study would be conducted to protect the remaining 30 percent land to be acquired by the Government. Because, under this scheme some people will get benefit and the others shall be deprived of.

The other things is that the definition of the term 'public purpose' given in the old legislation has been shortened. Main objective of the bill is to protect agriculture. No country can progress without industrial development but there is need of nationalization for industrial development and the government will acquire land for industrial development. The Government should have proper resources for the acquisition of land, otherwise, by leaving this activity to private sector i.e. property dealer would not be beneficial for the poor. We have seen that in private land deal the farmer get not even 20-30 per cent of the total cost of the land but the middleman earns more money. In this way these people cheat the poor. Therefore, we have suggested the Committee about cent-per-cent acquisition, but the above suggestions have not been accepted. The unanimous suggestions of the Committee have not been accepted by the government and that is why we condemn the government for not accepting the unanimous suggestions made by the committee.

The Government has accepted 2-4 things. It is good. The Government should accept 3-4 main things atleast the condition of 70:30 should be accepted. Still I appeal to accept those suggestions because all of us are supporting this point and it should be incorporated in the bill. The Government should accept the unanimous suggestion of 70:30 concept of the land acquisition. If the Government accept, all the Members will support this. With these words, I support the bill.

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): I would like to make a point. It was unanimously accepted that two Bills would now be moved, however eventually be combining these two Bills into one, we need a comprehensive Bill. The Standing Committee was also of the opinion that there is a need for a comprehensive Bill combines these two Bills.

20.00 hrs.

There is time constraint for this Lok Sabha, therefore in whatever shape the next Lok Sabha emerges and I

have full convention that he will once again become the Minister of Rural Development in the next Lok Sabha and I urge him to make a note of this matter in the House also that in 15th Lok Sabha when the present Minister once again occupy the Ministry, then the matter of moving a comprehensive Bill may be considered by him. I wanted to submit this.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Considering the situation that has emerged now, it seems that the basic objective of the Bill, the main issue is not being taken seriously, By not going into its appreciation, appraisal, criticism, we are anyhow creating a political slogan so that we... (*Interruptions*) all of you please listen to me. They are acting in haste. The recommendation of the Standing Committee on Bill was issued several months ago. I would have been in the fitness of the things, had this Bill been introduced in the last session, but it did not happen so. IN this session also, this Bill has been introduced today, on the last day of the current session that too without holding any discussions. The issue of land is very sensitive and it is completely connected with the economy.

[*English*]

Land development, land revolution, changes in the land laws are the basic factors of our economic development and forward march of the country.

[*Translation*]

It is a very sensitive matter. Any misconception about it will lead to further chaos.

Sir, what is our objective? Our objective is to provide benefits to the farmers.

[*English*]

In case of transfer of land, in case of resumption of land, in case of acquisition of land... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

what is going on here?... (*Interruptions*) the package of Nandigram, if it is granted, then this Bill will become a better one. The entire package, whatever has been done in Nandigram, the Govt. would accept that all... (*Interruptions*) It is a different matter... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please do not disturb.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: If they would like to hold discussion, then it will be done. The package being provided to West Bengal today, you please grant it for entire India, then the Bill will be passed...*(Interruptions)* in the matter pertaining to land...*(Interruptions)* There will be a discussion on Nandigram...*(Interruptions)* Now the issue is this, not Nandigram...*(Interruptions)* Let it be discussed, what is the reply to the discussion...*(Interruptions)* what is the need?...*(Interruptions)* Will have to fight with one another...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Speaker: Topdarji, please address the chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: If you are in such a haste to return home, then please proceed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: The point is that farmers should get benefit, in lieu of prices, middlemanship of land will be cropped up. If any big capitalist is to acquire land, will he go there himself.

*[English]*

He will appoint middlemen and middlemen will take up the issue.

*[Translation]*

Otherwise he will turn out be middlemen...*(Interruptions)* it did not happen so in Bengal, that's why there was disorder. If we took recourse to middlemanship in Bengal, you would not have heard the name of Nandigram. The name would not have even cropped up...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Topdar, I have requested you to address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: Ok, I will take my seat, what else can be done...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You address the chair. You are clashing with them instead.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: They are raising a relevant question. Nandigram is also a relevant question here. I do not consider mentioning Nandigram irrelevant. It is very much relevant.

*[Translation]*

Therefore I am saying that on the one hand it will create middlemanship while on the other hand, there will be one rate for the people covered under 30 percent people while 70 percent people will remain deprived of it. The division of 70:30 the social impact of it...*(Interruptions)*, We people have created Lal Salaam.

*[English]*

eighty four percent of the land of Bengal is owned by kisans. It is nowhere in any of the States.

