Fourteenth Series, Vol. X, No. 34

Monday, May 9, 2005
Vaisakha 19, 1927 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)

(Vol. X contains Nos. 31 to 38)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 50.00

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LOK SABHA

Monday, May 9, 2005/Vaisakha 19, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE AND REFERENCE RE: SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF SECOND WORLD WAR

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the said demise of our former colleague, Shri Shyam Lal Yadav.

Shri Shyam Lal Yadav was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989 representing the Varanasi Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Yadav was the Union Minister of State, Agriculture and Cooperation from February, 1988 to December, 1989.

He was also the Member of Rajya Sabha from 1970 to 1984. He was the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha from 30th July, 1980 to 2nd April, 1982 and again from 28th April, 1982 to 29th December, 1984. Earlier, he was a member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1957 to 1962 and again from 1967 to 1968. During April, 1967 to February, 1968, he held the portfolios of Minister of Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Information, Food and Civil Supplies and Industries in the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

A veteran parliamentarian, Shri Yadav served on various Parliamentary Committees. He was Chairman, Committee of Privileges, Rajya Sabha.

An advocate by profession, Shri Yadav was Director, District Cooperative Development Federation, Varanasi from 1954 to 1957; Member, UP Harijan Welfare Board 1956 to 1959; and President, Uttar Pradesh Government Hindi Samiti from 1967 to 1968.

A widely travelled person, Shri Yadav was a member of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to the 19th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at London, U.K. in 1973; 30th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference at Isle of Man in 1984; and 68th and 69th Inter-Parliamentary Conferences held at Havana, Cuba in 1981 and Rome, Italy in 1982 respectively. He also served as Vice-President, Indian Parliamentary Group.

Shri Shyam Lal Yadav passed away on 6th May, 2005 at Varanasi at the age of 78 after a protracted illness.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

Hon. Members, today the world is commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Let us pay our homage to the more than 50 million people who laid down their lives during the long years of a vicious war engineered by fascist forces. A large number of Indian soldiers fought in that War and made the supreme sacrifice of their lives to defeat the forces of fascism.

This victory over fascism, let us not forget, inspired the struggles of millions of people all over the world for justice, freedom and equality, including in India, which ultimately resulted in the liberation of many Third World countries from the clutches of colonial rulers. Let us also remember all those millions who laid down their lives in their fight against fascism and to make this world a better place to live. Only by remaining ever-vigilant against such forces, which may try to raise their ugly head every now and then, can we pay our respectful tributes to the martyrs of this historic war.

Indian has, since Independence reaffirmed its faith in democracy, time and again, through the numerous elections we have held successfully. As the largest democracy on earth with a pluralistic, multicultural society and a fast growing economy, India is an example of how democracy can lead to peaceful and harmonious existence and to empowerment of the large masses.

We, the nation as a whole, are with our hon. Minister, who along with over 50 world leaders is paying tributes in Moscow today to those brave soldiers who fought on behalf of the Allied Forces against Nazi Germany, at the commemoration of the 60th Anniversary Celebrations of victory over fascism.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the former Member and in memory of martyrs of the Second World War.

11.06 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for short while.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

Now, question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the action of the two election commissioners of Election Commission *...(Interruptions)* is an insult to the constitutional body of the country. I want to bring it to your notice. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Sir, there is an important issue. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us have the Question Hour now. I will listen to all of you. If it is permitted, I will listen to all of you.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, a senior official has written to the Law Minister alleging serious irregularities. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No. You cannot raise it now. This is not the time for it. I will listen to you later.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, this is a very important issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, you cannot raise it now. Q. No. 601, Shri Kishanbhai V. Patel.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramadass and Shri Ponnuswamy, I am requesting you. If you have to raise it, there is a proper time for it; proper notice has to be given; subject matter is to be made known. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (Chidambaram): Sir, please permit us during 'Zero Hour'. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can raise it at any time, but not during Question Hour. Please cooperate now.

11.09 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kishanbhai V. Patel—Q.No. 601

Training for Personnel of Public Distribution System

*601. + SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide training and research facilities for strengthening and upgrading the skills of personnel engaged in the implementation of Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provides any assistance to the States under the said scheme;

---

*Not recorded.

(d) if so, the details of the assistance provided to various States during each of the last three years; and

(e) the number of persons benefited therefrom during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government provides financial assistance to the State Governments under the Central Plan Scheme for "Training Research and Monitoring" as under:

(i) not more than Rs. 50,000 for conducting each training programme consisting of not less than 20 participants for 5 days duration,

(ii) for conducting seminars, workshops and national level lectures etc.; and

(iii) one time assistance of not more than Rs. 1.5 lakh to all the States for purchase of a Computer with accessories to establish an effective link between the District Food and Civil Supply office and the Directorate of Civil Supplies of States with the NIC network.

The training is imparted to the functionaries of various levels in the State Food and Civil Supplies Departments and State Agencies like State Civil Supplies Corporation, Consumer Cooperatives etc. to improve the management of supplies of essential commodities under the Public Distribution System.

(d) and (e) The details of assistance provided to various States during the last three years and the number of persons benefited therefrom are given below:

Year	Name of the State/UT	Amount released	Purpose	No. of persons benefited
1	2	3	4	5
2002-03	Rajasthan	Rs. 45,000/-	For conducting one training course.	20
	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 1.80 lakh	For conducting four training courses.	140
	Bihar	Rs. 1.30 lakh	For purchase of one Computer and accessory.	—
	Pondicherry	Rs. 3,000	Balance payment towards one training programme Conducted in January, 2003	—
	Mizoram	Rs. 10,000	Balance payment towards two training courses conducted in Feb. 2003.	—
		Rs. 7,335	Balance towards one Computer sanctioned in March, 2003.	—
2003-04	Mizoram	Rs. 90,000	For conducting two training programmes	55
	West Bengal	Rs. 45,000	For conducting one training programme	23

1	2	3	4	5
	West Bengal	Rs. 67,000	For conducting a Seminar on PDS	67
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 82,800	For purchase of a Computer with accessories.	—
	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 7,500	Towards balance payment for three training programmes conducted in May, 2003	—
	Rajasthan	Rs. 5,718	Towards balance payment for purchase of one Computer.	—
	Lakshadweep	Rs. 1,01,982	For purchase of one computer with accessories	—
2004-05	Bihar	Rs. 4,50,000	For conducting ten training programmes.	200
	Gujarat	Rs. 45,000	For conducting one training course.	20
	West Bengal	Rs. 45,000	For conducting one training course.	60
	West Bengal	Rs. 5,000	Balance payment towards one training programme conducted in 2003-04.	—
		Rs. 5,849	Balance payment for the Seminar conducted in 2003-04.	—
	Mizoram	Rs. 10,000	Balance payment towards two training programmes conducted in 2003-04	—

[Translation]

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Common Minimum Programme the Government is imparting training to the employees of public distribution system in the country for strengthening public distribution system and providing its benefits to the poor. How much grant has been given to Gujarat under this programme? What is its details? I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister what kind of improvement has been made in the public distribution system.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has talked of bringing about improvements in training and research programme from the point of view of ensuring improvement in public distribution system. Under this scheme one time training assistance has been given to the states.

Sir, this scheme has been in force since the sixth plan period. In many states training was essential and that training has been imparted. Since the hon. Member hails from Gujarat, I would like to inform him that only one training course was conducted in Gujarat during 2004-2005 in which 20 people were trained. This data pertain to the last year. If the hon. Member wishes to seek any other information of the preceding years I am ready for that also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking for the result. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have tried to help you.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that it is on-going process. Several improvements have been made in public distribution system from time to time. Since it is an on-going process, whatever informations we get we bring about the improvement in the system accordingly but I would like to inform that during the entire process we have enriched our experience yet shortcomings are detected in this matter; I would like to further inform that this training programme is conducted for S.D.Os and Inspectors etc. at the block level or for the employees of the Government or Consumer Cooperative agencies.

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, public distribution system has been politicised in Gujarat where a particular party earmarks the distribution centre. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government will take any step to check it?

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, can I have a little bit more specific question because it is a vague question?

MR. SPEAKER: What specifically do you want to know? Do not ask a general question.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the kind notice of the hon. Minister that Public Distribution System has been politicised in Gujarat. Therefore, the selection of distribution Centre is made by a particular party on politicisation of this system in Gujarat.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not bring politics into everything.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under public distribution system the process of distribution is accomplished by the state Government. Therefore, it is difficult for me to answer this question that this system is being politicised.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sugrib Singh—Not present.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, the question relates to training and research facility for strengthening the implementation of Public Distribution System. The answer given by the hon. Minister is silent about the research facility in connection with the Public Distribution System. Today, the way in which the Public Distribution System is operating, there is an imperative need to undertake at least some kind of evaluation studies in the form of research because huge sums of money are spent on Public Distribution System and we do not know where the money goes. The Government itself has accepted that 50 per cent of the foodgrains meant for the poor people do not reach them. Therefore, there is a need for evaluation research. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many research evaluation studies have been conducted; what are the findings of such studies; what is the impact of the training programme that you have imparted to the officials and how has it contributed to the strengthening of the Public Distribution System.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there an evaluation and monitoring?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: As I have said, it is an on-going exercise. PDS has evolved over the passage of time. Initially there were certain issues involved in the PDS. Now, definitely some improvement has taken place. That does not mean, as of today, there are no complaints or no problems. Basically, the thrust of this training programme, which is there, is to ensure that whatever guidelines are there for various schemes are implemented

properly at the State level. As I have said, this is one time assistance which we are giving so that various DSOs, inspectors at the block level, the Government and consumer cooperative agencies which are involved in the process of Public Distribution System get a proper guidance and proper training as to what exactly the scheme of the Central Government is. As you all know, distribution vests with the State Government.

The implementation of the Scheme is with the State Government. As I said, this is a one-time assistance. The Central Government is continuously supporting this kind of training programme. Once a State Government or a particular agency has been able to get this assistance, it is not going to be funded again.

However, as far as research part is concerned, I would like to tell that there have been various studies which have been conducted. The North-Eastern Hill University has conducted a study in 2002; the ORG MARG has conducted a study in 2004; the Planning Commission has done it in 2005; and TCS has done it in 1998. So various studies have been conducted over a period of time. These studies have resulted in bringing about changes in the Public Distribution System. However, as we all know, some problems or the other do arise. Therefore, if we find some deficiencies, the Central Government does direct some changes. I hope that the State Government especially take advantage of this one-time training assistance which we give so that the advantage of PDS eventually reaches the beneficiaries for whom it is intended.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister the reason why foodgrains being made available to the people under PDS is costlier as compared to that in the open market. Due to this, most of the consumers purchase foodgrains from the open market.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is about training.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Its alright, Sir, if the scheme is going on for the last few years for imparting training to the employees, how many employees have been trained so far, and whether the public distribution system has got any benefit out of it directly or indirectly?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Those particular numbers etc. are already given. The hon. Member wants to know what is the effect of this training.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that this Scheme has been going on from the Sixth Plan period and since then various States and various agencies have taken advantage of it. I can give a whole list of numbers.

MR. SPEAKER: It is really for the State Governments to utilise this Scheme.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Definitely, once you give some kind of training and this one-time assistance, they do help. As I said, it is an on-going process. It is not that everything is perfect. While we go on with this process, we learn and wherever we find that there are deficiencies, we do try to correct them.

MR. SPEAKER: On neither side there should be repetition.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJA RAM PAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any better result of the training being imparted to the employees of warehouses? Whether the hon. Minister would like to furnish the data, if any, in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Rajaram Pal, third time the same question is being asked. Mr. Minister, you say that you have already answered.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I have already replied.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, in the statement, the names of a few States have been mentioned. I would like to know from the Minister what is the criterion of selecting various projects. Does the State Government send its proposal and then it is considered by the Food Corporation of India or by the Ministry? Why have only a few States been selected for such training?

It has been reported that there are a large number of proxy labour in the Food Corporation of India particularly in the Eastern region and because of that, a few crores of rupees are being received by some people. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of such proxy labour. If it is a fact, will the Government order a CBI inquiry against such proxy labour?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may answer only the first part of his question. The hon. Member may put another question for the second part to be answered.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the second part of my question is very important.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Minister volunteers to answer it, then it is all right. I cannot compel him to answer that part of your question.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, in regard to the first part of the question I would like to submit that if anybody wants to take advantage of the training and research under this scheme, then the State Governments do apply for it. We do not directly decide who will be the people who should be given training.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member says that the proxy workers should not be given training.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I would just like to mention for the benefit of the hon. Members, so that they could get it in the right perspective, that this scheme provides for training, research and monitoring. Not more than Rs. 50,000 is spent for conducting each training programme consisting of not less than 20 participants for a duration of five days. For conducting seminars, workshops and national lectures, a one time assistance is given which is not more than Rs. 5 lakh.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already mentioned that in your written reply.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I am just trying to highlight that point.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What about my next question about proxy workers?

MR. SPEAKER: That is not allowed unless the hon. Minister volunteers to answer that question.

Shri Radhakrishnan, please put your supplementary relating to this question, otherwise it will not be allowed.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, in the written answer given regarding the States which have been rendered assistance, name of the State of Kerala is not to be found. It may be perhaps due to the fact that Kerala is having a very effective PDS for decades. Now, the Public Distribution System in Kerala is in a crisis because of the guidelines issued by the Central Government in regard to the criteria for determining the persons living below the poverty line.

MR. SPEAKER: This has nothing to do with this question. I will not allow this.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, what assistance does the Central Government propose to give to maintain the Public Distribution System in Kerala in respect of research activities?

MR. SPEAKER: It has nothing to do with the main Question. It need not be answered.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, the job of imparting greater training is being done by the Department of Civil Supplies. Does the Central Government have any proposal for giving effective and better training in keeping with the requirements of modern times, like by providing computers and other accessories so that the system could be made more effective to suit the needs of the modern times?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, if the Government of Kerala wishes to have more training programmes and they write to us, then we would be happy to do that.

MR. SPEAKER: You will consider it favourably.

Pilferage of Subsidised Foodgrains

+

*602. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the subsidised foodgrains meant for distribution among the poor is being pilfered from the Government godowns and stores;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during each of the last three years alongwith the quantum of foodgrains involved therein;

(c) the action taken against those held guilty; and

(d) the steps being taken to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) In respect of foodgrains kept in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns, the number of cases of pilferage of foodgrains detected by the FCI and the quantity involved, during the last three years is as under:

Year	Number of cases	Quantity involved (MTs)
2001-2002	88	235.5
2002-2003	57	169.7
2003-2004	63	156.5

In addition, occasional complaints regarding pilferage/ diversion of foodgrains from State Governments' godowns are received both by the Central and State Governments. Immediate follow up action on these is taken by the concerned State Government. However, a consolidated list of all such cases is not centrally maintained.

(c) The year-wise number of cases in which disciplinary action, including money recoveries, has been completed by the FCI against officials found guilty of pilferage/misappropriation of foodgrains in the last three years, is as under:

Year	Number of cases
2002	98
2003	153
2004	95

In respect of complaints pertaining to State Government godowns, disciplinary/criminal action has been taken by the concerned State Government against the delinquent officials, including money recoveries of the value of foodgrains misappropriated.

(d) To check pilferage and diversion of foodgrains from the FCI godowns the steps taken include:

(i) Speedy investigation of vigilance cases and punishing the guilty officials, including recovery of losses.

(ii) Regular Physical Verification of stocks.

(iii) Conducting of regular and surprise checking of depots, rail head transhipment and destination/ dispatch centers.

(iv) Adequate security arrangements, including deployment of CISF/Home Guards/State Armed Police.

(v) Identification of vulnerable points, to plug leakages/pilferages.

(vi) Introduction of computerized stock accounting information system, and

(vii) Proper weighment and accounting system at the time of receipt and issue.

As regards the State Governments, they have been advised to strengthen their monitoring and supervision machinery to prevent cases of pilferage and diversion of foodgrains from their godowns, including strict enforcement of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a serious issue because not only the outsiders but the employees posted there are involved in most of the case of pilferage. I would like to know whether any departmental enquiry has been set-up so far to investigate the same; how many cases registered in this regard and how many cases out of them have been resolved. Whether any recovery has been made in such cases? Whether any action has been taken against them? I would like to know the number of cases in which judgment has been pronounced and the number of cases in which departmental enquiry has been conducted.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by the Hon'ble Member certainly encompasses certain occurrences in which not only the outsiders but the people employed with Food Corporation of India or State Government have been held guilty. In the reply also I have mentioned the number of cases in which enquiry has been conducted and has been completed. One thing is certain that many such persons have been held guilty and have also faced trials. This action has

been taken by the police and the FCI has also suspended and terminated many employees.

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked the number of employees against whom enquiry has been conducted or action has been taken.

MR. SPEAKER: This is mentioned in reply to the question. Please refer to that.

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, it is there in the written answer. But I do not mind letting the hon. Member know about it again. I have no problem in giving him further details.

The vigilance highlights which we have got say that approximately 7000 employees were punished for various irregularities and corrupt practices in the last three years. As punishment, 148 employees were dismissed or compulsorily retired, 192 employees were reduced in rank, 1216 employees were reduced in their pay scales while losses were recovered from 3500 employees. This is the background which he wants. I can give him further information also.

There is a substantial increase of 15 per cent in the finalisation of cases in the year 2004 over the year 2003. Out of 4077 vigilance cases pending in the Division, 2858 cases, that is, 70 per cent, were finalised during the year. On the other hand, pendency of vigilance cases for more than one year has come down from 559 cases in the year 2003 to 414 cases in the year 2004.

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

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Minister have said that all the departments are vigilant. I want to know whether the Minister proposes to take or have taken certain steps like employing more squad to minimise the cases of pilferage and also to check theft by the employees?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, in order to check pilferage we have increased the number of surprise checks, we have also increased the number of surprise checks at rail heads depot where goods are stored. Besides, staff has been deputed at sensitive places. This is done on rotational basis frequently. We have made many transfers from sensitive areas to non-sensitive areas. FCI have conducted a study and it was found that 70% officers are indulged in irregularities in the cases of substandard stock and transit storage and then they try to misuse their position. To check this problem I have alerted vigilance department to conduct surprise checks.

[English]

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Sir, would the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that there is a vicious circle within the FCI or not? I would repeat the question put by my leader earlier. Proxy labourers, in the name of doing a job, are holding FCI to ransom. What steps is the Government contemplating to thwart this nefarious game so that public utility and public distribution system are not hampered in any way?

MR. SPEAKER: Are they a party to pilferage?

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: No. Outsiders are also there. I know the names. But I do not want to mention them here. I think the hon. Minister knows them.

MR. SPEAKER: Now it is understood. The hon. Member wants to know whether those outsiders or proxy workers are also involved in this activity.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: It would be very difficult to say whether proxy labourers are involved in this activity or not. But, as I said, surprise checks are being held. I would add one more thing here. As a preventive measure, emphasis is being given to inspection by Field Officers. An Inspection Monitoring Cell has been constituted in the Headquarters and norms of inspections by Zonal Managers, Senior Regional Managers and District Managers are being fixed. A CBI inquiry has been ordered on proxy labour of FCI.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, foodgrains stored in stocks are being pilferaged since long. As the hon'ble Minister has told that efforts are being made to take action against the people who are indulged in pilferage. One of the hon'ble member said that not only the officers but outsiders are involved in this act. As very large quantity of foodgrains are stored there shortage due to pilferage is not noticed and attention is drawn only when the stocks are reduced to large extent. Our godowns never go out of stock but they are always full. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Which question you want to ask?

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE; Nobody knows when the incident of pilferage occurs. So there is a need of computerization there. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps are proposed to be taken by his department?

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked a very good question.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, we have adopted computerization in large scale and we will strengthen it wherever required. I would like to tell you that total turnover of FCI is approximately 60,000 crore rupees and it has storage facilities at various places throughout the country. Obviously all these works are done through computerization. I want to tell you that FCI have undertaken a new project of computerization involving 100 crore rupees and it will check the shortcomings and it will also help to improve this further.

[Translation]

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, the steps taken by the Government to check the pilferage of foodgrains are commendable. As per the information I have, foodgrains in lakhs of tons get damaged due to rats insects and rain. I want to know from the Minister as to what steps are being taken by the Government to protect these millions of tons of foodgrains which get rotten every year.

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Some loses are taking place, like transport losses and storage losses. Storage facilities are also inadequate. However, the quantum of loss is not as high as the hon. Member has suggested. It has been coming down over a period of time. I have various facts and figures. It is quite a lengthy one. If the hon. Member wants I am willing to supply all the information to him, in writing, so that he is made aware as to what exactly is the overall position. For the information of the hon. Member I would like to say that the percentage of damaged foodgrains is less than 0.1 per cent of the total.

SHRI M. APPADURAI: In respect of complaints pertaining to the cases of pilferage and diversion of food grains from the godowns, how many cases have been registered in Tamil Nadu and what steps have been taken in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got State-wise information?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I would require some more time to give the State-wise information. However, I will be happy to furnish the information to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Very obliging Minister.

SHRI W. WANGYUH KONYAK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to cite a few examples in this regard. Manipur, Nagaland, Karbi-Anglong, and North Cachar have one FCI godown at Dimapur. There is one Senior Regional Manager. There are three crops. The Central Government sends the foodgrains to the FCI. The State Government is involved in the distribution of foodgrains. Even then, adequate foodgrains are sent to Jorhat, which is in Assam. Many kinds of manipulation take place in Assam and Nagaland. Dimapur is the Headquarters for the three States. I want to know from the Minister whether this needs to be rectified immediately or not.

Secondly, the FCI offices are functioning in rented houses. I have put up several questions to the Government for the construction of proper staff quarters and offices. All the officers who are posted in the North Eastern States are camping at Delhi. I would like to know whether the Government has any interest to rectify this or not.

MR. SPEAKER: In view of my weakness for the North-East, I am allowing the whole of it.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: The policy of the Central Government and the FCI is to reach the foodgrains to each individual State, to be handed over to the State, for further onward distribution through the PDS. Now, in the case of North-East, or as in any part of the country, the overall requirements of an area are kept in mind and storage is done accordingly. I do share that there may be some shortcomings which need to be taken care of, and especially, keeping in mind the sensitivities and the requirement of the people of the North-East. However, as things stand today, the overall pattern of storage is done keeping in mind the requirements of the entire country including the North-East, especially Manipur. However, if there is any further need to strengthen it, I will personally ask FCI to look into it.

The second part of it is about the people who are not staying there and are staying in Delhi. I would not be able to give an off-hand reply on that. However, if that be the case, we will ensure that people who are

supposed to be deputed or supposed to be staying in the North-East on official posting, shall not be allowed to move out of there. They will be supposed to stay at camp and base offices in Manipur.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said about accomodation. You look into it.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: If there is any shortage of accommodation, we will ask FCI, especially in view of the sensitivities, requirement and people not willing to go there. If the accommodation is the reason for them not staying there, we will ask FCI to provide the same.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, you want to put a question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has given the answer. You have got a very exhaustive answer.

SHRI W. WANGYUH KONYAK: No, Sir. There is insurgency problem in the North-East. The staff are staying here and there. There is no proper staff quarters.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, I have said that.

SHRI W. WANGYUH KONYAK: Sir, I want an assurance from the hon. Minister that staff quarters and proper FCI complex would be constructed during this year.

MR. SPEAKER: I intervened on your behalf and he has assured that the matter will be looked into.

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker Sir, many steps have been taken to check the pilferage and diversion of foodgrains from the godowns but the fact remains that the poor living in far flung areas or in slums are not getting the benefit of this distribution system because the depot holders, in connivance with the officers do not given them adequate food items. They divert it in such a way if the beneficiary has to take full months quota and if he does not lift it then he can't take it and its entry is made somewhere else. I want to request the Minister that alongwith improving the system he should ask the poor to take ration for a week or for 3 to 4 days. Whether the Government also propose to take steps to constitute monitoring committees in coordination with the elected people from Panchayat Committees, Village Panchayats or municipalities or hand over the depots to cooperative societies?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: So, you can stop pilferage.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Actually, it does not arise out of the question.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, I have added that part.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, pilferage at a different stage. It relates to the pilferage—pilferage not in the godowns but in the depots.

MR. SPEAKER: You are very articulate. All the Members and we are anxious.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: It is a very important question and I do admit it. However, Sir, the entire PDS is managed by the State Governments. As I said, it is an on-going process and we are all learning along the line. If there are some deficiencies, then the Central Government is willing to revise its guidelines. However, there is no distribution directly done from the godown of the FCI to the beneficiaries under BPL and APL.

The ultimate distribution done by PDS is through various agencies. So, at this stage, as far as the FCI or the Central Government godowns are concerned, there is no question of neglecting or any wrong treatment to anybody. Otherwise also, just for his information, I would like to say that there are Vigilance Committees at the village level and at the Panchayat level. There is the Members of Parliament Consultative Committee at the State level for the FCI also to point out if there are any deficiencies and how they can be corrected.

MR. SPEAKER: Who is doing vigilance of the Vigilance Committees?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Rural Tourism

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*603. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote rural tourism in the country;

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

(c) the amount sanctioned by the Government alongwith amount spent on this scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The creation of infrastructure in Rural areas having potential for tourism is being supported under the existing scheme of Destination Development. The objective is to showcase rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations and in villages, which have core-competency in terms of craft/handloom/textiles etc. The Ministry of Tourism in partnership with UNDP has also launched the Endogenous Tourism Project linked to the Rural Tourism scheme of Government of India. This new scheme seeks to facilitate capacity building, thereby enabling low-income village communities to create and articulate their skills from within.

(b) and (c) During the Tenth Five Year Plan the Central Financial Assistance extended till now for infrastructure creation under the Rural Tourism Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is enclosed as Annexure-I while the central assistance extended for capacity building etc. under GOI-UNDP project is enclosed as Annexure-II.

Annexure I

Statewise Rural Tourism Projects Sanctioned during 10th Plan (Till Date)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/Project	Year of Sanction	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	**Andhra Pradesh**			
	Development of Pochampalli, Nalgonda Distt.	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	Rural Tourism at Konaseema Village, East Godavari Distt.	2003-04	50.00	50.00
	Development of Puttaparthi, Ananthpur Distt.	2004-05	49.50	39.60
	Development of Chinchinada, East Godavari Distt.	2004-05	50.00	40.00
	Development of Srikalahasti, Chittor Distt.	2004-05	50.00	40.00
2.	**Assam**			
	Rural Tourism at Phumen Ingti, Distt. Golaghat	2002-03	46.83	14.04
	Dehing-Patakai Kshetra, Distt. Tinsukia	2004-05	44.33	35.46
	Rural Tourism at Sualkuchi in Kamrup Distt.	2004-05	50.00	40.00
3.	**Bihar**			
	Rural Tourism Project in Nepura Village, Distt. Nalanda	2003-04	50.00	40.00
4.	**Chhattisgarh**			
	Development of Village Chitrakote, Distt. Bastar	2003-04	50.00	15.00

1	2	3	4	5
	Development of Chitrokote Village, Distt. Bastar	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Development of rural tourism at Champaran, Distt. Raipur	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	Rural Tourism at Nagarnar, Distt. Bastar	2003-04	48.00	38.00
	Development of Kondagaon, District Bastar	2005-06	50.00	40.00
5.	**Delhi**			
	Rural Tourism at Kotla Mubarakpur	2003-04	10.00	9.78
	Rural Tourism at Nangli, Razapur, Delhi	2003-04	36.30	36.00
6.	**Gujarat**			
	Development of heritage village at Tera	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural Tourism at Hodka, Distt. Kachchh	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Development of Navagaon & Malegaon, Distt. Dang	2003-04	92.70	28.00
7.	**Haryana**			
	Rural Tourism at Jyotisar, Distt. Kurukshetra	2003-04	50.00	40.00
8.	**Himachal Pradesh**			
	Rural Tourism at Nagar, Distt. Kullu	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural Tourism Paragpur, Distt. Kangra Valley	2003-04	50.00	15.00
9.	**Karnataka**			
	Rural Tourism Project at Kokkare Bellur, District Bellur	2002-03	50.00	15.00
	Development of Attiveri Bird Century, Distt. Uttar Kannada	2003-04	60.00	18.00
	Rural Tourism at Banvasi Distt., Uttar Kannada	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural Tourism project in Anegundi, Distt. Bellary	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural Tourism project in Coorg, Distt. Coorg	2003-04	50.00	40.00
10.	**Kerala**			
	Development of Kumbalangi, Distt. Ernakulam	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Development of Arnamula, Distt. Pathhanamthitta	2003-04	20.00	16.00
	Development of village Balrampur in Distt. Thiruvananthapuram	2004-05	50.00	40.00
11.	**Madhya Pradesh**			
	Rural tourism in Hatwa village	2002-03	44.00	13.20
	Rural tourism at Chaugan, Distt. Mandla	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural tourism project at Pranpur, Distt. Ashoknagar	2004-05	48.00	38.00

1	2	3	4	5
12.	**Maharashtra**			
	Development of Sulibhanjan-Khultabad Distt. Aurangabad	2003-04	50.00	40.00
13.	**Nagaland**			
	Rural Tourism at Mopunchupket	2002-03	50.00	15.00
14.	**Orissa**			
	Rural Tourism project at Raghurajpur, Distt. Puri	2002-03	40.00	12.00
	Development of village Pipli in Distt. Puri	2004-04	50.00	40.00
15.	**Rajasthan**			
	Rural tourism at Neemrana, Distt. Alwar	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural tourism project Samode Village, Distt. Jaipur	2003-04	50.00	40.00
16.	**Sikkim**			
	Development of village Lachen in North Distt.	2004-05	50.00	40.00
17.	**Tamil Nadu**			
	Development of Kazhugumalai, Distt. Thoothukudi	2003-04	48.66	38.94
	Development of Theerthamalai, Distt. Dharmapuri	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Rural tourism at Chettinadu, Distt. Sivaganga	2003-04	50.00	40.00
	Development of Devipattinam (Navbhashnam) in Ramnathpuram Distt	2005-06	50.00	40.00
18.	**Tripura**			
	Rural tourism at Kamlasagar, Distt. West Tripura	2002-03	42.92	13.48
	Rural tourism at Champui Hills, Distt. North Tripura	2003-04	50.00	15.00
19.	**Uttaranchal**			
	Rural tourism project at Jageshwar, Distt. Almora	2002-03	50.00	15.00
	Development of Agora village (Dodital) Uttar Kashi Distt.	2005-06	48.50	38.80
	Development of Hub Village at Mottad and its satellite station	2005-06	48.05	38.44
20.	**West Bengal**			
	Development of Shantiniketan, Distt. Birbhum	2003-04	50.00	15.00
	Development of village Sonada, Distt. Darjeeling	2004-05	50.00	40.00

Annexure II

GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project Sanctioned during 2004-2005

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Site	District	State	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Pochampalli	Nalgonda	Andhra Pradesh	20.00	16.00
2.	Hodka	Kachchh	Gujarat	20.00	16.00
3.	Sulibhanjan-Khultabad	Augrangabad	Maharashtra	20.00	16.00
4.	Aranmula	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	20.00	16.00
5.	Karaikudi	Sivaganga	Tamil Nadu	20.00	16.00
6.	Banavasi	Uttar Kannada	Karnataka	20.00	16.00
7.	Chitrakote	Bastar	Chhattisgarh	20.00	16.00
8.	Pranpur	Ashok Nagar	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	16.00
9.	Nepura	Nalanda	Bihar	20.00	16.00
10.	Raghurajpur	Puri	Orissa	22.00	17.60
11.	Kazhugumalai	Thoothukudi	Tamil Nadu	20.00	16.00
12.	Kumbalanghi	Ernakulam	Kerala	20.00	16.00
13.	Naggar	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	16.00
14.	Lachen	North District	Sikkim	20.00	16.00
15.	Sualkuchi	Kamrup	Assam	19.95	15.96
16.	Haldighati	Rajasamand	Rajasthan	19.32	15.45
17.	Mana	Chamoli	Uttaranchal	20.00	16.00
18.	Srikalahasti	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	19.80	15.84
19.	Durgapur	Golaghat	Assam	20.00	16.00
20.	Nagarnar	Bastar	Chhattisgarh	20.00	16.00
21.	Jyotisar	Kurukshetra	Haryana	20.00	16.00
22.	Chaugan	Mandla	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	16.00
23.	Pipli	Puri	Orissa	20.00	16.00
24.	Rajasansi	Amritsar	Punjab	20.00	16.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Neemrana	Alwar	Rajasthan	20.00	16.00
26.	Samode	Jaipur	Rajasthan	20.00	16.00
27.	Kamlasagar	West Tripura	Tripura	20.00	16.00
28.	Bhaguwala	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	19.75	15.50
29.	Ballabhpur	Birbhum	West Bengal	20.00	16.00
30.	Mukutmanipur	Bankura	West Bengal	20.00	16.00

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concept of rural tourism is definitely useful to our country. About 74 per cent of the people live in the villages. In order to provide employment to the people in the villages and also to increase the income levels in the villages, rural tourism will play a greater role in the villages. Even tourism also generates highest employment per unit of investment for the skilled, semi-skilled and the unskilled. Nowadays, the unemployed skilled people, semi-skilled people and the unskilled people are migrating to the urban areas due to lack of employment avenues in the villages. The tourism sector will give highest employment and also provide highest economic growth. In these circumstances, I would like to say that the funds provided by the Government of India under rural tourism, is meagre. If the Government is very particular about rural tourism, has Government of India made any comprehensive study throughout the country? As I said earlier, the Budget allocation is meagre. By this allocation, we cannot achieve rural tourism up to the mark. So, what are the steps the Government of India has taken so far in this regard? What are the permissible activities that are taken up under rural tourism?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: The hon. Member will appreciate that this is the first time that an initiative such as rural tourism has ever been conceived and is being implemented. Given the size of our nation, we have done detailed studies and gone in for a partnership with the UNDP. In the area of software development, we and the UNDP have funded 31 villages which we have first identified. The Government of India has taken up 51 villages independent of UNDP. Now, a sum of Rs. 50 lakh to being given by the Government of India to each of these villages. It includes provision for taking up basic infrastructure measures like, even if necessary, small roads as well as hygiene, other sanitation measures, drainage etc. to enhance the facilities of the villages so that they can bring in visitors to stay with them.

If you want a bigger Budget, I would appreciate if Members of Parliament, who are so committed to this scheme, first allocate funds under MPLADS for development of rural tourism so that they can be directly responsible for it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is asking for the help from the Members of Parliament. You should all offer help to her to carry it forward.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: If you have any commitment to the rural areas, then, you must be ready to come forward to help. I am perfectly willing to co-fund any Member of Parliament who will come forward to help. I will give a matching grant for picking up a scheme in your village.

MR. SPEAKER: Very good.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: The United Progressive Alliance Government's manifesto envisages more employment opportunities. In order to achieve the objective, Madam, why are you asking for grants from the MPLADS? You have to earmark money in the Budget to achieve growth, to provide employment opportunities. So, according to the UPA Government's manifesto, will the Government provide funds or not? I want to know about this from the hon. Minister.

Secondly, under the Rural Tourism Scheme, till today, how many projects have been submitted by various States to the Government of India? So far, how many projects has the Government of India sanctioned so far?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: First of all, I am very happy and I congratulate the hon. Member that he has understood the importance of tourism.

MR. SPEAKER: No, he has asked about tourism.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, Sir, he said since we are the largest employer, which is a very big fact.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right. I have corrected your reply.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Yes, Sir. So, tourism is going to be the largest employer in the country. These are not statements, just made by us, these are facts, which have been borne out by studying economies of other nations which have put tourism as their main national agenda.

Now, in India, what are the schemes that we are taking up? There is a detailed statement of the State Governments who have sent their proposals and which have been sanctioned. As I have told you, under UNDP, we have taken up 31 villages. Under Government of India, we have taken up 51 projects where we have funded. These are primarily to study, to see that how we can do this. We arrived at the conclusion of these schemes, after doing an exhaustive and a detailed study, keeping several parameters in view to see how they qualify. Now, the idea is to enhance in-house schemes, *in situ* to improve the quality of our villagers, as well as, to showcase their talent and their inherent skills and keep it within that region itself and not to import talent or show something from some other place. We are also investing in infrastructure that are there in the local areas and the villages.

Regarding this, I have already asked you for partnering me in funding for the rural schemes only. As far as the rest of the schemes across the country are concerned, I can easily forward an exhaustive detail of how many crores have been invested in each State. I can give you even district-wise details as to how much has been invested, and I can say it on record that this is the first time that the highest ever money has been allocated for tourism in any State across the country today.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: I greatly appreciate the Government's stand on promoting rural sports and also for enhancing the scope of tourism. I would like to request the hon. Minister that the amount of money sanctioned in the previous years should be clearly listed out. The amount released is not the full amount in all the States. There is not even one State where all the amount has been released. I believe and I think the Minister agrees that in India today, we have a great amount of talent in the rural areas. To solicit those talented youngsters into the mainstream, we can showcase them at international level. This will greatly help sports industry and I would also like to know from the hon. Minister about the State of Rajasthan. It has a tremendous potential and the youngsters and the young people there are looking forward to participate in such schemes. Does she have any specific schemes for the State of Rajasthan?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, each one of the rural schemes that we have taken up comes, based on the projects and the evaluation that the State Governments have forwarded and sent to us. I deeply appreciate hon. Member's concern for the talent available in the rural areas. There is no doubt and I will lean on my respective senior colleague, Shri Sunil Dutt, who is here from the Sports, that special focus will be given to rural sports and its development and we could easily work in partnership there to bring forward the talent. Quite often, more than one half of prizes that India has got, has been from the people who have come from our rural areas in sports. As regards, other infrastructure, I would forward to the hon. Member, a Detailed Project Report of what we have sanctioned for Rajasthan. Rajasthan has been the beneficiary of the highest ever money that has been given. We have taken up special schemes in Haldighati and Nimrana and Samode in Jaipur district, which have come up. I can forward to him the details of these schemes.

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for the liberal financial help provided to the several rural tourist spots of Uttar Pradesh also. Now I want to enquire whether you will approve some more projects that we are sending or will it cause delay?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It depends on your joining.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I would be very happy because I think that Ministry of Tourism is the only Ministry sans politics. This is a matter of national

pride that I can project our country as incredible India. When people come in from rest of the world, they come to India, they come to one country, and we have many worlds in this country. It is because that is the kind of talent that our nation has. So, I have not shown any discrimination. Now, with the same kind of reciprocity, I would expect the UP Government also to come forward with that kind of generosity and forward all their proposals with immediate urgency and take into consideration all Members of Parliament.

We have come up with financial partnership and earmarked funds under each head for development of tourism such as under roads and buildings, under environment and forests, under water so that the provisions for these tourist spots can be made from those schemes. Thank you very much.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: Thank you, Sir. I would like to put one query to hon. Minister. As we all know that the Sunderbans area of West Bengal-Southern part of the District of South 24 Parganas adjoining Bay of Bengal—is a very good spot for tourism. I want to know, through you, Sir, from the hon. Minister whether any money has been sanctioned for development of rural tourism in that part, namely, Sunderbans in West Bengal. I may also tell you that mangroves are there, which attract people from all over India.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, Sunderbans has been causing some anxious moments—nationally and environmentally—on different aspects. For the first time, we have allocated the highest number of funds to West Bengal also. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, I too have an important question.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Before you, at least another 17 hon. Members have expressed their intentions to put supplementaries. Just because you want to put a question, you cannot interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb. I won't allow all these things. This is a very important Question Hour; very important questions are being answered; and if you interrupt in between, this is not right.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, West Bengal has received the highest number of funds ever this year, and we are talking to Planning Commission also to have a specific intervention for Sunderbans. I would like to request hon. Members of Parliament—if they can form a group of people—who will monitor and look after Sunderbans. If it is environmentally deteriorated, then it is a matter of national concern, and it will be very difficult for me to market a destination like that. You can be rest assured from our side—we will given money and look after the development of Sunderbans. We will look forward to Planning Commission coming in because it is a little beyond my money levels. We have also given a lot of money for West Bengal for destination development. I would also place on record that this is the first time that West Bengal's hotels have been houseful. The tourism business has gone up in West Bengal. We have also hosted a BIMSTEC Conference, particularly in West Bengal. We can open up the entire place, and West Bengal is going to be the hub for the North-Eastern travellers also.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Sir, now we are talking about rural tourism. My constituency Saharsa include Maharshi Legislative Assembly area. There is an ancient historical site. I want that to be included in rural tourism and people to be made aware of that. Besides, every one knows about Mandal Vishwa Bharti. Once Shankaracharyajee conquered the whole world in debate but he was defeated by Mandal Bharati here only. It is astonishing that so far no effort has been made to cover that area for tourism purposes. Hon'ble Minister was telling that if any MP is interested then he/she can develop that area with the help of MPLAD. I am happy to inform you that I have spent 12 lakh rupees from MPLAD already in my area to get that area covered. In the same legislative Assembly area there is one historical place called Baba Khire, which is famous as Maa Ugratara. It is said that eyes of Maa Kali fell down on the same spot. Likewise there is a place called Deoban. Once Ravan was carrying God Shiva, then a Shephered named Deoban lifted him in his own lap. There are five to six such places in Maharshi Legislative Assembly area, which are called historical places. I want to ask the Hon'ble Minister if she would like to declare those spots as tourist's spots

after visiting those places and getting a Survey conducted. Is Minister ready to provide financial help to develop the place of Mandal Bharati ji after including it in the list of tourist places? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot have the entire matter to be discussed here. Sorry.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: I want to submit that I am ready to provide funds from MPLAD as required for this purpose.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I want to thank Members of Parliament for having taken so much interest in developing tourism in their respective areas. I also want to point out that in some of the States these kinds of spots will either fall under endowment or under culture.

[Translation]

So it is necessary to take up the matter with both the endowment ministry of State Government, if it exists and the Ministry of Culture, either of them will acquire the holy spots; because all these comes under the Ministry of Culture. From my side, I want to say that once it is cleared by these two I will get tourists there.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Manvendra Singh, I would request you not to do it in future. Please do not do it. You may put your supplementary now.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Thank you, Sir

[Translation]

through you I would like to say to the Hon'ble Minister that I represent the area that is birthplace of Lord Krishna and birth place of Goddess Radhajee i.e. Barsana, Nandgaon, Goverdhan, Radhakund, Giriraj, Gokul etc. are the places where Lord was brought up after bringing him from Mathura. Likewise there are many religious places like Mathura-Vrindawan, Parikrama marg etc.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mathura is not a rural area.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a request to the Hon'ble Minister to spend some amount to get that areas Surveyed. Every year two crore pilgrims visit that place. Has the hon'ble minister formulated any plan in this regard for development and beautification of that place?

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, if the State Government forwards the concerned proposal we will definitely take it up. I would like to develop a place like Mathura which is very important both historically as well as spiritually. We have already done some work in Mathura under Destination Development Project in 2004-05.

MR. SPEAKER: In Question Hour there are some principles involved. We have to relate to the main question. We cannot go on fishing information in this hour.

[Translation]

Assistance for Promotion of Poultry, Livestock and Fisheries

*604. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated and released to each State for promotion of poultry, livestock and fisheries during the current year;

(b) whether the Union Government and State Governments have provided training and assistance for fisheries;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to provide financial assistance for imparting training to fish farmers in respect of prawn culture in every State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government does not make state-wise allocation under any scheme relating to poultry, livestock and fisheries. However, funds are released to the State Governments on the basis of availability of funds, past utilization and viability of proposals received from them. Outlay and releases made during 2004-05 and the current year for promotion of poultry, livestock and fisheries are given in the enclosed Annexure-A. Statewise releases made during 2004-05 under various schemes are given in the enclosed Annexure-B.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) Financial assistance is provided for training of fish farmers for the development of aquaculture including prawn culture. Funds to the tune of Rs. 90.00 lakh during 2004-05 have been released for the development of Brackishwater Aquaculture including training for prawn culture.

Annexure A

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Sector	2004-05		2005-06	
		Original Outlay	Release	Outlay	Release
1.	Poultry	867.00	1437.05	3500.00	0.00
2.	Livestock	16700.00	15909.69	25350.00	0.00
3.	Fisheries	11300.00	10136.95	11210.00	202.94 (Rs. 200.00 lakh to Karnataka and Rs. 2.94 lakh to Andaman & Nicobar Islands)
	Total	28867.00	27483.69	40060.00	202.94

Annexure B

Release in 2004-05

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Poultry	Livestock	Fisheries
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.92	1264.48	506.57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	132.50	445.08	98.26
3.	Assam	0.00	217.85	98.18
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	118.89
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	309.50	116.03

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Goa	68.00	131.62	70.73
7.	Gujarat	90.37	889.07	1293.20
8.	Haryana	0.00	1016.86	149.89
9.	Himachal Pradesh	25.00	434.25	90.49
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	171.37	149.38
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	204.00	371.61	244.76
12.	Karnataka	55.00	895.09	1071.07
13.	Kerala	0.00	1013.50	227.91
14.	Madhya Pradesh	64.00	930.69	354.14
15.	Maharashtra	150.00	927.18	898.26
16.	Manipur	0.00	191.06	96.37
17.	Meghalaya	40.00	33.34	14.02
18.	Mizoram	128.00	406.87	38.53
19.	Nagaland	252.50	658.47	241.31
20.	Orissa	0.00	830.06	482.99
21.	Punjab	0.00	482.32	13.80
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	250.74	34.10
23.	Sikkim	0.00	126.15	4.50
24.	Tamil Nadu	99.76	540.24	1265.61
25.	Tripura	0.00	200.00	124.15
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	1887.14	597.85
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	219.51	93.30
28.	West Bengal	80.00	903.07	1179.89
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	7.67	7.02
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	5.10	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	30.09	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	2.33	127.00
33.	Delhi	0.00	63.30	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	19.24	20.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	34.85	308.76
	Total	1437.05	15909.69	10136.95

[Translation]

SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister through you about the allocation made by the Government for animal husbandary, food and fodder production, livestock insurance, livestock health, dairy development, fisheries and other such items each year during the year 2004-2005 and what effective steps have been taken by the Government to spend the whole amount allocated for Jharkhand so as to benefit the beneficiaries in the state.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that I am aware of the various schemes for Jharkhand. If he wants to have any specific information then I can give it to him but no allocation has been made for Jharkhand for poultry and other such items so far. I am stating specifically about this one scheme. I will provide him information about the other schemes if he needs any such information.

SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Minister has replied that for fishery the States have been given incentives by the Centre. Sir, there is an example in this regard. The MPIDA and the Central Government have released an amount of Rs. 2.29 lakh to 62 farmers of Bihar for providing training on shrimp culture and for providing feed during the last year and the current year. Then again, due to Government's decision to stop subsidy, the farmers procured the seeds themselves which was of inferior quality owing to which 82 per cent seeds withered. If so, the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, under this scheme, we are only funding the State Government or the State fisheries Department. What the hon. Member is trying to find out is about some specific complaint about what happened in Bihar. If he tries to assimilate all the information from the State Government, I would be happy to furnish him. As of now, there is no direct State Government scheme, which goes directly to a beneficiary in a State.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Import of Sugar

*605. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to permit import of duty free raw sugar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the concessions being provided on such imports;

(c) whether the Government has received any representations for the review of the said policy in view of the likely increase in production of sugar during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the prevailing EXIM policy of the Government, all commodities, including raw sugar can be imported by actual users against Advance Licenses (ALS) obtained under the Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate (DEEC) Scheme, under which such imports are exempted from duties but are subject to export obligation to be fulfilled within a stipulated period. The import of raw sugar under ALS would enable better utilization of installed capacity, increase duration of the crushing season of sugar mills and augment the domestic availability of sugar at reasonable price, thereby benefiting farmers, the industry and consumers.

(c) to (e) Since the production in sugar year 2004-05 is expected to be less than last year, the presumable reference of the Hon'ble Members is to the likely increase in production of sugar during the sugar year 2005-06. Government has not received any representation in this regard.

Environmental Assessment Expert Committees for Clearance of Projects

*606. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government is in the process of reviewing the current environmental clearance procedure;

(b) if so, the main objectives thereof along with the name of agency which has been assigned the task indicating timeframe fixed in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has set up some environmental assessment expert committees/groups to advice it on issues of granting clearance to major projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the composition of members of such committees/groups;

(e) whether the experts in the field of environment have severely criticised the setting of such committees/ groups;

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

(g) the further reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Government has already undertaken a comprehensive review of the existing environmental clearance process.

(b) The above review was undertaken by engaging an internationally experienced consultancy firm named M/s Environmental Resources Management India Pvt. Ltd. The main objective of the review was to identify problems, bottlenecks and constraints of the existing procedures and practices of environmental clearance and recommend measures for making the Environmental Impact Assessment process more efficient and effective.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Six sector-specific Expert Committees for the areas of Thermal Power Plants, Mining, Infrastructure & Miscellaneous Projects, River Valley & Hydroelectric Projects, Industrial Projects and New Construction Projects & Industrial Estates have been constituted. The composition of the existing six sectoral Expert Committees is enclosed as Statement.

(e) and (f) The Government has received a copy of a note circulated by some Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on the composition of the existing Expert Committees. These NGO's have been critical of the composition of the existing committees from the point of view of the regional representation, lack of multi-disciplinary expertise and inadequate representation of all stakeholders including women.

(g) The Government has framed guidelines for selection of Non-Officials/Experts/Professionals to various statutory bodies under the Ministry of Environment and Forests and all the existing Committees are already under review.

Statement

Composition of Expert Committee for Thermal Projects

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Shri P.M. Abraham, TC 4/1996, Mummys Colony (No. 8), Kawdiar, Thiruvananthapuram-695003.	Chairman
2.	Prof. C.K. Varshney, School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Mehrauli Road, New Delhi.	Member (Vice- Chairman)

1	2	3
3.	Shri Y.S. Murthy, 12-5-35/A/4, 6th Street, Tarnaka, Secunderabad-500017.	Member
4.	Dr. B. Sengupta, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032.	Member
5.	Dr. K. Krishnaiah, Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai-600 036	Member
6.	Dr. K.K.S. Bhatia, Scientist F and Head, Environmental Hydrology Division, National Institute of Hydrology, Jalvigyan Bhavan, Roorkee-247687.	Member
7.	Shri Dharam Paul, Chief Engineer (Energy), Representative of Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhavan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022.	Member
8.	Shri K.P. Niyati, Head, Environment Management Division, Confederation of Indian Industry, India Habitat Centre, 4th Floor, Core-4A, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member
9.	Shri K.K. Sarin, S-108, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi-110011.	Member
10.	Representative of Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.	Member
11.	Shri S.K. Napolean, 28, Kanniamman Koil Street, Anakaputhur, Chennai-600070.	Member
12.	Shri B. Lal, Additional Director General of Meteorology, Indian Meteorological Department, Mausam Bhavan, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member
13.	Dr. S.K. Aggarwal, Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi, Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member Secretary

Composition of Expert Committee for Mining Sector

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Shri Venketesan, Former Secretary to the Government of India, 113, F-Block, Annanagar (East), Chennai-600102.	Chairman

1	2	3
2.	Prof. S.P. Banerjee, 178/4, Parnasree (Opp. Puddapukar Kali Temple), Behala, Kolkata-700060.	Member (Vice) (Chairman)
3.	Shri Vinay Mahajan, A-24, Nizamuddin (East), New Delhi-110013.	Member
4.	Shri K.S. Raju, Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.	
5.	Shri R. Rathinagiri, 488, East Rampart, Thanjavur-613001.	Member
6.	Shri H.V. Paliwal, D-3, 3314, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070.	Member
7.	Prof. M. Salvanayagam, Department of Zoology, Loyola College, Chennai-600034.	
8.	Dr. Asha Rajvanshi, Faculty Incharge, EIA Cell, Wildlife Institute of India, P.O. Box No. 18, Chandrabani, Dehradun-248001.	Member
9.	Shri B. Lal, Addl. Director General of Meteorology (H), Indian Meteorology Department, Mausam Bhavan, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member
10.	Dr. H.N. Saiyed, Director. National Institute of Occupational Health, Meghani Nagar, Ahmedabad-380016.	Member
11.	Dr. Arijit Dey, Scientist, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, A-2, W-3, Curzon Road Barracks, New Delhi-1.	Member
12.	Dr. Gautam Bhattacharya, K-13, Sector XI, Noida-201301.	Member
13.	Dr. T. Chandni, Additional Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member Secretary

Composition of Expert Committee for River Valley & Hydroelectric Projects

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Dr. P.G. Sastri, H.No. 1-8-678/A/1, Padma Colony, Nallakunta, Hyderabad-500044.	Chairman

1	2	3
2.	Prof. S. Chanda, Centre for Studies of Man & Environment, CK-II, Sector-2, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 091.	Member (Vice Chairman)
3.	Dr. Satya P.S. Kushwaha, Head, Forestry & Ecology Division, IIRS, 4, Kalidas Road, Post Box No. 135, Dehradun-248001 (Uttaranchal)	Member
4.	Dr. A.K. Bhattacharya, Water Technology Center, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi-110012.	Member
5.	Prof. S. Basu, Department of Earthquake Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee-247667.	Member
6.	Dr. (Mrs.) V.M. Bendre, Director, Central Water and Power Research Station, Khadakvasla, Pune-411024.	Member
7.	Fisheries Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.	Member
8.	Dr. Apurba Sarkar, Project Directorate of Cropping System Research Modipuram, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh-250110.	
9.	Shri E. Karunanithy, No. 5, Thirupoor Kumaran Street, Radhanagar, Chromepet, Chennai-600 044.	
10.	Shri R.S. Bharathi, Chairman, Alandur Municipality, New No. 18, 29th Street, Thillai Ganga, Nagar, Chennai-600061.	Member
11.	Shri O.P. Sisodia, Asstt. Commissioner, Ministry of Rural Development, Block No. 11, 6th Floor, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003.	Member
12.	Shri Ravinder Singh, Chief Engineer (EMO), 613(S), Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066	Member
13.	Dr. S. Bhowmik, Additional Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member Secretary

Composition of Expert Committee for Industrial Projects

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Dr. T.S. Vijayaraghan, 81, Valmiki Street, Thiruvanmiyur, Chenna-600041.	Chairman

1	2	3
2.	Shri R.K. Garg, 4, Vikramm Jyoti Cooperative Society, Opp. Telecom Factory, Deonar, Mumbai-400 088.	Member (Vice-(Chairman)
3.	Prof. B. Pitchumani, Chemical Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016.	Member
4.	Prof. N.R. Neelakantan, Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Adyar, Chennai-600 036.	Member
5.	Dr. B. Sengupta, Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi.	Member
6.	Shri M.A. Vaidyalingam, 68, Thiruvalluvar Street, Meenambakkam, Chennai-60027.	Member
7.	Dr. Sajid Hussain, 7/90, Zaheer Nagar Colony, Hoshiguda, Hyderabad-500 007.	Member
8.	Shri T.K.S. Elangovan, C-5, Lloyds Colony Royapettah, Chennai-600014.	Member
9.	Dr. S. Mohan, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai-600036.	Member
10.	Dr. B. Lal, Addl. Director General of Meteorology (H), Indian Meteorology Department, Mausam Bhavan, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member
11.	Shri V. Balakrishnan, 8/94, III Cross, Natchathira Nagar, Thanjavur-613005, Tamil Nadu	Member
12.	Shri G.V. Subrahmaniam, Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.	Member Secretary

Composition of Expert Committee for Infrastructure & Miscellaneous Projects

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Shri T.V. Antony, 8, 4th Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar, Chennai-20.	Chairman

1	2	3
2.	Shri R. Sivaswamy, Chief Engineer & Administrator, ALHW (Retd) 244, 39th Street, 8th Sector, K.K. Nagar, Chennai-78.	Member (Vice Chairman)
3.	Dr. S. Maithy, Professor & Head, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, B-2/210, Kalyani, Distt. Nadia, West Bengal-714235.	Member
4.	Dr. M. Baba, Director, Central for Earth Science Stujdies, Thiruvananthapuram-695031.	Member
5.	Dr. Arijit Dey, Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, 1103, Ansal Bhavan, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.	Member
6.	Dr. M. Naganathan, Professor & Head, Department of Economics, University of Madras, Chennai-600005.	Member
7.	Dr. T. Anantha Rajan, Former Professor of Anna University, Plot No. 6, Second Street Extn., Sarathy Nagar, Velachery, Chennai-600042.	Member
8.	Dr. S. Ramachandran, Professor and Director, Institute for Ocean Management, Anna University, Chennai-600025	Member
9.	Prof. A.K. Maitra, Director, School of Planning & Architecture, I.P. Estates, New Delhi-110002.	Member
10.	Dr. R. Natarajan, Associate Professor, Ocean Engineering Centre, IIT, Chennai-600036.	Member
11.	Shri D. Chandrasekharan, Murali Anand, 5201/A, Chithra Kulam, North Street, Mylapore, Chennai-600004.	Member
12.	Dr. T. Anantharajan, Plot No. 6, Second Street Extension, Sarathy Nagar, Velachery, Chennai-42.	Member
13.	Dr. N.H. Hosabettu, Director, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-3.	Member Secretary

Composition of Expert Committee for New Construction Projects and Industrial Estates

Sl.No.	Name & Address	Designation
1	2	3
1.	Shri Paritosh C. Tyagi, Ex-Chairman, CPCB, Noida, U.P.	Chairman
2.	Prof. K.T. Ravindran, Professor of Urban Design, School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi.	Member (Vice Chairman)
3.	Prof. H.V. Bhavani, Department of Environmental Engineering, M.S. University, Vadodara.	Member
4.	Ms. Rajalakshmi Kalanidhi, No. 19, II Street, East Abhirampuran, Mylapore, Chennai-600004.	Member
5.	Ms. Mili Majumdar, Area Convenor, Centre for Research in Sustainable Building Science, TERI, Habitat Centre, New Delhi-3.	Member
6.	Shri I.J.S. Sidhu, Chief (Project Monitoring), Building Materials & Technology Promotion Centre.	Member
7.	Shri Upendra Kachru, President, Technology & Management Systems (TAMS), Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi.	Member
8.	Prof. A.K. Gosain, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT, New Delhi.	Member
9.	Shri R. Sethuraman, Adviser, Central Public Health & Environmental Engineering Organization (CPHEEO), Ministry of Urban Affairs & Poverty Alleviation, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.	Member
10.	Dr. Arun Bali, Director, Indian Council for Social Science Research, JNU Institutional Area, New Delhi-110067.	Member
11.	Dr. A.K. Saxena, Director (Environment), National Productivity Centre, New Delhi-110003.	Member
12.	Dr. M.K. Sharma, Alternate Hydro Energy Centre, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee-247667.	Member
13.	Shri T. Venugopal, Director, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, East Arjun Nagar, Shahadra, Delhi.	Member

1	2	3
14.	Prof. M. Shahir, Prof. of Landscape Planning, School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi.	Member
15.	Shri S. Shiva Kumar, Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavam Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-3.	Member Secretary

[Translation]

Wholesale Outlets at Block Level

*607. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

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

(a) whether cases of irregularities in the distribution of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government has approved a scheme to open wholesale outlets at block level to remove these irregularities;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of blocks where such outlets are proposed to be set up in the first phase; and

(d) the time by which such outlets are likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes Sir. Occasional cases of irregularities in the distribution of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) have been brought to the notice of both the Central and State Governments. The Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments wherein the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains upto the Principal Distribution Centres of FCI and the responsibility for identification of beneficiaries, issue of the ration cards and distribution of foodgrains to them through the vast network of about 4.78 lakh fair price shops, lies with respective State Governments.

(b) to (d) The Public Distribution System presently covers wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene. Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the proposed scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas relating to kerosene, where a pilot project covering 10% of blocks in the country has recently been approved by the Government for strengthening the distribution network of PDS kerosene with a view to working towards ensuring that this product is made available to the targeted consumers and is not diverted for adulteration. The scheme proposes setting up wholesale storage facilities at block level, with storage tanks and calibrated dispensing units; creation of 5-10 sub-wholesale points within the block to facilitate deliveries to retail outlets; and involving Panchayati Raj Institutions in monitoring the implementation of the scheme.

[English]

Irrigation Projects

*608. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects taken up/to be taken up during Tenth Five Year Plan and funds allocated for those projects, State-wise;

(b) the details of progress of work and action taken for timely completion of those projects;

(c) whether the Government is also considering taking up ground-water recharge and rain harvesting programme for restoration of water bodies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether in the wake of Tsunami the Government is takings up programmes like coastal erosion; and

(f) if so, the details and action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a state subject, the irrigation projects are investigated, planned, formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Centre is providing funds to the States in the form of loans and grants which are not tied to any sector of development or project. As per the information provided by the State Governments, there are 169 Major and 219 Medium Irrigation Projects under construction in Tenth Five Year Plan as on 1.4.2004. Detailed status of these ongoing irrigation projects with various parameters including expenditure made, potential created, etc. State-wise is furnished in the enclosed Statement-I. State-wise number of new major/medium irrigation projects proposed by the States for taking up during Tenth Five Year Plan is given in enclosed Statement-II. State-wise outlay for Tenth Five Year Plan for major and medium irrigation projects is given in enclosed Statement-III.

Keeping in view that financial resources of the State Governments are the major constraint for completion of the irrigation projects, the Central Government commenced Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in the year 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to such ongoing approved major and medium irrigation projects which are beyond the resources capability of the States and are in an advanced stage of completion with the twin objectives of accelerating completion of ongoing irrigation projects and to realize bulk benefits from the completed projects. The project implementation of irrigation in general and Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme in particular is left in the hands of States. Under AIBP, the Central Government has released CLA/grant amounted to Rs. 17,537.57 crore and has helped in creating an irrigation potential of 2.7 million hectare upto March, 2004.

(c) and (d) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take steps to check the declining ground water level. However, the following steps have been taken by the Union Government in this direction:

(i) A scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crore for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting for implementation during the remaining part of the Tenth Five Year Plan is under consideration.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(iii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highway Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

(iv) States/Union Territories have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control.

(v) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises.

(vi) Central Ground Water Board has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.

(vii) Rain Water Harvesting compaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion markers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

A pilot scheme "National project for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by the Union Government in January, 2005 with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crore for the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. The aims and objectives of the project are to restore and augment the storage capacity of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. The scheme envisages taking up pilot projects by the States in one or two districts. The renovation work of these water bodies will also help recharge the ground water in the adjoining areas.

(e) and (f) After the Tsunami tragedy, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Karnataka have submitted the proposals to the Ministry of Water Resources to carry out the restoration due to damages, restore the coastal infrastructure and carryout the coastal protection works in the States.

Construction of coastal protection components at new locations will be considered after a detailed scientific study to determine the location-specific mitigation measures and the likely environmental impacts. The implementation of these measures is proposed to be taken up in the three year period (2005-08).

Statement I

Abstract of ongoing Major & Medium Irrigation Projects in the Country (as on 01.04.2004)

(Rs. Crore/Pot.Th. Ha.)

Sl.No.	State	Total Ongoing Projects for which information has been received			Latest Estimated Cost	Likely Expdr. upto 3/2004	Balance cost as on 1.4.2004 (Antd.)	Ultimate Potential	Likely Potential Created upto 3/2004	Balance potential as on 1.4.2004 (Antd.)
		Major	Medium	Total						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	9	24	18075.03	9496.03	8579.00	2353.48	1647.40	706.08
2.	Assam	5	5	10	1840.88	496.13	1344.75	268.17	131.22	136.95
3.	Bihar	9	3	12	4624.82	2320.66	2304.16	811.19	131.86	679.33
4.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	8	1932.33	1582.30	350.03	744.62	586.39	158.23
5.	Goa	1	0	1	966.56	501.61	464.95	26.89	13.21	13.68
6.	Gujarat	3	18	21	31961.79	17255.66	14706.13	1908.00	269.48	1638.52
7.	Haryana	4	0	4	962.13	770.82	191.31	254.00	168.00	86.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	3	288.57	93.02	195.55	33.15	1.11	32.04
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	7	7	226.30	143.07	83.23	34.55	10.34	24.21
10.	Jharkhand	5	19	24	5747.99	1844.81	3903.18	513.57	11.46	502.11
11.	Karnataka	16	18	34	20538.85	12976.67	7562.18	1872.72	1068.03	804.69
12.	Kerala	4	4	8	2608.80	1520.25	1088.55	220.73	86.09	134.64
13.	Madhya Pradesh	16	5	21	17996.63	6149.63	11847.00	1827.61	203.15	1624.46
14.	Maharashtra	56	95	151	39695.56	18807.73	20887.83	3703.24	1382.44	2320.80
15.	Manipur	2	1	3	702.32	434.74	267.58	55.94	4.00	51.94
16.	Meghalaya	0	1	1	57.07	22.59	34.48	5.15	0.00	5.15
17.	Orissa	10	10	20	7178.52	3553.90	3624.62	793.78	291.92	501.86
18.	Punjab	1	0	1	1324.18	128.09	1196.09	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
19.	Rajasthan	4	4	8	6863.95	4497.23	2366.72	1217.35	818.69	398.66
20.	Tamilnadu	0	2	2	105.36	86.12	19.24	7.19	0.00	7.19
21.	Tripura	0	3	3	178.00	137.61	40.39	26.72	3.30	23.42
22.	Uttaranchal	3	0	3	5334.11	253.08	5081.03	311.60	21.00	290.60
23.	Uttar Pradesh	9	0	9	7534.32	4247.39	3286.93	2152.27	711.99	1440.28
24.	West Bengal	2	8	10	2728.42	1038.95	1689.47	660.58	139.79	520.79
	Total	169	219	388	179472.49	88358.09	91114.40	19802.50	7700.87	12101.63

Statement II

Abstract of ongoing New Major/Medium Irrigation Projects

Sl.No.	State	Number of New Projects	
		Major	Medium
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	24
2.	Assam	0	0
3.	Bihar	4	2
4.	Chhattisgarh	4	0
5.	Goa	0	2
6.	Gujarat	3	26
7.	Haryana	5	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	6
10.	Jharkhand	0	5
11.	Karnataka	3	10
12.	Kerala	0	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4	2
14.	Maharashtra	6	21
15.	Manipur	1	2
16.	Meghalaya	0	0
17.	Nagaland	0	1
18.	Orissa	11	5
19.	Punjab	1	0
20.	Rajasthan	5	15
21.	Tamil Nadu	0	0
22.	Tripura	0	0
23.	Uttarachal	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6	0
25.	West Bengal	6	12
	Total	78	136

Statement III

Approved Outlay for Tenth Plan

(Rs. Crore)

Sl.No.	State	Major & Medium
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9153.84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.66
3.	Assam	273.60

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	3273.19
5.	Chhattisgarh	1721.37
6.	Goa	175.40
7.	Gujarat	7660.91
8.	Haryana	1129.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	55.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	237.43
11.	Jharkhand	1720.86
12.	Karnataka	13277.33
13.	Kerala	600.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3819.03
15.	Maharashtra	12150.10
16.	Manipur	221.60
17.	Meghalaya	24.75
18.	Mizoram	0.05
19.	Nagaland	0.50
20.	Orissa	2329.02
21.	Punjab	1592.51
22.	Rajasthan	2269.61
23.	Sikkim	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1700.00
25.	Tripura	44.17
26.	Uttaranchal	103.28
27.	Uttar Pradesh	6424.58
28.	West Bengal	895.85
	Total	70855.28

Promotion and Development of Cooperative Sector

*609. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the specific proposals formulated by Government to promote and develop cooperative sector in the rural areas of the country;

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

(c) the achievements made after implementation of the above proposals for the development of cooperative sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government has undertaken several measures for promoting and developing the cooperative sector in the country. These include, *inter-alia*, framing of a National Policy on Cooperatives, enactment of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002, enactment of National Cooperative Development Corporation (Amendment) Act, 2002 and initiatives for revitalization of the cooperative credit structure. The Central Government is also funding programmes of Cooperative Education and Training in the country. As a new initiative, Government has undertaken programmes of assistance to Junior Cooperative Training Centres, which are under the administrative control of State Cooperative Unions/State governments. Agro-processing units and development of grass-root cooperatives are being implemented through National Cooperative Development Corporation.

(c) The National Policy on Cooperatives and Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 provide the guiding principles to States to bring their cooperative legislation on principles of autonomous, democratic and professional functioning. The Schemes of the Central Government implemented through Apex level cooperative organizations have been helpful in developing cooperative initiatives in the spinning, sugar and allied sectors.

[Translation]

Wastage of Rivers Water

*610. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 1200 billion cusec water of Ganga, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers flows annually;

(b) if not, the fact in this regard;

(c) whether any assessment of quantum of water out of the total water has been estimated which flows as surplus water causing widespread damaged due to flood;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith breakup of surplus water in Ganga, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers;

(e) whether this surplus water can be diverted to water scarce areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) The average annual water availability in Ganga, Brahmaputra and Meghna (consisting of Barak & other tributaries) basins taken together works out to be 1110.6 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM).

(c) and (d) In general, flood is caused due to intense rainfall during the monsoon period. The flow in the river during the monsoon varies from year to year depending up storm intensity etc. However, average flow during monsoon period in Ganga, Brahmaputra and Barak & others has been estimated as 81%, 76%, 81% respectively of the average annual flow.

(e) to (g) The Ministry of Water Resources formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components namely Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been set up under the Ministry in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP. As per the studies conducted by NWDA, main Ganga river, its tributaries i.e. Kosi. Gandak, Ghagra, Sarda, Yamuna, Sone and Ramganga and the tributaries of Brahmaputra i.e. Manas, Sankosh, Aie, Raidak, Jaldhaka, and Torsa are found to have some surplus water. NWDA has identified 14 links under Himalayan Component for preparation of feasibility studies for the purpose.

Agricultural Loan

*611. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural loan has increased but agricultural yield has not increased during the last five years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the specific years during which agricultural loan increased but agricultural yield did not increase; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the agricultural yield?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The yield in respect of foodgrains, oilseeds, cotton and jute in 2003-04 was higher than that in 1999-2000. However, in the case of sugarcane, the yield in 2003-04 was lower than that in 1999-2000. The relevant figures are given in the Annexure. With a view to provide a comparative picture of growth in agriculture loan *vis-a-vis* overall agricultural yield, the figures of the value of agricultural output, covering all crops, per hectare *vis-a-vis* the disbursement of ground level credit per hectare are also given in the enclosed Statement. While growth in agricultural credit was positive in all the five years, the growth in value of output was negative during 2000-01 and 2002-03. The main reason for negative growth was deficiency in rainfall both from the South-West monsoon and the post-monsoon and winter season rainfalls. The decline in value of output per hectare in 2000-01 was mainly due to the decline in the production of rabi crops, which reflected the serious deficiency in rainfall during the post monsoon (October to December) and Winter (January & February) seasons. In 2002-03 the decline was caused by decline in the production of both kharif and rabi crops, which reflected the impact of the severe drought that affected several States in the country in 2002.

(d) To increase the productivity of different cereal crops, various schemes like Integrated Crop Development Programme (ICDP) for Coarse Cereals, Wheat and Rice had been implemented, which have since been subsumed under Macro Management Programme.

In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 01.04.2004. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for Production of breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed, crash

programme for quality seed production, distribution of certified seed, and Minikits, infrastructure development, integrated Pest Management etc.

Research strategies to increase the productivity of sugarcane in sugarcane producing States are being implemented through a network of regular and voluntary research centers under All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Sugarcane. Apart from this, for increasing the production and productivity of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS) was initiated in 1995-96. Since October 2000, the scheme SUBACS has been subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture. The main thrust of the scheme is on the transfer of improved technology to the farmers through field demonstration, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing seed production and pest measures etc.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton is under implementation in 13 cotton growing States. The basic objective of the scheme is to increase production, productivity and improve fibre quality of cotton.

Keeping in view the importance of agriculture, the Union Budget 2005-06 has provided substantial outlays in key areas like irrigation, including micro irrigation, horticulture and marketing. The Budget has also proposed to increase the disbursement of credit to farmers by 30 per cent in 2005-06 over the disbursement of Rs. 1,15,243 crore in 2004-05.

Statement

Agricultural Yield

(Kg/Hectare)

Crops	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Foodgrains	1627	1704	1626	1734	1535	1731
Growth (%)	—	4.7	-4.6	6.6	-11.5	12.8
Oilseeds	944	853	810	913	691	1067
Growth (%)	—	9.6	-5.1	12.7	-24.4	54.5
Sugarcane	71203	70935	68577	67370	63576	58986
Growth (%)	—	-0.4	-3.3	-1.8	-5.6	-7.2
Cotton	224	225	190	186	191	309
Growth (%)	—	0.4	-15.6	-2.1	2.7	61.8
Jute	1875	2005	2026	2182	2139	2186
Growth (%)	—	6.9	1.0	7.7	-2.0	2.2

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

Trends in per hectare value of agricultural output and agricultural credit

(Rs. at current prices)

Item	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Per hectare value of agricultural output	19493	20251	19932	21698	20941	24768
Growth (%)	—	3.9	-1.6	8.9	-3.5	18.3
Per hectare credit	1940	2435	2780	3266	3727	4578
Growth (%)	—	25.5	14.2	17.4	14.1	22.8

Source: Central Statistical Organisation and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Food Security

*612. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of a report released by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on the worsening food security conditions in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report has stated that the number of people in the country without adequate food supply has increased since 1996-97;

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

(e) whether such a condition prevails despite sufficient stocks of foodgrains in the country; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The FAO's report entitled 'State of Food Insecurity in the World, 2004' indicates that the "reference period" determines as to whether the food security situation in the world is worsening. It states that for the developing world, the number of undernourished declined between the trienniums 1990-1992 and 2000-2002 (824 million to 815 million). However, the number increased between 1995-97 and 2000-2002 (797 million to 815 million) In other words, the data show a marked decline in the number between the early nineties and the mid nineties, and a sharp increase from the mid nineties to the period 2000-02. The proportion of the population that was undernourished declined slightly in both sub-periods, from 20% in 1990-92 to 18% in 1995-97 to 17% in 2000-02. In most of the world's major regions, the number and proportion of the undernourished declined over both sub-periods, with 2 major exceptions; South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. In these regions, while the percentage undernourished did decline in both sub-periods, the number of undernourished increased.

(c) and (d) For India, the report shows a decline in the number of undernourished from 216 million to 203 million between 1990-92 and 1995-97, followed by an increase to 221 million by 2000-02. The percentage undernourished declined from 25% of the population to 21% between 1990-92 and than remained unchanged till 2000-02.

(e) and (f) FAO has intimated that they are still in the process of studying the reasons for the change in the number of undernourished and would not care to speculate on the possible causes prior to completion of the review, being undertaken by them. The country had sufficient foodgrains stocks in 2000-02 as is evidenced by the fact that no imports were necessitated in this period and there was relative price stability.

[English]

Production of Oilseeds

*613. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of production and actual requirement of oilseeds in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the actual production of oilseeds in the country is not sufficient to meet the growing demands;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to import genetically modified oilseeds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to further boost the oilseeds production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The production of oilseeds and projected requirement of oilseeds in the country during the last three years are as under:

(Quantity: Million Tonnes)

Year	Domestic Production	Projected Requirement
2001-02	20.66	35.07
2002-03	15.06	36.75
2003-04	25.29	38.52

The domestic production of oilseeds is not sufficient to meet the demand. The gap between demand and supply is met through import of edible oils/oilseeds.

(e) In view of the gap between production and demand, special thrust is being given towards increasing the production of oilseeds. Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) during the 10th Five Year Plan. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes including an awareness campaign to encourage farmers to grow oilseeds. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Research Institutions. The Government of India is also announcing a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for major oilseed crops every year on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) to provide remunerative prices to oilseeds growers. Whenever market prices of these crops fall below the MSPs, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), as Central Nodal Agency, undertakes procurement of oilseeds under Price Support Scheme (PSS) within the country.

[Translation]

Average per Hectare Productivity

*614. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average per hectare productivity of wheat, paddy, maize, mustard, sugarcane and cotton, State-wise;

(b) whether the per hectare expenditure incurred is not commensurate with the yield;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the Minimum Support Price (MSP) being provided by the Government for these crops during the current year;

(e) whether the Government proposes to increase the MSP;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The state-wise average per hectare productivity based on the figures for five years from 1998-99 to 2002-03 in respect of wheat, paddy, maize, mustard, sugarcane and cotton is shown in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Productivity in agriculture is influenced by factors like rainfall and temperature, in addition to expenditure. The per hectare yield cannot, therefore, be directly correlated with expenditure. Thus, despite increase in the flow of ground level credit per hectare from Rs. 2435 in 1999-2000 to Rs. 2780 in 2000-01, the per hectare value of agricultural output declined from Rs. 20,251 in 1999-2000 to Rs. 19,932 in 2000-01. This reflected the impact of serious deficiency in rainfall from northeast monsoon and winter season rainfall on rabi crop production. In 2002-03 also, the value of agricultural output declined despite increase in credit flow, which reflected the impact of severe drought of 2002 on both the kharif and rabi crops.

(d) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of wheat, paddy, maize, mustard, sugarcane and cotton for current year, 2004-05, are as given below:

Commodity	Variety	MSP (Rs. Per Quintal)
Wheat		640
Paddy	Common	560
	Grade 'A'	590
Maize		525
Mustard		1700
Sugarcane		74.50
Cotton	F414/H-777/J-34	1760
	H-4	1960

(e) to (g) The Government decides on the support price for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which, in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of support prices.

The Government has announced the Price Policy for the Kharif crops of 2005-06 season on 20th April, 2005. The MSPs for Kharif crops of 2005-06 season have generally been increased as compared to the MSPs for 2004-05 season. A statement showing the increase in MSPs in 2005-06 over 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

Average Productivity (Average of Five years from 1998-99 to 2002-03) in major states in respect of Wheat, Paddy, Maize, Mustard, Sugarcane and Cotton

(Kg./Hectare)

State	Wheat	Paddy	Maize	Mustard	Sugarcane	Cotton
Andhra Pradesh	713	4190	3163	313	77345	251
Assam	1160	2195	709	486	38087	81
Bihar	2079	2201	2306	823	44615	—
Chhattisgarh	1029	1337	1132	344	2424	567
Gujarat	2262	2042	1515	1170	70087	219
Haryana	4070	3753	2211	1306	56429	320
Himachal Pradesh	1420	2157	2187	573	26863	—
Jammu and Kashmir	1333	2684	1568	565	11500	—
Jharkhand	1673	1659	1550	—	27974	—
Karnataka	798	3612	2732	270	94100	216
Kerala	—	3249	—	—	85117	271
Madhya Pradesh	1663	1511	1664	902	26041	123
Maharashtra	1321	2276	1626	238	80240	141
Orissa	1380	1725	1202	146	57843	239
Punjab	4465	5118	2493	1060	62436	340
Rajasthan	2575	1695	1105	921	44038	206
Tamil Nadu	1250	5154	1628	143	106412	312
Uttar Pradesh	2685	3033	1365	949	57056	122
Uttaranchal	1880	2882	1401	653	58088	—
West Bengal	2271	3528	2477	817	74387	377
All India	2692	2907	1817	924	69065	204

Statement II

Minimum Support Prices

(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. Per Quintal)
As on 20.04.2005

Sl.No.	Commodity	Variety	2004-05	2005-06	(#) increase in MSP 2005-06 over 2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Paddy	Common	560	570	10 (1.8)
		Grade 'A'	590	600	10 (1.7)
2.	Jowar		515	525	10 (1.9)
3.	Bajra		515	525	10 (1.9)
4.	Maize		525	540	15 (2.9)
5.	Ragi		515	525	10 (1.9)
6.	Wheat		640		
7.	Barley		540		
8.	Gram		1425		
9.	Arhar (Tur)		1390	1400	10 (0.7)
10.	Moong		1410	1520	110 (7.8)
11.	Urad		1410	1520	110 (7.8)
12.	Masur (Lentil)		1525		
13.	Sugarcane@		74.50		
14.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1760	1760	0 (0.0)
		H-4	1960	1980	20 (1.0)
15.	Groundnut in Shell		1500	1520	20 (1.3)
16.	Jute		890	910	20 (2.2)
17.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1700		
18.	Sunflower Seed		1340	1500	160 (11.9)
19.	Soyabeen	Black	900	900	0 (0.0)
		Yellow	1000	1010	10 (1.0)
20.	Safflower		1550		

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Toria		1665		
22.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Gr)	32.00		
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	34.00		
23.	Copra	Milling	3500	3570	70 (2.0)
	(Calender Year)	Ball	3750	3820	70 (1.9)
24.	Sesamum		1500	1550	50 (3.3)
25.	Nigerseed		1180	1200	20 (1.7)

@ Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% with proportionate premium for every 0.1% increase in recovery above that level. The SMP for 2002-03 includes the one drought relief of Rs. 5 per quintal recommended by CACP.

Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

Compensation to Bhopal Gas Victims

*615. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families of Bhopal gas victims who have been paid compensation till date;

(b) the number of families under consideration for compensation so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Compensation claims have been filed by individual claimants and not by families. In all 10,29,516 claims have been filed under various categories and all the cases have been decided. 5,73,018 claims have been settled and claimants have been awarded a total compensation of Rs. 1542.31 crore. In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 19th July, 2004, those claimants who have been awarded original compensation (5,73,018) have to be paid additional compensation on pro-rata basis. This process has been started and 1,57,752 claimants have already been paid pro-rata compensation by the Office of the Welfare Commissioner amounting to Rs. 458.88 crore till 21.4.2005. The pro-rata disbursement process has to be completed by 30th April, 2006, in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Funds for Pollution Control

*616. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

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

(a) the details of funds provided for control of all types of pollution including environmental pollution and utilized during each of the last three years and current year till date, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(b) the criteria fixed for allocation of such funds;

(c) whether environmental pollution has not decreased in comparison to the funds spent to control it;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent of success achieved in this regard;

(e) the State-wise details of the case of misutilization of such funds during the said period; and

(f) the action taken in the matter by the Union Government so far alongwith the details of further action plan chalked out to check increasing pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The details of funds provided to States under the National River Conservation Programme for abatement of water pollution in rivers and the amount utilized are

indicated in the enclosed Statement-I. In addition, the Ministry also provides funds to the States under the Schemes of 'Assistance for Abatement of Pollution' for strengthening of Pollution Control Boards etc., 'Common Effluent Treatment Plants' (CETPs) for setting up CETPs, 'Creation of Management Structure for Hazardous Wastes' for setting up common hazardous wastes treatment, storage and disposal facilities, demonstration projects for Municipal Solid Waste etc. The details of funds provided under these schemes are given in the enclosed Statement-II The details of funds released to various research institutions, universities, pollution control boards etc. in the States by Central Pollution Control Board under the National Air and Water Quality Monitoring Programmes are given in enclosed Statement-III.

