

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Statement

Tuesday, May 16, 2006/Vaisakha 26, 1928 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Q.No. 442, Shri Avtar Singh
Bhadana—Not present.

Q.No. 443, Shri Rewati Raman Singh.

[English]

Reservation in Educational Institutions

+
*443. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide reservations in Centrally funded Institutions particularly for Other Backward Classes in higher educational institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, National Institutes of Technology, Medical Colleges and Central Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken into account the recent outburst of certain sections of the student community against these reservations; and

(d) if so, the precautions taken by the Government to ensure that the overall interests of the students are not adversely affected?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) A
statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (d) The Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005, enables the State to make by law, provisions for the advancement of the weaker sections i.e. the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes in matters of admission to all educational institutions other than minority educational institutions. State Governments have been advised to take action to enact suitable laws for this purpose for the educational institutions falling within their jurisdiction. A proposal in this regard in respect of central educational institutions is under consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, reservation of 27 percent has formed a part of the constitution. Today an agitation has been going on in the country. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether the Government would like to consider a proposal to increase the number of seats in all the professional courses so as to provide the students belonging to backward classes and OBCs adequate representation in the institutes besides providing them an opportunity to sit in competitive exams. Will the Government lend a thought to it?

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, I would crave your indulgence to request the House to recollect the fact that in December, 2005, this House with rare unanimity passed the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act thereby giving a commitment to the SC, ST and OBC communities for reservation in private and unaided institutions. So far as the Government institutions are concerned, that was already there. That commitment, which was later assented to by the hon. President in January 2006, is irrevocable and this Government and the Parliament are committed to that. A proposal to implement that in a manner which is in consistency with the other provisions of the law is under consideration.

So far as the issue raised by the hon. Member is concerned, I would like to assure the House that we are concerned about this issue and it is not as if we are unmindful of the fact that a section of the people, the students feel that something is being taken away from them. I would like to dispel that impression. We are very

seriously considering all the options that could help those sections of the people of the communities who have, at the moment, acquired a certain stake in the entire thing.

At the same time, I would like to take this opportunity to dispel with all the emphasis at my command the canard being spread by certain sections of people that this entire commitment of this House and this Government has been hijacked by me personally as my own agenda. There is nothing far from the truth. I would like to assure the House that the commitment is that of the Government and I, as a servant of this House, have been entrusted to see that it is implemented.

Now the consideration about the other matter is on and I would request the House to bear with us. As soon as the consultation is over, we will come before the House with a comprehensive roadmap to ensure what the House wants in this context.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had put a question to the Hon'ble Minister whether the Government would consider increasing seats in the institutes running professional courses, if so the time by which it will be done. The Hon'ble Minister in his reply said that the issue is under consideration. I would like to know the time by which he will do it. The meeting of CCPA was held yesterday. No body in the country is aware of the outcome of the meeting. Is there any time limit of consideration? The Hon'ble President has made a suggestion that seats in all the professional courses be increased. This will help resolve this problem other than providing legitimate rights to the OBCs. It is a part of the constitution. It will also provide an opportunity to students wishing to go for competitions.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not able to fix a time limit, otherwise I would have done that also. We have received many a suggestion in this regard. The Government intend to consider those suggestions because we are not taking this issue with any prejudice. Our commitment is at its place. If some way out is there to accommodate such sections, we will consider that. Almost the same decision was taken in the CCPA meeting. No specific decision was taken but the approach was to consider the issue with an open mind. A decision will be taken for taking due note of all the suggestions received by us, be it about increasing seats or something

else. Every aspect shall be taken into consideration before reacting on any decision in this regard.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the student's agitation, I raised a question in this regard particularly in regard to resentment shown by the medical students. Will the Government consider it or not. Students were lathi-charged in Maharashtra. My point is that many such doctors who want to attend patients in hospitals should be provided security cover by the Government. The condition of OBCs has been deteriorating for the last fifty years. They have been lagging behind economically and socially. In such a situation will the Government consider the demands being made by the OBCs. Do the Government wish to provide 52 percent reservation to OBCs everywhere. I would like to know the Minister's stand on this issue.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Members concern is justified. I do not support the recent incidents and the use of police forces as well. Force should not be applied to students. They should be allowed to present their views in a peaceful manner. In so far as the interests of the students belonging to OBCs are concerned, once the Constitution is amended, there shall be no problem in this regard any more.

Now the issue is how to enforce this provision so that the interests of the OBCs could be safeguarded and they are be enable to march ahead striking a comprehensive balance in the society.

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Sir, I had raised a question regarding reservation of 52 per cent.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has said he is considering it. Mr. Minister, would you like to add anything?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: No Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: I would like to congratulate the hon'ble Minister on the passage of Amendment introduced in 1993. It will benefit the backward classes and scheduled castes which have been deprived of benefits for the past five decades. However, the larger issue is whether the Government propose to bring in a legislation for those upper class students who

are economically weak, but do not fall under the about categories, so that they are able to enter the professional institutions, institutions of higher studies.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not expand the scope of this Question. It is a very sensitive matter. The Government is considering it. Therefore, let us not complicate the issue further.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: What the hon'ble Member said is also a suggestion which has been made inside as well as outside the Parliament. It is under consideration.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, reservations is not a law of perpetuity. It is only for a temporary period. When equal opportunity is made available to all sections of the community, it will definitely disappear. So far, we could not reach that stage. There is a constitutional provision that socially backward people will have to be uplifted. This is the purpose for which we are speaking for reservation. On a scrutiny of the entire situation of the country, we can find that we have not reached such a stage. Even the quota that is given to the Backward Communities, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes has not been reached so far.

MR. SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: If a reservation is introduced, it will not affect the Backward Communities in any way, in any sense of the word. But, of course, increasing the seats is another mechanism which the Government can think over. But there is no justification for a fight against reservation. There is no justification.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to take practical decisions and see that the constitutional provisions are fully maintained not only at the Centre but in the States as well. We, the Members of Parliament, have discussed this issue in the Committee. We have examined the whole issue and the entire evidence was taken and on that basis, the Bill was introduced.

MR. SPEAKER: Request is not a question.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I would request the hon. Minister to first study the matter and clarify the position because it is a matter concerning all. Of course, the hon. Speaker may not be aware, but I am aware of it in every way. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am also aware that I am a Member like you; you are an hon. Member of this House.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The position is such that it is to be examined. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, would you consider his request because he has not put a question?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I would like to have an answer from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* I have already put in a question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your hon. friend sitting next to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I need not ask anybody. I have already put a very definite question. What is the mechanism that the Government is proposing to introduce without causing detriment to the interests of the backward communities?

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Would you keep his request? I am trying to help you.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: He is a senior Member. Why can his request not be taken into account?

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister will consider his request?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I can invite you one by one not all at a time.

...*(Interruptions)*

Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Human behaviour becomes peculiar inside the House.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while replying, the hon'ble Minister stated that the Government is committed to it and Members of Parliament are also fully responsible for providing reservation to the people of weaker sections. I feel that the Government as well as the Parliament is responsible for maintaining social harmony in the country. Reservation was provided for the upliftment of the people of weaker sections and also for bringing socially, economically and educationally backward people to the mainstream. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister, through you, whether he will constitute a Commission, before the implementation of reservation provisions, to inquire about the present condition of the so called socially, economically forward as well as backward people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to give an example of a caste which is known as Rajput. The Rajputs were kings in the past but now they earn their livelihood by working as labourers. I want to know whether the Government intends to include the Rajput Caste in this reservation system, keeping in view the social equation and social atmosphere, by appointing a Commission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You want Constitution of India to be amended. That is the question. This issue should have been raised when the Constitution was amended.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Keeping in view the gravity of the matter, I have put up this question in the context of social scenario. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing so many hon'ble Members because of *gambhirta* of this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with due respect to the hon'ble Member I accept the seriousness

of the question asked by him. There are no two opinions on this issue but it requires a little bit of reconsideration. as to which path to be chosen to solve this problem? This is not a programme to uplift or degrade a particular caste. But it is required to have a true assessment of the prevailing circumstances in the country and no commission is required for that. As I have said that this suggestion also has come and it is under consideration and I think all the suggestions require to be considered with a cool mind because this is not a matter of incitement and violence. Today some people are hell bent on that. I appeal that if we want our country to progress, we will have to think with a cool mind and not with excitement on such important issues because it is a wider social aspect. The people of provocative mindset do no good to themselves nor to the country.

[English]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY: Sir, I thank the hon. Minister as he has committed to consider reservation for the OBCs, SCs and STs here. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the discrimination meted out to the existing SC, ST and OBC students, who are studying in the IITs at present. I had particularly received a complaint in Chennai that one of the HoDs had behaved in a discriminatory manner with the SC, ST and OBC students. You are going to bring this Bill, but what about the HoD, what about the teachers? I want to know the outcome in terms of percentage of SC, ST and OBC students among the existing students, those who have passed in the recent years?

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got this information?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, to answer this question, I will require a notice because I have to collect the facts.

So far as the general proposition made by the hon. Member is concerned, I am in agreement with it. I am sure that in the ultimate analysis, this House will be dealing with this matter in a holistic way.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has reiterated his commitment in his reply. All of us had given our consent in Parliament when the hon'ble Minister brought the 93rd amendment to the constitution for the socially and educationally backward people. Now it appears that the students of backward

classes have apprehensions that the constitutional rights which they have been enjoying since last 60 years, will be taken back from them. Such backward class people did not get their right till now. It is very likely and I think that this agitation has been started very late even after constitutional amendment and it seems it is preplanned and the commonman is apprehensive that somewhere troubleance is being created in the reservation being provided to the backward class people. The hon'ble Minister has also stated in his reply that the Government is working afresh on a proposal to bring a new law in the wake of recent developments and is bringing a new proposal. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister, through you, the time by which the Government will give due rights to the 52% students of backward classes who have been deprived to their rights for years. Will the Government ensure that their rights are not curtailed and the people of backward classes who have been deprived of their rights, will definitely get their due rights? Is there government contemplating to bring a new legislation to solve the dispute, that has cropped up in the country?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble member should be clear in his mind that this commitment hasn't been made by our party or on the part of our government rather it has been expressed by the Parliament itself. If we don't honour it, what, then, is the justification of the very existence of Parliament. Therefore, I would urge the hon'ble Member that if such apprehensions are raised from any corner, they had to be made to understand. The country is not run by apprehensions rather it is largely run by faiths and history. So I won't reply to the hon'ble Member's question but would certainly assert that it is perhaps not proper to nurture such apprehensions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The last supplementary on this Question to be asked by Shri Ramdas Athawale.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, it is a very important Question. Please allow one Member from each Party to put questions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the provision of reservation made for the SCs, STs and the OBCs in India is constitutional, but some people are objecting to it. For kind information of the hon'ble Minister

I would like to submit that the SCs constitute 25 per cent of the population while the OBCs comprise 52 percent, thus these two categories put together comes to about 77 percent. However, there is merely 49.5 percent reservation for them. On the other hand, there is 51.5 percent reservation for the 23 percent unreserved categories of people. Despite the voices of protest are being raised. This is not good. The persons involved in registering protests must be subjected* those in a need to take actions. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, I would not allow it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: They have every right to ask for their rights. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, that word should be struck off. Please don't complicate the situation.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Government consider for providing reservation facility to economically backward classes of upper caste people? ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I do not understand this. The House unanimously amended the Constitution of India because of a decision of the judiciary. Now, the Government is considering how to implement that law. Nothing has been finally decided, and the same question is being asked from him. He has already said that it is under consideration. Therefore, I think...

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt the Chair. It is a bad habit.

Therefore, I believe, all of you should agree that in such a sensitive matter where so many young people of this country are agitated, an appeal should go from the

*Not recorded.

House that no such agitation may be continued which will affect the atmosphere in the country. So many young people are suffering. Let us wait and see what the Government decides, and let the views be sent to the Government. I think, that is all.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please join me in appealing to everybody to stop this agitation which will not help the country's unity also. We are not against anybody. Let it be made clear that we are not against anybody, and everybody has a right to agitate. Since nothing has been finally decided, all sections of the House can request, especially those who feel agitated, that they may consider withdrawing the agitation at the moment.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I think you are joining me.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, this is a very important issue. More time should be allotted for a thread-bare discussion on this issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are right.

[Translation]

I am going to allow a Calling Attention on the issue.

[English]

Enrolment of Students under SSA

*444. SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) the State-wise targets set for enrolment of students in schools under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the reasons for shortfall of the State-wise targets of enrolment, if any, during the said period; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to ensure that the targets set for each State is achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) One of the goals of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme was to bring all children in the 6-14 age group into schools or alternative learning facilities by 2005.

An independent survey commissioned by the Government of India reported an estimated 1.34 crore children to be out of school in July-August 2005. Children still remain out of school because of difficult circumstances or socio-economic factors.

The annual budget allocations for SSA in 2006-07 have been enhanced to Rs. 11000 crores and within that a closer targeting of districts with the most out of school children, has been ensured.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME: From the response that we have received, I find that the question has not even been touched upon. The response that I desired was concerning enrolment targets State-wise, and there is no mention of this in the response of the Minister.

If I may just put my first supplementary, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is a provision being made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for establishment of schools in OBC-dominated and minority-dominated blocks in the country or not.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, I need not say, is the flagship programme of the UPA Government. I take pride in saying that under this programme 2.2 crore children have joined our system, since the inception of this programme. There has been a drastic decline in the rate of out of school children also. There were about 3.2 crore children in the year 2001-02 who were out of school, which has drastically come down to about 95 lakhs by the year 2005-06. We have been considerably working towards the reduction of the out of school children, and bringing the out of school children within the ambit of education.

Sir, now the reasons for these children being out of school are various. They could be socio-economic conditions like poverty and child labour, bias against girl child, lack of infrastructure in remote areas and difficult areas, and also difficult circumstances where we have a lot of disabled children.

With regard to concentration of districts, there has been concerted effort to establish more schools in these backward areas, in OBC and Muslim/minority areas. We have identified about 51 SC-concentrated districts in the country, and an allocation of Rs. 1,200.64 crore has been made towards these districts in the year 2005-06. Seventy-five SC-concentrated districts have been identified in the country, and an allocation of Rs. 980 crore has been made towards these districts. Along with that, there have been 263 'special focus' districts in 23 States that have been identified for the year 2006-07. Amongst these, there are 48 districts with about 50,000 school children out of school, 51 districts with concentrated SC population, 75 districts are with substantial tribal population, and we also have 94 districts with substantial Muslim population. Considerable efforts have been put in to take this flagship programme to the reach of these children.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOM: May I request the hon. Minister to kindly let me know whether the medium of instruction of the various schools under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the mother tongue of the child or is it one common language that is being used everywhere?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, in certain States there have been more than two languages in which Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been taken to these children. Especially in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the medium of teaching has been implemented in about eight tribal languages. In Orissa also there have been efforts to teach the children in their mother tongue, the local language and also other languages.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu—Not present.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Is it a fact that 25 per cent of Government primary school teachers in India are absent from work, and only 50 per cent of the teachers are actually engaged in the act of teaching while at work? When 80 per cent to 90 per cent of the States' education budgets are spent on teachers, does the Government consider absenteeism as the main barrier to improve enrolment of students into primary and secondary

education? When this is the situation, what possible intervention does the Government want to make to increase enrolment of students and lessen absenteeism of teachers in schools?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: There has been a survey which has revealed that 25 per cent of the teachers do remain absent from school. But concerted efforts have been made to ensure that these teachers are coming to school. There is a very close monitoring system that we have to see that the teachers are coming to school. The reference that Shri Mahtab has made here is to a World Bank study. We have Village Education Committees to monitor and see whether teachers are there in schools or not. There have also been efforts to see that the children are in school so that teachers cannot escape or turn their face away from their duty and the children can receive education. The most important thing is the role which the Village Education Committees play in monitoring that teachers do come to school and they do teach the children.

MR. SPEAKER: There may be a necessity to monitor the Monitoring Committee.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, I appreciate the hon. Minister for giving clear data about the out of school children under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The problem is that the data does not reflect the reality. The situation on the ground is very painful. Children are suffering from lack of support from the teachers. We have been appealing to the concerned Governments but none of them is listening to us. Children are the future of our country.

MR. SPEAKER: Put your question.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: If they are not provided proper education, how is the future of the country going to be safeguarded? It is a dark picture. I appeal to Government as well as to Parliament. ...

MR. SPEAKER: You should ask a question.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, this is a very serious matter that I am raising.

MR. SPEAKER: Of course, this is a serious matter. But the Question Hour is not meant for appeals but to put questions.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: I would like to draw the attention of the UPA Government and the hon. Minister to the promise to bring the Compulsory Education Bill to Parliament. I would request everybody in this House to give his or her support in bringing the Bill to Parliament as early as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. I will put the question on your behalf. Would you consider her appeal?

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Is there any such proposal on the agenda of the Government?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: The Bill is already under consideration. It has been placed on the website of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Anybody can put in his or her suggestions on the website for us to consider. I would request the hon. Member also to do her part in putting her suggestions in this.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: When will they announce the date?

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. Please look into the website and give your suggestions directly.

SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT: Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: It is her maiden intervention.

SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT: What efforts have been made by the Government to include children with disabilities in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme throughout the country?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a good question. I compliment you.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: With regard to the children with disabilities, I would like to say that we have over five 5 lakh children who come under the disabled category. We have been putting in concerted efforts to help these children. We are trying to cover these children also under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

The efforts made by the Government with regard to these disabled children is that infrastructure in schools has been made convenient for these children or rather accessible to these children because it is very important to know that their disability could mean any kind of

disability. It could mean orthopaedic, mental, visual, hearing, speech and learning. As mentioned, it is not 5 lakh but 15,28,000 disabled children.

MR. SPEAKER: Nowadays, we call them as 'challenged' children.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Yes, Sir. I am sorry.

But 5,82,000 children are out of school. The part played by NGOs is also very appreciable. At the national level, children who are out of school are around 68.26 per cent. Those who went to school but later dropped out after one or two years is 31.74 per cent.

Definitely, with regard to these disabled children, the major intervention that has been taken up under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are education, identification of children, functioning and formal assessment of these children, appropriate educational placement, preparation of individual educational plan, provisions of aids and appliances, teachers training and resource support, removal of architectural barrier, as I had mentioned earlier. Monitor and evaluation system have also been put in place to evaluate them.

MR. SPEAKER: Put in place but how much is implemented?

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Sir, in India, there are lakhs of schools where there is dearth of teachers. In many schools, posts of teachers are lying vacant. In many other schools, teachers are busy doing useless chores under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Schools are devoid of basic amenities. Drinking water is not available in schools. Many schools do not have classrooms. Students do not get text-books on time. The state government is not utilizing the funds earmarked for this purpose judiciously. I would like to know from the honourable minister whether at all Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan can succeed in bringing the students to schools in such circumstances?

[English]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 5.87 lakh teachers have already been

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

appointed until now. This year, we are looking forward to appoint 1.5 lakh teachers.

With regard to infrastructure, 1,29,893 new schools have been opened under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan; 5.87 lakh new teachers have been appointed; 30.52 lakh children are already in the alternative schooling system; 5.02 crore children received free textbooks every year; 1,02,730 school buildings have been constructed; 3.26 lakh additional class rooms have been constructed; 1.90 lakh toilet facilities have been constructed; and 1.43 lakh drinking water facilities have already been completed or nearing completion.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: This is just on paper, reality is quite otherwise.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Santasri Chatterjee.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. Okay, you are right. It may be on paper. But you have to point that out in a proper manner.

SHRI SANTASRI CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the programme announced, all children between the age of six and 14 would be covered under it by the year 2005. But as far as the reply is concerned, the position is the same that is, a considerable number of children are still out of the schools.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is actively and seriously considering to monitor the entire programme in consultation with the State Governments and other NGOs.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, we already have a good monitoring system in place to monitor the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. There are good monthly indicators against which the programme is being monitored, and a more detailed quarterly progress report is also being asked from the States by the Government of India. There is also a computerised educational MIS system, which gives an annual school based data.

There are 41 National Social Science Institutes, which have been attached to the States and the Union Territory

Governments for independent and regular field visits. Other than this, an independent Joint Review Commission reviews the programme of SSA twice a year along with the external funding agency.

On the Pupils' achievement, the sample survey is done by the NCERT once every three years. Several independent assessment studies are also being carried out on the implementation of SSA. Financial reviews are also commissioned by the SSA; and 12 States have already been covered so far.

So, we do have a strong monitoring system that closely monitors the implementation of the SSA.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the teachers engaged in this campaign are paid less remuneration than regular teachers. They are not appointed on regular basis which demotivates them to perform their duties in a satisfactory manner. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister through you, whether their remuneration will be brought at par with their counterparts viz. teachers employed on regular basis.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, do not think that payment should be an impediment to teachers to carry out their work. It should be dedication and commitment that we should mostly look for.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes; they should not become teachers if they do not teach.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: It is basically a State matter and the State Governments have to regulate the Teachers' Service Conditions.

MR. SPEAKER: We have already taken 43 minutes in two Questions.

Now, Q.No. 445. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy—Not present.

[*Translation*]

Export of Textiles

*446. ⁺SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the export of garments/textiles during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the target fixed for export of garments/textiles has not been achieved during the same period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The targets assigned to Textile Export Promotion Councils and achievements of export of textiles during the last three years, year-wise are as under:

(In Billion US\$)

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
16.310	13.496	15.2	13.038	15.565	17.007 (Prov.)

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

(c) There was a shortfall in achievement of export target during 2003-04 and 2004-05 due to factors such as general recession in the world market and stiff competition from low cost supplier countries. However, the target for 2005-06 has been overachieved by 9.26%.

(d) Government has been taking a number of steps to boost exports of textile items from the country so as to achieve the export target. Some of the important initiatives taken are:

- (i) 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in the textile sector under the automatic route.
- (ii) The Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from the SSI sector.

(iii) The fiscal duty structure has been generally rationalised to achieve growth and maximum value addition within the country. Except for mandatory excise duty on man-made fibres and filament yarns, the whole value addition chain has been given excise exemption option.

(iv) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been in operation since 1999 to facilitate the modernization and technological upgradation of the sector.

(v) To augment the availability of quality raw material at a competitive price, the Government launched the technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). Incentives are provided for better farm practices, quality seeds, improvement in market infrastructure and modernisation of ginning & pressing sector.