*[Translation]*

please tell in which State?...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not record interruptions.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: It is ok. The discussion which was held about the provision of social impact, the social impact programme that we discussed, on the one hand, it has got recognition and on the other in 70:30 programme social impact has been doubled, quadrupled.

*[English]*

and I predict here that this bill will have to be repeated within a very short time if it is passed because nobody is the side and only a few members are there. Then can pass it through majority. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

This is not a good development...*(Interruptions)*

The remedy you have worked out is quite wrong. We condemn the exercise of creating such type of social impact with regard to land...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please address the chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: I tell you that this will have a dangerous repercussion.

[*English*]

Finally, I want to say that the hon'ble Minister and his supporters sitting on that side are not ready to hear, are not ready to debate on this issue and are not ready to go into the depth of the matter.

[*Translation*]

It is a matter of regret that Laluji, Raghuvanshiji, who are the protectors of farmers at least in slogans, in action, who are their supporters, they are also not taking this case in a serious way.

[*English*]

because they are all impatient, how, they are on election mode and in order to place before the electorate that they have done something regarding land.

[*Translation*]

before comprehending all these elections will be held, after that the developments will be watched, I condemn such irresponsible acts which are going on now.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not only a revolutionary Bill but also a historical one. A progressive bill has been introduced in the larger interest of the farmers of the country and I think that Minister of Rural Development in the UPA Government introduced National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill earlier.

This is a very progressive bill and is very much in the interest of landless and poor labourers. It is introduced for those people from whom land will be acquired for public purposes. Such displaced people have been covered under rehabilitation programme. It appears that hon'ble Members have not gone through the aims and

objectives of the bill for them. It is a very progressive and better bill in the larger interest of the farmers of the country. Honourable Members can't lend half-hearted support to this Bill. In this bill wider interests of the farmers of the country have been looked into, therefore support to this bill should be given full heartedly. Ifs and Buts need not be applied on this front. The Standing Committee have conducted comprehensive examination of this bill. Thereafter, this Bill has been introduced here. Most of the recommendations of the Committee have been included herein.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: It has not been done.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Most of the recommendations have been included. There is no fixed moment for important bill, that is always important. If CPM Party adds its agenda to it, then we cannot say anything about it, therefore this bill is in the larger interest of the people. Our party has lent its whole-hearted support to this Bill. We strongly support this Bill.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I compliment the Hon'ble Member Shri Hannan Mollah and Topdar Saheb for being equipped with rich fund of knowledge. It's okay. Criticism should be the order-of-the day, issues should be raised. However, Shri Basudeo Achariaji, Shri Varkala Radhakrishnanji, Shri Hannan Mollahji and all other members of the CPM, everyone of them has stated that it's an important Bill and we support this Bill. The efforts made by the Standing Committee to improve the Bill deserve compliments and I express my thanks to the standing Committee and particular to Shri Hannan Mollah. I will later on reply to the point of 70-30 raised by the Honourable Member. Topdar Saheb said that it has been introduced in haste. It's incorrect, hundred percent incorrect.

20.13 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

Sir, prior to the introduction of the Bill, consultations were made with all the State Governments. The reactions and suggestions of everybody were invited. Five meetings were held with civil society. NGO, social activists from across the country. Everyone appreciated it. Everybody's

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\*Not recorded.

suggestions were coordinated into it. Such wide consultation was never made while framing any other legislation in the country earlier. The revolutionary aspect of this Bill is that its direction has been reversed. Earlier when this law was pro-govt. and pro-rich, now it has been reversed to be pro-poor and pro-farmer. Not even a single provision is anti-farmer...*(Interruptions)*

SRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: This just happened.\*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: No, No, please do not say so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No unparliamentary expression will form the part of proceedings.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: After so much consultation the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2007 and the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 were finalized by the GOM. We presented it before the Cabinet in June-August, 2007. It got the approval of the Cabinet in October, 2007, was presented in the Lok Sabha in Dec. 2007 and in Dec, 2007 Honourable Speaker referred it to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee too widely publicized it across the country and sought their consultation.

*[English]*

The Standing Committee submitted its Report to Parliament on 21st October, 2008

*[Translation]*

This report was submitted on 21 October, 2008 and then we studied it.

*[English]*

The official amendments were brought before the cabinet on 16th December, 2008. The cabinet proposed these amendments to the Group of Ministers in its meeting held on 19th December, 2008.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How long did it remain with the GOM?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The GOM gave its clearance yesterday only. Therefore as per your

objections and the President's instructions also all took some time in completing all the formalities. We were keen for getting it passed. Therefore Lok Sabha may take pride in passing this historic bill at the fag end of the session...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, it took some time.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: A historic Bill is being brought at the fag end of the session...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: At the end of this Lok Sabha, these Bills should not have been brought forward. It is a lame duck Session...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Please do not interrupt him.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Its process continued for such a long period. Then we have come up with this Bill here. It has been moved here after careful consideration and keeping in mind the interests of poors and farmers.