(b) Funds are provided based on proposals submitted by States and Union Territories under the respective schemes keeping in view the requirement for prevention and control of pollution.

(c) and (d) Due to various abatement measures taken, the increasing trend in pollution, has been arrested with categorical improvement in environmental quality as determined by competent scientific institutions.

(e) A representation regarding alleged misappropriation of funds in respect of Yamuna Action Plan at Mathura was received in April, 2003, which was forwarded to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for necessary action. An inquiry in the matter is reported to have been instituted by the State Government.

(f) The Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Central Pollution Control Board regularly interact with State/Union Territory Governments and the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees in Union Territories to monitor the progress of work undertaken under the various sanctioned schemes/projects. Steps taken/planned to check pollution include:

(i) Enforcement of prescribed environmental standards;

(ii) Regular monitoring for compliance of prescribed environmental norms;

(iii) Issuance of notices/directions to defaulting units for installation of pollution control devices;

(iv) Action plans for control of air pollution in cities having higher levels of air pollutions; and

(v) Implementation of Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) for 17 categories of polluting industries.

Statement I

State-wise and Yerar-wise Funds Released (till Feb 2005) & Expenditure (Till Dec. 2005)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005	
		Funds* Released	Expenditure by States+	Funds Released	Expenditure by States	Funds Released	Expenditure by States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A. National River Conservation Plan							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	160.39	0.00	294.06	1600.00	93.06
2.	Bihar	25.00	82.76	0.00	69.59	0.00	9.01
3.	Jharkhand	0.00	20.90	0.00	24.69	0.00	3.13
4.	Gujarat	800.00	2152.38	2254.00	1824.80	1200.00	537.07
5.	Goa	246.00	0.00	0.00	186.92	260.00	395.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Karnataka	800.00	88.86	400.00	1852.29	1268.00	1027.45
7.	Maharashtra	2639.50	2759.95	1075.00	1472.38	730.00	552.84
8.	Madhya Pradesh	700.00	1244.63	1475.00	1547.74	700.00	342.53
9.	Orissa	128.00	92.54	167.00	327.60	350.00	263.03
10.	Punjab	2620.00	1810.19	2270.00	3103.68	1141.00	2151.94
11.	Rajasthan	0.00	50.81	0.00	25.80	26.00	0.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	4142.00	7222.41	8448.00	13461.20	13515.00	5793.09
13.	Delhi	9185.00	8509.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Haryana	237.00	543.78	0.00	149.52	190.00	13.32
15.	Uttar Pradesh	3814.00	4024.50	2650.00	1679.09	0.00	1116.96
16.	Uttaranchal	327.00	203.26	200.00	345.19	200.00	154.74
17.	West Bengal	2025.50	2391.51	2135.50	5053.36	2746.00	717.77
18.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Grand Total (River)	27689.00	31358.61	21149.50	31417.91	23926.00	13171.74

*only Central share

+Expenditure out of Central and State share including unspent balances of previous year.

Note: Funds released during the current financial year 2005-060—nil.

Statement II

Other Schemes under which Ministry provided Funds to the States

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	SPCB/PCC	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
I. Assistance for Abatement of Pollution				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	00.00	00.00	4.44
2.	Andhra Pradesh	00.00	00.00	4.60
3.	Bihar	00.00	9.243	00.00
4.	Delhi	35.36	42.62	41.35
5.	Gujarat	00.00	00.00	20.00
6.	Goa	5.00	00.00	18.92

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	14.25	20.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	31.86	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	13.00	94.26
11.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Kerala	100.00	190.00	1.125
13.	Lakshadweep	0.00	2.296	2.26
14.	Manipur	1.176	14.77	24.56
15.	Meghalaya	37.00	0.00	2.50
16.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Mizoram	0.00	6.394	7.31
18.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	15.96
19.	Orissa	35.00	4.392	30.00
20.	Punjab	0.00	29.00	0.00
21.	Rajasthan	0.00	8.243	0.00
22.	Sikkim	0.00	8.424	6.925
23.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tripura	0.00	47.97	32.02
25.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	12.32
26.	Uttaranchal	0.00	1.49	30.50
27.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	18.00
	Total	245.40	392.09	387.01
II. Promotion of Common Effluent Treatment Plants				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Gujarat	95.00	98.20	—
3.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	—
4.	Maharashtra	102.50	396.80	392.00

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Punjab	4.00	0.00	3.00
6.	Tamil Nadu	10.50	0.00	—
	Total	242.00	495.00	395.00
III. Creation of Management Structure for Hazardous Wastes				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	5.13	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	91.63	80.00	—
3.	Assam	—	7.94	2.00
4.	Bihar	—	—	13.00
5.	Chandigarh	5.13	7.94	—
6.	Chhattisgarh	—	7.94	—
7.	Delhi	—	26.40	12.80
8.	Goa	—	—	5.13
9.	Gujarat	—	211.07	161.07
10.	Haryana	7.35	—	—
11.	Himachal Pradesh	—	11.07	9.00
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	7.35	—
13.	Jharkhand	—	—	8.50
14.	Karnataka	11.07	11.07	—
15.	Kerala	—	77.00	—
16.	Lakshadweep	—	5.13	—
17.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	7.50
18.	Maharashtra	80.00	86.07	—
19.	Manipur	—	5.13	—
20.	Meghalaya	5.13	5.13	—
21.	Nagaland	5.13	—	—
22.	Orissa	7.35	7.70	—
23.	Pondicherry	5.13	—	—
24.	Sikkim	5.13	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Tripura	8.46	4.00	—
26.	Uttranchal	7.35	—	7.47
27.	West Bengal	7.35	—	7.35

Note: Funds released during the current financial year 2005-06-nil.

Statement III

Schemes under which Central Pollution Control Board Provided Funds to Research Institutions/Universities/State Pollution Control Boards etc. in various States

(Rs. in lakhs)

		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
		1	2	3
I.	**National Water Quality Monitoring Programme**			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.14	4.43	2.89
2.	Assam	4.61	1.98	1.73
3.	Bihar	1.34	0.70	0.40
4.	Goa	1.50	0.99	1.54
5.	Gujarat	5.28	4.79	4.36
6.	Haryana	0.94	0.43	0.27
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.02	2.31	0.59
8.	Karnataka	10.12	9.40	4.58
9.	Kerala	6.21	4.94	4.29
10.	Lakshadweep	—	0.04	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5.48	4.85	—
12.	Maharashtra	7.81	5.58	4.96
13.	Manipur	0.96	0.54	0.79
14.	Meghalaya	1.31	0.44	0.77
15.	Orissa	10.78	5.22	5.17
16.	Punjab	3.20	1.38	2.09
17.	Pondicherry	0.27	0.25	—
18.	Rajasthan	2.53	1.55	0.32

		1	2	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	5.77	5.48	4.44
20.	Tripura	1.45	0.98	0.79
21.	Uttar Pradesh	4.47	4.00	7.04
22.	West Bengal	4.63	2.25	6.62
23.	Sikkim	0.85	3.78	—
24.	Chhattisgarh	0.33	—	—
25.	Nagaland	—	0.25	0.21
26.	Uttaranchal	—	0.64	—
	Total	90.00	67.20	53.85
II.	**National Air Quality Monitoring Programme**			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.87	4.46	7.79
2.	Assam	0.85	3.57	3.05
3.	Bihar	3.22	—	—
4.	Chandigarh	1.51	1.49	4.18
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.98	10.77	10.56
6.	Gujarat	—	16.86	10.63
7.	Goa	3.12	1.06	2.27
8.	Jharkhand	5.75	7.10	7.37
9.	Haryana	2.55	2.20	2.62
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13.58	11.80	16.42
11.	Karnataka	4.25	3.47	4.32
12.	Kerala	11.48	9.28	7.51
13.	Maharashtra	14.98	39.69	1.42
14.	Meghalaya	3.02	1.28	2.98
15.	Madhya Pradesh	24.62	10.13	21.26
16.	Mizoram	—	13.28	—
17.	Orissa	13.21	5.38	6.02
18.	Punjab	6.80	2.90	—

		1	2	3
19.	Pondicherry	—	2.13	5.53
20.	Rajasthan	14.88	12.47	9.92
21.	Tamil Nadu	20.05	11.05	8.29
22.	Uttar Pradesh	12.87	9.20	12.37
23.	Uttaranchal	—	2.20	—
24.	West Bengal	10.16	4.25	2.76
25.	NEERI	58.74	27.36	29.61
	Total	235.49	213.38	176.88

Note: Funds released during the current financial year 2005-06—nil.

Micronutrients in Soil of Punjab and Haryana

*617. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the report of Indian Council of Agricultural Research of September, 1998 in which it has been reported that the nine micronutrients in the soil of Punjab and Haryana are constantly depleting;

(b) if so, the other details of the report;

(c) whether due to the imbalance in the food cycle and deficiency of zinc therein, the rural people are suffering from diabetes; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the same and improve the food cycle?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Micronutrients deficiencies in soils of Punjab and Haryana and becoming evident in the wake of intensive cropping particularly in rice-wheat system that has resulted in removal of micronutrient elements from the soils at a rate more than their replenishment. As per the report of the Fact Finding Committee of Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) May 1998, there is a general assessment that several important crops are suffering from micronutrient deficiencies particularly zinc copper, iron and manganese. Crops remove substantial quantities of major nutrients such as Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K) and Sulphur (S) and micronutrients such as zinc, manganese, iron, boron and copper. Over time there has been substantial nutrient deficiencies in the soil of both States.

(c) Prevalence of type 2 diabetes is increasing globally and the increase in India has been significant in recent years. Latest figures indicate that prevalence of type 2 diabetes is higher in urban population (9.3 to 16.6%) than rural population (2.8 to 3.2%). Prevalence of type 2 diabetes can not be attributed to zinc deficiency *per se* in the food chain and could also be due to the changing life style and dietary habits.

(d) The Government is promoting "Integrated Nutrient Management" (INM) which includes soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic fertilizers, like farm yard manures, green manure, phospho compost, vermicompost, bio-fertilizers etc. for balanced fertilization.

[English]

Foreign Investment in Indian Steel Sector

*618. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign companies who are interested to invest in Indian Steel Sector or propose to establish steel plants in India at present;

(b) the details of the companies out of them granted/ likely to be granted permission for the same;

(c) the details of steel plants proposed to be set up by these foreign companies, State-wise and location-wise;

(d) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms and conditions laid down for the purpose;

(f) the quantum of investment involved in each of the proposals/projects;

(g) whether any such proposal is lying pending with the Government;

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

(i) the steps taken to clear the proposals alongwith solving the problems of domestic steel manufacturers, if any?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Only one foreign company namely Pohang Steel Company (POSCO) has made a proposal to the Government of Orissa for setting up of steel plant in the State. POSCO, based in Korea, is amongst leading steel manufacturing companies of the world.

(b) In terms of existing industrial policy provision, no prior permission is required to set up steel plants except where locational restrictions are attracted. Besides, foreign direct investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted in the steel sector. As such, but for statutory clearances under environment and forest conservation laws, no permission is ordinarily required from the Central Government for setting up of steel plants.

(c) POSCO has proposed to set up, in phases, a steel plant of 12 million tones per annum capacity at Paradeep in the State of Orissa.

(d) No, Sir.

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

(f) The proposed POSCO steel plant envisages an investment in the steel plant of US$ 10 billion. Further US$2 billion is proposed to be invested in supporting infrastructure.

(g) and (h) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

(i) In a de-regulated regime the role of the Ministry of Steel has been transformed to that of a facilitator.

Fertilizer Plants

*619. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether energy input costs have made the fertilizer plants unviable;

(b) if so, the annual losses suffered by said plants as a result thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to make said plants economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Rates of concession being paid to urea units are based on pre-set energy norms for urea units made effective from 1.4.2004. As the changes in the prices of energy inputs are being reimbursed to urea units on actual basis, the question of unviability of urea manufacturing units on account of energy input costs does not arise.

Foreign Aided Forestry Projects

*620. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

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

(a) the details of total ongoing Social Forestry Projects in the country at present indicating the number out of them running with assistance from World Bank and other foreign banks/aid, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds provided separately by the Government, World Bank and other foreign banks/agencies for these projects during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the cost of above projects indicating their objectives and targetted date of completion;

(d) the role played by the concerned States in this regard; and

(e) the details of further action plan chalked out to promote social forestry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (c) There are eight Externally Aided Forestry Projects being implemented in seven States. The details are enclosed as Statement-I.

The broad objectives of these projects include ecological restoration and biological upgradation of forests and community lands, bridging the gap between demand and supply of forest products, reduction of poverty and augmentation of earning capacity of poor people by sustainable use of land and other natural resources through participatory process of planning and management.

(b) The details are enclosed as Statement-II.

(d) The role played by the concerned States in the successful implementation of the projects in accordance with the project implementation programme set in consultation with the donor agencies.

(e) Two projects namely Karnataka Sustainable Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project and Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project Phase-II have been sanctioned by Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), at an outlay of Rs. 769.88 cr. and Rs. 564 cr., respectively for implementation from 2005-06. In addition, the Ministry is implementing National Afforestation Programme in the country through the involvement of Forest Development Agencies. Guidelines have been issued to the States for simplification of felling and transit laws, rules and regulations for the harvesting of trees grown on private lands.

Statement I

Ongoing Externally Aided Forestry Projects

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Name of State	Funding Agency	Planned Project Period	Project Cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh Community Forestry Project	Andhra Pradesh	World Bank	2002-03 to 2006-07	653
2.	Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project	Tamil Nadu	JBIC	1997-98 to 2002-03*	499.20
3.	Punjab Afforestation Project-II	Punjab	JBIC	2002-03 to 2006-07	264
4.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation Project	Karnataka	JBIC	1997-98 to 2002-03*	566
5.	Integrated Natural Resource Management and Poverty Reduction Project in Haryana	Haryana	JBIC	2004-05 to 2009-10	286

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Himachal Pradesh Forest Sector Reforms Project	Himachal Pradesh	DFID	2002-03 to 2006-07	55
7.	Indo-German Changar Eco-development Project	Himachal Pradesh	Govt. of Germany	1999-2000 to 2004-05	30
8.	Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project	Rajasthan	JBIC	2003-04 to 2008-09	442.14

JBIC—Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

DFID—Department for International Development, UK

*Project period further extended.

Statement II

Details of Funds Provided during last three years

Sl.No.	Title of project	Year	Donor share (Rs. crores)	State share (Rs. crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh Community Forest	2001-02	1.17	0.06
	Management Project	2002-03	8.09	1.33
		2003-04	103.32	15.61
		2004-05	35.86	20.62
2.	Tamil Nadu Afforestation Project	2001-02	76.09	22.49
		2002-03	69.34	21.93
		2003-04	59.76	26.39
		2004-05	15.89	1.91
3.	Punjab Afforestation Project	2001-02	70.05	8.84
		2002-03	38.89	4.23
		2003-04	51.03	9.77
		2004-05	35.52	8.41
4.	Eastern Karnataka Affoestation Project	2001-02	90.092	30.891
		2002-03	75.497	4.437
		2003-04	49.318	2.841
		2004-05	21.777	5.258

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Integrated Natural Resource Management and Poverty Reduction Project	2004-05	13.674	4.326
6.	Himachal Pradesh Forest Sector Reforms Project*	2002-03	0.23	—
		2003-04	3.04	—
		2004-05	0.99	—
7.	Indo-German Changar Eco-development Project	2001-02	1.75	1.51
		2002-03	2.08	1.23
		2003-04	1.79	1.11
		2004-05	1.26	1.05
8.	Rajasthan Forestry and Biodiversity Project	2003-04	28.00	7.00
		2004-05	72.00	18.00

*No state share was to be provided as it was a 100 percent grant.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Customs Milling Work

6348. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding corrupt practices followed by the Rice Millers in connivance with Government officials in the customs milling work in Maharashtra mainly in Gondiya district since 2001-2003 till date;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was conducted in this regard;

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

(d) the action taken against those held responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Two complaints were received by FCI and four complaints were received by the State Government. These have been investigated and the outcome/action taken is as follows:

1. Out of the two cases received by FCI, one complaint was found incorrect. In the other case, FCI is taking action against the delinquent officials for procurement of Below Rejection Limit (BRL) stocks.

2. Out of the four cases received by the State Government of Maharashtra, in three cases no misappropriation was found. In one case, the State agency has initiated departmental enquiry against employees found guilty.

Setting up of an Industry for Potato, Apple and Pear Crops in Shimla

6349. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an industry in Shimla which could consume potato, apple and pear crops of the local producers;

(b) if so, the details of norms fixed in this regard and the ways to motivate the people; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government has no proposal for setting up of an industry for potato, apple and pear in Shimla. However, Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its plan scheme provide assistance for setting up of food processing units @ 25% for normal area with limitation of Rs. 50.00 lakh and @ 33.3% for difficult area with limitation of Rs. 75.00 lakh including Himachal Pradesh.

[English]

Rural Knowledge Centres

6350. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the proposed Rural Knowledge Centres as recommended by the National Commission on Farmers;

(b) the type of modern information and communication technology is to be used and how the farmers are going to access it;

(c) the details of alliance of Mission 2007;

(d) the role of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in achieving the target; and

(e) the details of the funding pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Village Knowledge Centres (VKCs) are envisaged to provide access to key local information on entitlements, governance and infrastructure while supporting access to dynamic information on weather, markets and on-line public services. These are also envisaged to act as retail outlets for a host of online learning, skill building, training services, providing information on employment opportunities and linkage to extension services.

(c) "National Alliance for Mission, 2007: Every Village a Knowledge Centre" has been formed to mobilize the power of partnership among the public and private sectors, academia, mass media and civil society organizations, to work together for information empowerment of farm men and women on agriculture and allied activities as also on issues related to health, education, etc.

(d) The Commission has recommended establishment of Farmers' Distress Call Centres in each State by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(e) The funding pattern suggested by the Commission in its Report is as follows:

Establishment of innovation fund for rural connectivity—Rs. 100 crore.

Incentives and tax holiday for Rural Service Providers from the USO Fund—Rs. 100 crore.

90% reduction in telecom tariff for RSPs from the USO Fund—Rs. 300 crore.

Establishment of National Digital Gateway for Rural Livelihood Security—allocation of Rs. 100 crore.

Financial support to establish Rural Knowledge Centres in each Panchayat—Rs. 50 crore.

Incentive and support to information entrepreneurs training and capacity building—Rs. 100 crore.

Setting up of 20,000 VKCs in the 150 backward districts identified for Food for Work Programme—Rs. 500 crore in the first year and support for operational costs (Rs. 1 lac per annum for each VKC over a five year period on a reducing balance of 20% every year).

Establishment of Farmers' Distress Call Centres in each State—Rs. 100 crore for setting up 30 Centres.

VKC Operation—Information & Communication Technology Self Help Groups to manage and operate the VKCs (Rs. 100 crore).

Employment Market Information Programme

6351. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received the employment market information programme recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this programme covers all the States including North Eastern Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The programme covers all the States & Union Territories except Sikkim and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Supply of Raw Fruits and Vegetables in Mother Dairy Outlets

6352. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the supply of raw fruits and vegetables, like watermelon, exploiting the customers in Mother Dairy's Fruits and Vegetable (F&V) outlets in New Delhi and NCR;

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that no raw fruits and vegetables sold through said outlets;

(c) whether there is any proposal to compensate the customers who brought the raw watermelons and other fruits from these outlets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) There is no exploitation of customers on the pretext of supplying raw fruits and vegetables in Mother Dairy's fruits and vegetable outlets as ripening of fruits and vegetables is a natural process. In case of watermelon, testing of the ripeness of the fruit is being done by random sampling of the consignments received from the production areas and supplied to the Mother Dairy outlets.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal as no complaint has been received from any of the customers.

[Translation]

Assistance to NAFED

6353. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether economic assistance is being extended by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution to NAFED for supply of essential commodities at subsidized rates; and

(b) if so, the details of economic assistance provided to NAFED during the Tenth Five Year Plan, commodity-wise, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir, The Ministry is not providing any economic assistance to NAFED for supply of essential commodities at subsidised rates.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Recovery of Losses to Farmers

6354. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the maximum spoilage of crops due to wild animals;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring such losses under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other steps being taken for recovery of financial losses to the farmers on this score?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Development of Coal and Iron Mines by SAIL in Foreign Countries

6355. SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to develop and produce coal and iron after acquiring coal and iron mines in various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) For the purpose of ensuring supplies on a sustained basis SAIL has plans to acquire equity stakes in overseas mines and is currently exploring the possibilities of forging strategic alliances with overseas coal mining companies. Several proposals are currently under consideration and examination for their suitability. No equity stake has been taken in any overseas mine as yet.

No plans have as yet been drawn up for developing iron ore mines in overseas territories.

[English]

Convergence of Schemes

6356. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to converge various schemes for supply of subsidised foodgrains into a single integrated scheme;

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

(c) the benefits likely to accrue as a result of this convergence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal presently to converge various schemes for supply of subsidized foodgrains into a single integrated scheme.

[Translation]

Review of Project Implemented by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers

6357. SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several wasteful expenditure points have been raised in relation to review of project implementation, production, performance and energy conservation of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers on page 41 of CAG Report 2004;

(b) if so, the details of the points raised in the report at present;

(c) the amount of wasteful expenditure assessed by the CAG in its report;

(d) whether the Government has taken any remedial steps in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Page 41 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Report No. 4 of 2004 does not pertain to Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers. However, CAG in this report has made observations regarding loss in production, cost overruns due to delay in implementation of projects, fixing of unrealistic targets, excess consumption of raw materials and energy equipment breakdowns, etc.

(d) and (e) The matter has been taken up with CAG regarding various issues raised in the report.

[English]

Identification of Polluting Industries

6358. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to identify pollution causing industries in their respective areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government provides any assistance to State Governments to check/control pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A total number of 2619 highly polluting industries under 17 categories have been identified in 27 States and Union Territories of the Country out of which, 2035 units are reported to have been operating satisfactorily with adequate pollution control devices, 266 units are defaulting and 318 units closed. The compliance status of the polluting industries is monitored by the respective State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees and action is taken by them against defaulting units.

(c) and (d) Technical and financial assistance is provided to States and Union Territories for prevention and control of pollution including air quality monitoring, assessment of industrial pollution, strengthening of laboratories, etc.

Demand for Separate Budget

6359. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has demanded in certain quarters for presentation of separate budget for the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of merit and demerit of this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government have received a representation from Federation of Farmers Association, Hyderabad containing, *inter-alia*, the suggestion for "separate Union Budget presentation by Minister for Agriculture".

(c) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments are primarily responsible for implementation of the policies and programmes for the development of agriculture in their respective States for which they have their own budgetary mechanisms. The Union Government supplements their efforts by devising programmes and policies and providing necessary funds to help the State Governments to achieve optimum results in terms of agricultural production and productivity. Budgetary allocations for the agriculture sector in the Union Government have shown a significant increase in 2005-06 and a number of new thrust areas have been identified for implementation.

[Translation]

Licence to Sell Fertilizers

6360. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether shopkeepers all over the country have to obtain licence to sell fertilizers;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to abolish the process of getting licence to sell fertilizers; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Under the provision of FCO, the Authorization letter for carrying on the business of selling of fertilizer has to be obtained from the Notified Authority appointed by the State Government. Such a system has been provided vide notification SO No. 49(E) dated 16.1.2003 which dispensed with requirement of Certificate of registration for carrying on the business of selling of fertilizer and replaced the same by simple procedure of obtaining the acknowledgement of Memorandum of Intimation provides for furnishing of certain information including the source from where the material is procured. Such an acknowledgement is considered as the

Authorization letter for carrying on the business of selling of fertilizers.

[English]

Wool Products

6361. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are about 50.80 million sheep and 115 million goats in the country, the estimated wool production was about 460 lakh Kg. during 2002-03;

(b) whether there is tremendous scope for employment generation in this sector;

(c) if so, the action being taken thereon;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up a technology mission to improve productivity of wool per sheep and work out methodology for the diversification of products by mixing Angora and Pashmina wool; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per the 17th Livestock Census (2003) results, sheep and goat population in the country are 61.47 million and 124.36 million respectively. Wool production in 2002-03 is estimated at 505 lakh kg.

(b) Scope of employment generation through sheep and goat, particularly for the disadvantaged groups of people, has been recognized at various quarters.

(c) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Consultancy NABCONS, a wholly owned subsidiary of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), has been assigned the task of formulating a Detailed Project Report for the Development of Small Ruminants.

(d) and (e) A proposal for a Technology Mission for Wool originated from the recommendation of Working Group on textiles and jute industries constituted by the Planning Commission. Ministry of Textiles, in consultation with Planning Commission, decided to implement an Integrated Wool Improvement Programme focusing on improvement of wool fibre as well as marketing of wool and woollen products. The Integrated Wool Improvement Programme has been approved with a 10th Plan allocation of Rs. 35.00 crore for implementation since 2003-04 by the Ministry of Textiles and Central Wool Development Board in collaboration with State Animal Husbandry Departments, State Wool Boards/Federations and other agencies.

[Translation]

Construction of Roads Passing through Forests

6362. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any requests/proposals from certain States including Uttar Pradesh for grant of 'No Objection Certificate' to construct roads/bridges passing through the forest area;

(b) if so, the details of such requests/proposals received during the last three years and current year, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the details of requests/proposals accorded approval, State-wise; and

(d) by when the remaining requests/proposals are to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. State-wise and location-wise details of 960 proposals received from various State/Union Territory (UT) Governments including Uttar Pradesh, for diversion of forest lands under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for construction of roads/bridges during last three years and current year, and their status including approvals, are enclosed as Statement.

(d) Examination of and the decision on the proposals is a continuous process, and a time limit of 60 days has been prescribed for the Central Government to take decision on such proposals under Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003. The remaining six proposals shown as 'Under Process' in the last column of Annexure under the heading of 'Case Status' are to be examined as per the prescribed procedure.

Statement

"Construction of Roads Passing through Forests" due for Reply on 09.05.2005.

During 01.01.2002 to 30.04.2005

Sl.No.	Name of Proposal	State	District	Area Applied (ha.)	Category of Project	Case Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Kamorta to Pilpillow Rd	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Nicobar	69.68	Road	Approved
2.	Const. of Road Vivekanand Puranto Dugong Creek	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Andaman	24	Road	Closed
3.	Construction of Road from Adajig to Flat Bay Basti	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Andaman	0.799	Road	Closed
4.	Diversion of 5.605 Ha RF Land for Construction of Road from Shoal Bay-15 to 19.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Andaman	5.605	Road	Returned to State Govt.
5.	Diversion of 0.05 Ha. of FL for Construction of Bridge Across Vakileru Vagu on Nandyal-Giddalur Road in Sirvel RF of Cheliva Range of Nandyal Divn. by Asstt. Commissioner, Endowment Deptt., Kurnool.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	0.05	Bridge	Approved
6.	Formation of Internal Road in Ramoji Film City by M/s Usha Kiran Movies Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Ranga Reddy	0.734	Road	Approved
7.	Road from Mines to Factory in F/o NCL Industries	Andhra Pradesh	Nalgonda	2.71	Road	Approved
8.	Rehabilitation and Upgradation to 4 Lane Divided Carriage	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari	2.71	Road	Approved
9.	Laying Link Road from Kona (Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple)	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	1.98	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Construction of High Level Bridge Across Lakhanpur Vagu at Km 239/8.10 on N.H. No. 7	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad	0.2	Road	Approved
11.	Kambalakonda RF-Div. of F/L in F/O NHAI	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	8	Road	Approved
12.	Formation of Alternate Roads from Rapur to Penjalakona and Adripally to Penjalakona by TGP	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	10.3	Road	Approved
13.	Laying Approach Road from Varadaihpalem to Tada R&B Road to Golden City Hospital and Lecture Hall	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	0.13	Road	Approved
14.	Diversion of 0.13 Ha. of FL in Kadur RF of Satyavedu Range in Wildlife Chittoor (E) Divn. for Laying Approach Road from Varadaihpalem to Tada R&B Road to Golden City Hospital & Lecture Hall.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	0.13	Road	Approved
15.	Diversion of FL for Laying Link Road from Kona (Ramalingeswara Swamy Temple) in Ananthapur District to Guttalapalli.	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool	1.98	Road	Approved
16.	Diversion of FL for Construction of High Level Bridge Across Lakhanpur Vagu at Km 239/8-10 on NH Way No. 7 in favour of EE, R&B, NH Way Dvn.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad	0.2	Road	Approved
17.	Diversion of FL for Widening Cuddapah-Renigunta Road (APSH-4) Passing a New Road through RF.	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	4.86	Road	Approved
18.	Diversion of FL for formation of Internal Road in Ramoji Film City, Hyderabad by M/s Usha Kiran Movies Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Ranga Reddy	0.734	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19.	NH 5-upgradation to 4 Lane in AP-Diversion of FL in Bayyavaram FB for Widening on NH 5 to 4 Laning from KM 300/0 to 359/2	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	1.88	Road	Approved
20.	Diversion of 6.65 Acres (2.71 Ha.) of FL for the Purpose of Road from Mines to Factory in Sultanpur (V) Huzumagar (M) Nalgonda Distt. in F/o M/s N.C.L. Industries.	Andhra Pradesh	Nalgonda	2.71	Road	Approved
21.	Diversion of 3.71 Ha. of FL for Laying of National Highway Rehabilitation & Upgradation to 4 Lane Divided Carriage Way of NH in F/o NHAI.	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari	2.71	Road	Approved
22.	Laying Direct Approach Road to Apparel Export Park	Andhra Pradesh	Ranga Reddy	1.21	Road	Approved
23.	Widening of NH 5 to Four Lanes of Existing Two Lane from Nellore to Chilakaluripet	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam	10.37	Road	Approved
24.	Diversion of Forest Land for Laying Direct Approach Road to Apparel Export Park from Dollapally (V) to Gundlapochampally (V) in Favour of Executive Director, APIIC Ltd., Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	Ranga Reddy	1.21	Road	Approved
25.	Diversion of FL-Upgrading to 4/6 Lane Divided Carriage way-Widening of NH-5 Road to 4 Lanes in Favour of NHAI.	Andhra Pradesh	Prakasam	10.37	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	Diversion of 4.71 HA. of FL for Widening of NH 5 to 4 Lane Carriage Way-Naidupet-Tada Bot Project (AP-7) in Nellore Forest Dvn.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	4.71	Road	Approved
27.	Diversion of FL in Odur RF Kanpur East & West RF for Widening of NH 5 to 4 Lane B/W KM. 110 and KM 164.75 in Favour of NHAI.	Andhra Pradesh	Nellore	1.37	Road	Approved
28.	Widening of Cuddapah-Renigunta Road (APSH 4) Passing in New Road through RF	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	7.586	Road	Withdrawn
29.	Diversion of 0.85 HA. & 2.11 HA. of FL for Widening and Strengthening of Cuddapah Renigunta-APSHWP-4 to Roads & Buildings Department in Chittoor East Division.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	2.96	Road	Withdrawn
30.	Diversion of FL for (R&B) Deptt. for Cuddapah-Renigunta Road (APSH-4) Under AP SHP Phase-II-I-Passing of a New Road in Settigunta RF Block, Kodur Range, Wildlife DVN, Rajampet.	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	2.18	Road	Withdrawn
31.	Diversion of 0.4045 Ha. of FL in Seethakonda (Chinagadili) RF in Visakhapatnam Range/Dvn. & Circle for Widening and Improvement of Road to Visakhapatnam-Bhimili by VUDA	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	0.4045	Road	Returned to State Govt.
32.	Diversion of 3.45 Ha. of FL for Formation of WBM Road from Forest Check Post Kollapur I.E. Mulachintapalli Road to Amaragiri (V) in F/o Executive Engineer, Protection Works Divn., Kurnool in Achampet WLM Divn., Mahabubnagar District.	Andhra Pradesh	Mahaboobnagar	3.45	Road	Returned to State Govt.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33.	Construction of Bridge Over Digaru River on NH-52 Paya Digaru Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit	13.486	Bridge	Returned to State Government
34.	Construction of Bridge Over Tebang/Lasapani River on NH-52 Digaru-Gezu Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit	3.3144	Bridge	Returned to State Government
35.	Construction of Laganck-Gorupa-Chabnella Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Towang	31.65	Road	Approved
36.	Jong to Ramasapper Road by BRTF	Arunachal Pradesh	Towang	48	Road	Approved
37.	Tato-Menchuka Road	Arunachal Pradesh	West Siyang	38.247	Road	Approved
38.	Lumla-Myamjangchu Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Towang	23.775	Road	Approved
39.	Construction of Kaying-Tato Road	Arunachal Pradesh	West Siyang	73.6	Road	Approved
40.	Construction, Widening & Improvement of Itanagar-Gohpur Road PH-I	Arunachal Pradesh	Papumpare	30.98	Road	Approved
41.	Construction of Miggning-Tuting Road	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siyang	37	Road	Approved
42.	Widening & Improvement of Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road Between 118 KM to 138 KM	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	0.41	Road	Approved
43.	Construction of RE-Alignment Portion Between 40-60 KM on Hapoli-Sarli-Huri road	Arunachal Pradesh	Dibang Valley	0.922	Road	Approved
44.	Manigong-Tadage Road	Arunachal Pradesh	West Siyang	15.87	Road	Approach
45.	Construction of Mechuka-Tongkorla Road	Arunachal Pradesh	East Siyang	9.45	Road	Approved
46.	Const. of Short Length from Tata to ADM Base	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit	2.3	Road	Approved
47.	Tongkorla-Yarlung Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Dibang Valley	12.77	Road	Approved
48.	Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road 138-158 KM	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	0.913	Road	Approved
49.	Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road 20-40 KM	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	6.45	Road	Approved
50.	Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road 0-20 KM	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	3.9	Road	Approved
51.	Construction. of Roads Karoti to Karoti Gun Point, Short Length from Tilam Point	Arunachal Pradesh	Lohit	17.385	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
52.	Construction of Alternate Route to Tawang (from Debrabu to Naga GG Sector)	Arunachal Pradesh	West Kamang	16.14	Road	Approved
53.	Construction of Diversion Stretch of Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	9.27	Road	Under process
54.	Construction, Widening and Improvement of Hapoli-Surli-Huri Road	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	22.46	Road	Under process
55.	Widening of Hapoli-Sarli-Huri Road Between 98 KM to 105-325 KM	Arunachal Pradesh	Lower Subansiri	1.75	Road	Returned to State Government
56.	Diversion of R/F Land for Construction of Lay-Bye at Thilbhum	Assam	KarimGanj	0.9995	Road	Approved
57.	Panjabari-Batahguri via Patar Kuchi Road to NH 37	Assam	Kamrup	4.94	Road	Approved
58.	Diversion of Forest Land for Construction of Railway Overbridge in Bihar	Bihar	Bhagalpur	0	Bridge	Returned to State Government
59.	Construction of NH-2 By-Pass Road to Sasaram	Bihar	Saran	1.248	Road	Approved
60.	Construction of Road, Conveyor Belt & Coal Washery	Chhattisgarh	Korba	2.918	Road	Approved
61.	Construction on Uniflow Railway Line By NMDC	Chhattisgarh	Dantewara	2	Road	Approved
62.	Contruction of Temporary Road in favour of Shri Vijay Kumar	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	0.9	Road	Closed
63.	Construction of Road by SECL	Chhattisgarh	Sarguja	1.04	Road	Rejected
64.	Widening of Road at SH No. 16	Chhattisgarh	Jagdalpur	473.42	Road	Returned to State Government
65.	Construction of Road Side and Kotarside for Road Survey No. 287/2 & 306 Village Sangli	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.2602	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
66.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.24	Road	Approved
67.	Construction of Approach Road from Chisda Patelpada to Mulgam in UT	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.3	Road	Approved
68.	Construction of Access to Survey No 397/8 of Village Dapada	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0495	Road	Approved
69.	Construction of Access to Survey No. 8 in Village Khutli	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvass	0.078	Road	Approved
70.	Construction of Access in Survey No. 34/1/1 of Village Umerkui	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0048	Road	Approved
71.	Construction of Access in Survey No. 103/2 of Village Rakholi	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0135	Road	Approved
72.	Construction of Access in Survey No. 53 of Village Rakholi	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0117	Road	Approved
73.	Construction of Access to Survey No. in UT	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0166	Road	Approved
74.	Construction of Access to Survey No. 372 of Village Karadpara in UT	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.025	Road	Approved
75.	Construction of Access Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.075	Road	Approved
76.	Construction of Access Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli		0.0072	Road	Approved
77.	Construction of Acess to Survey No. 371 of Village Sayli	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0225	Road	Approved
78.	Construction of Access Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.105	Road	Approved
79.	Construction of Approach Road and Water Pipeline Scheme	Dada & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.3388	Road	Approved
80.	Construction of Access Road to Survey No. 326/2/2/2	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0018	Road	Approved
81.	Construction of Road Side Access No. 577/3/3, 57/4/5/1	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.195	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
82.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.195	Road	Approved
83.	Construction of Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.014	Road	Approved
84.	Construction of Road Side Access	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.09	Road	Approved
85.	Construction of Acess Road Survey No. 1/2 of Village Kutch	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.34	Road	Approved
86.	Road from Vansada Border to Besda Mulgaon	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.441	Road	Approved
87.	Construction of Road Side Access Survey No. 249/1 Village Vasona	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvass	0.0168	Road	Approved
88.	Construction of Access to Survey No. 11/3/1, 15/1, 14/1, of Village Athal	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0255	Road	Rejected
89.	Construction of Approach Road from Uplamedha to Karchond Khadkunia	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	1.161	Road	Reutmed to State Government
90.	Construction of Access to Survey No. 35/1/1/	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0195	Road	Under process
91.	Construction of Road from Galonda Main Road to Joining Vakhrapada	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.03	Road	Returned to State Government
92.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.21	Road	Returned to State Government
93.	Construction of Approach Road.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.045	Road	Returned to State Government
94.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.21	Road	Returned to State Government
95.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	1.53	Road	Returned to State Government
96.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.27	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
97.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.198	Road	Returned to State Government
98.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.126	Road	Returned to State Government
99.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.9	Road	Returned to State Government
100.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.75	Road	Returned to State Government
101.	Construction of Access Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.01729	Road	Returned to State Government
102.	Construction of Access Road in favour of Shri Vijaysinh R. Rathod	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0255	Road	Returned to State Government
103.	Construction of Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.24	Road	Returned to State Government
104.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.168	Road	Returned to State Government
105.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.72	Road	Returned to State Government
106.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.48	Road	Returned to State Government
107.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.42	Road	Returned to State Government
108.	Construction of Approach Road	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	0.0671	Road	Returned to State Government
109.	Widening of Road from Nagaon to Janoh	Daman & Diu	Daman & Diu	1.6965	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
110.	Approach to a Minor Bridge at KM 67/100 NH 17-Panaji-Karwar Bridge	Goa	South Goa	0.9675	Road	Approved
111.	Construction of By-Pass Road from Davali to Khandepur Road (Cutri) Via Bandbag and Bethora in Ponda (T) Phase (II) Section B/W Bethora Crossing to Anugos Hotel.	Goa	North Goa	0.7625	Road	Approved
112.	Construction of Minor Bridge	Gujarat	Dangs	0.012	Bridge	Approved
113.	Construction of Bridge	Gujarat	Dangs	0.1	Bridge	Returned to State Government
114.	Construction of Shrb on Modhera-Bechraji Road Near Crossing	Gujarat	Mehsana	1.064	Road	Approved
115.	Construction of Ring and Approach Road	Gujarat	Kutch	4.8	Road	Approved
116.	Construction of Futeda Sabarmati Bridge Approach Road	Gujarat	Mehsana	0.75	Road	Approved
117.	Construction of Shrb DN. Kadi Thol Road Near Crossing of Narmada Main Canal	Gujarat	Mehsana	2.55	Road	Approved
118.	Construction of Shrb DN. Kadi Detroi Road Near Crossing of Narmada Main Canal	Gujarat	Mehsana	2.793	Road	Approved
119.	Construction of Shrb with Approach Road Near Village Selia	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	0.76	Road	Approved
120.	Construction of Road	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	0.116	Road	Approved
121.	Construction of Approach Road	Gujarat	Valsad	0.24	Road	Approved
122.	Construction of Shrb on Mehsana-Bechraji Road Near Crossing	Gujarat	Mehsana	1.152	Road	Approved
123.	Construction of Road Entry along with culvert	Gujarat	Bharuch	0.0187	Road	Approved
124.	Construction Road along with SH 24 from Jamnagar to Rajkot	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	0.045	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
125.	Construction of Approach Road for Petrol Pump	Gujarat	Mehsana	0.06	Road	Approved
126.	Construction of Approach Road NH 25	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	0.06	Road	Approved
127.	Road from Khadvavdi Toraja Vadla, Tal. Jasdan	Gujarat	Rajkot	0.936	Road	Approved
128.	Construction of Road 35 KM 1710 KM	Gujarat	Mehsana	0.0187	Road	Approved
129.	Widening of Two Lane in to Four Lane Vadodara-Padara Jambusar Road	Gujarat	Vadodara	15.64	Road	Approved
130.	Construction of Road at Kurang Junction at 202/2	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	0.36	Road	Approved
131.	Construction of Express Highway from Ahmedabad to Vadodara	Gujarat	Anand	2.467	Road	Approved
132.	Road Entry Alongwith NH8D Vill. Chandavav by Reliance Industries	Gujarat	Junagadh	0.03	Road	Approved
133.	Construction of Khari-Kut Bridge Ahmedabad-Mehsana	Gujarat	Mehsana	1.5626	Road	Approved
134.	Widening the Existing Underpass	Gujarat	Vadodara	1.54	Road	Approved
135.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane 8A Bemanpur to Sankhiyali	Gujarat	Kutch	308.36	Road	Approved
136.	Widening of Road	Gujarat	Mehsana	2.4	Road	Approved
137.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane of NH 8	Gujarat	Valsad	0.51	Road	Approved
138.	Road on NH No. 8A Between KM 168 to 171	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	2.85	Road	Approved
139.	Road Entry Alongwith SH 8 Near Km Stone 55 Village Nadiad by M/s Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kheda	0.0525	Road	Approved
140.	Construction of Bhotali-Torda-Meru Road	Gujarat	Sabar Kantha	3.6	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
141.	Widening of Road Between KM. 33/0 to 47/0 Sarkhej-Bavla-Bagodara	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	18.9	Road	Approved
142.	Widening Two Lane into Four Lane of NH No. 8A	Gujarat	Valsad	63.1	Road	Approved
143.	Widening of Amreli to Chalala Road	Gujarat	Amreli	0.76	Road	Approved
144.	Widening of Two Lane Into Four Lane SH.	Gujarat	Porbandar	117.28	Road	Approved
145.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane SH No. 8A from Rajkot	Gujarat	Rajkot	524.663	Road	Approved
146.	Widening of Road Between NH No. 8A KM. 47/0 to 58/3 Sarkhej-Bavla-Bagodara	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	17.245	Road	Approved
147.	Widening of Two Lane in to Four Lane NH 8	Gujarat	Mehsana	1	Road	Approved
148.	Widening of Road Between 8A KM 24/0 to 33/0	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	12.15	Road	Approved
149.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane Bharuch-Shukaltirth	Gujarat	Bharuch	3.99	Road	Approved
150.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane NH No. 8 Between KM 318 to 381/6	Gujarat	Valsad	0.5464	Road	Approved
151.	Widening of Road NH No. 59 from Dakor to Godhra	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	31.68	Road	Approved
152.	Widening of Left Side Service Lane of Deegampalpur Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	13.91	Road	Approved
153.	Widening the Existing SH Shamla Ji Road	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	103.92	Road	Approved
154.	Widening of Road Between 143/0 to 160/0	Gujarat	Rajkot	17.04	Road	Approved
155.	Widening of Road Between Vataman to Pipri	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	25.69	Road	Approved
156.	Widening of Dokor Sevaliya-Godhra Road	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	28.04	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
157.	Widening of Road Between KM. 16/8 to 93/8 Vataman to Pipri	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	25.69	Road	Approved
158.	Widening the Existing SH No. 05 Between Godhra to Shamla Ji Road	Gujarat	Sabarkantha	66.18	Road	Approved
159.	Widening of Road from and Parking Place on Mehsana-Vijapur-Himatnagar	Gujarat	Mehsana	0.65	Road	Approved
160.	Widening into Four Lane of Dakorladwel Road Between 0.50 to 18.50	Gujarat	Kheda	18.48	Road	Approved
161.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane of NH 8	Gujarat	Patan	277.98	Road	Approved
162.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane from Deesa to Palanpur	Gujarat	Banaskantha	263.98	Road	Approved
163.	Widening of Road at Vadodara	Gujarat	Vadodara	2.295	Road	Approved
164.	Road Entry Alongwith NH8A Near Village Meghpur by Reliance Industries	Gujarat	Kutch	0.0679	Road	Approved
165.	Construction of Parallel Service Road	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	2.28	Road	Approved
166.	Construction of Approach Roads to Retail Outlet in Favour M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kheda	0.0484	Road	Approved
167.	Road Entry Alongwith SH 5 at Village Popatpura by Reliance Industries	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	0.0424	Road	Approved
168.	Construction of Approach Road to Retail Outlet on SH-42 Near Village Kotada-Jododar of M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kutch	0.0362	Road	Approved
169.	Widening and Strengthening of NH 59 Between KM 212/0 to 215/9	Gujarat	Dahod	0.855	Road	Approved
170.	Construction of Approach Road to Retail Outlet on NH 71 Near Village Balva to M/s Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	0.033	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
171.	Entry and Exit Roads to Petrol Pump	Gujarat	Dahod	0.0066	Road	Approved
172.	Construction. of Approach Roads to Petrol Pump	Gujarat	Sabarkantha	0.027	Road	Approved
173.	Construction of Approach Roads to Petrol Pump	Gujarat	Kutch	0.0198	Road	Approved
174.	Construction of Approach Roads to Petrol Pump by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Banaskantha	0	Road	Approved
175.	Construction of Road to Petrol Pump by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	0.0261	Road	Approved
176.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Vadodara	0.0166	Road	Approved
177.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Vadodara	0.0126	Road	Approved
178.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on SH-42, Village Sukhpur by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kutch	0.0284	Road	Approved
179.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on NH-8A Village Chotila by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	0.0199	Road	Approved
180.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on NH-8A Village Khumbhara by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	0.177	Road	Approved
181.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on SH-42, Village Nagiyari by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kutch	0.027	Road	Approved
182.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on SH-6, Village Vishrampura by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Vadodara	0.0165	Road	Approved
183.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on NH-11, Village Vega by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Vadodara	0.0166	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
184.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on SH-11 Village Ratanpur by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	0.0172	Road	Approved
185.	Construction of Road Entry to Petrol Pump on SH-8A Village Moti by Reliance Industries Ltd.	Gujarat	Kutch	2.0249	Road	Approved
186.	Construction of Road from Village Vadod to Dungargadh	Gujarat	Vadodara	0.9462	Road	Approved
187.	Construction of Left Side Service Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	1.17	Road	Approved
188.	Widening of Road	Gujarat	Rajkot	74.69	Road	Approved
189.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane of NH-8	Gujarat	Patan	277.98	Road	Approved
190.	Widening Two Lane into Four Lane of NH No. 8A Bagodara to Bamanbar	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	2.55	Road	Approved
191.	Widening the Existing Bilimora-Chikholi Road	Gujarat	Valsad	2.7	Road	Approved
192.	Widening two Lane into Four Lane SH 25 Falla-Jamnagar	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	20.71	Road	Approved
193.	Widening to Stage Highway No. 59	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	26.936	Road	Approved
194.	Widening to Two Lane into Four Lane from Viramgam-Halvar	Gujarat	Surendra Nagar	58.75	Road	Approved
195.	Widening of Paved Side Shoulders	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	28.64	Road	Approved
196.	Widening of Two Lane into Four Lane NH No. 8 Between KM 318 to 381/6	Gujarat	Valsad	2.279	Road	Approved
197.	Widening to Two Lane into Four Lane at SH. No. 59	Gujarat	Panch Mahal	28.64	Road	Approved
198.	Widening and Strengthening of NH-59 Between KM 147 & 161, 171 & 174 and 184 & 189.6	Gujarat	Dahod	5.085	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
199.	Widening of Ring Road in favour of Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	1.968	Road	Approved
200.	Construction of parallel Service Road on Ahmedabad Link Road NH-8A	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	1.8	Road	Approved
201.	Construction of Approach Road at Padardi	Gujarat	Sabarkantha	3.6	Road	Closed
202.	Construction of Jarivav-Khokharbili Godatankni Approach Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	6.45	Road	Closed
203.	Construction of Jarivav-Khokharbili Godatankni Approach Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	6.45	Road	Closed
204.	Widening and Strengthening of Road	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	2.88	Road	Closed
205.	Construction of Amamimal Approach Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	1.2	Road	Rejected
206.	Construction of Vagoda-Kyari Approach Road	Gujarat	Banaskantha	1.095	Road	Rejected
207.	Widening of Existing Road from KM. 182.4 to KM. 183.6 on NH No. 8A	Gujarat	Rajkot	1.783	Road	Returned to State Government
208.	Construction of Bridge	Gujarat	Dangs	0.1	Road	Returned to State Government
209.	Construction of Jetty and Approach Road	Gujarat	Kutch	3.9	Road	Returned to State Government
210.	Construction of Approach Road	Gujarat	Jam Nagar	0.51	Road	Returned to State Government
211.	Construction of High Level Bridge on Sighmukh Feeder, Kalirawan to Kharampur Road, RD 6200	Haryana	Hisar	0.0495	Bridge	Approved
212.	Construction of Bridge on Agroha-Adampur Road KM. 10, Krishangarh Sub Branch, RD 66250	Haryana	Hisar	0.05	Bridge	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
213.	Construction of High Level Bridge on Kohali-Mahalsara Road, Didhmukh Fidar RD 76857	Haryana	Hisar	0.0495	Bridge	Approved
214.	Construction of Bridge on Mangerhpur Drain & Const of Bye Pass road and Link Road from NH-10 to Shassasr Road and Charra Road FT. Division	Haryana	Rohtak	0.0108	Bridge	Approved
215.	Rebuilding of Railway Bridge No. 313 on River Ghaggar, FT. Div. & Distt. Ambala	Haryana	Ambala	2.003	Bridge	Approved
216.	Construction of Rangoi Kharaf Canal and A.R. Bridge	Haryana	Sirsa	0.27	Bridge	Approved
217.	Construction of Two No's Bays in VR Bridge at RD 22910 WJC MLL Near Baddiyan	Haryana	Yamuna Nagar	0.068	Bridge	Approved
218.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump of IOC at Kohand, KM. 101 on GT Road, Karnal	Haryana	Karnal	0.0285	Road	Approved
219.	Approach Road to Industrial Estate At I.E. Mandepur on KM. 10-11, Forest Division Yamunagar.	Haryana	Yamuna Nagar	0.0234	Road	Approved
220.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump on Jind-Nirwana Road, KM. 89 at Uchana	Haryana	Jind	0.018	Road	Approved
221.	Construction of Byepass Road Jhajjar-DHS Road to Rohar, Forest Division, Rohtak	Haryana	Hisar	0.7802	Road	Approved
222.	Construction of Byepass Road Sampla-DHS Road, Forest Division, Rohtak.	Haryana	Rohtak	1.524	road	Approved
223.	Construction of 6-Laning of NH-1 KM. 44.300 to 66 in Sonepat Forest Division Distt. Sonepat, Haryana.	Haryana	Sonipat	46.78	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
224.	Permission for Construction of Main Road for Sector 7, 6, 5, 27, 4, 28, & 29 from GT Road at RD 43.4 Km	Haryana	Sonepat	0.13	Road	Approved
225.	Construction of Approach Road from GT Road Km. 105-106 to Petrol Pump, Distt. Karnal.	Haryana	Karnal	0.0359	Road	Approved
226.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump from G.T. Road KM. 104-105 L/S Forest Division Karnal.	Haryana	Karnal	0.0757	Road	Approved
227.	Construction of Bye Pass Road from Mini Sectt. to Parwal Road, Forest Division Mahendergarh.	Haryana	Mahendragarh	0.1865	Road	Approved
228.	Widening of NH-71 from KM. 131-960 to 169/240 Forest Division and Distt. Jind.	Haryana	Jind	15.77	Road	Approved
229.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump at Panipat-Gohana Road, KM. 31-32	Haryana	Sonepat	0.0192	Road	Approved
230	Construction of Road to HSIDC Industrial Estate at Rai, GT Road KM. 37-38	Haryana	Sonepat	0.0216	Road	Approved
231.	4-Laning of NH-10 KM. 258.00 to 260.00 Forest Division, Sirsa.	Haryana	Sirsa	2.775	Road	Approved
232.	Widening of Ambala-Kala AMB Road, NH-72 KM. 0-9.23, Forest Division Ambala.	Haryana	Ambala	3.68	Road	Approved
233.	Widening of Ambala-Kala AMB Road, NH-72 KM. 13.75-19.75, Forest Division Ambala.	Haryana	Ambala	2.49	Road	Approved
234.	Widening of NH-73 (Rorkee-Shaharanpur-Yamunanagar-Panchkula Road) KM. 153. 185 to 166.685	Haryana	Panchkula	3.7975	Road	Approved
235.	2-Laning of NH-71 from KM. 112-132.5, Forest Division Rohtak.	Haryana	Rohtak	8.482	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
236.	6/8 Laning of NH-8 KM. 24 to 33.224 B/S and KM. 33.224 to 35.829	Haryana	Gurgaon	42.16	Road	Approved
237.	4-Laning of Kurukshetra-Jhansa Road, KM. 0-3, Forest Division Kurukshetra.	Haryana	Kurukshetra	3.2	Road	Approved
238.	Construction of Road from Sirsa Barwala to Chatargarh Patti Alongwith Sirsa Major Distributory	Haryana	Sirsa	0.83	Road	Approved
239.	Construction of APP Road from Naurangpur Road KM. 102 to Sunrise Transmission Ltd.	Haryana	Gurgaon	0.0024	Road	Approved
240.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump on Ambala-Hissar Road Near Matheri KM. 12-13	Haryana	Ambala	0.018	Road	Approved
241.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump on Sonepat Rohtak Road KM. 6-7	Haryana	Sonepat	0.0106	Road	Approved
242.	Widening of NH-65 Ambala-Hissar Road at Curve in KM. 19.1 to 24.1, Forest Division Ambala.	Haryana	Ambala	0.7801	Road	Approved
243.	Construction of Passage from NH-8 KM. 57-58, to Dharampal Satypal Charitable Trust	Haryana	Gurgaon	0.0054	Road	Approved
244.	Construction of Approach to Petrol Pump on GT Road KM. 47-48 L/S Forest Division Sonepat.	Haryana	Sonepat	0.0162	Road	Approved
245.	Construction of Approach Road to Ch. Devilal Sport Academy from GT Road KM. 42-43	Haryana	Sonepat	0.018	Road	Approved
246.	Widening of Delhi-Gurgaon and Gurgaon Marouli Road, Forest Division and District Gurgaon.	Haryana	Gurgaon	15.172	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
247.	Widening of Road from Aakhan Hook to Pahaladpur Delhi, Border Surajkund RD. FT. Div. & Distt. Faridabad	Haryana	Fatehabad	4.253	Road	Approved
248.	Construction of Approach Road to Breffa Automotive Component Ltd. FT. Div. & Distt. Gurgaon	Haryana	Gurgaon	0.0037	Road	Approved
249.	Widening of Service Road from KM. 36.635 GTO 36845 FT. Div. & Distt. Gurgaon	Haryana	Gurgaon	0.105	Road	Approved
250.	Construction of Link Road from Gurgaon Meharauli Road to Group Housing Complex Heritage City in Haryana	Haryana	Gurgaon	0.0017	Road	Approved
251.	Construction of Road from Village than to Thapti	Haryana	Panchkula	6.58	Road	Approved
252.	Construction of Link Road from Village Rattakhera to Buhanpur, Forest Division Kaithal.	Haryana	Kaithal	1.56	Road	Approved
253	Widening of Fatehabad Branch RD 220000 to 000, FT. Div. Hisar, Distt. Fatehabad	Haryana	Fatehabad	4.57	Road	Approved
254.	Four Laning of Saharnapur-Kapurthala RD. KM. 59.850 to 61.850 FT. Div. & Distt. Kurukshetra	Haryana	Kurukshetra	1.95	Road	Approved
255.	Construction of Mandhna-Dudhgarh Road	Haryana	Panchkula	1.16	Road	Approved
256.	Construction of Service Road Connecting Machonda Village Road and Nanhera Vill. Road on L/S G.T. Road 196-197	Haryana	Ambala	0.843	Road	Returned to State Government
257.	Construction of Service Road from G.T. Road KM. 113.980	Haryana	Kamal	0.555	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
258.	Construction of 6/8 Lining of NH-8 Km. 24 to 33.224 Both Side and KM. 33.224 to 35.819 R/S	Haryana	Gurgaon	42.16	Road	Returned to State Government
259.	Widening and Construction of Footpath of Rohtak Sonepat RD. KM. 0-16	Haryana	Rohtak	0.585	Road	Returned to State Government
260.	Approach Road and Construction of Bridge Over Beas River at Ramshila (Kullu)	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.5082	Bridge	Approved
261.	Approach Road to the Bridge Over Saraj Nalla from Paalachan-Solang	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.1366	Bridge	Approach
262.	Construction of Kathium-Gujrehara-Deots-DH Road, Forest Division Bilaspur Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	5.95	Road	Approved
263.	Darcha to Shinkula Road in favour of Border Road Organisation	Himachal Pradesh	Laholsphiti	64.64	Road	Approved
264.	Construction of Uttrala-Baklod Road, Forest Division, Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	5	Road	Approved
265.	Construction of Sanjauli-Dhalli Byepass Road, KM. 0/0-4/370, F.DN. Shimla under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.087	Road	Approved
266.	Construction of Kuicharna-Khadrala Road, Forest Divin. Rohru	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.2	Road	Approved
267.	Construction of Kutiara-Majjheen Road, SH-5 Forest Divn. Dehra under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	2.88	Road	Approved
268.	Construction of Road from Saichu to Chask, Forest Divn. Pangi under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	2.228	Road	Approved
269.	Construction of Link Road from Panjhal to Chhali-Mehrag Forest Division Nahan under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.85	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
270.	Construction of Khanog-Gadasu-Punanroad Forest Division Rampur under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.06	Road	Approved
271.	Construction. of Sain Gujra RA Ropru Road KM. 0/0-12/500 Forest Division Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	4.977	Road	Approved
272.	Construction of Mahtli-Sirit-Chochar-Balir-Malot Road KM. 0/0-10/0 Forest Divin. Nurpur.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.8038	Road	Approved
273.	Construction of Pujarli-Chalaila Road Forest Division Rohru under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.7	Road	Approved
274.	Construction of Link Road to Vill. Kotindhar Km. 0/0-3/500 Forest Division, Shimla.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.9225	Road	Approved
275.	Construction of Chandi-Chiyan Road by HPPWD Forest Division Kunihar under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.437	Road	Approved
276.	Construction of Road from Marog to Bamtaby HAPPWD in Forest Division Chopal under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	4.443	Road	Approved
277.	Construction of Shulidhar-Shillan Road Kms. 0/0-2/700 Forest Division Rohru under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.87	Road	Approved
278.	Construction of Link Road from Sambar Lohar to Vill. Thatri Forest Division Dharamsala under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.599	Road	Approved
279.	Construction of Behal-Daokyar-Jabbal-Tapparian Road Km. 0/0-12/375 Forest Divn. Nalagarh under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.135	Road	Approved
280.	Construction of Prem Nagar to Chandog Rd. Dorest Division Solan Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	2.53	Road	Approved
281.	Construction of Bakhnaon-Deori-Chitrakoot Road Forest Division Kullu under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.2	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
282.	Construction of Kasauligaon Togunai Road Forest Division Solan Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.726	Road	Approved
283.	Construction of Mekor-Chakki Road Nurpur Forest Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.16	Road	Approved
284.	Approach Road to HPSEB Colony Sarabai to Thane-NA-PHER Forest Division Parbati.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.168	Road	Approved
285.	Construction of Patti-Bharmani Mata Vianal Kanta Road Km. 0/0-3/277 in Bharmour Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.5255	Road	Approved
286.	Construction of Dinka to Khani Road Kms. 0/0-3/357 Bharmour Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	0.53	Road	Approved
287.	Construction of Gandhi Gram to Kiarad Rd. Solan Forest Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.63	Road	Approved
288.	Approach Road from Koldam Site to NTPC Township by NTPC	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	2.7163	Road	Approved
289.	Construction of Katakhar to Gadani Road Kullu Forest Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.4807	Road	Approved
290.	Link Road from Mecloadganj Bharamkot to Lower Dharemkot Forest Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.207	Road	Approved
291.	Link Road to Village Shalnu, Forest. Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.092	Road	Approved
292.	Extention of Road Nallah to Karkoh Via Braoun Khalanoo Kms 0/0-14/0 Mandi Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	1.1074	Road	Approved
293.	Widening of Bhutar Garsa Road, Between Km. 5/720-13/140, Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.58	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
294.	Widening of Lanji-Sainj Road Between 6/0-10/0 Parbati FD., Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	4.9368	Road	Approved
295.	Construction of Talyer-Pingla-Thona-Sarkaghat RD., in Mandi Forest Division Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	0.913	Road	Approved
296.	Construction of Eversunny Karachi Road Village Pagog.	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnour	0.837	Road	Approved
297.	Construction of Jeepable Road from Dhira to Shirmula in F/O Block Development Officer	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.06	Road	Approved
298.	Construction of 3.46 Mtrs Span Prestressed Box Girder Bridge Over Sirsa River on Skm Road at Nalagarh	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.6732	Road	Approved
299.	Construction of Kheogi Mod to Anah Road at Khan	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.284	Road	Approved
300	Construction of Ganvi-Labanna-Sadana Road in F.D. Rampur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.7638	Road	Approved
301.	Construction of Kothi Jungle Malout Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	1.05	Road	Approved
302.	Construction of Banderu-Cheli-Dhewa-Ghathulu Road Forest Division Nurpur Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	3.676	Road	Approved
303.	Link Road to Connect Vill. Ralli Mebar & Other Areas Forest Division, Nichar	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnaur	3.1081	Road	Approved
304.	Construction of Polan-Jakhbar Road, RD 0/0-2/84, Forest Divn. Nurpur Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1	Road	Approved
305.	Construction of Sunda-Jaguni Road Forest Division Rampur.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	3.95	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
306.	Construction of Meghwa-Suin Road Forest Division Renuka Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	0.86	Road	Approved
307.	Construction of Ahjoo-Basahi Road Forest Division Joginderpur.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	1.96	Road	Approved
308.	Construction of Gohar-Simadhar Road by HPPWD Kms. 1.030-10.0 Forest Division Nachan Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	2.57	Road	Approved
309.	Construction of Purthi to Rai Road, Forest Division Pangi Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	2.5744	Road	Approved
310.	Construction of Kharamukh-Surani Pass-Akju Road, Forest Division Bharmour Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	5.3784	Road	Approved
311.	Construction of Biyuti-Gerola-Vilansa Jeepable Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	4.7105	Road	Approved
312.	Construction of Avera-Ghattu via Pipalhatti Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.15	Road	Approved
313.	Construction of Link Road to Village Ghai	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.635	Road	Approved
314.	Construction of Pukhri-Bhumani Road Under Forest Division, Kangra	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.952	Road	Approved
315.	Construction Ranabag-Lagauti Road in F.D. Ani	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.467	Road	Approved
316.	Construction of Kaetu-Slaper Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	2.36	Road	Approved
317.	Construction of Mangla-Ohli Bharain Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	0.34	Road	Approved
318.	Ridi-Gaila-Gatyanu Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	2.112	Road	Approved
319.	Construction of Kuthan-Sharmala Rd. Km. 0/0-3/500	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.227	Road	Approved
320.	Construction of Link Road From Chari to Chamiara via Bhrtlu	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.9916	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
321.	Construction of Link Road to Vill. Kiarad	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	2.333	Road	Approved
322.	Construction of Pajidhar to Phancha Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.1057	Road	Approved
323.	Construction of Kotla-Bassi-Malot-Seul Rd. Under Jurisdiction of Dehra F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	2.52	Road	Approved
324.	Construction of Ghanwi-Kiao Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.0028	Road	Approved
325.	Construction of Danoghat-Sherglotian-Kajyara Road	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.33	Road	Approved
326.	Construction of Parola-Sholi Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.17	Road	Approved
327.	Construction of Chatu-Tunan via Kasholi Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	6.714	Road	Approved
328.	Construction of Purthi Thondal Road Pangi	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.145	Road	Approved
329.	Construction of Tunnuhatti-Rauna Road, Forest Division, Dalhousie	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.448	Road	Approved
330.	Airla-Jandroh Road Forest Division, Dharamsala.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.708	Road	Approved
331.	Construction of Link Road from Chari to Chamiara via Bhitlu, Kangra	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.9916	Road	Approved
332.	Construction of Katanda-Rokhi Road	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	5.035	Road	Approved
333.	Construction of Pandhar-Bararoo Rd. via Nohali, Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	2.253	Road	Approved
334.	Construction of Koil-Neether Rd., FD Ani Distt., Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	6.093	Road	Approved
335.	Construction of Sial-Pasha-Shaeen Road at Kullu Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.7669	Road	Approved
336.	Construction of Link Road to Village Upper Suria from Jubbal-Kanuti Katghana Amta Road Nahan	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.81	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
337.	Construction of Khenvi-Bansha Road at Ani	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.427	Road	Approved
338.	Construction of Sunderghat-Art Road in F.D. Renuka	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	0.246	Road	Approved
339.	Construction of Rajidhar to Phancha Road in Forest Division, Rampur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.1057	Road	Approved
340.	Bhakra-Saili Road, via Salangri, Forest Division, Una.	Himachal Pradesh	Uuna	4.7808	Road	Approved
341.	Construction of Kuthan-Sharmala Road Km. 0/0-3/500 Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.227	Road	Approved
342.	Construction of Cheelage-Fagu Road in Parbati Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.51	Road	Approved
343.	Construction of Link Road from Giran Khad to Noud Kut-Jarpal-Amlera Upper Joining Amlera-Jarot Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.719	Road	Approved
344.	Construction of Nainabati-Lagauti Road (Portion Nainabati-Kothi) in Ani Forest Divisions	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.8	Road	Approved
345.	Construction of Rajban-Malgi-Chhaccheti-Gatu Road in Paonta Sahib Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	4.49	Road	Approved
346.	Construction of Raichi-Khani Road in Ani Forest Divisions	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.465	Road	Approved
347.	Construction Bhatoli Dhar-Bara-Chichar-Bhalli Road Under Nurpur Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	3.597	Road	Approved
348.	Construction of Bhuinka-Kotla via Chakurtha Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.61	Road	Approved
349.	Construction of Mehaty Gawana Khali Achhon Road FT. Paonta	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	1.89	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
350.	Construction of Chatti-Tunan via Kasholi Road Ani F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	6.714	Road	Approved
351.	Construction of Sush to Balu Road Ani F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.408	Road	Approved
352.	Construction of Road from Dohranallah (Kolibehar) to Kaisdhar by PWD	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.8	Road	Approved
353.	Construction of Benchito Manjhihar Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.06	Road	Approved
354.	Construction of Bagipur-Sarahan Road Ani Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.6	Road	Approved
355.	Construction of Rampur-Gaura-Mashnoo Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.483	Road	Approved
356.	Construction of Gugra-Kutwa Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.6	Road	Approved
357.	Construction of Bhini Johari-Luinas Road	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.16	Road	Approved
358.	Construction of Jagatsukl to Bhanara Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.0017	Road	Approved
359.	Construction of Balyanu to Pout Mansari Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.8801	Road	Approved
360.	Construction of Road from Bragh Toli to Village Bastoori Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.8501	Road	Approved
361.	Const. of Rampur Bhat Ki Hatti Road	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.438	Road	Approved
362.	Construction of Bangoura-Klalihatti-Kohbag-Bastigunana Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.22	Road	Approved
363.	Construction of Halonipul-Dahan Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.81	Road	Approved
364.	Construction of Kot-Barar-Charijar Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.42	Road	Approved
365.	Construction of Pharari To Kathi Kukki Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.4895	Road	Approved
366.	Construction of Matiana-Mohri via Kalzair Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.558	Road	Approved
367.	Construction of Naina-Tikkar to Dagothar via Kenchi More Road	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	2.586	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
368.	Construction of Manika-Ghat-Sultanpur Road Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	2.055	Road	Approved
369.	Construction of Sainj Ghat to Pargana Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3	Road	Approved
370.	Const. of Alea Bridge Over Allain Nallah on Nagger-Manali Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.1059	Road	Approved
371.	Construction of Motorable Rd. from Moviseri to Chhapprahan	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	4.96	Road	Approved
372.	Construction of Brasli-Kanchi-Runda Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.55	Road	Approved
373.	Maintenance and Medalling of Existing Old Road in favour of Gram Panchayat Shateyan	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.1245	Road	Approved
374.	Construction of Road from Vill. Bhageigarh to Chanju Jkhla-Sumra	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	4.9126	Road	Approved
375.	Const. of Eversunny-Karaichi Road via Pagog	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.837	Road	Approved
376.	Construction of Link Road to Village Dharogra from Matgipul Under PMGSY	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	3.5031	Road	Approved
377.	Construction of Link Rd. to Village Madhara in Paonta F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.786	Road	Approved
378.	Construction of Kandugad-Patran Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.5	Road	Approved
379.	Construction of Rd. from Dalhousie Cantt. to Ruliyani Dalhoussie	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.38	Road	Approved
380.	Construction of Padar to Tatapani Road	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	2.59	Road	Approved
381.	Construction of Ludera-Kaila Rd. Upto Vill. Suri	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	2.858	Road	Approved
382.	Construction of Road Frombari Padhru to Pechha	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	0.091	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
383.	Construction of Sannjauli Dhali Bye Pass Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.28	Road	Approved
384.	Construction of Link Rd. to Vill. Bargaal in F.D. Kotgarh	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.0956	Road	Approved
385.	Construction of Shardfighat-Diggal Rd. Nallagarh F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.35	Road	Approved
386.	Construction of Link Rd. from Village Bailley to Khaddi, Dalhousie F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	2.436	Road	Approved
387.	Construction of Allsu to Jambla Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	1.65	Road	Approved
388.	Construction of Link Rd. from Kanathack to Vill. Kushwa	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	3.69	Road	Approved
389.	Construction of Kharga Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.316	Road	Approved
390.	Tindi-Kanrunallab Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Laholsphiti	23.175	Road	Closed
391.	Construction of Dhalot-Jandera Road Kms. 0/0-11/425 Forest Division, Bilaspur	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	7.8995	Road	Closed
392.	Construction of Chhatri-Gadagusain Road Kms. 0/0-20/0 Distt. Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	8.77	Road	Closed
393.	Construction of Magroo-Galla-Chhatri Road, Mandi.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	7.35	Road	Closed
394.	Construction of Kateru-Slapper Road, Forest Divn. Suket.	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	2.56	Road	Closed
395.	Construction of Ludera-Kaloth-Sungal Road, Forest Division. Chamba.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	4.78	Road	Closed
396.	Widening of PCM Road NH 20 Km. 11/0-20/0 Forest Division Nurpur.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	13.923	Road	Closed
397.	Construction of Road from Tuharer to Godrana via Dadoli-Bhamali Road.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	1.0356	Road	Closed
398.	Construction of Machhotar-Grima, via Siur Jeepable Road, Distt. Chamba.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	4.2305	Road	Rejected