(vi) With the objectives of imparting a focused thrust to set up apparel units of international standards and upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textiles centres, the Government had launched the Apparel Park for Exports Scheme (APES), and Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS). Under these two schemes 30 projects have been sanctioned with an estimated support from Government of India of Rs. 462.50 Crore. However, after reviewing the implementation of these two schemes, a new scheme, namely, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks has been launched by merging the two schemes. This scheme is based on Public-Private Partnership (PPP), and would equip the industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units to meet international environmental and social standards. Government of India support under the scheme by way of grant or equity shall be limited to 40% of the project cost, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40 Crore. So far nine (9) Projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 873.07 crore including Government of India share of Rs. 304.32 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, there is a high potential of growth in Indian Textile Industry. Textile industry stands just next to agriculture sector in terms of providing employment. There was a time when Indian

garments were famous worldwide. Textile industry needs to be given an impetus from all angles. This will create huge employment opportunities. There is wide scope of earning foreign exchange through its export. Sir, with your kind permission I'd like to ask the Hon'ble Minister about the steps taken by the Government to face the new challenges posed by China and Pakistan to the Indian textile industry to maximize the export of clothes in an environment of cut-throat competition in the International market.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): Mr. Speaker Sir, on the UPA Government coming to power, budget provisions were made in such way that fixed zero excise duty replacing CENVAT. It was an unprecedented move. Subsequently, duty was further reduced on man-made fibres. Large quantity of clothes are being exported. The export percentage is 26 percent in America and 18 percent in the European countries. Despite low percentage in the remaining countries, the Indian exporters are all happy. The export industry has been witnessing its boom for the last one year.

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, man-made fibres are exported from our country. The technique applied is very old. Have the Government taken initiatives to modernize man-made fibre and espouse state-of-the-art technology to bring about a qualitative change in the production of man-made fibres and thus boost export in this particular sector?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the government imports the machinery, only 5% custom duty is imposed. We have a scheme called Tufs for import of machinery also in which one can invest. We have very good schemes. We have introduced a new textile park. There are so many good schemes which can benefit industrialists if they avail of these benefits.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri M. Anjan Kumar Yadav—Not present.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister said in his reply that hundred percent exemption in FDI has been given to boost export of textiles. There is a big difficulty in the procedure of providing hundred percent exemption in FDI. Moreover, in absence of required incentive, most of the textile industries are unable

to attract FDI. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the quantum of investment made so far in the garment and textile industry under the policy of hundred percent F.D.I. What steps are being taken by the Government to increase investment so as to boost export and generate more employment opportunities?

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Sir, there has been a very good increase in FDI in the country which was Rs. 442.84 crore in 2003-04, Rs. 196.84 crore in 2004-05, Rs. 355.92 crore in 2005-06 and an increase to the tune of Rs. 595.51 crore has been registered in FDI from Feb., 2003 to Feb., to Feb., 2006. No restriction has been imposed in regard to FDI in our country. The Government's stand is very good. There is an increase of Rs. 595 crore in FDI during this year as compared to FDI in the year 2003-04, which was very less.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that a Technical Upgradation Fund Scheme has been formulated under Textile Policy, The Textile Commissioner has been vested with powers. Import duty has been reduced on machinery and many more steps have been taken. But despite all the efforts, the set target has not been achieved. What are the reasons behind it? As per my information these schemes are not being implemented in a right manner and exporters have many complaints in this regard. I would like to know from the Minister whether he would inquire into the matter to ascertain the reasons for not achieving the set target despite providing so many facilities.

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, initially a wrong target was set. Inflationary figures were given under India Shining. The shortfall in the set target can be attributed to stiff competition, supply to other countries at low prices and general decision taken by the world. If you see the figures regarding the present exports, they are impressive. It is 9% more than the set target. There has been an increase of 26% in America and 18% increase in European countries. You have mentioned about Tufs. In this case an amount of Rs. 15,000 crores was involved from 1999 to 2004. For the last two years 4285 persons are getting benefit of Tufs worth Rs. 32495 crore. The Ministry of Finance has given maximum concessions. It is in great demand. I would also like to say that twenty lakh people have been provided new jobs with this investment during the past two years.

*[English]***Development of Khadi Products**

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

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

(a) whether the Government has launched product development design intervention and packaging scheme to improve the quality of Khadi products;

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

(c) the details of projects sanctioned during 2005-06 under the scheme;

(d) whether the Government has evaluated the performance of such projects during the year;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government for improvement of Khadi products?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to improving quality, introducing new designs and improving the packaging of khadi and village industry (KVI) products, the Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme has been introduced with effect from 2003-04. Under this Scheme, assistance is provided to the extent of (i) Rs. 2 lakh per project per year or 75 per cent of the project cost, whichever is lower, in cases of eligible institutional entities, and (ii) Rs. 1 lakh per project per year or 75 per cent of the project cost, whichever is lower, in cases of eligible individual entrepreneurial units.

(c) During 2005-06, 146 projects have been sanctioned under PRODIP with an outlay of Rs. 224 lakh.

(d) and (e) Evaluation of the impact of the PRODIP Scheme on the khadi and village industry products has not been undertaken so far.

(f) Steps taken by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for improvement of khadi products include tie-up with the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi for design inputs, Indian Institute of Technology ((IIT), Delhi for technology inputs, etc., testing of quality of khadi products through 13 laboratories of the Textiles Committee, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Textiles, implementation of "Khadi Mission" to convert khadi fabric into ready-made garments for higher value addition, ensuring availability of quality slivers for khadi production through six Central Sliver Plants of KVIC, etc.

[English]

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH (Phulbani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it a fact that no evaluation has been made on the implementation of the PRODIP Scheme since its inception; if so, the reasons thereof? Has any further steps been taken by the Government on the effective implementation of the PRODIP Scheme; if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the hon. member's question I would like to say that these schemes were started in the year 2003-04. A sum of Rs. 224 lakh was disbursed for these schemes. We had initiated 146 schemes. PRODIP scheme is only one and half or two years old. In addition to this scheme we are implementing other schemes also to increase production of Khadi like rebate on Khadi, Khadi artisan Janshri Insurance Scheme, eligibility for subsidy on interest etc. After 520th meeting of the commission held in the year 2004, a scheme was started which is known as Khadi Bikri Mission. Till now, Khadi used to be sold by Than (a long piece of cloth of standard size). Earlier, the cloth merchants bought only cloth but it was observed that khadi business is declining in this way. Therefore, a mission was started with an eye on business under which a scheme was launched to sell ready made khadi garments so that people may like khadi garments. As a result of this scheme, today the production of khadi cloth has increased substantially. We have started use of Khadi in Railway, defence, health and other government departments.

I would like to tell the hon. member that we have passed Khadi Commission Bill recently to encourage the use of khadi which is under process. We are trying to bring khadi in the market on new grounds.

[English]

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: I would like to know as to whether the Government proposes to set up more training centres under the programme, especially in tribal areas. What specific steps are being taken to involve unemployed youth belonging to the scheduled castes and the Scheduled Tribes in training as also in the promotion of local products produced in the tribal areas under the KVIC scheme?

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Mr. Speaker Sir, as I have said that we have brought in a new amendment Bill. We have made a provision of four members under this. One of the members will be an expert on rural development who will visit villages and ascertain their requirements. Similarly, we are taking an expert on science and technology so that we could encourage the use of khadi by taking advantage of scientific technology. Similarly, we have included a member to develop marketing and expand market base. We are going to appoint a fourth member for imparting training who will be a non-government member.

The question asked by the hon. member pertains to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. We are going to make special arrangements for SCs and STs in our Ministry so that the tribals and the dalits could make progress. Our government as well as we are trying that the persons belonging to the dalit community, weaker sections, OBCs and women are provided employment under khadi programme so that they could progress.

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, the number of projects sanctioned for the State of Gujarat under this scheme from the year 2003-04 till date and the number of persons who got employment under these projects.

MR. SPEAKER: This question has already been answered.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Sir, I have said this earlier also that the name of this project is 'PRODIP'. We are

trying to extend this project to different states and provide training to maximum number of persons so that the project 'PRODIP' could move ahead.

Special Economic Zones

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*448. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) whether the Board of Approvals has recently cleared setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as reported in *The Times of India* dated March 18, 2006;

(b) if so, the details of areas where these SEZs are likely to be set up; and

(c) the benefits to be extended to the approved SEZs alongwith the additional jobs likely to be created?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Board of Approval in a meeting held on 17.3.2006 considered proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs). The proposals were for SEZs to be set up at various locations in Maharashtra, Haryana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Karnataka.

(c) Facilities and incentives offered to the Developer of an SEZ include duty free import/domestic procurement of goods for the development, operation and maintenance of an SEZ, exemption from Central Sales Tax, Service Tax and Income Tax for a block of 10 years in 15 years etc. An employment potential of over 5 lakh has been estimated over the next 3 years from the new SEZs, apart from indirect employment during the construction period of the SEZs.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply also that special facilities will be provided to developers. He also stated that proposals had been received to set up special economic zones at various places in different states. I would like to know the places, especially in Madhya

Pradesh where special economic zones are proposed to be set up and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard by the Government.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am as concerned about Madhya Pradesh as the hon. Member and it is but natural that I will redress the concern of the hon. member.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think there is no special favour.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I just said that it is swabhavik.

[Translation]

In this context, one more proposal was received from Madhya Pradesh for Indore. I am fully confident that today and in next meeting also more proposals will come and it would be my endeavour that more and more proposals to set up the special economic zone in other districts of the State also are received through State Governments. The persons who submit their proposals to set up special economic zones will definitely be accorded priority.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Sir, as the hon. Minister has said that a proposal has been received in respect of Indore, I would like to know whether he has received such proposals in respect of Bhopal and Gwalior also. If so, what action has been taken by him in this regard? Presently a special economic zone has been set up at Pithampur in Indore which has been substantially developed. Will any more special economic zones be set up there besides the existing one and what action has been taken in respect of Bhopal and Gwalior?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, proposals have been received to set up two special economic zones in Indore and one in Gwalior. Both the proposals pertaining to Indore have been sanctioned and the proposal pertaining to Gwalior is under consideration, though it has been approved in principle. This vindicates that all the proposals received from Madhya Pradesh have either been sanctioned or cleared in principle.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Andhra Pradesh has a question. Otherwise, it is violative of the article 14 of the Constitution!

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concept of Special Economic Zone is a recent concept. It was thought of by late Mr. Maran in the previous Government's regime. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many Special Economic zones are fully functional in the country and how many jobs have been created in those areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister reply, otherwise the time for Question Hour will be over.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, it is true that this scheme was started some time ago. But the hon. Member will recall that it was only a few months ago that this House approved the SEZ Bill. It is only after the SEZ Bill was approved that there is much more confidence because now there is a legal regime doubling the SEZs. Previously, the SEZs were governed by administrative orders. Now, it is a Bill passed by both Houses of Parliament and this process has just started a few months ago. We believe that substantial employment and investment will be taking place in the couple of months from now.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned Manikanchan.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Misuse of Export Schemes

*442. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

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

(a) the number of cases of false claims made by the exporters under various export schemes as reported in *The Hindustan Times* dated April 4, 2006;

(b) the loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof;

(c) the action taken or being taken by the Government against such exporters;

(d) whether the Government proposes to discontinue/ review some of the schemes including the Target Plus Scheme offering incentives given to the exporters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Some of the applications received under Export Promotion Schemes of Duty Free Credit Entitlement Certificate and Target Plus have been decided, and others are under process. So far no case of false claim based on fictitious documents has come to notice. Government has not awarded any benefit for inadmissible exports under these Schemes and therefore the question of loss to the Government does not arise. In view of above, the question of action against exporters does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Government has discontinued Target Plus Scheme for exports effected w.e.f. 1.4.2006.

[English]

Production/Export of Tea/Coffee

*445. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mid-term assessment of tea and coffee growing sectors during the Tenth Five Year Plan has revealed stagnation in production and export of tea and coffee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The production of tea has shown a steady increase during the first four years of the Tenth Five Year Plan. However, tea exports which registered an increase in 2004-05 over the previous year, have declined marginally in 2005-06 as per provisional data. There is no significant variation in the production of coffee during the first four years of the Tenth Plan. However, while coffee exports have declined in terms of quantity during 2005-06 as compared to the previous year, realization in value terms has increased.

(b) Details of production and export of tea and coffee during the first four years of the Tenth Plan are given below:

Year	Tea			Coffee		
	Production (in MT)	Exports		Production (in MT)	Exports	
		Quantity (in MT)	Value (Rs./crores)		Quantity (in MT)	Value (Rs./crores)
2002-03	8,45,970	1,84,400	1665.04	2,75,275	2,07,333	1051.45
2003-04	8,78,650	1,83,070	1636.99	2,70,500	2,32,684	1158.45
2004-05	9,06,840	2,05,810	1924.71	2,75,500	2,11,765	1224.67
2005-06*	9,30,850	1,81,060	1631.60	2,81,900	1,99,816	1498.11

*Provisional

(c) **Tea:** A number of developmental schemes are being implemented by the Tea Board during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country under which financial and technical assistance is provided for undertaking replantation, rejuvenation, new planting in non-traditional areas in North Eastern States and Uttaranchal, creation of irrigation facilities, setting up of self help groups

among the small tea growers, modernization of factories, etc. The Special Purpose Tea Fund being set up for financing replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes also aims at enhancing the productivity and quality of tea. Government has also sanctioned a scheme for grant of subsidy for production orthodox tea, which is being implemented for the period from 1st January 2005 to 31st March 2007.

The strategy evolved for increasing tea exports include diversification of market portfolio, value addition, marketing and promotion, correcting the adverse product mix of orthodox and CTC (Cut-Tear-Curl) teas, protection of its various brands and addressing quality issues, etc. The scheme for providing financial incentives for production of orthodox tea is expected to ensure availability of export quality orthodox teas. Government has also approved a scheme for extending subsidy for setting up of new factories for manufacture of orthodox teas by producers. A subsidy of Rs. 1.50 per kg. for export of tea through ICD Amingaon in Assam is being provided. The import duty on tea bagging and packaging machinery used to improve quality and add value to Indian tea has been reduced to a rate of 5%.

Tea Board has been taking steps to protect the various brands and has been successful in securing statutory recognition of Darjeeling tea in various jurisdictions as certification or collective marks. Darjeeling tea has also been declared as Geographical Indication (GI) with effect from October 2004. Tea Board is also conducting promotional activities in the foreign markets and lending promotional support to the Indian tea exporters in their marketing efforts. These include participation in various fairs and exhibitions, field sampling at specialty stores and principle markets, media publicity, Buyer Seller Meets, exchange of tea delegations, etc.

In order to maintain quality and retain the brand equity of Indian teas, the Government has issued a new Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order, 2005 on 01.04.2005 which prescribes strict norms for tea and stipulates that all teas, whether imported or exported, would be required to conform to the specifications cited in the new Order.

Coffee: Coffee Board is implementing a scheme in the Tenth Plan Period for providing financial incentives for enhancing farm productivity and quality of the product amongst the small grower sector. The Board is also implementing a Special Area Programme for the development of coffee in the North-Eastern region, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

For boosting coffee exports, a number of steps are being taken by the Coffee Board. These include carrying out communication initiatives in key overseas markets to enhance the image of Indian coffee as well as to improve market share, shifting of product mix from Robusta in

favour of Arabica, participation in important overseas trade fairs, organizing Buyer-Seller Meets and cupping sessions involving Indian exporters and Overseas buyers in key markets, hosting the visit of roaster/buyer delegations from leading consuming countries to Indian coffee tracts and facilitating interaction with the industry representatives, organizing annual cupping competitions to select the best quality coffees, institution of Export awards to encourage exporters etc. The exports cess of Rs. 500 per MT was abolished by the Government in an effort to make Indian coffees more competitive.

[Translation]

Non-availability of NCERT Books

*449. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

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

(a) whether the students are facing a lot of difficulties due to non-availability of adequate number of NCERT/CBSE text-books even after the start of the current academic session.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to ensure availability of adequate number of text-books to students at reasonable prices;

(d) whether the Government has authorised State Governments to get NCERT books of new syllabus printed as reported in *Dainik Jagran* dated April 5, 2006; and

(e) if so, whether the Government has provided/proposes to provide special assistance to the States for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) While all textbooks of the CBSE and most of the textbooks of the NCERT are available in the market in adequate quantities, there is some shortage of a few titles of NCERT textbooks due to revision of textbooks of some classes. These would now become available in adequate quantities before schools reopen after summer vacation. Barring six titles, all textbooks of NCERT are also available on its website www.ncert.nic.in.

(c) NCERT textbooks are reasonably priced. It has appointed 235 wholesale agents across the country to lift books from its distribution centres.

(d) NCERT prints textbooks which are required in schools affiliated to CBSE. States which want to use NCERT textbooks for their schools obtain copyright permission from NCERT and print their requirement of textbooks on their own. NCERT has already given such permission to six States so far this year.

(e) No, Sir.

**Migration of Teachers from
Professional Institutions**

*450. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

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

(a) whether there has been a shortage of teachers in various professional institutions like Indian Institutes of Management and Indian Institutes of Technology in the country;

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

(c) whether there is a continuous migration of teachers from such institutions to other places; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the remedial action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d) From the faculty position given by the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), there appears some shortage of faculty. Present faculty position in IIMs and IITs is as follows:

IIMs

Name of the IIM	Sanctioned strength	Faculty in position
1	2	3
IIM Ahmedabad	85	82
IIM Bangalore	89	85

1	2	3
IIM Calcutta	87	74
IIM Lucknow	60	60
IIM Indore	28	24
IIM Kozhikode	40	34

IITs

Name of the IIT	Sanctioned strength	Faculty in position
IIT Delhi	583	418
IIT Bombay	529	401
IIT Kharagpur	667	470
IIT Guwahati	171	166
IIT Madras	425	360
IIT Roorkee	575	345
IIT Kanpur	406	330

Though no significant migration of teachers from such institutions to other places is observed, there are some occasional relocations to other institutes and organizations which cannot be construed as steady migration.

[English]

Naxalite Attacks

*451. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities of Naxalites and Maoists particularly targeting public transport system have increased in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during 2005 and 2006 in various parts of the country;

(c) the number of civilian, security personnel and Naxalite/Maoists killed/injured and property damaged in those incidents;

(d) whether the Prime Minister has recently met the Chief Ministers of affected States; and

(e) if so, the details of the issues discussed and the action plan drawn up to check Naxal violence in affected States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Details of incidents of naxalite violence in 2005 and 2006 (upto 30.4.2006), casualties of civilians and security forces and naxalities killed are as under:

Sl.No.	Naxal Violence	2005	2006 (upto 30.4.2006)
1.	Incidents	1594	550
2.	Civilians killed	516	219
3.	Security Forces killed	153	62
4.	Naxalites killed	223	93

Out of the above incidents, 62 incidents in 2005 and 26 in 2006 (upto 30.4.2006) involved naxalite attacks on public transport including railway properties.

(d) and (e) The 2nd meeting of the Standing Committee of the Chief Ministers of naxal affected States was held in New Delhi on 13.4.2006 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. While, on the security front, the meeting, inter-alia, underlined the need for building up security and intelligence capabilities at State level and for preparation/revision and implementation of action plans to address the security and development aspects of the naxalite problem, better coordination between RPF, GRP, local police and other agencies to ensure safety of railway passengers, trains and other railway infrastructure, the agenda items on the development front, comprised effective implementation of land reforms, rehabilitation and resettlement policy for displaced tribals, speedy implementation of the Panchayats (Extension of Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 etc.

Increase in Cement Price

*452. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the cement consumption is less than the production in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for increase in price of cement during the last six months; and

(c) the details of steps taken or being taken by the Government to check the prices of cement in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The cement manufacturers have cited increases in the input costs, including transportation costs, as the reason for the recent price increase. The Government has, however, asked them to take steps to reduce the cement prices.

Revival of NTC Mills

*453. PROF. M. RAMADASS:
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any package has been announced by the Government for the revival of textile mills under NTC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned to each mill and the amount utilised so far;

(d) whether there is any plan to lease out the mills under NTC;

(e) if so, the names of these mills, State-wise;

(f) whether there is any delay in the process to revive these mills;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps taken/to be taken for expeditious revival of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Government of India approved a Scheme for revival of textile mills under NTC. Out of 119 NTC mills, 65 mills identified as unviable in BIFR/GOI approved schemes, have been closed under ID Act and 2 mills located in Pondicherry have been transferred to the State Government of Pondicherry. Out of remaining 52 mills, it has been decided to modernize

22 mills directly by NTC through sale of surplus assets. 29 mills have been identified for revival through joint venture with private partnership. Besides this, it has been decided to construct an India International Trade Tower at the land of 1 mill in Mumbai.

(c) NTC has earmarked a sum of Rs. 530 crores for modernization of its 22 mills directly by the company. The company has already placed initial order for the purchase of machineries. Mill-wise cost of modernization in respect of these 22 mills is given in the Statement-I enclosed. Besides, NTC has so far spent Rs. 22 crores on upkeep of the machinery.

(d) and (e) 29 NTC mills have been identified for modernisation through Joint Venture with private partnership. State-wise list is enclosed as Statement-II.

(f) to (h) The entire fund required for the modernization were to be generated by the sale of surplus assets, of which land was the major component. Permission for sale of land, particularly Mumbai land, was received from the State Government only in October-November, 2004, and therefore, there was delay in starting the modernization process. The sale of Mumbai land was started in the month of February, 2005 and sale of 5 mills was completed in July, 2005. NTC has already started modernization of mills by placing orders for machinery.

Statement I

Mill-wise cost of Modernization

Sl.No.	Name of the Mills	Estimated cost of modernization (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3

A. 15 Mills to be revived in 1st Phase

NTC (APKKM) Ltd.

1.	Minerva Mills	6329
2.	Algappa Tex. Mills	1529
3.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Can.	2020
4.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	2064

1	2	3
5.	Vijayamohini Mills	1367
6.	Cannanore Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Mahe	1759
NTC (MN) Ltd.		
7.	Podar Mills	3689
NTC (SM) Ltd.		
8.	Barshi Tex. Mills	1322
9.	Finlay Mills	3807
NTC (TNP) Ltd.		
10.	Cambodia Mills	735
11.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	1065
12.	Pankaja Mills	1302
13.	Pioneer Spinners Mills	1007
14.	Sri Rangavilas S. & W. Mills	2866
15.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit	1022
Total (15 mills)		31883

B. 7 Mills to be revived in 2nd Phase

NTC (DPR) Ltd.

16.	Udaipur cotton Mills	2756
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NTC (GUJ) Ltd.

17.	Rajnagar Textiles Mills No. 1	4169
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NTC (MN) Ltd.

18.	Tata Mills	5343
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19.	India United Mill No. 5	3185
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NTC (WBABO) Ltd.