I want to explain to you the issue of the Middlemen. The first merit of this Bill is that the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy that has been brought in here, has been accorded statutory status, legal recognition has been provided to it. However, its enactment is not an ordinary thing Therefore, we have brought this Bill here to make history and land acquisition Bill has been moved here. The merit of this Bill is that the provision of land acquisition has been done away with in respect of the companies. Now you tell, whether this step is pro-farmers or not?...*(Interruptions)* The Government will acquire land for private companies only in the circumstances when private companies will make the direct purchase of atleast 70 percent of the land. The Government will acquire only 30 percent land.

Mr. Hannan Mollah has this very objection. This has been considered at length. If any capitalist or industrialist wants to set up a facotry, he can acquire 70 percent of the land of the farmers at their consent. It will help in eliminating unemployment and a factory will be set up over there. We will not interfere in it. Meanwhile we will interfere only when some people adamantly oppose setting

up of a factory and Government will interfere if the rest 30 percent land is required for the purpose. Earlier lands of the farmers was acquired at a very negligible price for setting up an industry citing public purpose which was in favour of industrialist and farmers had to run from pillar to post for compensation. So, the earlier law made for acquisition of land, which was in favour of powerful people, has been abolished...*(Interruptions)* Tribals and other indigenous tribes living in the forests have been included in this bill. Mr. Giridhar Gamang and Mr. Meena are sitting here, they know it. They have also expressed their concern about the tribals and have said that no bill can serve them in a better way than this bill. There is a provision in the bill to put an end to the atrocities committed on these people and to mete out justice to them.

It can be said that in the name of development project we are setting up factory worth 10,000 crore rupees, but what about the people who lost their land. They have no opinion left because their lands was acquired and they were not even paid compensation. Such situations compels people like Medha Patkar to launch agitation on behalf of these people.

Sir, now we are adopting the policy of rehabilitation before displacement. They will be rehabilitated before their land is acquired. Despite having a proper scheme for rehabilitation, it is not implemented which leads to agitations and law and order problems. Because of this, a policy of rehabilitation before displacement has been adopted and provision to this effect have been made. There is a provision to fix the rate of the land at market rate and previously compensation was thirty percent which has been doubled to sixty percent. Compensation will be given within a prescribed time limit before actual displacement. People will not be allowed to approach the court for immediate payment of compensation. If the acquired land is not used within prescribed time, the Government will have to return the land. If land is taken and is not used and farmers are not paid compensation then land will be returned. In such a scenario land will be returned to the farmers. A provision has been made that if piece of land is taken for commercial purpose and its value goes up then the land owner should get the benefit of this. There is a provision for providing them employment also. In case of acquired land, 80 percent of total unearned profit will be shared with the real owner of the land where the factory has been set up or his legal successor. Those persons whose land is acquired, will get employment if available there. They will get shares. World Bank convened a meeting in New York. People from all over the world took part in the meeting. All of

them appreciated this initiative and said that such a law did not exist in any other country.

Mr. Chairman, there is a lot of hue and cry over SEZ. What is there in SEZ, factories and industries will be set up there. People start doing real estate business in the name of SEZ and industries are not set up. Provisions regarding social impact assessment have been made in it. The pros and cons with regard to a particular, piece of land will be weighted before its acquisition...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Topdar, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Topdar, I am not allowing you. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this bill provides for the development and rehabilitation of the affected families and those who have lost their livelihood due to acquisition of land. This bill deserves a lot of appreciations because it is in the interest of the poor and the farmers. With this bill, disputes, controversies and agitations will come to an end. It will make the farmer happy. We are getting appreciation from all states. News is coming from all over the country—Chandigarh, Ghaziabad, Andhra Pradesh, Mathura. All farmers are happy because a law has been made in their favour. Hue and cry is being raised in Vaishali. This bill is in the interest of the farmers and it intends to provide relief to them and make them prosperous. Development always benefits the country but it should be kept in mind that people on whose land factories are set up, should also make progress. I request the House to pass it unanimously...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Mr. Acharia, this is too much please. No, I am not allowing you. Please take your seat...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Hon. Minister has said that rehabilitation will be done before acquisition of land,

that is good. Will the person who wishes to acquire land for setting up a factory, provide for rehabilitation before acquiring the land?...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Land or property is being sold and purchased all over the country. Private property is being sold all the time. Does the Government interfere in it?...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me first. Farmers are free to sell their land to anyone of their own volition but a law is required if the Government purchases or acquires land. Nobody will sell his land at loss...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the rehabilitation and resettlement of persons affected by the acquisition of land for projects of public purpose or involuntary displacement due to any other reason, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The hon. Minister has to move the amendment.