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
399.	Construction of Link Road from Fatehpur Tojawal via Behmba Forest Division Una.	Himachal Pradesh	Una	5.6	Road	Withdrawn
400.	Construction of Rampur-Bhat-Ki Hatti Road in Hunihar Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.438	Road	Withdrawn
401.	Construction of Parel-Kohlari-Talai Road	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	9.886	Road	Withdrawn
402.	Dhakkog-Trala Road, Kms. 0/0-6/780, Bharmour Forest Division	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	3.6746	Road	Returned to State Government
403.	Construction of Bilaspur-Pin Bindi Mansoor Road, Forest. Division Dehra	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	2.6	Road	Returned to State Government
404.	Construction of Khanol-Bhoot Road	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.25	Road	Returned to State Government
405.	Construction of Kandhar-Beral Road	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	3.65	Road	Returned to State Government
406.	Construction of Link Road, from Sanawar Phatak to Patria Village Solan	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.453	Road	Returned to State Government
407.	Construction of Link Road. from Sudhar to Dhar, Dharmsala	Himachal Pradesh	Dharmshala	0.3375	Road	Returned to State Government
408.	Widening of Bhutar Manikaran Road., Kms 24/0-30/060 and 34/330- 34/850	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.24	Road	Returned to State Government
409.	Construction of Kupni-Bhallu-Dhotali Road, Distt. Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	7.57	Road	Returned to State Government
410.	Construction of Dumali-Batot Rd., Km. 0/0 6/360 Pharmour Forest Division, Chamba	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.7885	Road	Returned to State Government
411.	Construction of Barogi Chharounallah Bharaim Rd., (Km. 0/0-15/0 Parbati Forest Division, Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.87	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
412.	Construction of Link Road from Katasan to Uttamwala Bara Ban Road.	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	1.15	Road	Returned to State Government
413.	Construction of Rd. from Sainji-Railaa Under Seraj F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	4.982	Road	Returned to State Government
414.	Construction of Naira-Tikkar-Dagothar via Shamloti-Maghgaon Road	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	0.135	Road	Returned to State Government
415.	Construction of Link Road to Village Dhar Nalagarh	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	0.89	Road	Returned to State Government
416.	Construction of Motorable Road Village Lajpanngi	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	0.9427	Road	Returned to State Government
417.	Construction of Gloat Rajwain Rd. in Nalagarh F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.783	Road	Returned to State Government
418.	Construction of Jabal-Mann Bawasi Road	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.15	Road	Returned to State Government
419.	Construction of Thalout to Kalhaani Road	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	4.316	Road	Returned to State Government
420.	Construction of Road from Khora-Age to Bhallan-II	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	7.93	Road	Returned to State Government
421.	Construction of Bajaar-Khabal Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.89	Road	Returned to State Government
422.	Construction of Bypass Road from Wangtoo to Kakshtal	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.5895	Road	Returned to State Government
423.	Construction of Hurla-Thras-Sachani Road	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.63	Road	Returned to State Government
424.	Construction of Road from Dohrmallah-Dharihan	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.5	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
425.	Construction of Link Rd. from Bara Khotha to Ankar Bhola	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	2.16	Road	Returned to State Government
426.	Construction of Songtong-Barrang Link Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Kinnaur	1.66	Road	Returned to State Government
427.	Construction of Bhini Johari-Lunas Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	1.16	Road	Returned to State Government
428.	Construction of Road from Shalwar-Kanon Under Seraj FD	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	2.686	Road	Returned to State Government
429.	Construction of Bashla-Antapu-Saridhar Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	0.6	Road	Returned to State Government
430.	Construction of Kharapather-Chandel-Shilaroo Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.91	Road	Returned to State Government
431.	Construction of Batora to Halaau Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.97	Road	Returned to State Government
432.	Construction of Link Rd. from Katasan to Uttamwala Bara Ban	Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur	1.15	Road	Returned to State Government
433.	Construction of Sarrain Pulbahal Rd. via Joran Falling	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	9.609	Road	Returned to State Government
434.	Construction of Rd. from Sapangni-Kandha	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	4.789	Road	Returned to State Government
435.	Construction of Rd. from Damothi-Bharthidhar	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.034	Road	Returned to State Government
436.	Construction of Tutupani-Jarla-Kutheri Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	1.23	Road	Returned to State Government
437.	Construction of Road from Banjar-Dimbar-Chahari Under Seraj F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	1.911	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
438.	Construction of Road from Damothi-Bharthidhar Under Seraj F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kullu	3.034	Road	Returned to State Government
439.	Construction of Sarain Pulbahal Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	9.609	Road	Returned to State Government
440.	Construction of Patta-Joharji-Sua Rd. Div. Kasauli	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	2.28	Road	Returned to State Government
441.	Construction of Bhanuin Deothi-Kani Ki Behi Rd. (Km. 0/0 to 8/50) in Chamba F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	3.62	Road	Returned to State Government
442.	Construction of Link Rd. from Salli to Kanol in Dharmshala F.D.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.7162	Road	Returned to State Government
443.	Construction of Link Rd. from Chintpurni to Amlahar, via Dhalwari	Himachal Pradesh	Una	4.8	Road	Returned to State Government
444.	Construction of Sainj-Bara-Bata Seri Road	Himachal Pradesh	Mandi	0.7	Road	Returned to State Government
445.	Construction of Link Rd. from Naddi Bhatehar	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	0.535	Road	Returned to State Government
446.	Construction of Chhatraani to Janta Rd.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba	1.5841	Road	Returned to State Government
447.	Bridge and Approach Road over Damodar River by CCL for Rajpara OCP	Jharkhand	Bokaro	4.13	Bridge	Approved
448.	Improvement in Road from Surji to Tokio	Jharkhand	West Singhbhum	1.175	Road	Closed
449.	Diversion of 0.412 Ha. of Forest Land for Construction of Bridge in the State Highway 93 in F/O Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project, Yellapur.	Karnataka	North Kannada	0.412	Bridge	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
450.	Banglore-Mysore-Rural and Urban Infrastructure Project	Karnataka	Banglore, Mysore	68.215	Road	Approved
451.	Strengthening of NH-4 KM-515 to Km 592	Karnataka	Belgaum	23.443	Road	Approved
452.	Widening of 9 Hairpin Curves in Bisala RF	Karnataka	Hassan	0.69	Road	Approved
453.	Diversion of NH-17 at Arga Village in Karwar TQ.	Karnataka	UK	0.702	Road	Approved
454.	Diversion of 0.69 Ha. of FL in Bisale RF for Widening of 9 Hair-Pin Curves in Hassan Distt. in favour of NHW, M'Lore.	Karnataka	Hasan	0.69	Road	Approved
455.	Diversion of FL for National Highway-17 at Arga (V) in FSY. No. 52A in Karwar Taluk	Karnataka	North Kannada	0.702	Road	Approved
456.	Diversion of FL for Purpose of Public Road through Malambi RF	Karnataka	Kodagu	0.9	Road	Closed
457.	Public Road Through Malambi RF	Karnataka	Kodagu	0.6	Road	Closed
458.	Upgradation of Old Cart Track in Kabbargi Village	Karnataka	Koppal	5.98	Road	Closed
459.	Diversion of FL in Davangere Forest Division for Widening of NH-4 from 235 to 278 in favour of NHAI	Karnataka	Davangere	3.155	Road	Closed
460.	Diversion of FL for Widening of NH-4 from Km 515 to 592 in Gokak Division.	Karnataka	Belgaum	2.36	Road	Closed
461.	Diversion of FL for Upgradation of Old Cart Track Road in Kabbargi (V).	Karnataka	Koppal	5.98	Road	Closed
462.	Diversion of FL in SY. No. 160 A1 & 186 of Mundgod (V) & SY. No. 7 of Malagonkoppa for Formation of Road in Yellapur Division.	Karnataka	North Kannada	3.9	Road	Closed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
463.	Diversion of FL for the Purpose of Public Road through Malambi RF from Chikkare to Hithligadde (V) in Somwarpet (T)	Karnataka	Kodagu	0.9	Road	Rejected
464.	Diversion of Forest Land in Bailohongal Taluk for Widening of NH-4 from KM 433 to 495 Golden Quadrilateral Project.	Karnataka	Belgaum	1.368	Road	Returned to State Government
465.	Widening of NH-4 from Km. 412 to 592	Karnataka	Belgaum	2.38	Road	Returned to State Government
466.	Diversion of Forest Land for Formation of Road to the S.C Colony at Bangevadka at Belthanngadu Taluk	Karnataka	South Kannada	0.825	Road	Returned to State Government
467.	Diversion of FL for Purpose of Public Road Through Malambi RF from Gangoor to Valagunda (V) in Somwarpet (T)	Karnataka	Kodagu	0.6	Road	Returned to State Government
468.	Diversion of 1.368 Ha. of FL in Bailohongal Taluk for Widening of NH-4 from Km 433 to 495 Golden Quadrilateral Project.	Karnataka	Belgaum	1.368	Road	Returned to State Government
469.	Construction of Foot Bridge at Panthapalammoodu in Neyyar WLS in Perumkodvila Block Panchayat	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	0.03	Bridge	Closed
470.	Diversion of FL for Construction of Foot-Bridge in Keezhayam across Karupanthode in Karavoor in Piravanthoor Grama Panchayat.	Kerala	Pathnamthitta	0.0297	Bridge	Returned to State Government
471.	Improvement of Mundakayam-Koruthode-Pampavalley Road	Kerala	Kottayam	0.857	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
472.	Diversion of Forest Land to Develop Road Link Between Chalakudy and Vazhachal	Kerala	Trichur	0.582	Road	Approved
473.	C/o Bridge at Vettilappara Ferry in Chalakudi Annamalai Road	Kerala	Ernakulam	0.7	Road	Approved
474.	C/o Erumeli Chalakkayam Road (Phase III)	Kerala	Pathnamthitta	6.04	Road	Approved
475.	Maintenance of Kinginithodu-Pothumattam Road	Kerala	Idukki	0.18	Road	Approved
476.	Diversion of FL-Maintenance of Kinginithodu Pothumattom Road.	Kerala	Idukki	0.18	Road	Approved
477.	Diversion of 0.582 Ha. of FL to Develop the Road Link Between Chalakudy & Vazhachal.	Kerala	Trichur	0.582	Road	Approved
478.	Diversion of 0.857 Ha. of FL for Improvement of Mundakayam-Koruthode-Pamba Valley Road Passing through Anakkal-Kalaketty Area in Erumely Forest Range.	Kerala	Kottayam	0.857	Road	Approved
479.	Diversion of FL for Construction of Bridge at Vettilapara Ferry in Chalakkudy-Anamala Road in Vazhachal & Chalakkudy Division	Kerala	Trichur	0.7	Road	Approved
480.	Diversion of FL for Metalling and Construction of Retaining Wall of Narakathinkala-Makki Road.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	0.225	Road	Closed
481.	Construction of National Highway	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar	0.398	Road	Approved
482.	Construction of Bye Pass Road	Madhya Pradesh	Guna	3.347	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
483.	Construction of Singhpur-Behat Road	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	4.8	Road	Approved
484.	Construction of Road/Bridge at Tawa Project	Madhya Pradesh	Betul	0.36	Road	Approved
485.	Construction of Road at Sada	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	1.75	Road	Approved
486.	Construction of Road Village Ploy Pathar in favour of Satya Prakash Public Charitable Trust	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	0.48	Road	Approved
487.	Widening of Road and Drainage Work	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	0.315	Road	Approved
488.	Construction of Approach Road	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat	0.0606	Road	Approved
489.	Construction of National Highway	Madhya Pradesh	Guna	2.516	Road	Approved
490.	Construction of Bye Pass Road in Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	17.548	Road	Approved
491.	Construction of NH No. 7 (Katni Bye-Pass Road)	Madhya Pradesh	Katni	8.706	Road	Approved
492.	Construction of Road by Prime Ministers Road Project	Madhya Pradesh	Khargaon	1.21	Road	Approved
493.	Construction of Panchkoshi Road	Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain	2.041	Road	Approved
494.	Proposed Bridge and Approach Road on Km. 7/8 of Shikarganj Chamaradol Road	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi	3.635	Road	Returned to State Government
495.	Construction of Prime Ministers Road Scheme	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat	3.2	Road	Returned to State Government
496.	Road from Chivanti-Bari-Bhepkhel-Dangeshirwadi to SH No. 3	Maharashtra	Dhule	3.2796	Road	Approved
497.	Construction of Karanja Bye Pass Part of Nagpur Wardha-Karanja-Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Mumbai	1.96	Road	Approved
498.	Construction of Murud-Khuda-Temhane Mazgaon Road	Maharashtra	Raigad	2.904	Road	Approved
499.	Construction of Urse Approach Road	Maharashtra	Pune	0.44	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
500.	Construction of Approach Road and Passage for Inter Connection	Maharashtra	Wardha	0.94	Road	Approved
501.	Construction of Bridge and Approach Road Across Aner River	Maharashtra	Jalgaon	0.45	Road	Approved
502.	Construction of Bye-Pass Road from Nagpur-Butibori Wardha-Aurangabad-Mumbai	Maharashtra	Wardha	1.56	Road	Approved
503.	Pogarwadi Phata to Are Dare Rewande Road	Maharashtra	Satara	3.3	Road	Approved
504.	Construction of Service Road & Laying Down of Pipeline	Maharashtra	Thane	0.147	Road	Approved
505.	Construction of Lohagad to Bhaje Road	Maharashtra	Pune	0.63	Road	Approved
506.	Widening of Senapat Bapat Road	Maharashtra	Pune	0.163	Road	Approved
507.	Widening of NH No. 39 favour of Maharashtra Road Development Corporation	Maharashtra	Nashik	2.48	Road	Approved
508.	Construction Bridge at Godavari River Nashik Distt.	Maharashtra	Nashik	0.09	Road	Approved
509.	Change in Alignment of Mumbra-Kausa Bypass Road	Maharashtra	Thane	16.829	Road	Approved
510.	Construction of Road at Maval Taluka	Maharashtra	Pune	0.8	Road	Approved
511.	Construction of Road by Public Work Deptt.	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	2	Road	Approved
512.	Construction of Road by Public Work Deptt.	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	2	Road	Approved
513.	Construction of Road by Public Work Deptt.	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	2	Road	Approved
514.	Construction of Road by Public Work Deptt.	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	2	Road	Approved
515.	Construction of 2.5 Km. Road Passing through the Forest Village Mandva to Ghogannar	Maharashtra	Nanded	1.56	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
516.	Construction of Approach Road at Khijadia on Existing Temple & Dharamshala	Maharashtra	Thane	0.8	Road	Rejected
517.	Construction of Road in favour of Shri Yadavrao Ramchandra Deshmukh	Maharashtra	Satara	0.18	Road	Returned to State Government
518.	Construction of Approach Road Over Bhain Ganga River	Maharashtra	Gondia	0.81	Road	Returned to State Government
519.	Construction of Outer Ring Road & Express Way from Gawsimanpur to Gondkhairy	Maharashtra	Nagpur	2.76	Road	Returned to State Government
520.	Construction of Ring Road Nagpur City from Chhindwara Road	Maharashtra	Nagpur	1.995	Road	Returned to State Government
521.	Construction of Kundi Horaphali Road by PDC	Maharashtra	Nandurbar	4.725	Road	Returned to State Government
522.	Improvement of Ghonseghat Manngaon-Mahasala Road	Maharashtra	Raigad	6.61	Road	Returned to State Government
523.	Improvement of Senapati-Phaibung Road	Manipur	Manipur (Central)	86	Road	Approved
524.	Construction and Development of Mahadev-Tolloi Road	Manipur	Ukhrul	31.5	Road	Approved
525.	Construction of Approach Road Across Forest Land to the Water Treatment Site at Mawiong	Meghalaya	East Khasi Hills	0.025	Road	Approved
526.	Construction of Approach Road	Meghalaya	Khasi Hill (East)	0.01168	Road	Returned to State Government
527.	Construction of Dudhani-Nagwalbibra NH-62 from 8.6 Km to 91 Km.	Meghalaya	Garo Hills (South)	54.012	Road	Returned to State Government
528.	Construction of Indo-Bangladesh Border Rd.	Mizoram	Lunglai	140.4	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
529.	Widening of Mizoram State Roads Project-II Thenzawal to Lunglei 100-170 KMP	Mizoram	Lunglai	1.114	Road	Approved
530.	4/6 Laning of NH-5: Khurda-Bhubaneswar	Orissa	Khurda	14.088	Road	Approved
531.	Strengthening & Widening of existing PWD Road from Sundergarh to Duduka Square.	Orissa	Sundergarh	5.152	Road	Approved
532.	Construction of Road from Medhuria to Nuasahi under Nalegaja Gram Panchayat	Orissa	Mayurbhanj	0.648	Road	Approved
533.	Spill Way & Approach Road for Bhanjanagar Dam	Orissa	Ganjam	0.43	Road	Approved
534.	Tangi-Chandpur bye-Pass Road	Orissa	Khurda	7.239	Road	Approved
535.	4 Laning of HN-5 from Ichapuram to Ganjam	Orissa	Ganjam	0.321	Road	Approved
536.	4 Laning of NH-5 from Ganjam to Sunakhala	Orissa	Khurda	16.094	Road	Approved
537.	Construction of Burja-Tohara Road under PMGSY	Orissa	Navrangpur	4.9978	Road	Approved
538.	Nalam Talapada Road under PMGSY	Orissa	Angule	0.4	Road	Approved
539.	4 Laning of NH-5 from Khurda to Sunakhala	Orissa	Khurda	11.047	Road	Approved
540.	Approach Road to High Level Bridge Over Netanalia	Orissa	Angule	14.524	Road	Approved
541.	Road from Phringia-Balundapara-Mallikud road	Orissa	Boddh	3.15	Road	Approved
542.	M/s Reliable Sponge Private Limited for Construction of Road and Transmission Line to Plant at Village Jhariberana in Bonai	Orissa	Sundergarh	0.02	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
543.	Daitari-Banspani Rly Link Road, Palaspang-Bamebari	Orissa	Keonjhar	1.457	Road	Returned to State Government
544.	Development of 2.70 MW Mini Hydro Project on MBU at Babehali Bridge.	Punjab	Gurdaspur	0.9157	Bridge	Approved
545.	Construction of Bridge Over Bhathinda branch Xing Ahmedgarh Jandali Road	Punjab	Sangrur	0.0165	Bridge	Approved
546.	Entrance to G.K. Mall Colony Near Jawadi Bridge on Southern Bye-Pass, Forest Division	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.018	Bridge	Approved
547.	Construction of Bridge over Badhki Nadi Crossing Ropar Chamkaur Sahib along Sirhind Canal Km 4	Punjab	Ropar	1.71	Bridge	Approved
548.	Construction of H/L Bridge Over Siswan	Punjab	Ropar	1.59	Bridge	Approved
549.	Construction of Guide Bund on High Level Bridge Over Rier Beas on DBN Gurudaspur-Mukerian Road	Punjab	Hoshiarpur	0.162	Bridge	Approved
550.	Construction of Foot Over Bridge on Ferozepur Road	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.0064	Bridge	Approved
551.	Rebuilding of Railway Bridge No. 313 & 325 Forest Div. & Distt. Patiala	Punjab	Patiala	4.069	Bridge	Approved
552.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Chandigarh-AMB. Road Km. 25 Rs.	Punjab	Patiala	0.0896	Road	Approved
553.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Ludhiana-Hissar Road Km. 105-106 LS	Punjab	Sangrur	0.08	Road	Approved
554.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Ludhiana-Hissar Road Km. 32-33 LS	Punjab	Sangrur	0.031	Road	Approve
555.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Patiala-Sangrur Road Km. 41-42, LS	Punjab	Sangrur	0.1363	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
556.	4 Laning of Ropar-Balachour Road km. 6.10-27.20	Punjab	Gurdaspur	6.33	Road	Approved
557.	Widening of GT Road Rajpura bye Pass Torly Stn. Patiala Km. 28.110—55	Punjab	Patiala	12.2885	Road	Approved
558.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump Atpayal-Chawa Road	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.0518	Road	Approved
559.	Widening of Ropar-Phagwara Road (Bye Pass Phagwara	Punjab	Jalandhar	1.0012	Road	Approved
560.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Nabha-Malarkotla Road Km. 11, RS	Punjab	Patiala	0.0143	Road	Approved
561.	Approach Road to M/s Rocky Distiller Pvt. Ltd. at Vill. Gholumajra	Punjab	Patiala	0.024	Road	Approved
562.	Widening of Ludhiana-Chandigarh Road Km. 10.50-48	Punjab	Ludhiana	8.77	Road	Approved
563.	Construction on Approach Road to HL Bridge Over River Satluj Over Nakodhar-Mahatpur Jagroan Road.	Punjab	Jalandhar	1.259	Road	Approved
564.	Widening of Khanna-Nawasahar Road	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.37	Road	Approved
565.	Widening of Nakodhar-Mahatpur-Jagron-Sidhwan Road	Punjab	Jalandhar	4.72	Road	Approved
566.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Bathinda-Giderbaha Malout Road Km. 313, NH-15	Punjab	Faridkot	0.0144	Road	Approved
567.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Malout-Muktsar Road Km. 12-13	Punajb	Faridkot	0.0144	Road	Approved
568.	4 Laning of Amritsar-Ajnala Road Km. 0-8.5	Punjab	Amritsar	7.25	Road	Approved
569.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on NH-1 at Vill. Ambey Majra Km. 261-62	Punjab	Fatehgarh Sahib	0.0513	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
570.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Ferozpur-Amritsar Road Km. 86, NH-15	Punjab	Amritsar	0.33	Road	Approved
571.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Dera Baba Nanak Fatehgarh-Churian Road Km. 1-2,	Punjab	Gurdaspur	0.018	Road	Approved
572.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on NH-1 at Duraha	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.154	Road	Approved
573.	Widening of Nabha Gate Chowk to Kishanpur Old Octroi and Drain Type-II	Punjab	Sangrur	0.672	Road	Approved
574.	4 Laning of Ropar-Chandigarh Road Km. 680-820, NH-21	Punjab	Ropar	2.38	Road	Approved
575.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Patha-Nkot-Amritsar Road NH-15, Km 33-34	Punjab	Gurdaspur	0.06	Road	Approved
576.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on NH-1 KM. 395	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.0644	Road	Approved
577.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Lohian-Malsian Road in Jalandhar	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.0249	Road	Approved
578.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Gurdaspur-Pathankot Road at Vill. Dalla	Punjab	Gurdaspur	0.0275	Road	Approved
579.	Construction of 4 Laning of Ropar-Balachour Road Km. 12.050-24.	Punjab	Nawanshahar	1.97	Road	Approved
580.	Approach Road to Puspa Gujral Science City Jalandhar-Kapurthala Road	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.115	Road	Approved
581.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Patiala-Badson Road at. Vill. Allowal	Punjab	Patiala	0.0085	Road	Approved
582.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Faridkot-Sadiq Road Vill. Machaki Kalan	Punjab	Faridkot	0.373	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
583.	Widening of Sirshind-Chunni Road Km 6.20-18.80, both Side.	Punjab	Firozepur	2.99	Road	Approved
584.	Passage for Plot at Rajpura 227-228 Near Mid Way Dhaba	Punjab	Hoshiarpur	0.0108	Road	Approved
585.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump at Vill. Bhuttar, Barnala-Moga Road Km-20	Punjab	Faridkot	0.0127	Road	Approved
586.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Bathinda-Badal Road Km. 14-15, RS	Punjab	Bhatinda	0.0229	Road	Approved
587.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump Vill. Bhagwanpur Malout-Abohar Road Km. 350-51	Punjab	Faridkot	0.0207	Road	Approved
588.	Widening of Kharar-Banur Road at Junction with Zirakpur-Rajpura NH-64	Punjab	Patiala	0.72	Road	Approved
589.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Amritsar-Jalandhar Road at Sabhanpur	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.1253	Road	Approved
590.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Rajgarh Kute Chhoti Kotli Road	Punjab	Bhatinda	0.004	Road	Approved
591.	Widening of Gurdaspur-Naushera-Mukerian Road Km. 0-15	Punjab	Gurdaspur	6.0493	Road	Approved
592.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Bathinda-Muktsar Road Km. 49-50, LS	Punjab	Muktatsar	0.1648	Road	Approved
593.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump at Vill. Ugana Teh Rajpura	Punjab	Patiala	0.0559	Road	Approved
594.	Construction of Phagwara Connection Phagwara Nawanshahar Road with Phagwara-Jalandhar NH-1	Punjab	Jalandhar	1.043	Road	Approved
595.	Construction of Khanna-Samrala Machhiwara Road upto Satluj Bridge Km. 0-34.51, B/S	Punjab	Ludhiana	11.4	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
596.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump at Vill. Pabbri Forest Division Patiala	Punjab	Patiala	0.005	Road	Approved
597.	Construction of Morinda Bye-Pass on Km. 0-6.733 on Ludhiana-Chandigarh Road	Punjab	Ropar	0.124	Road	Approved
598.	Improvement of Nakodar-Mahatpur-Sidh-Wan-Jagron Road (Nakodar Bye-Pass)	Punjab	Ludhiana	1.1797	Road	Approved
599.	Construction of Doubling of Rly Line between Mukerian Pathankot on Juc Pathankot	Punjab	Gurdaspur	12.731	Road	Approved
600.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Rajpura-Chandigarh Road Km. 31-32 at Vill. Govindpura.	Punjab	Patiala	0.0149	Road	Approved
601.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Dasuya-Mirjapur Km. 7-8	Punjab	Hoshiarpur	0.0193	Road	Approved
602.	Passage to Petrol Pump at Village Ramditta Wala	Punjab	Mansa	0.018	Road	Approved
603.	Construction of Approach Road to Police Block of Administration Complex on Jain Road	Punjab	Patiala	0.0068	Road	Approved
604.	Diversion of Forest Land for Widening/ Strengthening of Road	Punjab	Patiala	0.5892	Road	Approved
605.	Construction of Approach Road on Hoshiarpur-Dasuya Km. 36-37 R/S Near Village Randhawan in FD. Dausya	Punjab	Hoshiarpur	0.0248	Road	Approved
606.	Four Laning of Patiala-Sirhind Road, at Km. 1.2 to 8.00	Punjab	Patiala	3.4996	Road	Approved
607.	Construction of Truck by Bye Near Sale Tax Barrier at Village Jharmari on HH. 22 Ambala Kalka Road Km 10.84 to 11.88	Punjab	Patiala	3.69	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
608.	Construction of Katcha Path Near Jainty Dam F.D. Ropar	Punjab	Ropar	0.819	Road	Approved
609.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump Village Cheru Saprod on NH-1	Punjab	Jalandhar	0.0675	Road	Approved
610.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Ludhiana-Hisar Road Km. 101-102	Punjab	Sangrur	0.176	Road	Approved
611.	Widening of Kapurthala Chowk to Vill. Waryana	Punjab	Jalandhar	2.42	Road	Approved
612.	Widening of Chandigarh-Landran-Chunni Road Km. 9.70-14.50	Punjab	Ropar	2.92	Road	Approved
613.	Construction of Puda Zonal Office Complex Approach Road	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.022	Road	Approved
614.	Widening of Patiala-Sirhaind Road Km 14.5 to 29.48 Both Side Forest Division	Punjab	Fatehgarh Sahib	1.5	Road	Approved
615.	Forest Land for use of G.T. Road., Doraha-Kaddon, Payal Road., Km. 0-8.10	Punjab	Ludhiana	2.965	Road	Approved
616.	Widening of Mulanpur Garibdas to Village Masra Road	Punjab	Ropar	1.6	Road	Approved
617.	Construction of Road., Ghalauri Gate Shamshan Ghat to Seesh Mahal	Punjab	Patiala	0.047	Road	Approved
618.	Realignanent on Patiala-Sangrur Road, NH-64	Punjab	Sangrur	0.606	Road	Approved
619.	4 Laning Patiala Sangrur Road. NH-64 from Km. 57 to 62.75	Punjab	Patiala	5.25	Road	Approved
620.	Raising & Strengthening of Abohar-Usman Khera Road., Km. 367.360 to 372.00 NH-15	Punjab	Firozepur	0.87	Road	Approved
621.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Muktsar-Ferozpur Road Km. 40-41 RS	Punjab	Faridkot	0.052	Road	Closed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
622.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Ludhiana-Hisar Road Km. 82-83, LS	Punjab	Sangrur	0.38	Road	Closed
623.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Chandigarh-Hisar Road Km. 99-100, LS	Punjab	Patiala	0.0695	Road	Closed
624.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on NH-1, Km. 395, Kartarpur, GT Road.	Punjab	Jalandher	0.06	Road	Closed
625.	Construction of Ropar By Pass Forest Division Ropar	Punjab	Ropar	4.08	Road	Closed
626.	4 Laning of Ludhiana-Chandigarh Road Samrala Town by Pass Km. 1-10.84	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.74	Road	Closed
627.	Approach Road to Petrol Pump on Bathinda-Muktsar Road Km. 49-50, LS	Punjab	Mukatsar	0.048	Road	Closed
628.	Widening of Ludhiana Malarkotla Road for Approach to New Bridge on Sidhwan	Punjab	Ludhiana	0.55	Road	Closed
629.	4 Laning of Chandigarh-Ludhian Road Km. 45.60-48	Punjab	Fatehgarh Sahib	2.184	Road	Withdrawn
630.	Construction of Slip Road along GT Road Km 22	Punjab	Kapurthala	0.06	Road	Returned to State Government
631.	Widening of Dukhniwaran Sahib to Thapar College Road	Punjab	Patiala	1.6064	Road	Returned to State Government
632.	Widening of Patiala-Nabha Road (Sec Gurudwara Dukhniwaran Sahib to Thappar College Chowk)	Punjab	Patiala	0.4	Road	Returned to State Government
633.	Widening/Strengthening of Samana-Gulha Road	Punjab	Patiala	0.288	Road	Returned to State Government
634.	Widening of Sunam-Lehragagga Road Km. 0.450-2.590	Punjab	Sangrur	1.011	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
635.	Construction of Road from Patiala Main Road to Dashmorh Nayur	Punjab	Patiala	0.12	Road	Returned to Stage Government
636.	Construction of Line Road Tibba Nangal to Kullar Retewal Km. 6	Punjab	Ropar	7.82	Road	Returned to State Government
637.	Construction of Link Rd. from Vill. Kullar Retewal to Tibba Nangal, Garshankar	Punjab	Nawanshahar	6.52	Road	Returned to Sgate Government
638.	Four Laning of Road between Chitorgarh-Kota on National Highway-76	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	65.68	Road	Approved
639.	Approach Road to Ghurakar under PMGSY	Rajasthan	Karoli	0.8175	Road	Approved
640.	Link Road from Madhuban Scheme to Pali Nagaur NH-65	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	0.108	Road	Approved
641.	Widening of NH-8 from Km 256 to 262	Rajasthan	Jaipur	12.04	Road	Approved
642.	Widening of NH-11 from Km 239 to Km 246	Rajasthan	Jaipur	11.7	Road	Approved
643.	Malpura to Village Chati Motor Road	Rajasthan	Tonk	1	Road	Approved
644.	2003	Rajasthan	Jaipur	0.525	Road	Approved
645.	Widening of NH-3 Agra-Gwalior Km 31-41	Rajasthan	Dholpur	0	Road	Approved
646.	Strengthening and Widening of Delhi Road NH-8 from Karbala Junction to Kunda	Rajasthan	Jaipur	13.109	Road	Approved
647.	Widening & Strengthening of Ajmer Pulia to C-Zone Bye Pass Road	Rajasthan	Jaipur	1.66	Road	Approved
648.	Geometrical Improvement in Km 60 to Km 62 of NH-11	Rajasthan	Bharatpur	0.61	Road	Approved
649.	Huwalia Link Road	Rajasthan	Bundi	4.5	Road	Approved
650.	To Four Lane Ramganj to Transport Nagar	Rajasthan	Ajmer	7.087	Road	Closed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
651.	Ajmer Bus Stand to Maharishi Dayanand University Motor Road	Rajasthan	Ajmer	5.918	Road	Closed
652.	Widening of Chittorgarh-Kota Road on National Highwayy 76	Rajasthan	Bundi	105.03	Road	Under process
653.	Construction of Permanent Bridge Over Rangrang River	Sikkim	Sikkim (North)	0.225	Bridge	Approved
654.	Construction of Permanent Bridge over Teesta River	Sikkim	Sikkim (North)	0.51	Bridge	Approved
655.	Construction of Road from Lingi to Payong JR High School	Sikkim	South Sikkim	0.36	Road	Approved
656.	Construction of Bakcha-Labi Road	Sikkim	Sikkim (North)	0.146	Road	Approved
657.	Katao-Bump-IV Road by BRO (Border Road Organisation)	Sikkim	Sikkim (East)	12.69	Road	Approved
658.	Construction Road 3 Km. Beyond Yumeshmdang	Sikkim	North	4.5	Road	Approved
659.	Construction of Road from I.B. Golai to Peku	Sikkim	South	2.62	Road	Approved
660.	Construction of Link Road from Samdong to Talam Under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (East)	0.792	Road	Approved
661.	Construction Realignment Route of Ritchu	Sikkim	North	1.786	Road	Approved
662.	Construction of Approach Road from Samlickt under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (East)	0.957	Road	Approved
663.	Construction Sirbadam-Dythang Link Road	Sikkim	West	0.5297	Road	Approved
664.	Construction of Road from Polok Busty to Near Dang Busty	Sikkim	South & West Sikkim	3.428	Road	Approved
665.	Construction of Link Road Gyalshing Lengship by SPWD (Roads and Bridges)	Sikkim	Sikkim (West)	0.442	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
666.	Construction of Rural Connectivity Road from Sikip to Palzer Road 3.0 km Mungrang Under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (South)	0.21	Road	Approved
667.	Construction of Rural Connectivity Road from Sumbuk Lungchok SPWD Road to Gupti via Mungrang Under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (South)	1.4	Road	Approved
668.	Const. of Rural Connectivity connectivity Road from Kamrang PWD Road to Kitchu Dumra under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (South)	0.604	Road	Approved
669.	Construction of Rural Connectivity Road from Namphing Turning to Tshallamthang Junior High School Under PMGSY	Sikkim	Sikkim (South)	0.706	Road	Approved
670.	Construction of Link Road from Labdang to Phamtam	Sikkim	Sikkim (West)	8.596	Road	Under process
671.	Improvement of Chungthang Road from CI-9 Specification to NH Single Lane Specification from 13.243 Km. to 30 Km.	Sikkim	Sikkim (North)	3.479	Road	Returned to State Government
672.	Diversion of FL for Construction of 2 Collector Wells and 2 Foor Bridges on the River Coleroon Falls to Tmws & DB.	Tamil Nadu	Nagapattinam	0.1	Bridge	Approved
673.	Formation of Road from Chatravalupatti to Ramagondanpatti in F/O NHAI	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	0.497	Road	Approved
674.	Formation of Salem-Karur New BG Line in F/O Southern Railway	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	0.96	Road	Approved
675.	Formation of Improvement of Ghat Road from Narayanapuram to Natham	Tamil Nadu	Vellore	2.61	Road	Approved
676.	Diversion of FL in Sampathy RF for Formation of Road from Chatra Vellupathhy to Ramagoundanpathy in Madurai Division.	Tamil Nadu	Madurai	0.497	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
677.	Diversion of FL for Krishnagiri to Vaniambadi Passing Through Nandi Banda RF from 22.008 Km to 23.00 Km by NHAI.	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	2.15	Road	Approved
678.	Diversion of FL in Nallur RF for Laying Access Road to Reach Engineering College Run by M/s Sapthagiri Education Trust.	Tamil Nadu	Kancheepuram	0.84	Road	Approved
679.	Diversion of FL to Highways Deptt. for Forming & Improving Ghat Road from Narayanapuram to Natham via Mettuparai.	Tamil Nadu	Vellore	2.61	Road	Approved
680.	Road in Themoraikarai Kongadai Salai from 7/8 to 10/6 Km.	Tamil Nadu	Erode	1.35	Road	Rejected
681.	Formation of Diversion Road in Themoraikarai Kongadai Salai from 7/8 to 10/6 Km.	Tamil Nadu	Erode	1.35	Road	Rejected
682.	Diversion of FL for Constructionof Bridge at Km 28/8 of Udumalpet-Chinnar Road by Highways Deptt.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	0.0464	Road	Under process
683.	Construction of Footpath to Pykara Boat House in Nilgiris South Division.	Tamil Nadu	Nilgiris	0.0225	Road	Returned to State Government
684.	Diversion of Forest Land for Improvement of Existing Road from Polur to Chengam	Tamil Nadu	Thiruvannamalai	2.5	Road	Returned to State Government
685.	Diversion of Forest Land for Formation of Road from Antherikottai in Karimangalam Panchayat Union	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	2.016	Road	Returned to State Government
686.	Diversion of Forest Land for Widening of Two Lane to Four Lane of Thoppru Ghat in Favour of NHAI	Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	0.9412	Road	Returned to State Government

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
687.	Diversion of Forest Land for Formation of Road from Adukkam to Kumbakkarai in Kodaikanal Division.	Tamil Nadu	Dindigul	4	Road	Returned to State Government
688.	Construction of Foot Path to Pykara Boat House	Tamil Nadu	Nilgiris	0.0225	Road	Returned to State Government
689.	IBB Boalkhali to MK Pura Road	Tripura	Dhalai	126.5	Road	Approved
690.	Construction of Road of IBB from Dhalai-Kanthalbari-Vishnupur-Karangichara	Tripura	Tripura (North)	24.29	Road	Approved
691.	Construction of IBB Road in Radhanagar	Tripura	Tripura (South)	29.6	Road	Approved
692.	Construction of IBB Road from Kulbari to Nidaya	Tripura	Tripura (West)	0.42	Road	Approved
693.	Construction of Approachment Road on Both Sides of the Railwa Overbridge at 23.60 Km.	Tripura	Dhalai	0.299	Road	Approved
694.	Widening of Agartala to Sabroom Road	Tripura	Tripura (South)	1.129	Road	Approved
695.	Construction of Khowai-Karang Cherra Road by IBB	Tripura	Tripura (West)	12.3	Road	Closed
696	Bridge of Madhubebaya Road Giayaghat Road Km 0.5 in Jamuor Nala	Uttar Pradesh	Siddharth Nagar	0.05	Bridge	Approved
697.	Widening of NH-3 Agra Gwalior Marg from Km. 24 to Km. 31	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	14	Road	Approved
698.	Construction of Sakauli Over Bridge on NH-58	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	0.4	Road	Approved
699.	RCC Bridge and Approach Road on Bhains Hawa Ghat	Uttar Pradesh	Balrampur	0.47	Road	Approved
700.	Felling of Trees in Bypass of NH-24-28	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	1.76	Road	Approved
701.	Construction of Moradabad By-Pass on NH-24	Uttar Pradesh	Muradabad	0.375	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
702.	Upgradation of Bahraich-Gonda-Faizabad (Katra) Road from Km. 1 to 15	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich	1.5	Road	Approved
703.	Felling of 4178 Trees in Pakpara-Dingarpur Road (from Km 13.4 to 21.4)	Uttar Pradesh	Muradabad	7.2	Road	Approved
704.	Upgradation of Bahraich Gonda-Faizabad Road from Km. 16 to 40	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich	2.2	Road	Approved
705.	Upgradation of Bhoginipur-Ghatampur to Churgarha Under World Bank Project	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur	11.2	Road	Approved
706.	Four Laning of NH-24 Ghaziabad Hapur Section and Construction of Hapur Bypass	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	0.83	Road	Approved
707.	Widening of NH-25 (LKO-Kanpur-Road) from Km 7.900 to Km 11.380 Minor Canal to Amausi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	3.966	Road	Approved
708.	Under State Road Project-II Scheme Upgradation of Katra-Jalabad Bagaramau	Uttar Pradesh	Hardoi	5.09	Road	Approved
709.	Widening of 2 to 4 Lane of NH-2 Km 38 to Km 115 NH-2	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur	106.66	Road	Approved
710.	Bridge in NH-24 in Km 358 Sharda Lucknow Branch Canal	Uttar Pradesh	Sitapur	0.5064	Road	Approved
711.	Bridge Const. on Hindan River on Khatima Road	Uttar Pradesh	Muzzaffar Nagar	0.083	Road	Approved
712.	Upgradation of Katra-Jalalabad-Bagmau Km 97 to Km. 104	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	8	Road	Approved
713.	Upgradation of Behraich-Gonda-Katra Marg from Km. 41 to Km 108	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda	6.7	Road	Approved
714.	Upgradation of Bhoginipur-Ghatampur Chourgarha and Katra-Jalalabad-Bagarmau	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	54	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
715.	Permission for Tree Felling and Approach Road on Gone River Bridge	Uttar Pradesh	Sitapur	1.757	Road	Approved
716.	Widening of 4 Lane in Km 0 to 1.300 NH-28 Ayodhya Byepass	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad	0.6	Road	Approved
717.	Widening NH-28 from Km-279.800 to Km 360.915 and Felling of 12621 Trees	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur	95.43	Road	Approved
718.	Widening of 4 Lane from Km-8.250 to 16.700 in NH-28 and Felling of 1240 Trees	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	16.43	Road	Approved
719.	Widening of Two to Four Lane in NH-28 from Km 92 to 12	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad	71.04	Road	Approved
720.	Widening of 4 Lane in Km 142.50 to 143.40 in NH-28	Uttar Pradesh	Gonda	1.26	Road	Approved
721.	4 Lane Tol Plaza on NH-75 in Km 71	Uttar Pradesh	Saharanpur	0.9	Road	Approved
722.	Widening of Four Lane from Km 16.700 to 93.00 in NH-28 and Felling of 5714 Trees	Uttar Pradesh	Barabanki	93.71	Road	Approved
723.	Widening of 4 Laning in Km 143.00 to 240.600 of NH-28	Uttar Pradesh	Basti	95.406	Road	Approved
724.	Widening of 2 to 4 Lane from Km 240.6 to 287.4 in NH-28	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur	17.79	Road	Approved
725.	Upgradation of Katra-Jalalabad-Bangarmau-Bilhaur MR	Uttar Pradesh	Shahjanpur	64	Road	Closed
726.	Upgradation of Road Upto Jaunpur to Mohammadpur	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur	2.75	Road	Closed
727.	Suarsot-Machi-Syaria Motor Road	Uttar Pradesh	Sonebhadra	5	Road	Closed
728.	Upgradation of Katra Jalalabad Bagarmau Bilaur MR	Uttar Pradesh	Unnao	2	Road	Closed
729.	Devkhari-Jawahar Purwa Link Motor Road	Uttar Pradesh	Hamirpur	2.34	Road	Closed
730.	Kharihat Kala Link Road	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	1.05	Road	Closed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
731.	Uruwa Link Road	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	0.26	Road	Closed
732.	Sonbarsa to Devghata Link Road	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	1.58	Road	Closed
733.	Sirsi Leduki to Sarsawa Link Road	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	1.19	Road	Closed
734.	Upgradation of NH-2 Km 200 to 218	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	4.09	Road	Returned to State Government
735.	Upgradation of Jaunpur to Muhammadpur Road Under State Road Project and Felling of 337 Trees	Uttar Pradesh	Azamgarh	12.4	Road	Returned to State Government
736.	Bridge Construction on Km. 197 Rishikesh-Harsil-Lanka-Bhairav Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	0.04	Bridge	Approved
737.	Hanging Bridge on Kali Ganga River for Ghes and Pinau	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.04	Bridge	Approved
738.	Bridge and Khachchar Shed in Gaurikund	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	0.3	Bridge	Approved
739.	Widening of Rishsbarh-Joshimath-Mana Road by Boarder Road Km 305 to 323.60	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	23.872	Road	Approved
740.	Ramnagar-Kosi Barage Patkot Motor RD	Uttaranchal	Nainital	20.13	Road	Approved
741.	Improvement of Rishikesh Joshimath Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	51.68	Road	Approved
742.	Construction of Dugadda-Rathuwadhaw Maidawan Haldukhal Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	58.74	Road	Approved
743.	Improvement of NH-58 (Km. 138 to 159.675) by BSF	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	23.934	Road	Approved
744.	Padampuri-Herakhan-Kathgodam Motor RD	Uttaranchal	Nainital	42.93	Road	Approved
745.	Masi Gair Khet-Sarai Khet Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	32.053	Road	Approved
746.	Maldhan Chaur (Goyalnagar) Hatidangar-Pirumadara MR Under PM Road Scheme	Uttaranchal	Nainital	7.092	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
747.	Construction of Gaumukh Dove Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	0.29	Road	Approved
748.	Kalika Banodia Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	0.19	Road	Approved
749.	Syansyun Light Vehicle Road Bridge and Approach Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	4.83	Road	Approach
750.	Widening of Joshimath to Malari MR	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	16.161	Road	Approved
751.	Approach Road to Residential Non-Residential Building of Legal Department	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	1.68	Road	Approved
752.	Kandoli Gram to Nanda Ki Chauki-Bhauwala Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	1.215	Road	Approved
753.	Maldevta to Dwara Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	2.58	Road	Approved
754.	Kanalichina Piplimotor RD to Limatoda LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	2.115	Road	Approved
755.	Don-Okhaldunga-Tallisethi Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	10.5	Road	Approved
756.	Kanda-Don Parewa-Amargarhi Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	9.06	Road	Approved
757.	Land Diversion of PWD for Const. of Mandal Kanadard M.R.	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.26	Road	Approved
758.	Bridge NH-108 of Dharasun-Gangotri Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	0.4	Road	Approved
759.	Badari to Kantebora LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.098	Road	Approved
760.	Jhajar-Aksora-Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	7.452	Road	Approved
761.	Bhanukhal Tadam Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	4.98	Road	Approved
762.	Approach Road to in Km. 1 Inbridge Sahasradhara-Chamsarimr	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	0.18	Road	Approved
763.	Pata Band to Pata Gaon Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	0.066	Road	Approved
764.	Tuna-Bautha-Pokhri Light Vehicle RD	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.179	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
765.	Ancholi-Badaway Motor Road to Balai Link Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	0.81	Road	Approved
766.	Circuit House Approach Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	0.98	Road	Approved
767.	Widening of Rishikesh-Joshimath-Mana National Highway Km. 184.420 to Km 195.00	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	12.941	Road	Approved
768.	Itaula Kanaldunga Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	0.53	Road	Approved
769.	Liti-Ritkula-Satgad Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	5.8537	Road	Approved
770.	Bhuwani Gobrari Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	0.783	Road	Approved
771.	Gangotri to Utro Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.374	Road	Approved
772.	Nararyan Bagad Parkhal Kedarkot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	14.436	Road	Approved
773.	Construction of Pala Kurali Pattagadia LMV Road in Rudraprayag	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	2.227	Road	Approved
774.	Bauragad-Chaud-Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.9	Road	Approved
775.	Construction of Gorpa Sikhadi Putan LMV Road in Jakholi Block	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	0.51	Road	Approved
776.	Marorakhan Patan Galchaura Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	0.78	Road	Approved
777.	Extension of Wardakahan-Pathalti Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	0.84	Road	Approved
778.	Construction of Jakholi Chaura LMV Road in Jakholi Block (KM 1 to Km 4.95)	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	1.695	Road	Approved
779.	Gol China-Srikhet Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	0.35	Road	Approved
780.	Gumaniwala Bhuttowala Garhi Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	0.4884	Road	Approved
781.	Guma Harkande Jajar Chingari Dua LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	13.61	Road	Approved
782.	Bagrigad-Bakpinau-Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.9	Road	Approved
783.	Ghingran-Bemru-Urgam Ligh Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	3.08	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
784.	Rishikesh Gangotri Motor Road to Boaun Gaon Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.808	Road	Approved
785.	Diversion of Rishikesh Doiwala Motor Road due to Expansion of Jauligrant Airport	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	4.2	Road	Approved
786.	Dhautri Kaun Garh to Shiri Km. 6.25 and Construction of Bridge	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	4.381	Road	Approved
787.	Jaiti-Pipli-Walka Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	3.27	Road	Approved
788.	Widening of Rishikesh Joshimath-Mana Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	9.448	Road	Approved
789.	Ghursal Link Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.33	Road	Approved
790.	Horawala Koti Road to Dhalani Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	2.25	Road	Approved
791.	Expansion of Tanakpur Tawaghat MR Km. 1.88 to Km. 41.88	Uttaranchal	Champwat	10.806	Road	Approved
792.	Mathkudi Sain Pangariakhal Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	1.2845	Road	Approved
793.	Udhyundunga Okhlainj Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.305	Road	Approved
794.	Degree College Lohaghat to Gagnola Naskhola Kalsan LVR	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.575	Road	Approved
795.	ADI Badri Bharari Sain MR	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	2.0268	Road	Approved
796.	Girthi Dobla Sumna MR	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	9.825	Road	Approved
797.	Extension of Bohrakan Jantalgaon Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.9	Road	Approved
798.	Kamsal Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	0.966	Road	Approved
799.	Kunlata LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	8.955	Road	Approved
800.	Takulti-Sunderkhal LVR	Uttaranchal	Almora	3.12	Road	Approved
801.	Dhak-Regri-Karcho Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.3624	Road	Approved
802.	Kapkot Motor Marg Km. 18 to Pakhar	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	2.82	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
803.	Lisa Factory to Director (WL) Office Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.903	Road	Approved
804.	Pini Kujasu Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.552	Road	Approved
805.	Duni Chahaj MR MK 2.0 to 6.0 in Gangolihat	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	2.4	Road	Approved
806.	Timta Bugli Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	14.932	Road	Approved
807.	Rohira-Pajiyana Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	5.265	Road	Approved
808.	Rikhari Band to Talai Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	1.74	Road	Approved
809.	Tapovan Ringi-Bhavishyabadri Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.1	Road	Approved
810.	Bageshwar-Kapkot-MR Km. 21 to Bhayun MR	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	1.5	Road	Approved
811.	Gingran-Dungri-Link Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.94	Road	Approved
812.	Widening of Dharasu Gangotri Motor Marg from Km 57 to Km 68.175	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	6.5435	Road	Approved
813.	Construction of Causeway Chausala	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.12	Road	Approved
814.	Bankot Dhari Dhumla Kot Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	3.6	Road	Approved
815.	Bankot Devrari Pant MR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	2.4	Road	Approved
816.	Kothiyal Sain Sanwari Sain Light Vehicle Road to Nand Prayag Devalkhal MR Km 4	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	3	Road	Approved
817.	Lawani Ramni Motor Road Under PM Village Road Construction Project	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	2.295	Road	Approved
818.	Narendra Nagar Daur Gujrada LVR	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	0.752	Road	Approved
819.	Malla Shill Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	3.3	Road	Approved
820.	Bridge and Road Construction from Kotawali Tiraha to Laharpur	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	0.55	Road	Approved
821.	Rasiogarh Chauraha to Pili Pahar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	4.0436	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
822.	Rasiabagad Chauraha to Dudhwadayalpur Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	3.003	Road	Approved
823.	Kolso Band to Chula to Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.9	Road	Approved
824.	Pusari Palethi Sartoli Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.2	Road	Approved
825.	Forest Department Colony to Linthyura Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	0.2125	Road	Approved
826.	Tiwara-Wabai-Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	7.98	Road	Approved
827.	Kathpuria-China Sheraghat Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	2.475	Road	Approved
828.	Radangali Ranchari Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	0.96	Road	Approved
829.	Masoorie-Kanda-Hakara Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	4.005	Road	Approved
830.	Diversion of F/L for Jasoli Kanda LVR	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	2.7	Road	Approved
831.	Approach Road and Bridge in Km. 9, 10, 14 of NH-74 Haridwar on Mudgal Soat Simbhal Soat Pili River	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	3.5	Road	Approved
832.	Machor Jakh Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	4.26	Road	Approved
833.	Diversion of F/L Ritha Doligaon Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	3.34	Road	Approved
834.	Kanskhet-Asgarh Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	1.482	Road	Approved
835.	Widening of Kaandhar Rauliyana Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	6.21	Road	Approved
836.	Diversion of Forest Land for Construction of Dhardugri Maikhura Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	2.77	Road	Approved
837.	Bridge and Approach Road in NH-74 on Khasan River	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	1.95	Road	Approved
838.	Manjirkanda to Bhateri-Kaliyani Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	7.137	Road	Approved
839.	Khalgara Kot Basan MR	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.68	Road	Approved
840.	Dumkabangar-Tejpur Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.6	Road	Approved
841.	Maroralkhan Rajkot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.08	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
842.	Marorakhan Rajkot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.08	Road	Approved
843.	Kimtoli Rasahaul MR to Marchamar MR	Uttaranchal	Champawat	0.72	Road	Approved
844.	Takula-Gananath-Khaman Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	3.4675	Road	Approved
845.	Diversion of forest Land for Lachhmola-Nauwa LVM Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	2.48	Road	Approved
846.	Nandprayag Bairas Kund Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.279	Road	Approved
847.	Suryadhar Sangaon Sateli Nahikala LVR	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	4.365	Road	Approved
848.	Muradabad Dehradun MR to Gajiwali Marg P. No.-601	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	0.075	Road	Approved
849.	Berinag-Daulagarh-Pausa LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	3.87	Road	Approved
850.	Marorkhan Dayartoli MR	Uttaranchal	Champawat	3.87	Road	Approved
851.	Moradabad-Dehradun MR to Sajanpur Pili Marg Packeg-601	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	0.05	Road	Approved
852.	Kumjug Mathkot Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.366	Road	Approved
853.	Sumalekh-Kana-LVR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.12	Road	Approved
854.	Suyalkot-Melkhet LVR	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.485	Road	Approved
855.	Palsari Chamiyala Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	4.72	Road	Approved
856.	Devalthal Chaukha Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.035	Road	Approved
857.	Talet Gram to Bhausari Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	0.425	Road	Approved
858.	Garuda Banj Bhatkanya Light Vehicle Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	4.723	Road	Approved
859.	Saingad Pantgaon Chamadkhan Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	4.4513	Road	Approved
860.	Chamdev-Jakh-Nidil Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	0.6	Road	Approved
861.	Khunt Kakrighat M.R (Km. 13 to 16)	Uttaranchal	Almora	1.005	Road	Approved
862.	Gyansyun-Sald-Uprikot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	0.3	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
863.	Extension of Kunar Band to Ghes Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.81	Road	Approved
864.	Vadikhan-Raidari-Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	2.4	Road	Approved
865.	Majra Budhi Shekhuwala Dharmawala Road from Km 15 Alkapuri Murhpur Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	0.315	Road	Approved
866.	Udyundunga to Kothera Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.62	Road	Approved
867.	Construction of Jalikhan Uttamchhina Naubara Daula Bajan Sinar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	5.0231	Road	Approved
868.	Upgradation of Haldwani Bye-Pass	Uttaranchal	Nainital	3.6762	Road	Approved
869.	Widening of Kharlekh-Bhanar-Motor Road Under PM Road Scheme	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	14.922	Road	Approved
870.	Construction of Jhulaghat Kaleshwar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.8	Road	Approved
871.	Construction of Ghughkhan Saudwasi Dola Riad Sanda Ranikota Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	3.12	Road	Approved
872.	Construction of Ambedkar Gram Kandi Light Vehicle Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	1.06	Road	Approved
873.	Construction of Rikhnikhal Veerokhal Kedargali Jogimandi Thalisain Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	4.2	Road	Approved
874.	Construction of Ghughukhan Saud Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	1.224	Road	Approved
875.	Construction of Gairsain Pajiana Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.078	Road	Approved
876.	Construction of Approach Road to Chamgad Dam	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	1.254	Road	Approved
877.	Construction of Kempti Thaiyur Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	3.408	Road	Approved
878.	Construction of Don Parewa Patkot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	4.56	Road	Approved
879.	Construction of Gaziabad Jhumakhet LV Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.11	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
880.	Construction of Vishald Link Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	1.051	Road	Approved
881.	Construction of Bhatwadi Raithal M/R Km 5 to Jadaithi Raithal Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.993	Road	Approved
882.	Construction of Chaumel Mau Seel Barundi LV Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	2.088	Road	Approved
883.	Diversion of Forest Land for Kimtauli Raushal Motor Road to Sulla Village	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.748	Road	Approved
884.	Construction of LVR from Baretha Devi Mandir to Kawan	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	2.07	Road	Approved
885.	Bachier-Terakhansal-Raupa-Kilaundi Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.63	Road	Approved
886.	Thatyd-Pappra Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	0.4	Road	Approved
887.	Alternative Khachar Marg and Tourist Shed	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	2.02	Road	Approved
888.	Ghaziabad-Jhumakhet Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.801	Road	Approved
889.	Bareni Rondali Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	0.96	Road	Approved
890.	Bridge Construction in Place of Cuseway in Km 6 Sidhsoat and Km 12 Paprisoat in NH-74	Uttaranchal	Haridwar	2.433	Road	Approved
891.	Thirpak-Kandai-Bairas-Kund Motor Road Km 6 to 7	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.169	Road	Approved
892.	Bhanar-Lathi-Dhanyar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	2.5	Road	Approved
893.	Rudraprayag-Bye Pass to NH D/L Specification Under Phase-I Km 0.0 to 3.90	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	9.683	Road	Approved
894.	Gari-Dubatia-Kalni Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	2.051	Road	Approved
895.	Paithani-Bareth Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	3.457	Road	Approved
896.	Pajaina-Dhaina-Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	2.52	Road	Approved
897.	Kaladungi-Kotabag Motor Road to Dechuari-Degaon Link Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.99	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
898.	Sendul-Patargaon (Km 7 to 10)	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	2.364	Road	Approved
899.	Asgoli Tipola Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	1.64	Road	Approved
900.	Siltona Gargoli Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	2.416	Road	Approved
901.	Construction Up-to Km 4 of Betalghat Ghodia Halso	Uttaranchal	Nainital	4.2	Road	Approved
902.	Quarkholi to Pamda Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.8	Road	Approved
903.	Approach Road to District Magistrate Office	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	0.9	Road	Approved
904.	Rousal-Durgravora M.R.	Uttaranchal	Champawat	4.92	Road	Approved
905.	Chamail-Walso Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.25	Road	Approved
906.	Mansuna-Gadgu Motor Road Under PM Road Construction Scheme	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	1.44	Road	Approved
907.	Tala-Wargali Motor Road under PM Road Construction Scheme	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	4.14	Road	Approved
908.	Sudhowala Politechnic to Bhadrakali Gram Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	4.5	Road	Approved
909.	Suraithota-Tolma Link Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.78	Road	Approved
910.	Dharkot Tangoli Baderna Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	3.9	Road	Approved
911.	Kafra-Baret Tipola Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	1.56	Road	Approved
912.	Marora-Banali Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	8.1	Road	Approved
913.	Hawalbag-Basoli Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	3.1632	Road	Approved
914.	Hapla-Dhotidhar-Motor Road Under PM Village Road Scheme	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	4.98	Road	Approved
915.	Pilkhi Dwari Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	2.16	Road	Approved
916.	Tharali Kumar Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.35	Road	Approved
917.	Ashwatal-Jhalnadev Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.125	Road	Approved
918.	Kujjan Dihar Light Vehicle Road Km 3.00	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.505	Road	Approved
919.	Marorakhan Regru Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.98	Road	Approved
920.	Gangnnani Bridge to Bhangoli Motor Road (Km. 1.00)	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	2	Road	Approved

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
921.	Damta Kyara MR	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.17	Road	Approved
922.	Maniagar-Nagarkhan Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	3.0338	Road	Approved
923.	Pancheshwar-Ghat MR and Temporary Rest House	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.24	Road	Approved
924.	Garslekh-Garsari-Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	2.4	Road	Approved
925.	Khinsar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	1.439	Road	Approved
926.	Budhi-Lipa Pass Road to Ranch	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	78.935	Road	Closed
92/.	Dhabkhal Agnisain Khanetakhal LV.R.	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	1.275	Road	Closed
928.	Nijmula-Gouna Bagar-Pana Light Vehicle Ropad	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	3.6	Road	Closed
929.	Dayangan Kathayatbara ARE Bye-Pass Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	4.626	Road	Closed
930.	Govt. Inter College Shitlakhet	Uttaranchal	Almora	4	Road	Closed
931.	Thano Rest House to Jhabrani Siriyo LVR	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	0.75	Road	Closed
932.	Brijnagar Talia Banjvyandhura Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	2.632	Road	Closed
933.	Dhanachuli Band to Sundarkhal Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.9	Road	Closed
934.	Silkyara-Bangaon-Sarot-Chapra Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	8.655	Road	Closed
935.	Udaipuri Bishanpuri Link Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.254	Road	Closed
936.	Quarkholi to Paamda Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Champawat	1.8	Road	Closed
937.	Widening of Km 1.65 to Km 20 in NH Rudraprayag-Gaurikund	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	20.443	Road	Closed
938.	Chinagad-Ghanghasu-Bangar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	1.65	Road	Closed
939.	Punagad-Natadol-Motor Road Under PM Road Project	Uttaranchal	Almora	5.7938	Road	Closed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
940.	Nandgaon Sunakot Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	0.9	Road	Closed
941.	Temporary Approach Road to Protection Works of Surge Tank	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.5	Road	Closed
942.	Naugaon-Rajgarhi Road from Km 10 to Paunti 4 Km	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	3.36	Road	Closed
943.	Dharkot to Ladwakot Light Vehicle Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	3.915	Road	Closed
944.	Kui Link Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	0.57	Road	Closed
945.	Widening of Delhi-Yamunotri Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	1.7224	Road	Closed
946.	Chorani anya Jairi Beganiya MR	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	3.6	Road	Closed
947.	Talla Ramgarh Ratighat Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	3.6	Road	Closed
948.	Goversa Rawakot Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	2.565	Road	Rejected
949.	Gochar-Kanda-Dua-Kanda Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Chamoli	2.96	Road	Rejected
950.	Miytangad Kunara Light Vehicle Road	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	3.43	Road	Rejected
951.	Sendul Patargaon Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Tehri Garhwal	2.837	Road	Rejected
952.	Widening of Gaurikund Kedarnath Bridle Road	Uttaranchal	Rudraprayag	1.75	Road	Rejected
953.	Harinagar Sairi to Beri Jala Khairola Silota LVR	Uttaranchal	Nainital	0.3825	Road	Rejected
954.	Khimakhet-Kilwokhal Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Pauri Garhwal	3.285	Road	Returned to State Government
955.	Road from Narayan Nagar Askot to Narayan Nagar Degree College	Uttaranchal	Pithoragarh	0.78	Road	Returned to State Government
956.	Construction of Ratighat Betalghat Motor Road to Oda Basot LV Road	Uttaranchal	Nainital	3.6	Road	Withdrawn
957.	Diversion of Forest Land for Construction of Asgoli Tipola LMV Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	1.6163	Road	Withdrawn

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
958.	Dwarso-Kakrighat Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Almora	8.4481	Road	Returned to State Government
959.	Kandhar Bajwar Motor Road	Uttaranchal	Bageshwar	12.983	Road	Returned to State Government
960.	Construction of Km 5 to 12 of Khunigad to Sarash	Uttaranchal	Uttarkashi	6.4	Road	Returned to State Government

Plantation Projects in Rural Areas

6363. PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for development and promotion of plantation projects in the rural areas in the country including Himachal Pradesh are under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds provided therefore, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) in the country including in Himachal Pradesh for promoting tree plantation on degraded forest areas and adjoining lands. The Programme is being implemented through Forest Development Agency (FDA) at territorial forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC) at the village level. In Himachal Pradesh, 27 FDA projects with a total cost of Rs. 52.53 crores are under implementation.

(b) Summary of State-wise FDA project proposals approved and funds released therefor is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Plantation Projects in Rural Areas

(As on 31.3.2005)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of FDA Project proposals approved	Amount Released (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28	33.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	9.41
3.	Assam	24	13.57
4.	Bihar	7	4.62
5.	Chhattisgarh	29	34.36
6.	Goa	3	0.64
7.	Gujarat	16	16.69
8.	Haryana	16	35.03
9.	Himachal Pradesh	27	20.35
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	31	17.76
11.	Jharkhand	27	19.29
12.	Karnataka	41	52.84
13.	Kerala	14	5.57
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44	55.62
15.	Maharashtra	41	31.75
16.	Manipur	12	12.91

1	2	3	4
17.	Meghalaya	7	2.45
18.	Mizoram	19	35.91
19.	Nagaland	16	25.13
20.	Orissa	32	30.41
21.	Punjab	5	2.38
22.	Rajasthan	16	16.10
23.	Sikkim	7	14.19
24.	Tamil Nadu	31	37.28
25.	Tripura	12	12.04
26.	Uttar Pradesh	56	66.55
27.	Uttaranchal	30	19.09
28.	West Bengal	16	13.84
	Total	620	639.77

Biodiversity Act, 2002

6364. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many organizations including Non-Governmental Organisations, people movements and citizens have criticized and ignorance of people's participation and serving particular interests in matters relating to environment;

(b) if so, the interests underlined by these organisations;

(c) whether rules notified under the Biodiversity Act, 2002 weakens the role of local groups in protecting biodiversity and traditional knowledge;

(d) if so, whether groups engaged in the environment sector have indicated its shortcomings;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prohibit clearance of developmental projects without ascertaining the effect on environment and without making assessment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Various Organisations and individuals stress for people's participation in matters relating to environment and the policies and programmes of the Government to ensure maximum stakeholders' involvement in various schemes. The Government has a policy of stakeholders consultation in such matters.

(c) to (e) The rules notified under Biodiversity Act, 2002 are in accordance with the Act passed by the Parliament and adequately provide for role of local groups in protecting Biodiversity and traditional knowledge. Apprehensions of some groups regarding infirmity in the rules are factually not correct.

(f) Environmental Impact Assessment for obtaining prior environmental clearance has been made mandatory for 32 categories of development projects in the sectors of industry, thermal power, mining, river valley, infrastructure and nuclear power under the Environmental Impact Assessment notification 1994.

Grants to NGOs in Water Sector

6365. SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision to provide 25 per cent grants to the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs) to tide over water crisis;

(b) whether the grants to the NGOs engaged in water recharging projects could be enhanced up to 70 per cent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Review of Consumer Courts

6366. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the functioning of consumer courts recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering any new scheme for quick disposal of the pending cases;

(c) if so, the salient features of the said scheme;

(d) whether the Government proposes to associate the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for quick disposal of the pending cases; and

(e) if so, the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) The Government reviews the functioning of consumer forums periodically and efforts are continuously made for improving the functioning of the consumer forums.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Pune Milk Union

6367. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal of rehabilitation of Pune Milk Union;

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

(c) whether the proposal has been put before the Standing Finance Committee for consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The rehabilitation plan of Pune Milk Union at a total cost of Rs. 530.00 lakhs was considered by the Standing Finance Committee and approved during the year 2001-02 with the following stipulations:

- Installment of assistance per annum should be reworked based on actual fund required.
- Government of India's share will be released only when State Government's share is released.
- Repayment of loan/overdues to NDDB should be made only when cash flow becomes positive.
- The overhead cost should be reduced.

The entire share of the Government of India amounting to Rs. 265.00 lakhs has already been released in three instalments for rehabilitation of Pune Milk Union. According to the reports received, the Union is on the path of revival.

Price Increase in Agricultural Farming

6368. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of fertilizers, pesticides and other inputs used in agricultural farming have increased about 40 per cent;

(b) if so, whether the prices of foodgrains have increased in that ratio;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not airse.

Construction of Water Disputes Tribunals

6369. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has directed the State Governments to constitute Inter-State Water disputes tribunals and prescribe time limit for tribunals to give their awards; and

(b) if so, the response of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the Inter-State River Water

Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956, the Union Government is required to constitute a water disputes tribunal after receipt of a request from the basin State/States to this effect and after it is satisfied that the disputes cannot be settled by negotiations. The act was amended in the year 2002 whereby adjudication of the water disputes by the Tribunals has been made time bound.

Seminar in Assam on Flood Control

6370. SHRI M.K. SUBBA.: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Seminar on flood problem in Assam was recently held in Guwahati;

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

(c) whether any memorandum or representation making such demands has been received by the Union Government from the State Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As per information available, no Seminar on flood problem in Assam was held in Guwahati in the recent past. However, a final meeting of the Task Force for Flood Management/Erosion Control set up by Government of India under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission was held at Guwahati during December 28-29, 2004. The Task Force has since submitted its report on 31.12.2004 to Ministry of Water Resources. The report of Task Force has been circulated to various Ministries/Planning Commission and the concerned State Governments. The report of Task Force is under consideration in the Ministry.

Iron Ore Mines under NMDC

6371. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of iron ore mines under National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) in the country at present;

(b) the production of minerals in those mines during the last three years; and

(c) the quantum of iron-ore procured by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation for export through different parts during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) There are seven iron ore mines under NMDC in the country at present. These are as following:

(1) Bailadila 14 & 11C, Distt: Dantewara, Chhattisgarh

(2) Bailadila 5, Distt: Dantewara, Chhattisgarh.

(3) Bailadila 10 & 11A, Distt: Dantewara, Chhattisgarh.

(4) Donimalai Iron Ore Mine, Distt. Bellary, Karnataka.

(5) Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine, Distt. Bellary, Karanataka.

(b) The production of Minerals in those mines during the last three years is as follows:

(Lakh Tonnes)

NMDC's iron ore mines	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Bailadila 14 & 11C	64.58	66.41	70.76
Bailadila 5	63.18	63.35	63.78
Bailadila 10 & 11A	0.73	6.89	21.12
Donimalai Iron Ore Mine	42.19	44.84	50.18
Kumaraswamy Iron Ore Mine	1.55	1.56	1.56

(c) The details of State-wise procurement of iron ore by MMTC for exports during the last three year years is given below:

(Quantity: In lakh MTs)

State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (Provisional)
Chhattisgarh	42.19	42.75	48.08
Karnataka	62.34	50.72	51.05
Goa	10.35	5.13	7.67
Orissa	7.73	2.61	11.86
Jharkhand	7.59	3.86	0.56
Total	130.20	105.07	119.22

Seeds Research by ICAR

6372. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the seeds in which Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently made a break-through;

(b) the details of plans of the Council in this regard during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of Scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research alongwith the names of their respective fields as well as the annual expenditure being incurred by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated to produce breeder seed of different corps in the country which in turn is used for the production of foundation seed and certified seed. During 2003-2004, 68465.00 qtls. of breeder seed of different crops have been produced. Major break through in terms of higher production of breeder seed have been in potato, oilseeds, wheat, rice and pulses.

(b) Research plans for the Tenth Plan period concentrate on areas like seed production technology, seed pathology, breeder seed production, seed processing and storage. An allocation of Rs. 5634.29 lakhs has been earmarked for this purpose during the Tenth Plan period.

(c) In the Indian Council of Agricultural Research over 500 scientists are working for production of breeder seed and seed technology research. The major disciplines of these scientists are plant breeding, seed technology, seed physiology, seed entomology, bio-chemistry, agronomy, soil science, vegetable science, horticulture and biotechnology etc. During 2003-04, the annual expenditure on research on seed production has been Rs. 980.20 lakhs.

[Translation]

Official on Deputation

6373. SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of officers belonging to the Indian Administrative Service currently on deputation in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) alongwith their cadre;

(b) whether there is a shortage of senior officers in FCI;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to ban the appointment on deputation in FCI;

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The details of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers currently on deputation with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Appointment of officers from the All India Services and Central Services in the FCI on deputation basis is done as per the provisions of the FCI (Staff) Regulations, 1971.

Statement

Details of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers currently on deputation in the Food Corporation of India

Sl.No.	Name of the Officer	Present Position	Date of Jointing	Date of Expiry of Tenur
1.	Shri V.K. Malhotra, IAS (UP: 70)	Chairman and Managing Director	6.12.2004	No fixed tenure
2.	Shri S. Nigam, IAS (HP: 80)	Executive Director (Pers.)	12.3.2001	11.3.2006
3.	Shri J.P. Sharma IAS (UP: 81)	Zonal Manager (North)	11.1.2005	10.1.2010
4.	Shri P.K. Mohapatra, IAS (OR: 88)	SRM, Orissa	31.5.2002 (A/N)	31.5.2007
5.	Shri T.C. Gupta, IAS (HY: 87)	SRM, Haryana	2.07.2001 (A/N)	2.7.2006
6.	Shri N.K. Aswal, IAS (CH: 83)	SRM, Rajasthan	23.1.2002	22.1.2007
7.	Shri S.G.K. Kishore, IAS (KL: 89)	SRM, AP	5.5.2004	4.5.2009
8.	Shri A. Som, IAS (AM: SCS: 90)	SRM, Assam	21.10.2002	20.10.2006
9.	Shri K. Shiva Prasad, IAS (PB: 93)	SRM, Punjab	10.4.2003	9.4.2007
10.	Shri P.R. Singh, IAS (HY: SCS: 92)	Manager (MIS), Headquarters	30.4.2004	29.4.2008

Support Price of Millet

6374. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase support price of millet;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have issued any direction to Food Corporation of India (FCI) regarding support price of millet for its procurement direct from farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government have fixed the Minimum Support Price of Bajra and Jowar for 2005-06 at a higher level of Rs. 525 per quintal each compared with Rs. 515 per quintal each in 2004-05.

(c) and (d) Procurement of coarsegrains from farmers under price support operations is presently being entirely undertaken by the State Governments and their Agencies.

EPF Defaulters

6375. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies in the private sector are not contributing their share to the EPF of their employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of employees affected on account of this State-wise; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the management of such companies?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Some

of the establishments in the private sector are defaulting in payment of Provident Fund dues.

(b) A sum of R.s 1167.16 crores (approximately) is outstanding from the private sector establishments affecting 23.70 lakh (approximately) employees as on March 2005. The Region/State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Whenever any default is detected, actions, under the Sections 7A, 8F, 8B to 8G, 14(1)(A), 14(B) & 7Q of Employees Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, under Section 406/409 of IPC and under Section 110 of CrPC, are taken against the defaulters.

Statement

Status of defaulting private sector establishments

Sl.No.	Region	No. of employees affected*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	126139
2.	Bihar	50680
3.	Chhattisgarh	3821
4.	Delhi	35095
5.	Goa	653
6.	Gujarat	41779
7.	Haryana	20010
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11415
9.	Jharkhand	9525
10.	Karnataka	72606
11.	Kerala	335400
12.	Madhya Pradesh	17696
13.	Maharashtra	545670
14.	N-E Region	8497
15.	Orissa	38373
16.	Punjab	52128
17.	Rajasthan	12105
18.	Tamil Nadu	212033
19.	Uttaranchal	6455
20.	Uttar Pradesh	251738
21.	West Bengal	518297
	Total	2370115

*Provisional.

[English]

Development of Basic Infrastructure by Steel Plants

6376. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed steel plants willing to develop basic infrastructure in Orissa;

(b) the terms and conditions laid down for plantation while granting permission to establish steel plant in the State;

(c) whether they are willing to contribute towards the forest land to be degraded, air and water to be polluted and roads to be damaged on account of their establishment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) A large number of entrepreneurs have made proposals to the State Government of Orissa to set up steel plants in the State. Normally, it is the responsibility of the State/Central Government to provide/ develop supporting infrastructure for industries being set up. However, more and more infrastructure projects are now being planned through private-public partnership using BOT mechanism, creation of Special Purpose Vehicles and captive facilities.

(b) to (d) The issues like afforestation, environmental conservation and protection are taken care through implementation of relevant statues relating to forest and environmental conservation and protection.

[Translation]

Sugarcane Growers in Uttaranchal

6377. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the sugarcane growers in Uttaranchal are not getting remunerative prices of sugarcane as compared to Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The State Government of Uttaranchal have informed that the State Advised Price per quintal/ sugarcane for 2004-2005 sugar season is Rs. 104.50 for Unapproved variety, Rs. 107.00 for General variety and Rs. 112.00 for Early variety and that these are the same in Uttar Pradesh. In Maharashtra, Statutory Minimum Price is applicable which is Rs. 74.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% and a premium of Rs. 0.88 for every 0.1% increase in recovery above that level.

[English]

Flood Control Projects

6378. SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of flood control projects in the States including Uttar Pradesh cleared by the Union Government during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether some flood control projects in the States are pending with the Union Government; and

(c) by when these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Flood Management schemes from States excluding Ganga Basin States are submitted to Central Water Commission. The schemes from Ganga Basin States namely Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh etc. are submitted to Ganga Flood Control Commission for their examination. The details of such schemes including those under examination/correspondence are given in the enclosed Statements-I & II.

(c) State Governments submit Flood Management schemes to Central Water Commission/Ganga Flood Control Commission for techno-economic appraisal. Central Water Commission and Ganga Flood Control Commission examine these projects and communicate comments if any in this respect. The State Governments are requested to submit compliance for further necessary action in this regard.

Statement I

Statewise Status of Techno Economic Appraisal of Flood Management Schemes received from States/Brahmaputra Board during Xth Plan

Sl.No.	State	Total no. of schemes received	No. of Schemes cleared from CWC	No. of schemes on which comments sent	No. of schemes under examination in CWC	No. of schemes deleted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assam	72	26	15	6	25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	2	2	2	0
3.	Manipur	8	6	0	0	2
4.	Meghalaya	1	0	1	0	0
5.	Mizoram	2	1	1	0	0
6.	Nagaland	6	5	0	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Sikkim	1	1	0	0	0
8.	Tripura	3	1	1	1	0
9.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1	0	0	0
10.	Bihar	1	1	0	0	0
11.	Gujarat	1	0	0	1	0
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	0	7	7	0
13.	Punjab	4	0	2	2	0
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	1	0	0
15.	Andhra Pradesh	4	1	2	0	1
16.	Orissa	10	2	4	0	4
17.	Kerala	1	0	0	0	1
18.	Karnataka	1	0	0	0	1
	Total	137	47	36	20	34

Statement II

Summary of Status of Schemes State-wise

Sl.No.	Name of State	Total No. of Schemes received	No. of Schemes cleared by GFCC	No. of Schemes on which comments sent	No. of Schemes under examination	Nos. of Schemes deleted
1.	Bihar	31	12	10	7	2
2.	Uttar Pradesh	66	25	09	01	31
3.	West Bengal	45	41	04	Nil	Nil
4.	Jharkhand	01	01	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Uttaranchal	01	01	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Himachal Pradesh	02	01	01	Nil	Nil
7.	Assam*	01	Nil	01	Nil	Nil

*The State of Assam is not in Ganga Basin but Common Border Schemes are examined in GFCC.

Small Scale Drugs Manufacturing Units

6379. SHRI A.F.G. OSMANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of loan drug licenses issued by the Government on behalf of marketing companies/ multinationals/large scale unit to manufacture medicines;

(b) the price paid by these units to small scale manufacturing units *vis-a-vis* norms fixed by the Government under drug price control order;

(c) the total value of medicines manufactured by said units during the last three yeas, year-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for manufacturing of medicines by the said units at reasonable prices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The office of the Drugs Controller General of India, in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has stated that it does not maintain the details of individual loan license issued by State drugs control organisation for manufacturing of drugs. However, as per a rough estimate collected in year 2003, the total number of loan licences by States were 4692.

74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95 and the norms notified from time to time. The ceiling prices fixed under para 9 of DPCO, 95 are applicable to every manufacturer including small scale units, unless exempted.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected. No norms have been fixed by the Government for the price at which small scale manufacturing units can sell on-Scheduled formulations to large units or marketing companies.

Projects Report by Karnataka

6380. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any detailed project report for eleven towns under the NRCP to the Union Government and sought financial assistance under the scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total financial assistance sought by the State Government for the purpose;

(c) whether the projects have been cleared and financial assistance provided to the State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has submitted schemes for the following 11 towns over and above those already sanctioned under the National River Conservation Programme to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Sl.No.	Town	River	Estimated cost (Rs. Crore)
1.	Bagalkot	Krishna/Ghataprabha	29.12
2.	Maddur	Shimsha	6.63
3.	Gokak	Ghataprabha	14.50
4.	Bailhahongol	Malaprabha	10.21
5.	Shahbad Gulbarga	Kagina	14.82
6.	Hospet	Tungabhdra	21.45
7.	Gangawati	Tungabhadra	21.00
8.	Kanakpura	Arhavathi	10.61
9.	Yadgir	Bhima	17.60
10.	Dandeli	Kali	10.67
11.	Siraguppa	Tungabhadra	8.96
	Total		165.57

(c) and (d) Due to funds constraints in the Tenth Plan these proposals could not be considered and the State Government of Karnataka had been informed accordingly by the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Revitalisation of Sugar Industry

6381. SHRI RAM YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export/import of sugar during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up any committee to work out a revitalisation package for sugar industry;

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be set up; and

(d) the extent to which it is expected to benefit the sugar growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The year-wise details of export/import of sugar during the last three years are given below:

Financial Year	Export of Sugar (in lakh M.Ts)	Import of Sugar (in lakh M.Ts)
2001-2002	14.56	0.26
2002-2003	14.71	0.41
2003-2004	11.84	0.51

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, Kolkata.

(b) to (d) The Committee on Revitalisation of Sugar Industry which was set up under the chairmanship of Shri S.K. Tuteja, Secretary (Food and PD) on March 12, 2004 to review the present status of sugar industry in the country, to identify the problems faced by it and suggest a package for revitalization of industry to make it vibrant self-sustained and globally competitive submitted its report on December 2, 2004. The Committee's recommendations are in the areas of sugarcane agriculture, deregulation of sugar, financial restructuring and meeting credit needs of the industry, technology upgradation, product based diversification and training, research and development.

[Translation]

Schemes to overcome Water Crisis

6382. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any schemes to overcome water crisis in the country;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred by the Government for implementation of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Water being a state subject, water resources projects including schemes to overcome water crisis are planned, executed and maintained by the concerned State Governments. The Government of India, however, provides support to the respective State Governments through various schemes under Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of Rural Development etc. Support is also provided by Ministry of Water Resources under various schemes including a pilot scheme "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture" and Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CAD&WM). The Budget Estimate provided for the schemes are as under:

Sl.No.	Schemes/Programmes	Budget Estimate—2005-06 (Rs. in crore)
1.	National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly linked to Agriculture	100
2.	Command Area Development & Water Management Programme	199

In addition, Central Loan Assistance is also provided under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for early completion of ongoing water resources schemes.

Desilting of Dams

6383. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water holding capacity of major, medium and minor dams of the country especially in Maharashtra has decreased due to large quantity of silt;

(b) if so, whether the Government has formulated any scheme to desist such dams;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount allocated/released to State Government during the last three years for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Salutation of reservoir is a natural process and this is duly addressed at the planning stage of the project. However, in some cases, the actual rate of sediment deposition has been found to be more than the one anticipated at the time of planning. The Government of Maharashtra has also reported similar features.

(b) and (c) De-silting of large reservoirs has been found to be far from viable on economic considerations. However, the Government of Maharashtra has taken up measures for removal of silt from village tank etc. under Employment Guarantee Scheme.

(d) No funds have been allocated by the Union Government to the State Governments for the purpose.

[English]

Lift Canal Project

6384. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Orissa for construction of Lift Canal in the Upper Indravati Project in Kalahandi District of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be provided to the State Government during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Orissa, proposal for construction of Lift Canal in Upper Indravati Project has not been submitted to the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Fixation of Prices of Cola Bottles

6385. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cola Companies in the country are free to fix the prices of their branded Cola bottles;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any control/ guidelines on Cola Companies in regard to fixing of prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to direct the Cola Companies to indicate the retail maximum price and expiry date on bottels; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The rules already provide for indicating the maximum retail price and best before use date on cola bottles.

IITs for Tribal Students

6386. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any project from Government of Gujarat about training for technology by I.I.T. for tribal students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Illegal Felling of Trees

6387. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that illegal felling of trees is taking place in the country particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of such cases which came to the notice of the Government during the last three years and current year indicating the categories of trees thus cut down, location-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Incidents of illicit felling of trees do take place from time to time in different parts of the country. In last three years no case of tree felling was recorded in the forest areas under the control of Forest Department, Government of Delhi. However, outside the forest areas, following cases have been reported under the provisions of Delhi Tree (Preservation) Act, 1994 during the last three years:—

Year	Location-wise No. of cases booked			Total Cases	Compensation realised (in Rupees)
	South Division	West Division	Central Division		
2002-03	32	61	179	272	6,15,818/-
2003-04	42	50	160	252	9,32,072/-
2004-05	21	35	44	100	6,88,256/-
2005-06 (till date)	00	09	05	14	91,530/-

(c) The Government of NCT of Delhi is taking the following steps to check illicit felling of tress:—

(i) Fencing of forest and plantation area.

(ii) Running of tree help line for receiving complaint regarding the tree offences and taking appropriate action against such offences.

(iii) Enforcement of the Delhi Tree (Preservation) Act, 1994.

(iv) Engagement of 75 Ex-Servicemen for protection of forest/plantation area.

(v) Publicity and extension activities through RWA, Eco Club, Advertising etc. for generating public awareness for protection of tree and forest.

Reservation in Nilachala Ispat Nigam Limited

6388. SHRI MOHAN JENA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts in Nilachala Ispat Nigam Limited and Konark Metro Limited in Orissa;

(b) the number of appointments made so far;

(c) the number of posts reserved for SCs and STs; and

(d) the number of SC and ST candidates appointed so far after the establishment of the company, Year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) and Konark Metcoke Limited have been merged in November, 2004 and in the merged entity a total of 1127 appointments have been made so far.

(c) and (d) The company is not implementing the reservation policy in respect of SC/STs, as it is not a Government company under Section 617 of the

Companies Act, 1956. It is a joint venture company promoted by MMTC Ltd. a central PSU, and Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL), which is a state PSU. In view of holdings in the company by Central and State PSUs, the Ministry of Steel is engaged in consultation with related departments for implementation of provisions relating to reservations for SCs/STs candidates in the company.

The number of SC & ST candidates appointed year-wise is given below:-

Year	SC	ST
Before 2003	19	40
2003	01	14
2004	02	37
2005 (upto 30.04.05)	07	14

[Translation]

Production of Lac

6389. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decrease in the production of Lac during the last few years;

(b) if not, the details of the production of Lac from 2003 to till date, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to increase the production of Lac; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The details of the production of Lac are as follows:

2002-2003 - 17,500 Metric Tonne

2003-2004 - 20,050 Metric Tonne

2004-2005 - 22,000 Metric Tonne (aprox.)

(c) The Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi, Jharkhand has stepped up its extension activities to promote scientific Lac cultivation for increasing the Lac production in the country. To increase the production of Lac, actions have been taken by the institute for the cultivation of Lac on plantation basis and awareness through training and demonstration etc.

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

Statement

Details of Technical guidance, training and consultancy being provided by Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi

State	District	Agency	Scheme
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Mahboobnagar, Warangal	Society for elimination of rural poverty (SERP), Hyderabad-World Bank funded	Promotion of Lac cultivation for employment and income generation in rural areas.
Chhattisgarh	North Bastar, South Bastar, Mahasamund, Dhamatari	Chhattisgarh State Minor Forest Produce Co-operative Federation Ltd. Raipur.	Project on Lac Cultivation.
Gujarat	Vadodara Subarkantha	Training Research & Communication circle (State Forest Department) Gandhi Nagar.	Skill development and capacity building in Lac culture through training and demonstration in Gujarat.

1	2	3	4
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Jharkhand Govt. Ranchi	Adoption of Lac growers of Jharkhand for model upliftment through scientific Lac cultivation
		Jharkhand Govt. Ranchi PRADAN, Ranchi	Lac as a source of livelihood technology intervention for sustained production in Khunti sub-division Ph-II
		NABARD, Ranchi, R. K. Mission, Ranchi	Promotional initiatives for capacity building & technology transfer in Lac cultivation-Training cum exposure programme
	Singhbhum	Jharkhand Tribal Development Society (JTDC) & Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Chaibasa-NATP Funded)	Promotional of *Kusmi* Lac on *ber* trees
	Santhal Parganas	Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Jamtara-NATP Funded)	Promotional of *rangeeni* Lac on *palas* trees
Madhya Pradesh	Seoni	Zila Panchayat, Seoni	Promotion of Lac cultivation for employment and income generation in rural areas.
Orissa	Phulbhani	Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi	Frontline demonstration on scientific method of Lac cultivation
Rajasthan	Udaipur	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur.	Bio-ecology and revival of Lac cultivation of southern Rajasthan.

Famine Affected States

6390. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States affected by famine in the country;

(b) whether Rajasthan is also among them; and

(c) if so, the total population affected by famine and the assistance provided by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Famines signify extreme scarcity of food. There is no famine in the country. Following aberrations in the South-West monsoon, however, drought-like conditions have appeared in certain States. Additional assistance so far extended for drought relief during the year 2004-2005 to such states is as under:—

State	Financial assistance (Rs. in crores)	Foodgrains allocated (lakh MTs.)
1	2	3
Rajasthan	216.79	6.99
Tamil Nadu	117.27	1.50

1	2	3
Kerala	106.00	—
Karnataka	49.14	1.14
Madhya Pradesh	1.70	1.00
Uttar Pradesh	192.10	—
Bihar	162.15	2.00
Chhattisgarh	52.74	0.90
Jharkhand	—	0.67
Andhra Pradesh	40.01	2.20
Total	937.90	16.40*

*Costing Rs. 1640 crores to Central Government. Total Drought Relief Assistance in Cash and Foodgrains is Rs. 2577.90 crores.

Further assistance for Rajasthan and Maharashtra is under consideration.

Development of Model Hospital by ESIC

6391. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for developing a model hospital had been announced by the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);

(b) if so, the hospital in respect of which the proposal to declare it as a model hospital had been sent by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the action taken by ESIC in this regard; and

(d) by when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The ESI Corporation is developing the ESI Hospital Nagda into a model hospital. As per the existing policy, ESI Corporation is running only one model hospital in each State and it has not been possible to accede to the request of the Government of Madhya Pradesh to develop ESI Hospital at Indore also into another model hospital.

Crop Insurance Scheme

6392. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public representatives have complained against the existing crop insurance scheme that the said scheme does not provide insurance cover to the farmers in a proper manner; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which is in operation with effect from rabi 1999-2000 is implemented by Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC). As per the available information, some Hon'ble Members of Parliament have given suggestions for making improvements in the scheme from time to time.

To bring about improvement in the existing scheme and also to make the scheme farmers friendly, a Joint Group was set up to study the improvements required in the existing group insurance schemes which has inter-alia considered number of issues including proper implementation of the scheme. The Group has already submitted its report. The Government, at present, is consulting various Stakeholders regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Group.

Power Consumption in Fertilizers Units

6393. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to frame rules to regulate the power consumption in fertilizers units;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS

PASWAN): (a) to (c) Power consumption is treated as part of the overall energy consumption. Pre set energy norms effective from 1.4.2004 during Stage-II of the New Pricing Scheme for urea units have already been communicated to urea units.

[English]

Cultivation of Turmeric

6394. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Turmeric is a commercially and medicinally useful crop;

(b) if so, the details of extent of land under Turmeric cultivation alongwith quantity produced annually; and

(c) the efforts made to encourage production alongwith arrangements made for its marketing?

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

(b) The area and Production of turmeric are as under:

Area (in hectares)	Production (in Tonnes)
1,42,900	6,58,400

(c) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State' Effort through Work Plan" including a programme Integrated Development of Spices considering Turmeric as one of the crop for promotion of production.

Marketing of turmeric is also well organized under cooperative sector in the major turmeric producing States.

Production of Alphanso Mango

6395. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alphanso Mango, the best variety in the world, is being produced in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase its production in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided to the farmers for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Alphanso is a leading variety of mango having export market which is mostly grown in Maharashtra and Karnataka.

(b) and (c) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan". Under this scheme, the State Governments have flexibility to take up programmes as per their felt needs and priorities. Development of fruits, including Alphanso Mangoes, is one of the components of this scheme under which assistance is given for increasing production of fruits in the country. An amount of Rs. 2265.00 lakhs and 1555.55 lakhs was released to the State Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka respectively during the year 2004-05 under the above mentioned Macro Management scheme.

Outstanding Dues to Organisations

6396. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

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

(a) the total outstanding Provident Fund dues from various organisations upto March 31, 2004;

(b) the number of defaulters whose due is Rs. 10 lakh and above and the total amount due in this category;

(c) whether 70 per cent of the total outstanding belongs to the locked up category *i.e.* Impossible recovery;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) steps proposed to be taken to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) As on 31.03.2004, a sum of Rs. 1,862.80 crore was to be recovered for defaulting establishments.

(b) As on 31.03.2004, 1568 establishments were in default of Rs. 10 lakhs and above with total outstanding dues amounting to Rs. 1513.81 crores.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of Rs. 1862.80 crore outstanding as on 31.03.2004, Rs. 1321.49 crore (70.94%) was not immediately realizable due to the following reasons:

- Stay by various court—Rs. 711.24 crores
- Establishments under liquidation — Rs. 142.95 crores
- Others*-Rs. 467.30 crores

*Includes sick industries, BIFR proceedings, DRT proceedings, grant of instalment facility etc.

(e) Whenever any default is detected, actions, under the Sections 7A, 8F, 8B to 8G, 14(1)(A), 14(B) & 7Q of Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, under Section 406/409 of IPC and under Section 110 of CrPC. are taken against defaulters.