20.	Arati Cotton Mills	2773
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NTC (MP) Ltd.

21.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	1469
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22.	New Bhopal Tex. Mills	1418
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Total (7 mills)		21113
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Grand Total (22 mills)		52996
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Statement II**State-wise List of 29 Mills Identified for Joint Venture**

Sl.No.	Name of the Mills
1	2

NTC (APKKM) Ltd.**Andhra Pradesh**

1. Tirupati Cotton Mills
2. Ananthapur Cotton Mills

Karnataka

3. Sree Yallama Cotton Mills

Kerala

4. Parvathi Mills

NTC (DPR) Ltd.**Punjab**

5. Kharar Textiles Mills
6. Suraj Textile Mills

Rajasthan

7. Mahalaxmi Mills
8. Shree Bijay Cotton Mills

NTC (Guj.) Ltd.**Gujarat**

9. Ahmedabad New Textile Mills

NTC (MN) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

10. India United Mill No. 6 (Dye Works)
11. India United Mills No. 1
12. Kohinoor Mills No. 1
13. RBBA Mills
14. Savatram Ramprasad Mills

1	2
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NTC (SM) Ltd.**Maharashtra**

15. Apollo Textile Mills
16. Chalisgaon Textile Mills
17. Dhule Textile Mills
18. Goldmohur Mills
19. Nanded Textile Mills
20. New City of Bombay MFG. Mills
21. Aurangabad Textile Mills

NTC (UP) Ltd.**Uttar Pradesh**

22. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Mau
23. Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini

NTC (WBABO) Ltd.**West Bengal**

24. Laxminarayan Cotton Mills
25. Sodepur Cotton Mills

Bihar

26. Bihar Co-operative Mills

Orissa

27. Orissa Cotton Mills

Assam

28. Associated Industries

N.T.C. (TN & P) Ltd.**Tamil Nadu**

29. Coimbatore Spg. & Wvg. Mills

Price Stabilization Fund for Plantation Sector

*454. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to encourage farmers for plantation of crops to face the challenges in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revamp the price stabilization fund for plantation crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Government has been providing support to farmers for increasing production, productivity, quality and marketability of plantation crops. Commodity Boards are also providing assistance for research and development work.

(c) and (d) An Experts Committee was set up to make the Price Stabilisation Fund Scheme more attractive to small growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco. Its recommendations, *inter alia*, include modification in the width of the price spectrum band; introduction of two distress triggers; enhanced scale of financial assistance in the event of prices falling beyond a certain level and waiver/refund of entry fee for new/existing growers enrolled under the scheme.

Law on Custodial Deaths

*455. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering enactment of a law to provide for compensation to victims of custodial violence as reported in *The Hindu* dated March 31, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said law is likely to be enacted;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a police ombudsman in every district where people could lodge their complaints; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for a separate legislation to provide compensation to victims of custodial violence. However, the Law Commission in its 154th Report on the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 had recommended that in view of the weakness of the existing provisions for compensation to crime victims in the Criminal Law, it is necessary to introduce a new section 357A in the Code providing for a comprehensive scheme for compensating victims. Implementation of the recommendation made by the Law Commission is subject to the Government taking a final view, introduction and passage of an amendment Bill in Parliament for which no time-frame can be fixed.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal at present to set up a police ombudsman in every district where people could lodge their complaints.

[*Translation*]

Performance of Non-Governmental Organisations

*456. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any periodical review of the projects being implemented by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for child development in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether review of the performance of NGOs getting foreign contributions for child development is also carried out;

(d) if so, whether the Government has identified the NGOs getting foreign contributions in the name of child development and not spending the same for the said purpose; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against such NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) There are several schemes and programmes being implemented by different Ministries and Departments through NGOs for child

development which includes schemes for several issues like education, health, early childhood care, nutrition, juvenile justice, disability, street children, adoption, child labour, etc. All schemes are being reviewed by implementing Ministries and Departments from time to time and suitable decision are taken for their continuation, discontinuation, expansion, reduction and modifications on the basis of such reviews.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Home Affairs grant permission under FCRA Act, 1976 to NGOs and Associations of the country to enable them to receive foreign contributions from other countries. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 1976 regulates, inter-alia, the acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution by individuals, associations and foreign hospitality by individuals working in important areas of national life, not excluding child development. The permission is granted for a certain period, which is discontinued or extended for a further period after review.

Mine Explosion Work

*457. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the explosion work of Indian mines is being awarded to foreign companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has adversely affected the interests of the Indian explosive companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Funds for Construction of Ashram Schools

458. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released for construction of ashram schools, residential schools and boys/girls Hostels for tribal students in tribal sub-plan area during the last three years and current year, State-wise; Scheme-wise;

(b) the number of hostels/boarding schools/ashram schools at present, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the State Governments for establishment of residential Schools and hostels particularly for girls in tribal areas during the last three years and current year;

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

(e) the number of proposals cleared/pending for consideration at present; and

(f) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Under the scheme of Ashram Schools grant-in-aid for construction is released for the Tribal Sub Plan Area, whereas under the schemes of Residential Schools and Boys/Girls Hostels, grant-in-aid is released for tribal children anywhere in the State/UT as per the requirement of the State Government/UT. Details of the grants released during the last three years for construction are given in the enclosed statement-I. No funds have been released in the current year.

(b) There is no scheme of boarding schools apart from the above. The number of Hostels, Ashram Schools and Residential Schools sanctioned state-wise is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) Proposals have been received during the last three years from the State Governments for establishment of Residential schools and hostels under the schemes of Eklavaya Model Residential Schools and Boys/Girls Hostel, both of which are combined scheme for girls and boys. No proposals have been received in the current year.

(d) and (e) All proposals which were received complete in all respects have been sanctioned. State-wise break up is given in the enclosed statement-III. No proposal complete in all respect is pending for sanction.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement I*Name of Scheme: Establishment of Ashram Schools in TSP areas.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	380	Nil	Nil
2.	Gujarat	Nil	86.49	200.00
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	300.00	200.00
4.	Maharashtra	Nil	86.00	50.00
5.	Karnataka	Nil	77.51	150.00
6.	Tripura	50.00	Nil	Nil
7.	Uttaranchal	217.00	Nil	Nil
Total		647.00	550.00	600.00

Grant-in-aid (Non-Recurring) released to various States for construction of Eklavya Model Residential Schools

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100.00	100.00	—
2.	Gujarat	—	—	1000.00
3.	Jammu-Kashmir	50.00	50.00	—
4.	Karnataka	—	—	100.00
5.	Madhya Pradesh	285.58	254.794	300.00
6.	Orissa	100.00	360.21	739.79
7.	Sikkim	—	—	100
8.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	100.00
9.	West Bengal	250.00	350	200.00
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	105.44
11.	Mizoram	—	150	—
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	400.00
13.	Uttaranchal	50.00	50	—
Total		835.58	1315.00	3045.23

Name of Scheme: Boys/Girls Hostel for STs

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	277.00	Nil	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	20.50	21.44
3.	Gujarat	Nil	67.70	Nil
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	108.18
5.	Jharkhand	817.60	98.86	Nil
6.	Karnataka	150.00	120.00	86.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	300.00	724.00
8.	Maharashtra	Nil	242.04	194.46
9.	Manipur	49.84	Nil	142.70
10.	Nagaland	150.00	151.00	116.52
11.	Orissa	41.46	Nil	Nil
12.	Tripura	50.00	Nil	Nil
13.	W.B.	47.76	Nil	6.71
14.	JNU/IIT, Delhi	230.62	234.88	64.21
15.	Panjab University, Chandigarh	Nil	65.12	100.79
Total		1814.50	1300.00	1565.00

*Statement II**Details of hostels, Ashram Schools and Eklavya Model Residential Schools, State-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Number of Hostels	Number of Ashram Schools	Number of Eklavya Model Residential Schools
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	169	85	8
2.	Assam	217	2	2
3.	Gujarat	71	126	10
4.	Himachal Pradesh	13	0	1

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Daman & Diu.	4	1	0
6.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	10	0	0
7.	Kerala	39	18	2
8.	Madhya Pradesh	238	292	12
9.	Manipur	21	2	3
10.	Meghalaya	66	0	2
11.	Orissa	153	28	10
12.	Rajasthan	179	2	7
13.	Tamil Nadu	15	21	2
14.	Tripura	37	10	3
15.	Uttar Pradesh	10	10	1
16.	West Bengal	28	0	7
17.	Jammu-Kashmir	9	0	2
18.	Karnataka	45	29	4
19.	Maharashtra	32	145	4
20.	Mizoram	0	0	1
21.	Bihar	6	0	0
22.	Nagaland	8	0	3
23.	JNU/IIT Delhi	3	0	0
24.	Jharkhand	50	0	4
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	0	1
26.	Panjab University, Chandigarh	2	0	0
27.	Chhattisgarh	1	46	8
28.	Uttaranchal		10	1
29.	Sikkim	0	0	2
Total		1431	827	100

Statement III*Number of Boys/Girls Hostels sanctioned during last three years*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of Hostels		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	Arrear*	1
3.	Gujarat	—	Arrear*	—
4.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	Arrear*
5.	Jharkhand	4	18	—
6.	Karnataka	12	Arrear*	5
7.	Madhya Pradesh	—	Arrear*	Arrear*
8.	Maharashtra	—	11	Arrear*
9.	Manipur	2	—	6
10.	Nagaland	2	2	2
11.	Orissa	1	—	—
12.	Tripura	2	—	—
13.	West Bengal	3	—	1
14.	JNU/IIT, Delhi	Arrear*	Arrear*	Arrear*
15.	Punjab University, Chandigarh	—	2	Arrear*
Total		49	33	15

*Grants released during the year as arrear grants for the hostels already sanctioned during the previous years.

Number of Eklavya Model Residential School sanctioned during last three years

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of Residential School		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	—	—
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	—	—
3.	Gujarat	—	—	2
4.	Karnataka	—	—	1
5.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	3
6.	Sikkim	—	—	1

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	1
8.	Uttaranchal	1	—	—
9.	West Bengal	—	—	2
Total		4	—	10

Empowerment of Tribal Women

*459. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assigned provisions for the empowerment of tribal women in the National Policy, 2001 on empowerment of women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Commission on Women has made comprehensive recommendations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the follow-up action being taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 adopted by the Government provides for empowerment of women, including women belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. The Policy provides that in the matter of social empowerment of women through education, sectoral time targets in existing policies will be achieved, with special focus on girls and women, particularly those belonging to weaker sections including Scheduled Tribes. The Policy also calls for a review of all existing laws, including tribal laws, eliminate gender discriminatory references.

(c) and (d) National Commission for Women has made wide ranging recommendations like abolition of 'Dayan Pratha' in Jharkhand, review of Santhal Pargana

Tenancy Act, enhancement of literacy levels, eradication of malnutrition and starvation, curbing naxalite activities, economic empowerment of women, promotion of forest based industries, priority attention to handloom and handicrafts sector etc.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs ensures empowerment of tribal people, including tribal women, through its various policies, plans, schemes and programmes. That Ministry provides for a separate women component under Special Central Assistance to Tribal sub Plan and programmes undertaken out of Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution, besides implementing an exclusive scheme of Educational Complexes in low literacy districts for education of tribal girls.

The National Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation implements the scheme of Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana which provides for term loan for schemes/projects costing upto Rs. 50,000/- per unit at an interest rate of 4% to the beneficiaries who are women.

[English]

Indo Pak Trade

*460. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARDGI:

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

(a) whether India and Pakistan have decided to sort out outstanding trade related issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the agreement reached between the two countries;

(c) whether Pakistan has decided to import tea and garments from India;

(d) if so, the extent to which trade is likely to be increased with Pakistan;

(e) whether Pakistan has also decided to extend South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) to be operational from July 1, 2006; and

(f) the quantum of trade between India and Pakistan at present and the extent to which it will be improved further?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) India and Pakistan have set up a Joint Study Group (JSG) at the level of Commerce Secretaries for adopting a strategy for boosting trade between the two countries. Two meetings of JSG have taken place so far in February, 2005 in New Delhi and in March, 2006 in Islamabad. Two Working/Sub Groups have been constituted, one on Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation Measures and other on Non Tariff Barriers.

Apart from the JSG, three rounds of talks on economic and commercial cooperation between India and Pakistan within the framework of the Composite Dialogue have been held, the last in Islamabad in March, 2006. The highlights of some of the discussions are as follows:

- Agreed to open branches of scheduled banks in each country on a reciprocal basis.
- Agreed to identify the problems of transportation of goods by rail between the two countries.
- Agreed to constitute a Working Group to discuss the issues relating to joint registration of Basmati rice.
- Pakistan to consider enlarging the list of importable items from India.
- The Indian side proposed to convene a meeting of the relevant technical level experts at the Attari-Wagah Border to draw up proposals to upgrade infrastructure to facilitate trade including export of transit cargo of Afghanistan which was noted by Pakistan side.

It was decided to sign the revised Shipping Protocol between India and Pakistan on a mutually convenient date after completing our constitutional procedures; the revised protocol would allow lifting of cargo between the two countries by third country vessels as well as lifting of third country cargo by Indian and Pakistani flag vessels from each other's ports which is expected to enhance tonnage under both the flags and also result in competitive shipping rates.

Both the countries have revised the Joint Commission in which the Foreign Ministers of both countries meet to discuss bilateral issues including trade and economic cooperation. Plenary session of Joint Commission was held on 4 October, 2005 in Islamabad.

(c) At present the imports into Pakistan from India are restricted to the items in their Positive List. In the present list of 773 items tea is included and the garments not included. During the 3rd round of India-Pakistan trade talks within the Composite Dialogue, both sides decided to encourage delegations of importers and exporters of tea to visit respective countries. It was also noted in the meeting that after the new Shipping Agreement comes into effect, import of tea from India would be facilitated further.

(d) Pakistan imported 10.9 million kgs of Indian tea valued at Rs. 46.60 crores in the year 2005. After the visit of a delegation of Pakistan Tea Association to India which was hosted by the Tea Board in April 2006, it is expected that the exports of tea from India to Pakistan would be around 20 million Kgs in the current year i.e 2006.

While tea is exported from India to Pakistan, there is no import of tea from Pakistan into India.

(e) The Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) has come into force from 1 January, 2006 and its phased tariff liberalization Pakistan ratified the SAFTA Agreement unconditionally.

(f) The quantum of trade between India and Pakistan for the last three years is given below:

(In US\$ Million; source DGCIS Kolkata)

Year	Exports to Pakistan	Imports from Pakistan	Total Trade	%age Growth in Export to Pakistan	%Age Growth in Import from Pakistan	% Growth Over Bilateral Trade
2002-03	206.16	44.85	251.01	—	—	—
2003-04	286.94	57.65	344.59	39	29	37
2004-05	505.44	95.33	600.77	76	65	74
2004-05 (Apr-Dec.)	366.26	70.88	437.14	—	—	—
2005-06 (Apr-Dec.)	421.57	141.51	563.08	15	99	29

The above statement shows that there is steady growth in the bilateral trade. It is expected that the volume of bilateral trade will increase further

[Translation]

Consumption of Copper

*461. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of refined copper produced and consumed in the country during the last three years;

(b) the quantum of refined copper imported during the said period alongwith the value thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of refined copper in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) The quantum of refined copper produced and consumed in the country during the last three years is given below:

(Qty. in metric tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption
2002-03	374725	235235
2003-04	401915	253721
2004-05	410198	268800

(b) The quantum of refined copper imported alongwith the value thereof for the last three years is given below:

Year	Quantity (metric tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
2002-03	29068	330.35
2003-04	32827	404.50
2004-05	59899	987.25

(c) and (d) Government has opened up the entire non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector (including copper) for private investment. After opening up the sector, the production of refined copper in India has increased substantially and India has become a net exporter of refined copper in the world market.

[English]

Reservation of Seats in Central Universities

3615. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to provide reservation of seats in Central Universities in graduation and post-graduation level courses on religious basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proportionate representation of students belonging to various religions, including the reserved ones, secured admitted in the respect universities pursuant to such order during the last three years and current year; stream-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the details of the provisions of reservation of seats, if any, under other categories in vogue in those Central Universities alongwith the years of their introduction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) While the Government does not make any reservation on the basis of religion, a Central University with minority status may adopt a policy of reservation for the minorities establishing the University of their choice, provided the relevant Act/Statutes establishing the University empower so.

(c) and (d) No such data is maintained centrally.

Women Battalions in CRPF

3616. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are Mahila Battalions in the Central Reserve Police Force;

(b) if so, the details regarding the number as well as the States where they have been posted at present;

(c) whether the Indian Mahila Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force is being sent to carry out UN peace keeping operations in Liberia recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are other countries who have also been asked to carry out peace keeping operations for the UN Mission; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There are two Mahila Battalions with units in J&K, Assam, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat & Manipur besides being attached to 10Bns. of Rapid Action Force.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) 108 countries are contributing military and police personnel to 18 peacekeeping Missions under the direction and support of United Nations.

Financial Assistance under Revised UGC Scale

3617. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government for providing 80% financial assistance to affiliated degree and post-graduate colleges in the State under revised University Grants Commission scale of pay, 1996; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had approached the Union Government (Ministry of Human Resource Development) in June, 1999 requesting for 80% of the Central assistance under Revised University Grants Commission Scale of Pay, 1996 for teachers in universities and colleges. An amount of Rs. 132.73 crores (as 80% of Central share) was released by the Central Government to the Government of Andhra Pradesh as under according to the concerned scheme:

Sl.No.	Year	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
1.	1999-2000	80.00
2.	2000-01	50.00
3.	2001-02	2.73
Total		132.73

Education to STs

3618. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various communities of Scheduled Tribes inhabiting in various parts of the country; State-wise;

(b) the percentage of educated STs in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness of education amongst the uneducated Scheduled Tribes population in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The State/UT-wise list of Scheduled Tribes has been indicated in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2005-06.

(b) As per 2001 census literacy rate amongst ST is 47.1%.

(c) The Tribal Welfare departments of the States, the NGO's and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), which is the nodal Ministry for education, are engaged in creating a process of awareness of education amongst the uneducated ST population in the country. In addition, Ministry of HRD has undertaken a total literacy campaign characterized by large-scale mobilization of all categories of population including STs through a multi-faceted communication strategy.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is also implementing various schemes for promoting education amongst STs including schemes to give funds for construction of Residential Schools, Ashram Schools, Boys/Girls Hostels, running of Educational Complexes in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Female Literacy in Tribal Areas, granting of scholarships for post matric, and further studies, etc.

Electricity Dues on Allottees

3619. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of NDMC electricity dues on the allottees during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the NDMC has taken any initiative to recover the electricity dues;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The total amount of cumulative electricity dues of New Delhi Municipal Council on the allottees during each of the last three years is as follows:

Period	Arrears (in crore rupees)
March, 2003 Billing Cycle	78.45
March, 2004 Billing Cycle	106.34
March, 2005 Billing Cycle	96.20

(b) New Delhi Municipal Council has issued disconnection orders to recover the arrears.

(c) and (d) During the last three years, New Delhi Municipal Council had disconnected 1595 electric/water connections in order to recover the arrears.

Mining Lease in Scheduled Areas

3620. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any reference from the Government of Orissa regarding policy on grant of mining lease and transfer of land for commercial projects in scheduled areas;

(b) if so, the details of the policy therefor and its impact and implications on scheduled area and on scheduled tribes, if any;

(c) whether the Government has decided to examine the policy in the light of constitutional protections provided under article 288 (i); and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa have reported that to protect the

interest of tribals in the Scheduled Areas, the State Government has formulated a policy namely "Policy on grant of mining lease and transfer of land for commercial projects in Scheduled Areas, 2003" where, in the interest of the tribal land losers, the mining industry and the other commercial projects coming up in Schedule Areas should agree to earmark up to 5% of their equity towards preferential equity shares of the company for the displaced tribal persons, based on the value of their land acquired for the project. Apart from this, 5% of the net annual profit accrued in the project shall be spent for the development of health, education, communication, irrigation and agriculture of the said Scheduled Areas within a radius of 50 Kms. Care is also being taken in the matter of employment to give preference to the tribals and the persons who become displaced because of taking up of mining operations. In case of occupation of private land with the consent of the tenant, the lessee pays compensation to the tenant on mutually agreed terms or terms fixed by the Government. In case of total acquisition of land, the tenant is provided with the cost of land by the lessee and the tenant is also rehabilitated as per the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of the Government of Orissa.

(c) and (d) No such decision has been taken.

Sex Workers Under National Network

3621. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sex workers under the banner of National Network of Sex Workers has drawn the attention of the Government towards the work they does in preventing disease from spreading; and

(b) if so, the role played by them in preventing the customers from getting the AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Network of Sex Workers have reported that they have come forward to participate actively in the Targeted Interventions that constitute the frontline strategy of the National AIDS Control Programmes.

Promotion of Core Sector

3622. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the enterprises of core sector in order to increase the annual growth rate of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the enterprises likely to be included?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Under the liberalized Industrial Policy, setting up of industrial enterprises, including in the core sector, depends to a large extent on market related factors. It is also dependent upon the initiatives taken by the State Governments by way of providing infrastructural facilities and other incentives. The Central Government supplements the efforts through specific support measures and by creating an investment conducive climate. The Central Government has also put in place a liberal and transparent foreign investment regime wherein FDI up to 100% is allowed under the automatic route in most sectors/activities including many core industries.

National Council for Applied Economic Research

3623 SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has conducted any research work on Employment Potential and Poverty; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its findings thereof; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Education to Poor Children

3624. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme involving corporate sector to provide more and more schooling facilities to the children belonging to the poorer sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) There is no such proposal at present with the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Mid-Day Meal in Madarasas

3625. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide mid-day meal to the students studying in Madarasas;

(b) if so, whether it has been decided to open more schools in the muslim dominated areas under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Madarasas which fall within the category of a government-aided school or EGS/AIE Centre, are being covered under Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

(b) and (c) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 2643 new primary schools, 1978 new upper primary schools and 55529 EGS centres have been sanctioned for 2005-06 in districts with substantial muslim population.