#### Clause 2

Act to apply to all cases of land acquisition or other involuntary displacement of people.

*Amendments made:*

Page 2, line 2 for "persons affected" substitute "families affected". (4)

Page-2, lines 3 and 4 "involuntary displacement of people due to any other reason" substitute permanent involuntary displacement of people due to natural calamities, or such other disaster as may be notified by the appropriate Government". (5)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 3

#### Definitions

*Amendments made:*

Page 2, for lines 10 to 25, substitute—

"(i) a family whose land or other immovable property has been acquired, or which is involuntarily and permanently is placed from their land or immovable property due to natural calamities or such other disaster as are notified under section 2.

(ii) a family which has been continuously residing (and not unauthorisedly) for a period of not less than three years in the affected area immediately preceding the date of notification of the affected area and who has been deprived of his primary source of livelihood due to involuntary and permanent displacement caused by land acquisition in such area or other displacement covered under section 2". (6)

Page 2, omit lines 28 to 32. (7)

Page 2, line 33, for "(e)", substitute "(d)". (8)

Page 2, line 40, for "(f)", substitute "(e)". (9)

Page 3, line 5, for "(g)", substitute "(f)". (10)

Page 3, line 11, for "(i)", substitute "(g)". (11)

Page 3, line 13, for "(j)", substitute "(i)". (12)

Page 3, line 18, for "(k)", substitute "(j)". (13)

Page 3, line 20, for "(l)", substitute "(k)". (14)

Page 3, line 23, for "(m)", substitute "(l)". (15)

Page 3, omit lines 25 to 31. (16)

Page 3, line 32, for "(o)", substitute "(m)". (17)

Page 3, line 34, for "(p)", substitute "(n)". (18)

Page 3, line 36, for "(q)", substitute "(o)". (19)

Page 3, line 38, for "(r)", substitute "(p)". (20)

Page 3, line 39, for "(s)", substitute "(q)". (21)

Page 3, line 41, for "(t)", substitute "(r)". (22)

Page 4, line 1, for "(u)", substitute "(s)". (23)

Page 4, line 3, for "(v)", substitute "(t)". (24)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I beg to move:

Page 2, line 21,-

for "five"

substitute "two". (68)

Page 2, line 29,-

for "five"

substitute "two". (69)

Page 3, lines 14 and 15,-

omit "and other relatives residing with him or her and dependent on him or her for their livelihood". (70)

Page 3, line 17,—

after "children;"

insert "family also includes single member households and includes all adult unmarried women, widowed/divorced/abandoned/separated sisters/sister-in-law, daughter/daughter-in-law and the physically handicapped family members as separate entities."

(71)

Page 3, line 27,-

for "five"

substitute "two". (72)

Page 3, line 34,-

after "community"

insert "and all holders of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006". (73)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall put amendment Nos. 68 to 73 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to clause 3, to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 4

Social impact assessment study in certain cases.

[Translation]

Amendments made, Page 4, line 3 for (v) Substitute (t).

Page 4, after line 13 insert-

"Provided that in cases which involves involuntary displacement of less than 400 families en masse in plain areas, or less than 200 families en masse in tribal or hilly areas, DDP blocks or areas mentioned in the Fifth Schedule or Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, the Rehabilitation and Rehabilitation Committee of the district concerned shall carry out the social impact assessment study in the affected areas in such manner as may be prescribed."

Page 5, Line 4, after 'training facilities', insert a anganwadis, children's Park".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 4, line 9,-

omit "involuntary". (74)

Page 4, lines 9 to 11,-

for "of four hundred or more families en masse in plain areas, or two hundred or more families en masse in tribal or hilly areas, DDP blocks or areas mentioned in the Fifth Schedule or Sixth Schedule to the Constitution,"

substitute "of fifty and more families". (75)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment nos. 74 and 75 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 5

Independent multi-disciplinary expert group to examine the social impact assessment report.

[Translation]

Amendments made.

in place of Scheduled Castes"

Page 4, Line 33, after "welfare of", insert "Women and Children", and

Scheduled castes.

Page 4 line 18

Omit "and"

Page 4, for line 36, substitute

(d) a representative of the village panchayat or municipality to be nominated by the appropriate Government.

(3) The appropriate Government may nominate a persons from amongst the member of the expert group as the Chairperson of the Group".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 6 to 8 were added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 9

Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 5, for line 25 and 26 set substitute-

"(2) The administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement shall, with view to enable him to function efficiently and to meet the special time frame, be provided with such office infrastructure and he assisted by such officers and employees as the State Government may decide".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 10

Powers and functions of Administrator

[Translation]

Amendments made:

Page 5, for line 29 Substitute-

"resettlement of the affected families and in this regard shall have the following powers, namely:-

- (i) to enter the affected areas and resettlement areas and to mark out, measure and make plans in these areas;
- (ii) to make enquiries and take decisions relating to rehabilitation and resettlement plan and to serve notice on affected families;
- (iii) to require and enforce the making of statements as to names and interests of the affected families;
- (iv) to take possession of land in declared resettlement areas; and
- (v) any other powers as may be conferred on the Administrator by the appropriate Government from time to time".