[Translation]

Bargi and Bhimgarh Dams

6397. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bargi and Bhimgarh dams have been constructed in Seoni in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether water holding capacity of these dams is decreasing;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to desilt the dams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Bargi Dam is situated in Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh and construction of the dam was completed in 1987. Bhimgarh dam of Upper Wainganga Major Irrigation Project is located in Seoni district in Madhya Pradesh. The construction of this project was completed in 2003.

(b) The reservoir framed by the construction of dam is provided with dead storage to taken care of the natural silting process over the years and the live storage of the reservoir is the useful storage. There is no report of reduction in live storage of these reservoirs.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Uttar Koel Reservoir Scheme

6398. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to include the Uttar Koel Reservoir Scheme under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme;

(b) if so, by when the scheme is likely to be completed alongwith funds provided for it;

(c) the funds spent on the scheme so far; and

(d) the details of areas in Bihar and Jharkhand likely to benefit after the completion of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) North Koel Reservoir Project was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. As the State Government has not complied these observations, the project has not been given investment approval. Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is provided to such approved major and medium irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of completion. North Koel Reservoir Project being an unapproved project is not eligible for CLA under AIBP. The project has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 572.75 crore till date. The project envisages creation of irrigation potential of 105.90 thousand hectare spread over the districts of Palamu (in Jharkhand) Aurangabad and Gaya (in Bihar). The completion of the project is dependent upon adequate financial resources, settling of resettlement and rehabilitation and submergence issues.

Setting up of Sanctuary Authority

6399. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up any Sanctuary Authority to look after the National Parks and Sanctuaries;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any proposals for establishment of the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the main objectives behind setting up the said authority; and

(e) by when the said authority is likely to be set up?

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

(b) to (d) An interlocutory application has been filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by the Amicus Curiae in W.P. (C) 202/1995, suggesting appoint of an authority by the Union Government under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act for overseeing and supervising the functioning of some protected areas/tiger reserves.

(e) Does not arise at this stage.

Dairy Products under Special Agricultural Produce Scheme

6400. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring dairy products under the Special Agricultural Produce Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

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

(b) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry in the Foreign Trade Policy of 2004-09 has extended the benefit of Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana to dairy sector also. Under the scheme, the exporters are entitled for duty credit scrip equivalent to 5% FOB value of exports for each licensing year. The scrip and the items imported against it would be freely transferable. The duty credit may be used for import of inputs or goods including capital goods provided the same is freely importable.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Impact of Mining on Wildlife

6401. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the tigers in Orissa are facing a fresh threat from the proposed mining of Bauxite at Karlapat in the forest rich Kalahandi district as reported in the 'Pioneer' dated April 10, 2005;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent mining operations in the forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The State has informed that a proposal has been received for diversion of 755 ha. of forest land at Langigarh in Kalahandi and Rayagada districts for bauxite mining and a lumina project. A portion of the Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary falls within a belt of 20 kms around the project area. A wildlife management scheme for mitigating threats to tigers and other wild animals in the project impact area, comprising of the areas within a radial distance of 20 kms from the project, has been papered.

(c) The mining proposals pertaining to forests are examined under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and only site specific projects are considered on merit. Such projects are also required to take environmental clearance.

New Furnace at Alloy Steel Plant

6402. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Salem Steel Plant (SSP) is proposed to be allowed to have steel making nucleus of 180000 TPY according to the report of M.N. Dastur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur is proposes distal a new furnace for raising production;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up steel making facility at Salem Steel Plant (SSP) as per the report submitted by M.N. Dastur & Co. is currently under techno-economic examination.

(c) to (e) At Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur, a new high powered 50 tonne Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) and Argon Oxygen Decarburisation (AOD) unit of 60 tonne capacity to produce 1,20,000 tonnes per year of various grades of stainless steel is being installed. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 54.16 crore with a completion schedule of June, 2006.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Scheduled Areas

6403. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has implemented any irrigation projects falling under scheduled areas in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. Project proposals submitted by the State Governments are techno-economically appraised by the Central Water Commission before they are accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources. The investment approval to the project proposal is given by the Planning Commission thereafter.

However, one major project namely, Potteru Irrigation Project falling in the Schedule area of Malkangiri district, Orissa was centrally sponsored and was taken up by the Government of Orissa as a part of Potteru Irrigation-cum resettlement scheme for the refugees from erstwhile East Pakistan. It envisages construction of a barrage at Surlikonda across the river Potteru about 2 kilometre downstream of the confluence of Balimela Tail Race Channel with the Potteru river to irrigate culturbale command area of 61.03 thousand hectare (th. ha). The project was originally approved for Rs. 14.81 crore in 1973 and the latest estimated cost of the project as a whole is Rs. 198.07 crore. The total expenditure incurred upto March, 2004 is Rs. 201.72 crore and the irrigation potential created upto March, 2004 is about 64.59 th. ha. The project is scheduled for completion during Tenth Five Year Plan.

Supply of Foodgrains

6404. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

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

(a) whether the Government has failed to supply adequate quantity of foodgrains to various States including Gujarat within the stipulated time;

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

(c) the steps taken to ensure adequate supply of foodgrains to the States on time?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No Sir. The Government of India has fixed a norm of two months' stocking of foodgrains for every State to meet the requirement of foodgrains of the States, including Gujarat.

(b) and (c) A movement plan based on the anticipated requirement of foodgrains of the States is prepared on a monthly basis. Coordination meetings are held frequently between the FCI, Railways and the State Governments to ensure adequate supply of foodgrains to the States, as per their requirement.

[English]

Assistance for Clean Milk Production

6405. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of Clean Milk Production Project of Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought Rs. 67.72 crores as grant from the Union Government for the said project; and

(c) if so, by when the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Government of Karnataka initially forwarded 13 proposals at a total cost of Rs. 90.30 crores and with a Central Share of Rs. 67.72 crores under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production". As these proposals were not in accordance with the guidelines of the Scheme, the State Government was asked to revise the proposals as per the guidelines of the scheme. The State Government then submitted 11 revised proposals at a total cost of Rs. 10.41 crores during the year 2004-05. All the 11 proposals were approved during the year 2004-05 at a total cost of Rs. 9.33 crores with a Central share of Rs. 7.51 crore and an amount of Rs. 6.97 crores was released. The balance central share will be released soon after receipt of the Utilisation Certificates and progress reports from the State Government.

Development of Tsunami Affected Villages

6406. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to develop Tsunami affected villages as Model Fishermen Villages in affected States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has given any grant to respective States for the purpose in addition to the expenditure being incurred by the State Governments;

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

(e) whether the said scheme is also being extended to other coastal States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) 'Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package' for Tsunami affected areas has provision of Rs. 851.40 crore for housing. Out of this Rs. 650.00 crore is for Tamil Nadu, Rs. 50.0 crore each for Kerala and Pondicherry, Rs. 2.30 crore for Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 99.10 crore for A & N Islands. The package covers partially or fully damaged houses of all the people including fishermen in the Tsunami affected areas. However, under the component 'development of model fishermen villages' of the Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen, the financial assistance is extended to all States/UTs on need basis to construct houses and provide basic amenities such as drinking water for the benefit of fishermen. Under this component, cost of Rs. 40000/- for construction of a house, Rs. 30000/- for a tubewell (Rs. 35000/- in case of North Eastern States) and Rs. 175,000/- for construction of a community hall is shared by the central and State Government on 50:50 basis. During, 2004-05, central assistance of Rs. 1505.29 lakh has been extended to various States/UTs under the component 'Development of model fishermen villages'.

Upgrading of Institutions/Laboratories

6407. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are institutions/laboratories aged more than 25 years requiring urgent upgrading by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE);

(b) if so, whether the scientists are working under poor conditions struggling with obsolete equipments, research tools and laboratories; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for upgrading laboratory equipments, pilot plants, farm and laboratory facilities, class rooms and audio visual facilities for agricultural revolution in the country?

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

(b) The ICAR system dates back to the pre-independence era and the equipment have been periodically replaced depending upon the prioritization and re-prioritization of the research projects and availability of resources.

(c) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education has requested Planning Commission for One Time Catch Hp Grant for modernization/renovation of existing research infrastructure. However, the Planning Commission has not allocated One Time Catch Up Grant separately, but it has suggested to utilize funds for modernization/renovation of research infrastructure within the allocated funds during the Annual Plan allocations. The upgrading and updating the research facilities have been taken care of to the extent possible within the allocated funds, while approving the EFC/SFC proposals for Xth Five Year Plan.

New Tiger Projects

6408. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:
SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:
SHRI BALASHOWRI VALLABHANENI:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

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

(a) the census of tigers in each sanctuary of the country at present;

(b) whether the Government proposes to declare/set up any new tiger projects/sanctuaries/National Parks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any proposals in this regard have been received from various States;

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

(f) the action taken on each such proposal;

(g) whether the proposal for new tiger projects was discussed in the recently held meeting of Steering Committee of Project tiger;

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

(i) the manner in which the villages located on boundaries of these sanctuaries are to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The All India tiger estimation figures as received from States since 1972 are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) to (f) The Steering Committee of the Project Tiger, in its 37th meeting held on 23.01.2003, has recommended creation of eight new Tiger Reserves as listed in enclosed Statement-II. Action has been initiated on the proposals received from the states concerned to obtain the approval of the Central Government.

(g) and (h) The Steering Committee of the Project Tiger, in its last 38th meeting held on 12.03.2005, has not favoured creation of new Tiger Reserves. The consensus was for the consolidation of existing reserves as per norms.

(i) Question does not arise.

Statement I

Population of Tigers in the Country as reported by the States

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1997	2001-02**
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	148	164	235	197	171	192
2.	Aruanchal Pradesh	69	139	219	135	180	*	61***
3.	Assam	147	300	376	376	325	458	354
4.	Bihar	85	110	138	157	137	103	76
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	—	****	****	227
6.	Delhi	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Goa	—	—	—	2	3	6	5
8.	Gujarat	8	7	9	9	5	1	Nil
9.	Haryana	—	—	1	—	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Himachal Pradesh					Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Jammu & Kashmir					Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	****	****	34
13.	Karnataka	102	156	202	257	305	350	401
14.	Kerala	60	134	89	45	57	73	71
15.	Madhya Pradesh	457	529	786	985	912	927	710
16.	Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276	257	238
17.	Manipur	1	10	6	31	*	*	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	32	35	125	34	53	*	47
19.	Mizoram	—	65	33	18	28	12	28
20.	Nagaland	80	102	104	104	83	*	23^
21.	Orissa	142	173	202	243	226	194	173
22.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	74	79	96	99	64	58	58
24.	Sikkim	—	—	2	4	2	*	NR
25.	Tamil Nadu	33	65	97	95	97	62	60
26.	Tripura	7	6	5	—	NR	*	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
27.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	—	****	****	251
28.	Uttar Pradesh	262	487	698	735	465	475	284
29.	West Bengal	73	296	352	353	335	361	349
	Total	1827	3015	4005	4334	3750	3508	3642

N.R. North reported by State.

* Tiger census was not carried out.

** Under compilation/vetting

*** Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

**** Figures included in individed State.

^ Entire State not covered.

Statement II

List of the proposed New Tiger Reserves

Sl.No.	Name of the proposed new Tiger Reserve	State
1.	Anamalai-Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu & Kerala
2.	Udanti and Sita Nadi Wildlife Sanctuaries	Chhattisgarh
3.	Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary	Orissa
4.	Kaziranga National Park	Assam
5.	Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary	Chhattisgarh
6.	Dandeli-Anshi Sanctuary	Karnataka
7.	Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Mudumalai Sanctuary	Tamil Nadu

Construction and Maintenance of Sea-Walls

6409. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for financial assistance with regard to construction of new sea-walls and maintenance of existing ones under the National Coastal Protection Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka submitted a proposal for an estimated cost of Rs. 135.95 crore in March, 2002 for inclusion in the proposed National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP). The proposal envisages construction of 49.875 Kms of new sea walls and reformation of 17.605 Kms of old damaged sea wall in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada district. As the NCPP has been planned for seeking external funding, an approach paper on coastal protection has been prepared by submitted to the Planning Commission. Planning Commission has already forwarded the Approach Paper to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for

consideration and exploring the possibility of getting the external funding.

Convention 89 of ILO

6410. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the protective frame work for women workers in the Factory Act has been laid down by Convention 89 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) adopted in 1948 and supplemented by a protocol in 1990;

(b) if so, whether such an important reform has been debated or examined at the tripartite Indian Labour Conference;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The issue of the ILO Protocol of 1990 was never deliberated by the Tripartite Committee in the Indian Labour Conference. However in the past, three meetings with representatives of the Employers and the Trade Union Organisations were held before it was decided to amend Section 66 of the Factories Act, 1948.

Fish Production

6411. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently decided to augment the fish production in the country;

(b) if so, the total target for fish production fixed during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to encourage fish farmers;

(d) whether high genetic quality and disease resistance fish speed is being made available to fish farmers at affordable rates; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Fish Production of 7.42 million tonnes is projected by 2006-07 which is the last year of the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(c) Various Centrally Sponsored Schemes including scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture are under operation during Tenth Plan. The scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture envisages to popularize fish farming and diversifying aquaculture practices. Fish farmers are encouraged as subsidy is being given to fishers for construction of new ponds, renovation/reclamation of ponds/tanks, inputs, training, integrated fish farming, establishment of fish seed hatchery etc.

(d) and (e) The Central Government provides subsidy for setting up hatchery for fish seed production. The Department does not maintain data on the prices paid by fish farmers for procuring fish seed.

Technique for Tapping of Water Resources

6412. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether hi-tech methods are used with the help of satellite's to assess the quantum of water in a basin;

(b) if so, whether any fresh assessment of water in every basin would be done; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Hi-tech methods with the help of satellite are presently not being used to assess the quantum of water in a basin.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Chilli

6413. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of chilli in the country this year, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of production procured by the Union Government, State-wise;

(c) the price fixed for fine variety and ordinary variety;

(d) whether the chilli growers in the country particularly Andhra Pradesh have launched an agitation for increase in the procurement quantity; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The total production of chilli in the country during this year is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The total Quantity of Red Chilli procured by AP Marked is 26,969 MT in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Central Sector Scheme on "Market Intervention". The prices fixed by the Government for procurement of Chilli in Andhra Pradesh are:

— 2700/- quintal for premium quality

— 2500/- quintal for common quality.

(d) and (e) No authentic report has been received on agitation of farmers of Andhra Pradesh and also no proposal from Govt. of Andhra Pradesh received to increase the quantity of chilli for procurement.

Statement

State-wise Area and Production of Chilli

(Area: '000 hectares Production : '000 tonnes)

State	Area	Production
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	224.9	493.6
Arunachal Pradesh	1.5	2.1
Assam	14.7	9.6
Bihar	3.6	3.6
Chhattisgarh	5.8	1.5
Gujarat	14.00	12.00
Haryana	1.7	1.7
Jammu & Kashmir	0.9	0.9
Karnataka	197.2	167.00
Kerala	0.2	0.2
Madhya Pradesh	42.7	19.5
Maharashtra	106.8	58.7
Manipur	7.5	4.5
Meghalaya	1.8	1.2
Mizoram	1.5	2.1
Nagaland	0.2	8.00
Orissa	70.00	59.2
Punjab	3.4	5.3
Rajasthan	32.4	48.7
Tamil Nadu	66.7	40.5
Tripura	1.6	2.2
Uttar Pradesh	19.1	14.5
West Bengal	17.00	13.5
All India	835.2	970.1

Rate of Employment Generation

6414. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

(a) whether the rate of employment has declined during the last three years particularly in the organised sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted/ proposes to conduct any study for ascertaining the cause of decline in employment growth rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has decided to launch a Rs. 10,000 crore employment generation scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps being taken to improve the rate of employment generation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) As per the quinquennial employment & unemployment surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation, annual growth rate of employment on usual status basis has declined from around 2.43% during 1988-1994 to 0.98% during 1994-2000. Employment in the organised sector has also declined during 2001-2003.

(b) and (c) Employment & Unemployment scenario was reviewed by a Task force as well as a Special Group constituted in the Planning Commission. Major reason for the decline in the growth rate of employment was that the economy did not grow as expected.

(d) and (e) A National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill has been tabled in Parliament which provides for 100 days of employment in a year for poor families in rural areas.

(f) Government is targetting creations of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period. Government has also launched a National Food for Work Programme in selected backward districts of the country.

[Translation]

Close/Down Grade on ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries

6415. SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where Employees State Insurance (ESI) hospitals and dispensaries are being run under Employees State Insurance Corporation in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government has decided to close/ down grade some of these hospitals/dispensaries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) There are 7 ESI Hospitals and 47 ESI Dispensaries in Madhya Pradesh. One ESI Hospital at Nagda is being run by ESI Corporation directly and rest of the Hospitals and Dispensaries are being run by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Government of Madhya Pradesh has decided to close ESI dispensaries at Niwar (Katni) and Sanavad (Khargon) because the number of Insured Persons at these two places has come down considerably.

[English]

Illegal Irrigation Projects in Andhra Pradesh

6416. SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL): Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of construction of illegal irrigation projects under Krishna River in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has approached the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action proposed by the Government to resolve the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka has informed that an all-party delegation and Members of Parliament led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka met Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 28th April, 2005 and gave a memorandum on construction of irrigation project by Andhra Pradesh in violation of the share of water allocated by the first Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT) and judgment of the Supreme Court. The memorandum urged immediate intervention of the Central Government, not to clear any projects of Andhra Pradesh at this stage and to restrain Andhra Pradesh from going ahead with the unapproved projects. It has also been informed that memorandum highlighting the

above issues was given to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during his visit to Bangalore in February, 2005 and earlier to His Excellency the President of India and the then Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister of India in June, 2003.

(d) In response to the complaints and request for apportioning of the surplus waters of Krishna among the basin States, the Government of India constituted the second Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal on 2nd April, 2004 to adjudicate the disputes on sharing of Krishna water among the basin States in accordance with the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956.

[Translation]

Setting up of Seed Directorate

6417. SHRI MUNSHI RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any initiative to set up a Seed Directorate by promoting the National Seed Project during the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the number in which the farmers are likely to be benefited with the setting up of such directorate;

(c) the names of the States where such directorates are proposed to be set up; and

(d) the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has upgraded the National Seed Project (Crops) and established a Directorate of Seed Research at Mau, Uttar Pradesh during the Tenth Plan.

(b) The Directorate of Seed Research will be instrumental in further strengthening seed technology research and breeder seed production programme to ultimately benefit the farmers with availability of quality seed.

(c) and (d) The Directorate has been established with its Headquarter at Distt. Mau, Uttar Pradesh, and 55 centres on seed technology research and breeder seed production. The Directorate of Seed Research has a Tenth Plan budget allocation of Rs. 3703.89 lakhs.

[English]

Restoration of Agriculture Lands

6418. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that due to overflow of Chenab river hundreds of acres of agricultural land are being destroyed;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to restore agricultural lands;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for restoration of these agricultural land; and

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

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

(b) to (d) As informed by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, flood protection works are being executed at valunerable spots on Left Bank of river Chanab, downstream Akhnoor with Institutional funding and funds available with the State.

The State Government has also sent a Master Plan for flood protection works on river Chenab in J&K State at an estimated cost of Rs. 23 crores for techno-economic appraisal and acceptance by Planning Commission. The proposal envisages strengthening of existing and construction of new embankments, spurs, studs, crate bars etc. on both the banks of the river and would save about 80 Hectares of land from erosion every year. The techno-economic appraisal of the proposal by specialized units under Ministry of Water Resources was done and comments were sent to the State Government.

A programme on Eco-Restoration of Degraded Catchments of Jhelum, Chenab and Shivaliks using Participatory Approach was launched during 2002-03. The degraded catchments of Jhelum and Chenab would be treated under the ongoing programmes of soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded

Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers.

Development of Marine Fisheries

6419. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has given approval for implementation of Centrally sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has released amount for renovation of Tadri Fishing Harbour; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be released?

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

(b) The Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations was sanctioned during the year 2004-05, which includes the following components:-

(a) Introduction of Intermediate Craft of improved design.

(b) Resource specific Deep Sea Fishing Vessels (including Vessel Monitoring System)

(c) Motorisation of Traditional Craft.

(d) Safety of Fishermen at Sea.

(e) Fishermen Development Rebate on High Speed Diesel (HSD)

(f) Establishment of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.

(g) Strengthening of Post Harvest Infrastructure.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The project proposal submitted by the Government of Karnataka has been found incomplete and they have been requested to furnish complete proposal in this regard.

Withdrawal of Valdecoxile Pain Killer

6420. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Valdecoxile, a pain-killer used widely by arthritic patients has been withdrawn from the U.S. markets under Food and Drug Administration (FDA);

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

(c) whether the same medicine is still in circulation in Indian markets;

(d) if so, whether the Govt. proposes to withdraw the said medicine from markets; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Valdecoxib, a pain killer indicated for arthritis and acute pain, marketed in USA under the brand name Bextra by M/s. Pfizer Inc. has been withdrawn by the manufacturer on the advice of the US FDA, as the drug has been found to be associated with increased risk of serious skin reactions.

(c) to (e) In the light of the withdrawal of the drug in USA, the continued use of Valdecoxib in the country has been examined by the National Pharmaco Vigilance Advisory Committee on 2.5.2005 and it has recommended that the drug may be prohibited for manufacture and sale in the country by the Government of India under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

Patent of Processed Food

6421. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for patenting Indian vegetarian food items/processed foods;

(b) the number of food/processed food items patented by the Government, as on March 31, 2005;

(c) whether any difficulties or counter claims have been experienced/made in patenting; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) As per the Patents Act, patenting of food items was not permitted prior to 01.01.2005. Only the process for the preparation of foods was patentable.

(b) to (d) So far, no food items have been granted patent. The number of patents granted in respect of process for manufacture of food during the period 01.04.1999 to 31.12.2004 is 130, comprising 43 by Government Organizations including Public Undertakings and 87 by private sector.

Sardar Sarovar Project

6422. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the arrears of Sardar Sarovar Project by the participating States, viz. Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan are not being paid to Gujarat regularly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to resolve the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The payment of arrears towards share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) by participating States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan to the State of Gujarat has not been made regularly. However, recently, the position of payments in respect of undisputed share cost by party States has improved considerably.

(b) As on March, 2005, a sum of Rs. 231.06 crore remains unpaid as undisputed share cost of the project from the participating States as per the details given below:

(Rs. crore)

Particulars	Madhya Pradesh	Maharashtra	Rajasthan	Total
Undisputed gross share cost	1687.76	799.47	507.17	2994.40
Share cost paid/adjusted	1594.00	583.39	585.95	2763.34
Balance payable undisputed share cost	93.76	216.08	-78.78	231.06

The full burden of disputed share cost of Rs. 6343.94 crore continues to be borne by the Government of Gujarat. The Central Government through Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee (SSCAC) and Narmada Control Authority is making all possible efforts to persuade Governments to Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra to pay at least undisputed part of their outstanding share costs to the State of Gujarat.

Foodgrain Allocation for Food for Work Scheme

6423. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:

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

(a) the total quantity of additional foodgrains demanded by State Governments, especially Gujarat, under 'Food for Work' Programme during the current year;

(b) whether the Government has initiated any action for immediate supply of such foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these foodgrains are likely to be supplied; and

(d) if not, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) A Statement showing the quantity of

foodgrains demanded and allocation made to State Governments under Special Component of Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (earlier named as 'Food for Work' Programme) during the drought year of 2004-05 (August, 04 to July, 05) is given in the enclosed Statement.

The Government of Gujarat have requested for allocation of 1.00 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under Special Component of SGRY. They have been advised by the Ministry of Rural Development to approach Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation for getting evaluation of their demand by the Inter Ministerial Group/High Level Committee.

(b) to (d) Adequate foodgrains are available in Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns of the respective States. FCI and the Railways are fully geared to plan and to dispatch the required number of rakes of foodgrains every month for each consuming State/Union Territory (UT) at an optimally feasible level and to prioritize movement of rakes to take care of any special concern of a State/UT.

Statement

(fig. In lakh tonnes)

Sl.No.	State	Foodgrains demanded	Foodgrains allocated
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.50	2.20
2.	Bihar	12.93	2.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	7.20	0.90
4.	Jharkhand	Not specified	0.67
5.	Karnataka	4.53	1.14
6.	Madhya Pradesh	7.64	1.00
7.	Maharashtra	2.00	—
8.	Rajasthan	28.80	6.99
		19.23	4.00
9.	Tamil Nadu	5.40	1.50
	Total	110.03	20.40

School for Child Labours

6424. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labours in the country has increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government has decided to enact any new legislation to control child labour;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some State Governments have sent any proposals to the Government for setting up schools for child labour during last two years;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of proposals approved by the Union Government; and

(f) by when the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The estimation of the number of child labour in the country state-wise, is done on the basis of the Census carried out by the Registrar General of India. The Census, by the Registrar General of India is carried out once in every ten years and yearly data regarding existence of child labour state-wise is not maintained.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) During the Tenth Five Year Plan, the National Child Labour Project Scheme has been expanded to cover 250 districts from the 100 districts during the Ninth Plan with a view to rehabilitating the children working in hazardous occupations and processes. Under the Scheme, once a district has been selected by the Government of India, the concerned State Government is required to send detailed proposal for implementation of the scheme in the district. The proposals are examined on the basis of the guidelines issued by the Government of India. The proposals complete in all respect are sanctioned for implementation.

[Translation]

Agriculture Exhibition

6425. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH:
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to organize Agriculture Exhibition and Fairs in all over the country, including Jamnagar district of Gujarat, State-wise;

(b) if so, by when it will be organized; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of India organizes agriculture exhibitions and fairs only at the national level and at regional level involving the Agricultural institutions/States/ UTs of each region.

[English]

Satluj Yamuna Link Canal Project

6426. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has been providing funds to State Governments for Sutlej Yamuna Canal (SYL) every year during 2000-2003 but the entire provisions was either re-appropriated to other heads or surrendered thereby defeating the very purpose for which the budget provisions had been approved;

(b) if so, how much provision have been re-appropriated and how much have been surrendered;

(c) whether SYL has not yet been completed and the same is having directed on the water supply in Delhi and the action Government is taking to complete SYL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As the issues related to the canal were either sub-judice or pending action from the Government of Punjab, the entire provisions during the three respective financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 were either re-appropriated or surrendered.

(b) The provisions re-appropriated or surrendered during the years are as below:

(Rs. in Lakh)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Amount Re-appropriated	Amount Surrendered
2000-01	800.00	256.65	543.35
2001-02	800.00	0.00	800.00
2002-03	800.00	0.00	800.00

(c) and (d) The Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal has not been completed as yet.

As per available information, Delhi's share of 0.2 Million Acre Feet in Ravi Beas waters is being supplied form Bhakra System at the rate of 371 cosecs from January to June and October o December.

Pursuant to the orders dated 04.06.2004 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Central Government nominated the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) to undertake and complete the canal works and set up an Empowered Committee as directed. Government of Punjab was also requested to get in touch with CPWD for finalizing the details and completing the handing over/ taking over of the canal works in compliance of the Judgement & Order of the Hon'ble Court in this regard. After Punjab State Legislature enacted the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 and conveyed that any step taken in furtherance of the agreement dated 31.12.1981 on Rabi Beas waters would be against the legislative mandate of the Act, a Presidential Reference was made to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India regarding the Act. As per the latest orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the case is ready for hearing and to be listed accordingly. Further action would depend on its outcome.

[Translation]

Pepperment Production in U.P.

6427. SHRI LALMANI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of large scale farming of Pepperment in Uttar Pradesh in pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to provide remunerative price to the peppermint farmers in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Government is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural commodities and perishable agricultural commodities on the request of a State/UT Government which is ready to 50% loss (25% in case of North-Eastern States). The MIS is implemented in order to protect the growers of horticultural commodities from making distress sale in the event to bumper crop during the peak arrival period when prices trend to fall below economic levels.

[English]

Procurement of Paddy in Kerala

6428. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of existing paddy procurement policy in the country;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that the State Government of Kerala has failed to procure paddy from the farmers;

(c) if so, whether this has led to accumulations distress sale of paddy by farmers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government to mitigate the sufferings of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Under the existing paddy procurement policy, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the State Agencies procure paddy offered by the farmers conforming to prescribed specifications at the Minimum Support Prices (MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their paddy to FCI/State Agencies or in the open market, as is advantageous to them.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Procurement of paddy in Kerala was done by Agriculture Co-operative Societies at a price higher than the MSP.

Convention Centre

6429. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up convention centres at international airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Finance has announced setting up Global Standard Convention Centres in the country through Private Public Partnership under the Viability Gap Funding Scheme. Ministry of Tourism, in collaboration with Ministry of Finance, has identified setting up of five Convention Centres in two Categories as under:

Category-I: Large Convention Centres with exhibition facilities at Mumbai, Delhi and Bangalore.

Category-II: Small Convention facilities at Goa and Jaipur.

[Translation]

Condition of P.F. Trust of Private Sector

6430. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):

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

(a) whether the Provident Fund (PF) Trust being operated in the private sector are going through difficult situation owing to non-payment of interest and principal amount by public sector companies;

(b) if so, whether the Government is formulating/ proposes to formulate any action plan to improve the condition of Provident Fund Trust of private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation occasionally receives complaints from private sector Provident Fund Trusts regarding non payment of interest and/or principal amount by Public Sector Companies.

(b) At present, there is no such proposal.

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

(d) In case of default, owing to non-payment of interest and/or principal, Provident Fund Trusts can file Civil Suits in the Court and invoke the Government Guarantee (if any).

[English]

Training for Youths in Agriculture Sector

6431. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
MOHD. SHAHID:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any scheme to organize a programme to provide agriculture extension training to the youths of rural areas and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Minorities;

(b) if so, the number of villagers imparted training in such fields, so far;

(c) whether the amount is spent from the Union Government and the State Governments on these training programmes for youths in rural areas of the States;

(d) if so, the ratio of expenditure shared by the Union and the State Governments;

(e) the number of States, in which such villagers and the youths belonging to minorities and scheduled castes have been trained so far; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) Information will be collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

Vegetation in Wazirabad Bio-diversity Park

6432. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Wazirabad Biodiversity Park is polluted and there is little vegetation left for birds as reported in *The Indian Express* dated January 8, 2005;

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

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government to improve the vegetation in the Park in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The news item dated 8th January 2005 in Indian Express mentions the fact of 700-1000 Siberian birds being spotted at the Wazirabad Biodiversity Park since first week of December and the prospect of their remaining there till March of the year. The news item attributes the arrival of birds to artificial recreation of eco-system of shallow wetlands and grasslands. As per available information, the Bio-diversity Park attracted 700-2000 birds between December, 2004 to March 2005.

(c) The Biodiversity Park is being developed by Delhi Development Authority and the University of Delhi and various plant species are being planted to further improve vegetation cover.

Co-operation with French

6433. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a recent meeting held between him and the French Agriculture Minister, enhanced bilateral co-operation in the agricultural sector was discussed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any French investment in agriculture sector was discussed;

(d) if so, the amount likely to be invested and the proposals received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. A Joint Working Group meeting was held on 14th April, 2005 between the Indian & French side to discuss areas of mutual cooperation in the field of agriculture. The following areas were identified for cooperation:-

Trade in agricultural products, Veterinary, Phytosanitary and Food Security; Preservation of Agricultural Products and the organization of the cold chain in the Agro-Food Sector, Promotion of Geographical Indicators; Fruit and Vegetable Sector; Agricultural Research and Rural Development. These do not involve any investments.

Transit Losses

6434. SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issues of fixing responsibility for setting up mobile weighing bridges and transit losses has been settled between the Food Corporation of India and the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to minimise transit and storage losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Issues relating to transit losses and the installation of in-motion weigh bridges are decided by the Railways based on their instructions and procedures. The Food Corporation of India, however, is in constant touch with the Railways for more effective coordination to reduce transit losses.

(c) Steps taken and proposed by the F.C.I. for reducing transit and storage losses are as under:-

- use of improved quality of gunny bags of 50 Kg;
- avoiding use of hooks;
- double line machine stitching of bags;
- surprise checks/inspections of stocks at dispatch/ destination centers;
- periodical prophylactic and curative treatment of stocks;
- undertaking pre-monsoon fumigation;
- special squad checking at selected rail-heads;
- fixing staff's responsibility in write of cases;
- surprise Depot inspections by officers;
- following FIFO (first in first out) principle;
- ensuring proper weighment and accounting of foodgrains.

Quantifying Liabilities of Drug Companies by DPLRC

6435. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the liabilities of only 22 companies have been quantified by the Drug Price Liability Review Committee (DPLRC);

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

(c) the reasons for only Indian companies picked up by the DPLRC and not quantifying the amounts of some Multi National Companies (MNCs)?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The DPEA liability in respect of 24 companies has so far been quantified by the Drug Prices Liabilities Review Committee (DPLRC). The details are given in the enclosed Statement. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, action has been initiated to recover the amount of liability from the drug companies concerned.

(c) The DPLRC has been quantifying the liabilities of the drug companies bulk drug-wise as far as possible. While quantifying the liability, on distinction is made by the Committee between Indian companies and Multi National Companies (MNC).

Statement

Name of the company and amount of liability quantified by the DPLRC

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Name of the bulk drug	Amount of liability quantified by the DPLRC (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s Merind Ltd.	Dexamethasone	6772.81
2.	Biochem Pharma Industries	Rifampicin	99.76
3.	Lupin Laboratories	Rifampicin	1065.09
4.	Unique Pharmaceuticals	Oxyphenabutazone	591.05
5.	Ambalal Sarabhai Enterprises	Amoxycillin Trihydrate	84.13
6.	Gufic Ltd.	Amoxycillin Trihydrate	73.86
7.	Laka Labs	Ampicillin Trihydrate	70.37
8.	Unique Pharma Labs Ltd.	Metronidazole	461.47
9.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	Ampicillin Trihydrate	416.84
10.	Lyka Labs	Rifampicin	148.38
11.	Laka Labs Ltd.	Ethambutol	38.50
12.	Dolphin Labs Ltd.	Amoxycillin Trihydrate	51.53
13.	Astra-IDL Ltd.	Ibuprofen	174.86
14.	Ranbaxy Labs Ltd.	Rifampicin	203.00
15.	Themis Chemicals	Rifampicin	126.07
16.	Cipla Ltd.	Metronidazole	22.81
17.	Lyka Labs. Ltd.	Amoxycillin Trihydrate	13.95
18.	Knoll Pharmaceutical	Ibuprofen	346.64/57.67@
19.	Themis Chemicals	Ethambutol	200.00

1	2	3	4
20.	Lyka Labs	Fluocinolone Acetonide	1804.6/Nil@
21.	Dolphin Labs Ltd.	Metronidazole	28.66
22.	Tamil Nadu Dadha	Calcium Lactate	130.34/120.90@
23.	U.S. Vitamins (I) Ltd.	Doxycycline	132.62/125.19@
24.	Boehringer Mannheim (India) Ltd.	Euglucon	31.317

@There is difference of opinion among Members of DPLRC.

Sea Wall

6436. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tsunami affected States have urged the Union Government for walling out of sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof and number of States who have submitted proposals in this regard;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the proposals submitted by the State Governments;

(d) if so, the total expenditure likely to be incurred on one Km of walling of sea; and

(e) the alternative measures considered by the Union Government for the States against their proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) After the Tsunami tragedy Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry & Karnataka have submitted the proposal to the Ministry of Water Resources to carry out the restoration due to damages, restore the coastal infrastructure and carryout the coastal protection works in the States. The proposals are under examination.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Agreement between India and China on Steel Sector

6437. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Chinese companies have initiated talks with Indian steel companies for possible joint ventures and technological co-operation;

(b) if so, whether any agreement between India and China has been signed during the Prime Minister's visit in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which both China and India have agreed to help in developing the steel industry in the two countries;

(e) whether China's demand for steel has increased significantly during the last couple of years; and

(f) if so, the extent to which India will be able to meet the demands of China in steel sector?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) This Ministry does not monitor agreements between individual Indian and foreign steel companies. No agreement has been signed between India and China during the recent visit of the Chinese Prime Minister for cooperation between India and Chinese Governments in the iron and steel sector.

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

(e) and (f) It is a well known fact that China's demand for steel has increased significantly in the last couple of years. Steel companies in general are free to export steel material to China and other countries. However, the steel companies in the public sector have been advised to ensure that the domestic needs are fully met before taking up exports.

[Translation]

Medical Facilities to the Employees of Steel Plants

6438. SHRI MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical facilities being provided to the employees of several steel plants including Bokrao Steel Plant is satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the annual budget earmarked for their hospitals, plant-wise;

(e) the details of the funds allocated to each of the hospitals during each of the last three years and the current year;

(f) the details of the sanctioned posts of medical specialists lying vacant in the above hospitals; and

(g) the action being taken to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The medical facilities being provided to the employees of public sector steel plants including Bokaro Steel Plant are satisfactory. All the modern medical facilities are available alongwith facilities for primary, secondary as well as tertiary level patient care. As far as the facilities being provided by private sector plants are concerned, the same are not monitored by the Government.

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

(d) and (e) The details of the annual budget earmarked/funds allocated to these hospitals during each of the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(f) The details of the sanctioned posts of medical specialists lying vacant are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(g) Action has been initiated to fill up the vacant posts and they are in different stages of completion. However, at times the selected candidates do not join after selection.

Statement I

The Annual Budget earmarked/the funds allocated to each of the Hospitals during each of the last three years and current year.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Plant	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Provisional)
Bhilai Steel Plant	5344	5670	6164	6500
Durgapur Steel Plant	864	1171	1534	1100
Rourkela Steel Plant	2938	2993	3088	3100
Bokaro Steel Plant	1100	1023	1100	1231
Alloy Steel Plant	7.77	7.53	11.37	12.17
Salem Steel Plant	157.00	233.40	227.45	316.7
Visveshvaraya Iron & Steel Plant	156	187	223	250
Vishakhapatanam Steel Plant	874.6	1023.90	1321.52	1698.10

Statement II

The number of the sanctioned posts of medical specialist lying vacant

Plant	No. of posts
Bhilai Steel Plant	6
Durgapur Steel Plant	4
Rourkeala Steel Plant	3
Bokaro Steel Ltd.	10
Alloy Steel Plant	0
Salem Steel Plant	2
Visveshwaraya Iron & Steel Plant	0
Vishakhapatanam Steel Plant	8

[English]

Setting up Integrated Agricultural Market

6439. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to set up integrated agricultural market in the country;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the above proposal;

(c) whether any legislation is proposed to be brought about to give effect to the above proposal;

(d) if so, whether the State Governments have been asked to make act at their State level to implement the above proposal; and

(e) if so, the details of their reaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) This Ministry is supporting the States in preparation of detailed project reports for establishment of modern integrated markets.

(b) There is a need in the country to establish a strong agricultural marketing structure that can sustain incentives for quality and enhanced productivity. Modern Integrated Markets in important Centers could provide such structure by creating backward linkages through farmers' association and forward linkages through wholesalers and distribution centers.

(c) and (d) Under the Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act (APMC Act), which is the existing law dealing with agricultural markets, the State Government alone is empowered to initiate the process of setting up of markets for agricultural commodities in notified areas. As a result private and cooperative sectors cannot take initiative in setting up integrated markets. Karnataka and Maharashtra are the only States where APMC Act has been amended to allow setting up of integrated agriculture produce markets. Other States need to amend APMC Act on similar lines. A model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act has been circulated by this Ministry to all the States, to guide them in bringing changes in the APMC Act for the development of competitive markets.

(e) Reforms in APMC Act were discussed with the State Governments and Union Territories at the National Conferences held at Delhi on 07.01.2004 and at Bangalore on 19.11.2004. Several States have since initiated action for its amendments on the suggested lines.

Involvement of Companies in Tourism Sector

6440. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Star Cruz for its activities in the Tourism Industry;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the involvement of Indian companies in the tourism sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A letter from M/s Star Cruise was received in the Ministry of Shipping seeking clarifications on the tax and the other related laws to be followed by foreign cruise operators who are willing to start Cruise Operations in India. Ministry of Shipping have replied to them.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government of India for the involvement of Indian Companies:

(i) Capital Subsidy is granted to new approved hotels projects in 1-Star to 3-Star and heritage basic categories in the country except the four metropolitan cities—Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(ii) For construction of hotels in various star categories Government of India offers various concessions like import of goods under EPCG Scheme, 0% Duty Import Scheme etc.

Duty Free Shops

6441. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of duty free shops being run by Indian Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) whether the duty free shops are making losses; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) is running 37 duty free shops at ten international/domestic airports as under:—

Location	No. of Shops
Delhi	10
Mumbai	11
Kolkata	02
Chennai	02
Trivandrum	02
Goa	02
Bangalore	02
Calicut	02
Hyderabad	02
Ahmedabad	02
Total	37

(b) and (c) The position regarding net profit/loss of Duty Free Shops for the last five years is as under:—

Year	Net Profit/Loss (Rs. in Crores)
2000-2001	21.35
2001-2002	(-)2.66
2002-2003	9.37*
2003-2004	5.75*
2004-2005 (Provisional)	1.87*

*These profit figures will turn into losses if royalty payable to Airport Authority of India is accounted for.

Following steps have been taken to improve the profitability of the duty free shops:-

- Ensuring sale promotions of the products;
- Exercising strict control over costs and tight control over inventory;
- Refurbishing of Shops.

Irrigation Schemes

6442. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign assistance received by the State Governments including Arunachal Pradesh for irrigation schemes during the last three years; and

(b) the details of assistance utilised by the State Governments during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) During the last 3 years, the foreign assistance received by various State Governments in respect of 24 irrigation & flood control schemes is about Rs. 2761 crore. None of the projects of Arunachal Pradesh have received foreign assistance during this period.

(b) The external assistance is received by Project Implementation Agencies (PLA) only as reimbursement after completion of the works.

Pending Environmental and Forestry Cases

6443. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

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

(a) the details of cases relating to Environment and Forests pending in the courts as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether there is an inordinate delay in disposal of these cases resulting in failure of Environment and Forestry laws to achieve their objectives;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of these cases and the extent of success achieved after taking such steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Peripheral Development by Steel Plants

6444. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that certain steel plants set up in the private sector in Orissa are not paying attention for the peripheral development of the areas where they are located;

(b) if so, whether they are not even contributing any thing to the State towards the renovation, repair and maintenance of the roads which are damaged by a plying of the trucks meant for supply of the raw materials to these steel plants;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to make it mandatory for the steel plants coming up there to develop the roads?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) All the companies putting up steel plants in the private sector are persuaded to take up peripheral development of the areas where the projects are being set up.

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

(d) Specific provision has been made in the Memorandum of Understanding indicating that the companies will comply with all applicable laws and policies of the Government of India and the State of Orissa including more specifically those relating to environment and socio-economic development in the periphery of the project.

Prices of Drugs

6445. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the essential drugs and the prices of which were decontrolled by Drug Price Control Order (DPCO) under the Pharma Policy, 2002;

(b) the reasons for making these essential drugs out of the reach of common people?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Government announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February 2002. However, a public interest litigation filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an Order dated 12.11.02 which stopped the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. This Department filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the Order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003.

The 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 95.

Prices of non-scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Development of Agricultural Marketing Systems

6446. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level team from the United States Department of Agriculture and USAID has recommended several parts for capacity building and professionally structured education to develop agricultural marketing systems;

(b) if so, the other recommendations made by the said team;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether there is any proposal for collaborations with United States in developing farm marketing systems; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) The National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), an autonomous body under this Ministry had discussions with the officials of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) subsequent to which a team of representatives from the United Stated Department of Agriculture (USDA) visited NIAM to identify areas of collaboration between the USDA and the Ministry. The discussions are at a preliminary stage.

[Translation]

Declaration of Support Price

6447. SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY:
MOHD. SHAHID:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the crops for which the support price has been declared by the Government;

(b) whether the Government have estimated the cost targets of the farmers for determination of prices of paddy;

(c) whether the Government is providing incentives to the farmers to produce crops like sunflower, pulses and oilseeds instead of the above-said crops;

(d) whether an increase of Rs. 160/- has been made in the prices of sunflower seeds;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the production of sunflower seeds are estimated to increase; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Government has declared the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for kharif crops of 2005-06 season on 20th April, 2005 in respect of Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Arhar (Tur), Moong, Urad, Cotton, Groundnut-in-shell, Sunflower seed, Soyabeen, Sesamum and Nigerseed.

(b) While recommending MSP, the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) analyses a wide range of data which includes the cost of cultivation/production. The estimates of cost of cultivation/production are based on expenses incurred on agricultural inputs including seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation, power, interest on cost of land, depreciation on implements and machinery etc. The cost covers not only paid-out costs (actual expenses incurred in cash and kind, including rent for leased-in land) but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour for which the farmers do not incur cash expenses.

(c) With a view to providing necessary price signal to promote diversification into pulses and oilseeds for which India depends on imports to bridge domestic demand supply gap, the Government have been announcing relatively higher Minimum Support Prices for pulses and oilseeds vis-a-vis other crops particularly cereals.

Government of India is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds and pulses growing States with a view to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in the country. Under the scheme assistance is provided to

farmers for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, plant protection chemicals and equipments, weedicides, gypsum/pyrite/ liming/dolomite, sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilsing bacteria etc. to encourage farmers to grow oilseeds and pulses.

(d) and (e) To promote diversification into oilseeds for which India depends on imports to bridge domestic demand supply gap the MSP of 2004-05 season.

(f) and (g) The policy of announcing relatively higher MSPs of oilseeds vis-a-vis other crops has helped increase the production of sunflower seeds from 8.73 million tonnes in 2002-03 to 9.92 million tonnes in 2003-04 and to 14.15 million tonnes in 2004-05 (Third Advance Estimates).

Procedure for Counting Tigers

6448. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

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

(a) the existing procedure for counting the of tigers in the country;

(b) whether there are many shortcomings in the procedure; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps 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 methodology in vogue for estimating tiger population through pugmarks yields a total count rather than a statistical estimate. This has been refined with inputs from the Scientists of Wildlife Institute of India, and the refinement now addresses these concerns by mapping tiger distribution at the beat resolution using pugmark as an index for tiger presence and abundance. Total number estimates will be inferred by sampling and intensive research level data collection within the sample block by using scientifically valid and peer reviewed techniques. For the first time, the Government of India has taken steps for overseeing the primary data collection in the field through external as well as experts.

[English]

Clearance to Pending Airport Projects

6449. SHRI T.K. HAMZA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application for environment clearance from the Airport Authority of Calicut in connection with the expansion project is pending with the Ministry of Environment & Forests; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The proposal pertaining to expansion of Calicut Airport was received by the Government on 29.4.2005 from Airport Authority of India, Calicut.

(b) The proposal has been examined and clarifications/information have been sought which include submission of revised No Objection Certificate from the Kerala Pollution Control Board.

[Translation]

Research Centre and Project

6450. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the research centres and projects being run under the auspices of Indian Agriculture Research Council in various States, particularly in tribal dominated areas those of including Maharashtra, location-wise;

(b) the amount allocated/spent by the Government in respect to each above-cited centre and project during the last three years;

(c) the achievements made by the aforesaid centres, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the performance of the aforesaid centres affected the agriculture yield in the country during the aforesaid period?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The details of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes, National Research Centres and projects located in various States of the country including Maharashtra alongwith amount allocated/spent by these are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

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

(d) The data indicate that the yield/productivity of foodgrains alone has improved from 1562 kg. per ha. (during 2002-03) to 1707 kg. per ha. (during 2003-04). A single variety of wheat PBW 343 has occupied around 70 lakh ha. of the Country. Similarly, hybrid rice having yield advantage of more than 1 tonne over the existing varieties is presently occupying about 5.5 lakh ha. in the country. The milk production was raised from 87.3 million tonnes (during 2002-03) to 91.1 million tonnes (during 2003-04). The egg production also increased from 40.3 billion number of eggs (during 2002-03) to 91.1 billion number of eggs (during 2003-04). Similarly, fish production also increased from 59.66 lakh tonnes (during 2001-02) to 62.00 lakh tonnes (during 2002-03). However, fish production figures for 2003-04 and production figures for rest of the commodities mentioned above for the year 2004-05 are in process of finalization.

Statement I

Scheme-wise Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure for 2002-03 to 2004-05

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme and location	2002-03 BE	2002-03 RE	2002-03 Actual Exp.	2003-04 BE	2003-04 RE	2003-04 Actual Exp.	2004-05 BE	2004-05 RE & Anticipated Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	I. CROP SCIENCE								
1.	**National Bureau of Plant Genetics Resources, New Delhi**								
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi	200.00	255.00	256.35	200.00	210.00	315.59	686.94	494.00
	i. AICRP on Under Utilised Crops	60.00	77.00	59.99	77.00	94.00	93.93	115.76	115.00
	ii. NRC-DNA Finger Printing, New Delhi	70.00	in NBPGR	in NBPGR	100.00	100.00	—	244.50	135.00
2.	**IARI, New Delhi**								
	IARI, New Delhi (amt. included for Indo Israel for 02-03 & 03-04 in IARI)	940.00	895.00	730.06	875.00	400.00	411.57	2108.94	900.00
	i. AICRP on Pesticides Residues	230.00	230.00	283.48	230.00	285.25	225.50	557.94	225.00
	ii. AICRP on Nematodes	200.00	200.00	143.38	200.00	200.00	119.65	218.36	213.00
	iii. NRC Plant Biotechnology	100.00	in IARI	in IARI	160.00	160.00	95.80	350.00	400.00
	iv. Directorate of Maize Research, New Delhi	250.00	225.00	217.72	210.00	208.50	207.71	346.84	320.00
	v. AICRP on Maize	350.00	400.00	523.22	400.00	466.00	473.18	320.00	308.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	vi. National Centre for Integrated Pest Management	40.00	20.00	19.95	30.00	32.00	32.01	45.00	34.00
	vii. AICRP Floriculture (Amt. in Hort)								
	Network Programme on Insect Biosystematics (Part of IARI)				new			101.46	0.00
	Network Project on Trangenics (Part of NRC Plant Biotechnology)				new			270.00	0.00
3.	**Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack**								
	Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack	300.00	250.00	189.32	250.00	153.00	140.18	405.75	400.00
	i. Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad	120.00	120.00	119.50	130.00	130.00	129.70	310.97	324.00
	ii. AICRP Rice, Hyderabad	500.00	600.00	704.36	600.00	675.00	676.39	626.08	620.00
4.	**Vivekananda Parvitya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora**	180.00	220.00	220.00	220.00	220.00	220.00	184.00	200.00
5.	**Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur**								
	Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur	200.00	200.00	199.67	200.00	200.00	199.98	463.50	340.00
	i. AICRP on Chickpea	475.00	475.00	476.44	475.00	475.00	474.36	309.59	287.00
	ii. AICRP on MULLARP	600.00	600.00	605.86	600.00	600.00	600.56	500.80	448.00
	iii. AICRP on Pigeon Pea	400.00	400.00	399.29	400.00	400.00	399.51	448.83	400.00
	iv. AICRP on Arid Legumes	125.00	135.00	112.51	135.00	135.00	135.46	160.00	140.00
6.	**Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal**								
	Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal	100.00	80.00	79.83	90.00	90.00	89.64	111.50	150.00
	i. AICRP on Wheat & Barely Improvement Project, Karnal	560.00	600.00	899.88	600.00	732.00	732.00	470.00	470.00
7.	**NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad**								
	NRC Sorghum, Hyderabad	100.00	110.00	109.66	120.00	120.00	113.99	219.15	350.00
	i. AICRP Sorghum, Hyderabad	270.00	277.00	298.91	277.00	300.00	302.29	265.00	350.00
	ii. AICRP on Pearl Millets, Jodhpur	250.00	215.00	202.92	215.00	152.00	151.53	264.21	225.00
	iii. AICRP on Small Millets, Bangalore	300.00	180.00	151.15	180.00	154.00	160.25	231.62	243.00
8.	**Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi**								
	Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi	250.00	250.00	200.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	402.88	400.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	i. AICRP on Forage Crops	290.00	370.00	470.00	370.00	366.00	366.00	400.00	400.00
	ii. AICRP on Agroforestry (amt. in NRM)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	iii. NRC Agroforestry (amt. in NRM)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	**Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry**								
	Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry	125.00	100.00	90.00	100.00	125.00	124.99	236.00	250.00
	i. Network Project on Tobacco	100.00	100.00	103.15	100.00	135.00	135.00	137.14	125.00
10.	**Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow**								
	Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow	150.00	190.00	189.76	190.00	173.00	146.23	244.00	250.00
	i. Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore	125.00	125.00	84.60	125.00	86.00	89.57	373.86	400.00
	ii. AICRP on Sugarcane, Lucknow	240.00	240.00	207.95	240.00	275.00	274.77	262.29	250.00
11.	**Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur**								
	Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	102.00	101.99	208.00	250.00
	i. AICRP on Cotton, Coimbatore	390.00	410.00	410.00	410.00	472.00	472.86	428.00	400.00
	ii. Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore	200.00	175.00	141.74	175.00	100.00	99.70	311.00	380.00
	iii. AICRP on Jute and Allied Fibres	200.00	150.00	149.95	150.00	150.00	149.99	75.00	64.00
	iv. Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC)	380.00	380.00		380.00	420.00	392.55	255.00	318.00
	v. Technology Mission on Jute (TMJ)								
12.	**Directorate of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad**								
	Directorate of Oilseed Research, Hyderabad	100.00	136.00	136.00	146.00	115.79	115.79	354.94	260.00
	i. NRC Groundnut, Junagarh	100.00	80.00	86.52	90.00	90.00	84.12	277.00	190.00
	ii. AICRP on Groundnut, Junagarh	250.00	250.00	248.48	250.00	329.48	350.71	280.09	254.00
	iii. NRC Soybean, Indore	120.00	100.00	73.31	110.00	88.70	79.27	126.00	276.00
	iv. AICRP on Soybean, Indore	175.00	195.00	139.72	195.00	202.00	201.46	185.50	192.00
	v. NRC-Rapesed & Mustard (NRCM), Bharatpur	100.00	80.00	69.90	95.00	45.00	45.00	224.17	100.00
	vi. AICRP on Rapeseed & Mustard, Bharatpur	300.00	360.00	360.00	360.00	410.00	422.24	345.01	345.00
	vii. AICRP on Sunflower, Safflower, Castor, Hyderabad	400.00	400.00	398.43	400.00	400.00	399.81	381.16	270.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	viii. AICRP on Linseed, Kanpur	160.00	160.00	110.62	160.00	175.77	130.68	203.72	200.00
	ix. AICRP on Sesame and Niger, Jabalpur	160.00	160.00	138.30	160.00	275.80	237.64	265.80	235.00
13.	**Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore**								
	Project Directorate of Biological Control, Bangalore	70.00	40.00	31.00	50.00	25.80	25.80	25.80	190.00
	i. AICRP on Biological Control, Bangalore	100.00	100.00	87.65	100.00	146.80	146.80	171.43	144.00
	ii. AICRP on Honey Bee Research & Training, Hisar	160.00	160.00	105.29	160.00	145.00	180.35	146.66	126.00
	iii. Network on White Grubs & OtherSoil Arthropods, Jaipur	100.00	100.00	52.31	100.00	100.00	82.63	100.87	115.00
	iv. Network on Agricultural Acarology, Bangalore	100.00	100.00	35.28	100.00	100.00	90.33	141.02	150.00
	v. Network on Economic Ornithology, Hyderabad	100.0	0100.00	51.86	100.00	100.00	97.64	107.41	100.00
14.	**Directorate of Seed Research, Mau**								
	Directorate of Seed Research, Mau		updated					351.05	250.00
	i. AICRP component of NSP-Crops	700.00	710.00	777.38	710.00	700.00	703.22	686.89	555.00
15.	**National Bureau of Agril. Important Micro-organisms (NBAIM), New Delhi**	100.00	80.00	43.70	115.00	112.68	112.51	308.57	350.00
	Network on Rodent Control, Jodhpur (Reflected in NRM)	115.00	115.00	74.18	115.00	118.22	97.95	120.00	120.00
	Total (Crop Science)	12900.00	12800.00	12190.53	13100.00	13089.79	12707.41	18500.00	16000.00
	II. HORTICULTURE								
16.	**Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore**								
	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore	300.00	300.00	250.00	300.00	390.00	390.00	450.00	450.00
	i. AICRP Tropical Fruits, Bangalore	160.00	160.00	481.75	157.00	203.75	202.06	260.00	260.00
	ii. Central Institute of Sub Tropical Horticulture, Lucknow	230.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	220.00	220..00	300.00	275.00
	iii. AICRP Sub Tropical Fruits, Lucknow	120.00	120.00	250.00	127.00	194.60	194.60	200.00	135.00
	iv. NRC Litchi, Muzaffarpur	175.00	150.00	61.00	225.00	75.00	71.98	220.00	150.00
	v. NRC Citrus, Nagpur	160.00	160.00	109.99	160.00	295.00	294.94	220.00	210.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	vi. NRC Grapes, Pune	240.00	145.00	144.99	145.00	145.00	144.99	180.00	180.00
	vii. NRC Banana, Trichi	220.00	150.00	95.40	150.00	166.50	159.12	170.00	190.00
17.	**Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar**	150.00	175.00	112.97	175.00	154.00	154.00	225.00	175.00
18.	**Central Institute of Arid Horticulture, Bikaner**								
	Central Institute of Arid Horticulture, Bikaner	200.00	200.00	102.00	250.00	121.90	121.72	360.00	220.00
	i. AICRP Arid Frits	90.00	90.00	132.76	105.00	150.86	150.49	120.00	105.00
19.	**Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi**								
	Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi	240.00	200.00	175.15	225.00	225.00	222.22	365.00	340.00
	i. NRC for Mushroom, Solan	180.00	150.00	85.29	120.00	123.80	123.79	150.0	130.00
	ii. AICRP Mushroom, Solan	80.00	80.00	78.84	88.00	93.00	64.41	105.00	95.00
	iii. AICRP Vegetables, Varanasi	230.00	260.00	249.80	256.00	261.00	259.90	325.00	350.00
	iv. National Seed Project Vegetables, Varanasi	130.00	100.00	94.00	97.00	97.00	96.56	120.00	140.00
	v. NRC Onin and Garlic, Pune	230.00	160.00	84.72	130.00	110.00	104.32	180.00	180.00
20.	**Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla**								
	Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla	240.00	210.00	209.30	200.00	297.07	281.56	450.00	406.00
	i. AICRP Potato	125.00	125.00	125.03	122.00	159.40	164.12	235.00	235.00
	ii. Central Tuber Crops Research	160.00	170.00	203.30	190.00	230.00	228.41	250.00	250.00
	iii. AICRP Tuber Crops	80.00	80.00	80.00	78.00	67.00	67.00	100.00	103.00
21.	**Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod**								
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod	225.00	230.00	229.94	220.00	205.00	204.99	380.00	340.00
	i. AICRP Palms	120.00	120.00	99.69	118.00	97.12	97.12	110.00	127.00
	ii. NRC Cashew, Puttur	90.00	90.00	89.95	100.00	87.00	86.38	140.00	100.00
	iii. AICRP Cashew	80.00	80.00	57.49	77.00	77.00	58.09	80.00	90.00
	iv. NRC Oil Palm, Pedavegi, A.P.	120.00	150.00	159.94	160.00	160.00	132.94	200.00	175.00
22.	**Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair**	240.00	240.00	291.11	250.00	270.00	267.79	300.00	300.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23.	**Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut**								
	Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut	200.00	190.00	189.99	190.00	125.00	124.88	190.00	150.00
	i. AICRP Spices, Calicut	120.00	120.00	157.00	117.00	151.00	151.00	150.00	130.00
	ii. NRC Seed Spices, Ajmer	175.00	165.00	61.94	210.00	170.00	170.00	200.00	175.00
24.	**NRC Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Anand**								
	NRC Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Anand	250.00	200.00	195.00	200.00	175.00	175.00	315.00	175.00
	i. Network on Medicinal and Aromatic plants	110.00	120.00	165.80	138.00	148.00	148.00	160.00	130.00
	ii. Network on Betelvine	90.00	70.00	51.00	57.00	62.00	62.00	115.00	120.00
	AICRP Florticulture (reflectedin CS at 2)	110.00	120.00	135.66	138.00	143.00	142.86	165.00	135.00
	NRC Makhana (reflected in NRM at 29) (integrated with ICAR Res. Com for Eastern Region as centre)	110.00	50.00	6.76	225.00	120.00	59.01	200.00	100.00
	NRC Orchids (reflected in NRM at 36)	170.00	170.00	93.92	240.00	140.00	140.00	310.00	130.00
	NRC Pomegranate (Scheme not approved)	50.00							
	Total (Horticulture)	6000.00	5500.00	5311.48	6000.00	5910.00	5736.24	8000.00	6956.00
	III. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT								
25.	**National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land use Planning, Nagpur**	400.00	380.00	324.76	425.00	332.00	329.71	489.50	340.00
26.	**Central Soil and Water Conservation Research & Training Institute, Dehradun**	400.00	250.00	220.00	350.00	310.00	308.67	450.00	400.00
27.	**Indian Institute of Soil Sciences, Bhopal**								
	Indian Institute of Soil Sciences, Bhopal	200.00	197.00	137.46	225.00	95.00	91.86	420.00	200.00
	i. AICRP in Micro Secondary & Pollutant Elements in Soils and Plants	150.00	140.00		150.00	199.00	197.44	200.00	200.00
	ii. Network Bio-fertilizers	100.00	35.00	32.39	100.00	32.00		92.00	100.00
	iii. AICRP on Soil Test with Crop Response	200.00	200.00	179.92	200.00	195.00	188.85	195.00	210.00
	iv. AICRP on Long Term Fertilizer Experiments	85.00	95.00	154.62	85.00	142.00	139.65	98.00	100.00
28.	**Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal**								
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnala	300.00	100.00	90.00	325.00	226.68	226.67	380.00	205.00
	i. AICRP on Salt Affected Soils & use of Saline water in Agriculture	150.00	220.00	20.496	150.00	175.00	175.00	175.00	175.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
29.	**ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna**								
	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna	500.00	250.00	199.59	500.00	289.00	287.49	500.00	500.00
	i. NRC for Makhana, Darbhanga				in Hort				
30.	**Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region, Bhubaneshwar**								
	Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region, Bhubaneshwar	250.00	165.00	134.27	265.00	102.00	97.81	200.00	150.00
	i. AICRP on Water Managment Research, Bhubaneswar	480.00	510.00	508.52	460.00	460.00	460.00	530.00	450.00
	ii. AICRP on Ground Water Utilisation, Bhubaneshwar	100.00	100.00	59.58	100.00	89.71	89.71	145.00	145.00
31.	**Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad**								
	Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad	175.00	165.00	101.49	185.00	195.00	183.18	300.00	215.00
	i. AICRP Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad	500.00	850.00	950.00	500.00	610.00	610.00	665.00	860.00
	ii. AICRP on Agrometeorology, Hyderabad	170.00	190.00	190.00	170.00	234.00	234.00	230.00	150.00
	iii. Network on Impact, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agrl. to Climate Change		new		new			163.05	163.00
32.	**Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur**								
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur	250.00	100.00	88.00	250.00	190.00	189.95	300.00	248.00
	i. Network Project on Rodent Control								
33.	**Project Dte. on Cropping System Research, Modipuram**								
	Project Dte. on Cropping System Research, Modipuram	200.00	130.00	165.87	200.00	128.00	128.00	270.00	265.00
	i. AICRP Cropping System Research (including network on Organic Farm.)	520.00	800.00	1050.00	520.00	804.00	804.00	760.00	760.00
	Network on Organic Farming		new		new				
34.	**NRC-Weed Science, Jabalpur**								
	NRC-Weed Science, Jabalpur	145.00	145.00	128.00	145.00	145.00	128.17	266.95	267.00
	i. AICRP Weed Control, Jabalpur	200.00	465.00	0.27	200.00	270.00	269.93	420.00	430.00
35.	**ICAR Research Complex Goa**	125.00	90.00	89.75	125.00	205.00	204.97	360.00	262.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
36.	**ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani**								
	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani	450.00	500.00	493.36	600.00	600.00	597.45	800.00	800.00
	i. NRC on Yak								
	ii. NRC on Mithun Medziphema, Nagaland								
	iii. NRC on Orchids, Pakyong, Sikkim								
	NRC Agroforestry (reflected in CS at 8)	170.00	150.00	125.98	170.00	110.00	109.99	245.00	160.00
	AICRP Agroforestry (reflected in CS at 8)	300.00	300.00	323.99	300.00	300.00	299.99	345.50	345.00
		—	23.00	7.22	—				
	Total (NRM)	6500.00	6550.00	5959.91	6700.00	6438.39	652.49	9000.00	8100.00
	IV. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING								
37.	**Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal**								
	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal	295.00	225.00	188.18	285.00	287.00	284.93	256.50	258.00
	i. Network Project on RNAEM, Bhopal	12.50	12.50		12.50	12.50		12.50	7.00
	ii. AICRP on FIM, Bhopal	295.00	320.00	427.05	300.00	500.00	555.90	449.00	405.00
	iii. AICRP on Human Engineering and Safety in Agriculture (HESA), Bhopal	80.00	80.00	79.95	80.00	73.00	72.99	114.31	93.00
	iv. AICRP on Renewable Sources of Energy for Ag. and Agro Basedindus	195.00	225.00	244.42	198.00	255.43	255.43	227.48	161.00
	v. AICRP on Utilization of Animal Energy (UAE), Bhopal	87.50	92.00	90.74	91.50	92.07	92.08	104.22	89.00
38.	**Central Institute on Post Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana**								
	Central Institute on Post Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana	340.00	167.00	134.62	335.00	130.00	129.62	371.00	320.00
	i. AICRP on Application of Plastic in Agriculture	45.00	51.00	54.67	47.00	47.00	46.89	95.00	76.00
	ii. AICRP on PHT	295.00	321.50	299.51	299.00	299.00	290.68	833.84	677.00
	iii. AICRP on Processing handling & storage of Jaggery and Khandsari, Lucknow	45.00	50.00	25.03	47.00	50.00	40.31	in PHT	in PHT
39.	**Indian Lac Research Institute, Ranchi**	125.00	100.00	46.16	125.00	103.00	98.16	134.00	124.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
40.	**Central Institute of Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai**	220.00	206.00	172.91	215.00	225.0	224.91	256.15	235.00
41.	**Central Institute of Research on Jute & Allied Fibre Technology, Calcutta**	165.00	150.00	97.03	165.00	126.00	125.40	147.00	137.00
				1.17					
	Total (Agril. Engg.)	2200.00	2000.00	1861.44	2200.00	2200.00	2216.91	3000.00	2582.00
				V. ANIMAL SCIENCE					
42.	**National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal**								
	National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal	400.00	365.00	184.26	190.00	367.25	240.90	360.00	300.00
	i. Network project on Animal Genetic Resources		in NBPGR	150.13	230.00	in NBAGR	116.18	210.00	210.00
43.	**National Dairy Research Institute including NRC Animal Biotechnology, Karnal**								
	National Dairy Research Institute including NRC Animal Biotechnology, Karnal	700.00	700.00	640.02	750.00	711.90	712.15	825.00	700.00
	i. NP on R&D Support for Process Upgradation of Indigenous Milk Products for industrial application	150.00	150.00	52.36	180.00	150.00	105.99		
	ii. Pilot Project on Integrated Rural Development Focussed on Dairying		new		new		17.13	275.00	275.00
44.	**Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar, Rajasthan**								
	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar, Rajasthan	475.00	385.00	385.00	430.00	375.00	374.82	400.00	300.00
	i. Network Programme on Sheep Improvement		90.00	71.43	110.00	100.00	100.27	280.00	280.00
45.	**Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom**								
	Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom	345.00	300.00	490.00	315.00	360.00	359.99	460.00	300.00
	i. AICRP on Goat Improvement	80.00	100.00	83.71	110.00	110.00	108.87	210.00	210.00
46.	**Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Hissar**								
	Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Hissar	250.00	200.00	160.00	240.00	100.00	100.00	200.00	200.00
	i. Network Project on Buffaloes Improvement	175.00	225.00	160.86	225.00	320.00	328.70	450.00	300.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
47.	**National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology**								
	National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology	470.00	400.00	249.31	400.00	356.00	355.42	500.00	300.00
	i. AICRP-Improvement of Feed Sources & Nutrient Utilisation for raising Animal Production	250.00	210.00	378.72	290.00	258.00	277.47	335.00	255.00
48.	**NRC on Camel, Bikaner**	200.00	200.00	167.62	200.00	209.81	209.80	360.00	300.00
49.	**NRC on Equines, Hisar**	225.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	NRC on Equines, Hisar (included Vaterinary Type Culture)	—	200.00	109.96	200.00	160.00	159.26	525.00	350.00
50.	**Project Directorate—Cattle**								
	Project Directorate—Cattle	300.00	300.00	329.84	350.00	330.00	326.59	500.00	300.00
	i. AICRP on Cattle Research		in PD	in PD	in PD	in PD		in PD	
51.	**PD on Foot & Mouth Disease, Mukteshwar**	150.00	175.00	22.55	200.00	200.00	202.62	300.00	245.00
52.	**Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar**								
	Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar	300.00	230.00	207.57	240.00	305.00	304.94	475.00	350.00
	i. Project Directorate on Poultry, Hyderabad	350.00	220.00	148.81	400.00	410.00	144.02	200.00	200.00
	ii. AICRP on Poultry		175.00	211.25	in PD	i PD	280.82	355.00	355.00
53.	**Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar**								
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar (IVRI)	875.00	800.00	797.99	825.00	825.00	1084.39	1250.00	1100.00
	i. Network on Gastro Intestinal Parasitism (GIP)	200.00	225.00	84.71	280.00	280.00	135.97	275.00	275.00
	ii. Network on Haemorrahigc Septcamia	in GIP		52.65	in GIP	80	81.98	in GIP	in GIP
	iii. Network Programme Blue Tongue Disease	in GIP		63.96	in GIP	70	75.74	in GIP	in GIP
	iv. PD on Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance	200.00	200.00	147.37	200.00	59.75	75.08	390.00	390.00
	High Security Animal Disease	300.00	275.00	193.96	275.00	275.00			
54.	**NRC on Meat and Meat Products Technology, Hyderabad**	275.00	175.00	52.61	200.00	226.00	226.00	400.00	150.00
55.	**NRC on Pig**								
	NRC on Pig	330.00	200.00	41.96	210.00	340.00	57.15	180.00	180.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	i. AICRP-Pig	—	100.00	11.45	130.00	In NRC	10.65	290.00	260.00
	NRC Mithun (reflected in NRM)	250.00	250.00	84.55	220.00	191.00	190.89	210.00	210.00
	NRC Yak (reflected in NRM)	250.00	250.00	243.87	300.00	270.00	260.56	285.00	285.00
				-5.27					
	Total(Animal Science)	7500.00	7100.00	5973.21	7700.00	7289.71	7024.38	10500.00	8500.00
				VI. FISHERIES					
56.	**Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin**								
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin	325.00	325.00	309.98	380.00	333.00	333.00	577.00	404.00
	i. Central Institute Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai	225.00	222.12	97.50	250.00	240.04	247.76	269.00	264.00
57.	**Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore**								
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore	400.00	400.00	289.80	440.00	465.00	465.03	408.00	408.00
	i. National Research Centre on Cold Water Fisheries, Nainital	263.00	263.00	101.78	220.00	93.00	90.71	223.00	181.00
58.	**Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin**	330.00	332.00	246.23	350.00	348.00	347.93	550.00	523.00
59.	**Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai**	697.00	797.88	1287.72	860.00	1041.00	1087.41	1041.00	798.00
60.	**Cental Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubneshwar**	260.00	260.00	165.39	285.00	281.50	281.10	490.00	480.00
61.	**National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow**	200.00	200.00	168.67	215.00	188.50	188.41	442.00	442.00
	Total (Fisheries)	2700.00	2800.00	2666.97	3000.00	2990.04	3041.36	4000.00	3500.00
				VIII. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS & ECONOMICS					
62.	**Indian Agricultural Statistical Research Institute**								
	Indian Agricutural Statistical Research Institute New Delhi	200.00	200.00	134.49	200.00	88.53	88.52	250.00	200.00
	i. National Centre for Agril. Economics & Policy Research, New Delhi	100.00	50.00	39.70	50.00	49.55	48.23	250.00	200.00
	Total (ESM)	300.00	250.00	174.19	250.00	138.08	136.75	500.00	400.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	VIII. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION								
63.	**Krishi Vigyan Kendras (New + Old)**	9465.86	8983.75	8866.59	9350.00	9342.80	8911.58	16730.00	16318.00
64.	**NRC for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar**	384.14	366.25	153.90	200.00	200.00	198.21	170.00	137.00
65.	**Directorate of Information & Publication in Agriculture (DIPA)**	150.00	150.00	23.15	50.00	24.00	23.96	100.00	45.00
	Total (Agril. Extension)	10000.00	9500.00	9043.64	9600.00	9566.80	9133.76	17000.00	16500.00
	IX. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION								
66.	**Strengthening of Agricultural Education**								
	Strengthening of Agricultural Education			6094.00					
	AICRP on Home Science	333.00	563.00		250.00	435.00	414.82	350.00	350.00
	Dev. & Strengthening of State Agricultural Universities	5490.00	5020.44		5770.00	5972.20	5938.19	9145.00	8445.00
	Dec. & Strengthening of PG Edn. In Deemed Universities	185.00	210.97		250.00	246.00	244.15	300.00	234.00
	Dev. & Strengthening of Agri. Edn. in Central Uniersities	130.00	99.52		90.00	87.00	85.00	150.00	150.00
	Rural Awareness Work Experience (RAWE)	250.00	316.69		120.00	185.34	183.19	300.00	230.00
	Best Teacher Award	5.00	5.00		5.00	3.45	2.92	5.00	1.00
	Accreditation of University	150.00	5.00		40.00	2.50	2.05	10.00	5.00
	Preparation of University Level Text Book	15.00	10.00		15.00	2.50	2.20	10.00	5.00
	Emeritus Science Scheme (including 25 additional slots)	60.00	58.00		75.00	56.21	55.86	130.00	80.00
	Centres of Advance Studies (including 6 new CAS)	200.00	125.00		25.00	160.00	157.89	300.00	250.00
	Establishment of Jammu Unverisity	200.00	94.38						
	AHRD Spill over	32.00	32.00	22.79			-0.13		
67.	**National Academy of Agricultural Research & Management (NAARM), Hyderabad**	250.00	250.00	227.73	250.00	238.00	198.73	300.00	150.00
	Total (Agril. Education)	7200.00	6790.00	6344.52	7400.00	7388.00	7284.87	11000.00	9900.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
68.	**Central Agricultural University, Imphal**								
	Central Agricultural University	2300.00	3300.00	—	2500.00	1715.00	1760.93	3829.00	3829.00
	i. DARE	50.00	50.00	—	50.00	47.66	47.65	50.00	50.00
	Total (CAU+DARE)	2350.00	3350.00	1822.00	2550.00	1762.66	1808.58	3879.00	3879.00
	XI. ICAR HEADQUARTERS								
69.	**Strengthening and Modernization of ICAR Headquarters**								
	Strengthening and Modernization of ICAR Headquarters				230.00				
	Modernization of Office Space & facilities			67.35			226.51	200.00	60.00
	ICAR Library						5.80		
	Publicity & Public Relations	90.00	40.00	28.33	40.00		31.03	70.00	40.00
	Intellectual Property Right (IPR)	30.00	27.00	0.87	20.00		2.26	70.00	40.00
	Support to Prof. Soc. including NAAS	220.00	195.00		200.00			160.00	160.00
	Agriculture Scientist Recruitment Board	10.00			10.00				
	ICAR HQ Including facilities at NASC	600.00	188.00						
	Total (Headquarter)	950.00	450.00	96.55	500.00	268.00	265.24	500.00	300.00
	Phased out schemes of IX Plan + pipeline+catch up grant								
	National Board for Strategic Research								
	Total (DBS)						55707.99	85879.00	76617.00
	XII. EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS								
70.	**National Agricultural Technology Project (WB)**	15350.00	15360.00	16570.08	18400.00	17012.00	14385.41	14000.00	13200.00
71.	**Indo-French proposal Seabass Breeding & Culture**	50.00	50.00	41.52	100.00	100.00	84.62	121.00	121.00
72.	**Technology Mission on Horticulture for North-East Region***								
	Pipeline projects/lump sum amount requirement for new initiatives								
	Surplus funds for NEH Region (Rs. 43.98 from Horticutlure and 18 lakh from Engg.)	3500.00							61.98
	Grand Total (I to XII)	77500.00	72500.00	68056.04	77500.00	74153.47	70178.02	100000.00	90000.00
	Catch up Grant							4211.00	

Statement II

Achievements made by the ICAR Institutes

Crop Science

Plant Genetic Resources

- A total of 37 exploration missions were undertaken and 1,598 accessions collected.
- About 14,000 accessions were evaluated for morphological and biochemical traits.
- A total of 34,994 accessions were added to the National Genebank (Seed Genebank-34,374 accessions, Cryo Genebank-480 accessions and *In vitro* Genebank-90 accessions).
- A total of 19,782 accessions (43,300 samples) including trial material and germplasm lines were exchanges (19,645 imported and 117 exported) and processed for quarantine clearance.
- 4863 accessions of indigenous active collections were supplied for use in different crop improvement programmes to breeders and other PGR researchers.
- Four training programmes were organized on various aspects of PGR management.
- Sequence Tagged Microsatellites (STMS) fingerprinting of rice (164 accessions), wheat (69 accessions), cotton (60 accessions), French bean (22 accessions), soybean (32 accessions), brinjal (96 accessions) and Brassica (80 accessions)
- Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP) and Inter Simple Sequence Repeat profiling of finger millet (94 accessions), peas (38 accessions), brinjal (48 accessions), Plantago (50 accessions) and vetiver (25 varieties) completed.
- Primers designed for detection of transgenes lines in seed material.
- Terminator gone tested in cotton, wheat and rice transgenic lines using probe specific to Cre sequence.

Food Crops

- In rice, 19 varieties and one hybrid have been released. Among new rice varieties, Dhanrasi for shallow lowlands of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and one hybrid RH-204 for irrigated areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana and Rajasthan were released.
- Eleven wheat varieties, namely, VL 832, PBW 502, HD 2824, Raj 403, NW 2036, DBW 14, HS 420, (Shivalik) HS 375, HI 1500, MP 4010, VL 829 were released for different agro-ecologies.
- Eleven maize cultivators Pratap composite, Pusa Early Hybrid 5, Pragati, Deccan Hybrid 115, BH 2187, PRO 345, JKMH 68-2, Bio 9682, Pratap Maize, Vivek Comp. DSH 4 (SB 401A x SPV 570), a rabi season sorghum hybrid, has been released and recommended for cultivation in northern Karnataka.
- Four hybrids of peral millet have been identified for release at the national level, and five pollinated varieties and a hybrid have been released at the state level.
- Foxtail millet variety SR 51 has been notified for cultivation in Rajasthan, Proso-millet variety GPU 21 has been identified for Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- Five improved varieties identified at mungbean, pea and rajmash and lentil.
- Seven pigeonpea lines converted into CGMS background for use in hybrid breeding programme.
- Elite lines of chickpea (5), pigeonpea (12), mungbean (1), and urdbean (10) identified having resistance to specific diseases/nematode.
- Isolated, characterized and confirmed genetic transformants possessing Bar (marker gene) and *Bt* (Cry 1 Ab, *Cry* 1Aa) in chickpea and pigeonpea.
- Mungbean cv. Samrat (55-60 days) identified as productive and remunerative catch crop after wheat in rice-wheat system.

Commercial Crops

- In Cotton, two hybrids viz. PKV HY. 5 (intra-*hirsutum*) and PKV DH. 1 (intra-*arboreum*), and two open-pollinated varieties viz. Parbhani Turab (PA 255) (*G. arboreum*) and NH. 545 (*G. hirsutum*) have been notified for commercial cultivation in Maharahstra. Also, open-pollinated varieties Pratap Kapi-1 (RBDV. 7) and Veena have been notified for commercial cultivation in Banswara region of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

- Promising/elite genotype identified for high yield, length and ginning outrun included - IC 336182, PSB CT 8, UPL C2, PCB CT 10, NM 970513 in *G. hirsutum,* and CINA 316, 318, 343 and 344 in *G. arboretum.*

- 8 genotypes for long fibre length, 5 for fibre strength, 16 for high ginning outturn were identified in upland cotton.

- Forecasting model for *Helocoverpa* in Central zone has been developed and validated.

- Immunochromatography and ELISA kits were developed to detect the quality of insecticides and to detect and monitor *H. armigera* resistance to insecticides.

- In Sugarcane, variety CoS 94270 (Sweta) was identified for cultivation in north-west agro-climatic zone. It is a mid-late maturing variety derived through colonel selection.

- 24 improved varieties of different maturity duration were identified from three research stations of Sugarcane Breeding Institute: Coimbatore (Early-5, Midlate-12), Motipur (Early-3, Midlate-2), Karnal (Early-1, Midlate-1)

- A biofertilizer formulation of *Gluconacetobacter diazotrophicus* (Ad IS 100) in FYM Pressmued based carrier containing 10^8—colony forming units (cfu) per gram of formulation has been standardized.

- In tobacco, A chama type high yielding, superior quality Jati tobacco variety "Manasi" was released for cultivation in North Bengal Region.

- Blackgram, groundnut and soybean are found to be good preceding crops for getting higher leaf hybrids of succeeding tobacco in NLS conditions.

- Insect pest infestation was less in IPM plots as compared to farmers' method of crop protection (FMCP).

- Cropping system with soybean in *kharif* and jowar in *rabi* recorded highest net returns under Nipani conditions. Groundnut-*rabi* jowar system was found the second best.

- In Jute & Allied Fibres, Four promising lines vis. Tossa jute S-19 (Subala), Sunnhemp SH-4 (Sailesh), Kenaf MT-150 (Normal) and White jute (C-80 (Mitali) were identified for commercial release.

- Establishment of ramie plantation for fibre yield in non-traditional areas of Maharashtra, Goa and Tamil Nadu has become successful.

- Protocol for eco-friendly low cost green technology of ramie fibre degumming has been developed.