Textile Industry in Gujarat

3626. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the textile industry in Gujarat is going through a crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): (a) Textile industry in Gujarat has shown satisfactory performance during last 3 years. As Such there are no crisis.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Rural Textile Industries

3627. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed impact on the rural textile industry after phasing out of quota system as they are unable to compete with bigger player in textile sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has framed any policies/schemes to promote rural textile industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure the livelihood of rural artisans especially women workers and to develop their skill to secure alternative jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOAN): (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, the major activities in textile sector are mainly concentrated in the Handlooms, Handicrafts, Powerlooms, Silk, and Wool sectors, which are decentralized in nature and many units are located in rural areas. The Government is implementing various schemes for the development of these sectors. Though the schemes/programmes do not adhere to any specific community or social group, the majority of those employed in these sectors belong to the Scheduled castes/Scheduled tribes. Women comprise a sizeable number of workers in the Handlooms, Handicrafts, Silk and Wool Sector. These schemes provide a source of sustained and regular income for the beneficiaries and also contribute in developing their skills and consequently employability. Some of the major schemes being implemented are:

Handlooms

1. Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHYP)
2. Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP)
3. Handloom Export Scheme (HES)
4. Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Programme.
5. Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).
6. Health Insurance Scheme (HIS)

Handicrafts

- (i) Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastship Vikas Yojana (AHVY);
- (ii) Design & Technical Upgradation Scheme;
- (iii) Marketing & Support Services Scheme;
- (iv) Export Promotion Scheme;
- (v) Training & Extension Scheme;

Powerloom

- (i) 20% Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for Powerloom Sector under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS).
- (ii) Modernization and Strengthening of Powerloom Service Centres.
- (iii) Support to Computer Aided Design Centres.
- (iv) Group Workshed Scheme.
- (v) Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Weavers.

Silk

Catalytic Development Programme (CDP)

Wool

Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (IWIP)

FDI in Naxal Affected Areas

3628. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether naxalite activities are a major hurdle in attracting foreign direct investment in proposed development projects of least developed States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the details of FDI made in such States during last three years in comparison to developed States in the country; and

(d) the measures proposed to attract FDI in naxalite affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per available reports, the naxalite outfits including CPI (Maoist) oppose foreign direct investment for setting up industrial units in the country particularly, in the tribal dominated areas of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Orissa on the ground that they exploit local resources.

(c) Detail of FDI inflows from January 2003 to February 2006 are as under:

Sl.No.	States	(Rs. in crores)
1.	Bihar & Jharkhand	1.13
2.	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	146.65
3.	Maharashtra	6589.73
4.	Orissa	315.88
5.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttranchal	0.03
6.	West Bengal, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1045.13
7.	Andhra Pradesh	2178.91
8.	Gujarat	2453.36
9.	Karnataka	3920.49
10.	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	2435.67
11.	Delhi, Part of UP & Haryana	10184.67

(d) The States affected by naxalism have been taking steps to implement land reforms, put in place an attractive rehabilitation and resettlement policy for displaced tribals and provide good governance. These measures will directly/indirectly attract FDI in naxal affected areas.

Technology Upgradation Fund for Handloom Sector

3629. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up a separate Technology Upgradation Fund for handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The guidelines of the scheme are under preparation/formulation.

Ban on Dance Bar

3630. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many organizations working for the welfare of women have requested the Government to bring a legislation to ban dance bars throughout India in order to save women from sexual exploitation;

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

(c) the action taken/to be taken by the Government on their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Women had constituted a Committee to look into the issue pertaining to banning of dance bars in State of Maharashtra. The Committee visited Mumbai and received responses from various organizations/individuals.

(c) The matter is subjudice before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[*Translation*]

Issuance of Arm Licence

3631. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of armed licences issued in Delhi during each of the last three years and current year;

(b) the name of the competent authority responsible for extending the Area Validity of armed licence in Delhi;

(c) the rules for extending the Area Validity of armed licence in Delhi;

(d) the number of armed licences in Delhi provided All India Validity during each of the last three years, current year;

(e) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding extension of Area Validity of armed licence in Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The requisite information is given below:

Year	Number of licences for Non-prohibited Bore weapons issued by Delhi Police	Number of licences for Prohibited Bore weapons issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs
2003	1304	16
2004	1230	9
2005	1024	25
2006	242 (upto 5th May)	4 (upto 11th May)

(b) the competent authority to extend the area validity of non-prohibited bore arms licences and prohibited bore arms licences is the Administrator of Delhi and the Joint Secretary (Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs respectively.

(c) Rule 53 of Arms Rules, 1962 stipulates that on application from a licence-holder, a licensing authority may extend the area of validity specified in his licence, if he is satisfied about the need of such extension, subject to the condition that the licensing authority has the power to grant a licence in relation to the area to which extension is sought. In addition, it has been laid down in the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs' vide letter No. V-11026/8/89-Arms dated 4.7.1989 that as a rule, the licences with all India validity shall be granted

in very rare cases. The few exceptions where consideration could be given would comprise the following categories:

- (1) Ministers and Members of Parliament;
- (2) Serving officers of Defence Services, police and para-military organizations and officers of Government having liability to serve anywhere in India; and
- (3) Members of recognized Rifle Clubs and Rifle Associations for bona-fide sports and games.

(d) The requisite information is given below:

Year	No. of licences issued by Delhi Police for all India Validity	No. of licences issued by Ministry of Home Affairs for All India Validity
2003	186	10
2004	56	4
2005	152	17
2006	13 (upto 5th May)	2 (upto 11th May)

(e) and (f) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that it had received one complaint regarding extension of area validity of armed licence. On examination of the complaint by the competent authority, it was found to be without substance.

[English]

Implementation of Tribal Development Schemes in J&K

3632. SHR ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of NGO's which have or are implementing the Tribal Development schemes in Jammu & Kashmir alongwith the funds allocated and spent by the organizations during each of the last three years and current year, scheme-wise; organisation-wise; and

(b) the criteria adopted for proper monitoring the utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The details of organisations along with their projects funded by the Ministry in the State of Jammu & Kashmir during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed. These projects are funded under the Scheme of Grants-in-Aid to voluntary organisations working for the welfare of scheduled tribes. The Ministry has not released any grant so far during the current financial year have not yet been received.

(b) The Ministry releases funds to NGOs on receipt of utilisation certificates of the grants released earlier, annual inspection report of Deputy Commissioner and the recommendations of the multidisciplinary State Committee, through the respective State Government.

Statement

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl.No.	Name & address of the organisation	Name of the project	Funds released by the Ministry under Grants-in-aid to voluntary organisations		
			2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Gujjar Desh Charitable Trust, At-48, Gujjar Colony, Bypass, PIN-180 001, Jammu Tawi, Jammu & Kashmir	Residential School (100+360 day scholars), Mobile Dispensary	0	3892532	2937550

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Himalayan Buddhist Cultural Society, At-Gulabgarh, Padar, Distt-Doda, Jammu & Kashmir	Residential School	2072430	0	1246743
3.	Lamdon Social Welfare Society, PO Box No. 1, Leh-194 101, Leh-Laddakh, J&K.	Residential School	0	1078088	1097903
4.	Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre, At-Devachan, PO Box No. 22, Leh-194 101, Laddakh, Jammu & Kashmir	Residential School	0	0	1298088
Total fund released			2072430	4970620	6580284

[*Translation*]

Vacant Post of IPS

3633. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hundreds of the posts of IPS officers are lying vacant in various States;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacant posts; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As on 1.1.2006, the total authorized strength of IPS officers was 3851, against which 3209 IPS officers were in position.

(b) The Central Government has increased direct recruitment to the IPS from Civil Service Examination, 2002 onwards. IPS officers are also being sent on State-to-State deputation.

(c) the gap between the total authorized strength of IPS and number of officers in position is a regular feature due to superannuation, voluntary retirement, resignation, dismissal, death and periodic review of the cadre strength

etc. The vacancies in the IPS are filled through Civil Services Examination conducted every year by the UPSC and by appointment of State Police Service Officers to the IPS, which is a continuous process.

Diamond Mining

3634. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether diamond mine has been explored in Chhatarpur and Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the plan of its excavation;

(c) whether peripheral development of these mines and recruitment of local people has been proposed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (e) Five reconnaissance permits have been granted for exploration of diamond in Chhattarpur district (including one in Chhatarpur and Damoh) of Madhya Pradesh. However, no diamond mine has yet been identified.

[*English*]

Export of Marine Products

3635. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tinned marine products of our country are facing tough competition in the international market;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of marine products in International market;

(c) whether the tinned marine products comes under the processed food industries category; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the subsidies given to the industry during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) In the marine products, presently there is demand for tinned pasteurised crab meat and tinned tuna only. The prices realised by our exporters indicate that our prices are competitive in the international market.

(b) Steps taken by the Government to increase the export of marine products include the schemes for extending financial assistance for upgrading processing facilities, expansion of aquaculture, imparting of training to aquaculture farmers, assistance for production of value-added products and marketing support.

(c) All marine products packed as frozen, live, chilled or tinned (canned) come under the processed food category.

(d) The financial assistance extended by the Marine Products Export Development Authority for development of seafood industry during the last three years has been as follows:

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
2003-04	784.01
2004-05	735.83
2005-06	607.91

[Translation]

Anganwadi Karyakarti Bima Yojana

3636. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in the country in which "Anganwadi Karyakarti Bima Yojana" is being implemented; and

(b) the total number of workers and helpers in various States insured under such scheme, State-wise, particularly in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The "Anganwadi Karyakarti Bima Yojna" has been approved for implementation in all States/UTs across the country. However, the Scheme is optional for the target group i.e. Anganwadi Workers and Helpers.

(b) Total number of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers who have joined the Scheme, as intimated by the States/UTs, including Rajasthan, is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	Total Number of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers who have opted for the Scheme
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	95001
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Information not received
3.	Assam	2880
4.	Bihar	Information not received
5.	Chhattisgarh	37686
6.	Goa	1709
7.	Gujarat	46926
8.	Haryana	833
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10860
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	9032
11.	Jharkhand	30588
12.	Karnataka	69376
13.	Kerala	35478
14.	Madhya Pradesh	40988

1	2	3
15.	Maharashtra	64497
16.	Manipur	7767
17.	Meghalaya	1221
18.	Mizoram	255
19.	Nagaland	2768
20.	Orissa	39446
21.	Punjab	13610
22.	Rajasthan	62695
23.	Sikkim	950
24.	Tamil Nadu	29523
25.	Tripura	7180
26.	Uttar Pradesh	30658
27.	Uttaranchal	8767
28.	West Bengal	22004
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	252
30.	Chandigarh	505
31.	Delhi	7115
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	274
33.	Daman and Diu	95

1	2	3
34.	Lakshadweep	148
35.	Pondicherry	868
Total		681955

Anganwadi Project

3637. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of development blocks wherein the "Anganwadi" project is being run in various States, State-wise particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether "Anganwadi" projects are being run by the State Governments on the places others than accorded approval by the Union Government without obtaining requisite permission from the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) State-wise number of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Projects, including Uttar Pradesh, is given in enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

Statement

State-wise number of Sanctioned and Operational ICDS Projects

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of Sanctioned ICDS Projects		No. of Operational ICDS Projects (as on 31.10.2005)	
		In development blocks (Rural/Tribal)	In Urban Slums	In development blocks (Rural/Tribal)	In Urban Slums
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	330	46	329	33
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79	0	58	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	216	3	193	3
4.	Bihar	516	22	368	22
5.	Jharkhand	201	3	201	3
6.	Goa	11	0	11	0
7.	Gujarat	245	15	215	12
8.	Haryana	118	10	111	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	75	1	72	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	136	4	129	0
11.	Karnataka	173	12	173	12
12.	Kerala	153	10	153	10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	314	53	314	22
14.	Chhattisgarh	148	10	147	5
15.	Maharashtra	329	87	299	73
16.	Manipur	33	1	33	1
17.	Meghalaya	39	0	32	0
18.	Mizoram	22	1	20	1
19.	Nagaland	54	2	52	2
20.	Orissa	314	12	314	12
21.	Punjab	141	7	137	5
22.	Rajasthan	239	35	239	18
23.	Sikkim	9	2	4	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	398	36	398	36
25.	Tripura	35	16	34	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	816	19	808	19
27.	Uttaranchal	95	4	95	4
28.	West Bengal	343	73	335	22
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	1	4	1
30.	Chandigarh	0	3	0	3
31.	Delhi	3	31	2	26

1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	0	2	0
33.	Daman and Diu	2	0	2	0
34.	Lakshadweep	1	0	1	0
35.	Pondicherry	3	2	3	2
Total		5597*	521**	5287	358

*including 303 projects sanctioned in 2005-06.

**including 163 projects sanctioned in 2005-06.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Karbi Riots Victims

3638. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken and the progress so far made in the rehabilitation of the victims of recent Karbi carnage; and

(b) the Central assistance sought/given and expenditure incurred for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The State Government of Assam had undertaken rehabilitation measures for victim families, which included sanction of Rs. 3 lakh as ex-gratia grant to the next of kin of those who died; providing gratuitous relief to the affected families; and rehabilitation assistance for construction of houses. Central Government had granted Rs. 5.98 crore to the Government of Assam for this purpose.

Sick Tea Industries

3639. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick tea industries at present, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the sick tea industries in tea producing States;

(c) whether the Government has made any in-depth studies regarding claims of various tea garden

managements on causes of the sickness of their companies; and

(d) if so, details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per the information available, 37 tea gardens are lying closed as on 1st May 2006, of which 3 are located in Assam, 20 in Kerala and 14 in West Bengal.

(b) to (d) In January 2003, the Government of India had appointed three Expert Committees to make an in-depth study of the closed tea gardens in the States of West Bengal, Kerala, Assam & Tripura which were lying closed in 2002. The main causes for sickness/closure as identified by the Committees include inherent weaknesses of the gardens due to poor yields arising out of poor condition of the garden and factory (affecting tea quality and price realisations), poor garden management, frequent changes of garden managers and the management's excessive reliance on bank debt with negligible fresh equity infusion. In some of the gardens, the neglect was due to ownership disputes, protracted litigation and diversion of funds from tea gardens to other activities and in many cases strained relationship between management and garden workers.

The closed tea estates are required to invest in rejuvenation of the plantations for long term viability as well as in factory and estate infrastructure to achieve higher yields, better quality and consequent higher realisation in terms of price of teas. Closed gardens also need to imbibe proper garden management practices. Revival package for a garden would need to address its requirements and would necessarily have to be finalized

by the management of each individual garden with its bankers. Government has facilitated discussions between the managements of these gardens and their bankers.

[Translation]

Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana

3640. SHRI KAILASH BAITHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where a scheme namely "Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana" for welfare of adivasi women is being implemented by the Union Government;

(b) whether any proposal in regard to women empowerment has been received from Bihar under the Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action being taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation is implementing Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana in all the States/UTs having eligible Scheduled Tribe population. The following are the States which have availed sanctions under the plan as on 31.3.2006:

Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, West Bengal.

(b) No proposal has been received by NSTFDC from the State of Bihar.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (b) above.

Arrest of Accused Persons

3641. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any guidelines regarding arrest and interrogation of the accused persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any initiative to implement the above guidelines;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any disparity between the existing guidelines and the guidelines issued by the Supreme Court; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Supreme Court in the case of D.K. Basu Vs. State of West Bengal (Writ Petition Criminal No. 539 of 1986) issued guidelines to be followed in case of arrest/detention.

(b) The Supreme Court's guidelines regarding arrest are as follows:

(i) The police personnel carrying out the arrest and handling the interrogation of the arrestee should bear accurate, visible and clear identification and name tags with their designations. The particulars of all such police personnel who handle interrogation of the arrestee must be recorded in a register.

(ii) The police officer carrying out the arrest of the arrestee shall prepare a memo of arrest at the time of arrest and such memo shall be attested by at least one witness, who may be either a member of the family of the arrestee or a respectable person of the locality from where the arrest is made. It shall also be counter signed by the arrestee and shall contain the time and date of arrest.

(iii) A person who has been arrested or detained and is being held in custody in a police station or interrogation center or other lock-up, shall be entitled to have one friend or relative or other person known to him or having interest in his welfare being informed, as soon as practicable, that he has been arrested and is being detained at the particular place, unless the attesting witness of the memo of arrest is himself such a friend or a relative of the arrestee.

- (iv) The time, place of arrest and venue of custody of an arrestee must be notified by the police where the next friend or relative of the arrestee lives outside the district or town through the Legal Aid Organization in the District and the police station of the area concerned telegraphically within a period of 8 to 12 hours after the arrest.
- (v) The person arrested must be made aware of his right to have someone informed of his arrest or detention as soon as he is put under arrest or is detained.
- (vi) An entry must be made in the diary at the place of detention regarding the arrest of the person which shall also disclose the name of the next friend of the person who has been informed of the arrest and the names and particulars of the police officials in whose custody the arrestee is.
- (vii) The arrestee should, where he so requests, be also examined the time of his arrest and major and minor injuries, if any present on his/her body, must be recorded at that time. The "inspection Memo" must be signed both by the arrestee and the police officer effecting the arrest and its copy provided to the arrestee.
- (viii) The arrestee should be subjected to medical examination by a trained doctor every 48 hours of his detention in custody by a doctor on the panel of approved doctors appointed by Director, Health Services of the concerned State or Union Territory. Director, Health Services should prepare such a panel for all Tehsils and Districts as well.
- (ix) Copies of all the documents including the memo of arrest, referred to above, should be sent to the *illaga* magistrate for his record.
- (x) The arrestee may be permitted to meet his lawyer during interrogation, though not throughout the interrogation.
- (xi) A police control room should be provided at all district and state headquarters, where information regarding the arrest state headquarters, where information regarding the arrest and the place of custody of the arrestee shall be communicated by the officer causing the arrest, within 12 hours of effecting the arrest and at the police control room it should be displayed on a conspicuous notice board.

(c) to (f) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 vide its clause 7 has inserted section 50A in the Cr. P.C. providing for the procedure to be followed by police while arresting a person. An Amendment Bill to the aforesaid act to enable implementation of different provisions of the Act with different dates has since been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. Apart from that, the Law Commission of India in its 177th Report on Law relating to Arrest has also made recommendations similar to the guidelines issued by Supreme Court. The Report is under consideration of the Government. Implementation of the recommendations made by the Law Commission is subject to the Government taking a final view based on the recommendations/views of the State Governments, introduction and passage of an amendment bill in Parliament, for which no time-frame can be fixed.

[English]

List of Sensitive Items for WTO

3642. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of number of Indian goods is still restricted in several member countries of the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the names of such countries together with the Indian goods restricted for import in these countries; and

(c) the value of exports made from India to each of these countries during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under the Rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Member countries of the WTO are required to provide Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Treatment and National Treatment (NT) for import of goods from other WTO Members. India is facing restriction for its exports to Pakistan because of the maintenance of a positive list of products that could be imported from India into Pakistan. Certain exceptions have, however, been provided under WTO Rules, which include forging of free trade agreements, customs unions, etc. The WTO rules also provide for certain general exceptions under GATT

Article XX, such as protection of human, animal or plant life or health; protection of public morals; products of prison labour; conservation of exhaustible natural resources, etc. However, such measures should not be applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between countries where the same conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on international trade. Also, restrictions could be maintained on security considerations under GATT Article XXI.

Market Access into WTO Member countries could be affected due to various tariff and non-tariff barriers. The tariff barriers could include tariff peaks and tariff escalation in sector such as textiles and clothing, which are encountered in the markets of some WTO Members, particularly developed to the WTO, there is no violation of WTO rules. The non-tariff measures include measures imposed in the importing member countries, including on account of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). These measures can be imposed in accordance with WTO Rules. Some

important trading partners of India do maintain SPS and TBT measures which sometime impede our exports into these markets. Such measures (SPS, TBT, other regulatory/certification procedures) are applied in a number of WTO Member countries including the United States, European Union, Japan, Canada, People's Republic of China and Republic of Korea in sectors such as agricultural and processed food products (such as tea, Basmati Rice, spices, horticultural products, dairy products, livestock), marine products, and drugs & pharmaceuticals including Ayurvedic medicines.

The Government of India regularly takes up these issues with the respective member governments of the WTO in appropriate fora, namely, meetings of the Joint Commission, meetings of the WTO SPS and TBT Committees, bilateral meetings with the concerned countries.

(c) The value of exports made from India to its top ten trading partners during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 is indicated below:

(Figures in US\$ million)

Name of the WTO Member	Exports 2003-04	Exports 2004-05
European Union	14443.58	17245.97
United States of America	11490.11	13265.60
United Arab Emirates	5125.61	7098.14
Hong Kong, China	3261.83	3651.33
People's Republic of China	2955.10	4586.28
Singapore	2124.84	3795.51
Bangladesh	1740.75	1586.18
Japan	1709.30	1977.59
Sri Lanka	1319.20	1353.75
Indonesia	1127.21	1290.69

[Translation]

Assistance to Handloom Sector

3643. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented by the Government to assist handloom sector in the country particularly in West Bengal, State-wise; and

(b) the amount of funds allocated under these schemes during each of the last three years and current

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Marketing Promotion Programme (MMP)	8.20	7.91		9.10	9.09		13.95	11.47		15.50	1.98	-do-
	(a) District Level Event (DLE)			158			147			290			
	(b) National/Special Expose			27			37			60			
	(c) Craft Mela & Master Creation Programme			6			7			6			
7.	Implementation of Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985	1.20	1.20	1,68,655			Transferred from Plan Scheme to Non Plan Scheme						
8.	Handloom Export Scheme	5.85	4.42	852	4.15	4.15	1,025	4.80	4.55	480	5.50	—	-do-
9.	Mill Gate Price Scheme (Supplies of Yarn in lakh Kgs.)	12.50	12.00	242.77	11.50	11.50	202.38	7.40	7.39		7.00		-do-
10.	Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP)		2.96	3740	16.06	16.06	16540	13.00	12.96	13020	13.00	0.13	-do-
11.	Weavers Service Centre (J&K)	0.33	0.20	—	0.35	0.30	—	0.43	0.42	—	0.50	0.06	-do-
12.	Integrated Handloom Cluster Development	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	5.00	—	5.00	—	do-
13.	Health Insurance Scheme	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.06	26.73	240868	17.00	—	-do-
	Total	136.97	130.28		157.89	154.09		196.15	192.86		185.00	10.53	

(i) *Bunkar Bima Yojana (BBY) figures pertain to April September, 2005. The BBY was replaced by Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana from October, 2005.

(ii) *Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP) was introduced in December, 2003 in place of Decentralised Training Programme (DTP).