Page 5, omit line 42 and 43.

Page 5 line 44 for "(ii)", substitute "(i)".

Page 6, line 1 for "(iii)", substitute "(ii)".

Page 6 line 4 for "(iv)" substitute "(iv)".

Page 6 line 6 for "(vi)", substitute "(v)".

Page 6 line 10 for "(vii)", substitute "(vi)".

Page 6 line 11, for "(viii)", substitute "(vii)".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

**Clause 12**

Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee  
at project level

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 6 line 29, for "the Administrator", substitute "the Commissioner",

Page 6 line 32, after "social audits", insert "in consultation with the village panchayat in rural areas and municipality in urban areas".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 11**

Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 6 after line 24, insert-

"(3) The Commissioner shall be responsible for the post implementation social audit in consultation with the village panchayat in rural areas and municipality in urban areas".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 13 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 14**

Ombudsman

[English]

Amendment made:

Page 6 for lines 45 and 46 insert-

(vii) Member of the concerned area and Member of Legislative Assembly;

(viii) a representative of the requiring body; and

(ix) Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement as the Member-Convenor".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 14, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 14, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 15 to 19 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 20**

Declaration of affected areas.

[Translation]

Amendments made:

Page 7, for lines 13 to 26 substitute-

"14. (1) The Land Acquisition Compensation Dispute Settlement Authority for the Centre, or as the case may be, the Land Acquisition Compensation Dispute Settlement Authority, constituted under section 17L and section 17A of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, shall have the powers to dispose of the grievances arising out of the matters covered under this Act.

(2) Any affected person, if aggrieved, for not being offered the benefits admissible, may move a petition for redressal of his grievances to the.

(3) The form and manner in which and the time within which petitions under sub-section (2) may be made to the Authority and be disposed of in such manner as may be prescribed.

[Translation]

(4) The Authority shall have the power to consider and dispose of all petitions relating to resettlement and rehabilitation against the decision of the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement or the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee and issue such directions to the requiring body, the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement, the District Collector or Deputy Commission of the districts as it may consider necessary for redressal of such grievances".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 20, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 20, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 21**

Survey and census of affected families.

[Translation]

Amendments made:

Page 8 for line 17 to 22 substitute-

"(1) Where the appropriate Government is of the opinion that there is likely to be, or there is, permanent involuntary displacement of people from an area due to acquisition of land for any project or due to any other reason covered under section 2, it shall, declare, by notification in the Official Gazette, such area to be an affected area".

Page 8 omit line 39

Page 8 line 40 "(iv)", substitute "(iii)"

Page 8 line 41 "(v)", substitute "(iv)".

Page 8, line 45, "(vi)" substitute "(v)".

Page 9, line 7, "(vii)", substitute "(vi)"

Page 12, line 28, amendment in Hindi Version not required

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 21, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 22 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 23**

Draft schemes or plans for rehabilitation and resettlement.

[Translation]

Amendments made:

Page 12, line 14 "resettlement are", substitute "resettlement area"

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 23, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 23, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 24 to 28 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 29**

Compensation and rehabilitation and resettlement ahead of displacement.

[*Translation*]

Amendments made:

Page 11, line 36, for adequate progress in", substitute "adequate progress such as making of provisions for":

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 29, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 29, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 30 to 31 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 32**

Special provisions for rehabilitation and resettlement in case of urgency.

[*Translation*]

Amendments made:

Page 14, line 14 for "acquisition of land substitute" land is acquired or when involuntary displacement is due to any other disaster covered under section 2"

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 32, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 32, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 33**

Periphery development.

[*Translation*]

Amendments made:

Page 14, line 21, amendment in Hindi text not required.

Page 14 line 27-line 28, amendment in Hindi text not required.

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 33, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 33, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 34 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 35**

Housing benefits.

[*Translation*]

Amendments made:

Page 15, in line 2 and line 3.

for "each family" substitute, every nuclear family"

Page 15, line 7

for "five" substitute "three"

Page 12 line 32 for "fifty square metre", substitute "one hundred square metre".