- Low-cost, eco-friendly and less time consuming technology for jute retting has been standardized for practical use.

- IPM module for management of diseases and insect pests in jute-oriented cropping sequence has been standardized and validated in farmers' fields.

Oilseeds

- A hybrid in castor and 15 promising varieties of sunflower (1), safflower (1), mustard (3), Gobhi sarson (1), groundnut (5), soybean (1) and niger (3) identified for various parts of the country.

- Nine new sunflower hybrids and 6 experimental hybrids in Indian mustard identified as promising.

- Breeding lines/donors identified for resistance against *Fusarium* wilt, *Botytis* grey rot, white rust, powdery mildew, *Sclerotinia* rot and staghead formation in oilseed crops.

- The *cry1Ac* gene driven by the promoter *pced* obtained for utilization against lepidopteran pests.

Plant Biotechnology

- A set of genes and promoters were cloned successfully, which included (i) a lectin gene from lentil, (ii) new Bt (cry) genes from native strains of soil bacterium *Bacills thuringiensis,* (iii) (E) B-farnesence synthese gene from Indian peppermint, (iv) fruit ripening related cDNAs using microarrays, (v) ascorbate peroxidase gene from wheat, (vi) genes for abiotic stress induced transcription factors for wheat, (vii) promoter for a protease intribitor gene form cowpea.

- Two synthetic genes encoding Cry2Aa and Cry1F delta-endotoxin of *Bacillus thuringiensis* respectively were constructed. These two genes were found effective against cotton bolloworm (*Helicoverpa armigera*) and tobacco caterpillar (*Spodoptera litura*) respectively, in tobacco transgenics.

- Transgenics developed and evaluated included (i) transgenic pigeon pea with synthetic *cry IAc* gene under CaMV355 promoter, (ii) transgenic Indian mustard over expressing osmotion gene, and (iii) transgenic tomato over expressing osmotion gene.

- Two gene transgenics of the India rice variety IR-64 have been tested in the field and few line have been identified showing high level of resistance to manual infestation of yellow seem borers.

- Insect bioassays using first instar larvae of *Spodoptera litura* (Tobacco caterpillar) revealed significant *in planta* insecticical activity of Bt gene Vip3Aa14 in tobacco transgenics.

- DNA sequence finishing of the chromosome 11 region of rice consisting of 57 large insert clones (1 PAC, 54 BACs and 2 Fosmids) was completed and the sequences were assembled into single contigs. These are very high quality DNA sequences without any significant error. Genes have been predicted for 48 of these clones and all the clones were found to have genes at fairly uniform density.

- Genomic and cDNA libraries of sugarcane constructed for isolation of EST and microsatellite markers. Besides, 435 microsatellite markers were developed from 4773 EST based unigenes available in the public domain.

- Two bacterial blight resistance genes xa13 and Xa21 were combined with Basmati quality traits through molecular marker assisted selection. Two promising lines were selected and entered in the All India Coordinated Trial for multilocation evaluation.

- Molecular tagging of *Pi-k^h* gene for blast resistance in rice was achieved using CAPS and STMS markers.

- AFLP marker linked to the gene for fertility restoration of the male sterile line of mustard based on the wild species *Moricandia arvensis* was identified.

- A new CMS line of *Brassica juncea* was developed based on the cytoplasm of the wild species *Diplotaxis erucoides*. This male sterile line was found to be associated with altered transcription of the *atpA* gene of the mitochondria.

National Seed Project (Crops)

- **The AICRP National Seed Project (Crops) has a network of 35 Breeder Seed Production Units and 22 Seed Technology Research Units at various SAUs and ICAR Institutes.**

- Looking into the overall progress of the project in recent past and increasing importance of seed in the era of global trade, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has upgraded the Project to the level of Directorate named as Directorate of Seed Research during X Plan. The Financial sanction has been issued during 2004-05.

- Breeder Seed Production: A total of 4021.38 tonnes of breeder seeds have been produced; major quantities belong to oilseeds (1811.57 tonnes) and cereals (1469.54 tonnes) followed by pulses (674.58 tonnes), forages (38.57 tonnes) and fibre crops (27.12 tonnes). Besides, additional breeder seeds were also produced against the indent of state level varieties.

- Seed Technology Research: The commendable work has been done on variety characterization based on morphological characteristics, chemical tests and electrophoresis of 14 major field crops namely; wheat, rice, pearl millet, maize, sorghum, chickpea, pigeonpea, mungbean, urdbean, soybean, groundnut, sunflower, castor and cotton. The information generated will be highly useful and beneficial for quality seed production and DUS testing programme under PPV&FR legislation. The manuals of majority of these crops have been published and distributed among users and crop breeders. Left over crops are in the final stage of compilation/publication. Other achievements of the project are in the areas viz. economics of hybrid seed production, storage, seed health and processing.

Horticulture

Twenty eight different fruit varieties were found better in yield and quality under crop improvement. In banana, a new species of *Ensete* from Kodaikanal hill of Tamil Nadu and a new sub species of *Musa acuminata* from Anaimalai hill of Western Ghats were collected and 138 accessions were collected from Andaman and Nicobar Islands and North Eastern States. Sixty-one exotic collections were added. Drip irrigation method was standardized in mango, Nagpur mandarin and pomegranate. Drip irrigation coupled with mulching was found optimum for increasing fruit production and water use efficiency in pomegranate and grape. IPM including bio-agents was worked out in mango, banana, citrus and grapes for important insect pests. The storage life was extended upto 30 days at 8°C by packing the mango fruits individually in micro-perforated polyethylene or polypropylene films.

Molecular analysis of genetic variability in coconut and cocoa using RAPD, AFLP and Microsatellite markers has provided valuable information.

Tissue culture protocols for mass production of disease free seedlings have been standardized for coconut and aeronaut plantlets, High value medicinal, cash and ornamental plants as compatible intercrops in palm based gardens for main land, sub-Himalayan terai region and Lakshadweep islands have yielded good results. Integrated Pest and Disease management technologies have resulted in farmer friendly management packages. Concerted efforts made in physiological and molecular determinants of drought tolerance in palms and simple drought management practices. Fabrication of multi commodity dryers, packaging technologies for coconut products, pharmacological applications of arecanut alkaloids. Information technology, bioinformatics, economic analysis and statistical designs suitable for plantation crops were developed. Training of consumer oriented technologies like vermicompost and mushroom production from palm wastes, coconut chips and snow ball tendernut production besides many other edible products prepared from coconut to find employment opportunities.

Surveys conducted by the AICRPS centres enriched the germpalsm collection in 12 spices to a total of about 6943 accessions. Fifty eight accessions resistant to major pests and diseases in different spice crops were also identified. In seed spices the quality evaluation in respect of volatile oil resulted in shot listing high quality accessions. In seed spices six new varieties were identified for release viz. RZ-223 in cumin, RMt-305 in fenugreek, Hisar-Surabhi in coriander, Guj. fennel-II in fennel. A new high yielding cinnamon variety PPI (C) 1 released suitable for lower elevation. A fenugreek genotype RM-5/90 with an yield level of 780 kg/ha was identified for non-irrigated areas of Bihar. A high yielding cardamom clone Cl-692 identified is under on farm evaluation. Hybridization in cumin was found successful. *Azospirillum* in combination with inorganic nitrogen and FYM increased the yield in most of the spice crops. The role of micro nutrients in increasing the yield of ginger and coriander was well established. In black pepper cuttings planted in solarized soil fortified with *Trichoderma harziamum* and VAM reduced the incidence of *Phytophthora* isease and increased sprouting of cuttings. For the control of *Phytophthora* in black pepper application of Metalaxyl Gold MZ and *Trichoderma harzianum* combination was found to be highly effective. Application of carbofuran (100 g plant^{-1}) followed by imidacloprid (0.5 ml/lit) was fond to be effective against root grub in cardamom. Seed rhizome treatment with hot water + *T. harzianum* and application of neem cake is beneficial for reducing the rhizome rot disease in ginger. Management technologies against rhizome rot of ginger and turmeric leaf spot and leaf blotch in turmeric, coriander wilt were developed. A two-year rotation schedule for both ginger and turmeric recommended for reducing the disease incidence.

A tissue culture method has been developed for large scale multiplication of Aloe using shoot buds as explants. Three morphytype were identified such as compact, normal and narrow leafed. Two promising lines of Safed mulsi (NRCCB-1 and NRCCB-2) have been identified developed by clonal selection). The lines are under multiplication. Double row raised based system was found to be most suitable in Safed musli was significantly highest as compared to ridge and furrow method and triple raised bed planting system.

Natural Resource Management

- **District level soil resource mapping for perspective land use planning developed.**
- **Soils series of Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura for land use planning finalized.**
- **Aquaculture based farming system around Beeranchak village, Patna developed in a participatory mode.**

- **Zero tillage proved its worth on several winter crops besides wheat after rice. The minimum tillage with crop residue mulch reduced runoff (14%) and soil loss (35%) substantially.**
- **The soil loss due to water erosion in the coastal belt of peninsular India was from 5 to over 40 t/ha/year. The growth of cashew plants was better under bio-engineering measures than vegetative barrier alone in sea coast of Goa.**
- **The planting of guava alongwith *Stylosanthes hamata* (leguminous fodder) in trenches gave better performance of fruit component on degraded hillocks of Eastern Ghats, Orissa.**
- **The Integrated Nutrient Management employing Sulphitation Presumed (SPM) and FYM with sub-optimal fertilizer NPK has increased the annual productivity of rice-wheat system.**
- **Frontline demonstrations were carried out on farmers' fields to demonstrate the usefulness of soil test based fertilizer applications on oilseeds.**
- **25% NP fertilizer could be saved through integrated nutrient management in tomato and brinjal.**
- **The incorporation of humic acid (2%) as an additive to lignite and vermiculite carrier based cultures improved the shelf life biofertilizers.**
- **The Integrated Plant Nutrient Supply module of soybean-wheat cropping system standardized.**
- **The use of raw sewage water on a reclaimed alkali soil demonstrated.**
- **Efficient cropping planning under situation of delayed monsoon for rainfed areas formulated.**
- **Rice-potato-wheat system was found more remunerative than rice-wheat system.**
- **A single post-emergence application of coldinafop (TOPIC) @ 60g/ha 3-4 weeks after sowing effectively controlled wild oat in wheat in Jabalpur, M.P.**
- **131 plants Sps. comprising of herbs (37.2%), shrubs (22.1%) and trees (19.9%) identified for herbal farming in arid region.**
- **The application of pendimethalin @ 1.0 kg/ha as pre-emergence spray and as sand mix after 30 days of planting proved to be a cost-effective weed control for onion.**
- ***Citronella maritini* (Palmarosa) was found to be a potential aromatic plant for sodic soils.**
- The crop yield (black gram) in deep ploughing was 12.7 per cent higher than normal ploughing under 9 years old Shishm (Dalbergia sissoo) tree.
- In situ moisture conservation practices conserved 10 to 15% higher moisture than control and favoured tree growth in aonla (Emblica officinalis) based agricultural system.
- 4 years studies on performance of goat and sheep such 10 and their off springs maintained on 2 ha silvipastoral system revealed a benefit cost ratio of 1.07 at discount rate of 10%.
- Nineteen provenances of *Acacia nilotica* ssp. *indica* have been collected from central India. In addition, 21 plus trees of *Acacia nilotica* having good tree form and five trees for high gum yield were also selected.
- Soil series Assam (107) and Tripura (48) have been finalized for printing. Land use maps have been developed for Kamrup, Nalbari and Barpeta districts of Assam.
- Intensive Integrated Farming System (IIFS) in North Eastern Hills (NEH) Region developed.
- Sloping Agricultural Land Technology (SALT)—An appropriate technology for restoration of degraded lands was proved to be most suitable for restoration of Jhum fallow/degraded lands in eastern Himalayas.
- Immunodiagnostic Kit for rapid detection of Gastrointestinal parasitic infection developed for rapid diagnosis of gastro intestinal parasites from serum of infected animals.
- DNA Based Diagnosis of Animal Diseases have been developed and standardized.

Agricultural Engineering

Farm Implements and Machinery (FIM)

- Designed and developed the following equipments/implements namely, prototype of light weight power tiller, tractor-operated lug wheel puddler, animal drawn raised bed former, self-propelled *biasi* cultivator, tractor operated orchard sprayer, tractor-operated plastic mulch laying machine, tractor drawn mole plough for verticals, solar tunnel dryer, fruit grader and soy fortified *kodo* biscuit.

- Design and Develop following equipment namely manually operated seed-drill, sugarcane, multiple purpose equipment, banana clump remover, three-row rotary weeder, engine operated sugarcane leaf stripper, rice straw chopper, power tiller operated air assisted seed-drill, power tiller operated orchard sprayer with turbo nozzles, stalk shredder, and high capacity pigeon pea thresher by centres of AICRP on FIM.

- Prototype feasibility testing of several equipment were undertaken by different centres.

- Frontline demonstration of large number of improved equipment was carried out at farmers' field.

- Computer aided designs of agricultural implements and machines was developed by CIAE, Bhopal. CIAE manufactured and supplied prototypes, trained subject matter specialists, farmers, rural youths in agri-clinic and agri-business and entrepreneur ship development.

- Studies on mechanized cultivation of minimum tillage dry seeded rice in wheat straw fields carried out with no roto-till drill resulted in increase in grain yield by 2.1% with 15-5% savings in operational energy and 9.6% saving in cost of production under straw incorporated condition. No tillage and minimum tillage cultivation of wheat after combine harvest of rice showed to tillage saves 70.15% time, 67.16% energy and 66.39% cost effective.

- The initial trials on self propelled chopper type sugarcane combine harvester at Mulkhed, Taluka Mulshi, Maharashtra gave satisfactory performance.

- Anthropometric data of 2883 agricultural workers was collected (1536 male and 1348 female).

- Anti-vibration devices for increasing comfort of power tiller and tractor operators developed.

- Ergonomic evaluation of six equipment was carried out for assessing their suitability to women workers.

Post Harvest Engineering

- Design and developed tomato grader, porous bricks for evaporative cooling, dehumidified air drying system, custard pulp extractor, non-destructive method to measure maturity, hydro-cyclone system for cassava starch milk concentration and sweetness of mango and solar air heater.

- Pilot Plant of whole tomato handling and packaging established.

- Post harvest behavior of onion, potato, tomato, broccoli and capsicum crop influenced by pre-harvest treatments.

- Low cost storage technology of evaporative cold room adopted by farmers.

- Efficacy of kinnow peels against *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hubner) and major grain storage pests established.

- Commercialization of turmeric boiler.

- Mechanics of jaggery cooling developed.

- Established agro processing center in rural and remote areas.

- Microbilogical studies on vinegar production from sugarcane juice and processing, packaging and storage of betel leaf were carried out.

- Cultivation of cauliflower, tomato and chilly in greenhouse recorded 330.40%, 250.00% and 221.00% higher yield, respectively in comparison with their cultivation in open conditions.

- A low capacity screen filter for micro-irrigation system for greenhouse developed.

- Colouring pigments from three microbes *viz. Serratia* sp., *Monascus* sp., *Monascus* sp. and one from anaerobic bacteria were studied for dye production efficiency and application methods were standardised.

- Study conducted by CIRCOT showed that a maximum of about 80% of the total oil content from cottonseed could be recovered in 24 hours when enzymes were used in the extraction process. This extraction process also yields powdered peptone whose property is similar to that obtained from conventional solvent extraction means.

- CIRCOT developed a method for processing cotton fabrics with palsma in order to find out to the extent this treatment can substitute wet pre-processing. The effect of palsma on whiteness, yellowness, water absorbency, viscosity and dyeing behaviour of cotton fabrics has been assessed. Palsma treatment can replace the conventional alkali souring and bleaching treatments without having any deleterious effect on dyeing properties.

- **A survey was conducted in and around Kolhapur (Maharashtra) to find out the utility of High Volume Instrument (HVI) and Advanced Fibre Information System (AFIS) in enabling export-oriented units (EOU) to monitor the quality of raw material and end product. The yarn realisation achieved by EOUs is around 70.**

- Large scale trials of chemical retting of jute ribbon was carried out successfully with 100 kg jute plants in the institute campus. The fibre obtained was strong, fine, lusturous and above W-3 grade. Two field trials were carried out in the farmer's field in Hooghly district on chemical retting of jute plants. The quality of the jute fibre obtained was much better than the fibre obtained by conventional retting by microbial process.

- NIRJAFT developed composite for jute and allied fibres using ramie, sisal, sunhemp, banana fibre etc. It also developed technologies for utilization of agro and industrial residue of jute for making pulp, paper, boards, briquette etc.

- **A large number of technologies & products using jute fibre developed such as, assessment of jute fibre characters & its overall grading; extraction of jute fibre in low volume of water such as ribbon retting, chemical and dry retting; a ribboner machine modernisation of the measuring equipment such as bundle strength tester and fineness, meter; miniaturisation and indigenisation of breaker card etc.**

Energy Management in Agriculture

- **Under AICRP on RES, the following equipment and technologies were developed such as, liquid slurry applicator; a 100 kg/d capacity solid-state anaerobic digestion system for paddy straw; solar dryer for powered products and demonstration of pilot scale biomethanation plant for effluent of sago industry.**

- **Operational Research Demonstrations were carried out for solid-state fermentation of biogas plants of Janta design, double not smokeless durable cook-stove, domestic solar dryer, Himshakti biogas plant, Plant Tarai biogas plant and biomass gas stoves.**

- **Engine testing and fuel properties determination facilities were developed for evaluating selected vegetable oils as alternate fuel for the CI Engines.**

Other Achievements include

- KVK/TTC organised 63 vocational trainings for 1290 farmers/farm women and 30 trainings for 401 rural youth on employment generation, 27 sponsored trainings for 965 participants and 18 trainings for 129 subject matter specialists.

- SPU centre organized 05 trainings for 87 upcoming entrepreneurs and 7 trainings on preparation of soy based food products for 125 rural women.

- Summer School on *Mechanization of rice production system for increased productivity* and Winter School on *Value addition and enterprise development based on soybean* were organized by CIAE, Bhopal.

- 466 prototypes of 38 different designs costing Rs. 18,28,400 were produced in Prototypes production Centre, while 3017 prototypes of different designs costing Rs. 46,39,500 were produced through local manufacturers for supply to different centres and organizations.

- 3358 prototypes of 71 different costing Rs. 52,62,560 were supplied to various organization/ farmers/entrepreneurs.

- Awareness camp on nutritious soy products was organized at Field Research Laboratory (FRL), Leh under the ICAR-DRDO collaborative programme.

- **In order to address the problems confronted by the industry, Governmental efforts in the form of Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Upgradation Fund, setting up of Technology and Apparel Parks are going on strongly. These programmes provide a synergistic effort to private initiatives in this sector to improve its competitiveness.**

Animal Science

- **In collaboration with Military Farms 15080 Frieswal cows have been produced with the lactation yield of 3069 kg. and peak yield of around 14.27 kg.**

- **Twelve lakh doses of semen frozen and over six lakh doses distributed to various Military Farms, SAUs, State AH Departments, NGOs and farmers adopted under Field Progeny Testing Project at BAIF Development Research Foundation, Urulikanchan, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and Kerala Agricultural University, Mannuthy.**

- **Sixty one Frieswal bulls have been progeny testes so far and some of them given to farmers for genetic improvement of local cattle.**

- **Under Indigenous Breeds Project, Ongole bulls and Hariana bulls have so far been used for test matings.**

- **For promoting duck farming in the coastal districts of Jharkhand around 5000 ducklings were supplied.**

- Seven trains namely CARI NIRBHEEK, CARI SHYAMA, HITCARI, UPCARI, VANARAJA, GRAMAPRIYA (WHITE), GRAMARIYA (Multicoloured) specially suitable for backyard poultry farming have been released to poultry farmers.

- Six breeds of Sheep (Gaddi, Malpura, Jaisalmeri, Kama and Gurez), four breeds of Goats (Chegu, Black Bengal, Parbatsari and Gaddi), two breeds of Horse (Spiti and Marwari) were fully characterized.

- Area specific mineral mixture developed to compensate the deficiency of minerals.

- Complete feed blocks developed for feeding of animals during scarcity and draught conditions.

- More than 40 non-conventional feeds and 100 complete feeds identified for growing and milch animals.

- Identified 9 varieties of indigenous fodder for yak and analyzed for the tannin and phenolic contents, mineral profile and proximate contents.

- Freezing protocols for buck semen developed.

- Semen studies undertaken in camel, mithun and yak and physiological behaviour of yak, mithun and double humped camel studied.

- Radioimmunoassay of progesterone developed for generating basic data on reproductive cycle of cattle to improve reproductive efficiency.

- Ultra-sonography used to monitor follicular development and reproductive ailments like repeat breeding.

- A potent immuno-diagnostic antigen for the early diagnosis of liver fluke and Gastro-intestial parasites identified. A novel biological control through fungi has been evolved for the control of haemonchosis.

- A test has been developed to diagnoise Bovine Immuno-deficiency virus in cattle and buffaloes.

- Molecular epidemilogy of FMD has been carried out to assess the extent of infection and prevalence of virus in the country. The full length cDNA of the second most common serotype of

FMD virus Asia 1 in India has been constructed and nucleotide data deduced by sequencing.

- PCR based diagnostic has been standardized for detection of Classical swine fever virus (Hog cholera), Listeria of food origin, sheep and goat pox differentiation and Rinder pest and PPR differentiation.

- MCF and BVD antigen/genome from imported Australian cattle and detection of Avian Influenza sub-type H-9 for the first time in the country by HA and HI detected and the ingress of exotic diseases controlled.

- For management of factures in large animals, studies conducted on a newly designed linear skeletal fixator provided better and stable fixation in fracture management than in conventional fixator.

- Pregnancy diagnosis in equines using equine chorionic gonadotropin (ECG) standardized and a technique developed, which enabled diagnosis of pregnancy in mares as early as 30 days after insemination.

- The virus stains of Foot and Mouth disease commercialized for increasing vaccine production in the country and the technology of cystoscope commercailized.

- **Process parameters for mechaized production of basundi using conical process vat were standardized.**

- **Method of manufacture of acceptable quality of khoa from cow milk was developed using nanofiltration of cow milk and addition of whey protein concentrate.**

- **Eco-friendly earthen pots for packaging of dahi were developed. The weight of earther pot was substantially reduced by using special clay and shrinkage of dahi was reduced by shellaci coating of earthen pots. The shelf life of dahi in these pots was higher than that of polystyrene cups.**

- **A process based on osmotic dehydration has been developed for the production of a ready-to-reconstitute instant Ras Malai and bagundi mixes.**

- A prototype twin screw cooling and working system designed and developed for the mechanized production of ghee-based butter.

- A mineral mixture supplement was developed for dairy cows and buffaloes. At the farmers field the supplementation increased milk yield by 0.5-0.6 kg/animal/day, reduced breeding problems and improved breeding efficiency.

- Process standardized for long life kalan-traditional dahi based product of Kerala.

- Improvement of buffalo meat using arecanut and tenderization of buffalo meat.

- Improvement of shelf-life of chicken meat by acetic acid treatment.

- Quality evaluation of Haleem-traditional meat product of Hyderabad.

Fisheries

- *In vitro* marine pearl production though tissue culture technique has been done successfully in Indian Pearl Oyster *Pinctada fucata* and in the abalone *Haliotis varia.*

- Two species of sand lobster (*Thenus orientalis, Scylaarus rugosus*) were successfully bred in captivity and larval cycle completed in three to four weeks time.

- Domestication and captive breeding of the Kuruma shrimp *Matapenaeus japonicus* was done successfully upto F-3 generation.

- Giant Freshwater Prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* has been bred in captivity using inland saline water and post larvae raised with suitable iomic amendments without the use of sea water.

- Smoked products were prepared from freshwater fish *Catla catla.*

- Pen culture of prawn and carp was done in Mathura bheel with production of 675 kg/ha within 130 days of culture operation.

- Ecological survey of Doyang reservoir in Nagaland was carried out and the results showed that the water quality of the reservoir is very much conducive for fish growth.

- Sperum cryopreservation techniques for endangered red tailed barb *Gonoproctcrus curmmca* was developed.

- Induced maturation and spawning of grass carp at high altitude have been done successfully.

Agricultural Economics and Statistics

Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute has been engaged in conducting research, teaching and training as well as providing advisory services in the discipline of Agricultural Statistics and Computer Applications. The problem of analyzing the data between and within locations of the NRC on Rapeseed and Mustard was handled. There was heterogeneity both between and within locations. The data was also non-normal. Box-Cox transformation was applied and the data analysis was done. However, in some cases even after the transformation the data remained non-normal. The problem of analysis of this type of data was also investigated.

While discussing the planning of a long term experiment for PDCSR, Modipuram. It was suggested that a split pilot design may be used. It was recommended to have large plot sizes to accommodate mid-course bifurcation of the plot, if required. It was also suggested that a blank plot may also be included in the design to accommodate any other treatment during the course of the experimentation.

An experiment was conducted as a simple lattice in 81 combinations of hybrids/genotypes by CCS HAU, Hisar. The procedure of analysis of unbalanced data for obtaining variance components like genotypic and phenotypic variances and co-variances was suggested. A pilot survey was conducted for developing methodology for estimating the cost of production of coconut in Kerala. This study was sponsored by Coconut Development Board, Kochi, Kerala.

Developed indices for statistical evaluation of agricultural field experiments. These indices are improvement over the indices developed earlier in the sense that these indices incorporate more information about the design. Three associate class partially balanced incomplete block designs were developed and their applications were made to partial diallel crosses for estimating the general combining ability of lines. A software "Agri-designer" was developed for generating these designs as well as analyzing the data generated. Efficient designs were generated for studying the competition effect of treatments for experimental situations where the treatments from neighbouring plots compete with each other for resources thus masking or over representing the effect of treatments. The competition may be from the right or left or from both the sides. A model was developed for forecasting sugarcane yields using multiple marked chains. The model is able to forecast the yields with good precision. Similarly, a model was developed for forecasting the loss in yield due to weeds. Empirical investigations were made for studying the influence of fixed effects on the estimates of heritability. A study was undertaken for developing statistical procedures for selecting genotypes simultaneously for yield and stability. In another study, technical efficiency analysis of Rice Wheat system in Punjab was carried out. A methodology was developed for obtaining the estimates of crop yields at small area level (block level) by making use of the farmers' estimate (eye estimate) as auxiliary information. It has been found that the double sampling procedure of estimating crop yields at block level by making use of the farmers' estimate leads to considerable improvement in precision as compared to the estimator obtained without making use of the farmers' estimate. Another survey was conducted on a large scale for assessment of harvest and post harvest losses.

Software was developed for online information system on personnel management in ICAR. This software has been found to be very useful.

A Beta-version of computer software for the analysis of spatial variability and interpolation (SVI) has been developed. Statistical Package for Agricultural Research (Windows Versions)-SPAR 2.0 was developed. This is improvement over the earlier version SPAR-1 as it includes some more new modules. Several short-term training programs were conducted in Information Technology.

The Library has been identified as a Regional Library under National Agricultural Research System of the country. It plays a vital role in meeting the information needs of the in-house users as well as users from the NARS. It provides library, documentation and information services to the Scientists, Staff, Students and Researchers of the Institute as well as users from ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities. The following websites were developed/modified/updated by the Institute during the period under report.

Name of the website	Website in
Meteorology data base pertaining to weather data from ICAR Institutes	http://www.iasri.res.in/meteorology/default.htm
Agricultural Data Book	http./iasri.res.in/agridata
Hindi Sewa Link	http./isari.res.in/hindex.asp
Integrated National Agricultural Resources Information System	http://www.inaris.gen.in
Expert System of Extension	http://www.iasri.res.in/exsyex
Project Information and Management System	http://www.pimsent.gen.in
National Information System of Animal Experiments	http://172.16.3.161:8080/nisae/jsp/signproc.jsp

National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NCAP), is an exclusive social science research institution. The Centre has expanded its research areas and linkages with other organizations and maintained its track record of performance in terms of research output, strengthening social science linkages and capacity building within NARS, and enhancing ICAR participation in agricultural policy decisions. Policy oriented research on current and emerging areas was under the focus aiming at delivering quality output within stipulated time frame. Salient research achievements include;

- assessing the impact of technologies,
- quantifying the magnitude of water insecurity in the coming years and rules for optimum allocation of scarce water,
- evaluating state water policies,
- lessons from China for improvement of Indian R&D system,
- importance of enhancing R&D investment in the eastern and arid and semi-arid regions of India, identification of drivers of diversification,
- dairy contract farming and small livestock holders,
- tips of revitalizing dairy industry,
- vulnerability and adaptation to weather induced climate change in rural households in Orissa,
- costs of compliance of food safety measures,
- principles for effective deployment of agricultural science for development,
- gains from rainfall insurance,
- ICT innovations in rural India,
- O&M reforms in R&D system for enhanced institutional efficiency,
- micro-finance through self-help groups for social empowerment of women farmers, etc.

Besides focused research in the mandated theme areas, several new initiatives were undertaken to fulfill the Centre's HRD mandate of strengthening social science linkages and capacity within NARS. One very significant contribution of NCAP during this period relates to institutionalization of PME mechanisms in NARS. The Centre's website is regularly updated with greater value addition like access to the soft copies of NCAP publications in the web site. NCAP is recognized training Centre under Colombo Plan of Government of India and conducting advance training programmes in priority agricultural policy research areas for national and international participants. NCAP is also recognized as one of the hub institutions by Ministry of Finance for policy research networking in agriculture and food security.

Agricultural Extension

Achievements

- Trained 6.1 lakh farmers and farm women by conducting 21,864 training programmes in the

areas of Agril. Extension, Agri-Engineering, Agro-forestry, Live Stock Production and Management, Crop Production, Fisheries, Bio-technology, Horticulture Soil fertility, Women in Agriculture and others.

- Trained 1.39 lakh rural youth by conducting 5952 training programmes in the areas of Agriculture extension. Agri-Engineering, Agro-forestry, Life Stock Production and Management, Crop Production, Fisheries, Bio-technology, Horticulture Soil fertility, women in Agriculture and others.
- Rural crafts and other income generating activities.
- Trained 68,708 extension functionaries by conducting 2701 training programmes.
- Produced 7490.7 tonnes of seeds and 59.89 lakhs saplings/seedling for availability to the farmers.
- Organised 16,662 extension activities covering 14.18 lakh farmer & rural youth to accelerate the process of dissemination of technologies.
- Documentation of 1999 Indigenous Technical knowledge in various Thematic areas.
- Providing 736.3 tonnes seeds of improved varieties and 7.93 lakhs of planting materials by Agricultural Technology Information Centre.

Institution—Village Linkage Programme (IVLP)

The programme was implemented in 582 villages covering over 1.0 lakh farmers and farm women.

Programme for Women in Agriculture

National Research Centre for Women in Agriculture has launched 16 research projects during the year and besides 37 training programmes were organized covering 1257 farm women.

Agricultural Education

The Council also has responsibility to harmonize agricultural education in the country with excellence in science and technology output for livelihood security and sustainable development. The challenges being addressed are (a) tuning of education with creation of jobs and entrepreneurship, (b) through human resource development, make efforts for conservation of soil, water vegetation and air and help agricultural sector to attain 4 percent annual rate of growth, (c) responsive to the needs of the client groups, (d) address to the changing scenario w.r.t. W.T.O. and GATT agreements and new global order, and (e) address to the problems of the adequate resources at the command of SAUs.

All India Entrance Examinations for agriculture and allied science subjects: A Total of 1004 UG students and 1,252 PG students were admitted in different programmes through All India Competitive Examinations conducted by the ICAR. For U.G. Studies, a total of 992 meritorious students received the National Talent Scholarship during the year. A total of 930 meritorious PG students received ICAR Senior Research Fellowships.

National Professorship & National Fellowship: Out of the total ten positions of ICAR National Professors, two were in position. There are total of 25 positions of National Fellows out of which, 15 were in position during the period.

Accreditation: ICAR Accreditation was granted to two ICAR-DUs viz. IVRI, Izatnagar, CIFE, Mumbai and 8 SAUs viz. CSHPKV, Palampur, BSKKV, Dapoli, YSPUH&F, Solan, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, KAU, Thrissur, PAU. Ludhiana, UAS, Bangalore, UAS, Dharwad.

Niche Area of Excellence: To capitulate on the existing strengths and capabilities of SAUs and ICAR-DUs for human resources development and competence improvement of students for employability, a scheme of providing support for niche area of excellence to SAUs and ICAR-DUs was initiated.

Centers of Advanced Studies: Total 20 trainings were conducted in which 445 faculty members/scientists participated for competence improvements. All CAS have initiated impact analysis of the trainings conducted by them.

Admission of Foreign National: During the year, 154 students from 23 countries were given admissions in various UG, Masters and Ph.D. programmes of agricultural and allied sciences.

Summer/Winter School and Short Courses: During the year, 95 Summer/Winter School and short courses of

10 days and 30 days duration were organized. For the organization of these training programmes support was provided for training of 2375 scientists.

Best Teacher Award: Total 11 faculty members of two SAUs and IARI were presented Best Teacher Awards during the year.

University level Text Book Writing: Two textbooks were sent to DIPA for publication during the year. Thirty titles of textbook are at various stages of processing for a final decision about their approval for publication.

Developmental Grant to SAUs, and DUs: As continuing activity, the Scheme of award of developmental grant to SAUs and DUs was operated including funding for RAWE and other schemes.

Emeritus Scientist Scheme: There are 50 positions of Emeritus Scientists. The Education Division as continuing activity is operating the Scheme. In all 22 new Emeritus Scientists were selected during the year. French applications were again invited for vacancies expected to arise due to the completion of existing projects.

A.P. Cess Fund Schemes and NATP: Total 12 new projects were sanctioned different SAUs/DUs during the year including one Network project sanctioned to IISR as the core institute and all the SAUs, DUs and CAU as centers. Total 75 new project proposals were received.

AICRP on Home Science: A nutritional guide was successfully developed as a tool for nutritional security for different age groups. Farm creche was established in the adopted village by each center for providing desirable stimulation to the under 3 year old children. Drudgery reduction tools were developed A Data-Base on Rural Farm Women after representing 53 agro-climatic zones of nine states was developed.

Management and Information Services

Financial Assistance to Societies

To encourage quality publication of research results and effective interaction between scientists, the ICAR has extended partial financial assistance for publication of 46 scientific journals during 2004-2005. It has also extended financial support for organizing 42 National/International Conference/Seminars during 2004-05.

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)

- **Impact of Inter River Basin Linkages on Fisheries** on 21-22 May 2004 in New Delhi.
- **Scientific programme coinciding with Annual General Meeting and Foundation Day** held at ICAR Auditorium, NASC Complex, on 4-5 June 2004. Scientific presentations by five newly elected Fellows of the Academy and four Young Scientists' Awardees were also made besides Foundation Day Lecture by Dr. S.S. Johl, Vice Chairman, Punjab State Planning Board, on this occasion.
- **Designing Strategies for Science and Technology Database for Indian Agriculture** organized as Brainstorming Session on 11 July 2004.
- Programmes for the remaining part of the year.
- Workshop on **Organic Farming — Approaches and Possibilities in the Context of Indian Agriculture** on 25th November, 2004.
- Brainstorming Session on **Research Needs for a Sound Regulatory System of Genetically Engineered Materials for Food and Feed on** 1st December, 2004.
- **Redefining Agricultural Education and Agricultural Extension Systems in Changed Scenario** on 10 Dec. 2004.
- **Role of Science and Society in Protecting Our Genetic Resources** on 7-8 Jan' 05.
- **Role of ICT in Taking Scientific Knowledge/ Technologies to the End Users** on 10-11 Jan' 05.
- **Emerging Issues on Water Management—Who Should Own It—State, Private Sector or Community?** on 18 Jan 2005.
- Brainstorming Session on **Aligning National Policies to Meet WTO Challenge** in Jan 2005.
- **Small Farms Viability: Potential of Contract Farming** to be organized as Brainstorming Session.

- **VII Agricultural Science Congress** to be held at College of Agriculture, Pune, on 16-18 Feb 2005.

Other activities

- Process of election of Fellows and Associates for 2005 completed.
- Screening of nominations for Academy Award completed.
- Organized 2 lectures under special lecture series.
- A 13-member delegation from Central Asian Countries visited NAAS.
- A 4-member delegation of NAAS will visit China under Inter Academy Exchange Programme.

Directorate of Information & Publication in Agriculture (DIPA)

Directorate of Information and Publication in Agriculture (DIPA) has brought out total of 112 publications, 86 publications in English and 36 publications in Hindi during the 2004-2005, facilities were also created to develop and produce modern information product.

DIPA has brought out 12 periodicals which include research journals (monthly) and semi-technical publications on regular basis. DIPA has also brought out special/Accent issues of their monthly/quarterly journals on various occasions *i.e.* World Food Day, International Year of Rice and World Environment Day.

Under data management activities CIPA has collected and processed the information on crop varieties released by ICAR, AHD Research Schemes sanctioned by the ICAR, AICRP, Agricultural Institutions in India, Agricultural Colleges, Agricultural Periodicals, Deputation Reports, Research Projects of the ICAR Institutes, AGRIS Database of FAO, National Agricultural Research database. Under electronics publication programme, DIPA has brought out following five CD during 2004-2005.

- Inventory of Indigenous Technical Knowledge of Agriculture—Document 1
- Inventory of Indigenous Technical Knowledge of Agriculture—Document 2
- Inventory of Indigenous Technical Knowledge of Agriculture—Document 2 (Supplement 1)
- Validation of Indigenous Technical Knowledge of Agriculture—Document 3
- DARE/ICAR Annual Report 2003-2004

During the 2004-2005 revenue of about Rs. 55 lakhs was generated.

[English]

International Conference on Rapeseed Mustard

6451. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has hosted the first international conference on rapeseed mustard recently;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed in the meeting with various countries on rapeseed mustard; and

(c) the outcome thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Mustard Research and Promotion Consortium (MRPC), New Delhi, a non-governmental organization had organized a conference on Resource Development and Marketing of Rapeseed-Mustard on 28th and 29th March, 2005 at the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur (NAIM) an autonomous Institute under this Ministry. The Physical facilities of the NAIM were made available for facilitating the Conference.

It is reported that the Conference discussed several issues including crop improvement, biotechnology, post-harvest handling, value addition, health and nutritional aspects and international marketing. The Conference has made several recommendations.

Production of Chemicals and Fertilizers

6452. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of chemicals and fertilizers, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the production of chemicals and fertilizers during the current year?

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

(i) **Chemicals**

As the chemical industry has been de-regulated, there is no Government control on production of chemicals, which is market driven. A large number of chemical units in large & medium scale as well as in SSI and unorganized sector are engaged in the manufacture of organic, inorganic, dyes and pesticides.

The production of major chemical (organic, inorganic, dyes and pesticides), as available with the Department, during the 2003-04 was 70.62 lakh tonnes and anticipated production of major chemicals during 2004-05 is 74.03 lakh tonnes. This does not include data of units in the SSI and unorganized sector.

(ii) Fertilizers

State-wise details of installed capacity and production of major fertilizers in nutrient terms is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The Government has been pursuing policies which are conducive for encouraging investment in fertilizer sector so as to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting the indigenous requirement of major fertilizers. In case of urea, the Government has recently announced the pricing policy for investment to be made in (a) new and expansion projects of urea and (b) existing non-gas based urea units converting to natural gas/LNG for feedstock/ fuel. In order to augment indigenous availability of urea, IFFCO and KRIBHCO the multi-state cooperative societies, are setting up a joint venture in Sur, Oman with Oman Oil Company and the entire production of 16.52 lakh MT of urea will be brought by the Government. On the other hand, installed capacity (54.20 MT in nutrient terms) of phosphatic fertilizers is sufficient enough to meet the current level of requirement (average consumption of 46-47 lakh MT of last three years).

Statement

State-wise installed capacity and production in nutrient terms for major fertilizers such as Urea, DAP and Complex grade fertilizers in the country for the year 2004-05

('000 MT)

Name of State	Installed Capacity as on 31.3.2005		Production 2004-05	
	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Nitrogen	Phosphate
1	2	3	4	5
Assam	144.9	0.0	94.8	0.0
Punjab	535.4	0.0	495.5	0.0
Tamil Nadu	794.6	409.3	719.6	279.0
Kerala	174.0	126.7	157.0	115.2
Goa	288.7	197.4	307.5	178.0
Maharashtra	1109.9	173.0	942.9	68.8
Karnataka	207.2	82.0	192.4	84.3
Madhya Pradesh	795.4	0.0	858.4	0.0
Rajasthan	969.8	0.0	1028.1	0.0
Gujarat	2218.7	1537.7	2208.9	1392.6

1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	794.2	474.2	950.3	590.1
Uttar Pradesh	2971.8	0.0	2748.1	0.0
Haryana	235.3	0.0	244.4	0.0
Jharkhand	120.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Orissa	454.8	1143.6	299.0	690.0
Bihar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
West Bengal	121.5	310.5	78.1	220.4

Development of Marine Fisheries

6453. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to develop marine fisheries in the country, particularly in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Government has formulated a comprehensive policy for marine fisheries;

(e) if so, the main features of the said policy;

(f) whether the Union Government has provided cent per cent assistance for setting up of fishing harbours;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the funds provided to each State for the purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Export of Processed Meat

6454. MOHD. SHAHID: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is making efforts to provide special assistance and to promote the industries in the States engaged in export of processed meat and its products;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have exported the maximum quantum of the said products in 2004-05;

(c) the amount given by the Government as grant in the country including Uttar Pradesh since 2003-04, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has sought its report from the States; and

(e) if so, whether the Government proposes some scheme for giving grants for modernization of these units during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (e) The Government is implementing various Plan Schemes for development and promotion of food processing industries including processed meat manufacturing units for exports.

These Schemes include Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, Scheme for Quality Assurance, Research and Development etc.

(b) No State-wise export data is being maintained.

(c) and (d) During the year 2003-04 and 2004-05 Ministry of Food Processing Industries have provided financial assistance of Rs. 235.75 lakhs and Rs. 277.90 lakhs respectively for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of meat and meat products manufacturing units in the country, out of which Rs. 50.00 lakhs and Rs. 98.80 lakhs respectively has been provided for such units in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

FDI in Agriculture Retail

6455. SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in agriculture retail;

(b) if so, whether any consensus was reached in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the names of the States who are opposing such move alongwith reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to amend Agriculture Produce and Marketing Committee Acts; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is prohibited in the Agriculture Sector (excluding Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisciculture and Cultivation of Vegetables, Mushrooms etc. under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors) and Plantations (other than Tea Plantation).

FDI is not allowed for retail trading. FDI up to 51% is permitted under automatic route for trading provided it is primarily export activities, and the undertaking is an export house/trading house/super trading house/star trading house. FDI up to 100% is also permitted for wholesale cash and carry trading.

(e) Yes, Sir. A model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act (APMC Act) has been circulated by this Ministry to all the States, to guide them in bringing changes in the APMC Act for allowing direct marketing and contract farming and for the development of competitive markets.

(f) Reforms in APMC Act were discussed with the State Governments and Union Territories at the National Conference held at Delhi on 7.1.2004 and at Bangalore on 19.11.2004. Several States have since initiated action for its amendments on the suggested lines.

[Translation]

Relaxation of Excise Duty

6456. SHRI SHYAMA CHARAN GUPT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per excise rules unbranded beedi manufacturers producing 20 lakh Beedi each year are in the ambit of relaxation in excise duty;

(b) if so, the schemes and the rules in regard to provide benefits to the workers of Beedi manufacturers under the cess, provident fund, gratuity, bonus and other labour laws; and

(c) the provision of law to check exploitation of Beedi workers by their employers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) For small units, there is an exemption of excise duty upto a limit of 20 lakh beedis in a financial year (other than paper rolled beedis), manufactured without aid of machines.

(b) Cess collected under the Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, is utilized for the welfare of beedi workers and their families under various schemes to extend Health,

Housing, Educational, Social Security, Recreational and Family Welfare facilities to them.

Eligible beedi workers are covered under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 is applicable to every factory and every other establishment in which twenty or more persons are employed on any day during an accounting year. Any person employed on a salary/wage not exceeding Rs. 3,500/- per month in any industry, is eligible for a minimum of 8.33% of the salary/wage earned by him/her during the year as bonus. These provisions are also applicable to beedi workers.

Beedi making being a scheduled employment in the State sphere, State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix and revise minimum wages and enforce payment thereof including overtime, working hours, authorized deductions etc. under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(c) Government have enacted the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, to protect the beedi workers from exploitation of the employers. The Act is applicable to all the States and UTs and is to be enforced by State Governments.

[English]

Funds for Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fishing Harbours in A.P.

6457. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and released for animal husbandry, dairying and fishing harbours in Andhra Pradesh during 2004-05; and

(b) the funds allocated/released for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Department does not make State-wise allocation under any scheme relating to animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries. However, funds are released to the State Governments on the basis of availability of funds, viability of proposals received from them and past utilization. During 2004-05, Rs. 1927.01 lakh, Rs. 39.37 lakh and Rs. 123.18 lakh have been released to Andhra Pradesh for animal husbandry, dairying and fishing harbours (for construction of 7 fish landing centres) respectively.

(b) During the current financial year, no funds have been released for this purpose so far to Andhra Pradesh.

Depletion in Ozone Layer in Antarctica Region

6458. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has observed any changes in the Ozone layer particularly in the Antarctica region;

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

(c) the findings of the studies conducted in this regard during each of the last five years; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken to check further depletion of Ozone in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The India Meteorological Department has been conducting the studies to measure the vertical profile of ozone layer in Antarctica. These measurements indicate the ozone concentration exhibits a seasonal variation. During the months of September-October every year, there is about 80% decrease of ozone concentration as compared to the average value of ozone concentration during other months. The analysis of total ozone data also indicated that during September-October, about 60% of total ozone decreased when compared to the average value during the remaining months. The reason for changes in the Ozone Layer particularly over the Antarctica region is largely due to world wide emissions of the Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS).

(d) In order to tackle the issue of ozone depletion, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer are the two international agreements. These agreements contain the measures for phasing out ODS in developed as well as developing countries. India is a Party to both the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol and had taken necessary steps to phase out production and consumption of ODS in various sectors in accordance with the provisions of these agreements. The country programme has been prepared for phasing out various ODS and is under implementation in India.

[Translation]

Assistance for Consumer Programmes

6459. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the funds provided to the Government of Rajasthan for strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Forums, establishment of district Consumer Information Centres and Consumer Awareness Programmes during the Tenth Five Year Plan, Year-wise and Head-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): Details of funds provided to the State of Rajasthan during the Tenth Five Year Plan period is as follows:

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 upto date
For strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Forums	Nil	Nil	Rs. 45,00,000 (to State Government)	Nil
For establishment of District Consumer Information Centres from the Consumer Welfare Fund	Rs. 2,50,000 each to Zilla Parishad, Dausa and Ajmer	Nil	Nil	Nil
For undertaking Consumer Awareness Programmes from the Consumer Welfare Fund	Rs. 2,48,100 (to NGOs/ VCOs)	Rs. 4,40,000 (to NGOs/ VCOs)	Rs. 73,50,000 (State Govt.) Rs. 8,20,500 (to NGOs/VCOs)	Nil

[English]

Sanctity of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Forest Conservation Act, 1980

6460. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the sanctity of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, to save Indian forests and wildlife has been devastated during the last five years and current year;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the wilderness in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir. On the contrary these Acts have been instrumental in protecting our forests and wildlife.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken by Government for conservation of wilderness in India are as follows—

i. To conserve wildlife, State Governments have notified important habitats as National Parks and Sanctuaries. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance for development of such Protected Areas.

ii. The endangered animals have been included in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and get maximum protection.

iii. Under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes financial assistance is provided for *in-situ* conservation of wild flora and fauna.

iv. Schemes are being undertaken to create environmental awareness.

New Scheme for Farmers

6461. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to formulate new schemes to provide power, water, fertilizers and seeds etc. to farmers at subsidized rates;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Egg and Meat

6462. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranked fifth in the world in production of eggs and meat;

(b) if so, whether the export value of eggs and meat for India is only next to United States of America and Brazil which are the lowest one and is a great cause of concern;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to develop/ improve the infrastructure based to develop capability to adjust stringent and changing safety standards by creating a proper testing system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) India has the fifth rank in respect of chicken meat production and sixth in respect of egg production.

(b) and (c) The export value of total poultry products for 2002-03 and 2003-04 is Rs. 156.47 crores and Rs. 202.40 crores respectively. The value of export of egg and egg products for 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are Rs. 80.98 crores, Rs. 127.54 crores and Rs. 152.99 crores respectively.

As per the Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO) data for 2003, the value of export of chicken meat and eggs for USA, Brazil and India compare as follows:

(Value Thousand $)

Product	USA	Brazil	India
Chicken Meat	1517377	1709743	4422
Hen Eggs	121035	4183	29912

U.S.A. and Brazil are among the top chicken exporting countries. Netherlands and USA are among top hen egg. exporters in terms of value (FAO data).

To boost the exports, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is extending air freight and sea freight subsidy to certain poultry products. Assistance for infrastructure facilities for processing, packing, storing, preservation and marketing is given by Ministry of Food Processing Industry. Under the scheme for infrastructure Development grant-in-aid is provided to local bodies for Cold Storage facilities.

(d) The Government has taken the following steps:—

(i) Standards for export of meat and meat-products and poultry products under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 have been notified.

(ii) APEDA has recognised six agencies for implementation of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and three agencies for certification of HACCP.

(iii) The Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) have a network of laboratories. The main Food laboratories are in Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Kochi and Mumbai. The main laboratories other than the one at Delhi (which is for foodgrain testing), are equipped to cater to the analytical requirements of poultry products.

(iv) The Food Safety Management System based Certification is applied to many products including egg and poultry products.

Development of Water Resources

6463. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government assists the State Governments in tying up external assistance from different funding agencies to fill up the resources gap both in terms of funds and technological update for rapid developments of country's water resources; and

(b) if so, which are the funding agencies and the assistance provided to various States during the last three years, project-wise and year-wise?

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

(b) A statement giving the details of funding agencies and disbursement received under various externally assisted projects during last three years is enclosed.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Projects	Disbursement received during			Status
		2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	WORLD BANK		**Amount in Million US $**		
1.	Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation component)	26.77	28.02	14.33	On-going
2.	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Project-III	67.61	38.29	11.33	Completed
3.	Haryana Water Resources Consolidation Project	11.74	—	—	Completed
4.	Hydrology Project - Multi-State	19.23	9.55	1.51	Completed
5.	Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project	3.01	2.16	9.91	On-going
6.	Madhya Pradesh Water Sector	—	—	21.97	On-going
7.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project	25.31	27.81	17.36	Completed
8.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	5.40	5.10	18.42	On-going
9.	Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project	37.42	13.98	8.82	Completed
10.	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	5.50	2.28	11.54	On-going

1	2	3	4	5	6
	EEC		**Amount in Million Euro**		
11.	Orissa Minor Irrigation Project	—	2.36	—	On-going
12.	Pondicherry Modernisation of Tank Irrigation System	0.43	0.00	0.55	Completed
	JBIC-Japan		**Amount in Million Yen**		
13.	Andhra Pradesh Modernisation of Kurnool-Cuddapah canal project (Tranche-I)	3855.387	4325.924	2350.793	On-going
	(Tranche-II)	—	—	822.064	On-going
14.	Madhya Pradesh-Rajghat Canal Irrigation Project	1738.816	1686.264	1385.985	On-going
15.	Orissa-Rengali Irrigation Project (Tranche-I)	1210.606	1193.941	606.607	On-going
	(Tranche-II)	—	—	177.318	On-going
	KfW Germany		**Amount in Million Euro**		
16.	Maharashtra Minor Irrigation project	0.350	1.360	0.731	On-going
17.	Orissa Lift Irrigation Project	0.033	0.018	0.014	Completed
	France				
18.	Gujarat Hydroplus Fusegate System	—	0.137	0.087	Completed
	Netherlands				
19.	Andhra Pradesh-APWELL Project	0.305	0.788	—	Completed
20.	Kerala Community Irrigation Project	—	0.022	—	Completed
21.	Uttar Pradesh Bundelkhand Integrated Water Management Project	—	1.787	0.330	Completed
	Canada		**Amount in Million Canadian Dollar**		
22.	Rajasthan Agriculture & Drainage Project	0.398	—	—	Completed

[Translation]

Compliance of Norms by Hydro Power Projects

6464. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether stipulated norms for environmental, seismic, geographical changes are being compiled with for hydro power projects under construction in the country particularly in Himachal Pradesh like Kol Dam and Parvati hydropower project keeping in view the destruction caused by the earthquake and the cruel Tsunami waves in the

coastal areas in the country and the special geographical changes taking place in the environment internationally;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and the action being taken by the Government for their cent percent compliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The monitoring carried out by the Ministry of Environment & Forests through its Regional Offices has not brought out any serious violations of the environmental clearance conditions by the Hydro Electric Projects under construction in the country. The latest monitoring reports furnished by the Regional offices of the Ministry reveals satisfactory compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions in the case of Parbati Hydro Electric Project Stage-II and Kol Dams in Himachal Pradesh. However a report has been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh in April 2005 about ecological damage caused due to the ongoing construction of Parbati Hydro Electric Project Stage-II.

(c) The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has already taken up the matter with the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC) for environmental restoration works at the Parbati Hydro Electric Project Stage-II site.

[English]

Allocation for Flood and Erosion Control Schemes

6465. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation for flood and anti-erosion schemes to States including North Eastern States (NES) for 2005-06;

(b) if so, the share of Assam and other NES; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on flood control and anti-erosion during the last three years in Assam and other NES, and how far the flood devastations have come down compared to that in the preceding year alongwih funds remained unutilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Flood Management being within the purview of the States, the schemes for flood control and anti erosion works are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The Annual Plan outlays for 2005-06 for flood control sector for many States are yet to be finalized. As such, the comparison at this stage is not feasible.

(c) The actual expenditure/revised outlays for the year 2002-03 and revised approved outlays for the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 for Assam and other North Eastern States for flood control sector are detailed as below:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.75	13.75	3.75
2.	Assam	21.41	33.70	35.13
3.	Manipur	3.09	11.20	10.20
4.	Meghalaya	1.06	1.62	1.45
5.	Mizoram	—	—	—
6.	Nagaland	0.05	4.03	7.54
7.	Sikkim	0.05	5.50	4.00
8.	Tripura	4.03	7.36	6.66

The State Governments are taking up short term and long term measures for effective control measures. The States have reported protection from the floods to the reasonable degree year to year with the investments in the Annual Plan.

IFFCO Extension Services in Assam

6466. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians Farmers Fertilizer Corporation Limited (IFFCO) have been providing extension services to farmers in Assam;

(b) if so, the details of the cooperative societies engaged therein in the State for distribution of IFFCO output through its network;

(c) whether the IFFCO have plans to involve other agencies to provide better services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. IFFCO has been organising extension services to farmers in Assam as part of fertilizer promotional programme.

(b) IFFCO distributes its fertilizers in the State of Assam through 20 member Cooperative Societies at village level apart from State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (STATFED), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) & Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd. (AAIDC).

(c) and (d) IFFCO does not plan to involve other agencies. However, officials from the Cooperatives, Agricultural University, State Department of Agriculture and Cooperation etc. are associated in these programmes.

Creation of Modern Warehouses

6467. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was made between Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Warehousing Corporation (SWC) for creation of modern warehouses in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total capacity created and the capacity out of this which was taken over by FCI;

(c) whether the FCI has failed to honour this agreement fully;

(d) if so, the amount of subsidy claimed by SWC, Andhra Pradesh;

(e) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Government to direct FCI to release the said subsidy; and

(f) the action taken by the Government therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, an agreement was made between Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Warehousing Corporation (SWC) in Andhra Pradesh for creation of conventional storage capacity under Seven Years Guarantee Scheme.

(b) A total capacity of 17.60 lakh MTs was created and the same has been taken over by the FCL.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The scheme does not involve any payment of subsidy by the FCI.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Rice Bran Oil

6468. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity of the oil mills set up in the country to produce edible oil from the rice bran;

(b) the total quantity of rice bran oil produced during 2003-04 and till date;

(c) whether the rice bran oil mills are facing a threat of closure due to lack of encouragement from the Government; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save this industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As per available information, the total installed capacity of solvent extraction units set up in the country to produce various solvent extracted oils including rice bran oil is estimated at 310 lakh tonnes per annum in terms of oil bearing material.

(b) The total quantity of rice bran oil produced during 2003-04 and 2004-05 has been as under:-

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

(November—October)	(estimated)
2003-04	6.0
2004-05 (November—04 March, 05)	2.7

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Revenue Loss due to Ban on Felling of Commercial Trees

6469. PROF. CHANDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of revenue losses suffered by the States during the last three years and current year due to ban on felling of trees of commercial purposes, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any plan to compensate the affected States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No reports have been received from the States/Union Territories regarding the revenue losses due to the ban on felling of trees of commercial purpose except the State of Arunachal Pradesh. As per the information given by Arunachal Pradesh, the revenue loss for the last three years is Rs. 220.5 crores approximately.

(b) and (c) The Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended a grant of Rs. 1,000 crores to the States for maintenance of the forest areas. This amount has been distributed among the States based on their forest areas and required to be spent for the preservation of their forest wealth. The State-wise and year-wise details of this grant are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise & Year-wise details of the Grants-in-aid for maintenance of Forests

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-08	2008-2009	2009-2010	2005-2010
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	65.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	100.00
3.	Assam	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	40.00
4.	Bihar	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	5.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	85.00
6.	Goa	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	3.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Gujarat	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
8.	Haryana	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
11.	Jharkhand	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
12.	Karnataka	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	55.00
13.	Kerala	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	115.00
15.	Maharashtra	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	70.00
16.	Manipur	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
17.	Meghalaya	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
18.	Mizoram	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
19.	Nagaland	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
20.	Orissa	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	75.00
21.	Punjab	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	2.00
22.	Rajasthan	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	25.00
23.	Sikkim	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	8.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	30.00
25.	Tripura	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	20.00
27.	Uttaranchal	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	35.00
28.	West Bengal	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	15.00
	Total	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1000.00

Development of Catchment Areas

6470. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the funds allocated by the Union Government to State Governments including Tamil Nadu for development of catchment areas during the last three years, State-wise:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the following projects/programmes for the development of Catchment areas in the country:

1. Soil conservation for enhancing productivity of the degraded watersheds in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR)

2. Eco-restoration project of degraded land in the catchments of Jhelum, Chenab and Shivalik of Jammu & Kashmir State (PM's package)-Funds are separately allocated under Marco Management Mode.

These two programmes have been subsumed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Marco Management of Agriculture (MMA). As per the guidelines State Governments are allocating the funds for these schemes for each year based on allocation provided under MMA. The funds allocated during the last three years for development of catchment areas State-wise including that for Tamil Nadu are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Allocation of Funds for development of catchment areas in the Country

Sl.No.	State	Years		
		2002-03 Allocation	2003-04 Allocation	2004-05 Allocation
1	2	3	4	5
A.	RVP & FPR			
1.	Andhra Pradesh			
	(a) Forests	391.76	518.92	467.10
	(b) Agriculture	288.00	351.00	300.00
	Sub Total	679.76	869.92	767.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	25.50
3.	Assam	220.00	30.00	60.00
4.	Bihar	73.50	73.50	49.49
5.	Chhattisgarh	289.00	130.00	111.22
6.	Gujarat			
	(a) Forests	126.66	125.00	118.00
	(b) Agriculture	450.00	332.00	749.00
	Sub Total	576.66	457.00	867.00
7.	Haryana	70.00	120.00	150.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	617.77	659.17	678.62
9.	Jammu & Kashmir (RVP)	443.11	339.65	628.00
10.	Jharkhand	—	—	—
11.	Karnataka	1500.00	1074.68	800.00
12.	Kerala	230.00	300.00	300.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Madhya Pradesh			
	(a) Agriculture	500.60	622.22	681.12
	(b) Narmada Valley Development Authority (NVDA)	200.00	500.00	312.22
	Sub Total	700.60	1122.22	993.34
14.	Maharashtra	900.00	700.00	700.00
15.	Manipur	—	—	—
16.	Meghalaya	—	5.00	15.00
17.	Mizoram	100.00	100.00	132.28
18.	Nagaland	—	—	60.00
19.	Orissa	206.67	80.00	80.00
20.	Punjab	88.88	27.78	40.00
21.	Rajasthan	1300.00	1300.00	1700.00
22.	Sikkim	—	20.00	60.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	495.00	500.00	700.00
24.	Tripura	48.00	50.00	52.35
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1613.00	1610.29	1690.00
26.	Uttaranchal	400.00	227.00	302.00
27.	West Bengal	203.34	350.00	270.80
28.	Damodar Valley Corporation	500.00	500.00	391.00
	Head Quarter	40.00	39.00	40.00
	Total	11295.29	10685.21	11663.70
B.	Prime Minister's Special Package for J&K	—	732.00	3000.00
	Grand Total (A+B)	11295.29	11417.21	14663.70

[Translation]

Steps to Patent Mango

6471. SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take steps to patent Mango keeping in view the increasing production of mangoes in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

Cases of Payment of Gratuity of Closed Industrial Units

6472. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases of payment of gratuity and other monetary benefits due to the workers of the closed industrial units and other establishments in the country including Uttar Pradesh, State-wise;

(b) the total number of workers in the States whose dues are pending for clearance, State-wise;

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to early clearance of these cases;

(d) whether the Government has prescribed or propose to prescribe any guidelines for settlement of such cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (f) The Payment of Gratuity Act is a Central Act being administered both by the Central Government as well as State Governments. In the central sphere, the Act is enforced through the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) and in the state sphere by the respective State Governments. The numbers of cases of payment of gratuity and other monetary benefits of the closed industrial units in respect of the state sphere as well as the central sphere is not centrally maintained.

Diversion of Rivers Water

6473. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for diversion of 7.56 TMC of water for Maharashtra Dam by constructing dam across the Kalasa and Bandura Nalas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether assessment yield at Mahadayai/Mandovi rivers has been carried out by the CWC in consultation with Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa during 2003;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the project has since been cleared;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) by when this project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka in April, 2002 requested Union Government for clearance of their proposal from inter-State angle for diversion of 7.56 TMC of water from Maderi basin to Malprabha basin through implementation of Kalsa and Bandurinalla schemes to meet the drinking water needs of Hubli/ Dharwad cities.

(c) and (d) In the inter-state meeting convened by Ministry of Water Resources in December, 2002 to discuss the Mandovi (Mahadayi) water dispute, it was decided that Central Water Commission (CWC) in consultation with three basin States would carry out and complete the yield studies of Mandovi basin by 31.3.2003. Accordingly, studies were carried out by CWC. The 75% dependable yield of the basin has been computed as 5652 Million Cubic Meter (199.6 TMC).

(e) to (g) The Ministry of Water Resources gave 'in-principle' clearance to the proposal to meet the drinking water need of Hubli/Dharwad from water availability angle on 30th April, 2002. The Government of Goa in July, 2002 took strong exception to the grant of this clearance by the Ministry and requested for setting up of an Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunal under the Inter-State water Disputes Act, 1956 for resolution of the dispute. In view of this, the 'in-principle' clearance granted by the Ministry was placed 'in abeyance' in September, 2002 with a view to resolve the matter by an agreement between the two States, failing which by an award of the Tribunal. The two States have so far not concluded any agreement on the sharing of Mahadayi Water.

[Translation]

Management of Irrigation

6474. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:
SHRI D.P. SAROJ:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to develop irrigation system in the country to increase the annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product to 8 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any target to improve the irrigation system in the country during the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the area of land likely to be irrigated by the end of Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Tenth Plan envisages an annual average 8% growth rate for the economy as a whole. To achieve this, it has been estimated that agriculture will have to grow at 4%. Irrigation is the most important and vital input to agriculture and to achieve the projected growth rate in agriculture, irrigation will also have to grow at a commensurate pace.

(c) and (d) During the Tenth Plan period, the systems have indicated a target of 16.743 million hectare for irrigation potential creation. However, considering the performance of the States in the first three years of Tenth Plan the actual achievement is likely to be about 63% of the target.

(e) About 104.31 million hectare is likely to be provided with irrigation at the end of Tenth Plan.

[English]

Availability of Rice and Kerosene

6475. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) per capita availability of foodgrains particularly Rice and Kerosene in various States including Uttar Pradesh as on date;

(b) whether the availability of said commodities in Uttar Pradesh is equal to the national average; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The per capita availability of foodgrains, including rice, for 2003-04 is estimated at 169.1 kg. per annum while for rice it is estimated at 71.1 kg. per annum. As regards kerosene, the per capita allocation of kerosene for 2005-06 is 8.92 kg. per annum. The per capita availability of foodgrains, including rice, is calculated at national level only. The details of per capita allocation of kerosene for 2005-06 in various states are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The per capita allocation of Kerosene in Uttar Pradesh at 7.48 kg. per annum is lower than the national average of 8.92 kg. per annum. The allocation of kerosene to various states is made based on the historicals. Since 2001-2002, kerosene allocations to states have been reduced after taking into account the number of new LPG connections released in the States/UTs.

Statement

(Kg. per annum)

State/UT	PCA for Kerosene during 2005-2006
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16.32
Andhra Pradesh	6.83
Arunachal Pradesh	8.48
Assam	9.69
Bihar	7.81
Chandigarh	14.50

1	2
Chhattisgarh	7.07
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12.62
Daman and Diu	13.40
Delhi	12.22
Goa	14.29
Gujarat	14.70
Haryana	6.91
Himachal Pradesh	8.32
Jammu and Kashmir	7.55
Jharkhand	7.85
Karnataka	8.75
Kerala	6.79
Lakshadweep	13.12
Madhya Pradesh	8.09
Maharashtra	13.20
Manipur	8.33
Meghalaya	8.85
Mizoram	6.98
Nagaland	6.69
Orissa	8.58
Pondicherry	12.59
Punjab	9.77
Rajasthan	7.06
Sikkim	10.33
Tamil Nadu	9.00
Tripura	9.66
Uttar Pradesh	7.48
Uttaranchal	10.60
West Bengal	9.38
Total	8.92

[Translation]

Assistance to SCs/STs Farmers under Rain Water Harvesting Scheme

6476. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHWAHA:
MOHD. SHAHID:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY:
SHRI AJIT JOGI:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any National Water Harvesting Scheme;

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

(c) whether the Government has provided any assistance to State Government including Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes farmers under said scheme during 2004-2005;

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

(e) whether the State Government have also to contribute their share; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Finance, Government of India has approved a Centrally Sponsored Rain Water Harvesting for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) Farmers from the year 2004-05 till 2006-07. The funding pattern under the scheme provides for subsidy @ 50% of the investment cost and balance as loan from banks. The physical and financial programme of the scheme are as under:—

(Rs. in Lakh)

Year	No. of Units	Total Financial Outlay	Government of India subsidy (50%)	Bank Loan (50%)
2004-05	20,000	4,000	2,000	2,000
2005-06	40,000	8,000	4,000	4,000
2006-07	40,000	8,000	4,000	4,000
Total	100,000	20,000	10,000	10,000

Details of the State-wise targets under the scheme are given the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Implementing banks have started financing under the scheme in the last quarter of 2004-05. As per the reports received, 293 units have been financed with a total financial outlay of Rs. 64.67 lakh as on 31st March 2005, as given below:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Units Financed	Bank Loan Disbursed (including subsidy of 50%)
1	2	3	4
1.	Tripura	157	31.40
2.	Orissa	72	21.60
3.	Uttaranchal	59	10.78
4.	Rajasthan	4	0.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	0.29
	Total	293	64.67

(e) and (f) No, Sir. This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The funding pattern does not involve any contribution from the State Government. The number of farmers benefited under the scheme in each State is as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Farmers Benefited
1.	Tripura	157
2.	Orissa	72
3.	Uttaranchal	59
4.	Rajasthan	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	1
	Total	293

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Water Harvesting Schemes for SC/ST Farmers Physical and Financial Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	No. of Units	Total financial outlay	Subsidy (50%)	Bank Loan (50%)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7000	1400	700	700
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	300	60	30	30

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	2700	540	270	270
4.	Bihar	5000	1000	500	500
5.	Chhattisgarh	7000	1400	700	700
6.	Goa	100	20	10	10
7.	Gujarat	5000	1000	500	500
8.	Haryana	1500	300	150	150
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1000	200	100	100
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	500	100	50	50
11.	Jharkhand	5000	1000	500	500
12.	Karnataka	4500	900	450	450
13.	Kerala	1500	300	150	150
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7000	1400	700	700
15.	Maharashtra	7500	1500	750	750
16.	Manipur	400	80	40	40
17.	Meghalaya	1000	200	100	100
18.	Mizoram	200	40	20	20
19.	Nagaland	600	120	60	60
20.	Orissa	7000	1400	700	700
21.	Punjab	2000	400	200	200
22.	Rajasthan	4000	800	400	400
23.	Sikkim	100	20	10	10
24.	Tamil Nadu	5000	1000	500	500
25.	Tripura	600	120	60	60
26.	Uttar Pradesh	8000	1600	800	800
27.	Uttaranchal	5000	1000	500	500
28.	West Bengal	10000	2000	1000	1000
29.	All UTs	500	100	50	50
	Total	100000	20000	10000	10000

[English]

New Banana Variety

6477. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB) is conducting research to breed a new banana variety for quality fibre production;

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

(c) the purpose for which it is likely to be used?

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

(b) National Research Centre for Banana has identified wild banana variety of Rhodochlamys group known for its high quality fibre. This material is being used in hybridization with potential varieties of banana for developing improved variety of banana for high quality fibre production.

(c) The quality banana fibre can be used for making export oriented fancy goods like dinner mat, wall-hangs, fine quality coir-rope, marine cordages, quality paper and fabrics.

Tourism in Concurrent List

6478. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have given their views on the proposal to put Tourism in the Concurrent List of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to bring Tourism in the concurrent list; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Six States have expressed their reservations about placing tourism in the Concurrent List of the Constitution. Further, there are certain legal issues, which are being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law & Justice before a final decision in the matter could be taken. In view of this, it is not possible to indicate a time frame.

Small Pharmaceutical Units

6479. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI:

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

(a) the total number of Small Scale Pharma units functioning in the country;

(b) the number of said units manufacturing drugs on contract basis;

(c) the number of said units marketing their own products, generic and branded separately;

(d) the total value of production of branded and generics drugs;

(e) whether small pharmaceutical industry have a major role in meeting the National Pharmaceutical demand;

(f) if so, the contribution of said sector alongwith employment generation by them in the country as on date; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of small scale pharma units both the formulation of bulk drugs and in new WTO regime?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Industry sources roughly estimate the number of small scale pharmaceutical units in the country to be around 8000.

(b) and (c) The registration of SSI units and issue of licences for manufacture of medicines is done by the State Governments concerned.

(d) According to the Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association, the estimated value of production of bulk drugs and formulations during the year 2004-2005 were Rs. 7779 crore and Rs. 27692 crore respectively.

(e) and (f) Small Scale Units operating in Pharmaceutical Sector play a major role in manufacturing formulations and generating employment. However, details of such nature and not monitored.

(g) Financial assistance is available for technology upgradation to small scale drug and pharmaceutical units under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme. For the tax relief, SSI units with a ceiling of Rs. 4 crores have two options: either full exemption on the first clearance of Rs. 1 crore or normal duty on the first clearance of Rs. 1 crore with CENVAT credit. Further, Small scale industry units are exempted from implementing prices for some of the formulations for which Government fixes prices under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995, as per Gazette Notification S.O. No. 134 (E) dated 2nd March 1995.

Cotton Cultivation in Orissa

6480. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK;
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total areas in the country specially in Orissa brought under cotton cultivation as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the distress to sell cotton in the country including Orissa;

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure remunerative prices to the cotton growers in the country; and

(d) the steps taken to provide timely assistance to the cotton growers so that the farmers are able to promote cultivation of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The state-wise area under cotton cultivation in 2004-05 as per the 3rd Advance Estimates is shown in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) In order to ensure remunerative price to cotton growers in the country including Orissa, the Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for cotton every year. MSP for cotton for the year 2005-06 has already been announced which is Rs. 1760 per quintal for (F-414/H-777/J34 variety) and Rs. 1980 per quintal for (H-4 variety). To avoid distress sale due to fall in cotton prices below the Minimum Support Price (MSP), the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), the nodal agency of the Government of India, enters the market to buy Cotton (Kapas) at MSP fixed by the Government of India. During the current season of 2004-05, CCI has procured 138.53 lakh quintals of Kapas at the all India level including procurement of 1.28 lakh quintals of Kapas in Orissa.

In order to increase the production, productivity and improve the quality of cotton, the Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) since 2001. In 2004-05 TMC is being implemented in 13 states including Orissa.

Statement

Area under Cotton in 2004-05

('000 Hectares)

Andhra Pradesh	990
Assam	1
Gujarat	1994
Haryana	621
Karnataka	450
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	559
Maharashtra	3041
Orissa	46
Punjab	509
Rajasthan	301
Tamil Nadu	180
Uttar Pradesh	5
Others	10
All-India	8708

[Translation]

Credit Facility for Food Processing Sector

6481. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to extend more credit facilities to the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of loans extended to the food processing sector during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) In order to ensure easy availability of credit, Government has included food processing industries in the list of priority sector for bank lending. According to available information, outstanding advances to food and agro based processing sector units by all scheduled commercial banks on the last reporting Friday of March of 2003 was Rs. 4726.93 crore. However, Plan schemes have been implemented to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, is 25% of the project cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject to maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas. The other major scheme of scheme of food parks provides for assistance upto Rs. 4.00 crore, for specified common facilities at the rate of 25% and 33.33% of the project cost in the two areas respectively.

[English]

Financial Assistance under Project Elephant

6482. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides financial support and ex-gratia relief to the States under Project Elephant and Wild Animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount allocated and released by the Government to each State during each of the last three years and current year; and

(c) the details of utilization of funds and work undertaken by each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Government provides financial assistance to various States and Union Territories for payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of depredation by elephants and other wild animals. The assistance is provided under three Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Elephant, Project Tiger and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries.

(b) and (c) Details about the total funds released under various schemes, funds earmarked for ex-gratia relief and actual utilization of funds by various States/ UTs during the last three financial years are given in enclosed Statement-I, II and III. Funds for the current financial year have not yet been released. Major works carried out by the States/UTs include; protection of wild animals, development of their habitats, mitigation of human-wild animal conflict, payment of ex-gratia relief, training of field staff, publicity & awareness, veterinary support, etc.

Statement I

Funds Released & Utilised under Project Elephant

(Rs. in lakh)

State	Total Funds Released			Funds for Ex-gratia Relief			Total Funds Utilised*		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	50.00	55.00	48.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	45.00	47.27	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	52.00	61.00	59.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	60.72	61.50	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Assam	116.00	134.10	130.00	18.00	23.00	23.00	69.10	130.35	NA
Jharkhand	45.00	93.00	105.96	20.00	20.00	27.20	43.62	92.38	132.53
Karnataka	93.00	149.66	186.22	10.00	20.00	20.00	117.34	157.50	NA
Kerala	111.88	188.28	167.40	10.00	8.00	13.00	118.39	167.11	NA
Meghalaya	41.00	64.00	70.00	10.00	12.00	15.00	45.00	59.64	NA
Mizoram	5.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.00	5.00	NA
Nagaland	49.00	42.00	29.00	5.00	5.00	6.00	35.00	56.00	NA
Orissa	108.39	116.10	137.96	39.50	30.00	45.00	114.05	76.17	150.46
Tamil Nadu	71.26	117.00	84.00	10.00	30.00	23.00	57.62	107.30	NA
Tripura	3.00	16.00	17.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	16.00	NA
Uttaranchal	107.00	129.00	138.90	19.00	12.00	12.00	101.55	109.74	NA
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	12.00	—	—	1.00	—	—	NA
West Bengal	86.47	119.95	148.54	15.00	20.00	28.00	103.98	107.43	NA
Total	939.00	1285.09	1333.98	168.50	191.00	225.20	914.37	1193.39	

*Includes the utilisation of savings from previous years.

NA: Information Awaited

Statement II

Funds Released & Utilised under Project Tiger

(Rs. in lakh)

State	Total Funds Released			Funds for Ex-gratia Relief			Total Funds Utilised*		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	21.10	22.89	15.00	7.50	4.00	8.00	9.99	22.86	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	35.88	68.75	35.00	—	—	0.25	28.77	66.29	21.05
Assam	65.70	75.00	—	0.50	5.00	5.00	29.70	79.95	NA
Bihar	25.00	50.00	85.00	—	—	—	24.98	66.41	NA
Chhattisgarh	32.48	80.25	27.75	1.20	—	—	40.91	91.52	NA
Jharkhand	18.00	35.99	72.50	2.00	1.50	—	77.00	33.84	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Karnataka	289.56	269.32	486.29	0.50	5.00	—	184.89	292.24	NA
Kerala	63.75	120.68	105.75	—	—	0.50	59.25	80.18	NA
Madhya Pradesh	786.44	1103.41	582.43	12.00	2.50	7.50	658.68	579.11	NA
Maharashtra	621.79	228.45	323.01	—	—	—	221.21	187.39	NA
Mizoram	98.32	67.56	119.69	3.00	2.00	—	9.80	70.94	NA
Orissa	32.88	151.91	116.44	0.50	4.00	3.00	99.41	65.50	85.91
Rajasthan	294.92	158.33	75.00	23.50	4.00	—	179.61	236.47	196.00
Tamil Nadu	125.00	35.00	80.00	1.50	2.00	—	102.53	63.40	NA
Uttar Pradesh	32.75	173.59	175.22	1.00	—	7.00	30.00	162.74	NA
Uttaranchal	168.00	200.91	200.12	—	5.00	3.00	157.52	188.29	NA
West Bengal	168.33	225.17	325.49	1.00	3.00	3.00	180.12	217.59	NA
Total	2879.90	3067.21	2824.69	54.20	38.00	37.25	2094.37	2504.72	

*Includes the utilisation of savings from previous years.

NA: Information Awaited

Statement III

Funds Released & Utilised under Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries

(Rs. in lakh)

State/UT	Total Funds Released			Funds for Ex-gratia Relief			Total Funds Utilised*		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20.75	0.00	69.40	1.00	—	1.25	0.00	0.00	NA
Andhra Pradesh	82.73	89.31	71.70	0.50	3.25	0.50	83.24	70.54	NA
Arunachal Pradesh	105.04	151.05	111.09	2.00	1.80	—	61.01	107.61	NA
Assam	162.14	93.68	213.45	—	—	—	48.25	227.89	NA
Bihar	0.00	24.65	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	NA
Chandigarh	14.00	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	14.00	0.00	NA
Chhattisgarh	92.03	295.94	227.29	1.00	12.95	1.75	91.17	255.98	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15.25	0.00	20.00	—	—	—	8.69	0.00	NA
Goa	0.00	36.46	37.50	—	—	0.25	0.00	9.68	NA
Gujarat	90.37	52.14	223.93	—	—	—	29.04	222.81	NA
Haryana	18.75	24.84	45.10	—	—	—	29.14	38.49	NA
Himachal Pradesh	93.85	168.96	343.52	—	2.00	—	74.67	182.89	NA
Jammu and Kashmir	99.90	138.83	63.20	—	2.91	—	62.10	76.91	NA
Jharkhand	29.89	54.62	77.59	—	—	—	29.89	21.50	NA
Karnataka	599.02	693.96	546.24	—	—	—	225.79	719.64	NA
Kerala	198.98	188.37	238.79	—	—	—	240.60	220.66	NA
Madhya Pradesh	196.33	344.36	268.48	0.63	0.43	3.00	195.72	273.58	NA
Maharashtra	168.20	165.25	108.05	—	2.00	1.50	169.52	129.79	NA
Manipur	64.50	57.80	110.59	1.00	—	_	64.50	49.50	NA
Meghalaya	40.25	93.07	84.82	—	—	0.50	57.64	96.25	NA
Mizoram	235.60	231.84	315.04	5.60	1.00	8.60	201.42	214.89	NA
Nagaland	107.84	42.70	32.32	0.50	—	—	76.00	39.63	NA
Orissa	82.57	187.25	370.27	2.15	2.70	7.50	92.26	115.91	NA
Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	0.00	0.00	NA
Rajasthan	366.27	214.82	246.62	0.25	4.45	1.57	208.76	328.46	NA
Sikkim	132.76	108.92	74.40	0.50	—	—	119.16	102.30	NA
Tamil Nadu	136.11	139.76	158.75	3.00	2.00	2.00	118.41	143.93	NA
Tripura	101.88	245.27	49.13	2.00	1.00	0.20	71.28	54.09	NA
Uttar Pradeseh	137.36	164.37	287.53	0.20	0.20	0.25	118.28	177.12	NA
Uttaranchal	77.99	96.39	68.20	12.89	10.55	4.50	61.21	63.34	NA
West Bengal	223.67	214.17	317.24	4.00	4.00	—	235.29	231.82	NA
Total	3694.03	4318.78	4780.24	37.22	51.24	33.37	2787.04	4175.21	

*Includes the utilisation of savings from previous years.

NA: Information Awaited

[English]

Per-Capita Consumption of Water

6483. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether per-capita consumption of water in the country has been projected at 91.6 litres on an average;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether per-capita consumption of water at international level is comparatively higher than India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the quantum of water country receives from rains and rivers as compared to international level; and

(f) the quantum of water utilised out of the total available quantity of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the norms followed by Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation and Ministry of Rural Development, the per-capita consumption of water in India is as under:

Sl.No.	Classification of towns/cities	Recommended Maximum water supply levels (LPCD)
1.	Rural Supply	40
2.	Towns provided with piped water supply but without Sewerage system	70
3.	Cities provided with piped water supply where sewerage system is existing/contemplated	135
4.	Metropolitan and mega cities provided with piped water supply where sewerage system is existing/contemplated	150

(c) and (d) As per the information contained in the report of Water and Sanitation Programme (WSP-SA) the per-capita consumption in various cities in different countries of the world varies considerably from 80 lpcd to 424 lpcd.

(e) and (f) The average annual precipitation for the country is 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) and the average annual water availability of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. Out of which owing to topographical, hydrological and other constraints, the utilizable flow is of the order of 1122 BCM which includes 432 BCM of replenishable ground water.