[English]

Special Economic Zones in Agro Sector

3644. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed big corporate houses to set up Special zones in Agro Sector in the country;

(b) if so, the norms and criteria for setting up special zones in Agro Sector in the country;

(c) whether big corporate houses are trying to grab the highly fertile agricultural lands from the farmers in the name of establishment of Special Zones in Agro Sector; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The policy of the Government is to encourage and facilitate the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the private sector or joint sector in association with the State Governments or by the State Governments themselves. The criteria for setting up of Special Economic Zones prescribed in the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 include minimum area, generation of additional economic activity, promotion of exports, promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources, creation of employment opportunities and development of infrastructure facilities. Approval has been given to the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation for setting up an SEZ in the Agro Sector in Latur, Maharashtra.

(c) No such reports have been established.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Promotion of Handicrafts in Rajasthan

3645. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken to promote handicraft industry in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government proposes to accord special status to Rajasthan in this regard;

(c) if so, the time by which such status is likely to be accorded; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The schemes for development and promotion of Handicrafts sector being implemented by the Government in the country including the state of Rajasthan are Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastship Vikas Yojana; Marketing Support and Services; Design & Technology Up-gradation; Export Promotion; Research & Development; Training & Extension including Special Handicrafts Training Project; Bima Yojana; Workshed and Credit Guarantee.

(b) and (c) No Sir, At present there is no proposal to accord special status to Rajasthan in this regard;

(d) As far as Handicraft sector is concerned the Government does not accord special status to any State. However, requirement of the sector is met through need based interventions of developmental schemes.

[*English*]

Economic Empowerment of Women

3646. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the progress achieved in the economic empowerment of women under the Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development of Women (TREAD) Scheme in the country particularly in Gujarat State, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): The State-wise details of Government of India (Gol) grant provided so far to the Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Training Institutions for capacity building and trade related training activities respectively, alongwith the loans sanctioned by the nodal bank, i.e., Canara Bank, for undertaking entrepreneurial activities under the "Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD)" scheme are provided in the enclosed Statement.

In Gujarat, an amount of Rs. 2.98 lakh has been sanctioned as Central grant to an NGO, namely, Sarpdad Gram Vikas Mandal, Rajkot, for capacity building and taking up of entrepreneurial activities of (approximately) 100 women entrepreneurs. Canara Bank has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 6.65 lakh to Sarpdad Gram Vikas Mandal, Rajkot for setting up the project for manufacture of ladies garments.

Statement

State-wise progress under the TREAD scheme

Sl.No.	State	Gol grant for training activities and/or for capacity building (Rs. lakh)	Loan sanctioned by nodal bank for entrepreneurial activities (Rs. lakh)	Estimated no. of beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	10.60	—	275
2.	Delhi	1.00	2.50	72

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Uttaranchal	10.00	—	144
4.	West Bengal	5.00	26.82	235
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5.00	—	100
6.	Tamilnadu	14.73	62.46	640
7.	Uttar Pradesh	10.00	—	200
8.	Karnataka	10.00	50.00	19
9.	Gujarat	2.98	6.65	100
Total		69.31	148.43	1785

Vacant Posts in Central Universities

3647. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of teachers posts are lying vacant in central universities and colleges;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The power to make appointment to the teaching posts in a Central University vests in its Executive Council, which acts on the recommendations of Selection Committees constituted in terms of the relevant statutory provisions. Since this is a continuous process, it would not be possible to indicate any time frame by which the vacant posts of teachers will be filled in. While the Government's role is limited to providing the Visitor's nominees on the Selection Committee, the Government, through the UGC, keeps reminding the Central Universities to fill the vacant posts.

Terrorist Activities in Jammu & Kashmir

3648. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a group of militants killed some Hindus villagers in Doda and Udhampur district of Jammu on May 1, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government and Union Government have failed to protect the lives and properties of persons staying in J&K;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has sought a detailed report of incident from the State Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and compensation to be paid to the affected families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the report of the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, in two separate incidents, terrorists killed 32 persons and injured 10 others in the Jammu region.

In the first incident on April 30, 2006 at Lalon Gala Dhok, PS Basantgarh, Udhampur, 77 suspected Lashkar-e Toiba (LeT) terrorists kidnapped and killed 13 persons who had gone to graze their cattle.

In the second incident, in the intervening night of April 30/May 1, 2006, 12-13 suspected LeT terrorists at village Kulhand, Doda killed 19 persons besides injuring 10 others.

(c) to (e) The Government in tandem with the State Government, have adopted a multi-pronged approach, to contain cross-border terrorism/infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir, which includes, *inter-alia*, strengthening of border management and multi-tiered and multi-modal deployment along International Border/Line of Control and near the ever changing infiltration routes, construction of border fencing, improved technology, weapons and equipment for security forces, improved intelligence and operational coordination and synergising intelligence flow to check infiltration and pro-active action against the terrorists within the State. The counter terrorism/infiltration efforts are reviewed periodically at various levels in the State Government (including the two Unified Headquarters headed by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir) and in the Central Government.

According to the report received from the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, *ex-gratia*/relief of Rs. One lakh stands sanctioned and paid in favour of the next of kins of the persons killed in Doda and Udhampur terrorist attacks. Besides, one month's free rations have also been sanctioned and distributed among the families who have lost one or more members and the families in which one or more members have been injured.

FDI in Textile Sector

3649. SHRI D. VITTAL RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details on the FDI received in textiles sector in India;

(b) FDI targeted during each of the last three years and received from each country;

(c) whether FIs are keen to invest in textile firms in India particularly in bed linen and terry towels; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) Government has been initiating policy measures to facilitate India becoming a global textile hub; and the industry has also started investing in modernization and expansion of capacity along the entire value chain of textile industry to exploit fully the opportunities available in the quota free scenario. No specific target is fixed for FDI. However, it has been the Government's endeavour to attract more and more FDI. The Government has permitted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)/Non-Resident Indian (NRI)/Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCB) investment upto 100% under automatic route in the textile sector.

A statement showing flow FDI in the textile sector country-wise during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Indian capital market is endowed with strong regulatory framework which is conducive to greater longer term Foreign Institutions Investors (FIIs) participation. The FII base their investment decisions having regard *inter-alia* to the growth prospects of the sector.

Statement

Country-wise FDI inflow in the textile sector during the last three years.

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

Sl.No.	Country	2003-04 Apr.-Mar.	2004-05 Apr.-Mar.	2005-06 Apr.-Feb.	Total (Apr. 2003 to Feb. 2006)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Australia	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.25
2.	Belgium	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02
3.	Canada	1.36	0.00	0.00	1.36
4.	Cayman Island	0.00	0.00	9.00	9.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Channel Island	0.00	0.00	1.25	1.25
6.	Denmark	0.25	9.00	15.21	24.46
7.	France	0.00	0.00	2.72	2.72
8.	Germany	0.02	7.09	0.01	7.12
9.	Hong Kong	0.52	4.95	4.67	10.14
10.	Ireland	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
11.	Italy	0.39	0.28	24.61	25.28
12.	Japan	0.00	0.00	118.26	118.26
13.	Lebanon	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
14.	Korea (South)	5.64	0.00	0.01	5.64
15.	Luxembourg	13.21	0.00	24.75	37.96
16.	Mauritius	0.00	88.25	55.36	143.61
17.	NRI	0.00	74.96	0.10	75.06
18.	Nepal	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.35
19.	Netherlands	1.46	0.01	46.05	47.51
20.	Singapore	0.00	0.88	0.00	0.88
21.	South Africa	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01
22.	Sri Lanka	0.00	0.00	1.01	1.01
23.	Sweden	5.00	3.50	0.00	8.50
24.	Switzerland	5.70	1.67	0.11	7.48
25.	Thailand	0.00	2.49	0.00	2.49
26.	U.A.E.	2.36	0.00	1.61	3.97
27.	U.K.	1.27	0.08	8.01	9.36
28.	U.S.A.	5.45	2.17	2.43	10.04
29.	British Virginia	0.00	0.00	6.51	6.51
30.	Unindicated Country	0.00	1.16	34.00	35.16
Grand Total		42.84	196.84	355.92	595.61

Source: Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

Banks in Nepal Helping ISI

3650. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the banks in Nepal are helping ISI of Pakistan in money transactions to terrorists through their banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There are no recent inputs to suggest assistance/facilitation by banks in Nepal to ISI of Pakistan for transactions to terrorists.

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

(c) India and Nepal have bilateral mechanisms to discuss security concerns and keep these under review.

[Translation]

Licences to Hawkers

3651. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five star hotels and road side hawkers who were given licences by New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on the condition of sharing the revenue are irregular in paying their revenue share;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of five star hotels and road side hawkers who were provided land by the New Delhi Municipal Council;

(d) the details of such five star hotels;

(e) whether such five star hotels have violated the terms of licence and have established commercial complexes adjacent to their five star hotels on NDMC land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) New Delhi Municipal Council has licensed land on revenue sharing basis to two five-star hotels, namely, M/s. C.J. International Hotels Limited (Hotel Le Meridian) and M/s. Taj Hotels Limited (Hotel Taj Mansingh). There has been some dispute in regard to payment of licence fee to New Delhi Municipal Council by M/s. C.J. International Hotels Limited. As far as road side hawkers are concerned, there is no policy of New Delhi Municipal Council to share revenue with them.

(c) and (d) New Delhi Municipal Council has provided land to the following four five star hotels:

(i) M/s. C.J. International Hotels Limited (Hotel Le Meridian);

(ii) M/s. Taj Hotels Limited (Hotel Taj Mansingh);

(iii) M/s. Bharat Hotels Limited (Bharat Hotel); and

(iv) M/s. Sunair Hotels Limited (Sunair Hotel).

No fixed site is permitted for hawkers.

(e) and (f) There has been a dispute between New Delhi Municipal Council and M/s. C.J. International Hotels Limited about violation of terms of licence relating to payment of licence fee. However, as per court order, M/s. C.J. International Hotels Limited is making payment of Rs. 1 crore per month to New Delhi Municipal Council. No violation has been observed in the other cases.

Population of SC/ST

3652. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the population of SCs/STs in Chhattisgarh is stated to have decreased as per census 2001, as compared to that depicted in the census of 1991;

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

(c) whether the Government is likely to conduct census for a second time;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be conducted;

(e) whether two Lok Sabha seats and five Legislative Assembly seats reserved for SCs/STs have been declared as general category seats;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) steps proposed to be taken to dereserve these seats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total population of Scheduled Castes (SCs) in Chhattisgarh has in fact increased from 2,148,358 in 1991 to 2,418,722 in 2001. The population of Scheduled Tribes (STs) has increased from 5,717,124 in 1991 to 6,616,596 in 2001 in the State.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) to (g) The State of Chhattisgarh has been carved out from the undivided State of Madhya Pradesh which had a total of 75 seats reserved for STs in the Legislative Assembly. After the reorganization of States, 41 of these ST seats were included in the territory of Madhya Pradesh and 34 in Chhattisgarh. In the present delimitation exercise, which is being done based on population figures of Census 2001, the number of SCs/STs seats are to be determined in proportion to their population in the State. As per the draft notification issued by the Delimitation Commission, Chhattisgarh will have a reduction of 5 ST seats in the Legislative Assembly. There is no change proposed in respect of seats reserved for SCs.

In the Lok Sabha, for the same reason, there is a proposed reduction of one SC seat and one ST seat in the State of Chhattisgarh. The Delimitation Commission has reportedly received representations against the proposed reduction of one ST seat. The Commission would be deliberating on this with the Associate Members and the State Election Commissioner of Chhattisgarh before the final decision is notified in this regard.

[English]

Funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3653. SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

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

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

(b) whether the amount was utilised by the State Government for the purpose for which it was provided; and

(c) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) A statement giving details of the amount provided to the State/UT Governments including Bihar and Rajasthan under various schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Departments of Elementary Education and Literacy and Secondary and Higher Education) During the years 2000-01 to 2004-05 is enclosed.

Fresh grants are generally released only after receiving the Utilization Certificates in respect of grants released during the preceding year.

Statement

Releases to States/UTs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2000-2001 (Plan)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the States/UTs.	SSA	OB	N.F.E.	NGO's for NFE	T.E.	DPEP	Mahila Samakhya	Lok Jumbish	V.E.	Sc.Ed.	Ed.Tech.	Env.Ed.	IEDC	Class	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1. Andhra Pradesh	63.30	7751.60	2705.55	641.46	789.45	7700.00	170.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2. Arunachal Pradesh	34.32	115.64	0.90	0.00	30.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	46.98	0.00	0.00	3.99	0.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	1.60
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.74	531.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.73	61.29	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	36.22	0.00	0.00	38.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.69	0.00
Total (States/UTs)		7556.68	43696.22	11728.72	3734.48	18644.71	84906.00	860.50	187.00	4071.95	1899.84	1085.45	192.93	1490.61	424.38
Total Approved Outlay		35000.00	40000.00	30000.00		21953.00	96900.00	1000.00	5610.00	3500.00	2100.00	1600.00	300.00	1500.00	3000.00

Legends:

SSA: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

TE: Teacher Education

Ed.Tech.: Education Technology

OB: Operation Blackboard

DPEP: District Primary Education Programme

Env.Ed.: Environmental Education

NFE: Non-Formal Education

VE: Vocational Education

IEDC: Integrated Education for disabled Children

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation

Sc.ED: Science Education

Class: Computer Literacy & Studies in Schools

Releases to States/UTs Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2000-2001 (Plan)

1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Name of the States/UTs.	Yoga	Literacy campaigns & OR	Shramik vidya-peeth	Continuing Education	Voluntary Agencies for AE	Madarsa Education	AIPEBM	App. of Hindi Tchr	Dev. of Sarak.	National Schil	Schl. losty. from Non-H Spk. States	Schl. For Tal. Chim	Total CSS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	25.00	177.25	380.00	44.72	15.12	0.00	0.00	39.99	0.00	0.00	37.89	20690.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	280.88
3.	Assam	0.00	94.62	21.00	10.00	40.52	0.00	0.00	538.40	2.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	7866.39
4.	Bihar	0.00	211.28	77.25	12.50	118.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	6340.23
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	514.50
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.12	136.78
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	94.61	879.04	29.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.95	0.00	1.78	0.00	10599.01
8.	Haryana	0.00	20.06	40.75	7.50	35.36	0.00	45.90	0.00	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	4316.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.35	25.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	116.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	2495.95
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	26.00	0.00	47.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1805.80
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	35.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	93.43
12.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	132.00	2367.23	38.00	51.12	38.32	0.00	30.00	0.00	1.35	0.00	25886.43
13.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	69.00	606.25	31.00	15.12	0.00	0.00	34.83	0.00	5.62	0.00	6399.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	98.65	145.20	12.50	86.75	220.96	20.36	0.00	76.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	26736.17
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	90.80	138.00	12.50	75.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.56	0.00	7.32	0.00	6049.58
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.61	0.00	0.00	100.00	2.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	628.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.00
32.	Daman and Diu	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.00
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	462.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.37	0.00	3.64	101.34	1.60
34.	Lakshadweep	12.68	0.00	0.00	4.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	48.37	38.17	0.00	37.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.49	0.00
Total (States/UTs)		49849.06	49757.50	6122.96	16196.29	119234.00	763.00	5000.00	3680.00	1745.63	1.33	256.06	2131.41	7036.59
Total Approved Outlay		50000.00	52000.00	40000.00	22000.00	110000.00	1100.00	5900.00	4270.00	1800.00	1370.00	260.00	2140.00	8450.00

Legends:

SSA: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

TE: Teacher Education

Ed.Tech.: Education Technology

OB: Operation Blackboard

DPEP: District Primary Education Programme

Env.Ed.: Environmental Education

EGS & AIE: Edn. Guarantee Scheme
& Alternative Innovative Education

VE: Vocational Education

IEDC: Integrated Education for Disabled Children

Sc.Ed: Science Education

Class: Computer Literacy & Studies in Schools

Releases to States/UTs Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2001-2002 (Plan)

1	2	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Name of the States/UTs.		Yoga campaigns & OR	Literacy Shikshan Sansthan	Jan Shikshan Sansthan	Connuing Education for AE	Support to NGO's Education for AE	Madarsa Education	AIPEBM	App. of Hindi Tchr	App. of Urdu Tchr	Dev. of Stl.	National Schl	Schl. For Tal. Chlm.	Total CSS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	257.28	527.28	273.16	12.51	300.00	0.00	0.00	35.55	0.00	0.00	18283.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	151.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	554.63
3.	Assam	0.00	22.69	23.20	10.00	50.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.56	0.00	0.00	10749.71
4.	Bihar	0.00	570.10	50.22	477.73	165.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8760.34
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	60.15	22.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4024.60
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	16.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.00	188.52
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	138.76	230.94	29.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.00	0.00	0.00	9173.61
8.	Haryana	0.00	25.80	48.83	7.60	35.12	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	9670.05
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	107.50	37.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3819.58
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	15.09	0.00	69.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	408.79
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	119.43	69.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3216.25
12.	Karnataka	1.20	0.00	169.53	628.82	40.30	0.00	55.72	378.35	0.00	42.94	0.00	0.00	25214.32
13.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	110.73	623.75	40.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.46	0.00	0.00	4954.01
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5.00	75.38	213.91	12.50	100.98	147.18	30.00	0.00	0.00	179.66	0.00	0.00	31182.48

1	2	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	76.18	196.69	1742.67	109.46	0.00	400.00	0.00	0.00	22.08	0.00	0.00	14620.88
16.	Manipur	1.67	0.00	0.00	7.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	133.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	842.58
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.50	26.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.04	1039.21
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	13.00	118.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	336.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1151.50
19.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.96
20.	Orissa	0.00	155.98	140.97	585.83	43.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	13510.19
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	22.20	10.00	27.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.00	0.00	8682.13
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	40.63	162.36	412.50	42.92	0.00	112.71	0.00	0.00	257.20	0.00	0.00	18623.98
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	72.57	0.00	0.00	332.42
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	18.00	153.06	1911.38	55.18	0.00	77.31	0.00	0.00	2.25	0.00	0.00	14221.71
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	383.05	38.00	38.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.80	0.00	1493.14
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	673.09	511.59	815.90	113.59	0.37	78.60	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	57900.04
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	44.47	16.00	237.11	65.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6274.79
28.	West Bengal	17.53	118.10	96.37	650.84	34.22	1.40	224.50	0.00	0.00	22.89	1.24	0.00	11088.46
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.49
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	26.88	21.99	6.00	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.68	1.92	0.0	67.83
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.72
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.22	12.49
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	96.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	700.85
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.31
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.71	185.86
Total (States/UTs)		25.40	2000.00	2500.00	9563.01	1500.00	201.07	1528.84	1000.00	100.00	1118.98	4.04	2.17	281315.34
Total Approved Outlay		30.00	2700.00	2500.00	10850.00	1500.00	1050.00	2000.00	1000.00	100.00	1050.00	200.00	100.00	322370.00

Legends:

OR: Operation Restoration

AE: Adult Education

AIPEBM: Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities

Schl. for Tal. Chlrm: Scholarship for Talented Children

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
25.	Tripura	1162.18	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	20245.40	0.00	1965.27	23900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttaranchal	2067.69	0.00	0.00	2000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	10867.61	0.00	98.01	7850.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Delhi	161.27	0.00	468.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	19.98	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	116.46	0.00	58.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	1046.68	0.00	63.97	825.00	752.00	6000.00	1502.00	2457.00	2332.00	13303.00	2203.00
Total (States/UTs)		156875.00	4428.34	16280.00	128705.00	752.00	6000.00	1502.00	2457.00	2332.00	13303.00	2203.00

Legende:

SSA: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

DPEP: District Primary Education Programme

OB: Operation Blackboard

TE: Teacher Education

*Releases to States/UTs Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2002-03 (Plan)
in the Department of Secondary and Higher Education*

(Rs. in lakh)

1	2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Name of the States/UTs.	V.E.	Quality Impmnt. in Schls	I.C.T. in Schools	IEDC	AIMMP	App. of Lang. Teach.	Dev. of Skt.	National Scholarship Scheme	Total CSS Both Depts.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.32	968.51	14.73	27.51	0.00	25819.17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	172.19	0.00	0.00	1646.39
3.	Assam	0.00	584.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	276.20	2.70	0.00	17918.25
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14634.47
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	108.60	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9476.92
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	125.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	172.64
7.	Gujarat	467.58	0.00	0.00	796.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21899.17

1	2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8.	Haryana	329.00	0.00	39.30	30.33	0.00	0.00	1.08	0.42	7597.88
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.42	0.00	4470.52
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.03	0.00	2000.88
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7344.32
12.	Karnataka	0.00	500.00	0.00	517.02	0.00	167.04	23.71	0.00	15865.57
13.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	376.73	0.00	95.46	5.96	0.00	4586.67
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	571.12	205.98	0.00	757.97	0.00	26809.22
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.50	0.00	0.00	14.52	0.00	20580.32
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	129.15	0.00	248.44	0.00	0.00	476.43
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	906.59
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.58	0.00	165.92	0.00	0.00	2101.87
19.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1216.45
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.56	0.00	0.00	17.90	0.00	10179.01
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	5767.00
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.66	0.00	0.00	10.53	12.39	22611.55
23.	Sikkim	291.48	0.00	72.50	12.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	808.16
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	72.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.23	0.00	17390.97
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.20	45.72	0.00	6.89	0.04	1283.03
26.	Uttar Pradesh	375.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1624.37	0.00	16.78	0.00	48126.82
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	270.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4337.69
28.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	469.84	47.61	0.00	0.00	23.82	0.00	19356.89
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.49
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.34	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	13.34
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	10.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.18
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	12.40
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.57	0.10	831.51
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.98
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	175.55
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	24.94	406.83	1422.70	549.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32888.32
Total (States/UTs)		1488.00	1880.00	2452.00	3384.41	2844.58	1139.98	1122.62	23.69	349172.62

Legends:

AIMMP: Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernization Programme

VE: Vocational Education

I.C.T.: Information Communication Technologies

I E D C: Integrated Education for Disabled Children

App. of Lang. Teach: Appointment of Language Teachers

Dev. of Skt.: Development of Sanskrit.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
25.	Tripura	2752.39	144.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	34043.30	1661.04	11960.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttaranchal	3522.02	787.72	1152.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	16748.23	62.50	8140.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	283.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	224.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	447.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Delhi	1959.62	371.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	28.31	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	141.06	52.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	3391.89	37.13	265.42	435.00	12500.00	1000.00	2500.00	2585.97	14449.77	2450.00
Total (States/UTs)		273230.00	15000.00	79318.89	435.00	12500.00	1000.00	2500.00	2585.97	14449.77	2450.00

Legends:

SSA: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

TE: Teacher Education

DPEP: District Primary Education Programme

*Releases to States/UTs Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2003-04 (Plan)
in the Department of Secondary and Higher Education*

(Rs. in lakhs)