Page 12 line 33 for "twenty-five square metre", substitute "fifty square metre".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Hannan Mollah.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 12, line 29, - *omit* "below poverty line". (76)

Page 12, line 30, - *substitute* "two". (77)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos.76 and 77 to Clause 35 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the house.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 35, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 35, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 36**

Allotment of agricultural land.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 15, line 20,

Amendment in Hindi text not required (62)

Page 13 for line 7 & 8 substitute

"monetary compensation as per the existing law applicable to the lands acquired". (63)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 36, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 36, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 37 to 40 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 41**

Employment and skill development.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 16; line 21 for "per family "substitute" "per nuclear family" (64)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 41, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 41, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 42**

Rehabilitation grant and option for allotment of shares.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 14 line 5 to 7 for "employment shall be entitled to a rehabilitation grant equivalent to seven hundred and fifty days minimum agricultural wages", substitute "employment and skill development opportunities, as provided in section 41, shall be entitled to rehabilitation grant not below the amount equal to seven hundred fifty days minimum wages as per the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 42, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 42, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 42 to 48 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 49**

Special provisions for rehabilitation and resettlement of members of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Casts

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 15, line 35 after "All benefits", insert "including the reservation benefits available to the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes". (66).

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 49, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 49, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 50 to 60 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 1**

Short title, extent and commencement.

[*Translation*]

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 6

for "2007" substitute "2009" (3)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Hannan Mollah.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1, lines 8 to 11, -

*omit* "; and different dates may be appointed for different States and any reference in this Act to the commencement of this Act shall, in relation to a State, be construed as a reference to the coming into force of this Act in that State". (87)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No.67 to Clause 1 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Enacting Formula**

[*Translation*]

Amendments made:

Page 1, line 1

for "ninety eighth" substitute "sixteenth" (2)

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The "Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Long Title**

[*Translation*]

Amendment made:

Page 1 in long title

for "persons affected" "substitute families affected".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Title, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*The Long Title, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I beg to move:

That the Bills as amended be passed".

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

20.46 hrs.

**LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) BILL,  
2007**

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up item No.43B.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 4

Insertion of new Section 1A

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 2, line 5, for "2007" substitute "2008".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Where are the copies of amendments to the Bill? They have not been circulated. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have already been circulated.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 5

Amendment of Section 3.

[Translation]

Amendment made:

Page 3 line 14 and 15 substitute

Acquisition of land for "military, air force and armed forces of the Union or any work vital to national security or defence of India or State Police"

Page 3, line 13, after "lawful contract" insert" or is having the land".

Page 3, line 21, Amendment in Hindi text not required.

Page 3, for lines 27 and 28, substitute-

"(ii) construction of roads, highways, bridges, airports, ports, rail systems, mining activities, educational sports, health care, tourism, transportation, space programme and housing for such income groups as may be specified from time to time by the appropriate Government". (7)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): I beg to move:

Page3, *omit* lines 12 to 15. (29)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall put amendment No.29 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 6 and 7 were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN (Roerla): Sir, I would like to know about this Bill for the Scheduled Castes from you...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member Ramchandra Paswan ji, not this time, you can raise it another time. It has already been deferred.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): What is happening, will it go on like this in the House...*(Interruptions)*

#### Clause 8

Insertion of new Section 3A.

Page 4, line 22,

for "2007 substitute, 2008"

Page 4, after line 26, insert the following section.

"3B. (1) The appropriate Government shall constitute a Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary, consisting of the Secretaries of the Departments of Finance, Rural Development and the concerned Department and not more than three experts from the relevant fields, to examine proposals for land acquisition.

*[English]*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I beg to move: .

Page 4, *after* line 17, —

*Insert* "The Social Impact Assessment team shall amongst other things:

- (a) appraise project proposal in terms of its public purpose;
- (b) assess the impact of the acquisition on fertile and irrigated agricultural lands, common property resources, livelihoods, displacement, environmental sustainability, on the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes and other vulnerable sections of the society;
- (c) identify and consider other less-displacing alternatives; and
- (d) consult with the Gram Sabhas, interested persons and families likely to be affected and to take into consideration their suggestions;" (30)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment no. 30, moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

### Clause 9

#### Amendment of Section 4

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 4, for line 28 substitute (a) for sub-section (1) the following sub-section shall be substituted namely:

"(1) Whenever, it appears to the appropriate Government that land in any area is required or likely to be required for any public purpose or for a company, a notification to that effect along with details of the land to be acquired in rural and urban areas shall be published in the following manner, namely:-

- (i) in the official Gazette;
- (ii) in three daily newspapers circulating in that locality of which one each shall be in Hindi, English and a regional language;
- (iii) in the website of the appropriate Government in public domain;
- (iv) by making available for inspection by persons affected, at the Tehsil or Gram Panchayat or Urban Local Body Office; and
- (v) the Collector shall also cause public notice of the substance of such notification to be put up at convenient places in the said locality.

Page 4, after line 4, insert-

"Explanation-The last of the dates of such publication and the giving of such public notice being hereinafter referred to as the date of publication of the notification".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 9, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 9, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**MOTION UNDER RULE 388****Suspension of Rule 80 (I)**

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 13 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 13 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

*The motion was adopted.*

**New Clause 9A****Amendment of Section 5A**

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 5, after line 21, insert 9A, in section 5A of the principal Act.