Utilisation of Rivers Water

6484. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval of neighbouring countries is required for construction of projects for utilization of water of the rivers originating in Himalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of rivers for which contact has been established with countries, country-wise; and

(d) the number of projects under consideration between the Government of India and the neighbouring countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No approval is sought from neighbouring countries for the construction of projects within the country and rivers originating in Himalayas.

(b) Does not arise. However, where such projects have to be sited on international boundaries or in the upper riparian country, the discussions with such countries are held.

(c) and (d) Contact has been established with HMG/ Nepal for construction of projects on following rivers:

1. Mahakali/Sharda—Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project
2. Karnali/Ghaghra—Karnali Multipurpose Project
3. Rapti—Bhalubang Multipurpose Project
4. Bagmati—Bagmati Multipurpose Project
5. Kamala—Kamala Multipurpose Project
6. Kosi—Sapta Kosi High Dam and Sun Kosi Storage Cum Diversion Scheme

As regards Pancheswar Multipurpose Project, survey and field investigations for the preparation of Joint Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been completed. Discussions are continuing for finalisation of the Joint DPR of the project.

As regards Sapta-Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme, a Joint Project Office (JPO) of India and Nepal has been setup in Nepal in August, 2004 for undertaking field investigations and preparation of Detailed Project Report of the Project. In the India-Nepal Secretary level meeting held in October, 2004, Nepal has agreed for undertaking the feasibility study on Kamla and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose Project, by the JPO of Sapta-Kosi —Sunm-Kosi Project to ascertain likely constraints in implementation of these projects so that the same could be appropriately addressed.

Further, Government of India and Govt. of Pakistan have also entered into a Treaty known as the "The Indus Water Treaty, 1960", according to which waters of the Eastern rivers (The Sutlej, The Beas and The Ravi) shall be available for the unrestricted use of India, except for certain provisions laid down in the Treaty. Further as per the Treaty, Pakistan shall receive all the waters of the Western rivers (The Indus, The Jhelum and The Chenab) which India is under obligation to let flow under the provisions laid down in the Treaty. India is also permitted to undertake projects on Western Rivers as per the provisions of the Treaty and is required to communicate to Pakistan the information of the projects as specified. Pakistan may communicate any objection that it may have and seek to get them resolved as specified in the Treaty. Three projects viz. Baglihar Hydroelectric Project, Kishenganga Hydroelectric Project and Tulbal Navigation Project are currently under active consideration between the two sides.

In addition, there is a Treaty between Governments of India and Bangladesh on sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka signed in 1996. The release of waters to Bangladesh is being done as per the provisions of the Treaty.

Pilot Project Scheme

6485. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced any pilot project scheme for promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds sanctioned by the Government for implementation of this scheme alongwith amount spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is a continuous process. The Ministry of Tourism assists the State Governments in creation and development of tourist infrastructure. The Ministry of Tourism has also undertaken various steps for promotion of tourism through its marketing programmes giving wide publicity in electronic and print media campaign etc.

Production of Foodgrain

6486. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in hectare in the country on which foodgrain are produced at present as also total production of foodgrains in a year;

(b) the hectare area of land out of the above which is entirely rainfed and in which only one crop is being produced in a year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring this area under irrigation in order to produce multi crops on it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The average area under foodgrains during the five years from 1998-99 to 2002-03 is 120.78 million hectares and the average production of foodgrains during the above period is 199.40 million tonnes.

(b) Out of the above, 68.72 million hectares (57% of the total) is rainfed out of which about 42.34 million hectares areas is under one crop.

(c) and (d) In order to increase production of foodgrains and other commercial crops the Government is implementing various schemes to bring additional areas under irrigation. Irrigation has been identified by the Government as a thrust area for focused and propriety attention. The Union Budget for 2005-06 has accorded high priority to irrigation. The outlay on Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for 2005-06 has been raised to Rs. 4800 crores from Rs. 2800 crores in 2004-05. Besides, an amount of Rs. 400 crores has been provided for micro-irrigation in 2005-06.

[English]

Price of Life Saving Drugs

6487. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI:

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

(a) whether the price of life saving drugs which were less than Pakistan and other SAARC countries will be available in lesser price than other countries after the amendment in the Patent Act;

(b) if so, the details of differences in prices of the life saving drugs among these countries;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to make further amendment in Patent Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (e) Through amendment in the Patents Act, 1970, product patent regime has been introduced for drugs (medicines). The existing patent law in the country provides for a strong and comprehensive set of safeguards, and inter-alia, has effective provisions to ensure availability of pharmaceutical products at reasonable price through compulsory licensing. Many of the drugs already in the Indian market, including those in the National List of Essential Medicines 2003, are off-patent and their prices would not get affected by the new patent regime. This also would not have an immediate impact on the availability and prices of medicines.

Tourist Security Force

6488. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new company of Tourist Security Force has been pressed into service at the Delhi airport to assist tourists from abroad and to protect them from touts;

(b) if so, whether this force has been given orientation training in tourism related aspects and also skills in English communication;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to deploy such forces, not only at international airports but also at tourist centres and beach resorts in the country including pilgrim centres; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Government of Delhi has deployed Tourist Police at the International Airport and important tourist centres to assist tourists. This force has been given orientation training in tourism related aspects. At the selection stage itself, their competence to communicate in English was one important consideration.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territories to deploy Tourist Police at all important tourist centres/destinations. Many States have deployed the Tourist Police Force in one form or another.

Training Programme Organised for Fishermen

6489. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fishermen who have been provided modern fishing equipments, State-wise;

(b) the number of training programmes organized to train fishermen during the last three years and as on date; and

(c) the number of fishermen benefited therefrom during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Fisheries Training & Extension is in operation in all States/UTs with the objective to upgrade the skills of fish farmers/fishermen. However, there is no provision to provide fishing equipments to the fishers under the scheme.

(b) and (c) Under the above scheme a total number of 183 training programmes have been sanctioned during the last three years. The number of fish farmers/fishermen trained are 10415 during the same period in various States.

Water flow in Mahadayi River

6490. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has estimated the flow of water of Mahadayi river to Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Government to withdraw its abeyance; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) In the inter-state meeting convened by Ministry of Water Resources in December 2002 to discuss the Mandovi (Mahadayi) water Dispute, it was decided that Central Water Commission (CWC) in consultation with three basin States would carry out and complete the yield studies of Mandovi basin by 31.3.2003. Accordingly, studies were carried out by CWC. The 75% dependable yield of the basin has been computed as 5652 Million Cubic Meter (199.6 TMC).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The final decision on withdrawal of abeyance depends on how soon the States of Karnataka and Goa conclude an agreement on the sharing of Mahadayi water.

[Translation]

Handover of Irrigation Projects to Private Sector

6491. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to hand-over irrigation projects for power generation to private sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

New Coverage of EPF

6492. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the number of new coverage of EPF decreased and the number of defaulters increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposed to conduct periodical inspection to decrease and discourage the defaulters;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the employers are not paid EPF dues to their workers timely;

(e) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government during the last three years and current year so far; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. New coverage as well as the number of members enrolled has increased during the last three years. Special Coverage Drives are also launched from time-to-time. During the period January 2005 to March 2005 a country-wide Special Coverage Drive was also launched as a result of which 19,854 establishments with 6,02,669 members were brought under the purview of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

Compliance of the establishments is regularly monitored through a computerized system namely, Computerised Compliance Tracking System (CCTS) and on detection of default or on receipt of specific complaints, inspections are conducted so as to discourage default.

(d) to (f) As per statutory provisions, employers are required to remit both the employees' as well as employer's contribution to the Employees' Provident Fund. The employers are not required to pay dues to the workers directly. However, details of grievances/complaints received and disposal thereof are as follows:—

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Total Grievance Received	178364	91623	66141
Disposed Off	174525	86931	63752
Balance	3839	4692	2389
% of Disposal	97.84%	94.87%	96.39%

Whenever any default is detected, actions, under the Sections 7A, 8F, 8B to 8G, 14(1)(A), 14(B) & 7Q of Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, under Section 406/409 of IPC and under Section 110 of CrPC, are taken against defaulters.

Research for Agricultural Crops

6493. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether research for agriculture crops including food crops have been taken care of;

(b) if so, the steps are taken to increase research and development of Agriculture Crops;

(c) if so, whether any such steps are taken for Coconut, Arecanut, Cotton, and Rice;

(d) whether Hydroponics a Japanese Technology for Rice Cultivation is experimented in India;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the effect on cost of production and productivity;

(f) whether there is any plan to adopt this technology and transfer its know how to farmers; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Steps are taken to harness modern scientific knowledge and technology to develop inbred varieties and hybrids which are high yielding, resistant/tolerant to biotic and abiotic stresses, efficient in input use, and suitable for mechanisation; develop production technologies for various agro-ecologies; genetic resources conservation and enhancement; seed production and technology; value addition, and to promote excellence in research of basic and strategic nature.

(c) Yes, Sir. In addition to work at some agricultural universities and research institutes, the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod and its regional centres on coconut and arecanut; Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur and its centres on Cotton, and Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack and Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad on rice are exclusively working on various aspects for improving their productivity and production.

(d) to (g) Hydroponics is growing rice plants totally under water without soil. The water is enriched with all the major and minor nutrients required by the rice plant, and with oxygen by circulating air. The entire set up in maintained under controlled environmental chambers. This is very expensive technique used for research purpose only and not for large scale cultivation by farmers.

Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Cereal Development Programme—Rice

6494. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievement of centrally sponsored scheme on Integrated Central Development Programme—Rice (ICDP-Rice) for the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the assistance provided under this scheme for Hybrid rice production technology training of farmers and women, farm implements production of certified seeds etc., for the last two years up-to-date, State-wise; and

(c) the major programme organized to celebrate 2004 as international year of rice and to promote production of this vital food crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Iron Ore

6495. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the States which iron ore is produced for export purpose;

(b) the turnover target set by iron ore companies including Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) and the achievements made during the last three years, company-wise;

(c) whether the export of iron ore by these companies particularly KIOCL has not made significant increase;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) The States in which iron ore is produced and exported are Goa, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Government does not monitor the turnover targets set by the companies in the Private Sector. As regards the PSUs including KIOCL under the administrative control of Ministry of Steel, the information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) To export of iron ore by the PSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Steel has not made a significant increase because the Government is giving priority to meeting the domestic demand before undertaking exports. In case of KIOCL, the exports have stagnated because of the Supreme Court's Order dated 30.10.2002 restricting mining to the already broken up area.

Statement

The turnover targets set by KIOCL/NMDC/OMDC during the last three years are as follows:

Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) Quantity : In Million Tonnes

	Iron Ore Concentrate Quantity		Iron Ore Pellets Quantity	
Year	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
2004-05 (Prov.)	1.400	0.707	3.500	3.799
2003-04	1.500	1.522	3.400	3.628
2002-03	2.000	2.302	3.500	3.540

National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)

Quantity : In Million Tonnes

Year	Target Quantity	Actual Quantity
2004-05 (Prov.)	20.0	23.11
2003-04	20.0	20.66
2002-03	19.0	19.51

Orissa Mineral Development Company (OMDC)

Quantity : In Million Tonnes

Year	Target Quantity	Actual Quantity
2004-05 (Prov.)	2.3	2.9
2003-04	0.96	3.2
2002-03	0.73	1.6

[Translation]

Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

6496. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been provided from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund for agro priority sectors and to meet the shortage of credit;

(b) the number of projects sanctioned from one to eight under R.I.D.F. and the number out of these projects completed;

(c) whether the Government have finalized the scheme to extend the scope of R.I.D.F. and the number out of these projects completed;

(d) whether the Government have finalized the scheme to extend the scope of R.I.D.F.;

(e) the areas relating to agriculture proposed to be developed; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Forecast of drought in the event of Monsoon Failure

6497. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that according to different global forecasts there would be monsoon failure in India during 2005;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has also set up any machinery whereby a forecast can be made about districts likely to be affected by drought so that the action plan may be evolved before time to tackle such problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the States which have been facing drought perennially for the last four to five years;

(f) the steps taken so far to alleviate the sufferings of the farmers in drought-prone States;

(g) whether the Government has set up any crisis management system in this regard; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Many global climate prediction centres regularly prepare seasonal forecasts of precipitation for the whole Global. According to these latest global forecasts, Southwest monsoon rainfall over India in 2005 is likely to

be near normal or above normal. At present no modelling group is indicating a monsoon failure in India during 2005. However, a few models predict a 50 percent chance for occurrence of El-Nino in July, August and September, 2005 which perhaps may influence rainfall in the Indian sub-continent in these months. It may be mentioned that there is no one-to-one relationship between El-Nino and Indian monsoon rainfall. Global climate prediction centers will update their forecasts every month by incorporating latest atmospheric and sea surface temperature data. According to the long range forecast issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the 2005 South-West monsoon season (June to September) rainfall is likely to be 98% of long period average with a model error of +5%. IMD will issue an update forecast during the last week of June 2005.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, India Meteorological Department have recently set up a forecast system, whereby a forecast can be made about districts/sub-divisions likely to be affected by drought. However, at present this forecast system is working on research mode only and is expected to be operational by 2007/2008.

National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecast has also initiated action for generating district level medium range forecast using some global models.

Further, the Ministry of Agriculture has also initiated a project for development of Extended Range Forecast System for Climate Risk Management in Agriculture to be developed with the help of Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and other prominent institutes in India and abroad. This project aims at orienting research and scientific capabilities towards development of extended range forecast system suitable time and spatial scale in tune with need of risk minimization and resource optimisation in our farming system.

(e) During the last 4-5 years, sub divisions of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Kerala had perennial problems due to deficient rainfall during the southwest monsoon season. Andaman and Nicobar Islands received deficient rainfall (rainfall deficiency more than 19%) consecutively for last 5 years. Kerala also received deficient rainfall consecutively for last 3 years. Interior Karnataka received deficient rainfall in 2002 as well as in 2003. In 2002, a major drought year, as many as 21 meteorological sub divisions received deficient rainfall. But in 2003, only 5 meteorological sub divisions suffered deficient rainfall.

In 2004, 13 meteorological sub divisions received deficient rainfall. On the sub-divisional basis none of the meteorological sub-divisions experienced severe drought conditions (seasonal rainfall deficiency exceeding 50%) at the end of the season. However, Himachal Pradesh, West Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, West Rajasthan, Vidarbha and Telangana experienced moderate drought conditions (seasonal rainfall deficiency between 25 and 50%).

(f) To alleviate the sufferings of the farmers in drought-prone States, the Government has implemented many programmes. The prominent among them are: (i) Development of Watershed programmes, (ii) Implementation of soil conservation measures, (iii) construction of water harvesting structures, farm ponds, (iv) Food for Work programme, (v) Alternate cropping system and (vi) Development of Agro forestry.

Central Ground Water Board constructs exploratory tube wells to delineate potential aquifer zones throughout the country. Successfully wells drilled in the course of exploration are handed over to the states for augmenting the water supplies. Special emphasis is laid on exploration in drought-affected areas. Till 31.3.2004, the Board has drilled 5983 various types of exploratory wells in the states of AP, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, J&K, Karnataka, Kerala, MP, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, TN & UP.

(g) and (h) Adequate Crisis Management System are in place under the Relief Commissioners of the States. These arrangements have resulted in timely mitigation of distress of drought-affected population.

Besides, a Crop Weather Watch Group which is functioning under the Union Ministry of Agriculture and is represented by concerned Ministries/Departments, meets every week to monitor and review the position arising due to deficit rainfall/drought conditions.

[English]

Stocking Norms for Drought Prone Areas

6498. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:

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

(a) the norms fixed for minimum stocking of foodgrains in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the drought-prone States;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the storage capacity in drought-prone States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Government of India has fixed a norm of two months' stocking of foodgrains for all States to meet their requirement of foodgrains.

(b) In view of the adequate storage capacity in all the drought prone States, there is no proposal to create additional capacity by the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Pending Consumer Cases

6499. SHRI SURAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Consumer Courts is getting affected due to lack of resources;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate resources to the Consumer Courts;

(c) the current status of pendency of cases in Consumer Courts in the North Eastern States alongwith the steps being taken for early disposal of such cases; and

(d) the details of the measures taken by the Government for modernisation and improvement in the functioning of the Consumer Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) It is the responsibility of the State Governments to establish consumer forums at the State and district level to provide all the required infrastructure for their effective functioning for their own funds. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Govt. has provided financial assistance of Rs. 10.20 crores during the year 2004-2005 covering certain States for the present for strengthening the infrastructure of new consumer forums. Earlier, Rs. 61.80 crores were given to all the States/UTs during the period 1995-99 for the same purpose.

(c) The current status of pendency of cases in Consumer Forums in the North Eastern States as per the information available with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) is given in the enclosed Statement.

The State Commissions and District Forums of the said States have been requested to dispose of the cases as early as possible. The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has also been amended recently in the year 2002 with a view to facilitate quicker disposal of complaints, enhancing the capability of redressal agencies, strengthening them with more powers, streamlining the procedures and widening the scope of the Act so as to make it more functional.

(d) In addition to the financial assistance provided by the Government for strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Forums, the Government has also launched a scheme for "Computerization and Computer Networking of Consumer forums in the Country" for the modernization and improvement in the functioning of consumer forums. This scheme amounting to Rs. 48.64 crores is being implemented through National Informatics Centre (NIC) as a turn key project in three phases in three years from 2004-05 and aims to provide I.T. solutions in order to achieve e-governance, transparency and efficiency.

Statement

The total number of cases pending in consumer forums in the North Eastern States

Sl.No.	States	State Commission		District Forums	
		Cases Pending	As on	Cases Pending	As on
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	9	31.12.2004	40	31.12.2004

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Assam	856	31.12.2004	884	30.9.2004
3.	Manipur	27	30.6.2003	35	31.12.2003
4.	Meghalaya	39	30.6.2003	14	30.9.2003
5.	Mizoram	42	30.6.2004	240	30.6.2004
6.	Nagaland	7	31.12.2004	49	30.6.2004
7.	Sikkim	2	30.6.2004	2	30.6.2004
8.	Tripura	220	31.3.2005	175	31.1.2004

Foodgrains Spoiled

6500. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrains that were spoiled in Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns of various States during 2004-05, State-wise and grain-wise;

(b) the reasons for the said spoilage; and

(c) the details of stocks held and allocation made by FCI during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Of the total stock of foodgrains held in the godowns of the FCI, a total quantity of 65,330 MTs of foodgrains was damaged during the year 2004-05. The Region-wise and Grain-wise details of the quantity damaged during the period is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) These stocks of foodgrains stored with the FCI got damaged due to various factors including prolonged storage under cover and plinth (CAP) storage and natural calamities like rains, floods, cyclones etc.

(c) The details of stocks of damaged foodgrains held with FCI and its disposal during the period is as under:—

Fig. in MT

Opening balance as on 1.4.2004	32,578
Receipts during 2004-05	65,330
Disposed of as per the set procedure laid down by the Government during 2004-05	86,141
Closing balance as on 31.3.2005	11,767

Statement

State-wise, Grain-wise Statement showing food grains damaged with FCI during 2004-05

(Fig. in MTs)

Sl.No.	Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	119	219	62	400
2.	Jharkhand	146	60	—	206

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Orissa	—	1161	—	1161
4.	West Bengal	2236	2893	—	5129
5.	Assam*	7	302	—	309
6.	NEF States*	9	184	—	193
7.	N & M Region*	6	45	—	51
8.	Delhi	211	2	—	213
9.	Haryana	2	—	—	2
10.	H.P.	—	—	—	—
11.	J&K	—	—	—	—
12.	Punjab	6070	34588	—	40658
13.	Rajasthan	48	—	—	48
14.	U.P.	144	13199	—	13343
15.	Uttaranchal	1	1	—	2
16.	A.P.	2	164	—	166
17.	Kerala	27	108	—	135
18.	Karnataka	24	164	—	188
19.	Tamil Nadu	—	63	54	117
20.	Gujarat	181	118	—	299
21.	Maharashtra	533	162	—	695
22.	M.P.	1876	14	—	1890
23.	Chhattisgarh	92	33	—	125
	Total	11734	53480	116	65330

*Note:

Region	States
Assam	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh
NEF States	Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura
N & M Region	Nagaland & Manipur

[English]

Irrigation Projects under Cauvery River Basin

6501. SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL): Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects under Cauvery river basin in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu lying pending with the Union Government for approval; and

(b) by when the projects are likely to be accorded approval by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No irrigation project of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in the Cauvery river basin is pending for

approval with the Union Government. However, 1 project of Tamil Nadu namely Modernization of Cauvery Delta Phase-I was accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to few observations. The State Government has not complied with the observations. The clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government comply with the observations of the Central appraising agencies. There is no project of Karnataka in the Cauvery basin under techno-economic appraisal in the Central Water Commission.

[Translation]

Food Development Fund

6502. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a "Food Development Fund" for Food Processing Industries (FPI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide a fillip of the Food Processing Sector by making available institutional finance to new entrepreneurs on soft terms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) In order to ensure easy availability of loans food processing sector has been included in the list of priority sector for bank lending. Govt. has also formulated and implemented several plan schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. The rate of assistance for establishment/modernization of food processing units is 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas. The other major scheme of food parks provides for assistance up to Rs. 4.00 crore, for specified common facilities at the rate of 25% and 33.33% of project cost in the general and difficult areas respectively. At present there is no proposal to set up a food development fund for FPI sector.

[English]

Development of Pilgrim Centres

6503. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI B. MAHTAB:
SHRI TAPIR GAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations from State Governments including Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have been received by the Union Government to give special assistance for development of pilgrim centres; and

(b) the details of grants sanctioned/released to the State Governments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the State Governments identifies projects for development of tourist sites/spots under its scheme of Product Infrastructure Development of Circuits and Destinations. The scope of the scheme also includes development of pilgrim centres. The details of Central Financial Assistance sanctioned/ released to the States of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa during the last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	Year	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. released
Andhra Pradesh	2002-03	507.50	195.00
	2003-04	946.50	896.44
	2004-05	2827.19(p)	2230.38(p)
Orissa	2002-03	47.50	15.75
	2003-04	419.55	138.50
	2004-05	1320.74(p)	1059.38(p)

Setting up of Bio-Fertilizers Production Units

6504. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government under Central sector scheme "National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilizer' is granting assistance to States for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production units;

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

(c) whether any such assistance has also been provided to Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up of bio-fertilizer plant;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) whether the Government proposes to fix norms for compost, vermiculture and bio-fertilizers including them under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985; and

(h) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Under the Central sector scheme "National Project on Development and use of Bio-Fertilizer", financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 lakhs per unit was provided for setting up Bio-fertilizer units during 9th plan and 2002-03. The scheme has been subsumed under a new Central sector scheme "National Project on Organic Farming" with effect from October, 2004. Under the new scheme financial assistance for setting up bio-fertilizer production units @ 25% of the project cost up to a maximum of Rs. 20.00 lakhs is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC). A Statement indicating State wise financial assistance released during 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed. Under the new scheme no state-wise allocation is made. During 2004-05 an amount Rs. 40.00 lakh has been released to NABARD for setting up of Bio-fertilizer units and a provision of Rs. 300.00 lakh has been made for the year 2005-06.

(e) and (f) Proposals received from the Government of Maharashtra during 9th Plan were considered and 14 such proposals were sanctioned for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production units.

(g) and (h) The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have notified specifications for bio-fertilizers namely Rhizobium, Azotobactor, Azospirillum and Phosphate Solublising Bacterial Innoculant (PSBI). The inclusion of specification of organic inputs in the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 (FCO) is being examined.

Statement

State-wise funds released under Central Sector Scheme "National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers" for setting up of Bio-fertilizer production Units

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2002-03	2003-04
1.	Karnataka*	7.00	3.00
2.	Kerala	5.00	0.00
3.	Maharashtra	30.00	0.00
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00
5.	Assam	10.00	0.00
	Total	57.00	3.00

*Second Instalment

Cattle Breed Improvement Project in Karnataka

6505. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had approved a Cattle Breed Improvement Project of Karnataka Livestock Development Agency (KLDA) during 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) if so, the amount released by the Government during the said period;

(c) whether there is any balance amount to be paid to Union Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes Sir. Karnataka Livestock Development Agency (KLDA) is implementing National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding in Karnataka from 2003-04.

(b) to (e) A sum of Rs. 465.00 lakh and Rs. 394.00 lakh has been released to KLDA during 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively. Further release of funds under the project will be made after the receipt of utilization certificate, annual progress report and audit certificate from the State for the released during 2004-05.

Phasing out of Mercury based Equipments from Hospitals

6506. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shift towards mercury-free alternatives and strict regulations are in place globally but such safeguards and regulations for handling mercury does not exist in India;

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

(c) whether a mercury thermometer containing 5 gms of mercury is enough to contaminate a 20-acre lake;

(d) if so, whether hospitals and dental clinics release substantial quantities of mercury every year without any precautions and dispose them of like general waste; and

(e) if so, the details of action plans formulated to phase out the mercury based equipments from hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Countries like Norway, Sweden, Denmark and some States of USA have policies restricting manufacture and sale of mercury based thermometers. In India, the effluent standards notified as well as the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003, under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, regulate disposal of mercury into the environment.

(c) The general effluent standard for discharge into inland surface water as notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in respect of mercury is 0.01 milligram per litre.

(d) and (e) The mercury bearing wastes irrespective of the source of generation (*i.e.* hospitals, industries, etc.) containing mercury and mercury compounds equal to or more than 50 mg/kg are required to be disposed of as per the provisions of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003.

The State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees of Union Territories have been asked by the Central Pollution Control Board to ensure collection/ disposal of mercury and mercury bearing wastes from the healthcare facilities as per the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003.

Mushroom Food Processing Unit

6507. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of food processing units sanctioned and commissioned in the country including Kerala with financial assistance from the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to accord sanction for a Mushroom Processing Unit in the country;

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

(d) the number of such units which were given financial assistance by the Government during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) A statement showing number of the Food Processing units sanctioned assistance by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries State-wise is enclosed.

(b) to (d) No sanction of the Central Government is required for establishment of a mushroom processing unit. However, financial assistance is provided to mushroom processing units under the Scheme for technology upgradation/establishment/modernization of FPI units. During the last three years, financial assistance has been extended to two mushroom processing units in Himachal Pradesh, one each in Haryana, Orissa, Punjab, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

Statement

States	No. of units sanctioned assistance (As on 02.05.2005)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	44
Andaman and Nicobar	0
Arunachal Pradesh	1
Assam	16
Bihar	4
Chhattisgarh	1
Delhi	1
Goa	4
Gujarat	22
Haryana	14
Himachal Pradesh	15
Jammu & Kashmir	13
Jharkhand	0
Karnataka	28
Kerala	17
Lakshadweep, Minicoy Islands	0
Madhya Pradesh	9
Maharashtra	71
Manipur	24
Meghalaya	4
Mizoram	2
Nagaland	2
Orissa	8
Pondicherry	3
Punjab	47
Rajasthan	6
Sikkim	0
Tamil Nadu	37
Tripura	4
Uttar Pradesh	50
Uttaranchal	6
West Bengal	31
Total	484

Failure of Consumer Movement

6508. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumer movement in the country has failed to achieve its objectives;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made to achieve the said objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Department of Consumer Affairs being the nodal Department for consumer protection has taken initiatives to launch Multi-Media Campaign for an effective sustained consumer awareness campaign in the country with special emphasis on North-Eastern region and rural and remote areas. The Department has also set up National Consumer Helpline and website for consumer advocacy and redressal of grievances of consumers.

Use of Mechanical Power in Agriculture

6509. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian agriculture is getting increasingly mechanized;

(b) if so, whether the share of mechanical power constituting of tractor power tillers, electric motors and diesel engines has raised from 40 percent in 1971-72 to 84 percent in 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the facilities are being provided to the farmers to improve their agriculture products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The contribution of the mechanical power to the total power availability in 1971-72 was 39.63 percent and it increased to 83.62 percent in 2001-02.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Suggestions of CITES on Protection of Indian Tigers

6510. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) has requested the Union Government for saving the endangered Indian tigers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Secretary General of CITES, while acknowledging the positive initiatives taken by Indian, has expressed concern over wildlife law enforcement and the disturbing reports regarding tiger in the country. The CITES has offered assistance in coordinating the support from governments and non-governmental organizations around the world.

(c) A meeting of the CITES Enforcement Task Force has been convened in New Delhi from 17-19 May 2005, to give special focus to the illicit trade in skins of Asian big cat species. Representatives from the CITES Secretariat, India, Nepal and China have been requested to participate in the said meeting.

Yatri Niwas in States

6511. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Yatri Niwas in the States, place-wise as on date;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal for construction of yatri niwas in various States during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism during the 10th Plan has formulated a Scheme of Product Infrastructure Development of Tourism Circuits and Destinations under which financial assistance is rendered to the State Governments for integrated infrastructure development of identified tourist destinations. The scheme for construction of Yatri Niwas has been discontinued in the 10th Plan.

Amount for Contract Farming

6512. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide finances for promoting contract farming through public sector banks in Maharashtra especially in Nagpur division;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any particular bank has been earmarked for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the money made available for the purpose in current fiscal year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Global Opportunities Fund

6513. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Global opportunities fund of the UK foreign and commonwealth office are funding a project aimed at harnessing renewable energy potential in the Indian sugar industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said project would help in creating environmental friendly renewable energy source in the country;

(d) if so, by when the said project is likely to be completed; and

(e) the benefits likely to accrue to sugar mills as a result of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources, National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited and Indian Sugar Mills Association have reported that they are not aware of any such project.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Soil Erosion by Rivers

6514. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people living on the banks of the Ganga, the Yamuna, the Gomati, the Ghaghara, the Tamsa rivers in Uttar Pradesh, have been suffering losses to their lives and properties due to soil erosion by the rivers; and

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

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

(b) Flood Management being within the purview of the State Government, this schemes are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. Government of Uttar Pradesh has proposed under mentioned schemes in respect of Ganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Ghaghra and Tamsa.

Sl.No.	Name of River	Nos. of Anti Erosion Works under progress	Nos. of Anti Erosion Works under consideration
1.	Ganga	9	16
2.	Yamuna	6	8
3.	Gomti	1	2
4.	Ghaghra	5	12
5.	Tamsa (also called Tons)	—	2
	Total	21	40

[English]

Information to Tourists by Agencies

6515. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of some private tourist agencies giving misleading information to domestic as well as foreign tourists; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to identify such agencies and to initiate action against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has a Compliant Cell which, on receipt of specific complaints, initiates action against the concerned tourist agency.

[Translation]

Review of Antyodaya Anna Yojana

6516. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

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

(a) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any review or study of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana to improve its working;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Recently an evaluation study of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) has been conducted through M/s. ORG Centre for Social Research, New Delhi. The final report of the study received by the Government on 22.3.2005 is under examination.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Raising of Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam

6517. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

(a) whether the Environment Sub-group (ESG) chaired by the Secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Forests has cleared the raising of the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam to 121 metres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken to protect and compensate the environmental losses before raising the height beyond 90 metres as directed by Hon'ble Supreme Court;

(d) the number of visits made by the ESG on the site before granting clearance and submitting its report; and

(e) the further view of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Environment Sub-Group (ESG) of Narmada Control Authority (NCA), after taking note of the substantial compliance of the environmental action plan and preparedness of the project authorities for completion of the remaining works and after obtaining assurances from them, has recommended to the NCA for allowing raise in the dam height up to a level of 121.92M during its 41st meeting held on 6th January, 2005.

(c) The Environmental Sub-Group periodically reviews the status of implementation of Environment Safeguard Measures before according any recommendation for raising the dam height. This Subgroup has held 42 meetings so far.

(d) The Environment Sub-Group has not undertaken any field visit. However inspections are carried out by the officers of the NCA under the directions of the Environment Sub-Group from time to time.

(e) The raising of the dam height requires permission from the NCA, which have to first ensure compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 15.3.05.

Tourism Promotion in China

6518. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Tourism industry is all set to explore possibilities of tourism in China;

(b) if so, whether India is going to open a tourists representative office in the capital of China to woo tourists towards Indian destinations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any publicity campaign has been carried out by Indian Government in Chinese newspapers in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of Chinese tourists visited India during the last year and strategy chalked out by the Government keeping in view the increased scope of Chinese tourists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Govt. has initiated the process to open a representative office in China to further augment the tourist arrivals from this potential market.

(d) and (e) A publicity campaign was carried out in the South China Morning Post newspaper in Hong Kong, in August 2004.

(f) The number of tourists visiting India from China (including Taiwan and Hong Kong) was 34,097 during 2003 and 17,275 in just four months during the period January to April 2004.

The strategy for promoting India as a destination in China focuses on participation in important travel fairs and exhibitions in mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, organizing road shows and India Seminars, brochure support to travel agents, joint advertising with travel agents, fame tours to India for Travel Agents and Media, promotion through the print media and websites and printing of brochures in the local languages.

Quality and Prices of Steel

6519. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has yet not set-up research projects to aim at reducing the cost of steel items to improve quality of steel products etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for prices of steel product being higher in India and the quality of steel products being inferior in comparison to other countries; and

(d) the steps the Government proposes to take to improve the quality of steel and to reduce the prices of steel utensils etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Research & Development (R&D) in the Indian Iron & Steel Sector is mainly carried out by the Steel Plants themselves. However, to encourage the R&D activities, Government has decided to spend upto Rs. 150 crores per annum to supplement the R&D expenditure. Accordingly, an Empowered Committee has been set up for overall direction in R&D and approving/ reviewing specific R&D projects. So far 36 R&D projects have been approved, out of which 20 research projects have been completed. These projects aim at improving productivity, yield, process efficiency, cost reduction as well as quality improvement.

(c) Following deregulation of prices in 1991-92, domestic prices of steel have become market determined. In general, Domestic market prices remain aligned with the international prices. Generally speaking, quality of Indian steel products is comparable to the quality of steel in other countries and Indian steel products have been widely accepted in terms of quality performance in various countries including the developed countries.

(d) Post liberalization, Government has allowed free import of technology and capital goods as well as raw material. While the existing steel plants are being modernized to adopt the modern technological innovations; new plants are being set up adopting the latest, state-of-the-art technologies to achieve improved productivity and to produce quality steel at competitive cost. Further, to reduce the cost of production of steel including stainless steel (which are inputs for stainless steel utensils) Government has reduced the customs duty on some of the vital inputs used for production of steel. Besides, customs duty on non-alloy/alloy/stainless steel products has also been reduced.

Global Food and Nutritional Security

6520. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a recently held International Consultation on Bio-Diversity the experts have expressed their concern at the narrowing base of Global Food and Nutritional Security and stressed the need for better deployment of plant bio-diversity;

(b) if so, whether need for International collaborations in the conservation and equitable use of biological wealth has also been felt by them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps, the Government proposes to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) An international consultation on the role of biodiversity in achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of Freedom from Hunger and Poverty was held during 18-19 April, 2005 at Chennai. The experts were concerned at the declining number of plant species in agriculture and stressed on the need for greater attention to the cultivation and use of plant biodiversity including locally important crops and better deployment of plant biodiversity. The experts further expressed that while respecting national sovereignty, there was need for greater collaboration to facilitate international access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources for equitable use of biological wealth.

(d) In order to regulate access to biological resources and ensure benefit sharing between providers of bio-resources and its users on mutually agreed terms, a National Biodiversity Authority has been established at Chennai under the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

[Translation]

Schemes Announced for Farmers

6521. SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of schemes which have been started so far out of the schemes announced for the farmers in the Tenth Plan by the Government;

(b) whether the farmers of the country are getting the benefit of these schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government have received the cases in regard to establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and the scheme to run these Kendras by volunteer organizations only on papers; and

(e) if so, the total amount spent on this scheme and the total number of farmers who have actually got its benefit till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) There are 40 such schemes in the operation at present. These schemes have been formulated essentially to increase the production of productivity in agriculture sector and, hence are directly beneficial to the farmers.

(d) Of the 451 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) sanctioned as on 31st March, 2005, 83 KVKs have been sanctioned to be run by Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) *i.e.* voluntary organizations.

(e) An amount of Rs. 15,253.73 lakhs was allocated to these KVKs during 2004-05. During the same period, these Kendras took up 607 technologies for non-farm trials and 32,339 frontline demonstrations. They also organized various programmes including extension activities benefiting 21.67 lakhs farmers and produced 7491 tonnes of seeds and 50.31 lakhs of planting material.

Effort to make Fertile Land in Gujarat

6522. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has made any efforts to convert the infertile land into fertile;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has consulted FCI, Arravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The State Government of Gujarat is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Programme for Reclamation of Alkali Soils from the year 1995-96, to reclaim akali soils to make them fertile. The programme is being implemented covering five districts of Gujarat namely, Vadodara, Kheda, Ahmedabad, Patan and Mehsana. Under this programme, 12490 hectares of infertile land has already been brought under cultivation so far.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) For reclamation of alkali soils, gypsum is used as soil amendment which is procured from Gujarat State Fertilizer Company, Baroda—a State Government enterprise.

Reduction in Number of Drugs Covered under Drug Control

6523. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has requested his Ministry to reduce the number of drugs covered under drug control;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check the prices of the medicines covered under drug control; and

(c) the provisions made to maintain the quality of the medicines in case of lower prices and the salient features of those provisions?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The quality parameters as well as requirements of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) etc. are laid down under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules (administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) which are to be uniformly followed by all lincesed drug manufacturers in the country irrespective of the prices of the drugs marketed by them.

[English]

Vacant Posts of Medical Category in ESI

6524. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Directorate (Medical), ESI Scheme, New Delhi has given any advertisement in the leading newspaper for filling up some posts under medical categories in the month of June, 2004 and February, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any delay in the process of filling up these posts;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of SCs/STs candidates who have been scrutinised and short listed for test and interview for each posts; and

(f) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In June, 2004 advertisement for filling up 75 posts of nursing orderlies was published and in February, 2005 advertisement for filling up 69 posts of various para medical categories was advertised to fill up the backlog of SC/ST vacancies.

(c) and (d) A large number of applications (21808) in response to advertisement made in June, 2004 have been received and scrutiny/short-listing is under progress. Referring to the advertisement of February, 2005 there is no delay in filling up of these posts.

(e) Since the scrutiny and short-listing of applications is in process, the exact number of SC/ST candidates who fulfill the requirement of interview is yet to be determined.

(f) Corporation is active in the process of filling up of these posts and it will be done very shortly.

[Translation]

Cheap Medicines for Poor People

6525. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

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

(a) whether the Government is emphasizing on adopting alternative research system to develop cheap medicines for poor people;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) There are no diseases exclusive to poor. The diseases associated with poor hygienic conditions and malnutrition, such as, TB, gastroenteritis/ cholera, malaria, Kala-azar, etc., may be categorised as diseases, which are prevalent more in the poor people than other sections of society.

Indian drug companies have been carrying out research programmes for development of processes for manufacture of a number of drugs required for these diseases, as well as development of new molecules of pharmaceutical value, for treatment of such diseases.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has mounted "Pharmaceutical Research and Developmental Support Fund (PRDSF)" programme (formerly this activity was dealt under "Drugs and Pharmaceutical Research Programme (DPRP)" on Drug Development for promoting collaborative Research and Development (R&D) with the specific objective to synergise the strengths of publicly funded R&D institutions and Indian Pharmaceutical Industry in all systems of medicines.

Under this programme 15 projects have been on herbal drugs covering the areas of Ayurveda and Sidha Systems of Medicines for diseases like Rheumatism, Diarrhoea, Pancretistis, Gastritis, ischaemic heart diseases, skin, cardiac disorders, cancer, eye diseases, AIDS, Malaria, rheumatoid Arthritis, Leucoderma, Respiratory disorders etc.

Separately, in order to augment the traditional systems of medicine, the Government of India put in place a national Policy on Indian Systems of Medicine & Homeopathy in the year 2002. The major objectives of the policy are to promote good health and expand the outreach of health care to the people, particularly those not provided curative intervention of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH). It also aims to ensure affordable AYUSH services and drugs which are safe and efficacious. Four Research Councils have been established under the Department of AYUSH for research and Development worked including the drug research. Apart from the intramural research conducted by the Research Councils, the Government has initiated a scheme called "Golden Triangle Partnership" for the development of new Ayurveda drugs in addition to validating the existing formulations. Department of AYUSH, CSIR and ICMR will work together to validate classical Ayurvedic formulations for treatment of diseases of national as well as global interest. R&D based safe, effective and standardized Ayurvedic and natural medicines with IPR potentials for identified disease conditions are intended to be developed utilizing appropriate technologies & research methodologies.

[English]

Fishing Industry

6526. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fishing industry in Vizag is suffering a lot due to the ban on the entry of fishing boats from Andhra Pradesh into the Bay of Bengal and Orissa coasts;

(b) if so, whether the Government has convened any meeting with boat owners to discuss the issue and decide on further steps to be taken;

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

(d) whether the Government has received any proposal for the fisher folk allowing them to fish in any part of the country; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The request of mechanized fishing trawlers of Andhra Pradesh for permitting them in Orissa state waters has been rejected by the Orissa State Fisheries Department.

[Translation]

Fund for Edible oil Industry

6527. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for setting up a separate fund for the edible oil industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While there is no Fund (established by the Central Government) entitled "Edible Oil Industry Development Fund", a proposal to create an "Edible Oil Industry Development Fund" by setting a part of the proceeds on import duty on edible oils was forwarded to the Ministry to Finance in August 2001. In this proposal, it was mentioned that the Fund may be utilized to meet the requirement of the existing edible oil units for modernization/technical upgradation, as also for the revival/ rehabilitation of sick edible oil units.

The Ministry of Finance intimated in September 2001 that the proposal to create an Edible Oil Industry Development Fund was similar to that of the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) which is supported through imposition of Cess, charged along with excise, at the sugar factory gate. However, unlike sugar industry, the oilseed crushers are far too numerous, lack organization and fall in the Small Scale Industries (SSI) reservation category. Hence, the Ministry of Finance stated that it was not feasible to impose a Cess on these units.

As regards the suggestion that a part of the proceeds of Customs Duty could be set aside for creation of the Fund, the Ministry of Finance indicated that the same did not appear appropriate as Customs Duty collections accrue to the Consolidated Fund of India and the proceeds are apportioned between the Centre and the States. Hence, an Edible Oil Industry Development Fund could not be established.

Crashing of Aircrafts Owned by Bokaro Steel Plant

6528. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircrafts of Bokrao Steel Plant crashed during the last three years and current year till date indicating the date on which they crashed;

(b) the reasons behind each of the air crashes and the loss suffered on account of each air crash;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry conducted in this regard and the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the measures taken to check such air crashes?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No aircraft of Bokaro Steel Plant has crashed in the last three years and current year till date.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Funds by National Seed Corporation

6529. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the National Seeds Corporation for providing seeds to farmers in the country during the last five years particularly Bihar, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government of Bihar has requested to the Union Government for any assistance in this regard;

(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 AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) National Seeds Corporation does not allocate funds to States for providing seeds to farmers in the country, rather the Corporation is involved in production and sale of quality seeds in the country. State-wise seed sold by the Corporation is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) Government has given assistance to Bihar under different Schemes namely "Macro Management Mode of Agriculture through State Work Plan" and "Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil-palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) apart from supplying seed minikits of various crops. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise sale of seeds during last 5 years

S.No.	Year		Total	Gujarat	Karnataka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Madhya Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh	West Bengal/ Sikkim	Orissa	Haryana	Punjab	Himachal Pradesh	J&K	Delhi	North East States	Andhra Pradesh	Rajasthan	Uttar Pradesh/ Uttaranchal	Bihar/ Jharkhand	Maha-rashtra
1.	1999-00	Qty. (Qtls.)	350469	8237	23094	12500	2500	9831	35888	1500	8600	16194	4750	5951	2228	12310	15787	39115	106402	22741	22841
		Value (Rs. Lakhs)	6620.06	155.3	436.25	236.13	47.23	185.71	677.9	28.34	162.5	305.9	89.73	112.41	42.09	232.54	298.22	738.88	2009.93	429.58	431.47
2.	2000-01	Qty. (Qtls.)	345029	9487	22701	13756	4829	6430	26278	7015	8499	13167	4489	6561	1738	11809	8207	32205	110319	39316	18223
		Value (Rs. Lakhs)	6212.01	170.91	408.71	247.66	86.94	115.77	473.1	126.3	153	237.06	80.82	118.12	31.29	212.61	147.76	579.82	1986.18	707.85	328.09
3.	2001-02	Qty. (Qtls.)	337787	8268	241.48	29400	4535	14717	19718	5879	106.5	22696	13066	5186	1931	13359	10537	25506	81218	26145	20812
		Value (Rs. Lakhs)	7366.04	180.3	526.59	641.12	98.89	320.93	430	128.2	232.2	494.93	285.36	113.09	42.11	291.32	229.78	556.2	1771.1	570.14	453.84
4.	2002-03	Qty. (Qtls.)	337787	7499	20227	24772	4101	40523	16425	2601	8804	11712	13247	6717	2262	6919	7039	24390	94450	36551	9348
		Value (Rs. Lakhs)	7366.04	163.53	441.09	540.2	89.43	863.68	358.2	61.08	192	255.4	288.87	146.48	49.33	150.88	153.5	531.87	2059.65	797.06	203.85
5.	2003-04	Qty. (Qtls.)	4047.46	7271	18564	24153	3134	62152	15759	2688	13216	13823	9472	2447	2067	8472	8458	20929	141741	35829	14571
		Value (Rs. Lakhs)	8641.32	155.24	396.34	515.67	66.91	1326.94	336.5	57.39	282.2	295.12	202.23	52.24	44.13	180.88	180.58	446.83	3026.17	764.95	311.09

Statement II

Details of Central Assistance requested by Government of Bihar and released by Government of India during last five years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Macro Management mode of Agriculture through State Work Plan assistance including Seeds and planting material		Oilseeds Production Programme Assistance including Seeds		National Pulses Development Project Assistance including Seeds	
	Amount demanded/ requested by Government of Bihar	Amount released by Government of India	Amount demanded/ requested by Government of Bihar	Amount released by Government of India	Amount demanded/ requested by Government of Bihar	Amount released by Government of India
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2000-01	1319.00	261.07	60.00	—	72.00	—
2001-02	4000.00	1800.00	60.00	—	100.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2002-03	2500.00	1250.00	30.00	—	40.00	—
2003-04	1800.00	900.00	27.00	28.00	9.00	9.00
2004-05	1800.00	1786.51	—	—	290.00*	145.00*

*From 1.4.2004 onwards the Oilseeds Production Programme and National Pulse Development Project have been merged in one Scheme of "Integrated Scheme on Oil Seeds, Pulses, Oil-palm and Maize"

Seed Minikit demanded by Government of Bihar during Rabi 2004-05		Seed Minikit Allocated/Supplied by Government of India	
Pulses	No. of Minikits	No. of Minikits	Quantity in Quintal
Gram	60,000	57,500	4,600
Lentil	20,000	4,375	175
Peas	60,000	2,450	196
Oilseeds	—	—	—
Mustard	1,50,000	1,01,000	2,020
Sunflower	—	200	4

[English]

Stumbling Blocks in Tourism Sector in North-East

6530. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North-East is facing a few stumbling blocks in tourism sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove the stumbling blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts/UTs. However, the development of tourism in the North East has been slow due to lack of adequate tourist infrastructure. In order to cover this gap, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has initiated steps to speed up the development of tourism in North East by grant of financial assistance under the following schemes:—

1. Product/Infrastructure, Destination Development
2. Integrated Development of Travel Circuits
3. Rural Tourism Development
4. Large Revenue Generating Projects
5. Information Technology support
6. Promotion & Publicity support
7. Survey & Studies for preparation of Feasibility Reports and Detailed Project Reports

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for the projects identified in consultation with the State Governments concerned. Statement showing projects sanctioned to North Eastern States during 2004-2005 is enclosed.

Statement

Funds sanctioned to North East including Sikkim during 2004-2005

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Project Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	
	1. Designation Development of Along	266.00
	2. Construction of Wayside Amenities at Kuporiji	65.40
	3. Development of Gangalake Itanagar	243.00
	4. Eco-Tourist Huts at Changlaang	83.24
	5. Development of Gangalake Phase II, Itanagar	244.06
	6. Development of Zeminthang	384.00
2.	Assam	
	1. Development of NE Circuit, Assam	350.00
	2. Rural Tourism at Sualkuchi, Kamrup District	384.00
3.	Meghalaya	
	1. Development of Barapani, Umiam	289.15
	2. Development of Tourist Circuit, Meghalaya	674.15
4.	Mizoram	
	1. Destination Development of Mizoram	442.35
	2. Circuit Development of Mizoram	634.00
5.	Nagaland	
	1. Eco-Tourism Convention Centre at Piphema	351.00
	2. Destination Development of Pfutsero	439.24
	3. Renovation of Tourist Lodges at Kohima & Dimapur	58.95
	4. Rural Tourism-Phase II Under PM's Package	550.00
	5. Development of Tourist Circuits at 6 places in Nagaland	766.50
6.	Sikkim	
	1. Motorala Repeater Station	3.81
	2. Rural Tourism at Lachen Village	50.00
	3. Development of Buddhist Circuit	181.00
	4. Development of Tourism Circuit West Sikkim	396.00

Production of Edible Oils

6531. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of oil seeds produced in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of edible oils produced in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the quantum of edible oils imported to meet the country's domestic demand during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any initiatives are being made to increase the production of oil seeds in the country so as to fill the gap between the production of edible oil and the demand;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the results; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The state-wise production of oilseeds is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No precise figures about state-wise production of edible oils are available. However, as reported by Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetable Oils and Fat under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the State-wise estimated production of edible oils based on the oilseeds produced in the respective States is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The quantum of edible oils imported during the last three years is shown below:

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Amount of edible oils imported
April 2001-March 2002	43.22
April 2002-March 2003	43.65
April 2003-March 2004	52.95

(d) to (f) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing states with a view to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds in the country. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, publicity, etc. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Besides, flexibility has also been given to the states for introducing innovative measures or any special component to the extent of 10% of financial allocation and involvement of private sector by the State Governments in the implementation of the programme *i.e.* seed production, supply of inputs, extension support, block and frontline demonstrations with a financial cap of 15%.

Implementation of Oilseeds Production Programme in the country has helped in increasing the production of oilseeds from 10.83 million tonnes in 1985-86 to 25.29 million tonnes during 2003-04.

Statement

State-wise Estimated Production of Oilseeds and Edible Oils

(Lakh Tonnes)

State/UT	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04*	
	Oilseeds	Oil	Oilseeds	Oil	Oilseeds	Oil
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. PRIMARY SOURCE						
Andhra Pradesh	16.14	4.09	12.56	3.31	16.87	4.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	1.56	0.48	1.49	0.46	1.47	0.44
Bihar	1.20	0.37	1.09	0.34	1.27	0.39
Chhattisgarh	1.13	0.30	1.01	0.27	0.85	0.23
Gujarat	36.36	9.56	16.83	4.58	55.86	14.24
Haryana	8.07	2.50	7.09	2.20	9.97	3.10
Himachal Pradesh	0.10	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.11	0.03
Jammu & Kashmir	0.42	0.13	0.98	0.30	0.41	0.13
Jharkhand	0.28	0.08	0.22	0.07	0.38	0.11
Karnataka	10.20	2.69	11.12	3.02	10.39	2.86
Kerala	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.01
Madhya Pradesh	45.68	8.35	29.96	5.32	55.86	10.04
Maharashtra	22.26	4.44	23.27	4.52	29.53	5.48
Orissa	1.38	0.38	1.14	0.32	2.49	0.70
Punjab	0.83	0.25	0.92	0.29	1.07	0.33
Rajasthan	31.29	8.45	17.54	4.97	39.49	11.02
Tamil Nadu	13.13	3.08	10.23	2.40	11.82	2.78
Uttar Pradesh	10.34	3.12	8.73	2.66	6.47	1.95
Uttaranchal	0.18	0.04	0.23	0.05	0.31	0.06
West Bengal	4.95	1.49	4.76	1.44	5.98	1.81
Others	1.14	0.30	1.33	0.34	0.77	0.19
Sub Total	206.66	50.14	150.57	36.88	251.42	60.38
B. SECONDARY SOURCE						
Coconut	—	5.50	—	5.50	—	5.50
Cotton Seed	—	4.70	—	4.30	—	4.30
Ricebran	—	5.50	—	6.00	—	6.00
Solvent Extracted Oils	—	2.80	—	2.00	—	3.30
Tree & Forest Origin	—	0.80	—	0.80	—	0.80
Sub Total	—	19.30	—	18.60	—	19.90
Total (A + B)	—	69.44	—	55.48	—	80.28

*4th Advance Estimates

Source : Oilseeds : Ministry of Agriculture

Oils : Based on the oilseeds produced in the respective stand.

Changes in Recruitment Policy

6532. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make any changes in recruitment policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Ministry of Labour & Employment has no proposal to make changes in the recruitment policy.

(b) Does not arise.

P.F. Deposited by Nokia (India) Pvt. Ltd.

6533. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 818 on December 6, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

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

(c) by when it is likely to be collected and laid on the table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. M/s Nokia (India) Pvt. Ltd. has been brought under the purview of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 w.e.f. 22.09.1997.

The establishment has deposited a sum of Rs. 22,09,170/- upto November, 2004 towards the Provident Fund amount with the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Delhi on 22.12.2004. The establishment has also made subsequent compliance for the month of December, 2004. Thereafter the establishment has shifted its base to Gurgaon, Haryana and a new PF code number HR/26809 has been allotted w.e.f. 01.01.05. The inquiry under Section 7A of the Act has been initiated to verify the correctness of amount deposited by the establishment on 22.12.2004.

Population of Indian Cranes

6534. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any census to ascertain the population of Indian cranes was conducted in 1983;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present population of the Indian cranes;

(d) the reasons for depletion of Indian cranes; and

(e) the steps taken to protect the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A limited census and population estimation of Sarus Crane, Common Crane and Demosille Crane was reported to have been conducted in the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan in 1983. The estimated population was around 1,50,000-2,00,000.

(c) As per the reports available for the census conducted between 1999-2002 the population of various Cranes are as below-

Sl.No.	Crane	No.
1.	Sarus Crane	8000-10000
2.	Common Crane	1,50,000
3.	Black Necked Crane	70

(d) The main reasons of the depletion of Indian Crane are as follows—

i. Depletion and degradation of wetlands that are found to be good crane habitat.

ii. Changes in land use and agricultural cropping pattern which do not favour crane population.

iii. Excessive use of insecticide, pesticide in the agricultural landscape.

iv. Feral dogs and other predator destroying crane eggs and chicks.

v. Stealing of crane eggs and poaching of crane juveniles by errant village community.

vi. Electrocution of cranes in high-tension and supply electricity power line.

(e) The steps taken to protect the same are as follows—

i. Indian Crane species are protected under various schedules of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

ii. Important wetland sites with crane population have been declared as RAMSAR sites, National Park, Sanctuaries or Wetlands of National importance.

[Translation]

Norms for Development of Tourist Spots under Ecological Township Project

6535. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms stipulated by the Central Pollution Control Board to develop tourist spots of the country under Ecological Township Project; and

(b) the details of the religious places of the country including Maharashtra proposed to be included by the Government under the said project on the basis of these norms, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has undertaken a demonstration project on development of religious/tourist cities/towns as Ecocities with overall objective to improve environment through identified projects mainly relating to sewerage, drainage, solid waste management, traffic and transportation, plantation and landscaping.

(b) Twelve towns have been identified where the Ecocity project would be implemented. In the first phase, the Ecocity project has been taken up for the towns of Vindavan, Puri, Ujjain, Tirupati, Kottayam and Thanjaour.

[English]

Task Force on Petrochemicals

6536. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task force on petrochemicals has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, whether the same has been accepted by the Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to give concrete shape to the recommendations of the Task Force on Petrochemicals, a National Policy on Petrochemicals is being finalized by this Department. The Policy measures being proposed in the National policy are to be first discussed with other Ministries/Departments before the adoption of the Policy by the Cabinet.

[Translation]

Ban on N.C.C.F.

6537. SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has banned the National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) from acting as a broker in selling the rotten grains of Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to dispose of such grains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per present policy of the Government, damaged stock of foodgrains are sold by the FCI only to bonafide State owned Departments/Agencies who are users of damaged foodgrains and other bonafide parties registered with the FCI in this behalf.

[English]

Scheme to Discourage Child Labour

6538. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

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

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to discourage parents/employers in encouraging child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken against the offenders of labour laws?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to eliminating child labour in hazardous occupations and processes, the National Child Labour Project Scheme was started in the year 1988 which was expanded to cover 100 districts during the 9th Plan and was further expanded to cover 250 districts during the 10th Plan. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes, are put into special schools in order to enable them to be mainstreamed into formal schooling system. The Scheme provides for disbursement of stipend to all child labourers enrolled in the special school @ Rs. 100/- per child per month, supply of free educational & vocational material and nutrition.

(c) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 which is being enforced by the respective State Governments, provides that any person who employs and child in contravention of the provisions of the Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months but which may extend to one year or with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000 but which may extend to Rs. 20,000 or both.

[Translation]

VRS in FCI

6539. SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has introduced Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its staff/officers during the last one year;

(b) if so, whether the said scheme has been cleared by the Government;

(c) if so, whether the Government has issued the required notification for extending retirement benefits to the staff/officers availing VRS;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by when it is likely to be issued;

(e) the details of staff/officers availing the benefit of this scheme in the country especially Western Uttar Pradesh during the said period; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure retirement benefits to such staff/officers at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. With a view to rationalizing the manpower and reducing the establishment cost and improving the operational efficiency, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) introduced a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for its employees on 29th June, 2004, with the approval of the Government.

(e) The number of employees/officers who have retired under the VRS are as under:

Category-I	95
Category-II	2057
Category-III	4591
Category-IV	2033
Total	8777

The number of employees/officers who have retired under the VRS in Uttar Pradesh Region are as under:

Category-I	4
Category-II	159
Category-III	235
Category-IV	139
Total	537

(f) The FCI has issued instructions for prompt payment of retirement dues to the retirees.

[English]

National Water Policy

6540. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States have formulated their own State Water Policies as envisaged by a resolution in the meeting;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether River Basin Organisation has been established for planned development and management of a river basin as a whole or sub basins; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Some of the States have formulated their own State Water Policy.

(b) Following States have formulated their own State Water Supply:

(a) Chhattisgarh

(b) Goa

(c) Gujarat

(d) Haryana

(e) Himachal Pradesh

(f) Jharkhand

(g) Kerala

(h) Karnataka

(i) Madhya Pradesh

(j) Maharashtra

(k) Orissa

(l) Punjab

(m) Rajasthan

(n) Tamil Nadu

(o) Uttar Pradesh

The State Water Policy of Meghalaya is under formulation. Union Territories of Daman and Diu & Dadra and Nagar Haveli have informed that they are following National Water Policy, 2002.

(c) Government of India have not established any River Basin Organisation for planned development and management of river basin as whole or sub basins.

(d) Does not arise.

Grants to States under AIBP

6541. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that to include grant component in Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) with 70% loan and 30% grant for general category States and 10% loan and 90% grant for special category States for projects under Fast Track Programme;

(b) if so, which are the States in general category and fast track programme; and

(c) in how many States, an incentive of conversion of loan to grant has been implemented, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The grant component was included in the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) with effect from 1.4.2004 with 70% loan and 30% grant for general category States and 10% loan and 90% grant for special category states for projects under Fast Track Programme. An incentive for conversation of loan to grant as mentioned above was also given to the projects not under Fast Track if completed on schedule. However, in its meeting held on 16th March, 2005, the Cabinet has further relaxed the criteria of AIBP to allow grant component under AIBP at the stage of release of CLA for Fast Track projects as well as for projects not under Fast Track Programme of AIBP. Accordingly, grant was provided to 26 States which were provided CLA under AIBP during 2004-05.

Establishment of Joint Venture Company

6542. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh proposes to establish a Joint Venture Company with the World Tuna Development International for exploitation of Tuna fishery;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent said proposal to the Union Government for its clearance;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal received by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) the action taken by the Union Government thereon so far; and

(e) by when the Union Government is going to issue permission letter to Andhra Pradesh Government?

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

(c) Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed to establish a joint venture project with World Tuna Development International Inc. (WTDI), U.S.A. for exploitation of Deep Sea Tuna Fishery. The proposal involves import of twelve Tuna Long Line Fishing Vessels by Indian joint venture company for operation in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

(d) and (e) With the promulgation of Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy by the Government in October, 2004, it has been decided that Indian entrepreneurs may apply afresh for acquisition of deep sea fishing vessels together with requisite processing fee. Application for joint venture need certain evidence of having at least 51% Indian equity and shore based processing capacity.

Development of Sugar Units

6543. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum issued/cleared for the development/ expansion of sugar units in various States particularly Maharashtra since de-licensing of the Sugar Industry and till date; and

(b) the capacity of such units in Maharashtra, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) State-wise number of Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEM) issued for establishment of new sugar units/expansion of existing units after de-licesing of sugar industry upto 31.3.2005, are given below:—

Name of State/Union Territory	No. filed
Andhra Pradesh	62
Bihar	6
Gujarat	13
Haryana	11
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Karnataka	150
Madhya Pradesh	21
Maharashtra	1101
Nagaland	1
Orissa	2
Punjab	16
Tamil Nadu	34
Uttar Pradesh	357
West Bengal	5
Chhattisgarh	3
Jharkhand	2
Uttaranchal	21
Pondicherry	2
Total	1808

(b) The information is being compiled.

Dairy Development in U.P.

6544. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided by the Union Government for dairy development in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years, scheme-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government monitors the utilization of this amount: and

(c) if so, the achievements made in dairy development in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The details of amount released by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries for dairy development to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years under the Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP), Assistance to Cooperatives and Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production, are as follows:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)	—	325.09	364.82
2.	Assistance to Cooperatives	351.04	46.00	443.41
3.	Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production	—	—	96.64

(b) The implementation of the approved projects is monitored through Quarterly Progress Reports received from the implementing agencies and meetings of the Technical Management Committees constituted under schemes. The review meetings/video conferences are also held regularly alongwith visits of the experts from the Headquarters to monitor the implementation of the schemes and the utilisation of funds released.

(c) Under the IDDP, 1600 village level Dairy Cooperative Societies have been formed with more than 1 lakh farmer members procuring around 74000 litres of milk per day as on 31.12.2004. 3300 farmer members have been trained during the year 2004-05 for adopting good hygienic practices for producing good quality milk under the scheme "Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production". Four District Milk Unions namely, Mathura, Moradabad, Varanasi and Aligarh have been assisted during last three years. The performance of Mathura Milk Union has been reported as satisfactory while the performance of Moradabad and Varanasi Milk Unions have been reported as moderately satisfactory. The rehabilitation plan of Aligarh Milk Union was approved only in March 2005.

Opening of Research and Training Centres

6545. SHRI C.H. VIJAYASHANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open Research and Training Centres for people engaged in sheep rearing in the country particularly in Karnataka; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Establishment of National Environment Tribunal

6546. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

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

(a) whether the National Environment Tribunal under the National Environment Tribunal Act, 1955 has been set up;

(b) if so, the composition term and reference of the said Tribunal;

(c) the number of cases so far referred to it and the number out of them dispose of by the tribunal; and

(d) the steps taken to dispose of the cases in stipulated time period?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Work Overload

6547. SHRI HEMLAL MUMRU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Laboratory under Bureau of Indian Standards (CLBIS), Sahibabad (U.P.) is facing a twin problem of shortage of technicians and work overload;

(b) if so, the mechanism developed by the Government for providing prompt service to the licensees and complainants of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) within a stipulated time limit;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide alternative arrangement for laboratory tests, packaging of paper and paper products and concerned assignments of CLBIS by private laboratories and Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is a lack of transparency in BIS Central Laboratory regarding the method of testing; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check corruption in CLBIS and promote transparency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Central Laboratory of Bureau of Indian Standards (CLBIS) is facing twin problem of shortage of technicians and work overload. However, this problem is being managed by outsourcing of samples of BIS recognized labs. CLBIS is adhering to stipulated time limit by providing services to the licensees and applicants and further augmenting it by outsourcing to outside laboratories which also follow the prescribed time limits.

(c) and (d) CLBIS is equipped for testing of paper and paper products like writing/printing paper, carbon paper, computer paper, MICR paper etc. BIS utilizes the services of other specialized labs in the paper testing like Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute to the extent required.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The method of testing as specified in the relevant Indian Standard is followed in CLBIS. It has also adopted quality management system and is accredited by NABL.

Inter-Linking of Rivers

6548. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited private participation for funding the rivers-linking projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Law for Brick-Kiln Labourers

6549. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to take any steps for formulation of a separate law for Brick-Kiln labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any request from All India Brick and Tile Manufacturers Federation, New Delhi and public representatives in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A representation from All India Brick and Tile Manufacturers Federation, New Delhi was received which inter-alia requested for formulation of coal policy in consultation with the Federation to ensure adequate supply of coal to brick-kilns, scraping of the notification No. 763 dated 14.9.1999 issued by Ministry of Forest and Environment prescribing the use of 25% ash in manufacturing of bricks, and a separate labour law for brick-kiln labourers.

(e) The Government do not consider practicable and feasible to formulate a separate law for labourers engaged in various occupations including brick-kiln in the unorganized sectors. The thrust is on the rationalization and effective implementation of the existing labour laws. Further, since the High Court of Delhi in the Public Interest Litigation C.W.P. No. 2145/99 is monitoring the progress of implementation of the notification No. 763 dated 14.19.1999, it may not be possible for the Government to consider their request in this regard. Regarding request for supply of adequate coal to brick-kiln units, on many occasions, coal policy has been revised on the request of All India Brick and Tiles Manufacturers Federation, New Delhi. In a recent judgment, the High Court of Kolkata has directed Coal India Limited to supply coal to non-core consumers and Open Sales Schemes (OSS). Further, Government has decided to allot 2 MTPA coal to M/s NCCF for distribution of coal to Small Scale Industries and tiny consumers. It has also been decided to allot five lakh Tonnes of coal to Government of U.P. for distribution to Brick kiln units for the coming months up to June 2005.

Production of Vegetables and Flowers

6550. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is now suggesting in the name of free trade that Indian farmers should grow vegetables and flowers only instead of producing foodgrains;

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

(c) the remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There is no proposal for growing of horticultural crops including vegetables and flowers through World Bank assistance.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes:

(i) Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of State efforts through Work Plan

(ii) Technology Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal (TMNE). Under these Schemes assistance is being provided for development of horticulture including vegetables and flowers. Besides, Government is contemplating to launch National Horticulture Mission so that further focus could be given for development of these crops.

[English]

Project for Integrated Development of Coconut

6551. SHRI M. SHIVANNA:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government's project for integrated development of coconut in the State is pending in his Ministry for the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided to the State in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Coconut Development Board under the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has received following five projects for integrated development of coconut and for management of pests and diseases in Karnataka during the year 2004-05. The details of the project proposals are as given below:

	Name of Project	Cost (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Improving production and productivity of coconut	475.00
2.	Integrated Control of Pest and Diseases in Coconut in Karnataka	1760.00
3.	Management of Eriophyid mite in Karnataka	1946.00
4.	Control of pests and diseases and rejuvenation of coconut palms in Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka	673.00
5.	Control of pests and diseases and rejuvenation of coconut palms in Turuvekere Taluk of Tumkur District, Karnataka	663.00
	Total	5517.00

The Ministry of Agriculture through the programmes of Coconut Development Board has been implementing two schemes namely Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India and Technology Mission on Coconut, under which assistance is provided to Government of Karnataka for adoption of management practices for improving production and productivity of coconut including control of the pest and diseases. The details of funds released for improving the production and productivity of coconut including control of the pest and diseases in Karnataka are given below:

1. An amount of Rs. 140.00 lakhs was released during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 for improving the productivity of coconut gardens through establishment of demonstration plots.
2. An amount of Rs. 13.50 crores was released for control of Eriophyid mite, out of which an amount of Rs. 4.60 crores was provided for demonstration of eco-friendly integrated pest management practices in 22 severely pest affected coconut growing districts of the state.
3. An amount of Rs. 27.8 lakhs was sanctioned for modernization of parasites breeding laboratory at Demonstration cum Seed Production (DSP) farm, Mandya and Rs. 42 lakhs for establishment of Biological Control Laboratory at Regional Office, Coconut Development Board, Bangalore Under these projects, large scale multiplication and release of parasitoids in the endemic areas as farmer participatory demonstration for biological control of the black headed caterpillars is being done.
4. An amount of Rs. 29.67 lakhs was sanctioned to University of Agricultural Sciences for the project for development, implementation, training and popularization of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) technology for management of coconut black headed caterpillar.
5. An amount of Rs. 20.00 lakhs was sanctioned to the Department of Horticulture, Government of Karnataka for the project for Biological control of leaf eating caterpillars by multiplication and release of parasitoids in the endemic areas.

(c) Does not arise.

Rise in Deficiency of Soil Nutrient

6552. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in deficiency of soil nutrients in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the regular intake of nutrient deficient foods/feeds by human/animals could create metabolic disorders in them;

(c) if so, the help provided by the Government to the State Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation arising due to soil nutrient deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The nutrient deficiencies in soil in many parts of the country are becoming evident in the wake of intensive cropping particularly in the Indo Gangetic Plains that result in depletion of nutrient elements from the soils at a rate more than their replenishment and low addition of organic matter. The nutrients are essential for plant growth and their deficiencies would cause reduction in crop yields and may result in malnutrition to animals and human beings.

(c) and (d) The Government is promoting "Integrated Nutrients Managment, (INM) which includes soils test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers to supply Nitrogen, Phosphours, Potassium, and Micro nutrients in conjunction with organic fertilizers like farm yard manures, green manure, phospho compost, vermicompost, bio-fertilizers, etc. to overcome the deficiencies of soil nutrients.

National Museum of Natural History

6553. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the National Museum of Natural History at Barakhambha Road, New Delhi is in a state of decay;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has asked the authorities of the museum to vacate this place;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to preserve the museum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), New Delhi is rendering significant services in the field of *ex-situ* conservation and awareness creation about the floral, faunal, and terrestrial resources. It has four galleries on four main themes, namely, An Introduction to the Natural History, Ecology, Conservation and the Cell-the Basic Unit of Life and five Dioramas for three dimensional projections of exhibits. On an average 50,000 visitors visit the Museum per month. The Museum is opened on all days except Mondays and 7 holidays in a year. The NMNH has regional network by way of three Regional Museums of Natural History (RMNH) *i.e.* in Mysore, Bhopal and Bhubaneshwar, the last one having been opened in August, 2004. The NMNH is setting up a Sensory Aromatic Garden for the visually impaired, a unique and innovative project, in RMNH Mysore.

The NMNH undertakes a wide range of popular activities for school children throughout the year to promote environment awareness among them. Thus, there is no basis for the averment that NMNH is in a state of decay.

(c) and (d) The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has requested the Ministry of vacate the Museum premises on the ground of the projected requirements for their own use.

(e) The NMNH is sought to be preserved through suitable budgetary allocation. It has an allocation of Rs. 40 crores during 10th Plan period for meeting its requirements for conservation and educational activities. The Educational and Publicity activities have been substantially stepped up by the NMNH in the recent past.

Peripheral Development by Rourkela Steel Plant

6554. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by Rourkela Steel Plant for peripheral development during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount out of it actually spent on peripheral development;

(c) the details of peripheral development which has taken place;

(d) whether there has been instances of the misuse of funds so allocated;

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

(f) the steps taken for optimum utilization of the funds?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The total amount allocated and spent for peripheral development activities by Rourkela Steel Plant for the last three years is furnished below:—

Year	Amount Spent (Rs. In lakhs)			
	Out of Corporate Allocation	Allocation Spent	KFW spilit interest accrual fund*	Total
2002-03	10.00	9.62	28.76	38.38
2003-04	10.00	10.47	97.81	108.28
2004-05**	96.00	94.75	92.00	186.75

*As per loan agreement with KFW (Kredialan Fleaufue Wiederauftau) of Germany, part of interest payable to KFW by RSP is spent on peripheral development.
**Provisional.

(c)(i) Details of peripheral development activities undertaken by Rourkela Steel Plant upto the year 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(ii) Details of peripheral development activities undertaken by Rourkela Steel Plant during the year 2004-05 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Due care is taken for optimum utilization of the funds through the community development unit of RSP.

Statement I

Details of Peripheral Development Activities undertaken by Rourkela Steel Plant upto the year 2003-2004

Scheme:

1. Drinking Water
2. Health Care
3. Communication
4. Education
5. Community Development

Details of activities undertaken:

1. Drinking Water

1. 195 Tube wells
2. 6 Dug wells have been dug
3. 4 Ponds constructed
4. 2 Overhad tanks have been constructed

2. Health Care

— 15 nos. weekly Medical Aid Centres being run each covering 10-12 surrounding villages in all the blocks.

— 5 nos. hospital buildings constructed.

— Eye Camp—79 Cataract patients have been operated with free medicines, food and medical service.

— 30 villagers (Male) and 30 women from different peripheral villages have been trained at Ispat General Hospital (IGH) as Village Health Workers and Dhai (mid-wife) respectively.

3. Communication

— 44.25 Kms. Roads constructed in various village locations.

— 4 nos. culverts constructed.

— 1 bridge constructed.

4. Education

— 262 class rooms constructed in M.E. Schools/ High Schools/Colleges.

— 58 students of peripheral High Schools given Merit Awards.

5. Community Development

— 31 Village Community Centres constructed

— 7 TV sets supplied to 7 Village Community Centres.

— 51 Villages/Clubs supplied with sports materials every year.

— 10 Field Development/Goal-Posts constructed.

— Tribal dance competition held at 7 village locations.

— Rural Hockey Tournament for boys and girls at 6 village zones every year.

— 5 nos. Village Community Centres have been electrified.

— 31 village Community Centres supplied with dari and indoor games materials.

— Pisciculture development at Mandira Dam (26.69 lakhs fingerlings released).

— 89 nos. sewing machines donated to different village Mahila Mandalis.

— 3 nos. village market developed/renovated.

Statement II

Details of Peripheral Development Activities undertaken by Rourkela Steel Plant upto the year 2004-05

Scheme:

1. Drinking Water
2. Health Care
3. Communication
4. Education
5. Community Development

Details of activities undertaken:

1. Drinking Water

1. 6 Dug wells have been dug

2. Health Care

— 15 nos. weekly Medical Aid Centres being run each covering 10-12 surrounding villages in all the blocks.

3. Communication

— 3.2 Kms. Roads constructed in various village locations.

4. Education

— 4 class rooms have been constructed in 2 High Schools.

— Teaching aids like slates, chalks, school bags have been supplied to the students of 15 primary schools.

— Teaching aids like science charts, geographical maps, globes, dictionary etc. have been supplied to the students of 15 High Schools.

— Science apparatus like Ammeter, Volt Meter, Galvano Meter, Rheostate, Test Tubes, Burners, Spirit Lamp, Convex and Conclave mirrors, Lense, Prism, Burette, Pipette etc. have been provided to 15 nos. of High Schools of various peripheral villages.

— Utility items like mattresses, bed-sheets, blankets and goggles (small & medium) etc. have been supplied to one Vidyalaya for blind children.

5. Community Development

Developmental works at Vedvyas:

Vedvyas is situated at the confluence of river Koel, Sankh and it is the origin of river Brahmini. It has got a great religious significance because of its location mythological reference and famous temple of Lord Shiva. People from Orissa and outside the state visit this place as a pilgrimage and tourist spot. It is also a cultural heritage of the people of Rourkela and its peripheral villages. About more than 3 lakhs devotees from across the state as well as outside of it assemble during Shivratri festival every year during which time they take holy bath at the river at Vedvyas. In order to upkeep the cultural heritage, certain development works like construction of bathing ghat, provision of drinking water facilities, road and pavements around the temple fabricated selling counters of 'puja samagri', beautification of terrace garden and renovation work of 'Swarga Dwar' (*i.e.* the cremation/ burning ghat) like improvement of better hygenic conditions, proper drainage facilities and improvement of existing building etc. have been undertaken.

The above development activities at Vedvyas have been undertaken by RSP at a gesture of goodwill on a special request from District Authorities specially the Addl. District Magistrate, Rourkela who is the Chairman of the Vedvyas Improvement Trust.

— One village Community Centre constructed.

— Sports material supplied to 51 villages/clubs.

— Rural Hockey Tournament for boys and girls at 6 villages zones organized.

— Hockey sticks and hockey balls supplied to 15 nos. of ME Schools in peripheral villages/ resettlement colonies.

Jal Samvardhan Yojana

6555. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to reform policy, institutional arrangements and content related to Jal Samvardhan Yojana and facilitate its implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whetherthe Prime Minister is monitoring the same; and

(d) if so, the time by which the proposed reforms are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government of India is not implementing any programme/scheme with the name 'Jal Samvardhan Yojana'.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Construction of Mathsya Ashraya-II in Karnataka

6556. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has given approval for construction of 5000 houses under Mathsya Ashraya-II in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount released for the purpose till date; and

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be released?

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

(b) The cost of construction of a fisherman house under the 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' is shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis. The Government of India sanctioned 5000 fishermen houses to the State of Karnataka in 2004-05 involving total cost of Rs. 1500 lakh of which Central share was Rs. 750 lakh. The Central share of Rs. 300 lakh for construction of fishermen houses under Mathsya Ashraya-II has been released to Karnataka till date.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposals for Loan from Sugar Development Fund

6557. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals for assistance from Sugar Development Fund from various States including Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the current status of the said proposals; and

(c) by when the Government is likely to give approval to the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the past three years *i.e.,* 2002-03 to 2004-05, 133 applications were received for following schemes and current status is as under:—

(1) Cane Development:- 97 applications were received (including 1 from Gujarat) out of which 41 applications were cleared for loan from SDF and 36 applications were rejected due to various reasons including their negative net worth.

(2) Modernization of Mill:- 9 applications were received out of which 8 applications were cleared for SDF loan and one application was rejected.

(3) Bagasse Based Co-generation of Power:- 21 applications were received out of which 16 applications were sanctioned SDF loan and 1 application was rejected.

(4) Ethanol Production:- 7 applications were received out of which 6 applications were sanctioned for SDF loan during the same period.

(c) Receipt of applications and sanction of loans is a continuous process throughout the year. The applications are first scrutinized by the Screening Committee/Sub Committee and thereafter by the Standing Committee, Recommendations of the Standing Committee are placed before the Government and on its acceptance, the approval of SDF loan is issued.

Sale of Iron Ore by NMDC to Private Sector

6558. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently allowed National Mineral Development Corporation to sell iron ore to the Indian steel manufacturers in the private sector at international prices which is expected to be fixed 50 per cent higher for 2005;

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

(c) its likely impact on the economics of steel making which is used by most of other industries including housing, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. Government does not interfere in commercial activities of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC). Hence, the issue of Government allowing NMDC to sell iron ore to Indian Steel/ Manufacturers in the Private Sector at International Prices which is expected to be fixed 50% higher for 2005 does not arise.

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

(c) Apart from iron-ore, coal and other raw-material inputs also impact the economies of steel making. The prices of all these inputs have risen significantly in the last 2 years and this may be partly responsible for increase in prices of Steel.

Relaxations of Polluting Industries

6559. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that various industrial units are being closed down on grounds of pollution by the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give some relaxations in the guidelines so as to prevent the closure of many traditional units and preventing the employment problem of thousands of employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Boards have issued directions for closure of the industrial which are not complying with the stipulated environmental standards.

(b) and (c) There is presently no proposal for giving relaxation.

Poultry Sector

6560. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has urged the States to formally consider the poultry sector as agriculture to enable it to get all the benefits enjoyed by the farm sector;

(b) if so, whether this include concessions on sales tax, octroi, land, labour and electricity;

(c) if so, whether the poultry is not presently defined in either agriculture or industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the States have been asked to formulate a breeding policy for indigenous poultry; and

(f) if so, the reasons of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government have been requested to consider poultry sector as agriculture so that sales tax, octroi, land and labour laws, electricity and institutional funding etc. are same as accrued under agriculture.

(c) and (d) Poultry is a state subject and its status has not been clearly defined in many states as to whether it qualifies under agriculture or industry.

(e) and (f) Over the last two years, there is a focus on breeding of indigenous poultry in all Central Poultry Development Organizations working under this Department and also Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Thereby, new varieties of improved indigenous breeds have been evolved. The states have been asked to take up such breeding policy for indigenous poultry in their State Breeding Farms.

Agreement between Indian and Chinese Pharmaceutical Companies

6561. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Pharmaceutical Companies have discussed a number of issues with China during the recent visit of Prime Minister of China;

(b) if so, whether both Indian and Chinese Pharmaceutical Companies have reached an agreement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which China has agreed to help Indian Pharmaceutical Companies and has opened their way in China so that both countries could gain lot of experience on Pharmaceutical issues?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Poaching of Wildlife in Madhya Pradesh

6562. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that poaching of wildlife is rampant in Bandhavgarh National Park of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Chairman of Committee set up by Hon'ble Supreme Court on maintenance of Magdi, Katwa and Khatauli ranges has made certain remarks in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Tiger Trust has approached the court with serious complaints to illegal activities in the park;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations made thereon by the Committee; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) While instances of sporadic poaching of wild animals, in and around Bandhavgarh National Park of Madhya Pradesh, have come to light, there is a no report of rampant poaching in the area. The details of poaching cases in the National Park from April, 2004 to December, 2004 as received from state, are enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) to (e) The Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India visited Bandhavgarh National Park in February, 2005 in connection with IA(s) 543 & 593, filed by one Shri Manjit Singh Ahluwalia and an Non-Governmental Organization-'Tiger Trust'. The remarks made by the Chairman regarding Magdhi and Khatauli ranges are enclosed as Statement-II.