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Name of the States/UTs.	V.E.	Quality Improvement in Schools	I E D C	I C T in Schs.	Access with Equity	AIMMP	App. of Lang. Teach.	Dev. of Skt.	National Scholarship Scheme	Total CSS Both Deptts.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	74.47	150.0	217.72	1026.04	92.52	0.00	0.00	22378.51
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	128.93	0.00	0.00	894.84
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	20.78	0.00	26.09	0.00	0.00	2.43	0.00	12832.93
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.00	10.00	79.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	32541.67
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	21.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7560.99
6.	Goa	0.00	1.92	3.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	59.80

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	930.90	120.00	9.81	0.00	0.00	5.40	0.00	16109.31
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	203.47	0.00	4.67	996.62	0.00	3.72	0.96	9194.07
9.	Himachal Pradesh	27.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	121.44	0.00	6461.72
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	61.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	5408.30
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	3.33	0.00	16.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18644.04
12.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	541.48	0.00	67.70	0.00	252.95	102.35	0.00	12412.64
13.	Kerala	247.20	348.60	316.81	47.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	730.50	0.00	7342.56
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	815.21	0.00	9.00	0.00	0.00	3.58	0.00	37129.90
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	96.04	150.00	10.15	0.00	0.00	7.37	0.00	21841.36
16.	Manipur	47.65	0.00	71.97	0.00	18.70	0.00	80.00	6.44	0.00	845.90
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	207.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	1053.66
18.	Mizoram	8.79	0.88	19.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	391.48	0.00	0.00	1993.12
19.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	27.54	0.00	14.07	0.00	164.40	0.00	0.00	501.92
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	184.82	200.00	135.07	168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20519.36
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.85	7093.59
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	39.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35159.94
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.85	0.00	333.72
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	171.09	0.00	11.20	0.00	0.00	8.07	0.00	11244.38
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	29.90	0.00	0.00	48.96	0.00	6.80	0.55	2982.80
26.	Uttar Pradesh	375.00	0.00	19.53	130.00	111.64	516.78	0.00	12.76	0.00	48830.05
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5461.74
28.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	37.66	0.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	12.29	0.00	25007.68
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	14.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	297.97
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	3.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.52	229.40
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	447.42
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.35
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	195.27	0.00	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	2528.61
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.31
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		196.76
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	6.46	544.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	454.48	0.00	40630.02
Total (States/UTs)		713.00	1113.00	3846.97	900.00	671.72	2900.00	1110.28	1479.00	15.74	416219.34

Legends:

AIMMP: Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernization Programme

VE: Vocational Education in Secondary Education

I.C.T. Information Communication Technologies

I E D C: Integrated Education for Disabled Children

App. of Lang. Teach: Appointment of Language Teachers

Dev. of Skt.: Development of Sanskrit.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
25.	Tripura	4703.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	87761.00	2453.87	10616.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttaranchal	9144.70	0.00	1370.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	46024.36	205.00	6758.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	272.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	447.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	111.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Delhi	0.00	540.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	12.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	225.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	2680.85	0.00	0.00	1475.00	2941.00	5204.00	2539.14	2782.07	15546.47	1793.82
Total (States/UTs)		513975.29	20253.38	69394.86	1475.00	2941.00	5204.00	2539.14	2782.07	15546.47	1793.82

Legends:

SSA: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

TE: Teacher Education

DPEP: District Primary Education Programme

*Releases to States/UTs Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes during 2004-05 (Plan)
in the Department of Secondary and Higher Education*

(Rs. in lakhs)

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1.	Andhra Pradesh	500.55	0.00	0.00	527.59	0.00	0.00	120.40	0.00	0.00	49132.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	198.13	0.00	0.00	3207.13
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21747.49
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43.20	0.00	0.00	36863.76
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	21805.16
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	785.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.40	5.88	0.00	19115.64

1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8.	Haryana	67.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	1.20	0.00	0.00	13774.98
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.81	0.00	6247.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	599.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8346.87
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.80	0.00	0.00	26007.77
12.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	772.91	389.52	0.00	0.00	406.60	0.00	0.00	29488.19
13.	Kerala	1425.00	0.00	337.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.20	0.00	0.00	11348.05
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	118.57	0.00	0.00	478.84	1.80	285.51	0.00	47841.78
15.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	123.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.74	0.00	0.00	36934.00
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	116.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1502.34
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	1.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3082.38
18.	Mizoram	150.00	64.37	61.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	330.82	0.00	0.00	4229.57
19.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	7.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2418.97
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.17	0.00	25884.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	3332.80
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	87.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.40	0.00	0.00	36943.72
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43.83	0.00	1044.08
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.72	1.20	4.95	0.00	28669.88
25.	Tripura	66.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.72	0.00	12.78	1.28	4830.40
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1229.72	34.80	29.04	8.42	102132.85
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10514.82
28.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	164.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.60	0.00	0.00	53416.42
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	7.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.00	281.03
30.	Chandigarh	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.00	3.34	0.00	459.01
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	111.91
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03
33.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	4.58	0.00	550.42
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.03
35.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.10	225.87
36.	NGO's/Other agencies etc.	4.54	457.28	1107.04	1021.58	417.70	0.00	0.00	202.39	0.00	38152.88
Total (States/UTs)		2820.69	521.65	3657.51	1938.69	417.70	2205.72	1323.49	724.74	21.81	649537.03

Legende:

AIMMP: Area Intensive and Madrasa Modernization Programme

VE: Vocational Education in Secondary Education

I.C.T. Information Communication Technologies

I E D C: Integrated Education for Disabled Children

App. of Lang. Teach: Appointment of Language Teachers

Dev. of Skt.: Development of Sanskrit.

FCI Scheme for Rubber Board

3654. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Flexible Complementing Scheme (FCS) has not been implemented for scientists working at the Rubber Research Institute of India under the Rubber Board;

(b) if so, the reasons for delaying the scheme in implementing the same;

(c) whether there was any objection from any department against implementation of FCS at Rubber Research Institute; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) the Flexible complementing Scheme (FCS) has not yet been extended to Scientists working at the Rubber Research Institute of India under the Rubber Board.

(b) to (d) The Government has recently constituted a High Level Peer Review Committee to advise on policy issues relevant to FCS. The recommendation of this Committee is awaited before a final view is taken in the matter.

[Translation]

Functioning of Civic Bodies

3655. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted review on the functioning of civic bodies in Delhi during the month of February, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any concrete decision after the said deliberations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the scheme for translating the decision into action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) There was no formal review as such but the issues of restructuring of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the existence of multiplicity of institutions in Delhi were discussed. Based on the discussions, the Government has set up two committees to look into the issue.

[English]

Standard of Education in Engineering Colleges

3656. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is a dearth of well qualified teachers in many Government/private engineering colleges to produce high calibre I.T. engineers to meet the ever increasing demand for manpower;

(b) if so, whether the Government has made any study in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen the quality engineering education in Government/private colleges in order to develop the hard skills as well as soft skills of the students of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by the AICTE, there is a shortage of senior faculty especially in the IT related branches. In order to attract and retain bright, talented and competent professionals as faculty members, the AICTE has various faculty development schemes as well as other research and institutional development schemes. Under the Emeritus Fellowship scheme, the experience and expertise of superannuated faculty is utilised. The objective of Visiting Professorship scheme is to supplement the expertise lacking in the host institutes. The working ages in case of Professors has been increased from 65 to 70 years for next two years. For the year 2006-07, the cadre ratio of 1:2:4 for Professor, Assistant Professor and Lecturer has been relaxed to 1:2:6.

Upgradation of Technical Education

3657. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether IT association NASSCOM has been emphasizing the urgent need for educational institutions to prepare their students adequately for the job markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the specific measures are being taken by the Government to upgrade technical education?

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

(b) For extending India's leadership in the IT and BPO industries, the NASSCOM Report has mentioned the following:

- The global ITeS & IT market (off-shored and domestic) was \$1184 billion in 2002.
- Market expected to grow by 11-12% from 2003 to 2012.
- India's share of global ITeS and IT market could increase from 0.8% in 2002 to 4.4% in 2012, resulting in revenue generation of US\$ 128 billion by 2012.
- Total manpower requirement/employment generation estimated at 4 to 6 million people.

(c) (i) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched in December, 2002 the "Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India (TEQIP)" which aims to improve quality of technical education and enhancing existing capacities of the institutions. The Central Plan component of TEQIP is Rs. 350 crores. In the first and second cycle of the programme, 114 State institutions and 18 Centrally Funded institutions are participating. The programme will benefit 10,000 graduating students each year by imparting superior skills and training and will also enhance the professional development of 1,000 teachers.

(ii) After the successful completion of Technicians Education I and Technician Education II projects launched in the Country with the assistance of World Bank, for upgradation of Polytechnics in the country, the Government has launched another project called "Technician Education III" with the assistance of the World Bank to expand capacity and improve the quality and efficiency of technician education to meet the specific economic needs of each States. The project has three main components, namely—Capacity expansion, Quality improvement and Efficiency improvement.

(iii) For upgradation of promising institutions to the level of IITs, the following seven institutions have been identified for upgradation:

- (1) Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi;
- (2) University College of Engineering combined with the University College of Technology, both belonging to Osmania University, Hyderabad;
- (3) Bengal Engineering College, Howrah;
- (4) Jadavpur University's Engineering and Technology Departments;
- (5) Zakir Hussain College of Engineering, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh;
- (6) Andhra University College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam; and
- (7) Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin.

To start with the upgradation programme, funds have been allotted to the Institutes during 2006-07.

(iv) The Government has also enhanced allocation of both Plan and Non Plan grants to the centrally funded technical institutes for upgrading technical education.

[Translation]

Setting up of Renewable Energy Club

3658. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up renewable energy club in all engineering colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of assistance the Government has decided to provide to each engineering college for this purpose;

(d) the purpose of setting up renewable energy clubs; and

(e) the number of States where renewable energy clubs are proposed to be set up in engineering colleges at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources has decided to support Renewable Energy Clubs in all such Engineering Colleges which are recognized by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) depending upon availability of funds. The Ministry has decided to provide a financial support of Rs. 25,000/- per annum to each Renewable Energy Club. The purpose of supporting Renewable Energy Clubs is to create mass awareness about new and Renewable Sources of Energy, its various systems and devices among students in all the States/Union Territories.

[English]

Separate Development Board

3659. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Maharashtra Government to constitute a separate statutory development board for Konkan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial allocation for the proposed board is likely to be made from the allocations meant for the development board for the rest of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the finding of the Government?

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

(b) On the basis of resolution passed by the State Legislature on 15.12.2005 that for the removal of the backlog and for the rapid development of this region, the creation of a Statutory Development Board for Konkan is necessary, the Government of Maharashtra has urged the Government of India to take necessary steps to amend Article 371 (2) (a) of the Constitution for the said purpose. Views of the Planning Commission have been sought on the proposal.

(c) and (d) The question of financial allocation for the proposed board for Konkan can be considered only after a final view is taken on the need for constituting a separate development board for Konkan.

Promotion of Gems and Jewellery Industries

3660. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activity of lapidary of Gem stones comes under the ambit of Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote these industries as Gems and Jewelleries are the one of highest foreign exchange earners of the country;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to develop this programme under the KBK programme in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts through the Planning Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), a credit-linked subsidy scheme for setting up village industries and implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, gems and jewellery projects are promoted. During the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05), 138 gems and jewellery units have been established in various parts of the country. Of these, two units have been established in Kalahandi and one each in Bolangir and Koraput Districts of Orissa.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Extra Co-curricular Activities In
Central Universities**

3661. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to charge sports and extra co-curricular activities in the central universities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the same purpose and disbursement thereof during the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The individual Acts of the Central Universities empower the respective Universities to demand and receive such fees and other charges as may be prescribed by the Ordinances. Accordingly, the Central Universities charge tuition and other fees, including those for sports and extra co-curricular activities, in accordance with the provisions in this behalf laid down in the Ordinances of the respective Universities. Against the broad category-wise Non-Plan grants for maintenance provided to the Central Universities by the University Grants Commission, the Central Universities themselves make activity-wise allocations.

Impact of FDI in Economic Reforms

3662. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of economic reforms on the inflow of FDI;

(b) the number of surveys carried out by different departments on an industrial establishment during the last two years alongwith its effect on industrial growth;

(c) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to bring New Industrial Policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Economic reforms have had a positive

impact on FDI flows. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows from August 1991 till March 2006 are to the tune of US\$38.49 billion.

(b) Inspections of industrial establishments are undertaken as per the provisions in various applicable laws and regulations. Inspection requirements are periodically reviewed and rationalised with the objective that inspections do not hamper industrial growth.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for a New Industrial Policy presently under consideration of the Government.

Verification of Caste Certificate

3663. SHRI LALMANI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University has received some representations to verify Caste Certificates of Students admitted during the last three years;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, no such representation has been received by the University.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shift System in KV Schools

3664. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas where in second shift has been introduced due to increase in enrolment capacity of students during the last three years and current year, State-wise and District-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): During last three years, second shifts were introduced and made functional in 44 Kendriya Vidyalayas. The State-wise and District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Second shift has not been introduced in any Kendriya Vidyalaya so far during the academic session 2006-07.

Statement

List Indicating the names of Kendriya Vidyalayas (State-wise and District-wise) where second shifts have been sanctioned and made functional during the year 2004-05 & 2005-06

Name of State	Sl.No.	Name of Kendriya Vidyalayas	Name of District
1	2	3	4
Delhi	1.	New Friends Centre	Delhi
	2.	AGCR Colony	Delhi
	3.	No. 3, Delhi Cantt.	Delhi
	4.	AFS Tughlakabad	Delhi
	5.	Sector 8, R.K. Puram	Delhi
	6.	Andrews Ganj	Delhi
	7.	Pushp Vihar	Delhi
	8.	Gole Market	Delhi
	9.	Vikaspuri	Delhi
	10.	Janakpuri	Delhi
	11.	Delhi Cantt. No. 1	Delhi
	12.	Delhi Cantt. No. 2	Delhi
	13.	Sector 8, Rohini	Delhi
	14.	Dwarka	Delhi
	15.	Lawrence Road	Delhi
Uttar Pradesh	16.	VKV Ghaziabad	Gaziabad
	17.	Noida	Gautam Budh Nagar
	18.	No. 1, Armapur, Kanpur	Kanpur Nagar
	19.	Kanpur Cantt.	Kanpur Nagar
	20.	AMC Lucknow	Lucknow
Karnataka	21.	Belgaum Cantt.	Belgaum
Madhya Pradesh	22.	No. 3, Bhopal	Bhopal
	23.	No. 1, Indore	Indore
	24.	Chhindwara	Chhindwara

1	2	3	4
	25.	No. 1, Gwalior	Gwalior
Jharkhand	26.	Hinoo, Ranchi	Ranchi
Orissa	27.	No. 1, Bhubaneswar	Khurda
Haryana	28.	Rohtak	Rohtak
Chandigarh	29.	Sector 47, Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Kerala	30.	Pattom, Trivandrum	Trivandrum
	31.	No. 1, Calicut	Calicut
	32.	Adoor	Pathanamthita
Uttaranchal	33.	IIP Dehradun	Dehradun
	34.	Haldwani	Nainital
Rajasthan	35.	No. 5, Jaipur	Jaipur
Maharashtra	36.	AFS, Thane	Thane
	37.	AFS, Ojhar	Nasik
Bihar	38.	Kankarbagh Patna	Patna
	39.	Bailey Road	Patna
	40.	Danapur	Patna
	41.	Muzaffarpur	Muzaffarpur
Chhattisgarh	42.	Raipur No. 1	Raipur
	43.	Raipur No. 2	Raipur
Gujarat	44.	No. 1, Shahibagh, Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad

Handloom Articles

3665. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of eleven textile articles reserved for exclusive production in handloom sector;

(b) whether powerloom and mill sectors are illegally manufacturing textile items reserved for handloom sector;

(c) if so, measures taken to protect the interest of handloom sector; and

(d) the number of powerloom and mill sectors booked in the matter and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 dated 29.3.1985 was enacted with a view to protect the interests of the handloom weavers in the country. Under the Act, protection to the Act, protection to the handloom sector was extended by way of reserving certain textile articles for exclusive production by handlooms. Presently 11 textiles articles are reserved for exclusive production on handlooms vide Notification No. S.O. 557 (E) dated 26.7.96 as amended vide S.O. 408 (E) dated

2.6.99 and S.O. 405 (E) dated 25.4.2000. The 11 reserved textile articles under the Handloom Reservation Order, 1996 are:

- (1) **Saree:** made of cotton or silk with extra warp and/or extra weft design in border and/or heading and/or body including buttas containing in any coloured or grey or bleached yarn or zari or any other metallic/metallised yarn or has a solid coloured woven border. Tie and dye saree, warp wise and/or weft-wise made out of cotton or silk or art silk in any combination thereof irrespective of count of yarn or dimensions with or without extra warp or extra weft solid woven border.
- (2) **Dhoti:** made out of cotton or silk in any combination thereof woven with extra warp and/or extra weft design using more than 16 dents inclusive of selvedge in the border including solid coloured woven border and/or extra weft heading irrespective of count and dimensions.
- (3) **Towel, Gamcha and Angawastaram:** woven in plain, mat, twill, honeycomb, huckaback or a combination of these weaves with border or heading which is also jointly characterized by cotton or blends of cotton with any other fibre; and has different dimensions and may be white or coloured; and may contain decorative design when produced on jacquard.
- (4) **Lungi:** made out of cotton or art silk or in any combination thereof having a width of 110 cms. or above and 64 ends per inch and above and woven in check and/or stripe design using coloured yarn to form check and/or stripe pattern.
- (5) **Khes, Bedsheet, Bedcover, Counterpane, Furnishing (including tapestry, upholstery):** whatever they called in different parts of country, including double cloth and tie & dye, made out of cotton or art silk or in any combination thereof, woven with design pattern on multi-treadle loom and/or with dobby and/or jacquards up to 200 hooks in case of pure cotton warp and up to 400 hooks in case of combination of cotton & art silk warp, irrespective of count and dimensions.
- (6) **Jamakkalam Durry or Durret:** made out of cotton or art silk or wool or jute in any combination thereof using coarse count of single yarn or plies of resultant count having up to 24 ends/inch, woven with plain weave or twill weave or in combination of both twill and plain weave in any dimension.
- (7) **Dress Material:** including Mashru cloth and yarn tie & die cloth, made out of cotton or silk (including spun silk) or art silk or in any combination thereof woven with extra weft design in the border and/or body irrespective of count and dimensions.
- (8) **Barrack Blankets, Kambal or Kamblies:** Barrack Blankets made of wool of average 34 micron or coarser, with fibrous surface, produced by milling and raising; and includes barrack blankets made by using hand spun or mill spun woollen yarn from natural grey or black wool or its combination and produced in any size and in any weave.
 - (b) Kambal or kamblies means a thick fabric made of wool of average 34 micron or coarser, with fibrous surface, produced by milling and raising; and includes kambal or kamblies made by using hand spun or mill spun, worsted, woollen yarn or its combination in plain, stripe or check design.
- (9) **Shawi, Loi, Muffler, Pankhi etc.** shawls woven, with extra weft designs, using woollen or worsted or pashmina or pure silk yarn or cotton yarn and/or its combination or blends with other fibres i.e. natural and/or manmade/synthetic fibre thereof with dobby/jacquard design effect up to 400 hooks; using any type of woollen, worsted or pashmina or pure silk yarn or cotton yarn and/or in combination thereof; it is woven with any count of yarn; it is woven in any length, width and weight; and is commonly known by that name.
- (10) **Woollen Tweed:** is a piece of fabric woven by 100% pure woollen yarn for making coats, jackets and dress materials and is also jointly characterized by the check or stripe design irrespective of dimensions; and
It is produced in 3/1 twill weave.

(11) **Chaddar, Mekhala/Phanek:** is used for covering lower and/or upper part of the body and is manufactured from cotton or silk or art silk or in any combination thereof woven in plain/will weave with check or stripe design irrespective of count and dimensions and is characterized by a border and/or across border with extra warp and/or extra weft design.

(b) to (d) Under section 6, 7 & 8 of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985, the authorized officers not below the rank of Assistant Director are empowered to call powerloom units/mills and also book case of violation of the Act, in case any powerloom or mill found producing textiles articles in violation of the Act. Any violation under the Act is punishable for imprisonment of 6 months or fine upto Rs. 5000/- per powerloom or both under section 10 of the Act. In order to protect the interest of handloom sector, the targets are fixed by D.C. Handlooms and circulated to all the implementing agencies for inspection of power loom units and mills under annual action plan. The physical achievements on power loom inspections during 2005-06 is as under:

Sl.No.	Physical progress	2005-06
1.	Targets for Powerloom Inspections	1,91,387
2.	No. of Powerlooms Inspected	1,93,615

During 2005-06, implementing agencies have registered 33 FIRs and obtained 10 convictions for violation of the Act.

Lakshadweep Scheduled Tribes Constitution Amendment Bill

3666. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court of Kerala in their judgement on a writ appeal No. 1422/2005 has categorically stated that the children born to the ST Lakshadweep parents (both father and mother) outside the U.T. of Lakshadweep cannot be treated as Scheduled Tribe even on medical grounds etc., except by introducing Constitution Amendment bill in the Parliament to safeguard the interests of such unfortunate children;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce a Bill in both Houses of the Parliament to amend Lakshadweep Scheduled Tribe Constitution Amendment Bill to incorporate a saving clause so as to include the children born outside Lakshadweep as Scheduled Tribe on various grounds like medical, employment etc; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Bill is proposed to be introduced in both Houses of the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in their judgement dated 02.08.2005 in Writ Appeal No. 1422 of 2005 have found no ambiguity in the Presidential Order, 1951 viz. The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Union Territories) Order, 1951 in Part-I Lakshadweep. The Court has held that Presidential Order has employed a deeming provision leaving no room for doubt that only inhabitants of the Lakshadweep Islands who and both of whose parents were born in those Islands would alone fall within the Presidential Order 1951. The Hon'ble Court has also further observed that the Court cannot tinker with the Presidential Order, an exercise can be undertaken only by Parliament.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had introduced a Bill, namely "The Constitution (Schedule Tribes) (Union Territories) Order (Amendment) Bill 2003 to amend the list of Scheduled Tribes of Union Territory of Lakshadweep in the Rajya Sabha on 5th March, 2003 to provide that the children who are born to inhabitants in any other place in the mainland of India on account of cases referred by the competent medical authorities shall be deemed to be inhabitants born in the Islands if such children are brought to the Islands for inhabitation soon after their birth.