"(a) in sub-section (1), for the words "within thirty days from the date of the publication of the notification", the words "Within sixty days from the date of the Publication of notification" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), after the words "proceedings held by him" the words "along with a separate report giving particulars as to the number of affected families likely to be displaced in plain or hilly areas.

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That New Clause 9A be added to the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*New Clause 9A was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 10****Amendment of Section 6**

*[Translation]*

Page 5, for line 22, Substitute

"10. In section 6 of the Principal Act, (a) in sub section (1), Page 5, after line 25, insert (14)

(b) in sub-section (2), after the words "and the collector shall", the words "apart from placing the public notice on the website of the district concerned in public domain" shall be inserted. (15)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I beg to move:

Page 5, *omit* line 4# (31)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment no. 31, moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

*The amendment was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

**MOTION UNDER RULE 388****Suspension of Rule 80 (I)**

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 16, to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No. 16, to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

*The motion was adopted.*

**New Clause 11A**

Amendment of Section 9

[*Translation*]

Amendment made:

Page 5, after line 34, insert-

"11A. In section 9 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), for the words "The Collector shall than", the words "The Collector shall apart from placing the public notice on the website of the district.

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That New Clause 11A be added to the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*New Clause 11A was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 12**

Substitution of new section for Section 11A

[*Translation*]

Page 5, line 39

for "2007" substitute "2008" (17)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 13**

Insertion of new sections after Section 11A.

[*Translation*]

Amendment made:

Page 6, line 32

Amendment in Hindi text not required

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I beg to move:

Page 5, for lines 34 to 44,-

*substitute* "the highest value of the sale price as example for similar type of land situated in the village or vicinity from the preceding three years, with a 50 per cent, mark-up to be added for every year." (32)

Page 6, for lines 30 to 43,-

*substitute* "11C.(1) When land is acquired for a company authorized to issue shares and debentures, such company shall provide 20 per cent, of its shares or debentures free to be shared equally amongst the interested persons.

(2) Shares and Debentures shall be given over and above the compensation, as a part of profit-sharing.

(3) For this, the Government shall create a Corpus Fund/Depository which can manage the shares and debentures of the affected persons and provide them with a future stream of assured monthly income.

(4) The allotment of shares and debentures mentioned in this section shall be made by the company in such manner as may be prescribed.

*Explanation.-* In this section, the expression "shares and debentures" has the same meaning as assigned to it under the Companies Act, 1956". (33)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment Nos. 32 and 33 moved by Shri Hannan Mollah to the vote of the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we press for Division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Lobbies be cleared -  
Now, the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"Page 5, for lines 34 to 44,-

*substitute* "The highest value of the sale price as example for similar type of land situated in the village or vicinity from the preceding three years, with a 50 per cent, mark-up to be added for every year". (32)

Page 6, for lines 30 to 43,-

*substitute* "11C.(1) When land is acquired for a company authorized to issue shares and debentures, such company shall provide 20 per cent, of its shares or debentures free to be shared equally amongst the interested persons.

(2) Shares and Debentures shall be given over and above the compensation, as a part of profit-sharing.

(5) For this, the Government shall create a Corpus Fund/Depository which can manage the shares and debentures of the affected persons and provide them with a future stream of assured monthly income.

(6) The allotment of shares and debentures mentioned in this section shall be made by the company in such manner as may be prescribed.

*Explanation.-* In this section, the expression "shares and debentures" has the same meaning as assigned to it under the Companies Act, 1956". (33)

*The Lok Sabha divided:*

21.00 hrs.

DIVISION NO. 1

AYES

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Berman, Prof. Basudeb

Bauri, Shrimati Susmita

Choudhury, Shri Bansagopal

Manoj, Dr. K.S.

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala

Seal, Shri Sudhangshu

Sen, Shrimati Minati

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

NOES

Aaron Rashid, Shri J.M.

Agarwal, Dr. Dharendra

Ansari, Shri Furkan

'Baba', Shri K.C. Singh

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Barku, Shri Shingada Damodar

Botcha, Shrimati Jhansi Lakshmi

Chaure, Shri Babu Hari

Chitthan, Shri N.S.V.

Dubey, Shri Chandra Shekhar

\*Elangovan, Shri E.V.K.S.

Fanthome, Shri Francis

Gaikwad, Shri Eknath Mahadeo

Gamang, Shri Giridhar

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\*Corrected/voted through slip.