(f) Khatauli and Magdhi ranges of Bandhavgarh are not finally notified as a National Park and settlements are present inside. The Government of India has issued directives to the State time and again for ensuring protection to the habitat and wild animals in the reserve within the ambit of Project Tiger Guidelines and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Statement I

Details of Poaching Cases

(Bandhavgarh National Park)

Sl.No.	Range	Case No.	Date	Animal species
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tala	1404/24	05.05.2004	Langur
2.	Tala	1542.14	27.12.2004	Barking deer

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Magdhi	1964/23	05.08.2004	Mongoose
4.	Khatauli	1975/20	10.10.2004	Rabbit
5.	Khatauli	3936/25	02.11.2004	Spotted deer
6.	Panpatha	1530/20	12.07.2004	Chinkara

Statement II

Remarks of the Chairman, Central Empowered Committee

(a) Magdi—It was quite clear that this range was degraded and in appalling condition. While driving around it was observed that grass cutting was going on right in front of the forest chowkidar. Large areas were full of cow dung and the under growth was very him. Immediate corrective measures are required in this range. There is a huge difference between Magdi and Tala range.

(b) Khatauli—Though Khatauli was slightly better than Magdi still the same thinning of forest and degradation was visible. Also on our site inspection we found a road being constructed 36 feet in which from one end to the other and the water drains on both sides revealed signs of bamboos and trees being cut. A Rs. 3 lakh sanction was being used to create this road in the middle of nowhere and going nowhere. At least 80 bamboo clumps had been affected. The Director did not know of the road work and ordered it stopped. (Damdama-Tirka Munari road in National Park for 1550 metres). Such management decisions should never be taken.

It was clear that there has to be an intensive focus on all the seriously neglected other Ranges—Magdi, Khatauli and Katwa. Without this focus the future of Bandhavgarh National Park will be a question mark.

Special Point

There must be an immediate focus on village resettlement in these above Range Forest Divisions—Little effort has been made in this area.

Conclusion

Bandhavgarh is in an extremely fragile and vulnerable state today. Though tigers are doing well in Tala the tourism range, the rest of the ranges are totally neglected and in a mess. Immediate refocusing on priority areas outside tourism is urgent to secure the safety of the Park and the future of its tigers.

[Translation]

Advisory Committee on Meat Products

6563. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
MOHD. SHAHID:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Advisory Committee on Meat Products as per Meat Food Products Order, 1973;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted talks with the representatives of the said industry;

(c) if so, whether the Government has conducted consultations with technical experts to sort out the problems of Meat Producers during 2004-05;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if so, whether the Government has provided any incentives to meat producers for increasing the production of meat products;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The Meat Food Products advisory committee has been reconstituted in July, 2004 and it has held two meetings during 2004-05.

(d) to (g) There is no provision for giving incentives for increasing the production of Meat Food Products under

MFPO' 1973. However, under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry, financial assistance is provided for Technology up-gradations/establishment/modernization of food processing industries. This includes Meat Food Products manufacturers also. The quantum of assistance is 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in General Areas and 33% upto 75 lakhs in Difficult Areas.

Grant-in-aid of 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works in General Areas and 33.33% in Difficult Areas, subject to a maximum Rs. 4 crores, is also provided to the local bodies for modernizing abattoirs.

Rivers Water Agreement with Asian Countries

6564. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently signed any agreement with Asian countries on sharing of rivers water as reported in 'Dainik Jagran' dated April 19, 2005;

(b) the years for which the Ganga water agreement has been signed between the countries;

(c) whether any objection has been raised by Bangladesh with regard to Ganga water agreement and Tipaimukh Project;

(d) if so, whether Bangladesh has demanded to release Ganga Water; and

(e) if so, the total cubic of water will be received by both the countries after signing the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, a Treaty between Governments of India and Bangaldesh on sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka was gined on 12th December 1996. The treaty shall remain in force for a period of 30 years.

(c) No objection has been raised by Government of Bangladesh regarding the treaty on sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka. Regarding Tipaimukh Hydroelectric project, Bangladesh has shown its reservation against implementation.

(d) and (e) The release of water to Bangladesh is being done as per the provisions of the treaty. There is a provision for review of the treaty by the two Governments at 5 years interval or earlier. However, so far, Bangladesh has not asked for review of the treaty.

Under this Treaty for arrivals at Farakka of 75,000 cusecs or more, India will draw 40,000 cosecs and the balance of flow will be released to Bangladesh. For arrivals between 70,000 cusecs to 75,000 cusecs 35,000 cusecs will be released to Bangladesh and balance flow will be diverted to India. For arrivals of 70,000 cusecs or less, the waters will be shared equally (50% each) between India and Bangaldesh. These stipulations are subject to the condition that India and Bangladesh each shall receive guaranteed 35,000 cusecs of water in alternate three 10-day periods during the period March 11 to May 10 each year.

[English]

Package by Foreign Airlines and Tour Operators

6565. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether various packages have been offered by foreign airlines and tour operators to woo tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the likely impact on domestic tourism in India; and

(d) the steps being taken to attract more domestic tourists to different destinations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Promotions and packages offered by foreign airlines and tour operators have resulted in increase in outbound traffic, but its impact on domestic tourism is minimal. In 2003 the outbound traffic was 5.35 million as compared to 309 million domestic tourist visits. As per provisional estimates, domestic tourist visits have further increased by approximately 20% in 2004 while outbound traffic has increased by 16%.

(d) The steps being taken to attract more domestic tourists are development of infrastructure, advertising, participation in trade shows, dissemination of information through brochures and CD ROMs, joint promotions with State Governments/Union Territories etc.

[Translation]

Black-marketing of Fertilizers

6566. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government has received complaint of black marketing of fertilizers used in Rabi crops;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to check black-marketing?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price on the container of all kinds of fertilizers, whether under statutory price control or out of the purview of the statutory price control. No person shall charge higher than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable to be proceeded against for administrative/punitive measures under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offender who indulge in any kind of malpractices.

[English]

Unemployment Rate

6567. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the unemployment rate is higher in the cities according to the survey recently reported in the 'Business Standard' dated April 04, 2005;

(b) if so, whether the National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted by the said Organisation for conducting such survey; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation emerged after said survey in the country particularly in the urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Business Standard dated April 04, 2005 has referred to the annual survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation during January-December, 2003. As per this survey, unemployment rates on usual status basis in rural and urban areas were as given below:

Category	Unemployment rate on Usual status basis during January-December 2003 (%)
Rural Male	1.9
Rural Female	1.0
Urban Male	4.3
Urban Female	4.4

Sample Size being very small the estimates are prone to large errors.

(c) National Sample Survey Organisation uses two approaches for collecting employment and unemployment data in its annual surveys. These are usual status approach with a reference period of 365 days and current weekly status approach with a reference period of 7 days.

(d) Government is targeting creation of 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period both in rural and urban areas. Besides this, Government is implementing special employment generation programmes in urban areas which include Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), etc.

Rengali Multi-purpose Project of Orissa

6568. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of families displaced on the implementation of Rengali Multi-Purpose Project in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide suitable rehabilitation to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per information received from Government of Orissa, 11289 families were displaced on the implementation of Rengali Multipurpose Project in Orissa.

(b) Following steps have been taken by the Government of Orissa to provide suitable rehabilitation to the displaced families.

(i) Out of 11,289 displaced families (DFs), 11,107 DFs have received rehabilitation assistance. 5064 DFs have received the rehabilitation assistance in the shape of land, 3830 in the shape of cash and 2213 received both land and cash in lieu of land.

(ii) 3489 DFs have resettled in 61 colonies, 3737 in 95 clusters and rest have self relocated in 485 revenue villages.

(iii) Infrastructure facilities for provision of drinking water, irrigation, communication, drainage, electricity, education, health etc. have been provided to the colonies and clusters.

(iv) Village Development Committee and Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed through the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) participation.

(v) Under economic remuneration, women SHGs have been provided with revolving fund @ Rs. 10,000/- per each SHGs. 100 SHGs have been linked with different financial institutions and they have received the aggregate credit upto Rs. 19.00 lakh. Sapling of fruit bearing trees have been provided to 202 SHGs for backyard plantation.

(vi) The Reservoir has been stocked with fingerlings for three consecutive years for good fish catch. Four Primary Fishery Co-operative Societies have been formed with Displaced persons as members and provided with motorized boats and nets.

National Agriculture Policy

6569. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Policy envisaged a growth rate exceeding 4 percent per annum in the agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the extent to which it has been achieved during each of the last three years;

(d) the reasons behind not achieving the targeted growth in agriculture sector; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targeted growth in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Agricultural Policy (NAP) has envisaged a growth rate in excess of 4 per cent per annum in the agriculture sector. The NAP has also underscored the importance of growth based on efficient resource use, and equity, *i.e.* widespread growth across regions and farmers. The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) has set the target of 4.0 per cent growth per annum in agriculture during 2002-07. The State-wise details of annual average growth rate set for the Tenth Plan (2002-07) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) According to the data released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), the growth rate in agriculture, including allied sectors of forestry & logging, and fishing, was negative (-7%) in 2002-03 while it was 9.6% in 2003-04. According to the advance estimates released by the CSO, growth rate in agriculture, including allied sectors, in 2004-05 is 1.1%. The average annual growth rate for the first three years of the Tenth Plan works out to 1.2%.

(d) Since about 60 per cent of the net sown area is rain-fed, agricultural production is heavily influenced by rainfall. The year 2002-03 witnessed a severe drought that affected several States in the country. The favourable

rainfall from the southwest monsoon in 2003-04 boosted agricultural production. However, the rainfall from the south-west monsoon in the year 2004-05 was deficient across time and space. Though the deficiency in rainfall from the south-west monsoon in 2004 was less serious than that in 2002 both for the whole season and for the agriculturally important month of July, the kharif crop production in 2004-05 was adversely affected by deficient rainfall.

(e) With a view to increasing agricultural production, the Government have identified thrust areas for focused and priority attention, which include agricultural credit, irrigation, horticulture, and marketing reforms. The Union Budget for 2005-06 has underscored the importance of efforts aimed at turning the focus of commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks towards providing credit, especially production credit, to farm households. The other areas highlighted in the Budget include micro irrigation technology comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation, National Horticulture Mission with focus on backward and forward linkages, and development/ strengthening of agricultural marketing infrastructure, grading and standardization.

Statement

State-wise Growth Target for the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07)

(Annual average in %)

State/Union Territories	Agriculture
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.00
Andhra Pradesh	3.05
Arunachal Pradesh	4.00
Assam	3.82
Bihar	3.75
Chandigarh	-2.00
Chhattisgarh	3.00
Delhi	-12.21
Goa	-0.90
Gujarat	4.03
Haryana	4.07
Himachal Pradesh	4.55
Jammu & Kashmir	4.20
Jharkhand	3.00
Karnataka	4.99
Kerala	3.05
Madhya Pradesh	4.00
Manipur	3.56
Meghalaya	4.00
Mizoram	2.00
Nagaland	4.00
Orissa	4.07
Pondicherry	1.10
Punjab	4.07
Rajasthan	4.50
Sikkim	5.00
Tamil Nadu	3.54
Tripura	3.90
Uttaranchal	3.50
Uttar Pradesh	4.67
West Bengal	5.09
All India	4.00

[Translation]

Preservation and Processing of Fish

6570. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the development of infrastructure for preservation and processing of fish in the country, especially in Maharashtra coastal area;

(b) whether any scheme for providing grant-in-aid to the private entrepreneurs and other agencies for the construction of cold storage and purchasing machines for fish processing is under consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the grant-in-aid sanctioned during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the names of the companies/private entrepreneurs and agencies particularly of Maharashtra to whom the grant-in-aid has been sanctioned for the purchase of fish processing machines; and

(f) the details of the other States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its plan schemes, provide financial assistance to implementing agencies, including private entrepreneurs, to improve viability of existing cold storage and also enhance total cold storage capacity, both stationary and mobile with a view to keep pace with the need for storage of perishable produce. Financial assistance is also provided by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for setting up/expansion/ modernization of fish processing industries. Besides, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries and Marine Products Export Development Authority also provide financial assistance for development of infrastructure for preservation and processing of fish under their respective schemes.

(d) to (f) The following implementing agencies have been provided financial assistance during the last three years for setting up/expansion/modernization of fish processing industries and for setting up infrastructure facilities for preservation of fish by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in the State of Maharashtra:

Sl.No.	Name	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Sassondock Matsay Udyoog Ltd.	2.500
2.	Allana Investments and Trading Co.	50.00
3.	M/s Partytime Ice P. Ltd.	50.00

A statement showing state-wise details of grant-in-aid provided by Ministry of Food Processing Industries during the last three years for infrastructure and plant & machinery for preservation and processing of fish is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of units assisted	Amount
1	2	3	4
	2002-03		
1.	Maharashtra	2	50.00
2.	Kerala	5	396.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	7	173.19
4.	Manipur	1	3.24
5.	Tamil Nadu	3	71.74
	2003-04		
1.	Maharashtra	2	50.00
2.	Kerala	7	104.18
3.	Andhra Pradesh	12	364.69
4.	Manipur	1	3.21
5.	Tamil Nadu	2	24.95
6.	Karnataka	1	6.19
7.	West Bengal	2	225.00
	2004-05		
1.	Maharashtra	1	25.00
2.	Kerala	3	48.36
3.	Andhra Pradesh	7	216.88
4.	Goa	1	25.00
5.	Tamil Nadu	2	30.98

1	2	3	4
6.	Karnataka	3	69.00
7.	West Bengal	4	204.41
8.	Orissa	1	25.00
9.	Gujarat	1	24.12

Sale of Ashok Hotel

6571. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ashok Hotel has been constructed on the land of Bihar Government which was allotted to ITDC for opening Tourist Information Centre;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Bihar as asked ITDC to pay Rupees nine crore as rent in case ITDC intends to sell it off; and

(c) if so, by when the outstanding dues will be paid to the State Government by the ITDC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. Hotel Pataliputra Ashok, Patna has been constructed on the land of Bihar Government which was transferred by the Government of Bihar to Department of Tourism, Government of India in 1972 for construction of Tourist Reception Centre.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Fires in National Parks

6572. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a major fire took place in the Gir National Park recently;

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

(c) whether any animal has been affected as a result of the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken to prevent such fires in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State has reported that an accidental fire broke out on March 13, 2005 in the Gir National Park and Sanctuary in Gujarat. An area of 84.8 hectares was affected by fire.

(c) and (d) No damage to animals has been reported.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. The Forest Department has conducted an inquiry and the First Offence Report has been made.

(g) The following steps have been taken to make good the loss and protect the preserve it against further damage:-

(i) Fire lines are prepared along the forest roads and across the forests.

(ii) Fire fighter teams are deployed at sensitive points.

(iii) Forest watchers are deployed in the hills for early detection of forest fire.

(iv) Fire towers are erected to detect the forest fires.

(v) The forest area is well linked with the modern wireless network.

(vi) The field officers and employees are provided with vehicles to access the forest fire sites.

(vii) Programs of environment education and awareness are carried out through nature education camps and meeting with villagers.

(viii) Forest personnel are trained for the prevention and combating forest fires.

(ix) Intensive patrolling by staff.

(x) Regulation of traffic by staff.

[Translation]

Indira Sagar Gosikhurd Irrigation Project of Maharashtra

6573. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Sagar Gosikhurd Irrigation Project of Maharashtra has been included in the list of national project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to hand over the project to National Hydro Power Commission for irrigation as well as power generation;

(d) if so, the estimated cost of the project alongwith total amount likely to be released to the State Government during 2005-06;

(e) whether any time frame has been fixed to complete the said project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities. Presently Gosikhurd Project is being executed by the Water Resources Department of the Government of Maharashtra. Decision to get the project executed through National Hydro Power Commission/ Corporation rests with the State Government.

(d) The latest estimated cost of the project as per Central Loan Assistance (CLA) proposal under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for the year 2004-05 is Rs. 3949.15 crore. The project has been provided Rs. 189.148 crore as CLA/grant under AIBP upto March, 2005. No CLA proposal under AIBP for the Project for the year 2005-06 has been received from the State Government.

(e) and (f) The State Government has indicated the scheduled completion of the project as year 2012.

[English]

Expansion of R&D Activities in Fertilizer Sector

6574. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to lay greater emphasis on the expansion of Research and Development activities in the Fertilizer sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The New Pricing Scheme (NPS) for urea units w.e.f. 1.4.2003 lays emphasis on efficiency in energy conservation measures and innovative technology. Keeping this in view, an amount of Rs. 5 crore have been earmarked for funding Science and Technology Programmes of the Department during 10th Plan. Details of S&T Projects taken up by Department of Fertilizers through premier academic institutes are given as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the S&T Project	Name of Institution	Cost of the Project
1	2	3	4
1.	Pilot Plant study on Coiled Flow Investors	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Rs. 2.46 crore
2.	Disposal of Spent Catalyst and Recovery of Precious metal	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Rs. 2.00 crore
3.	Studies in reforming of methane to Synthesis gas using micro reactor for production of Hydrogen.	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur	Rs. 0.50 crore

1	2	3	4
4.	New Absorption Based for CO_2 Recovery during 2004-05	Indian Institute of Petroleum, Mokhampur, Dehradun	Rs. 1.01 crore
5.	Photocatalytic synthesis of urea using atmospheric CO_2, N_2, H_2O and solar energy	Indian Institute of Chemicals Technology, Hyderabad	Rs. 0.47 crore
6.	Studies on Chemical Desportion of Carbon Dioxide in Packed Columns	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Rs. 1.00 crore
7.	In-situ reaction and separation Hydrocarbons product mixture in a Membrane Reactor	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	Rs. 0.72 crore

Poor Employment Quality

6575. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the poor quality of employment in India has led to a mismatch in expectation and availability of jobs forcing the skilled manpower to explore opportunities abroad as reported in *Statesman* dated March 18, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate new schemes to provide quality job in the country to check brain-drain; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Task Force and the Special Group constituted in the Planning Commission had identified lack of high quality employment as one of the reasons for comparatively high unemployment rate among the educated category. However, technically skilled manpower may also seek employment opportunities abroad for better prospects particularly in the wake of globalization and economic liberalization.

(c) and (d) One of the main objectives of 10th plan is to attempt creation of quality jobs in various sectors of the economy.

MSP for Fruits and Vegetables

6576. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for fruits and vegetables on the analogy of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring fruits and vegetables under market interventions scheme and also to provide marketing support for these perishable commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government has no proposal to provide Minimum Support Price (MSP) for fruits and vegetables on the lines of foodgrains.

(d) The Government is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under which perishable horticultural and other agricultural crops are covered. In order to protect the growers of horticultural commodities from distress sales in the event of bumper crop, MIS is implemented for a particular commodity on the request of the State Government.

[Translation]

Poaching of Migratory Siberian Birds

6577. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the poaching of migratory Siberian Birds in 989 beegah pond of Jamuanwa Gram Sabha in the district of Azamgarh of Uttar Pradesh is taking place unabted;

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

(c) the details of persons involved therein;

(d) the numbers of persons arrested on this count from October, 2004 to March, 2005;

(e) the details of action taken against them;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to give protection to Siberian Birds; and

(g) by when the poaching will be checked completed?

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

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

(f) Steps taken for protection of Siberian Cranes are as follows-

i. Indian Crane species are protected under various schedules of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

ii. Important wetland sites with crane population have been declared as RAMSAR sites, National Parks, Sanctuaries or Wetlands of National importance.

iii. A strict vigil is being undertaken by the State Government to protect the migratory birds.

(g) Enforcement is an on-going process and all necessary assistance is being provided to State Governments to check poaching.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Manganese Ore (India) Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2125/05]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Sponge Iron India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-206.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2126/05]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2127/05]

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the MSTC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2128/05]

(v) Memorandum of Understanding between the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2129/05]

(vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the MECON Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2130/05]

(vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2131/05]

(viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2132/05]

(ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2133/05]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pune, for the year 2002-2003.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pune, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2134/05]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2135/05]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): 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) Review by the Government of the working of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Project Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for year 2003-2004, along with 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-2136/05]

(3) A copy 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 U.P. Projects Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2000-2001.

(ii) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2137/05]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): 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) Review by the Government of the working of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the

year 2003-2004, along with 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-2138/05]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the table of the House:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jammu and Kashmir State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1988-1989.

(ii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1988-1989, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2139/05]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2001-2002.

(ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2140/05]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2141/05]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Taslimuddin—not present. Shrimati Kanti Singh, on behalf of Shri Taslimuddin—also not present. Well, this is not right. The hon. Minister should be present at the appropriate time.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2003-2004.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2145/05]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 2003-2004.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2145/05]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (1st Amendment) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. EP-33 (1)/97-Vol. II in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 2005 under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2147/05]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the University of Allahabad Bill, 2005 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 2005."

2. Sir, I lay on the Table the University of Allahabad Bill, 2005, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 6th May, 2005.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate. You know that we have to take matters according to the List of Business. I have called Shri Basudeb Acharia to call the attention of the hon. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only express my deep anguish. Please sit down. When I am on my legs, you have to sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

* MR. SPEAKER: Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to take action now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will be in trouble soon.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ponnuswamy, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are all senior Members. Is this the way to behave in Parliament? You have to know by this time that Calling Attention is taken up after Question Hour and Papers Laid on the Table. I am only following the well established rules and procedures of this House. You do not have the minimum patience. Is this the responsible behaviour you are showing? Yes, Shri Basudeb Acharia, please.

...(Interruptions)

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*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN (Nawada): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to raise an important matter during Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Marshal, note down his name. Enough of it. I am not going to tolerate this. You will have to remain outside the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Sir, I wish to lay papers on behalf of Shri Taslimmudin.

MR. SPEAKER: No, the hon. Minister has to come and tender his regrets to this House before anybody is allowed to lay papers on his behalf.

12.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of non-finalisation of National Coal Workers Wage Agreement-VII and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Coal to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

> "Situation arising out of non-finalisation of National Coal Workers Wage Agreement-VII and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is submitted that prior to nationalisation of coal industry, the wage structure and other service conditions including fringe benefits were covered under the recommendations of the Central Coal Wage Board for coal mining industry. However, after nationalisation of coal industry during 1971-73, since private parties had been removed from coal mining industry, it was felt that a bi-partite forum for wage negotiations where the central public sector undertakings would directly negotiate with workers (trade unions) would be more functional. Accordingly in 1973, Government of India decided to review the wage structure and set up a Joint Bi-partite Committee for Coal Industry (JBCCI). JBCCI has equal representatives of Management and Trade Unions. The agreements reached in JBCCI are formalised in the form of National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA).

So far, there have been 6 wage agreements on this pattern. The wage agreements are signed for five years. The last agreement NCWA-VI expired on 30.06.2001 and a new wage agreement became due from 01.07.2001.

In the course of this period many private sector companies entered coal mining for captive purposes and therefore, it was felt necessary that they should also be brought within the ambit of JBCCI. JBCCI-VII was constituted on 28.07.2003. Coal India Ltd. (CIL) invited private companies like Integrated Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd. (ICML), Bengal EMTA Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd. (BECML) and Jindal Steel and Power (JSPL) to participate in the negotiations. However, these companies and others like TISCO and IISCO declined to participate. Consequently, further negotiations have proceeded only between subsidiaries of CIL and the trade unions.

Department of Public Enterprises circulated guidelines on 11.02.2004 for wage negotiations in the Central Public enterprises. These guidelines *inter-alia* provide that public sector units registered with BIFR should not take up wage negotiations until BIFR approved the revival plan and 100 per cent DA neutralisation is permitted only in case of ten year wage agreement. JBCCI-VII, after a series of negotiations could work out an acceptable package covering various issues but could not resolve some others.

I held two rounds of discussions with the representatives of Coal India Management and Central Trade Unions in September 2004 and the issue of basic pay was sorted out. However, certain issues like 100 per cent DA neutralisation, implementation of wage agreement by loss making PSUs required the consideration of the Government in view of the existing guidelines. Accordingly, the Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 16.11.2004 under the chairmanship of hon. Defence Minister to look into the larger issues concerning the ongoing wage negotiations in the best interest of industry, labour and national economy. In the first meeting held

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*[Also placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2148/05]

on 24.03.2005, the GoM gave an opportunity to the Management to present their views. In the next meeting held on 13.04.2005, Central Trade unions presented their views to the GoM. In the third meeting held on 29.4.2005, the GoM considered various viewpoints and advised me to hold further discussion with the representatives of Trade Unions and the Management. I held discussions with these representatives on 3rd May 2005. I am pleased to report to this august House that an understanding was reached on all the contentious issues. The positive outcome of this meeting was reported to the Chairman of the Group of Ministers for further consideration. Both the management and the Central Trade Unions have agreed to hold Core Group Meeting on 18-19 May, and full JBCCI meeting on 29-30 May 2005 to finalise the agreement.

Hon. Members may kindly appreciate that sincere efforts are being made to resolve the issues so that an acceptable wage agreement is arrived at. The Government is committed to the welfare of the workers and is accordingly facilitating early finalisation of National Coal Wage Agreement-VII.

I thank the hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity and the hon. Member Shri Basu Deb Acharia for raising this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it fully.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the statement made by the Minister of State for Coal is not satisfactory. ...*(Interruptions)* The last wage agreement, NCWA expired on 30-6-2001. Already four years have passed. This Government has been in power for the last 11 months. As he stated in his Statement, only two meetings were held in the month of September by the Minister of State for Coal. The JBCCI was constituted in the year 2003. So, even from 2003, in these two years, the Government had not taken any decision in regard to the National Coal Workers Wage Agreement-VII.

There are a number of contentious issues. It is not only of basic wage. There is a difference in the perception in regard to the basic wage also. But there are issues like 100 per cent DA neutralization. He has stated in his statement that in case of two subsidiaries, namely BCCL and ECL, unless there is an agreement for 10 years, the 100 per cent DA neutralization cannot be done. But in case of officers, there is already a provision for 100 per cent DA neutralization. Why are the workers being deprived of that? The Minister should clarify the position of the Government whether he agrees that there should be 100 per cent DA neutralization or not. If he agrees, then where is the need for recommending it to the Group of Ministers?

We know both the ECL and the BCCL are incurring losses. Why are these two subsidiaries incurring losses? It is because a large number of underground mines are closed both in the ECL and in the BCCL. The quality of coal available in the ECL is the best in our country. We cannot close down such underground mines. Better quality of coal is available in the underground mines. If we go deeper, we get better quality of coal.

As has been stated by the Minister, the revival package of the ECL and the BCCL has not yet been approved by the Government. The ECL has already submitted its revival package and that revival package was prepared in consultation with all the trade unions. All the Central Trade Unions agreed and they started taking certain measures in regard to the revival of the ECL. It has been pending with the Government for the last 10 months because that was submitted, I think, in the month of August. The Government has yet to take a decision on the revival package of ECL.

Now, the Minister is stating, for the first time, that these two subsidiaries are being taken out of the wage agreement. Certain conditions are being sought to put in regard to the wage agreement on wage revision of more than two lakh workers. The ECL today has one lakh and seven thousand workers and the BCCL has also one lakh and five thousand workers.

More than two lakh workers are being taken out of this wage agreement. This should not be done because up to NCWA-VI, it was never told. During last wage agreement also, these two subsidiaries and also the Central Coal Field (CCF) were incurring losses. In spite of that the wage agreement in regard to these subsidiaries also have been given effect to. Why? for NCWA-VII, these two subsidiaries-ECL and BCCL—are being separated, and the workers are being denied. In the month of May—on 18-19 May and then in the last week, that is, on 29-30 May, 2005—there will be a full meeting of JBCCI. I would like to know from the Minister whether both ECL and BCCL would also be included when the wage agreement will be finalised.

Sir, a large number of workers are today outside any wage agreement. There are a number of collieries belonging to TISCO. When coal mines were nationalised in 1972 and 1973, coal mines of IISCO were not touched. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: TISCO does not come in here.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: After the nationalisation of coal mines, and after the amendment of Coal Mines Nationalisation Act, a number of captive coal mines have come up, and there are a large number of workers. These workers are being exploited today. They do not get the wages as per the wage agreement arrived at in different times. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your another question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Initially, there was an attempt, and a notification was issued to all the coal companies. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you are talking much beyond Mr. Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It was issued not only to the public sector companies, but also to the private sector companies like TISCO, Bengal EMTA and Singareni Coal companies also. But they did not attempt. What action had Government taken to include those companies where a large number of workers are also working or engaged? They are exploited, and they are not getting wages as per the wage agreement. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would seriously consider to include other private coal companies so that the workers also get the wages as per the wage agreement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is a very important question. In NCWA-VI, the provision for employment to the dependents of the coal workers was there. That has not been implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: On the question of completing the agreement, he says that they have all agreed. It is a question of finalising the terms of the agreement.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There are certain differences. I have gone through the minutes. I have with me a copy of the minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that. Please finish.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have reactions of the five Central Trade Unions regarding what they have written to the Minister as well as to the Secretary of the Ministry of Coal. So, there is not the question of agreement. In NCWA-VI a clause stating that 'The employment to the dependent of the workers who died in harness' was included. I would like to know would the same clause also be included in NCWA-VII ?

My final question is this. As already four years have elapsed, and seven lakh coal workers are yet to get the revised wage which was due four years back ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned whether they would finalise in May.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: They are deprived. Would the Government take a final decision, and would the Government finalise NCWA-VII by the end of the current month?

MR. SPEAKER: There is no other notice but I would accept the request of Shri Shailendra Kumar.

Shri Shailendra Kumar, just put your question please. Do not give any speech. Let us follow the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister of Coal through you that every citizen of India should be given an opportunity to seek employment. The contractors of coal mines of Maharashtra and Nagpur have brought a very large number of workers to this place from the densely populated States of North India namely Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. However, today the condition of these workers is such that their children have grown up and they are studying there. There are now settled there. They are married. Still they are getting a very low minimum wages. those who have settled there are being treated as second citizens and a situation is being created for their ouster from that place. ...*(Interruptions)*. Their children are being asked to produce domicile certificates for last 50 years in that area. The question arises whether they are not the citizens of India. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to point out through you that they should not be treated from the point of view of second citizenship and their children be provided facilities on the basis of their educational and financial position.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sudhakar Reddy, you may also please put only a question without giving any speech. I would allow you though you have not given any notice.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, coal is one of the important sources of energy. ...*(Interruptions)* As I understand, this agreement between the unions and the Ministry would be for five years. This agreement is supposed to be from 1.7.2001. This means, it is going to be expired by next year. So, is it not a very irresponsible behaviour? I do not blame the present Government. But for the past five years this has been carried on and by 2006 again a new agreement would be there. This is not the procedure that, as a model employer, the Government should have adopted. There was a strike in Singareni Collieries. It could have been avoided. I would like to be assured that this type of a thing would not be repeated in future.

[Translation]

SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY (Peddapalli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know as to why the Singareni collieries was not mentioned in hon'ble Minister's reply. I would like to know specifically about it as there was a strike in Singreni fifteen days back. So, I want to know whether it has been included or not. If so, please give details in this regard.

[English]

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, regarding the hon. Senior Member, Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I expected that he would congratulate me and appreciate me but instead he has raised some questions. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Invite him for a cup of tea in your office!

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: He says that this is very much delayed. The NCWA-V was signed only six months and the NCWA-VI was signed five months before the expiry of agreement but as soon as the UPA Government came into power in May last year, in the months of June, July and August, the Coal India had some negotiations. Those negotiations failed. After my assumption of office, I voluntarily called the union leaders on 22nd September, 2004, convened the meeting and resolved the major issues.

Regarding basic, he has said that the basic after the last revision was Rs. 3,300. Now, from Rs. 3,300, for the first time in the history of Coal India—no Government has given this much of a hike—we have given a basic of Rs. 5,550.

Sir, I would like to give the information, through you, that as per the NCWA-VI agreement, the lowest worker was supposed to get a minimum of Rs. 8,139 per month, but today he will get Rs. 10,054 per month. The highest worker as per the NCWA-VI agreement was supposed to get Rs. 17,695 per months and now he will get Rs. 19,734 per month. So, this is the biggest increase in all the wage negotiations.

Now, I will come to 100 per cent DA neutralisation. This is very clear. There are DPE guidelines. The PSUs, which have got the agreements for ten years, have got 100 per cent DA neutralisation. However, in the case of five-year wage agreement, it is not there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that you have given it to the officers and not to the workers.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, he is right. Even in the discussions, I never behaved as a Minister. I behaved as a trade union leader. The trade union leaders know it. There were six leaders. I said, 'it is not six, it is seven—six plus one'. 100% DA neutralisation will be applied for employees with basic up to Rs. 6550 per month. There are about 82 per cent who stand deprived of this. So, I am recommending positively to the GoM. The supply of coal and demand gap is so much. So, I requested the union members to cooperate in production. They have assured for the production. I think, today, evening we are having a meeting. I am recommending to the GoM for 100 per cent DA neutralisation. ...*(Interruptions)*.

Regarding the BCCL and ECL, as you know, they are under BIFR. DPE guidelines of February 2004 prevent wage revision in companies that are under the consideration of BIFR and till their revival plans are approved. Trade unions are particular about implementation of wage agreement in Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Easter Coalfields Limited. I have discussed in detail various aspects of the issue. Finally, both the

[Dr. Dasari Narayan Rao]

sides agreed that NCWA-VII would be applicable to these two sick companies also. But the modalities of payment of arrears will be worked out keeping in view the revival plans under consideration of BIFR. I complement both the unions and the management for demonstrating a positive spirit of accommodation of each other's point of view. This is going to be finalised.

Another thing is why again the Minister should report to GoM. It is because I am authorised by the GoM to negotiate with the trade union leaders. So, in return, I have completed that job and today I am reporting to the GoM. Then, the GoM has to finalise it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to tell all the details.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: As far as revival of BCCL and ECL is concerned, after the wage negotiation, we are very seriously acting on that. We need the workers and the management to cooperate. So, unless these two companies are revived, I do not think the production will be improved. So, we are at it.

On 29th of May, we are going to have the next meeting and that will be the final meeting of the JBCCI to work out the other modalities. We have discussed about six or seven more important issues. There are small issues like incentives, which they have to discuss, and then they will finalise the agreement. I requested them. Earlier, I gave the date of 22nd May for agreement, because we assumed Office on 22nd May. But they said that some leaders would not be available. So, they said that they would sit on 29th and 30th of May and most probably the agreement may be signed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They delayed the meeting!

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Yes, Sir. Now, the agreement may be signed by the end of May. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It should be given effect to retrospectively from 22nd May.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Yes, Sir.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What about other private companies? I would like to know whether they would be covered under this wage agreement or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: I am coming to that point. As far as private sector is concerned, there is no legal mechanism, which binds on them. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: They are not government employees.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Yes, Sir.

As far as Shri Shailendra Kumar's question is concerned, I do not think that it is relevant to this.

As far as Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy's question is concerned, it has become a convention to sign this agreement late. Now, we are certainly going to put our efforts to start 8th wage negotiations early.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: IISCO is a Government company. It has three coal mines. Why can this not be extended to the mine workers of IISCO?

MR: SPEAKER: It is being discussed. No further questions, Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When it covers all-private sector and public sector—why does it not cover IISCO coal mines?

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, IISCO is a sick company. Again, it is related to BIFR. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The same problem of behaviour.

DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO: Sir, regarding the question of Shri G. Venkatswamy, I would submit that everything is applicable for Singareni also. Thank you very much. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions. Shri Chatterjee, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions will be allowed.

Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, I am sorry because I had said something which was not correct. The information was

not with me. Earlier I believed that it was Shrimati Kanti Singh who was to lay the papers. Now, it has been corrected. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, which was yourself, is to lay the papers on behalf of Shri Taslimuddin. I am sorry for the mistake on this side.

Item No. 6, Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria.

12.32 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*contd.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Taslimuddin, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of following papers:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2142/05]

(3) A copy of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Appointment, Terms and Conditions of Service of Director General) (Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 217 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 2005 under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2143/05]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 31 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986:

(i) The Consumer Protection (Second Amendment) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 64(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2005.

(ii) The Consumer Protection (Third Amendment) Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 67(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2144/05]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, hon. Members, let me try to help all of you and in the process help in the proper conduct of this House. I know—because of the number of notices I have received and you have already mentioned the issues here, which have not been recorded so far—that you wish to raise an issue about a constitutional authority, which is very much in the news, but our rules are extremely clear and explicit. Our rules say that you cannot discuss the conduct of such authorities except under a specific motion. You are all aware. All of you hon. Members are aware. Therefore, if you want to discuss it, you have to give a motion under the rules as clearly provided in the rules. Only then, I can consider it. Otherwise, I cannot deviate from very well established not only practice but a rule, which is bending on all of us here. Therefore, if an important issue, that is agitating you, is to be raised, you may give motion as provided under the rules. I am not minimising you. I am not saying that you are not concerned. But my only concern is to see that the proceedings of the House are conducted according to the rules. Therefore, I would earnestly appeal to all of you—without making any comment on the merits of the matter, for the time being—that if you want to raise it, please follow the rules.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, we had a discussion here. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will ask you to speak one by one.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We had an elaborate discussion here on electoral reforms. Obviously, since the Members were concerned about certain issues, certain points were raised here. What we see thereafter

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]
is that those very constitutional authorities referred to the debate here. Is that permissible? What was done there was referring to the debate here in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, I cannot control them.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, only in that context, we are requesting you to kindly permit us to raise that point.

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Ramadass, you wanted to say something.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, sorry. You cannot make any statement or any accusation or any allegation or inference so far as constitutional authorities are concerned.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: A senior officer, Director-General, has written a letter to the Minister of Law. What we want to refer to is a letter written by a senior officer to the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): This is a matter of urgent importance. What else can be there? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Are you alone concerned about this country?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN (Nawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What development will take place if we say it a serious matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Every moment, you are committing a breach of privilege.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Paswan, you are committing a breach of privilege.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Members may please be allowed to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to allow the hon'ble Members to speak one by one.

[English]

It is very unfortunate. Just wait.

I have to see that it is not permitted. I cannot do something sitting here, which will show that I am not alive to my responsibilities under the Rules and the Constitution of India. Do you want that I should not do it? It is not the method of raising an issue, and not listening to the Chair just because my friends on this side are not here. Kindly tell me, which are the issues that I am not permitting according to the Rules.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Speaker Sir, please listen to what he is saying.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Laluji, I will listen to him but there should be a way to speak. What purpose will it serve if all the hon'ble Members stand up to speak?

[English]

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, Kindly allow me to make a submission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will not hear you unless I sit down, and call your name.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not expected.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying so much.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit till six, seven, eight or ten o'clock, then I will listen to you but this is not the manner.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, earlier you had called my name.

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody wants to speak first. I had called you, but I have changed my mind.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I understand what you are saying. Hence I would like to say it very carefully. ...*(Interruptions)*. As it is an constitutional body you have an apprehension and we are also aware of it. ...*(Interruptions)*. This is an autonomous body and we want to make our point very carefully about this democratic institution of the entire country. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It is a part and parcel of the Election Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, a lot of discussion had taken place in the House with your permission. We had held discussion on electoral reforms very carefully. However, no Hon'ble Member had done anything which might have resulted in the apprehension you are having now.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to state that during the last Lok Sabha elections in Bihar, one of the observers a senior Secretary level officer of the Indian Administrative Service had written a letter to the Union Minister of Law accusing two Election Commissioners of cancelling the election without any reason in Chhapra Parliamentary Constituency from where the President of the Rashtriya Janata Dal Shri Lalu Prasadji was a candidate. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, but this part will not become part of the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am mentioning the letters in which accusation has been made. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No Mr. D.P. Yadav, just because somebody has written a letter to the Law Minister, it does not become admissible here on the floor of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a part of the Election Commission.

[English]

It is a part and parcel of the Election Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: I interrupted you when you mentioned about it because you cannot mention it here.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Why can I not mention about this part here? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House. I will not allow anybody to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I would like to say that even today, this officer is ready to file an affidavit regarding the allegation he levelled. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This House cannot deal with this matter unless there is a specific motion on this issue before the House. You are referring to an allegation against the officers.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to speak in favour of the institution. The Election Commission is supreme and particularly it is a constitutional institution and more so a democratic institution. I want to speak in favour of this institution. I would like to say it because the allegation which has been made is a serious one. He has mentioned in his letter that his report as an observer was not given due weightage.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, sorry.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, *...* *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, nothing more on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, both the Commissioners, *...* By holding the election at Chhapra again, the prestige of Lok Sabha and constitution..... This is what I want to say. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, but it will not be taken down. It will not be recorded.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. SPEAKER: I may say something with all humility. Why are you not following the Rule if you want to raise a very serious issue? What more am I asking you to do? If you want to raise an important issue, as you said, then there has to be a procedure of doing it.

...(Interruptions)

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*....*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.
*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one last thing *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, I cannot allow it. It will not be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker Sir, such type of incidents put a question mark on the credibility and neutrality of the constitutional autonomous institution. Today, crores of people in the country have taken note of it. Moreover, this is to be noticed as to what contents of this letter is being published in media both in electronic media and the newspapers. Therefore, I would like to state that apprehensions, if any, may please be cleared. In order to allay such apprehensions. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will see the record and delete all those things.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I demand judicial enquiry into the facts mentioned in this letter so that whatever question mark had been put on neutrality and credibility of this institution and *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I can only request because the Opposition is not here. I would request the Leader of the House to decide how this House has to run. I would like to know that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kunwar Manvendra Singh, you will be in trouble one day. I will name you just now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I demand immediate transfer of both these Election Commissioners from there and. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a matter of joke; it is not a matter of merriment.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the constitutional body is under any apprehension. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker Sir, today, a constitutional body itself is under apprehension. So, a commission should be set up to conduct a judicial inquiry in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not saying anything. It will not be allowed. Do not record it. I cannot allow it. It will not be allowed.

...*(Interruptions)* *

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, You can give permission even now. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot give permission in that manner. There is a rule, and you know that very well. This is not the way.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: We can give notice on this matter and it may please be discussed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do I have to permit it just because a notice would be given? The rule says:

"It will not reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms."

You know it very well, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav. I am only requesting you to follow the rules, and then I shall see whether it is admissible or not.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: You can given permission from the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker Sir, you are sitting on the chair. The House is supreme. Even now, consent of the House can be taken. If the House wants solution of the matter, how can it be prevented from doing so in a parliamentary democratic system. So, instead of quoting any special precedent. I would like to request you to kindly seek the sense of the House in this regard and if the House disagrees, then it may be ignored. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: With the sense of the House, there is no amendment in rules in the House.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sense of the House should be respected. We would like to drawn your attention. Kindly pay attention to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is very strange. You feel very strongly about the matter, and I am saying that you should follow the rules. That is my only crime. You are deliberately defying the Chair. Are you acting in a manner which the people want us to do? On electoral reforms, I myself encouraged that debate. I myself said that I was very happy when there was a debate on electoral reforms. Now, you want to raise a particular matter.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission we would like to put the motion regularly. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It you put it, I will take decision in this regard. Otherwise, what you speak, will not go on record.

[English]

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, the issue which I would like to raise does not directly relate to the Constitutional Amendment.

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*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Not only directly, but also indirectly, it should not relate to the constitutional authority.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: I do not know whether it is indirectly related to or not, but it is not directly related to it. I have given a notice to be taken up during the 'Zero Hour'. From my point of view, it is a matter of urgent national importance.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us see what the matter is.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: The allegation made by a person denigrates a particular community or caste in India.

...(Interruptions) *

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, it will not be allowed. Prof. Ramadass, it will not be allowed. You can go on, but it will not be allowed, not in this manner. You have no personal knowledge of it. Now, I call Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: If you do not save us, then who will take care of us?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I want to save you, you go on.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: What purpose will this Parliament serve if we cannot express our views here? *...(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker Sir, It is hoped that you will protect us and the democracy as well. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, you have given notice on 'Suicides in Delhi' and I will allow you on that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You need not hold his brief.

...(Interruptions) *

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you are speaking, will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think you are serving the cause of democracy by behaving in this irresponsible manner?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, our apprehension has come true.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make any allegation because there has been a whole discussion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am speaking only about the CAG Report, no allegations.

Our apprehension has come true. We have repeatedly drawn your attention, after the new House was constituted, that some irregularities have been perpetrated by the earlier Government while disinvesting the privatising the public sector units. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should one day hold a bonfire of the Rule Book and the Constitution!

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, we had repeatedly raised this issue in the House that during the earlier regime serious irregularities appear to have been committed.

MR. SPEAKER: It has been discussed under a Calling Attention. You can only refer to the CAG's report since made.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Not Centaur. We had referred. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (Chatra): This is a very important issue. It should be discussed. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not record it. Anybody speaking without my permission will not be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

*Not record

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, what is this?

[English]

Is it a free for all?

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief. We have already taken 45 minutes on this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: We had repeatedly drawn the attention of you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that there was a suspicion, lurking suspicion, that during the earlier regime irregularities had been committed while carrying on the policy of disinvestments, privatisation and sale of the public sector units. People in this country and some Members of the House have come to the conclusion that we are trying to destroy the image of a particular political combination or we are trying to run down individuals who had been important during the earlier regime. We had never been taken seriously. It was also said that it was a politically motivated vilification campaign. That was attributed to us. We are all being accused of that.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is a statutory body and its Report has been laid on the Table of the House. With your permission, I would like to quote a few sentences from that Report.

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is not necessary. You have mentioned the Report.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Give me permission to read out a few lines, Sir. I will not waste your time. It says:

> "Sale transactions of two hotels, Juhu Centaur and Airport Centaur, were finalised on the basis of single bids without the benefit of competition. Assumptions made during valuation of the properties and fixation of reserve price of Airport Centaur were not consistent with the practice followed by the Ministry in the earlier case. Repeated extensions were given to facilitate the sale."

MR. SPEAKER: That is there in the Report.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: There is another issue. Nobody has seen the Report.

The Report categorically says that while conducting 'India Shining' campaign, Rs. 63 crore had been misused.

India did not shine. A few individuals have shined. It is said, very seriously, that the mine removal machines were procured very late. It led to loss of lives. This is what the CAG had stated. Why am I raising it? I am raising it because the hon. Minister of Finance, replying to a Calling Attention, had said that let the CAG Report come, then, we shall decide. I demand—the entire House joins me perhaps—that there should be an appropriate inquiry to nail down the culprits who had squandered away millions of money of poor India. We want a categorical assurance. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Leader of the House is here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has heard it. I cannot compel the Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I would request the hon. Leader of the House to kindly respond to this demand and there has to be an appropriate inquiry. Criminals must be put in proper places, who have squandered away crores of rupees of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude. Do not go into the details.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, you can only associate with him.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: In reply to a Calling Attention. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on here?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Minister has categorically said that the Government would consider. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: If you behave like this, I will ask you to vacate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I totally condemn this behaviour. If it is not controlled, I will be compelled to take action. The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.51 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteenth of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will take Matters Under Rule 377.

Chaudhary Lal Singh—not present.

(i) Need to provide insurance cover to apple produce under National Crop Insurance Scheme in Himachal Pradesh

[Translation]

DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL (Shimla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Himachal Pradesh is known as "Apple State" and there is abundant production of fruits in my parliamentary constituency, Shimla. For the last some years, there have been some bitter experiences of hailstorm, snowfall, heavy outpour of rain, less rainfall or sometimes storms. In some areas the wrath of the nature was so dreadful that due to hailstorm, the horticulture was adversely affected and the farmers could not get even the cost of their seeds in return. Consequently, the farmers and horticulturists had to compensate their losses by raising loans.

Sir, it does not augur well if a horticulturist has to face such a pitiable situation. Thus, the support price policy of the State Government has certainly given some relief to such farmers and horticulturists. However, when the farmers are incurring such a heavy loss, then this becomes necessary to find permanent solution of this problem. While the production of apples can solve the economic condition of horticulturists in the State, it has benefited the entire country by way of soil preservation protection of environment etc.

I would request the Central Government to kindly protect the farmers and horticulturists from the wrath of nature in future. At the same time, production of apples should be brought under the National Agriculture policy and the National Insurance Scheme so that the production of apples in the State can be increased and the apples can be sold not only in national markets but also in international markets.

(ii) Need for early transmission of F.M. programmes in Amreli Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency Amreli is totally dependent on agriculture and farmers don't have any means of entertainment and they can't afford costly means of entertainment. Radio is such a means that the farmers can afford. Besides, modern technology is increasingly being used in the sources of entertainment and in transmissions and FM is a new means of entertainment which is being implemented well by the Government. This apart, FM Broadcasting stations are also being set up in the country. For all these obvious reasons the broadcast of FM programmes is very necessary in Amreli constituency as people are vehemently raising their demand for FM.

Through this House, I would like to request the Government to lunch the broadcast of F.M. immediately in Amreli Parliamentary Constituency.

(iii) Need to set up a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency Hapur, Uttar Pradesh there are large number of Government employees. Several new colonies like Vasundhara, Indirapuram, Vaishali etc. have come up in the proximity of National Capital Delhi where a great number of Central Government officials reside but there is no Central School there on account of which the wards of Central Government officials are not able to receive education at affordable costs.

So, therefore, I would like to request the Union Minister of Human Resource Development to set up a Central School especially at Indirapuram, Ghaziabad and to start the second shift in the schools already set up in the area.

(iv) Need to introduce a fast passenger train between Madurai and Chennai via Dindigul in Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Sir, I emphasise the need for introducing a day time fast passenger train between Madurai and Chennai Egmore, via Kodaikanal Road and Dindigul as early as possible for the following reason.

For travelling on Chennai-Madurai route, Express train fares are not affordable for low income group people. Absence of a fast passenger train in this busy and most sought after enroute is very keenly felt by passengers in the low income bracket. In fact, the demand for introduction of such a train is a long pending one. The present fare for unreserved second class in a Superfast Express train between the two cities is Rs. 128 whereas the fare for the same distance in a fast passenger train would be around Rs. 64 only, a saving of 50 per cent in the fare.

Low income group passengers do not mind about the consumption of two to three hours extra running time taken by a fast passenger train provided the cost of travel is comparatively much cheaper than that of an Express train.

Introduction of a day time fast passenger train *via* Dindigul will immensely benefit passengers bound for intermittent stations and passengers boarding from such stations since Express trains halt only at important stations enroute.

I request the hon. Minister for Railways to introduce a fast passenger train which will considerably reduce the pressure and heavy demand for accommodation now experienced in Express trains in this over utilised route.

(v) Need to set up additional auction platforms for marketing tobacco in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY (Narasaraopet): The F.C.V. tobacco crop size had gone up from 85 million Kgs. in 1985 to 150 million Kgs. in 2004 in Andhra Pradesh and from 15 million Kgs. in 1984 to 90 million Kgs. in 2004 in Karnataka. The number of auction platforms operated were 21 in Andhra Pradesh and eight in Karnataka during 1985, and 20 in Andhra Pradesh and nine in Karnataka in 2004. As per the Government's estimate, the ideal crop size that can be handled per auction platforms is 4.5 to 5.5 million Kgs. So, the number of auction platforms that should have been operated during 2004 are 30 in Andhra Pradesh and 18 in Karnataka. Tobacco is a perishable product and has to be marketed by the farmers within 90 to 100 days of its production, otherwise it gets deteriorated in quality and loss of weight. It is observed that problem faced by Tobacco Board in establishing additional auction platforms is shortage of staff.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate necessary steps for establishment of another 10 and 9 additional auction platforms for Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka respectively alongwith sanction of staff component to Tobacco Board.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri G. Karunakaran Reddy—Not present.

Shri Ganesh Singh—Not present

Shri Shishupal N. Patle—Not present

Shri Sukdeo Paswan—Not present

(vi) Need to take suitable measures to mitigate the sufferings of Tsunami-affected people in Kollam district, Kerala

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): The Tsunami-affected people of Kollam District, Kerala are experiencing severe hardships due to inadequate facilities. All affected people are still put up in temporary shelters, schools and other relief camps. Even after four months, no effective steps have been taken by the Governments to rehabilitate them. The fishermen lost all their fishing nets and boats in the Tsunami. The Government has not taken any step so far to distribute fishing materials to the fishermen. Due to non-supply of these materials, fishermen are not in a position to engage themselves in the fishing activity. The relief operations are not conducted in a coordinated manner so as to bring about relief to the affected people. People's representatives at various levels are not included in the relief activities. I would urge upon the Government of India to intervene in this matter urgently and take necessary steps to mitigate the sufferings of the Tsunami-affected people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Prasanta Pradhan—Not present.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to review new catering policy of Railways

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): New Railway catering policy of the Government is flawed from many angles and the existing rail passengers are not going to be benefited from this catering facility. Only major companies are reaping benefits from this policy. The eatables available in the trains and on platforms are very costly and their quality is very low. All this is the result of new catering policy. It is against the purpose of Railway catering policy. Its not that only the rich travel by trains, one can't afford a cup of tea for Rs. 15 or a burger for 20-25 rupees. It seems that the catering policy is meant only for the rich. For example, I have had been travelling by Vaishali train for the last two decades in the capacity of an MP and an Ex-MP but the standard of eatables available in the train is low to such an extent that I don't feel like having anything. Before that, food used to be tasty and qualitative. I would like to request the Central Government through the House that this new catering policy should be dropped immediately and some new catering policy should be framed in the interest of the Railway passengers. Until new catering policy is formulated the earlier catering policy should continue to be implemented.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Bhushan Singh—Not present.

(viii) Need for taking over the Darwasan Reservoir Project in Banka District, Bihar by the Central Government for its early completion

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV (Banka): Darwasan Reservoir Project in my Parliamentary Constituency Banka has been under construction at the Katuria block of Banka District for the last 15 years. The construction of both of the dams of this project has been completed, only river close is yet to be undertaken which has proved to be a stumbling block in providing any special benefit of the scheme to the people so far. The completion of this reservoir is a must to redress the problem of flood. The poor farmers of this area will also be able to get irrigation facility from this reservoir. As a result, it will boost the production of foodgrains and will be conductive for the development of the nation.

I request the Central Government through this House to bring Drawasan Reservoir project under its control and get the incomplete work of this reservoir done.

(ix) Need to provide special economic package for construction of roads and undertaking rural electrification in Shahabad Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): My Parliamentary constituency is spread over two districts of Hardoi and Khiri. For being this constituency spread into two districts no MP is able to properly manage the officers of these districts and this area has already lagged behind in the pace of development.

During 57 years of independence not even a single rupee was spent through any separate package of Central or State Government for the development of this area. In the entire area, there is not a single government or private factory barring three sugar mills and this area is also lacking in the facilities of schools, hospitals, roads, water and electricity.

It is my special request to the Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development and the Minister of Power to provide special package of Rs. 20 crore for Hardoi Janpad and Rs. 15 crore for Khiri Janpad apart from the routine work covered under Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana to ameliorate the backwardness of this area and bring it at par with the other areas.

Over and above, a special package should be given to both the districts individually under Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana and Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana for the construction of roads and rural electrification in these areas.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri E.G. Sugavanam—Not present.

(x) Need to issue caste certificates to the people belonging to SC category who have migrated from other States to Kharagpur with a view to providing them entitled benefits in West Bengal

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Kharagpur is a cosmopolitan town. Majority of the population settled in this town is from different parts of our country. Most of the toiling and poor people of this town belong to

scheduled Caste category. The number of these sections is around 20,000. A large section of this category is being deprived of their eligible facilities, which have been offered legally and constitutionally for them, as the local administration is denying to issue Scheduled Caste certificates to the family members of the concerned communities. A large section of Scheduled Caste families of Kharagpur town belongs to the following communities.

(1) Bhunia (2) Bind, (3) Chamar, Munchi, Rabidas, (4) Dhoba, Dhobi, (5) Dom, Dhangad, (6) Hardi, Methar, Bhangi, (7) Kami (Nepali), (8) Kewat, (9) Khatik, (10) Lohar, (11) Mahar, (12) Namosudra, (13) Rajuwar, Rajbar and (14) Sarki (Nepali), Apart from these, a considerable number of families of Scheduled Caste category who have migrated from other States are not being recognised in West Bengal as these communities are not enlisted under Scheduled Caste category in this State.

I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps so that a large section of toiling people of Scheduled Caste families of Kharagpur town get justice.

(xi) Need to make optimum utilization of newly laid Broad Gauge line between Virudhnagar junction and Tenkasi by introducing more trains

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI (Sivakasi): Sir, the newly laid 98 km Broad Gauge line between Virudhnagar junction to Tenkasi is under utilized. The train No. 2661 (Podhigai Express) running between Chennai Egmore and Tenkasi is a weekly train, as there are a number of commercial and tourist centres on this route like Sivakasi, Rajapalayam and Coutrallam. The train should be made to run daily and introduce Tenkasi—Virudhnagar morning passenger train to satisfy the demand of the area.

The train starts at 6 p.m. every Saturday from Chennai and reaches Sivakasi and Rajapalayam at 2.20 a.m. and 3.15 a.m. respectively which is too early. The main users of this train are people of this city, therefore, the train timings should be rescheduled in such a way that it reaches by 5 a.m. The need for an extra stoppage at Thirutangal should also be considered. Virudhnagar-Manamadurai gauge conversion should be completed earlier; it will be useful for the large number of Rameswaram-bound devotees from the southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

(xii) Need to sanction the proposal of Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of sub-Health Centres in every Gram Panchayat of the State

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Government of India has approved the setting up of 1944 additional sub-health centres in the year 2004 in the State on the basis of census of 1991. Earlier 18577 sub Centres were set up. Thus total number of sub-Centres in Uttar Pradesh are 20521. At present one sub-centre is set up for the population of about 8000 to 10000 approximately. It is necessary to set up a sub-centre in every Gram Panchayat to arise comprehensive awareness and to provide necessary facilities among the masses for mother and child care and population control. At present there are 52028 Gram Panchayats in the State. So by adjusting presently established sub-centres and those additional sub centres approved by Government of India in Feb. 2004 to set up sub-centres in every Gram Panchayat and for the approval of remaining 31507 additional sub-centres the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Family Welfare has been requested *vide* letter No. 3108/9-04-1(5)/2004 dated 18.8.2004.

14.24 hrs.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House would now take up Item No. 12—Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2005. The hon. Minister may move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shivraj Patil, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The need for amending various provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has continued to be felt for toning up of the investing machinery and process,

[Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal]

strengthening the prosecution related machinery, streamlining and improving procedures, specially from the point of view of expediting trial court procedures, tackling problems of undertrials and matters connected with the grant of bail and effective miscellaneous improvements. Accordingly, the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1994. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee which considered the Bill and submitted its report on 28th February, 1996. The report was examined in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The previous Government could not finalise their views on the recommendations of the Committee. Our Government further examined and considered the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and based on its recommendations, a list of official amendments to the Bill, which has already been introduced and passed in the Rajya Sabha, is being moved. The recommendations of the Committee have been largely accepted.

The thrust areas of the Bill are:

(i) Toning up the investigative machinery and process;

(ii) Strengthening the prosecution and related machinery;

(iii) Streamlining and improving procedures, especially from the point of view of expediting trial court procedures;

(iv) Tackling the problem of undertrials and matters connected with the grant of bail; and

(v) Effecting miscellaneous improvements.

Important proposals contained in the Bill are as follows:

(a) Prohibit arrest of a woman after sunset and before sunrise except in exceptional circumstances.

(b) Police is being required to give information about the arrest of a person as well as the place where he is being held to any one who may be nominated by him for sending such information;

(c) Mandatory judicial inquiry in case of death or disappearance of a person or rape of a woman while in the custody of the police. In case of death, examination of the dead body to be conducted within 24 hours of death;

(d) Mandatory provision that if the arrested person is accused of a bailable offence and he is indigent and cannot furnish surety, the court shall release him on his execution of a bond without surety;

(e) An undertrial prisoner, other than the one accused of an offence for which death has been prescribed as one of the punishments, should be released on his personal bond with or without sureties when he has been under detention for period extending to one half of the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence.

(f) In no case will an undertrial be detained beyond the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence.

(g) Bail and anticipatory bail provisions are being made stringent for hardened criminals;

(h) The State Governments are being empowered to establish a Directorate of Prosecution under the administrative control of the Home Department of the State;

(i) Strengthening of legal provisions to ensure peace, harmony and tranquility in the society.

Sir, since this Bill mainly addresses urgent social issues and will help improving the functioning of the criminal justice system of our country, I commend the Bill for consideration and passing by this August House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I think the Home Minister is preoccupied.

This is a very important Bill changing the criminal system in the country. The Criminal Procedure Code was amended in 1973 making some drastic changes to suit the conditions available at that time.

Last time when the NDA Government made an attempt towards this, it was a futile exercise. Why was it so? It was because the amendments which were brought before the House were opposed to the interests of the

legal fraternity. Legal fraternity, throughout India, including the lawyers of Delhi, was on a warpath. The Government was forced not to proceed with the amendments as such. So, it did not fructify. Those amendments were detrimental to the interest of the legal community. Hence, it was not implemented. Now, this is the third attempt. Generally speaking, I support the amendments.

It is a fact that the Indian system is having some inherent weaknesses which could not be rectified in the last one hundred years. On an analysis, it is seen that all our prosecutions end in failure. The rate of conviction is poor. When compared with developed countries, the situation in India is alarming. To see as to how to get out of this difficulty is the most important thing. Mere cosmetic changes in the criminal system will not be sufficient.

I think the Government of India was also aware of this fact. So, it appointed a Commission under Justice Malimath. Justice Malimath Commission conducted very wide ranging inquiry and collected evidence to the extent possible. It submitted a Report, but it is lying in the library. The recommendation of that Commission is basically against the fundamentals of our criminal jurisprudence. We all know that the Indian criminal jurisprudence is based on the system that the accused is presumed to be innocent till he is proved guilty. Justice Malimath recommended that the onus of proof should lie on the accused. When a man is charged with an offence, the basic presumption now is that the accused is presumed to be innocent. Justice Malimath recommended that it is for the accused to prove his innocence and not the prosecutor, shifting the burden of proof on the accused. It is against all canons of criminal jurisprudence. Hence, it was not implemented. It is still lying in the library.

Our hon. Home Minister brought the Bill before the Upper House and got its approval. These amendments relate to four or five basic features of the criminal jurisprudence. They are: (1) arrest; (2) custody; (3) bail provisions; (4) appeal provisions; and (5) prosecution. In the Principal Act, there is no specific provision for the appointment of prosecutor for conducting criminal cases. Now, it is found essential that there must be a State prosecutor. He is called the Director of Prosecution. As per clause 4, there is a provision for the appointment of Director of Prosecution. Here I find that there will be some difficulty for the State Governments. It is because the Director of Prosecution is to be appointed with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the State. There can be no appointments as it is. We have our own bitter experience. We have been contemplating and even agitating for a Judicial Commission for appointment of judges and to deal with their service matters. The Judicial Commission could not be appointed because of the stand taken by the Supreme Court. Without a constitutional amendment it is not easy to appoint a Judicial Commission.

The Constitution has provided that for the appointment of the Chief Justice of India, it is to be consulted with the existing Chief Justice. They have given interpretation to the effect, that 'consultation' means 'concurrence'. Lastly, they have said consultation amounts to 'consent'. So, without the consent of the Chief Justice of India, no Chief Justice can be appointed by the President. No judge of the Supreme Court or High Court can be appointed without the concurrence of the Chief Justice of India. They themselves decide their age of superannuation. They themselves decide when they have to retire. They themselves decide under what conditions they should work. All these matters have become the exclusive powers of the Supreme Court, because of this word 'concurrence', so also the State Government will definitely find it difficult to appoint a Director of Prosecution with the concurrence of the Chief Justice. If a Chief Minister is going to get the concurrence of the Chief Justice of a particular State, it will not be possible because Director of Prosecution is appointed in the interest of the party, in the interest of the Government. It is in the interest of the Government to conduct the Government cases and if the Government cases are to be conducted according to the interest of the Government, the appointment must be with the Government itself. I can understand that it can be consulted. But 'concurrence' is high-handed, because it will create difficulty in the future. It will not be possible for any State Government to appoint a Director so easily.

Apart from that, there is another provision in this also, that is, Section 6. It deals with the powers of the Advocate-General. The appointment of Advocate-General is a political appointment. He has to function as a prosecutor also. In certain cases, he has to act as a prosecutor. he has to do the work of a prosecutor as well as the legal advisor to the Government. It is a political appointment and the Advocate-General cease to hold office when the party in power vacates. So, it is clearly a political appointment. From whom the Director of Prosecution would take orders? These are the difficulties which may come. I would like to know whether the Director of prosecution will have to work under Advocate-General or the Advocate General will have to work under the Director of Prosecution. Both the things are difficult.

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

it is not clear in the Amendment. We should make it explicitly clear to each and everybody as to what are the powers of the Director of Prosecution and the powers of the Advocate-General. Advocate-General is cent per cent a political appointment. The Government should also have a voice in the appointment of a Director of Prosecution. This is not fair. Why should you write the word 'concurrence'? There are a number of Deputy Directors under him, who are not appointed in consultation with the concerned judiciary. There are a number of Public Prosecutors and APP. Now, they are appointed by the Public Service Commission (PSC). What will be the net result? The Government will have to consider this aspect. Moreover, there is a provision in the Bill giving 'retrospective effect'. The appointment of a Prosecutor will have effect from 18th day of December, 1978. Now, we are passing a Bill giving effect to Criminal Procedure Code from as early as December, 1978. I do not understand it because some Service Conditions may arise. This must be explained. Why is this so long a 'retrospective effect' given in this statute? That is another matter. We will have to think over it. I will take some time because I am the only one speaking from my party. I have to cover the entire procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your party has two more speakers.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Regarding that aspect, the Government will have to make the real position clear so far as the powers of the Advocate-General and the Director of Prosecution are concerned because the Director of Prosecution will also come before the High Court. He has to take orders from the head of the Home Department. The Advocate-General will also have to take orders from the head of the Home Department. Who will provide it when there is a case in which the State's interest is uppermost? Who has to appear in such a case? Is it the Director of Prosecution or is it the Advocate-General? There will be some difficulties. So, it must be made clear in the statute itself. That is my view. Or else, we will have to make another amendment in future due to practical difficulties. So, I would leave it to the hon. Minister's wisdom.

The next point is about the arrest of an individual. I may point out that clause-VI is the relevant clause. The point is that women are arrested. They can be arrested during the day time or even in the night. There is a specific order that women's arrest should be done by a woman police officer. That itself says it clearly. But normally, a male police officer effects arrest of women with women police officers. So, the arrest is made clear in the amendment. No woman can be arrested during night time. That is the general rule. Hereafter, in India, no woman, accused of any offence, will be arrested during night time in her place of residence. It is good. But in exceptional cases, there is an exception. In exceptional cases, the arrest can be effected during night time also. The only thing is that a relative should accompany or a lady should accompany or a lady officer should go and effect the arrest. So, I agree. This is a new provision in the Criminal Procedure Code. It is good. But taking into account the other aspects, when an arrest is made, either of a man or a woman, immediate information should be provided. To whom should it be provided? There is no such provision here. A person is arrested during day time, during night time and during mid-night. Even our Minister Shri Baalu was arrested during mid-night* at 12 of the clock. Shri Dayanidhi Maran and Dr. Karunanidhi were arrested during mid-night. ...*(Interruptions)* So, whenever an arrest is affected, immediate information should be given to the nearest relative of the arrested person.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The names of those persons, who are not present in the House, should not be mentioned. They are to be deleted.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): It was not Shri Dayanidhi Maran but it was Shri Murasoli Maran who was arrested. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I stand corrected. It was Shri Murasoli Maran who was arrested. The point is that whenever any citizen is arrested in India, when these amendments will come into effect, it is mandatory for the police officer, who is effecting the arrest, to inform the nearest relative of the arrested person or his nominee. That must be done. It is good. But in our State, whenever a man is taken into custody during night time, the police will not disclose where he is taken, where he is lodged and where he is detained. These matters will be kept as a hidden secret and nobody will be in a position to know the whereabouts of the arrested person. This is a very high-handed situation prevailing in India. Hereafter, not only the nearest relative must be informed but also the person who is arrested should be informed.

That is good. So, there will be no panic in the House. The family members will not be in difficulty. They know he was taken to such and such place and he was taken

*Not recorded.

there. On arrest, he must also be immediately informed about the reason for his arrest and about his rights, as an accused. All these matters will have to be disclosed at the time of effecting his arrest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Please conclude.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: There are provisions with loopholes because of which this may be misused abundantly. So, we should take abundant caution in effecting the particular provision of law. This is a big thing. There are a number of amendments I have to deal with.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please conclude. Two to three more Members from your party want to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No other Member will speak from your party.

[Translation]

Is there no other Member from your party to speak?

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It will take some time. There are a number of. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please continue and conclude your speech within two minutes.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I withdraw my name. Let him speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already given too much time to him.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Shall I continue?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You should continue and please conclude within two minutes. Have you heard me?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, there is a welcome provision in this Bill also. When a woman is taken into custody, she gets information about the arrest and all those things. If the woman is questioned for the purpose of investigating a rape case, she will be sent for a medical examination immediately. That is section 7. Now, in the rape cases, when she is sent for examination, it has become obligatory for the officer concerned to take her to the medical practitioner, authorised medical practitioner, who is conducting the medical test. After completion of all the procedure, she must be given a report about the medical examination and research she is entitled to.

In the case of an accused, who is alleged to have committed a rape offence, he will also get a copy of the report, medical report for which he is charged. These are welcome methods and welcome changes. I would request the Government to make it sure that these provisions are fully implemented. That is another aspect, which I would like to bring forward here.

Now, I would like to deal with the next topic. There are many other topics but I will leave them. The next topic I would like to deal with is Section 18—Rape in custody. A woman is produced before a Magistrate for alleged offence. She is remanded to custody, either to police custody or judicial custody. There were instances and there were cases when in custody such women were raped. Recently, a foreign lady came here. Some Excise people arrested her and committed rape on her. So, rape in custody is a serious offence. In order to prevent that, some provision is made which is good but there is some difficulty, which we will have to tide over after implementation of the Section. Now, when rape is committed, it is mandatory or obligatory on the part of the judicial officer, District Magistrate, who is conducting the enquiry that the police investigation will be continuing but this police enquiry is no bar for conducting custodial rape.

The District Magistrate or the Magistrate, who is taking cognizance of the offence, should conduct an inquiry along with the case being investigated by the Police. He should not wait for the completion of investigation. He can straightway proceed with that offence. It will be dealt with seriously. This is a welcome change. I support it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Then, there is another provision.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I would like to bring to the notice of the House its provisions regarding anticipatory bail. Now, Section 436 of the Criminal Procedure Code provides for anticipatory bail. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down, Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan. Before I would request other hon. Members to take part in the proceedings, we have a Supplementary List of Business. Now, I would request the hon. Minister Shri Kamal Nath to introduce a Bill.

14.52 hrs.

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment, development and management of the Special Economic Zones for the promotion of exports and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment, development and management of the Special Economic Zones for the promotion of exports and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

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*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 9.5.2005.

**Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

14.53 hrs.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will continue the discussion on Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was exactly. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I have not completed. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have completed.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I have not completed. About the anticipatory bail, I may be allowed to say a few words. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Varkala Radhakrishnan. You have taken a lot of time. I can't give you more time. So you please say in short and conclude.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, what about the personal appearance of the accused in an anticipatory bail? Now, when he is charged with a serious cognizable offence, the accused will apply for an anticipatory bail either to the Sessions Court or to the High Court without himself appearing before the Court. Any criminal can apply for anticipatory bail even in a hide-out. That is the procedure now. Now, there is a slight change in the present Amendment. After a preliminary inquiry, for filing the anticipatory bail, personal attendance is not required. But, in the present Bill, if a preliminary order is issued by the Court, it is obligatory on the part of the person applying for anticipatory bail to appear before the Court. Only the Court allows and can dispense with this provision in exceptional cases.

This is a welcome change. Hereafter, people, who are hiding in far-off places and applying for bail applications before the Court, can be put an end to. With these words, I support generally all the Amendments brought in this Criminal Procedure Code.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, it was exactly 11 years back that this Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha by the then Congress Government. As per the practice, the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee considered it and gave its Report. Thereafter, for all these years, the Governments of the day chose somehow not to bring this Bill to the Parliament. Sir, this has always been the desire, the concern of the Congress and now of the UPA to bring about all possible reforms in various fields, including the judicial system, more so in the cases relating to criminal justice; in fact, delivery system of criminal justice.

And it was because of this anxiety, this concern, this desire that this Government has looked into the various recommendations of the Standing Committee and urged for the consideration of this Bill in the Rajya Sabha which has passed it and that is how it is before us here today.

Sir, at the very outset, I congratulate the hon. Minister for moving ahead with these amendments though there is much more area to be covered in the days to come, including the consideration of the Malimath Committee Report and any follow-up action thereto. But as was pointed out in this case, this piece of legislation also takes care of and addresses certain important concerns of the public. I would like to submit that the first concern that has not only been the concern of the legal fraternity but also of the public at large, is the treatment that is meted out to women accused of any offence, and for that, the first step and the right step that has been taken is to incorporate the same in the form of this legislation that no woman accused of any offence shall be arrested after sun set and before sun rise. This is a very salutary provision and must be welcomed by all sections of the society. Of course, there is a provision along with this that in exceptional circumstances where the case is such that there is a need to arrest a person who happens to be a woman accused, then she can be arrested. It is so because we now find that crime syndicates, at times, even use women to commit offences. If there is an eventuality, a special case, then certainly a woman can be arrested, but then there is a procedure laid down to ensure that there is no maltreatment and no injustice is done to her.

Sir, in this connection, when I take up one provision at a time, I would also like to give my own humble view thereon. This, as I said, is a salutary provision, but I feel that at the same time when a woman has to be arrested during that period, it should also have been made mandatory to ensure that the arrest is made by a woman police officer.

14.57 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Sir, I know that this Bill was framed 11 years back and that is how we are here. If we had started thinking of many amendments, it would have taken a long time, and, therefore these provisions are welcome, but there are certain areas on which we have to improve in the future and that is called for.

I think, if I remember correctly, once the last Government, during the 13th Lok Sabha, was really bringing this Bill before the House for consideration, but for some reason it was not taken up and I think the reason, perhaps, was only this and I would refer tot hat provision. A new Section 144A is being added to the Criminal Procedure Code giving the District Magistrate powers to prohibit carrying of arms in procession or mass drill or mass training with arms. This is the need of the hour. We have seen during the last few years, much to our dismay, that there have been people who, in the name of democracy, have been arrogating to themselves the right to represent the country, the right to talk of the ethos of the country and the right to talk of the culture of the country. They took law into their own hands and used all possible means to suborn, to threaten and to even indulge in genocide—I am consciously using that word. Processions were taken out and therefore this power has now been sought to be conferred on the District Magistrate to ban such processions where people carry arms. I welcome this provision. Along with this, there is insertion of a new section to the Indian Penal Code also to make a substantive provision regarding an offence with regard to a person who is not adhering to this. For that, there is Section 153A which is clause 44 of the present Bill. It provides for an imprisonment of six months and fine which may extend to Rs. 2,000.

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

15.00 hrs.

It is for a person who, in a procession, carries arms. The wording, I suppose, one could not really improve upon that:

> "Whoever knowingly carries arms in any procession or organises or holds or takes part in any mass drill or mass training with arms in any public place in contravention of any public notice or order issued or made under Section 144A—which is also being inserted—of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to two thousands rupees."

That was necessary.

I hope, this will, to an extent, help the Government check the communal menace that threatens the beautiful fabric, mosaic of our polity, of our society. But, here again, I would feel that when you give an explanation about the definition of arms, I do not find anything wrong with the definition as such, but when we talk of dondas and sticks to be arms, some over-zealous officer may interpret the law in his own way and may book the person. The cases are not wanting, the cases are not few and far between. There are many cases and there could be many more cases. If I, in a procession, am carrying the flag on a stick, well I could be booked that I was carrying a *lathi*. That is there.

I know that everything cannot be provided for, but it all depends upon the discretion of the person, who is given the charge, who is charged with the responsibility to implement the law. It really comes to his discretion, to his sense of goodwill that he has to interpret the law. But there can be cases where such a provision can be misused. That care has to be taken in the implementation of it or in the issuance of the guidelines that when the political processions are taken out, if people carrying their flags on sticks that should not be interpreted that sticks are being carried and these two provisions should not be invoked in such matters.

Sir, the third thing which I really welcome in this Bill is an effort to expedite the procedures of the trial courts and because of the time limit, I would leave that mater here only. But I would say a few words about under-trials. We have soften seen in the past that because of the excruciatingly slow pace at which the trials in the courts move, there are many cases where people undergo the major part of the punishment prescribed for a particular offence and yet the trial does not begin. Now, care has been taken to address that problem and there are two good provisions, which would now become the law.

One is that if a person, during investigation or during trial or otherwise, has undergone, at least, half of the total period of punishment, which he could be sentenced to in case of conviction, then he must be released on bail. That is a good provision. Along with that, there is also a provision taking into account Sections 428 and 433A, which perhaps he has referred to while speaking from here even in case of lifers. The provision earlier in case of section 433A was that in case where the sentence was life imprisonment, a person shall not be released before he had undergone a sentence of 14 years.

Now, for the first time, through this Amendment, a provision is being sought to be added to the Statute Book to say that a person who has undergone some sentence, that period shall be set off against that period of 14 years. That was not there earlier. The case of remission was there in other cases, but in case of a person who was undergoing life imprisonment, that is, who was mandatorily supposed to be undergoing a period of 14 years, for him also this period of set off is provided.

But having said that, when I say that these are two good provisions, particularly, the first one, I think, if we take a case where a person say on the very first day of his trial—I am talking of a very hypothetical case—if he were to be convicted and sentenced to, say, five years imprisonment, during this period when he is incarcerated, he would earn some remissions also.

So, he would not really undergo punishment for five years. That is the position, as we all know. But here, when we are talking of the remission, of the setting off of the period, I think, some consideration should have been given to the period which he could have earned as remission. When you set off the period which he has undergone during investigation or during trial etc., he should also be given the benefit of the period which could have been given to him as remission. It is because our basic purpose is to reform the people. Remission is a means of doing it. The effort is reformation. For that, this provision is there. I think, that could be considered at a later stage that the benefit of the possible remission period should also be incorporated therein.

The problem of custodial deaths and rape of women in custody has been the cause of concern for a very long time, and despite our expression of strongest feelings on that, the problem goes on unabated. As I said, again law alone cannot really help on all these matters; but law has to be framed for this. Here again, I welcome this that after these 11 years, perhaps it was left to this Government alone where the Congress has its part to carry forward the process. Therefore, this should have been done during this period of 11 years or, at least, I would say, when we were out of Government for 8 years. We often heard of these major debates across the country on these things, and even in the Houses here, our members expressing their concerns for many years. Never did this occur to the NDA Government to really incorporate these provisions. They had not really to work on it. There was no need to work on it. Something was ready there. They had to just bring it to the House for discussion and passing, but now it was left to us. It was left to the hon. Minister Shri Shivraj Patil to again take up these provisions, after his distinguished predecessor. Therefore, now an effort has been made. This would become the law. In case of the death of a person is custody, or a woman being raped while in custody, there would be a mandatory requirement for a judicial inquiry into this matter. The Magistrate would inquire into this matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): As a Minister I may not be allowed to talk but as a woman I should be allowed to talk. If women are raped in custody—men who protect these women are given special training of how to look after and how to uphold the law—if they violate it, it should be capital punishment for them.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I share the sentiments of Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury. I share the sentiments from the core of my heart; but whenever we have considered this matter in the past, I think, when we talk of capital punishment for rape, this would harm the interest of women. It is because the accused in those cases would also ensure that he not only rapes the woman, he finishes off the woman.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: That is one aspect. If you look at the Middle East etc. there is no rape there because they know what will happen.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: In any case I fully share the sentiments on this point; we have to be really strict on this. Today what happens is that 99 per cent of the cases go unreported. That is the position. There were huge articles in the newspapers only yesterday about this. The country keeps quiet on it. It keeps silent on it. The victims slowly and painfully suffer the agony thereof. They become the laughing stock thereafter. That is the position. Therefore, we have to take the strongest measures on this. To begin—here I would like to repeat—after 11 years it again fall son this Government to take this step that in case there is any of these two offences committed in custody, there has to be a judicial inquiry. The matter cannot be just put under the carpet. In case of death, the body has to be sent for medical examination, autopsy etc. within 24 hours. Along with this, there is one other provision. There are again two good provisions in the case of rape. The accused has to be examined immediately within 24 hours or so, if not in the Government hospital, in any hospital near about a radius of 16 kilometres. That has been provided for. It is in the law itself that a sort of pro forma is prescribed that this is what the examining doctor has to report.

Along with that, in case of the victims also, the examination has to be conducted with her consent. I do not know why it is there. But, well, may be, that is a good provision, but firstly we have to see again that there must be no subsequent harassment after the rape. You can understand the trauma in which the victims would be put to. Thereafter, there should be no harassment to or no hassle for her. It becomes the bounden duty of the State to protect her. It becomes the bounden duty of the society to protect her, to take care of her. It is no charity. It has to be her right and that right is being recognised here. That is what I welcome.

But here again I feel that when we talk of the medical examination of the victim, I think again a provision could have been there that that medical examination must be conducted by a woman or a lady doctor. That has not been provided. I would leave it for the future that that should be done.

Sir, I am sure as long as you are sitting there, I will have my full say.

Now, I am talking in case of another good provision again. We have seen that in the past that there are many, many cases, instances where petty cases against poor people are booked there. They have no means to furnish security. Nobody comes forward for them whereas on the other side there are syndicates working there are professional people to furnish the security one after the

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

other. If you were to look into the record, one person may be furnishing security for hundreds and hundreds of people. The obvious conclusion that you would derive is that perhaps this man may be responsible for getting all these people booked in different offences. Now both these matters have been taken care of. In case of indigent person, the person who is just unable to furnish the security, to come out on bail after seven days, if he cannot furnish the security within seven days, the judge would infer that he is a poor person and on certain offences, he would be let off. In other cases, any person who furnishes a security has to give a statement about the past whether he has furnished security for other people also in the past or not. That is again a good provision that we have in this Bill.

Sir, when you were speaking, you referred to the anticipatory bail. With due respect, I would slightly differ on that. The provisions that have been made here for anticipatory bail are good, I must say, excepting the last one where I would differ. We have seen in the past that this provision of anticipatory bail was often misused by the people. Therefore, certain stringent guidelines have been laid down in the law itself that while dealing with the case, the hon. the learned Session Judge or the hon. High Court would consider this aspect. That is fine. But the last one, as you said, a person can approach either the Session Judge or the High Court for an anticipatory bail. If a person were to approach a Session Judge first, as the High Court would except him to do, and the Session Judge were to ask or require his presence there on the last date of hearing and in a given case, the anticipatory bail were to be declined, the man would be arrested then and there only. Will he be able to then go to the High Court after that? It will no longer be an application for anticipatory bail. So, the anticipatory bail application would come to an end. This is the procedure. The system would come to an end.