The Bill has been placed in Category "C".

Chinese Companies in Health Sector

3667. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Chinese companies have expressed their keenness to enter into Medical and Health Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any study on the impact of those Chinese companies entering into these vital areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The extant policy allows FDI up to 100% on the automatic route in the health sector. No proposal for FDI from Chinese companies in the Health sector is pending for approval of the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

NCM's Report on Communal Violence

3668. SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has submitted its report to the Government relating to communal violence in Aligarh;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government on the said report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report contained a brief account of incidents starting from the hot exchange of words between both minority and majority communities on 5.4.2006 on the eve of the Ram Navami and again on the following day at around 1200 noon which led to communal violence due to alleged non-response by the police present there. It has also been stated in the report that the incidents were due to some administrative lapse on the part of the State Government as well as total failure of district administration. The Report recommends, inter alia, action against the guilty, providing immediate relief and adequate financial assistance to the victims for their rehabilitation, constitution of a balanced police force in the State with proportionate representation of all communities including minorities, and a time-bound enquiry into the Aligarh incidents by a sitting Judge of a High Court.

(c) A copy of the Report has been sent by the Commission to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, who are primarily concerned with it, and the State Government is taking appropriate action in the matter.

FDI from America

3669. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Government has signed an agreement with USA to increase foreign direct investment in the financial sector;

(b) if so, the percentage of investment to be increased, sector-wise;

(c) the total investment in dollars made so far in the country; and

(d) the total contribution in percentage of investment in the growth rate of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total FDI inflows into India between August 1991 and March 2006 were US\$ 38.49 billion.

(d) As per the Economic Survey 2005-06, the percentage point contribution of investment in the growth rate of Gross Domestic Product at current prices was 4.2% in 2002-03, 5.4% in 2003-04 and 6.8% in 2004-05.

[English]

FDI on Cash Crops

3670. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to withdraw the decisions to allow 100% FDI on cash crops;

(b) whether the export subsidy for cash crops is likely to be provided to crop growers instead of giving it to exporters;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether priority will be provided to establish Agro Industries in domestic economy in public and co-operative sectors and recourse the policy to promote and sponsor MNC's on Agro Industrial Sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Cashew Board

3671. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problems of Cashew growers are being neglected by the Cashew Export Promotion Council;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received representations for setting up of Cashew Board on the lines of Tea & Coffee Boards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No proposal/suggestion for formation of a Cashew Board has been received in the recent past.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Weavers Cooperative Society

3672. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weavers co-operative societies, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to extend insurance coverage to all the members of these societies;

(c) if so, the reasons for declining proposal of Madhya Pradesh Government to provide insurance cover to the members of co-operative societies of weavers so far;

(d) whether the Government proposes to reconsider the Madhya Pradesh Government proposal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) Statement showing the State-wise number of weavers co-operative Societies in India is enclosed.

(b) The Government of India has introduced a modified Bunkar Bima Yojana called Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana during 2005-06 for providing insurance cover to the handloom weavers in case of natural as well as accidental death. Weavers including members of cooperative societies are eligible to be covered under this scheme subject to the fulfilment of the eligibility criteria and payment of weavers' share under the scheme.

(c) to (e) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a proposal during 2004-05 for release of central assistance of Rs. 25,000/- under the Group Insurance Scheme which was in existence only upto December 2003 till the introduction of the Bunkar Bima Yojana. Since the earlier Group Insurance Scheme was discontinued with the introduction of Bunkar Bima Yojana during December 2003, the funds could not be released under the old scheme. This has been informed to the State Government. Since the earlier Group Insurance scheme is no longer in existence, the Government of India is not in a position to reconsider the proposal.

Statement

*No. of Cooperative Societies in India (State-wise)
(Based on information received from various State Governments)*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Cooperatives. in the State
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	810
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40
3.	Assam	3680
4.	Bihar	1089
5.	Chhattisgarh	115

1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	926
7.	Haryana	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	370
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	462
10.	Jharkhand	162
11.	Karnataka	405
12.	Kerala	750
13.	Madhya Pradesh	670
14.	Maharashtra	680
15.	Manipur	1390
16.	Meghalaya	42
17.	Nagaland	1450
18.	Orissa	1273
19.	Punjab	942
20.	Rajasthan	825
21.	Sikkim	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	1260
23.	Tripura	29
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1547
25.	Uttaranchal	90
26.	West Bengal	2209
27.	N.C.T. Delhi	399
28.	Pondicherry	14
Total		21631

*[English]***Tobacco Growers**

3673. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge demand of the tobacco grown in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in the international market;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Tobacco Growers and the Indian Tobacco Association have urged the Tobacco Board to increase the crop size of Tobacco in these States; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Centre in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Though tobacco exports from India have been growing in both quantity and value, tobacco prices at the auctions continuously remain under pressure. With the loss of Russian market, the Tobacco Board has been continuously trying to access new markets.

(b) and (c) The Indian Tobacco Association indicated a crop size of 105 Mkg. for Karnataka during 2006-07 season. After taking into consideration, the opinion of all stake holders and the international demand the Tobacco Board has fixed a crop size of 92.40 Mkg. (including 10% nature's bounty) to ensure fair and remunerative price to the farmers. This is the highest crop size ever fixed for Karnataka.

*[Translation]***Ban on Ordinary Salt**

3674. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government has banned ordinary salt;

(b) if so, whether it is an attempt to serve the interest of multinational companies by closing the small scale industries;

(c) whether the Government is aware that these companies are mixing Potassium iodide chemical in salt in the name of iodine, which is a very poisonous substance;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the findings of Directorate General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research and State Health Directorate that no region in the country is free from iodine Deficiency Disorders and the fact that iodised salt is the most effective and cheapest way to provide nutritional iodine to the population, the Government has issued a notification under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 banning the sale of common salt for direct human consumption unless it is iodised. This notification will come into force from 17th May, 2006. No multinational company is involved in production of iodised salt presently

(c) to (e) The permissible proportion of Potassium iodate to salt is only 30 parts per Million, which is very safe. Government has laid down necessary standards for iodated salt under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules.

FDI in Retail Market

3675. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
 SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:
 SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
 DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
 SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:
 SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
 SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:
 SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

- (a) the annual turn over of single brand product in retail market in the country;
 (b) whether the turn over in retail market is increasing with the passage of time;
 (c) if so, the details thereof;
 (d) the names of foreign companies applied/invested so far to trade in single brand product;

(e) whether this policy is likely to affect the traders and employment opportunities in the country; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow has not so far been received in the country for 'Single Brand' product retailing.

(d) M/s. Moja Shoes Ltd., Sonapat for FDI by M/s. Tano India Pvt. Equity Fund-I, Mauritius; M/s. Louis Vuitton Malletier, France; and M/s. LLadro Comercial SA, Spain have applied for Government approval for FDI for Single brand product retailing.

(e) and (f) The Policy is expected to encourage economic activity, employment opportunities and investment in the sector. Since branded products cater to a market segment different from that catered to by small traders, FDI in single brand product retailing is not likely to affect them adversely.

[English]

Match Industry

3676. SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to remove the Match Industry from the list of Small Scale Industry existing from 1956;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to increase the export subsidy for matches produced under S.S.I.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Pak Assistance to Terrorists in Punjab

3677. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any report that Pakistan in the recent past has again become active in aiding and abetting terrorist activities in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the Government has asked the Government of Punjab to submit a report in this regard;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government to check such activities to terrorist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Investigations of persons suspected to be involved in the twin bomb blasts in Cinema Halls in Delhi in May, 2005 and of some others arrested in Punjab and Delhi have revealed that Pakistan based Pro Khalistani elements are making attempts to revive militancy in Punjab.

(b) to (d) The Central Government remains in constant touch with the State Government to monitor the situation. The Central and State Security Agencies have taken measures to strengthen intelligence and maintain extra vigil on the activities of suspected disruptive elements and their supporters, with a view to checking their activities.

Dress of Girl Students

3678. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of girl students in Primary Schools of the country;

(b) whether the Union Government is given uniform to girl students of Primary Schools free of cost;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some State Governments are also providing school uniform free of cost to girl students of Primary Schools; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to Selected Educational Statistics (SES 2003-04) the number of girl students in primary schools of the country is estimated to be 5,99,05,868 girls.

(b) to (e) Depending on local requirements, State Governments have flexible funds under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) for providing uniforms to girls. The States of Delhi and Tripura are giving uniform subsidy to girls students from their own funds.

Export of Agro Product

3679. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN:
SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:

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

(a) the value of agro export of various products during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the potential in generation of employment in rural areas by increase in export of agro products;

(c) the mechanism available to meet strict norms created by importing countries of our agro-products;

(d) whether the Government proposes to encourage export of agro products and create a new mechanism to address the demand of exporters;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has received any proposal from Tunisia and other countries regarding import of agro products;

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

(h) the percentage of export/import of agro products of the total export/import during the last three years and the current year; and

(i) the steps taken by the Government to double the export share in world market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Value of agro-products (excluding marine products, tea, coffee, castor oil shellac and cotton including waste) exported during the last three years, in dollar terms, is given below:

Year	Value (US\$ Million)
2002-2003	4674
2003-2004	5224
2004-2005*	5766
2005-2006* (April-December)	4914

*Provisional (Source: DGCI&S)

(b) Estimates on potential of employment generation in rural areas by increase in exports of agri-products cannot be quantified. However, with the increase in production of the agro products to meet the increased export demand, the employment opportunities for agricultural workers in rural areas also increase.

(c) In order to facilitate world wide access for Indian exports and to ensure that the Indian products meet international norms of quality and safety, the Export Inspection Council of India has been undertaking inspection, testing and certification activities for various products meant for exports. Similarly, Ministry of Agriculture has also authorized a large number of officials of Union and State Governments to issue phyto-sanitary certificates for agri-products exported from the country

(d) and (e) Encouraging export is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage export of agro products through measures and incentives under plan schemes of the Commodity Boards etc. Systematic improvements to facilitate exports is an ongoing process and whenever required, the Government reviews these procedures, with a view to simplify the same.

(f) and (g) No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Tunisia. However, our exporters/agencies have been receiving export orders of agro-products from various agencies, private individuals and firms of other countries.

(h) The percentage of export/import of agro products of the total export/import (US \$ terms) during the last three years is as under:

Year	Export (%)	Import(%)
2002-03	8.77	4.88
2003-04	8.29	4.73
2004-05*	7.37	3.53
2005-06* (Apr.-Dec.)	6.80	2.77

*Provisional

(i) In the Foreign Trade Policy, the Government spelt out a bold vision to double India's share in the world trade within five years. For achieving this objective, the Government of India has taken a number of steps, which are detailed in the Foreign Trade Policy. The frame work of Government's approach is described in the Preamble to the Foreign Trade Policy. Electronic copies of the Policy can be accessed at <http://www.dgft.gov.in>. Copies of these documents are also available in the Parliament Library.

Setting up to Textile Industries

3680. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new textile industries set up in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to assist in setting up of textile industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) The state-wise number of cotton/manmade fibre textile mills set up during the last three years in the country including Tamil Nadu is as follows:

Sl.No.	States	Non-SSI			SSI		
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	3	2	0	0	0
2.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Gujarat	1	0	0	1	1	0
4.	Haryana	1	0	0	4	3	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0	0	0
6.	Karnataka	1	0	0	0	1	0
7.	Maharashtra	0	4	2	1	2	1
8.	Punjab	3	3	1	1	1	0
9.	Rajasthan	1	1	1	0	0	1
10.	Tamil Nadu	7	8	12	47	21	9
11.	Uttaranchal	0	0	1	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	1	0	0
13.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total		18	19	20	56	29	12

(b) Through various policy measures taken from time to time, Government has created conducive environment for setting up of the textile units in the country including Tamil Nadu. Certain important measures taken by the Government in this regard include:

- (i) To improve productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC).
- (ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry both in the organised and unorganized sector. The Scheme has been further fine tuned to increase the rapid investments in the targeted sub-sectors of the textile industry. The cost of machinery has been further brought down by reducing the customs duty on imports.

(iii) To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units meeting international environmental and social standards, a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) based Scheme known as the "Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)" has been introduced in July 2005.

(iv) In 2004-05 Budget, the entire textile sector, except for man-made fibre and filament yarn was provided optional exemption from excise duty.

(v) To facilitate import of state of the art machinery to make our products internationally competitive in post quota regime, in 2005-06 Budget, the customs duty on textile machinery has been brought down to 10% except 23 machinery appearing in List 49 which attracts Basic Customs Duty (BCD) of 15%. The concessional duty of 5% continues to be at 5% on most of the machinery items.

(vi) In the Current Budget (2006-07), with a view to making textile industry more competitive:

- Import duty on raw materials such as DMT, PTA and MEG has been reduced from 15% to 10% and for paraxylene from 5% to 2%.
- CENVAT on all manmade fibre and yarn has been reduced from 16% to 8% and import duty on all manmade fibre and yarns from 15% to 10%.
- The peak rate of ad-valorem component of customs duty for all non-agricultural products including textiles has been reduced from 15% to 12.5%.
- Special CVD of 4% has been extended to all goods in order to counter balance various internal taxes like sales tax and VAT and to provide a level playing field in indigenous goods which have to bear these taxes. However, fabrics are exempted from this levy.

(vii) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the textile sector under automatic route.

(viii) For speedy modernisation of the textile processing sector, Government has introduced a credit linked capital subsidy scheme @10% under TUFs, in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement.

(ix) Government has launched the Debt Restructuring Scheme w.e.f. Sept., 2003 with the principal objective to permit banks to lend to the textile sector at 8-9% rate of interest.

(x) Government has de-reserved the readymade garments, hosiery and knitwear from SSI sector so that large scale investments may be encouraged in these sectors.

(xi) National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) has been set up to provide the leadership role in sensitising the industry to the concept of value addition by inducting trained professionals to manage the industry. This has resulted in an increased demand for trained professionals in various sectors servicing the industry.

Relief to 1984 Riots Victims

3681. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to USQ No. 329 dated 21.2.2006 an state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have paid the relief to the 1984 anti-Sikh riot victims;

(b) if so, the amount allocated and paid to each victim so far;

(c) the details of the pending cases with the Government and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has received any complaints of harassment of victims by State Government of Punjab;

(e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(f) whether the victims have expressed outrage on the relief amount;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the relief amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir. The State Governments concerned are still in the process of making payment of ex-gratia as per the rehabilitation package sanctioned by the Government.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A complaint containing allegations, inter alia, regarding harassment caused to the riot victims in Punjab was received by the Government and it was sent to the Government of Punjab for comments. The Government of Punjab has informed that the State Government has made sincere efforts to give all possible assistance/facilities for rehabilitation of riot affected families.

(f) to (h) The Government have received some representations demanding, inter alia, grant of higher amount of ex-gratia to the victims of 1984 riots. However, no proposal for enhancement of the ex-gratia amount is at present under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Grants to Universities

3682. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has been contemplating over abolishing the financial support being provided to all the universities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir. On the other hand, the plan allocation to the University Grants Commission has been increased to Rs. 1269.80 crores during 2006-07 from Rs. 786.30 crores during the year 2005-06.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Madarsa Education

3683. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to bring all Madaras under the umbrella of Madarsa Education Board and to have common education system for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of students passed from Madaras; and

(d) the percentage of students got admission into the next stage of education during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration.

(c) and (d) No such information is maintained by the Central Government.

Decline in School Drop-out

3684. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) the Central aid sought and provided to various States under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) the funds utilised by the State Governments during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the number of school drop-outs has declined and number of student beneficiaries has increased; and

(d) if so, the extent to which this increase is proportionate to the increase in expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Central assistance to States mainly constitutes supply of free foodgrains and cooking cost. Quantity of foodgrains demanded by State Governments and allocated by the Central Government during the last three years are given to the enclosed statement-I. Central assistance towards cooking cost was introduced under the revised Mid-Day Meal Scheme w.e.f. September, 2004. Amount demanded by State Governments and funds released by the Central Government for this purpose in 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto June, 2006) are given in the enclosed statement-II.

For the current year, State Governments have been allocated foodgrains provisionally based on last year's allocation pending appraisal and approval of their detailed Annual Work Plan and Budget—2006-07.

(b) State-wise position of utilization of Central assistance towards cooking cost is given in the enclosed statement-III.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Coverage under Mid-Day Meal Scheme has registered an increase from 10.27 crore in

2002-03 to 11.94 crore in 2005-06, as has the expenditure. The outlays have increased from Rs. 1,100 crore in 2002-03 to Rs. 3,345 crore in 2005-06. The increase in outlay is on account of both increase in the coverage and introduction of new components of Central assistance.

Statement I

Foodgrains demanded and allocated during 2003-04 to 2005-06 under Mid-Day Meal Scheme

(Quantity in MTs)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Demand made by States	Allocated by the Central Govt.	Demand made by States	Allocated by the Central Govt.	Demand made by States	Allocated by the Central Govt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	178278.25	178278.25	213410.53	213410.53	129399.28	114099.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5448.18	5448.18	3559.68	3559.68	4807.15	4540.09
3.	Assam	96315.78	96315.78	101627.49	101627.49	92125.70	92125.70
4.	Bihar	245299.91	245299.91	195835.20	195835.20	246422.84	218070.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	56571.64	56571.64	56571.64	55571.64	55094.26	53019.31
6.	Goa	1253.65	1253.65	1232.80	1232.80	1411.73	1411.73
7.	Gujarat	60089.91	60089.91	60353.38	60353.38	67891.45	67891.45
8.	Haryana	45871.00	45871.00	46075.44	46075.44	34359.00	28672.99
9.	Himachal Pradesh	18445.41	18445.41	17527.02	17527.02	13871.95	11447.25
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	22163.31	22163.31	24936.45	24936.45	21748.15	18757.93
11.	Jharkhand	51796.21	51796.21	83387.13	83387.13	83103.07	83103.07
12.	Karnataka	145853.18	145853.18	117558.08	117558.08	122174.82	112863.57
13.	Kerala	43330.20	43330.20	42327.08	42327.08	30512.00	28223.60
14.	Madhya Pradesh	165834.55	165834.55	159974.50	159974.50	195863.48	191080.71
15.	Maharashtra	223586.84	223586.84	222303.33	222303.33	207809.77	207809.77
16.	Manipur	8886.33	8886.33	9170.85	9170.85	6539.33	6539.33
17.	Meghalaya	10279.54	10279.54	10051.46	10051.46	10038.92	10038.92
18.	Mizoram	1880.84	1880.84	1826.32	1826.32	2019.50	1837.86
19.	Nagaland	5207.94	5207.94	3471.96	3471.96	3762.72	3762.74

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Orissa	123424.87	123424.87	135293.02	135293.02	104110.32	104110.32
21.	Punjab	45490.34	45490.34	43222.38	43222.38	31240.85	28053.43
22.	Rajasthan	168919.37	168919.37	168568.22	168568.22	186108.30	196108.30
23.	Sikkim	1536.56	1536.56	1672.04	1672.04	2126.59	2126.59
24.	Tamil Nadu	110598.90	110598.90	86118.64	86118.64	83537.44	76586.73
25.	Tripura	9077.08	9077.08	9160.40	9160.40	10723.16	9882.13
26.	Uttaranchal	15743.86	15743.86	16224.08	16224.08	18515.38	14180.85
27.	Uttar Pradesh	491246.76	491246.76	509907.48	509907.48	348651.53	335973.30
28.	West Bengal	305987.74	305987.74	302571.85	302571.85	243335.52	205424.69
	Total	2658418.15	2658418.15	2643938.45	2643938.45	2367340.01	2227741.67

Note: Foodgrains for 2006-07 has been allocated provisionally equal to the allocations made to the respective States/UTs for 2005-06 pending finalization of firm allocation for 2006-07.

Statement II

Year-wise Central Assistance demanded by States for Cooking Cost and Funds released

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	2004-05		2005-06	
		Demands made by States (1.9.04 30.4.05)	Funds released by Central Govt.	Demands made by States (1.5.05 30.6.06)	Funds released by Central Govt.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7600.98	7,600.98	12441.80	12441.80
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	276.96	276.96	641.78	396.24
3.	Assam	3448.68	2,310.62	9847.45	5462.37
4.	Bihar	8852.40	7,081.92	19728.28	19719.27
5.	Chhattisgarh	3974.28	3,974.28	5204.82	5204.57
6.	Goa	60.42	60.42	133.13	119.34
7.	Gujarat	4804.29	4,804.29	7157.70	7157.70
8.	Haryana	2228.54	2,174.32	3703.05	3464.38
9.	Himachal Pradesh	917.73	844.96	1910.86	1429.61

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	433.46	433.46* (246.85+186.61)	1406.40	1282.23
11.	Jharkhand	2845.00	2,845.00* (1620.21+1224.79)	7180.10	7180.10
12.	Karnataka	7210.16	6,589.93	12254.89	10704.99
13.	Kerala	2977.75	2,453.00	3020.04	2890.17
14.	Madhya Pradesh	13998.22	13,258.92	20811.51	18613.56
15.	Maharashtra	14304.74	13,995.44	12957.21	7919.95
16.	Manipur	218.98	218.98	599.34	501.43
17.	Meghalaya	543.89	543.89	687.78	687.78
18.	Mizoram	124.66	112.34* (63.97+48.37)	233.19	104.05
19.	Nagaland	246.42	246.42	397.66	397.66
20.	Orissa	8038.74	7,356.12	5009.83	1917.52
21.	Punjab	1309.86	1,309.86* (745.96+563.90)	No demand made	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	13151.22	13,151.22	11780.00	11479.63
23.	Sikkim	113.50	113.50* (64.64+48.86)	275.19	211.52
24.	Tamil Nadu	6013.60	5,819.30	9644.56	8964.30
25.	Tripura	701.66	701.66	1188.02	1063.91
26.	Uttaranchal	1378.77	1,233.64	1553.10	1553.09
27.	Uttar Pradesh	17067.44	17,067.44	37160.00	29553.00
28.	West Bengal	13695.82	12,280.00* (6993.37+5286.63)	22756.93	22756.93
Total		136538.17	128858.87	209684.62	183177.10

*Amount shown includes balance released in the subsequent year.