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodhya  
 Goyal, Shri Surendra Prakash  
 Hanumanthappa, Shri N.Y.  
 \*Harsha Kumar, Shri G.V.  
 Hussain, Shri Anwar  
 Jha, Shri Raghunath  
 Kerketta, Shrimati Sushila  
 Kharventhan, Shri S.K.  
 Krishna, Shri Vijoy  
 Lalu Prasad, Shri  
 Meena, Shri Namu Narain  
 Mehta, Shri Alok Kumar  
 Meinya, Dr. Thokchom  
 Mistry, Shri Madhusudan  
 Nikhil Kumar, Shri  
 Oraon, Dr. Rameshwar  
 Panabaka Lakshmi, Shrimati  
 Paswan, Shri Ramchandra  
 Paswan, Shri Virchandra  
 Patel, Shri Dinsha  
 Patel, Shri Kishanbhai V.  
 Patil, Shri Pratik P.  
 Prabhu, Shri R.  
 Rana, Shri Rabinder Kumar  
 Ranjan, Shrimati Ranjeet  
 Rao, Shri K.S.  
 \*Sangma, Kumari Agatha K.  
 Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed  
 Shivanna, Shri M.  
 Singh, Kunwar Manvendra  
 Singh, Shri Ganesh Prasad  
 Singh, Shri Manik  
 Singh, Shri Rampal

Singh, Shri Sita Ram  
 Singh, Shrimati Kanti  
 Solanki, Shri Bharatsinh Madhavsinh  
 Sumbui, Shri Bagun  
 Suryawanshi, Shri Narsingrao H.  
 Thangkabalu, Shri K.V.  
 Virupakshappa, Shri K.  
 Vundavalli, Shri Aruna Kumar  
 Yadav, Shri Anirudh Prasad *alias* Sadhu  
 Yadav, Shri Kailash Nath Singh  
 Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal

MR. CHAIRMAN: Subject to correction\*, the result of the Division is:

Ayes – 10

Noes – 55

*The motion was negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 14

Amendment of Section 12

[*Translation*]

Amendment made:

Page 7, omit line 32 to 36 (19)

(Dr. Raghuwansh Prasad Singh)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 14, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 14, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 15 was added to the Bill.*

\*Corrected/voted through slip.

\*The following Members also recorded their votes through slip.  
 Noes: 55 + Shri E.V.K.S. Elangovan, Shri G.V. Harsha Kumar and Kumari Agatha K. Sangma = 58

**MOTION UNDER RULE 388****Suspension of Rule 80(i)**

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.20 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.20 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

*The motion was adopted.*

**New Clause 15A**

Payment of compensation and taking over Possession

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 7, after line 12, insert-

15A. For section 16 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

"16. (1) The Collector shall ensure that full payment of compensation is paid or tendered to the entitled persons within a period of ninety days commencing from the date of the award under section 11.

(2) On the fulfilment of the condition provided in sub-section (1), the Collector shall take possession of the land acquired, which shall, thereupon, vest absolutely in the Government, free from all encumbrances".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That new clause 15A be added to the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*New clause 15A was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 16 was added to the Bill.*

**MOTION UNDER RULE 388****Suspension of Rule 80(i)**

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.21 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.21 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

*The motion was adopted.*

**New Clause 16A**

Amendment of Section 17

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 7, after line 44 insert-

16A. In section 17 of the principal Act, after sub-section (1) the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

"(1A) The powers of the appropriate Government under sub-section (1) shall be restricted to minimum area required for the defence of India or national security and the compensation amount shall be estimated having regard to section 11B and 11C"

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That new clause 16A be added to the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*New clause 16A was added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 17

Insertion of new parts 11A and 11B

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 9, lines 31 after "compensation under this Act", insert "or the settlement of disputes relating to rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected family under the provisions of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2008".

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 17, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 17, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 18 and 19 were added to the Bill.*

#### Clause 20

Insertion of new section after Section 28A.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 20 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was negatived.*

#### Clause 21

Omission of part VII.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 21 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 21 was added to the Bill.*

#### MOTION UNDER RULE 388

##### Suspension of Rule 80(i)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.23 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to the Government amendment No.23 to the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2007 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

*The motion was adopted.*

#### New Clause 21A

Amendment of Section 45

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 12 after line 6, insert-

21A. In section 45 of the principal Act, in sub-section (3) for the words "adult male member", the words "adult member" shall be substituted.

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That new clause 21A be added to the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**New clause 21A was added to the Bill.**Clauses 22 and 23 were added to the Bill.***Clause 1**

Short title and commencement

*[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 2

for "2007" substitute "2008" (2)

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.***Enacting Formula***[Translation]*

Amendment made:

Page 1, Line 1

for ninety eighth substitute "fifty ninth" (1).

(Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.**The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.**The Long Title was added to the Bill.*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 26th February, 2009 at 11.00 a.m.

21.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, February 26, 2009/ Phalgun 7, 1930 (Saka).*

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