As I said, we are taking up this after 11 years. These are the things on which, may be, a wider debate is required. May be, it is experience which will give the correct picture. ...*(Interruptions)* He has a right to go to the High Court also for the anticipatory bail. That right should be granted to him because for anticipatory bail, one can go either to the Session Court or to the High Court. So if he is arrested immediately after that, that means he does not get the chance. It is not that the man must not be arrested. After all the Session Judge applies his mind and then declines it. Or, you delete the provision relating to the High Court, and provide that one can go to only one court or may be, only to the Session Court. Then take this power from the High Court. I am saying it hypothetically for the sake of argument. I am not arguing that. I want it at both the places.

Once that provision is there for the High Court, the provision relating to the moving of an application to the High Court would become futile.

Having said all this, I would like to make only one point more regarding the information about the arrest to be provided to the families or anyone associated with the accused. That is again a good provision. Here, I feel, we should have gone a step forward and said that besides the information, a copy of the FIR should be given. The copy of the FIR should be provided to the person. That is the only way in which we could ensure that no provision would be misused by any person. We find that there are instances where to wreak personal vendetta there is misuse. If you are critical of the actions of a person is high authority enjoying high government position, he is offended. This is happening in a democracy. If he is offended, he immediately orders your arrest. If a person is arrested on a Friday after office hours, there are two holidays and that person cannot move an application without a copy of the FIR. There are provisions for malicious prosecution but I would say that along with the information, a copy of the FIR should be given. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bansal, your time is already over.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I have put away my papers. I am concluding but let me say two or three words.

There are certain provisions where the pecuniary limit for money matters have been raised substantially. Where it was Rs. 100, it has been raised to Rs. 1,000; where it was Rs. 250, it has been raised to Rs. 2,000; and where it was Rs. 500, it has been raised to Rs. 5,000. The reason given in all those matters was that the value of money had eroded substantially, from 1973, when the Cr.P.C. was enacted, to 1994, when this amendment was introduced. During these 11 years again, the value of rupee has eroded further substantially. Therefore, there is need to consider all those matters. Wherever there is a pecuniary limit, it should be raised substantially in the interest of justice.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you allowed me to speak on the amendment bill amending Criminal Procedure Code 1973. I thank you for this. Just now the Hon'ble Members said that many incidents use to take place in police custody. The amendment bill moved by the Hon'ble Minister in the House is based on the incidents that take place and to follow these practically certain amendments have been carried out. I welcome the amendments. But it should also contain a provision of medical check up before the arrest is made because if anything happens after the arrest including the death in police custody a fatal injury thereof then there should be a fresh inquiry. The suffering experienced in police custody specially the criminals or those who commit a crime, in regard to them human rights violation can also be involved.

It is seen many a times that several women are killed or hanged for demand of dowry. If outsiders do not come to know about the incident then they are burried at the earliest. There should be a provision for enquiry within 12 or 24 hours of death or post mortem of the dead body and punitive action be taken against the culprits.

As far as criminal procedure is concerned, this Bill has been moved to improve the law enforcing agencies and to prevent crimes. This is also important with socio-practical angle. Besides this many things have been said about the atrocities on women and their arrest. Regarding arrest a very good suggestion has been made. The arrest should be made during the day and not before sunrise and after sun set.

This is a good provision but only lady constable should be allowed to arrest a women and she should be kept in women's custody room. This is a very good Bill brought by the Government and many incidents have been noticed in the case of women's arrest. Many atrocities have been committed against women in police stations even rape cases have been committed. Government has done a commendable job by moving this Bill.

Secondly, as far as life imprisonment or death penalty is concerned, there are many prisoners who ought to be kept in prison for long time. The case of such prisoners should also be considered because many prisoners spend most of their time in jail hospital. He is so aged that he is unable to do anything. There should be a provision that old prisoners should be given punishment and get some relaxation to spend a few last days with their family and repent for their crime and the punishment they got. There are many appeals in this regard and appeal is moved before the President of India and state government and sometimes relaxation is given on the occasion of 15th Aug. or 26 January. We should consider these factors.

The third thing is that we take out procession and if our intention is to carry arms in the procession or if any opposition is made and if some violence errupts then we will call it violence. If any such thing happens then it should be prevented otherwise most of the processions are political but sometimes people put flag on the sticks and carry many types of sticks. But the ban on sticks and flags should stay if our intention is to create violence and this ban on sticks and lathis should be lifted if our intention is not to create violence. With these words I would like to say that the amendment moved by Hon'ble Minister will provide a relief to our social life. I welcome the relief measure incorporated in criminal procedure code to check atrocities through this amendment. I welcome that and with these words, I conclude.

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill. You know it well that Criminal Procedure Code is more than a century old and it was made by the British. Till now we are practising the same law made by the British; whereas, now, the circumstances have become totally different in the country.

Sir, amendments have been carried out in 'Criminal Procedure Code, 'Evidence Act' and 'Indian Penal Code' from time to time but such amendments are not sufficient. It is my personal belief and suggestion that Criminal Procedure Code should be in keeping with the needs of the people of our country and a new Criminal Procedure Code should be brought about. What is the utility of Judiciary today? Judicial System is there to dispense justice to the common people but what is happening these days is that when we approach judiciary, cases are lodged and they remain pending for years. It takes a long time before justice is done and people face lots of difficulties. I welcome the proposal concerning Criminal Procedure Code which has just been forwarded but it's many sections like section 145 which applies in the cases of land measuring five Kattha, two Kattha, four Katha and one Bigha which take 15-20 years for their disposal.

[Shri Ganesh Prasad Singh]

The poor and the common men suffer a lot and more than ten times the price of land is spent in pursuing the case but justice is not done even after ten-fifteen years. Similarly, when some person is arrested under some criminal allegation and even if he is innocent or has been framed by the police, there is no law to provide justice to that person.

Therefore, I would like to say that new laws should be made and the old ones should be done away with. The preceding speakers have also emphasised the fact that many such laws have been made which provide some relief, but keeping in view the circumstances prevailing in this country and the way the police functions, comprehensive amendment is required in the existing laws. What happens now is that the police go to village, enter the house forcefully whether it is 8 PM, 12 PM or 2 am. Inside the house, there are family members and among them are women and children but the police force do not have a single woman police officer. They commit atrocities against women. Therefore, I welcome the amendment proposed in this regard.

Sir, at the same time, move has been made to amend section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. There is a provision in it that if some one stages demonstration, takes out procession and moves with weapons then he will be prohibited; he may be imprisoned for six months. Here the definition of arms needs attention. It included *lathi, danda* and sticks. Whenever, there is any procession by some party, they wrap their party flag in that danda. You might have seen our farmers using that stick while going to field. you can look at the statue of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi installed in Parliament House Complex, you can see that there is a *lathi* in his hand also. How can you include lathi and danda in the category of arms. Sir, *Danda* is not an arms. There is a meet to omit this provision. Sir, in addition to this, several other proposals of amendment have been made. Through it, amendment proposal in regard to twenty to twenty five sections has been made. I would like to convey to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that further amendments are required in it. The need of the hour is to made laws *de novo* and also to change the system. The power accorded to the Judicial System and the police also need to be changed.

Sir, as my colleague was just speaking, there was no provision of anticipatory bail in it and it was inserted through an amendment in 1973. It provides that if an innocent person is framed by the police, in such case justice is done to him. In addition to this, there are many such sections through which efforts have been made to provide some relief. But I would like to say about the first amendment that if there is a provision for two years imprisonment in a case under a particular section, how much time should be taken for completing or disposing of that case? It has been seen that the punishment is for two years but the criminal remains behind the bar for five or seven years.

If some case pertaining to property dispute is lodged under sections 145-146, that remains pending for years together. Therefore, such sections are required to be amended. At the same time, time limit should also be fixed for the disposal of cases, then only the common people will get justice and the objectives of judiciary will also be fulfilled.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

I think, the amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure are the need of the hour. For the last one decade or so, it was kept pending and ultimately it has come now. But I would like to say that many more amendments are necessary because the Code of Criminal Procedure itself was prepared during the British period. Many amendments that were necessary did not come. Hence, a comprehensive Bill may be necessary and I hope the hon. Home Minister may think of this in the near future.

Before going into the amendments which are proposed, I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister, though you, Sir, that today in *The Indian Express,* a news items has appeared regarding these amendments to Code of Criminal Procedure. It is said that a police officer trying to apprehend a proclaimed offender has now been empowered to use all force including the right to kill him (clause 7). I do not find this in the amendment. I am surprised how this type of news has come in the Press and that too, it has been written in a way that as the main Opposition is not in Parliament, the remaining Parties are making laws which are going against the interests of the nation. I would like the Home Minister to clarify as to what exactly is the position. After going through the entire sheet of the amendments, I did not

find anywhere this type of amendment. Though, clause 7 is also there. This type of things should be clarified so that the people should not misunderstand about the necessity of this type of amendments.

Regarding the other type of amendments, I would like to mention about the arrest of women. In exceptional case, a provision is made that women can be arrested after sunset also by a woman officer. I would like to amend this provision like this: a woman officer, not less than the rank of Circle Inspector of Police. The higher the officer, more will be the security.

An amendment is necessary in the case of rape. The hon. Minister, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury was telling, that at least in rape cases or custodial rapes, there should be capital punishment. This is also very much necessary and I request the hon. Minister to think of it.

Regarding bail and parole, before me, several other important hon. Members spoke. The personal presence of the person for the anticipatory bail, I think, is not a good provision. This will be taken advantage of to arrest some people. Actual anticipatory bail is requested to avoid the arrest and that too in extraordinary circumstances only, anticipatory bail will be given. Before getting into the court, they may be arrested. If it is rejected, then outside the court, they will be arrested. So, this type of provision is not going to help instead it will harm.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For anticipatory bail, few conditions have been imposed in the present amendment.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: That is all right.

Regarding under-trials, unfortunately a large number of cases are pending for a very long time. In many places, the posts of Judges are not filled up. In many places, posts of the judges or the magisterial posts are not filled up. Justice delayed is justice denied. It is rightly suggested that since they have undergone half the punishment that is expected to be given to them for that type of crime or mistake, they should be released.

There is also another provision. If the court believes that after the prosecution, it can be continued, then also, I think, half the punishment is over. It is a very serious punishment. I think, under trials should be given proper justice and it can be treated as one-third of the punishment.

Many such people will be let off or sometimes there will never be a case and they remain in jail for years together. There are a very large number of under trials without exception, in almost the whole of the country. There should be some better law that will help the under trials.

Regarding bail and parole, this should be made a little simpler. Presently, the bail provisions are very difficult particularly for the people who cannot provide security. The poorer people are facing the difficulty. The provision regarding bail and parole should be made simpler depending on case to case basis.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Sir, I rise to support the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2005. First of all, I want to congratulate our hon. Home Minister for bringing this Bill. He has taken up this task for the speedy disposal of criminal cases, helping under-trial prisoners and for safeguarding the interest of women.

Actually, this present Bill was brought before the House by the former Home Minister Shri S.B. Chavan in the year 1994. Then it was vetted by the Committee in the year 1996. After 1996, the Congress Government was not in power. Now, our hon. Home Minister has presented this Bill with certain modifications.

First of all, I want to welcome the amendment to section 46. Section 46(4) says:

> "Save in exceptional circumstances, no women shall be arrested after sunset and before sun rise..."

My suggestion is that males should also be added to it. I want to mention about two cases. The former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. M. Karunanidhi was arrested at midnight around 1 o'Clock and he was taken round to the police stations throughout night. Police authorities failed to follow Section 50 Cr PC. Then, Kanchi Mutt Chief, Shankaracharya was arrested in Andhra Pradesh at midnight on 11 November, 2004. After one month, the junior Pontiff was arrested. My suggestion is, except in exceptional circumstances, even no man should be arrested after sunset. It is a welcome step taken by the Government.

Another important section is section 50. It is a new provision based on the report of the Joint Committee. Now this has been amended as section 50A(1) to 50A(4). Article 21 about human dignity is covered by this

[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

amendment. In the present amendment, the police officer must immediately bring the fact about the arrest of a person and place where he was kept to the family members, relatives and friends of the person so arrested. Secondly, the police must inform the rights of the accused. While remanding him to the Judicial Custody, the Magistrate must check up whether the police has complied with section 50(A)(2), 50A(3) or not before remand. It is a welcome step taken by our hon. Home Minister.

Other important sections are section 53, insertion of 53A and also section 164 and insertion of 164A. They relate to examination of accused as well as victim by medical practitioners. Previously, Registered Medical Practitioners, serving in a Government hospital or a local-body hospital, were permitted to examine the victim as well as the accused. Now, any Registered Medical Practitioner, within an area of 16 kms., can check up the accused and can check up the victim also. But, my request is, and it has to be clarified also, whether an *Ayurvedic* or a *Homoeopathic* Registered Medical Practitioner is eligible to examine the accused or not.

Another important amendment is with regard to Section 176. This Section deals with inquiry by Magistrate into custodial death. Now, the present amendment provides that the words "where any person dies while in the custody of the police or" shall be omitted. Sir, I may be permitted to speak two or three minutes more. Now, the following is being added:

"(a) any person dies or disappears, or

(b) rape is alleged to have been committed on any woman..."

In this amendment, sub-section (5), is being added. There is a lacunae in this that is why I want to mention it.

"(5) The Judicial Magistrate or the Metropolitan Magistrate or Executive Magistrate or police officer holding an inquiry or investigation, as the case may be, under sub-section (1A) shall, within twenty-four hours of the death of the person, forward the body with a view to its being examined to the nearest Civil Surgeon..."

But, it does not mention about rape victims—whether they are sending them for examination immediately or not. It is not there. The present Bill is intended to prevent the rape cases. In this country, for example, two rapes take place every hour. One out of five victims is a child below the age of 12 years. Nineteen out of 20 rape accused were let free. In 2002, 132 policemen were tried for custodial rapes, of whom only four were convicted. The punishment must be stringent. Death punishment must be given to rapists; it cannot be reduced.

I would also like to mention the amendments to Sections 292 and 293. These are very good amendments to avoid any delay in counterfeit coinage and explosive cases. For expert opinion, it is taking number of years. It leads to unnecessary harassment to the accused also. So, it is a welcome thing.

An important amendment is being made to Section 436. Now, it is amended as 436(A). Suppose the case of a person, who is in jail and completed one half of the period of imprisonment specified for the offence under law. He can be released with or without surety. This is a very good amendment. Why I am saying is because 2.17659 lakh people were undertrials, who were in prison as on 31.12.2003. Most of them are the people booked for petty and small cases. Mr. Chairman, you better know the case of Sayyed Nazar Madani. He was arrested in April, 1998. He is in Coimbatore Jail. No bail has been given to him. I contacted the Jail authorities. I asked one Mr. Selvin, Assistant Superintendent of Jail, "You please tell me as to when Shri Madani was remanded in your Central Prison." He refused to tell. He said, "I do not know." This is the situation. I am not supporting Madani's case but his case has not been completed the trial till date. So, this is a very good amendment and would help the under trial prisoners. Then, another important amendment is with respect to anticipatory bail.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You see, there are two types of detentions. One is detention without trial and one is detention without arrest. People are detained in police stations and their arrest is not recorded. That is in case of detention without arrest. The other is detention without trial.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: I am talking about detention without trial.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know we really are experienced.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Yes Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know, while taking people in custody, these people won't record the arrest.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: But, Sir, so far as detained arrest is concerned, my concern is how the dreaded terrorists and the underworld dons would be arrested if they do not operate in the midnight. I beg differ on this. It is a serious concern. We must definitely protect the rights of political leaders. We must ensure certain measures to protect them. But, at the same time, we cannot make it a common thing. Otherwise, our Forces will not be able to function properly. National security is under threat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since you are a woman, I have allowed you to speak.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Being a criminal lawyer, I would like to raise one point with respect to section 438 regarding anticipatory bail. It says, "The presence of the applicant seeking anticipatory bail shall be obligatory". A number of conditions have been imposed. Suppose, the accused is a Government servant. Nowadays, it is very easy to file false cases. You, Sir, also know that a false case can be filed under section 506(a) or 326IPC. He can move a District Court for the anticipatory bail. He will have to appear before the District judge as per new provision in 438 and if bail is rejected, he will be arrested. If he is remanded for 48 hours, he will lose the job. He will be suspended and then he cannot go to the High Court or the Supreme Court. Accused are deprived of their rights. So, this has to be reconsidered as it will affect the entire Criminal Justice Delivery System of the country.

Moreover, a large number of cases are pending in various Magistrate Courts. All the Magistrate Courts do not have the buildings or clerks. One of the magistrates in Tamil Nadu had staged an agitation for want of a typing machine. They do not have much facility. There is a provision to amend the Directorate of Prosecution. It is very good. Prosecutors must be given all the facilities.

Another humble submission is, most of the police officers are recording statements contrary to the FIR. If the statements are contradictory then the benefit automatically goes to the accused. So, all the State Governments must be requested to appoint one junior advocate with less than five or ten years of service as a police prosecutor in the police stations to file the charges. This will not only give job opportunity to young lawyers but also will improve the criminal justice delivery system. I support the Bill and thank you for the opportunity given.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this momentous Bill relating to the Code of Criminal Procedure. On behalf of my Party, I support this Bill. I think this is one of the series of the Bills and measures taken by the UPA Government to bring changes in the society, economy and in the political system.

As far as this Code of Crominal Procedure Bill is concerned, it is clothed in sound principles of jurisprudence. The objects of the amendment Bill are good and are consistent with the needs of the Indian contemporary society. As you have remarked during your intervention, today a large number of cases are pending before the trial courts, High courts and the Supreme Court. My learned colleague, Shri Kharventhan has just now quoted that there are 2,17,673 under trial cases and the period of pending of these cases is running to a number of years. A number of innocent under-trial persons are languishing in jails without a judgement being passed on the criminal offences committed. If you look into the social composition of the people who are suffering or languishing in the jails, you would note that they all belonged to the suppressed, oppressed community, weaker sections, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community who are being denied even the normal justice for a long time. Therefore, today, what we need is that the judicial delivery system has to be radically restructured in such a way that it is able to provide justice at the right time and to the right person.

Other learned Member has rightly said that this system, which was clothed in the legacy of the British, has not wiped out all the social evils connected with the criminal judicial system which was perpetuated in this country by the Britishers. This Code of Criminal Procedure was brought in 1973. We tried to bring about changes in 1994 but could not do it. We again tried it in 2003. At least we are now bringing it before the House. It is a radical measure and the most fascinating aspect of this Bill are the objectives of the Bill. It tries to tone up the investigation process and the investigation machinery. The second objective is that it tries to strengthen the prosecution machinery. Therefore, in the contemporary society where justice is delayed and denied, the Bill tries to provide a delivery mechanism by which we can expedite it and, therefore, I welcome it on behalf of my Party. Another salient feature of this Bill is the creation of the Directorate of Prosecution.

Now this is a good idea. But at the same time, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

the fact that no detailed guidelines have been given about the functions of this Directorate and no guidelines have been given about the appointment of the members. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Home Minister that detailed guidelines should be given by the Centre. The Directorate of Prosecution has been created by the Centre but the operative part of it is left to the State Government. You know the manner in which the State Governments are functioning now-a-days. They are working according to their whims and fancies. Therefore, the functioning, the powers, and the jurisdiction of the Directorate of Prosecution must be specifically made by the Central Government itself so that their is no heterogeneity or variation in the use of the powers and functions of the prosecution among different states. The people of impeccable integrity and the men guided by the spirit of objectivity alone must be posted there.

The third important feature of this Bill is with regard to the arrest of women after Sun set and before Sun rise except in exceptional circumstances. As has been stated by the other hon. Members, the officer who effects this arrest must be above the rank of Inspector of Police and it should be a woman police officer. But I also feel as to why this specific provision has been made for woman alone. There are cases where men are also arrested without even a sign of committing a crime by them. We still remember the arrest of Dr. Kalaignar in Tamil Nadu in the mid-night and the case has not yet been provided. Therefore, it should be uniformly applicable. We are now emerging into a system where there is an equality of law whether it is man or woman. Let us develop a system where a person should not be arrested after Sun set and before Sun rise. I would feel that we should ensure equality before law.

Another important provision of this Bill is relating to the examination in rape cases. This is a welcome move. This Bill also tries to avoid a situation where witnesses turn hostile. The provision of compounding of offence which has been made here may be treated very cautiously because it may lead a person to commit himself and then land himself in trouble.

Another important provision which fascinates is with regard to the obligation of a person making the arrest to inform about the arrest to a nominated person. Now this provision will try to ensure human rights to the people which are very often trampled in the case of poor and downtrodden people.

Now the power to prohibit carrying arms in procession or mass training with arms would try to curb the communal forces who are heading for a disaster in this country. Then, the maximum period of punishment for under trials has been reduced to half of the maximum period. But one provision is regarding personal bond with or without surety. Now most of the under trials happen to be poor and they may not have the ability to provide sureties either in terms of money or kind. Therefore, the word 'with' may be deleted from that provision. Therefore, on all these aspects the Bill merits our serious consideration and approval.

I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill and also congratulate the Chairman of the UPA who has been tirelessly working to bring about radical reforms in this country on the economic side, social side and on the constitutional side. In view of all these merits, on behalf of my Party, I support this Bill.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, this Bill was discussed and passed by the Rajya Sabha and now this Bill has come before this House for discussion and approval.

This Bill had come before Parliament in 1994. In the last 11 years, our country was silent as far as this issue was concerned. It means that the justice was delayed. We say in the judicial terms, 'justice delayed is justice denied'. So it is very clear who is responsible for the delay of 11 years. Now, you have come forward with positive suggestions. Therefore, first of all, I congratulate you for bringing such positive amendments.

The most important features contained in this Bill are in regard to death in police custody, missing from police custody and rape in police custody. As far as issues like death in police custody and missing from police custody are concerned, it has been stated in the Bill that in the event of such a thing happening, there would be a judicial enquiry ordered. Also, in cases of allegations of rape in police custody, there would be a judicial enquiry.

On the issue of arrest of women during night time, it has been stated that it should not be done during night time, but at the same time it has also been mentioned that a women could be arrested at night under extraordinary circumstances. But such an arrest could be affected only with the prior permission of the officers. If officers are not available, such arrest could be effected

by persons who would take the responsibility to give an explanation about the extraordinary circumstances under which such an arrest of a woman was made during night time. This is a dangerous clause. It is because we all know that our police officers are capable enough to change very ordinary circumstances into extraordinary circumstances. We have had the experience of police officers coming from Chandigarh to arrest Shri Shibu Soren in a case that was 25 years old. But the case was made out to be an extraordinary one. Why can we not avoid including such clauses in the Bill? Some police officers are capable, with or without reasons, of using this clause against women. It is not essential to have such a provision to strengthen the hands of the policemen, particularly in regard to women.

We have reports day in and day out, from all parts of the country, about atrocities being committed against women. This House also discussed this issue last week. In the newspapers there appeared a report about a case in Lucknow where a woman was raped by policemen. When the husband of the woman objected to this he was shot dead and the child was abused. We are coming across such reports almost everyday. So, under the changed circumstances, we have to change the course of our action in regard to such crimes and take into consideration all such factors when we are giving shape to a law. I fully agree that maximum punishment should be meted out to the culprits, particularly in rape cases. Many cases of rape are not reported to police. So, if the Government make stringent provisions in the law, then it would have some deterrent effect on the culprits. Therefore, I fully agree with the views of the hon. Minister and with other hon. Members when they say that maximum punishment should be given to people accused of rape.

Sir, there are many good suggestions in this Bill regarding improving the law and order situation and about maintaining the communal harmony in the country. But the moot question is, who will implement all these provisions of the law? That is the main issue. Even if we have enough laws, many of the provisions of these laws are not implemented. Political will is the main issue. When we get reports, there should be instructions from the State and the Central Government to take stringent action on such cases. Otherwise, even if we pass good laws, the provisions of those laws would not be implemented properly.

The other thing that I would like to mention here is that apart from passing good laws by the State Assemblies and the Parliament, we would need to strengthen the infrastructure. In the 112th Report of the Law Commission, which was published some time back, it was mentioned that manpower planning in the Judiciary has to be examined in detail. I think, the report has been submitted to the Government but no action on the recommendations of the Law Commission has been taken till date. The Report reveals that in India there are 10.5 judges per million of our population. Whereas, in Australia, which has lesser population than India, there are 41.6 judges per million of population; in Canada, which has even lesser population, has 75.2 judges per million of population; England has 50.9 judges per million. Population of almost all other countries in the world are less as compared to India. Thousands of cases are pending before the courts. We can give many such examples.

16.00 hrs.

But I would like to give the example of Kerala. In Kerala, as on 30.9.2004, in district and sub-district courts, 2,54,204 cases have been pending and in Magisterial courts, 4,06,308 cases have been pending. The total comes to 6,60,522 cases. You see the magnitude of the cases which are pending ! And one of the clauses deals with human rights in detail. I am really very happy because some safeguards are included.

One of my friends mentioned about Madhani's case. He is stated to be in custody for seven years and my party is in no agreement with this policies. If he has committed mistakes, the police should bring him before the court, conduct a trial and then put him behind the bars. But without trial, the case is dragging on and it is because of the wrong report which the police has given to the court. As a result, due to his ill health, he is not able to come out of jail. When his mother-in-law had died, he was not granted bail. You may see that in Kerala, there is no law and order issue.

My humble request is, when we pass the legislation, we should see that there should be no lack of political will from the side of the Government to implement the provisions of the Bill. We have to monitor the mistakes and correct them. We should strengthen our Judiciary and other infrastructure which we need in order to implement the provisions of the Bill.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

DR. SEBASTIAN PAUL (Ernakulam): Sir, I rise to support the Bill.

The Code of Criminal Procedure is a product of the great era of Indian legal codification and, despite *de novo* legislation in 1973, the CrPC is still suffering from colonial hangover. Many drawbacks in our criminal jurisprudence have been pointed out by several hon. Members. This is a humble attempt on the part of the Government to correct some of the anomalies because from our experience, we can see that we are going back in time beyond the period of Magna Carta where the prisoners' right to bail was proclaimed. We know that bail is the rule and jail is an exception, but, nowadays the courts are reluctant to grant bail or the prisoners are unable to obtain bail and many are languishing in jails for want of bail.

Many hon. Members have mentioned the name of Abdul Nazar Madhani who is languishing in Coimbatore jail for the last more than seven years. The trial is going on and the case is not yet over. I think, taking the spirit of the new amendment and after the passage of this Bill, Abdul Nazar Madhani will be released forthwith because he has already crossed the possible period of punishment. For seven years, he has remained in jail without bail.

In our country, the arrests are mostly unwarranted and custody is meant for torture and humiliation, trial is protracted, and it has become a never-ending process. It is in this context that I am supporting the amendments moved by the hon. Minister in the hope that in the near future, the Criminal Procedure Code will be subjected to further amendments or modifications because we have to take into account the developments in technology. We can harness technology for speedy trials and administration of justice. All these things further require detailed examination. I hope that with the acceptance of many basic principles of criminal administration like plea bargaining which is prevailing in the US, pendency, will decrease in our country. If plea bargaining is accepted, many cases will come out of the files of courts.

People can plead guilty on the assurance of lesser punishment. In the present system, the dockets of the criminal courts are bulging. There is no end to this painful process. Many of the valuable rights are neglected. In this connection, I do remember the Ten Commandments of the hon. Supreme Court in the famous Basu case. Even those mandatory rules are being violated by the police. Giving statutory recognition to those rules is most welcome. I welcome this amendment with the hope that this is only a beginning and more drastic overhauling of the Code of Criminal Procedure will be forthcoming.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister may please reply.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have supported this Bill wholeheartedly. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, I have given my name also to participate in the discussion.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav wants to speak. Mr. Minister, what do you say?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have no objection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you agree, I will allow him.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I agree to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, as a special case I allow you. You can speak for two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, time is very less so I don't want to go into details. I want to throw light on two or three points only.

The most important and objectionable point in the amendment Bill moved today is a ban on our traditional symbol—*Lathi* and stick. If we carry *Lathi* or stick alongwith us, a case can be filed against us. You have set six months imprisonment for that. That's not fair. For every political party and specially for our Party this is a symbolic thing. Whenever farmers go to their fields or thrashing place, they carry it for their own safety. They also use it for loading. Whosoever belongs to a political party always carry a stick and flag. Everywhere, we use it for support. It is often used to kill snakes and scorpions. One of our Hon'ble Member Sadhu baba comes here with the support of a stick. You are banning that one also. Many more Members use their sticks to support themselves and they are not able to walk without the support of stick. You are bringing the *Lathi* within the purview of law. That's not fair. So, I request the hon'ble Minister to reconsider it. These things are our traditional

jewels. I want to request you not to part us with these items. When Kanwarias visit Deoghar they also carry it for support.

With these few words I request Hon'ble Minister to reconsider it and keep it out of ambit of law.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Minister of Home Affairs Shri Shivraj V. Patil has brought forward a bill further to amend the Criminal Procedure Code 1973. I rise to support the bill on behalf of my party and self. Criminal Procedure Code needs to be strengthened further. There is no dearth of people who do unjustice to others in our country. In our country we fight in the name of caste and religion and kill each other. To strengthen communal harmony in the country, we need to ban people and organizations spreading communalism.

Sir, on the basis of my experience I can tell that since we got independence we have been fighting among ourselves in the name of communalism. An attempt was made to murder Mahatma Gandhi. Such people and such forces are trying to ruin the country. I request the Hon'ble Minister that in order to strengthen the secularism and to deal with these forces it is necessary to bring them under the ambit of law and after bringing under the ambit of law, they should be punished so that they can not go against the constitution of India. To prevent these forces to work against the interests of the country, it is necessary to strengthen the present law further. Those who try to encourage strife within country in the name of caste and religion must be punished heavily. This law can be used to punish those fellows.

Sir, I support this bill whole heartedly from my side and on behalf of my party and want my country to be strong one. The forces working against the constitution of India should be defeated. In order to check them, they must be put behind bars. Communalism can be rooted out of our country but for that our law of the country needs to be strengthened further. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: If we have to check these people and to promote our country we have to adopt the constitution of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. There is a need to formulate some stringent laws against these anti-national people. So, I, myself and my party support the bill moved by Hon'ble Minister further to amend the Criminal Procedure Code *...(Interruptions)*. Sir, UPA Government is acting as per the law. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Tejaswini.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakpura): Sir, I would like to raise two objections in this page No. 2, Clause (25) (A) as far as Director of Prosecution is concerned. It has been suggested in the amendment to appoint a practising advocate with 10 years' experience. *...(Interruptions)* Sir, I feel that instead of practising advocate. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shrimati Tejaswini See Ramesh.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Sir, instead of practising advocate, I appeal to the Government to appoint a Sessions Judge. Otherwise, these days, in every field, there is politicisation or they were misusing this opportunity. So, as far as the appointment of Director of Prosecution is concerned, I object to the ordinary advocate with 10 years' experience. It is incorrect. I appeal that there must be Sessions Judge to examine these things.

As far as rape cases are concerned, here it is given that one registered medical practitioner can examine. Here, I appeal that a Government doctor is proper because these days rape cases are very sensitive. The ordinary medical practitioners may not be able to supply or produce certain details. It is very sensitive as far as DNA facility is concerned. That is why, to provide justice, I appeal again that Government doctor is so much necessary to examine these things.

SHRI T.K. HAMZA (Manjeri): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill at this stage. Ten years have lapsed. It was first initiated in 1994. Even the Standing Committee reported in 1996 that we had delayed that measure for eight clear years. So, our genuine complaint is regarding delaying the justice in the court;

*Not recorded.

[Shri T.K. Hamza]

the backlog has increased. Now, the legislature backlog is this. Anyway, it has now been brought before the House. For that, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister.

I want to say only one or two words regarding two or three clauses. One is about clause 6, Section 46. It says that women may not be arrested after sunset or before sunrise. Why do we not extend the same facility to men also? Of course, this provision has been kept to prevent misuse of power. I can understand that. The point is that arrest and bail is a question of dignity. Men also have got the dignity. So, my point is that nobody may be arrested in the night. At the dead of night, an ex-Prime Minister is arrested. Such things may not be allowed. Therefore, that can be made as "any person may not be arrested after sunset and before sunrise."

Likewise, there is clause 19, Section 202(1). It has been stated that a Magistrate, on a private complaint, can conduct inquiry himself to satisfy whether it has to be taken cognizance or not. He can send for the police also. The suggestion here is that if the alleged accused is beyond the jurisdiction of the Magistrate, it is very well that at his satisfaction he can do anything as he pleases. I agree to that amendment.

Next, my humble submission is about amendment to clause 36, Section 436A which is about bail matter. In that matter, the hon. Minister may consider my suggestion. A trial prisoner should get maximum justice. It may not exceed the custody half the punishment prescribed in the law. That is true. We have to protect interest of a man, the fundamental rights of a man. In the police custody, if a man dies, compensation is suggested, a judicial inquiry is suggested. If a man dies in the judicial custody, what is the way out? Where is the justice?

Many hon. Members said that Abdul Nazar Madhani is in jail for eight years without trial. The trial is going on. But he is not given the bail. Suppose, ultimately, the highest judicial authority in the country finds that he is innocent—he has been undergoing judicial custody for eight years—who will compensate for that? So, the Government should think of that. Therefore, justice cannot be denied. If it is the intention of the Legislature, the Parliament which is the highest authority of the country, which is the supreme body, above all the constitutional bodies, then, we have to consider that. A person is undergoing jail custody pending trial for more than eight years. No bail has been granted so far. I do not know for what purpose it is done. If he dies there, how can the State compensate? If he dies in judicial custody, how can he be compensated? So, this fact may also be taken into consideration. The hon. Minister may introduce some comprehensive amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code as well as, in certain aspects, the Indian Penal Code in order to avoid harassment.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill. I stop here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister will reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, kindly permit me for a minute to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is over. Anyhow, if you can say one or two words, I will agree because you represent the Opposition.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, I rise to support the amending Bill. I am fully supporting whatever amendments that have been proposed by the hon. Minister.

I am requesting the hon. Home Minister through you for two amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you mean to strengthen.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: So, you are mentioning about women. In place of women, it should be any person. It is because in the Article 21 of the Constitution, the dignity of a person is written. Normally, in the midnight the arrest of a male is also not correct. What is the hurry? If there are any extraordinary circumstances, they can go and arrest the male person. Instead of woman, a person whoever he may be, should not be arrested after sunset, before sunrise.

Secondly, regarding maintenance under Section 125 of the CRPC, previously, we have given very limited amount of compensation to the wife and children. Now, we have to give powers up to Rs. 5,000 to the Magistrate. If the Magistrate is satisfied, he will award maintenance up to Rs. 5,000 to the wife or the children. So, these are the two suggestions I am giving through you to the Home Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Once again, I would like to thank the hon. Members for the support they have given to this Bill. The first point which was made by your goodself, Sir, is related to the Directorate of Prosecution. I think in your speech you said that the Directorate of Prosecution would be subordinate to the Attorney-General or Advocate-General. The position today provided in this law is that the Director would be appointed by the Home Ministry of the State and he would be under the control of the Home Ministry and not the Advocate General. There is not going to be any difficulty.

The second point which you made in your speech is related to the duties to be performed by the Director. It is provided in the law, it will be prescribed by the Government. That means the rules will be made and as per the rules the Director would function. So, there is no difficulty. One more point was raised with respect to the qualification of the person who can be appointed as the Director of Prosecution. That was made by a lady Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is provided that there should be 10 years practice.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, Sir, 10 years' practice. It was suggested that a Judge should be appointed and not a practising lawyer. Even to appoint a Judge or if a District Judge has to be appointed, it is seen how many years' practice he has put in. A person, only after 7 years' practice as a lawyer, can be appointed as a Judge. So, the same number is being applied at the time of selecting a person to function as a Director and we should have no difficulty in this respect also.

One point has been made by many Members in this House relating to the arrest of the woman after sunset and before sunrise. They have welcomed this provision. Many Members have suggested that this provision should be available to men also. We are going to have a law which is not only humane in its approach but it is effective also. If you make a law so humane that it does not remain effective, then there is no point in having a law of that nature. This provision has to be made, the provision that a woman should not be arrested after sunset and before sunrise. It is because the Law Commission, the Jurists and many organisations have made a suggestion to this effect, in order to protect the dignity of the women. Should it be available to men also? Suppose a dacoit is hiding in his house in the night. What will happen? Will he not be arrested in the night? If that happens, it will be very difficult for the police to arrest him.

16.25 hrs.

(SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL *in the Chair*)

This law is meant to deal with the persons who have committed the offences also. So, the effectiveness of the Police should not be reduced to such an extent that they would not be able to arrest the real culprit. So, I am finding it very difficult to accept this suggestion at least at this point of time. Afterwards, if you convince the jurist, the Judges, the Commissions and some of us also, we may look into it, but at this moment, it is not possible for me to accept this suggestion.

There was a point raised with respect to the medical practitioners. The law provides that a woman, who is molested and raped, should be examined by the medical practitioner. The original law provided that she should be examined by the Government medical practitioner. It was difficult to have the Government medical practitioner to do this duty at all places. That is why, the present law provides that the first priority is given to the Government hospital doctor to examine the victim. Only when the Government doctor is not available within 16 kilometers, private doctor is to be approached for examination and this private doctor has to be a registered doctor. The victim will be subjected to the examination by this registered doctor only if she agrees to subject herself to examination otherwise not. So, this provision is made in order to see that the evidence, which is very relevant in such cases, is not lost. That is why, this provision has been made and there should be no difficulty in accepting this provision.

One of the most important things, which has been provided in this law, is that the person—if a person dies in the Police custody or is raped in the Police custody or disappears from the Police custody—the inquiry or investigation should not only be done by the Police, but it has to be done by an agency, which is independent of the Police. The original law provides that in such cases, the Police could inquire into the matter or investigate into the matter and could come to certain conclusions and could inform the authority as to what had happened. Now we are taking a precaution. That precaution is that it is not only the Police officers who should be allowed to do that but this inquiry and investigation should be done by

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

the Judicial Magistrate of the area in whose jurisdiction this has happened, that is, the death has happened or the rape has happened or the person has disappeared.

So, this is a very salutary provision and, I think, we have to welcome this provision. Sir, the release on bail of the persons who have been languishing in the jail, is also a very salutary provision. I have read in the Newspaper that it is a very sad commentary on the Government's performance on investigation. Such kinds of cases are not there in big numbers, only a few cases are there in which a person is kept behind the bar for a long time without being released on bail or without getting the benefit of the trial by the Judge. Sir, it happens only in a few cases. The present Criminal Procedure Code provides that bail shall be given by the Police in the bailable offences. This is a rule. In bailable offences, Police have no discretion. If the accused person makes an application for bail, the bail has to be given.

The police cannot deny the bail. In non-bailable cases, the bail is not given by the police, but it is given by the judge. But even in non-bailable cases, only in murder case or in cape case or a case in which dacoity is being investigated, the bail is refused. Otherwise, in all other cases, bail is a rule. The Supreme Court has ruled, not once but many times, that the bail is the rule and the jail is an exception. Justice Krishna Iyer had given a very long judgement on this. So, bail is generally given.

But there are cases in which it becomes very difficult to investigate, collect and produce the evidence before the court and get the trial on and get the acquittal or the conviction for the person who is involved in the case. In such cases also, it is now being provided that if the person has remained behind the bar, in the jail, for more than half-the-period for which he could be sentenced to imprisonment, he should not be compelled to remain in the jail and he should be allowed to be released on bail. This is one of the salutary provisions.

The second provision which is a sort of corollary to this is that if the person has remained in the prison for a period for which he could have been sentenced to imprisonment, if that period is over, that case has to be dropped. The case should not continue, but the case has to be dropped. This is also a very salutary provision and we should accept it.

Sir, among the other amendments which are likely to come before Parliament to the Criminal Procedure Code, one of the amendments is that if there is a case in which only a fine can be imposed, the person should not be arrested at all. All these steps are meant to make the criminal justice system more humane and more acceptable to the people.

There was some argument on anticipatory bail provisions which are provided in this amending Bill. In the original Criminal Procedure Code there is no provision under which anticipatory bail can be given. The criminal courts have been using the inherent powers to give anticipatory bail. In what kind of cases anticipatory bail is generally given? If a person is prosecuted for political reasons or on the basis of the evidence which is not convincing or which is not sufficient to punish the person or for such other reasons, then the judges have come to the conclusion that in such cases the accused should not be arrested and should not be put behind the bar by the police and they have given anticipatory bail. This Bill is now accepting this principle and incorporating this principle in the Criminal Procedure Code.

It is suggesting the grounds on which anticipatory bail can be given. But it is also suggesting that the real criminal should not obtain anticipatory bail and escape and not be amenable to the arrest by the police. The law is trying to avoid that kind of a situation. That is why it is provided in the law that when anticipatory bail is given, on the final day on which the judgement will be given by the judge the person making the application should be present in the court. The argument which is advanced opposing this kind of a provision in this House or in the other House also has been that this is making the provision relating to anticipatory bail more stringent. I think this is not making it more stringent, but it is making it more just. If the court comes to the conclusion, as per the law, that anticipatory bail has to be given, the bail will be given and the person will not be arrested. But supposing the court comes to the conclusion that bail should not be given and the person involved is involved in a serious crime, should not the police be facilitated to see that he is arrested and prosecuted also?

Here there are two kinds of interests. One is to protect the interest of the person involved and other is the interest to see that real justice is done and the culprit is punished. So, some sort of balancing was required and that is why, in a very balanced manner this provision is included in the law.

One of the hon. Members from here spoke about *lathi* as a weapon. Let me submit to this House and let

me try to convince my friend over there that this provision relating to the *lathi* is probably misread. If you read the entire Bill carefully, you will come to the conclusion that there is nothing objectionable involved in it. The possession of *lathi* or *danda* or stick is not going to be an offence or crime *per se*. If an old man is moving with a *lathi,* he will not be treated as a criminal or an offender. If a farmer is going to his farm or to his field with his *lathi,* he is not going to be prosecuted. He is not going to be arrested. Even in the procession, if some people are going with sticks with flags on them and even with *lathis,* they will not be arrested. They will not be arrested simply because they are moving with *lathis*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But this happens all the time.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): What about RSS people, who daily hold *Shakhas* and carry *lathis?*

MR. CHAIRMAN: After he completes, you may ask questions.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Let me complete. If I am not able to convince him, then he may ask questions. Half-way if they stop me, then I will not be able to convince them.

The point I was making was that an old person carrying *lathi* will not be treated as an offender. A person going to a field with a *lathi* will not be prosecuted. A person who is going in a procession with a *lathi* will not also be treated as an offender. But then, here the Collector, the person, the officer of the District is given the responsibility to see that law and order is maintained in that area. That officer is allowed to declare that in the procession, *lathis* will not be carried, in parades *lathis* will not be carried. If that kind of order is issued by that officer, then anybody who is carrying *lathi* becomes subject to the jurisdiction of the criminal justice system and he will be arrested. If there are people carrying *lathis* on their shoulders and trying to terrify others and the Collector comes to the conclusion that that should not be allowed, the discretion is given to the Collector to say that that should not be allowed. Anybody who violates his order will be punished with imprisonment for six months and so on.

I think, I have been able to convince the hon. Members who were having doubts on both the sides on these points. So, my submission is to please explain to your friends in Bihar and other places that this is not against *lathi* per se and this is not going to be an offence. This is not going to create any problem for any cowboy carrying a *lathi* or any farmer carrying a *lathi* or any old person carrying a *lathi* or any sick man carrying a *lathi* or any farmer carrying a *lathi* or any old person carrying a *lathi* or any sick man carrying a *lathi* in hand. It is only when the Collector gives an order and that too relating to a procession or to a parade and all those things that the person should not carry *lathi,* this will become an offence, otherwise, it is not going to become any offence. So, please do not have any doubts on these points in this matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete first and then you may ask the questions.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The points I was trying to make on this issue is that this Amendment has two objectives to achieve. One is to make the law more humane and the other objective is to make the law more effective.

It has to be humane against the innocent persons, and it has to be effective against the culprits. Here, these two objectives are tried to be achieved. What has been provided in the law is that the technology will be used to investigate into the offence. The old theory was that to prove that an offence has taken place, the oral evidence was depended upon. The statement of a person, who had seen the offence taking place, was recorded, and he was produced in the court. Sometimes it was found that he was compelled or he was not bold enough to stick to his own statement. It is suggested, do not depend only on oral evidence but depend on circumstantial evidence also. In circumstantial evidence also, technological evidence is more important more reliable. It is provided in this law that in order to provide that an offence has taken place, the DNA test can be used. If DNA test of a blood drop is used, it becomes a convicting evidence, whatever the witness who has seen or watched the offence taking place says. If it is proved that the DNA test is not tallying with that, the judgement given by the court will be different. So, on the one hand, we have tried to make this law more humane, on the other hand, we have tried to make this law scientific and more effective also.

There are one or two misconceptions which have been expressed here while arguing on the amending provisions of this Bill. One related to maintenance. I think, Shri Yerrannaidu raised it. Yesterday or day before

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

yesterday also in the Rajya Sabha this issue was discussed. I would like to submit that with respect to maintenance, originally, a very small amount of money was allowed. I think Rs. 200 or Rs. 500 were allowed under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code to the wife or to the children and all those things. Later on, it was thought that that amount was very small. So, it was increased to Rs. 5,000. Even after that, it was realised that even Rs. 5,000 was a very small amount. So, the upper limit is now removed. The court is given the jurisdiction to decide what amount of maintenance should be allowed to a lady or to a child in the Criminal Procedure Code. There are provisions in the civil law as well as in the criminal law for this purpose. In civil law, any amount of compensation can be given; but in the criminal law, this was the limit laid. In the criminal law, this provision was made in order to see that the expeditious justice was given to the needy that is the wife and the children; but then they have put a limit. That limit was tried to be raised to a higher level. Later on, it was found that that higher limit is also not a just limit. That is why, that limit is removed. The judge sitting in the criminal court shall have the same jurisdiction as the judge sitting in the civil court also. I am moving an amendment to this effect. So, let there be no misunderstanding on that point. I think, these were the two misconceptions, namely, the *lathi* and the maintenance.

Then, there is one more thing which was brought to my notice by one of the hon. Members. This write-up in one of the papers says that by amending this law, we are giving the police an authority to go to such an extent as to kill the person who is absconding from its custody. This is a totally wrong thing. I would like to submit that this should not have appeared in the newspaper and this is not a correct position in the law we are making.

Sir, earlier there was a provision in the original Bill to give powers to the police to go to the extent of killing a proclaimed offender if he runs away from arrest. But, now, on the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Government has agreed to delete the provisions.

Therefore, the amending Bill before the House does not have this provision at all. It was originally there. It had gone to the Standing Committee. These kinds of provisions are there in other laws.

16.45 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

But the Standing Committee suggested that it should not be there and it has been removed. It is not in the amending Bill today. It was wrongly quoted. This is one of the misconceptions.

We are discussing today the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994. It was introduced in the House in 1994. Since 1994 it had been pending in the Rajya Sabha because a Bill which is submitted in Rajya Sabha continues to be pending unlike a Bill pending in the Lok Sabha where, with the dissolution of the House, the Bill also disappears but it continues there. It was referred to the Standing Committee. It came back. Again, probably it was withdrawn. Again it was amended. Again it went to the Standing Committee. Again it was introduced. It is only now that we have been able to take it up and we have been able to pass this Bill. This Bill was languishing in the Parliament because of these reasons and not because of anything else. but I am very happy that this Bill, which has got very good provisions, is getting passed by both the Houses and will become a law very soon..

There is one more amending Bill pending with us. We call it the Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2003. That Bill was also referred to the Standing Committee. Shri Pranab Mukherjee was the Chairman of the Standing Committee. He had looked into that Bill and had made many suggestions. His Committee had made many suggestions. We, in the Government, have accepted those suggestions. Eighty per cent of their suggestions are accepted. Those suggestions are going to be incorporated in the Bill. We would have been very happy to bring this Bill before this House in this Session only and pass it. If it is possible, we will be very happy, but if it is not possible, then we may pass it in the next Session. This amending Bill is also a very good Bill and it improves upon the Criminal Procedure Code that is being followed here.

Justice Malimath was the Chairman of one of the Committees. That Committee is called the Malimath Committee. That Committee has given a Report. The other House is going to discuss this Malimath Committee's Report because they said this should be discussed. We have studied the Report given by the Malimath Committee. There are very good suggestions given by this Committee

with respect to the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code. But there are a few other suggestions given by this Committee. They are not going to be readily acceptable to the people. There are certain other recommendations given by this Committee which the Government also finds very, very difficult to accept. But what we are trying to do is to cull out the good suggestions which are given. The suggestion which I just mentioned now that a person who can be fined should not be arrested is one of the suggestions given in that Report. We can incorporate such suggestions in the law and we can bring amendments. In this fashion, we are trying to improve upon the criminal justice system in India.

One of the suggestions given was, why we had not come to the House with all these amendments together. In fact, we thought about this issue. But we thought that we had waited since 1994 to 2005 and if we had waited for this amending Bill, 2003 to be included in the same Bill and then included the suggestions given by the Malimath Committee, it may take a longer time than we are taking now. That would not be a proper thing to do. So, we thought that this Bill should come and this should be approved by this House. The second Bill and the third Bill will come later.

There is one more thing about which I would like to make a suggestion. The hon. Members and the people outside are suggesting that reforms in the police system should be brought about.

We are on that. We would like to bring about improvements in the manner in which the police system is working in our country.

There were suggestions made that the judicial reforms also should be brought about. The Ministry of Law and Justice is seriously seized of this matter and is thinking about this matter. In all the reports that have come to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Law and Justice and other Ministries, the same suggestions have been made. We are looking into it but we should not mix these things. The criminal jurisprudence reforms, the Criminal Procedure Code reforms and the Indian Penal Code reforms, and, to some extent, the Indian Evidence Act reforms, constitute one thing. Police reforms is another thing which has to be done by the Ministry of Home Affairs; and the judicial reforms is a third thing, which has also to be done. All these reforms contribute towards improving the criminal justice system in India but these are separate aspects and they have to be considered separately. If they are mixed up, there would be a problem. We are going about it in a systematic manner.

There is one more thing which has been coming up for discussion every now and then. I thought that I could express my views on that. It is about death sentence. There is a suggestion made that death sentence should be abolished. There is a suggestion made that in rape cases, the death sentence should be awarded. At present, it is a life sentence of 14 years in rape cases but they are suggesting that death sentence should be awarded for that also. This is something on which we shall have to take a very careful decision. In our wisdom, in our country, we have decided that death sentence should continue to be there in the Indian Penal Code but the Supreme Court and the jurists and even the politicians and thinkers have said that death sentence should be awarded in the rarest of the rare cases, but not ordinarily. That is the principle and that is the law we are following here. They have said that if death sentence were awarded in rape cases, instead of punishing the culprit, the man who commits the offence would kill the person also. So, it would be a sort of an encouragement to homicide. That is why there were some women's organisations which are opposed to this. In my opinion, we have to decide that the death sentence given has to be executed and sometimes those who have the responsibility for this also are not very comfortable. They think that if we are not able to give life, why should we take life?

The question before us which we have to decide at some time or the other is whether life imprisonment means 14 years' imprisonment or real life imprisonment as in other countries. We also have to decide in what cases death sentence has to be given. Clarity on these points would also improve upon the criminal justice system in India. These are the areas which should not be decided either by the Judiciary or by the Parliament alone but by all of us after taking into consideration the economic, social and pragmatic situation in which we live in the country, in order to see that injustice is not done and justice is done. So, the attempt at making this amendment to the Criminal Procedure Code is to make it more humane as well as effective. I am very happy and very delighted to see that each and every hon. Member of this House has supported us in this effort.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

seek clarification from the Minister. In the definition of *lathi* (stick) as given in the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2005, *lathi* has been defined as a weapon. Whereas, it gives support to the helpless. *Lathi* is used as a mark of auspicious symbol, it is like a cloth, not a weapon. But it has been included in weapons.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Sir, just now you have made some clarification, but our apprehension still persists. You have very clearly made a provision in it that "ordnance means a thing designed or adopted as a weapon for any offence or in defence, and it includes a weapon, sharp edged weapon, *lathi, denda* and stick". Even today, if we try to charge anybody with a stick or *lathi*, it is an offence. But if a farmer is using a *lathi* as his support, it will not be treated as offence. You have also said that if one walks with the support of a *lathi*, it will also not be treated as an offence. But our apprehension still persists and you have not made clarification in this regard. If we carry a lathi in any procession, would you treat this an offence. Every political party workers move with a flag along with *lathi*, if you ban *lathi*, it will be an infringement upon our right. You do clarify this and the provisions of this law as well. Mahatma Gandhi got the nation freed with the support of a *lathi* and *lathi* is a symbol of non-violence, where has the violence come from into the picture. We have apprehensions in our minds. You please remove this.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If anyone carries a *lathi*, it is not an offence. If my leg is injured and I take support of a *lathi*, it is not an offence or an old person is walking with a *lathi* or putting his cattle out to graze or carrying a *lathi* to drive away animals, is also not an offence. The law provides that carrying a *lathi* is not an offence. Suppose a person is carrying a revolver without licence, he can be arrested but has a *lathi*, cannot be arrested. *Lathi* is not considered to be the same type of a weapon as a revolver is. In this law, it is stated that suppose five thousand people go in a demonstration in our country and of which one thousand people carry *lathi* flag, means attacking at someone's home *lathi* is also there. Similarly, if someone uses a *lathi* for the purpose of parade daily then *lathi* will be treated as a weapon. You know that how a man with *lathi* uses it. They strike with *lathi* in a more fatal way then a revolver is used. When they use *lathi*, even 50 persons cannot face them. Carrying a lathi is not an offence but its use as a weapon is an offence. In a demonstration of thousands of people 500-600 persons carrying *lathi* or parade daily in the morning carrying a *lathi* and collector feels the situation is creating a sense of fear and these *lathis* can become the bone of contention, whether they should be banned or not. This law provides that it should be banned in such a situation. This will be banned in processions, parades but not at other places—it is a provision in the law. You read the law and you will understand it. The more I could explain, I have explained. You give your suggestions at a later date and if anything is there to be corrected, we will see to it some other time. But let it be passed today.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Police misuses it.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is Indian culture that on the occasion of Muharram, muslim brothers distribute *lathis*, carry it as well as Mohammadi flag. Such is the practice on the occasion of Baisakhi. You are putting a ban on political parties on carrying flag. What will be done to this?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: This misunderstanding should not be spread outside. If our companions and brothers spread this misunderstanding outside, it will not be a good thing. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Patil ji, listen two-three members then give a final reply, otherwise the discussion will not be over. This is the problem in Punjab also.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I reply to this only and will give a common reply to the questions of all the members. This thing should not go outside. Here it was said that if muslims are carrying *lathi* on the occasion of Muharram, will they be stopped? They will not be stopped. It was asked in the other House that if Sikh brothers are carrying *Kripan* will they be stopped? I said that the Article 25 of the Constitution provides that carrying a *Kripan* is a part of sikh religion and we will not stop them. If Jain brothers are carrying *lathi* or flag, we will not stop them. We will stop at that time when people are going in procession carrying *lathis* and which leads to a possibility of dispute.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while I had welcome this provision, I had expressed only one doubt about it that in the interpretation thereof, the officer on the ground could misuse this provision. That is what I had said. There is no doubt in our mind

that a person going to the field will be apprehended. No. I have read the words. The words in clause 16, which incorporate a new Section 144A, talk of procession and not of any other matter. So, if an old man is carrying a stick and going to his farm, he will not be covered under it.

We are only concerned about the arms in any procession. I must say that this has also been defined well. Subsequently, let me read that out. In clause 44, the definition of "Arms" has been given, which reads:

> "Arms means articles of any description designed or adapted as weapons for offence..."

I agree that as such it is not a weapon of offence when I am carrying a flag. Still I had given that example. If I carry a flag on a stick, it is not a weapon of offence. What I had said was—that doubt lingers, persists—people carry their flags on sticks in a procession of a political party or any other religious function. This order is not passed immediately. Such orders are passed in writing for a period up to three months at a time, but the practice is that such orders are passed one after the other. Every three months an order is passed under Section 144. Similarly, we do expect that it would be done here and I do not object to that. It is not that if a procession has to be taken out, that very moment, the District Magistrate would pass an order, or if a procession is being taken out, then the District Magistrate would pass an order. The orders are passed keeping in view the totality of the circumstances, overall picture of an area that no procession should be carried out for three months. After those three months lapse, another order is passed. That is how it is normally done. That is the practice on the ground.

Therefore, if sticks are used for flags, my interpretation of this provision is that it will not be covered. Our doubt still persists that when an over-zealous person is out to teach a lesson to the processionists—it may be anyone anywhere; it could be we in Gujarat and others elsewhere—then that person, acting at the behest of his political master there or any senior, would book those people for no offence.

That is what we had to say. What are we doing to take care of that? That was the query that I had raised.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we are in politics. So, we hold processions and demonstrations. The sticks are used for carrying flags or banners. If the iron rods are used instead of sticks, it will be more dangerous. After all, the political processions will get affected by this development.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister through you, that we demonstrate and take out processions and carry banners and flags. No other thing except sticks is used in all such programmes. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has said that there is no restriction on the use of sticks for carrying flags. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not practicable at any cost. Thus, it should be withdrawn.

[English]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): What is the definition of a 'lathi'?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: It seems that a majority of the Members in the House appear to think that this need not be there in the law. I think, we are living in a democracy, and we will accept this kind of a thing. Let me follow the procedure to make the corrections.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister through you that there is a place called Mooratganj in my constituency where the poor farmers make "*lathi*" by way of bringing, woods from outside. If you will put restriction on it, then will the makers of "*lathi*" be required to obtain licence in the same way as the licence for arms and ammunitions shop is obtained?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have stated that the lathi makers will have to obtain licence but 'lathi' itself is going beyond the purview of law.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 44 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 44 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, while moving the motion, "That the bill be passed", I am making a statement on the floor of the House. The provisions relating to "lathi" have to be amended. There are procedural steps to do it, and I am going to take them up. It has to be done in both the Houses.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

17.10 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Increasing population in the country—*contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Item No. 13.

Shri Prabodh Panda. He was on his legs last time. Now, he may continue his speech.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the first stage, while initiating the discussion Under Rule 193, I had also mentioned that our country, India, is the second most populous country in the world, sustaining 16.7 per cent of the population on 2.4 per cent of the world surface area. Sir, realising the high population growth, India became the first country to formulate the National Family Planning Programme in 1952.

2001 Census Report showed that population growth rate fell below two per cent after decades. It was 2.14 per cent growth for the period 1981-1991 and it has declined to 1.93 per cent over a period of 1991-2001. In order to give new thrust to efforts to achieve a more rapid decline in birth rate, death rate and population growth rate, the National Development Council had set up a Sub-Committee on Population in 1992. The sub-committee made some important recommendations and the NDC endorsed all the recommendations in 1993. It is needless to say or mention that over population or uncontrolled population growth adversely affects the economic development and the progress of the country. It creates problems of food, communication, education, employment, housing, health, santization, etc. 2001 Census showed that India's population was 1.02 billion, which was 15 million more than the projection made by the Technical Group of the Population projected. It showed that India added 18 crore people between 1991 and 2001, which was more than the population of Brazil, which is considered to be the fifth most populous country in the world. There is an apprehension that if such process continues, then, India will overtake China by 2035, which is the world's most populous country. So, to change the rapid growth of population, certain measures need to be taken giving the issue paramount importance. At present, there is no central defined method or no specific targets for the family planning. To give emphasis to decentralising planning at the district level by 2010, the National Commission was also constituted in line with the recommendation of the NPP, 2000. But the problem is that, there is some wrong outlook/understanding and these are the impediments of proper assessment and for taking proper steps so far as population problem and population growth problems are concerned.

First is the problem of communal understanding of the situation. In this regard, it will not be out of context to place that there is a communal mindset to address the situation. I have found that several Members from the NDA have given the notice to participate in this discussion. It might be that they would like to discuss this matter from the point of view of communal mindset. It is not understood why those who have given notices to participate in the discussion are not here. As soon as data on the growth of population of different religions

was released by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commission on 6th September, 2004, it was seized by the *Sangh Pariwar* for meeting their political end.

The alarm bell started ringing that the Hindus were going to be reduced to a minority status in the foreseeable future. The danger of India becoming an Islamic country was underlined. This was their understanding. it is not understood to me why an inaccurate and incorrect summary was distributed to the Press instead of the full text of the report. The concerned Minister should explain why, in such a scenario, in such a complicated situation, such inaccurate summary of the report was distributed publicly instead of the full text of the report. It was published in many dailies stating that amongst six religious communities, the growth rate of the Muslims is the highest, that is, 36 per cent. Surprisingly, this statement was not qualified by the census that took place in Jammu and Kashmir. No census took place in Jammu and Kashmir and in Assam in 1981. The figures show that it had taken place in 1991 and in 2001. Figures show that amongst all religious communities, it is unadjusted in the case of Hindus. In 2001, in the case of the Hindus, it was 80.5 per cent and when it is adjusted, it came to 81.4 per cent. In the case of Muslims, when it is unadjusted, it showed the figure of 13.4 per cent and when it got adjusted, it came to 12.4 per cent. So, where is the ground for coming to the conclusion that the Hindu population growth rate has been declining and the Muslim population growth rate is gradually increasing? This is quite baseless. This problem or confusion is created by the report which is inaccurate and incorrect.

Secondly, so far as the problem of population growth is concerned, there are also age-old prejudices from religious point of view.

I must say that, due to gradually increasing realisation and awareness among different religions, the present situation is improving. Sir, please allow me to refer something very interesting from the speech made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

17.20 hrs.

[SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL *in the Chair*]

It was made at the inaugural function of a two-day Conference of International *Ulemas* on 'Population and Development', which was held in Islamabad. *Ulemas* and scholars from 29 Muslim countries, including Iran, participated in that Conference. The Prime Minister of Pakistan himself, while inaugurating the Conference, called upon the *Ulemas* to provide guidance and leadership to the *Ulemas* to fight the age-old prejudices and ignorance about planned families and develop consensus on issues of population planning in the light of *Quran* and *Shariyat*. It is to be noted that the population growth of certain countries, which I am referring here, has shown this trend. In Iran, the population growth is recorded at 1.4 per cent. In Indonesia, which is having the highest population of the muslims amongst the Muslim countries, it is 1.8 per cent. For all Arab States taken together, it is 2.7 per cent. In our country, it is 1.9 per cent. I am referring these data to show that there is gradual weakening of the age-old prejudices and the situation is improving. But, Sir, what is alarming? One of the alarming facts, that has emerged in the Census of our country, is that the sex ratio is declining. The male population of our country, as per 2001 census Report, is 53.21 crore. Whereas female population is 49.64 crore. That is, the female population is less by 3.57 crore than the male population. Sir, this is a very alarming. National average, that is of sex ratio, is 933. Child sex ratio is also declining. At the national level, sex ratio among muslims is 936 per thousand, just above the national average, whereas in Hindu population, it is 931. This declining ratio is the reflection of the society towards girl child and female.

I may take this privilege to refer the *Manusamhita*, where the attitude towards women is very much clear.

It is said that women are not being considered as equal to men and that it is not proper to give freedom to the women. This is the age-old prejudice. This age-old prejudice is there not only in the Muslim community but also in the Hindu community. The sex ratio of the population shows the exact problem in this regard.

Another alarming fact of the population is the literacy rate. The literacy rate for the population aged seven years and above for the country as a whole stands at 64.8 per cent. We may take the case of employment. I am just referring to the percentage of employment or the percentage of literacy as the records. The population problem cannot be solved in isolation without considering other related problems. According to the Government data, only about 40 crore people have some kind of employment and there are at least 10 crore people in our country who are absolutely jobless. Problems pertaining to the population growth cannot be solved without taking into consideration the socio-economic factor of the society.

[Shri Prabodh Panda]

May I refer the Central Premises of 1994 Cairo Conference in this regard? The notion was that the size, growth, age-structure and rural urban distribution of country's population have a critical impact on its development prospects and specifically on the prospects of raising the living standards of the poor. Based on this understanding, the ICPD, International Conference of Population and Development have suggested strategies, planning, decision-making and resource mobilisation at all levels. The Millennium Summit at UN Headquarters in 2000 sets the aims of focussing the development assistance more effectively. It had recommended certain points and I do not know how far all these points are being followed in our country. One of the points is, eradication of extreme poverty. It deals with the population problem. Their first recommendation is, eradication of extreme poverty by 2015. The other recommendations are to achieve universal primary education by 2015; promote gender equity and empowerment by 2015; and reduce child mortality by 2015.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry for interruption, Shri Panda. You may please continue tomorrow for a little more time. We will now have to take up Half-an-hour discussion. The time fixed for that was 1730 hours and so we will have to begin with that.

17.29 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Carcinogenic Chemicals in baby products

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Sir, this Half-an-hour Discussion arises out of the answer given by the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare on 20.4.2005 to Starred Question No. 362 regarding Carcinogenic Chemicals in Baby Products.

The issue is not only of baby products but the issue is more wider. The problem is of great importance. It is not only concerns our babies but it also concerns the health of the whole population of our country. In 1940, when the country was under British Rule, the Drug Control Act was enacted. It was called Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and during that period, you are well aware that our indigenous capability to manufacture and produce drugs and cosmetics was very limited. Most of the drugs and cosmetics were imported. In the Act of 1940, the provisions were made to take care of the imported drugs and cosmetics so that spurious drugs and cosmetics did not come to our country. After that, in subsequent amendments some provisions were amended but the same provision is continuing till today in respect of Section which deals with the spurious and fake drugs.

17.32 hrs.

(SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL *in the Chair*)

In these 57 years of our Independence, our indigenous pharmaceuticals and drug industry have grown to a large extent. With the advance of science and technology, side-by-side manufacturing of spurious drugs, fake drugs and baby products had also increased manifold. In recent media reports, it has been stated that the spurious drugs market in our country is wroth around Rs. 4000 crore annually. In Delhi alone, the spurious drugs manufactured in Bhagirath Palace are worth more than Rs. 2000 crore annually. The problem is very serious. I know today we are discussing carcinogenic chemicals in baby products. But it is a very small part of the whole issue. I would come to this specific question which is going to be discussed here. It is a matter of great concern for the country. You will be surprised to know that not a single manufacturer of spurious drugs or baby products could be punished in the last 57 years under this Act.

Not one single person could be imprisoned on this ground. Why was it so? Even though there is a legislation on this and the State Drug Control Department has conducted so many raids in different places, yet nothing could be proved before a law and there was no conviction. Now, the question arises—is there any lacunae in the law?

In the reply given by the hon. Minister in response to a supplementary question that I asked on the 20th April, he used two very intelligent words, namely, 'unsafe' and 'not harmful'. In the Act, Section 17(a), (b) and (c) defines spurious drugs, adulterated drugs and misbranded cosmetics. Section 27(a) of the Act empowers the Government and the investigating agencies for meting out punishment to the persons or organisations involved in dealing with such things. What does this Section say? It says:

> "Any drug likely to cause death or likely to cause such harm on his body as to amount to grievous hurt within the meaning of Section 320 of the Indian Penal Code solely on account of such drugs."

It means that even if the drug is spurious, or the cosmetics is spurious, unless it does not cause death, the person involved in selling such drugs is not liable to be punished.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): You may kindly be specific. Is it drugs or cosmetics?

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, the Act is one—The Drugs and the Cosmetics Act.

Sir, the penal provisions are contained in Section 27 (a) of the Act.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: The subject under discussion today is only cosmetics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you limit your discussion to the subject, then only it would be possible for us to complete the discussion within 30 to 35 minutes. Otherwise, it would be difficult for the hon. Minister also.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, I am only trying to draw the attention of the House to the penal provisions that are contained in Section 27(a) of the Act which empowers the Government to penalise a person who is engaged in this trade. The provision says that until and unless it causes death or grievous injury, as defined in Section 320 of IPC, it is not punishable. It is for this reason that during the last 57 years, though hundreds and thousands of raids were conducted by the Drugs Controllers of the States, not one single case has found conviction and no one could be punished.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Drugs is a very large area.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, I am combining both—drugs and cosmetics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Spurious cosmetics is the issue here.

SHRI ANIL BASU: The issue here arises out of a baby product of a global company. On the label of the product the company claims that the growth of a baby is guaranteed if that specific oil was used by way of a massage to a baby. Now, in Section 17(c) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, it has been stated that if the label or container accompanying the cosmetics bears a statement which is false or misleading, then either the reply given by the Minister is false, or the statement on the label of the container is false.

What is the relief which we can provide to the people of our country? The Government constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mashelkar. That committee submitted its report to the Government in the year 2003. But only discussions are going on for the last two years and the Government could not bring in any amendment to the law. Sir, since 1982, we have not been able to charge any offender under this section because in 1982, the Act was amended. Earlier, it was three years imprisonment. By the amendment of 1982, the three years imprisonment was increased to life imprisonment. But we have not been able to charge any offender under this section to life imprisonment because it was not possible to connect the death of a person to drugs and cosmetics manufacture. It is very difficult or it is the failure of the investigating agencies to control manufacture and marketing of spurious drugs and cosmetics because there is a lacuna in the law.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. How are you going to make the law effective so that it can serve the purpose for which it was enacted? How can the products be safely used for our babies? Many companies are now engaged in the manufacture of baby products. But the law itself is not strong enough to punish the offenders.

The report of Dr. Mashelkar Committee has suggested how to make the punishment more stringent. Death penalty has been recommended. My apprehension is, even if Government accepts the recommendation of death penalty, the question still remains as to how and under what law is the Government going to give that punishment to the offenders. It is because the main section which deals with the punishment lacks necessary amendments to prevent the manufacturers from manufacturing and marketing spurious drugs and cosmetics. From our experience of 57 years, it has been proved that production and marketing of spurious drugs and cosmetics are increasing every year. We will not be able to prevent it unless and until the law itself is amended and the specific section is made to empower the investigating agencies to investigate the cases in a proper manner and prove their case before the court of law. Such an amendment should be incorporated in the law. itself. In the absence of that, whatever stringent punishment would be recommended will only be an eyewash.

It will provide relief neither to the pharmaceutical or cosmetic industry nor to the people or babies of this

[Shri Anil Basu]

country. My main question to the Government is this: How are you going to plug this loophole in the Act?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, please ask only questions. You are a learned and experienced Member.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I was closely listening to my friend's argument. Now, I would make a suggestion to the Minister concerned.

So far as I understand, till today there is no substitute for mother's milk. Breast feeding is the effective remedy. To my knowledge, there is no substitute for mother's milk. The tendency now-a-days is, immediately after delivery, young mothers are eager to put on the brassiers and prevent breast feeding. Would the Minister be pleased to make a countrywide campaign for encouraging breast feeding because it is a cure for even breast cancer? it is reported that because the breast feeding is not taking place, mothers suffer from cancer in their old age. So, in order to prevent cancer, please make a countrywide campaign among young mothers so that after delivery they should go in for breast feeding. You persuade them to go in for breast feeding through an awareness campaign.

In the meanwhile, rural poor women must be given nourishing food. Then only it is possible. Food must be supplied to the poor and new young mothers for taking recourse to breast feeding. This is the only remedy. Otherwise, children will become victims to chemically adulterated baby food. You are in the habit of doing many good things. You can launch a countrywide campaign also for encouraging breast feeding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Radhakrishnan, kindly cooperate.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: That is the only remedy.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Sir, some newspapers have reported that these baby products are carcinogenic. We have gone through the Minister's reply. How is he going to remove the apprehension from the minds of the people that these products are not carcinogenic?

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Member Shri Anil Basu has raised very important issues regarding the carcinogenic chemicals. The companies make publicity of synthetic milk, juice or fast food items namely pizza, or burgars or packaged foods through attractive advertisements and praise their products by way of showing usefulness of all these products for children. However, the reality of these products is quite different. Will the Hon'ble Minister conduct an inquiry into all such manufactured products which are carcinogenic? There are many such companies which manufacture various products for children e.g. Johnson & Johonson, Sunfarma, Dabur India Limited etc. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether he would carry out investigation of products of such companies and take legal action against them since most of their products are adversely affecting the health of the children.

[English]

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Sir, I share the concerns of hon. Member, Shri Basu. Probably, it is the second time that he is asking the same question. I think, he is not satisfied with my last reply that I had given to him. Today, we are going through a Half-an-Hour-Discussion on the Carcinogenicity of Cosmetics. Sir, I share the concerns of the hon. Member, Shri Basu that the cosmetics have not only got to do with the babies but also with the general population of the country. He also said that not a single manufacturer of spurious drugs or cosmetics have been punished. This is not true. there have been innumerable instances where they have punished; they have been recommended life imprisonment; and a lot of fine was there. I would bring to the notice of the hon. Member a lot of cases, that is, a list of how many people have been convicted and how many prosecuted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly table the list, as it will be helpful for all the Members.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I will inform the House through you, Sir. Even though both the issues are serious issues—the drugs as well as the cosmetics issues–today we are taking up the issue of cosmetics only. But, nevertheless, I could understand the concern of the hon. Member about drugs, the so-called spurious drugs and the activities going on in the country. The Government has taken a lot of steps recently to curb this practice of both the spurious as well as the mis-branded cosmetics. Even though the question is regarding cosmetics, I will go into first the question of drugs. I would like to answer a part related to drugs' question also and about his query

regarding the Mashelkar Committee's recommendation, which was mostly on spurious drugs.

The Committee was formed under Dr. Mashelkar to go into into the issues of spurious drugs. He had given a comprehensive recommendation, and a part recommendation was taken up. Only the penal provisions, the legal provisions, were taken up at that point of time and were introduced in the 13th Lok Sabha. We are into the 14th Lok Sabha. Again, we have taken up the issue. We have taken up some of the recommendations of Mashelkar Committee, for example, having more stringent legislation, making the offences cognizable and so on. Previously, they were not cognizable. Now, we are making the offences cognizable.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is fine.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: We are increasing the fine. It will be a hefty fine. Previously, it was about Rs. 10,000. Now, we are going to increase it to about Rs. 10 lakh.

Then, the hon. Member asked about the capital punishment. Again, this has been deliberated in the Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet wanted some other recommendations also into that. So, it has gone back to the Law Ministry for redrafting. When it comes from the Law Ministry, we will take it to the Cabinet. Then, I am sure, we will deliberate a lot in both the Houses. We will pass on more stringent laws to curb these spurious drugs as well as cosmetics. We are very serious about the Mashelkar's recommendations. Now, the Member may ask how the Government is doing to curb this practice. We are going through a phase of capacity building where we are investing roughly Rs. 350 crore, both for food as well as drug regulatory bodies. We are modernising and improving literally about 20 Central and State Drug Labs across the country. Sir, on an average, 35,000 products are tested every year. They are tested randomly. But, we need to increase it to 100,000 minimum so as to go into the intricacies of these spurious drugs. We need first the labs to be modernised according to the international regulation. So, we are modernising them. We are imparting training to our drug inspectors, State drug controllers and a lot of training programmes are already been going on. We are all centralising the system of connectivity from the State Drug Controlling Authority to Central Drug Controller Authority. A lot of activities are going on to have this. In due course of time, once all this apparatus is inserted, modernisation is done and the people are properly trained, things will improve. Of course, we are having a Food and Drug Administration Bhavan.

I laid the foundation-stone about two months ago. It will be completed in another 15 months, by next year, whereby they are going to have a separate authority or a separate body to control and regulate both the food as well as drug industry in the country. It is going to be a multi-storeyed building where all these facilities are going to be put. In fact, we have written to the Expenditure Department to increase our manpower resources in that authority and body. Ultimately, our aim is to have an independent authority for drugs. This has nothing to do with the Government. It is on the lines of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. Like that, we need to have an independent authority for drugs and cosmetics to regulate the whole industry because the industry is growing at a very rapid pace. We need to regulate it and make it transparent, to have quality. It is so because, today, the pharmaceutical industry is the fourth biggest in the world. We are a little behind regulating the growth. We are going to do all these things for improving drugs and checking the misuse and spurious drugs.

Coming back to cosmetics, I would like to say that the Cosmetics Act was amended in 1962. But since then a lot of cosmetic products have come into the country. Internationally, you can see that every day newer products of cosmetics are coming in. The Government have taken steps to regulate the cosmetics because every product which is used, like a tooth-paste or a hair oil or a skin lotion or a soap or a shampoo, is a cosmetic today. Every day, advertisements are coming out for newer products. So, the Government is serious about regulating these products. Safety of the citizens is our prime concern. We have a system whereby on the one hand we say what should be used in the cosmetics. In the case of tooth-paste, we have a general formulation that the percentage of this product should be this, soap should have a certain quantity of chemicals in this and like that. So, we have a system. On the other hand, we have another system of chemicals or drugs, the ingredients of which should not be used in these cosmetics including baby cosmetics. So, that is a more important thing.

Literally, we have about 28 cosmetic products as a whole like the baby powder. This is one product. Like that, we have 28 products. We say what are the ingredients which should not be used, which are detrimental to the health of the baby, health of an adult or of a citizen. So, we have clearly drawn clear-cut

[Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss]

parameters of the cosmetic industry. We are looking very closely at that. But even then, after going through all these also, there are some issues which have been raised by the FDA Commissioner in Maharashtra after which the question had come up. He had served notice to a couple of companies asking them about their claims. When we had asked him as to what was going on, he said that at no point of time, when he asked them, had anything been mentioned about carcinogenicity in that. So, today, there is no issue of carcinogenicity because we have regulations as to what products are to be used and what not to be used. In the case of all these products, there is no question of carcinogenicity as on date. It is literally not possible for the Government to test each and every product for carcinogenicity because we have hundreds of thousands of cosmetic products. We do not have resources to test it for carcinogenicity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point is that prior to coming into the market, it should have been approved by some authority.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Yes, the State Drug Controller approves these products going into the merits and demerits of what are the ingredients to be used and not to be used.

Now, after all these issues have come up, we have set up, in the month of June, the Drug Consultative Committee. It is a Committee consisting of all the State Drug Controlling Authorities in the country. They will all assemble together under the Drug Controller General of India. They are going to deliberate certain issues which have been raised by the hon. Members of this House.

About making frivolous claims, about the labelling pattern, I would say that some hon. Members have brought out the issues. They said how some claims are made. For example, there is the claim saying that you can change your colour from black to white in a couple of days. In some, they say that it is clinically proven that the baby could grow to this extent. So, all these claims are there. Therefore, in future, after the Drug Consultative Committee has been set up, they will give their recommendations to the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), which is the highest Authority in the country today.

18.00 hrs.

The DTAB will recommend to the Government what are the recommendations and how to regulate schemes. This is the need of the hour today. It is because there are so many claims, which go out and they have to be scientifically validated. Hon. Member was right in saying that in America, no such claims are there in their baby products but in India, some of the baby products have these claims.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a second. After completion of the Minister's reply, we can extend the House for 5-6 minutes.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: In different developed countries, they have one parameter. Some of the countries have different parameters of claims. So, we need to regulate all that and we are going to. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: The main concern is that the companies while doing business in their own country are not using the same level which they are using here. It is because this company still considers itself as a native.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is trying to explain how to renew regulating authority.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: That is why we are going into all those things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You mean to say that you are going to use global standards.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: That is exactly what we are going to do. Currently, we are having a global standard as far as Drug Controlling Authority is concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are going to monitor it very closely.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Today our standards are based on European Economic Community standards, and directives. Then, we have the Cosmetics Toiletries and Fragrance Association (CTFA), USA. We have guidelines of International Fragrance Association (IFRA) updated from time to time. We are going through all these standards. Again, after these deliberations which DCA will have, we are going to have firstly, claims and secondly, the contents of the cosmetics. So, today the law states that only the main ingredients need to be printed on the label of the products. But, after these deliberations, we are trying that all the contents should be mentioned on the cosmetic products in the descending order. We are going to take up these issues, and also the so-called frivolous claims. If there is a claim, they

have to clinically prove those claims. Without this, they cannot mention those claims and call it as a baby product or a gender product or a woman product or an aging product and so on. Whatever they claim, they have to be clinically proved and then they have to mention it. We are going through a process of regulating it. One part of regulating it does not mean having the inspector-raj into the system. As a growing industry, we need to look at the industry as a viable growth for the economy. We need that quality should be infused into the system. That is why we are going in for regulating all the cosmetics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to know whether Government is going to compel them to print all this.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: Yes, Sir. We are going to do that. It is the question of time before we bring that. Now, I will come to hon. Member, Shri Radhakrishnan's query of mother's breast-feeding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It should come from the mothers' side.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: I am with you and this is a very pertinent question asked by him, even though this does not relate to the question directly. Today, more and more modern mothers are not feeding their babies due to other modern concepts and modern thoughts. But, the mother's milk—the first after the new born—is the best anti-biotic ever produced for the newly born baby. There is a study in Chhattisgarh where the infant mortality rate is not that high compared to the other areas, other tribal areas and our own surrounding areas. It was because we find that all the children were compulsorily mother-fed. That is why there was a slight decrease in infant mortality rate. That is one of the better studies. Even though this propagating of the mother's milk relates to both Department of Women and Child Development in the HRD Ministry and the Health Ministry, we have different schemes for the mothers, and to be mothers also. For pregnant women, the Health Ministry gives micro nutrients, the Department of Women and Child Development gives macro nutrients. They give protein, rice etc., we give micro nutrients, we have to increase the capacity and nutritional status of the mothers and to be mothers. They are taking a lot of steps, we are taking a lot of steps and we are propagating this. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: They should come forward.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: This is one of our priorities and we need to bring down the infant mortality rate.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: More diseases are being attracted by tying it around the breasts. *...(Interruptions)* It is because the brassiere companies are very eager to sell their brassieres. They will sell them abundantly. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already replied this.

...(Interruptions)

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS: To sum up everything we are very concerned about both drugs, as well as, cosmetics. We are taking all steps to prevent the misuse of the cosmetics and the drugs. Thank you. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow 10th May, 2005 at 11.00 a.m.

18.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, May 10, 2005/Vaisakha 20, 1927 (Saka).

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P.L.S. 40/X.34/2005
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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Eleventh Edition) and printed by Jainco Art India, New Delhi.