Statement III*Utilisation of Funds released for Cooking Cost in 2004-05*

Sl.No.	States	Funds Utilised (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7600.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	179.00
3.	Assam	Not furnished
4.	Bihar	7081.92
5.	Chhattisgarh	3974.28
6.	Goa	37.80
7.	Gujarat	4357.59
8.	Haryana	2174.32
9.	Himachal Pradesh	844.96
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	308.81
11.	Jharkhand	2822.00
12.	Karnataka	6589.93
13.	Kerala	1957.17
14.	Madhya Pradesh	13258.92
15.	Maharashtra	5615.59
16.	Manipur	121.07
17.	Meghalaya	543.89
18.	Mizoram	Not furnished
19.	Nagaland	246.42
20.	Orissa	2181.65
21.	Punjab	Not furnished
22.	Rajasthan	6522.83
23.	Sikkim	113.50
24.	Tamil Nadu	5819.30
25.	Tripura	578.58

1	2	3
26.	Uttaranchal	1233.64
27.	Uttar Pradesh	17067.44
28.	West Bengal	12280.00

Note: Utilisation in respect of 2005-06 would be available after June, 2006.

Fake Universities

3685. SHRI TAPIR GAO:
SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
DR. M. JAGANNATH:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that a number of fake universities are functioning at present in the country;

(b) if so, whether these educational institutions tend to allure youth through their advertisement in newspaper;

(c) if so, the details and facts thereof alongwith the details of such fake universities identified in the country;

(d) whether the Government has any mechanism to evaluate the genuineness of such universities;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the publication of advertisements of the fake and unrecognised educational institutions to save the youth from such misleading advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. the University Grants Commission (UGC) has detected 22 institutions operating in violation of Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956. A list of institutions is enclosed as statement.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The UGC verifies the genuineness of such institutions by referring complaints to universities, State Governments and other professional councils, like NCTE, AICTE and MCI responsible for recognition and

accreditation of universities and institutions. The UGC also brings facts about such institutions to the notice of the public and the student community through the print and electronic media, including UGC's web-site *www.ugc.ac.in*. Aspiring students are cautioned against seeking admission in, or dealing with, such fake institutions. It has also requested the concerned State Governments to conduct enquiry and investigate the existence and functioning of illegal universities and to take appropriate punitive action as per the law.

Statement

List of Fake Universities

1. Maithili University/Vishwavidyalaya, Darbhanga, Bihar
2. Mahila Gram Vidyapith/Vishwavidyalaya, (Women's University) Prayag, Allahabad, UP
3. Indian Education Council of U.P., Lucknow, U.P.
4. Gandhi Hindi Vidyapith, Prayag, Allahabad, U.P.
5. National University of Electro Complex Homoeopathy, Kanpur, U.P.
6. Nateji Subhash Chandra Bose University (Open University), Achaltal, Aligarh (U.P.)
7. Uttar Pradesh Vishwavidyalaya, Kosi Kalan, Mathura, U.P.
8. Maharana Pratap Siksha Niketan Vishwavidyalaya, Pratapgarh, U.P.
9. Gurukul Vishwavidyalaya, Vrindavan (U.P.)
10. Commercial University Ltd., Daryaganj, Delhi
11. United Nations University, Delhi
12. Vocational University, Delhi
13. Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi, UP./Jagatpuri, Delhi
14. ADR-Centric Juridical University, ADR House, 8J, Gopala Tower, 25 Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008.
15. D.D.B. Sanskrit University, Puttur, Trichi, Tamil Nadu.
16. St. John's University, Kishanttam, Kerala

17. Raja Arabic University, Nagpur, Maharashtra
18. Kesarwani Vidyapith, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
19. Badaganvi Sarkar World Open University Education Society, Gokak, Belgaum, Karnataka.
20. Handwriting University India, No. 16 Church Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore-560004.
21. Institute of Para-medical Sciences, Meerut, U.P.
22. Bioinformatics Institute of India, New Delhi.

Cultivation of Land by Farmers on Border Areas

3686. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani army has been resorting to shelling on the Border Security Force posts and villages along the international border;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents of shelling during the current year till date as compared to the corresponding period of last year, State-wise;

(c) the number of civilians, jawans of the Border Security force killed or injured and property damaged in such unprovoked shelling along the border during the said period;

(d) whether due to such shelling by Pakistan the farmers along the Border are facing difficulties in cultivating their fields; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure the security of the civilian living in border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Since the cease fire in November 2003, no incident of shelling by Pak army on BSF posts and on villages situated along the international border has taken place.

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

(e) The Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach to ensure security in the border areas. This

includes, construction of security fencing, floodlighting, and patrol roads along the border, providing of better surveillance equipment to Border Security Force, providing guards to farmers cultivating fields across the security fencing etc.

Upgradation of Curriculum in Madarasas

3687. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

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

(a) whether the high level committee headed by Justice (Retd.) Rajinder Sachar looking into the social, economic and education status of the Muslim community in the country had apprised the Union Government on the immense problems being faced by Madarsa teachers;

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

(c) whether the Sachar Committee has recommended to upgrade curriculum in Madarasas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) According to the Ministry of Minority Affairs a High Level Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) Rajinder Sachar is looking into the social, economic and educational status of the Muslim community of India and has not yet sent any report to the Union Government.

Activities of Insurgent Groups

3688. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurgent groups from Nepal has build up their network in India connecting North Bengal to South India;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received suggestions from DIG, SSB regarding issue of Identity Cards to people coming from Nepal; and

(c) if so, the action the Government has taken to curb the menace of extremist groups in North Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No such report has come to the notice of the Govt.

(b) India and Nepal have agreed to start a pilot project at one crossing point for regulating movement of their nationals across the Indo-Nepal Boarder on the basis of Prescribed identity documents. This pilot project has commenced from 1st November, 2005 at Rupaidiha (India)-Nepalgaanj (Nepal) check post.

(c) Sashtra Seema Bal (SSB) and the bordering States namely Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal have been advised to increased vigil and undertake intensive patrolling along the Indo Nepal Border so as to prevent ingress of Maoist elements into the Indian territory.

Removal of Import Duty on Tea

3689. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:

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

(a) whether the issue of removal of import duty on Indian tea has been discussed with Pakistan as reported in *Business Line* date April 18, 2006;

(b) if so, facts and details thereof;

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

(d) whether Tea Association of India has also requested the Government to create a direct rail link between Guwahati and Karachi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter regarding removal of import duty on Indian tea had earlier been taken up with the Government of Pakistan through the Indian High Commission.

(d) and (e) During the recent visit of a tea delegation from Pakistan, creation of a direct rail link between Guwahati and Karachi to facilitate tea trade was mooted.

Statehood to Delhi

3690. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:
SHRI MOHD. MUKEEM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to grant full Statehood to Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the Government will accord full Statehood to Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (d) The proposal to grant statehood to Delhi has been referred for in-depth examination to an Inter-Ministerial Committee of officials, which includes a representative of the Government of NCT of Delhi. No definite timeframe can be specified in this regard.

Export Oriented Units

3691. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Export Oriented Units and units under Special Economic Zones do not qualify the benefits under the Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana and Gram Udyog Yojana even if they undertake export of fruits, vegetables, etc. under the newly introduced schemes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) In the Foreign Trade Policy 1st September 2004-31st March 2009 updated as on 7.4.2006, exports made by SEZ units and EOUs do not qualify for Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana benefits.

(b) and (c) Special Economic Zone is conceptually a foreign territory as all supplies to SEZ units are treated as physical exports and hence Government does not

intend to incentivise export from a unit located in an SEZ. Similarly, EOUs have a special status of tax exemptions and permission to import various requirements, including the ones in Agricultural sector, duty free, and also enjoy Income Tax benefits and have a prior commitment to undertake exports and therefore VKGUY benefits are not extended to EOU units. Further, these units have been set up primarily for exports.

[Translation]

Educationally Backward Areas

3692. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:
SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:

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

(a) the criteria adopted by Government for selection of educationally backward blocks in the country;

(b) whether lower gender gap blocks have not been selected despite girls in such block are educationally backward;

(c) if so, the justification for not including such blocks which are totally educationally backward;

(d) whether the Government has taken any decision to provide cent per cent grant for educationally backward States;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the progress made so far by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) The criteria for identification of Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) was drawn up for new schemes to promote girls education namely: the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme.

The criteria for EBBs is blocks where the female rural literacy is below the national average and the gender gap in literacy is above the national average. The rationale is to prioritize blocks where gender discrimination is more.

The funding pattern of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the NPEGEL and KGBV programmes, is 75:25 between the Centre and the States during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Short Term Courses for Educational Promotion under Girls Foundation

3693. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether short term courses have been introduced under girls' foundation in tribal dominated areas for the promotion of education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is provision to admit girls successful in such courses to regular courses/schools; and

(d) if so, the number of such girls taken admission in regular courses in various States particularly Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) No short term courses have been introduced under girls' foundation in tribal dominated areas for the promotion of education by Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

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

Appointment of Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff by D.U.

3694. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise number of teaching and non-teaching staff working in Delhi University including numbers of SC/ST and OBC employees amongst them;

(b) whether all the reserved posts for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes have been filled up;

(c) if so, the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes candidates appointed during the last three years;

(d) whether there exists backlog regarding the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes; and

(e) if so, the action being taken by the Government and Delhi University to fill up the backlog posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) Since the Ministry do not maintain any centralized information in regard to point-wise number of teaching and non-teaching staff and appointments made in the reserved categories in various Central Universities including the University of Delhi, the University has been requested to furnish the same. The Ministry has, however, issued a directive under Section 20(1) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 to the UGC asking the Commission to ensure effective implementation of the national policy in regard to reservation in all Central Universities.

Corruption in KVS

3695. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to USQ No. 3058 dated December 13, 2005 regarding Corruption in KVS and state:

(a) whether the Government has since been allocated the requisite information;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by when it is likely to be tabled on the floor of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement***Details of Charged Officials and the present status of the cases for the Calendar year 2003, 2004 & 2005***

Sl.No.	Region	Name & Designation	K.V. where working	Year	Nature of the Corruption	Present status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ahmedabad	Shri A.R. Verma, Principal	Rty. Col. Sabarmati	2004	Caught red-handed while accepting bribe from security contractor.	Suspended. Charge-sheet. Filed in the court by Anti Corruption Branch.
		Shri M.B. Saiyed, LDC	ONGC, Cambay	2005	Caught red-handed while accepting bribe from contract teacher.	Suspended w.e.f. 07.10.2005.
2.	Bhopal	Shri R.C. Shrivastava, Principal	GAIL, Guna	2004	CBI, Crime Branch, Bhopal caught red handed for accepting bribe of Rs. 1500/-.	Placed under deemed Suspension. Case is pending before the court, Bhopal.
		Shri Shardendu Sharma, UDC	GAIL, Guna now at Jhabua	2004	-do-	Charge sheet has been approved & CBI was authorised to file it in the court. The matter is pending in the court of CJM (CBI), Bhopal
3.	Bhubneswar	Shri Yogendra Prasad, LDC	Patratu	2004	Taking bribe of Rs. 500/- from a parent for admission of his son.	Shri Y. Prasad was suspended. He was also reinstated vide order dated 23.11.05. Case is pending in the Court of Spl. Judge, CBI, Dhanbad.
4.	Bangalore	Shri K.P. Valayudhan, Principal	Kunnur	2003	Administrative & financial irregularities	Inquiry in progress.
		Shri I.C. Sonkar, Principal	Bijapur	2004	Caught by CBI red-handed while accepting illegal gratification from a parent for admission to his son	He was suspended and he has since retired from service. Case is pending with CBI.
5.	Delhi	Shri Sudhir Modawal, Asstt. Commissioner	Patna	2005	Alleged irregularities in the construction of temporary building of K.V., Gr. Noida, U.P.	Departmental action is under process. FIR lodged with the Kaena Police Station, U.P.
		Smt. A.N. Siddiqui, E.O.	Delhi	2005	-do-	-do-
		Smt. Neera Sharma, Principal	Noida	2005	-do-	-do-
		Shri R.S. Chauhan, Ex-Principal	Gr. Noida	-do-	-do-	-do-
		Shri. Y.P. Singh, Principal	Sec. 25 Rohini	2005	Alleged misconduct of taking bribe	Suspended and disciplinary action has been initiated
		Shri V.K. Tyagi, UDC	-do-	2005	-do-	-do-
6.	Dehradun	Shri H.C. Hasija, PGT (Geo.) (Previously Principal at NVS).	Clement Town	2003	Misappropriation of MVS funds, collected funds unauthorisedly from the students.	Chargesheet issued. Commissioner, NVS has been requested for cancellation of chargesheet so that fresh inquiry could be initiated.
		Shri Deepak Thapa, UDC	HBK No. 1	2004	Embezzlement of fees.	Placed under suspension now revoked, chargesheet issued. Inquiry in progress.
		Shri B.K. Mishra, V.P. (Retd.)	AFS Bareilly	2004	Irregularities in purchase at K.V. Pauri.	Charge sheet issued. Inquiry in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Jaipur	Smt. Sangeeta Ashok, UDC	Baran	2003	Embezzlement.	Removed from services. Later on she was reinstated by Court's Order.
		Shri Dinesh Kumar Sharma, UDC	Anupgarh	2005	Embezzlement.	Charge sheet issued. Inquiry in progress.
		Shri S. Padmanabham, Principal	Lalgarh Jattan		Caught red handed by military intelligence for accepting bribe from the Private contractor.	Suspended Charge sheet issued. inquiry is in progress.
8.	Kolkata	Shri S.D. Sharma, Principal	Sevok Road	2004	CBI trapped while accepting bribe from a contractual teacher.	Suspended. CBI case is pending. Departmental inquiry is under progress.
9.	Patna	Shri S.K. Pandey, Principal (Retd.)	No. 2 Gaya	2004	Financial irregularities.	He has retired from the service. Inquiry is in progress.
10.	K.V.S. (HQ)	Shri V.K. Gupta, Dy. Commissioner (Admn.) (Retd.)	K.V.S. (HQ)	2004	Irregularities in appointment in Principal	Charge sheet issued. Inquiry in progress.

Recruitment for Terrorist Outfits

3696. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that South Indian Muslims living in Singapore and Indonesia are being recruited for terrorist outfits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has discussed the issue with these countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) There is no information to suggest that the South Indian Muslims living in Singapore and Indonesia are being recruited for terrorist outfits.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Gallantry Award

3697. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the provisions laid down to felicitate gallantry awards;

(b) whether most of the States are not adhering to these provisions and are defaulting in forwarding the nomination which results in depriving the brave persons from getting their services identified/recognized by the nation;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the existing provisions and bring amendment in the legislation to make mandatory for the States to forward the information of such persons within stipulated time;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) There are several categories of gallantry awards instituted by the Government of India, namely, Ashoka Chakra series of gallantry awards, Jeevan Raksha Padak series of awards, President's Medal for Gallantry, President's Home Guards and Civil Defence Medal, President's Fire Service Medal and President's Correctional Service Medals for Distinguished Service/Gallantry. Each of the above awards is regulated by award-specific statutes and rules framed by the Government.

(b) With the exception of Ashoka Chakra series of gallantry awards, which is also open to civilian citizens and the Jeevan Raksha Padak series of awards, the

other awards are institution-specific. Recommendations for these awards are made by the concerned institutions. Nominations for Ashoka Chakra series of awards (in respect of civilian citizens) and Jeevan Raksha Padak series of awards are invited from all State/Union territory Governments. It is for the State/Union territory Governments to satisfy themselves about the merit of each case and make suitable nominations in time.

(c) to (e) The existing provisions of the statutes and rules are considered adequate and there is no proposal before the Government to amend these statutes and rules.

[*Translation*]

Participation of Women in Education Sector

3698. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement a national policy to enhance participation of women in the field of education;

(b) if so, the salient features of this policy alongwith; the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) the criteria fixed for selection of universities to provide grant to them under the said policy; and

(d) the names of universities which are being considered or have been identified for providing grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986, under para 4.2 and 4.3 provides that "Education will be used as an agent of basic change in the status of woman. The removal of women's illiteracy and obstacles inhibiting their access to, and retention in, elementary education will receive overriding priority through provision of special support services and effective monitoring. Major emphasis will also be laid on women's participation in vocational, technical and professional education at different levels."

In pursuance of the policy framework envisaged in the NPE, the Government have launched many

programmes for women education and empowerment like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) with special focus on girls, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya and residential schools for girls, Scheme for strengthening of boarding and hostel facilities for girl students and community polytechnics for women. The UGC also implements various Schemes for women education viz., setting up of Centres and Cells for Women Studies, Technology Courses for women, Part time Research Associateships, construction of women's Hostels, Financial Assistance to women's Colleges for purchase of books, journals, equipment and setting up of Day care centers.

(c) No such criteria have been fixed.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Increasing Budgetary Allocation by UGC

3699. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has increased its budgetary allocation for the year 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission has approved special support for some Universities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The Plan Allocation to the University Grants Commission has been increased to Rs. 1269.80 during 2006-07 from Rs. 786.30 crores during the year 2005-06. The break up is as follows:

(i)	Central Universities in North Eastern Region	—	Rs. 122.96 crores
(ii)	Other Central Universities	—	Rs. 392.04 crores
(iii)	State University of the North Eastern Region	—	Rs. 7.37 crores
(iv)	Other Universities and Inter University Centres etc.	—	Rs. 747.43 crores

Total: Rs. 1269.80 crores.

(c) and (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has proposed Rs. 70.00 crores as support to the three Universities celebrating 150th year of Higher Education during the year 2006-07. In addition a special grant of Rs. 100.00 crores each has been announced in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister.

D.Ed./PTT Courses

3700. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) whether large number of educational institutions in Karnataka and West Bengal have submitted applications to the South Regional Committee, NCTE for starting D.Ed and PTT courses for the academic year 2005-06;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Teachers Training Institutes in Karnataka and West Bengal in particular and other southern States in general inspected;

(d) whether the Government is going to grant recognition to these educational institutions for starting D.Ed and PTT courses for the academic year 2005-06; and

(e) if so, the reasons for delay in giving recognition to these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) In case of Karnataka, the Southern Regional Committee had received 106 new applications for D.Ed course for the academic session 2005-06. In addition, 180 applications have been carried forward from the previous years.

In case of West Bengal, the Eastern Regional Committee has received 3 applications for ETE course and 6 applications for PTT course for academic session 2005-06.

(c) The State-wise information regarding inspections conducted is as under:

Andhra Pradesh	—	222
Karnataka	—	232
Kerala	—	42
Tamil Nadu	—	170
Pondicherry	--	42
West Bengal	—	Nil (All applications were deficient)

(d) The recognition granted for 2005-06 are as follows:

Andhra Pradesh	—	167
Karnataka	—	182
Kerala	—	40
Tamil Nadu	—	155
Pondicherry	—	37
West Bengal	—	Nil

(e) Recognition has been granted to those institutions, which had fulfilled norms and standards.

Joint Registration of Basmati Rice by India and Pakistan

3701. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan propose to jointly register basmati rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present stage of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) A decision was taken for exploring the possibility of a joint application by India and Pakistan for registration of Basmati Rice as a Geographical Indication. Accordingly, the Minister for Commerce & Industry of India addressed a letter to the Minister of Trade of Pakistan on 10.5.2005

in which it was suggested that a sub-group of Joint Study Group can be constituted for holding consultations on this issue. On 18.11.2005, Government of India decided to constitute a Joint Study Group in Department of Commerce to look into all aspects regarding joint registration of Basmati Rice as GI with Pakistan. This Joint Study Group will identify the rationale for the joint registration, what India and Pakistan needed to do for protecting Basmati as GI and the set of activities that both Governments would need to complete to realize this objective.

**Partial Statehood for Andaman
and Nicobar Islands**

3702. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is seeking from Union Government own control over their administration;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has formed a core group to study separation of powers from Centre to Andaman and Nicobar Administration;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been made by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise in view of the reply given to parts (a) to (c) above.

Disaster Management Response Force

3703. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited civil defence organisations like National Cadet Corps to be included in the Disaster Management Response Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the States have set up the State-level Disaster Management Authority;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government is considering a separate scheme for revamping of Civil Defence;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There is no such organization by the name of, "Disaster Management Response Force". However, the Government of India have constituted the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), comprising of 8 battalions of Central Para Military Forces, for the purpose of specialist response to any disaster situation. There will be 144 Specialist Response Teams in the eight battalions of NDRF, which are being trained and equipped for responding to natural disasters. Four of these eight battalions are also being trained and equipped for responding to Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) emergencies.

As regards inclusion of Civil Defence Organisations like National Cadet Corps in the Disaster Management Response Force, a High Powered Committee has been constituted on the issue of revamping of Civil Defence Organisation under the chairmanship of a Member of the National Disaster Management Authority.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee include devising ways and means of integrating Civil Defence Organisations with National Cadet Corps (NCC)/Boy Scouts, Guides/other such organizations particularly in the sphere of disaster management including preparedness so as to have synergy in their operations.

(c) to (e) According to available information, 18 State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have constituted the State Disaster Management Authorities. These are Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Delhi and Lakshadweep. The remaining State Governments/UT Administrations have been advised to constitute Disaster Management Authorities in terms of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 enacted on 23rd December, 2005. The State Governments/UT Administrations which have already constituted the said Disaster Management Authorities have also been advised to ensure that their constitution is in conformity with the provisions of the Act or their Acts. The dates on which the relevant provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 will come into force in different States/UTs will be notified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. They have already been addressed in the matter.

(f) to (h) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of a Member of the National Disaster Management Authority to suggest measures for revamping of the Civil Defence and to draw up the financial requirements in this regard.

Export Share in International Trade Market

3704. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage share of Indian export at present in the international trade market, sector-wise;

(b) the details with regard to the major products exported during each of the last three years;

(c) the proportionate share of export and import in Indian trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) According to the latest International Trade Statistics of the WTO, India's share in world exports was 0.9% in 2005. India's share in world exports by commodity groups is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The details of exports of five major principle commodities during the last three years is given below:

(US \$ Billion)

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (April-Dec.)
Gems & Jewellery	10.6	13.7	11.1
Petroleum Products	3.6	6.8	8.1
RMG Cotton Include. Accessories	4.8	4.6	4.4
Durges, Pharmaceuticals & Fine Chemicals	3.3	3.7	3.4
Machinery & Instruments	2.8	3.5	3.3

Source: DGCI&S

(c) Against the total trade of US \$ 240 billion in 2005-06, the share of exports was 42% whereas the share of imports was 58%.

Statement*India's Share in World Exports by Commodity Divisions and Groups*

(US\$ million)

Div. Sl.No.	Code Group	Commodity Division/Group	2002			2003		
			World	India	India's share (%)	World	India	India's share (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
01		Meat and meat preparations	46956	278	0.6	55391	367	0.7
03		Fish, crustaceans and molluscs & preparations	52921	1384	2.6	58317	1307	2.2
04		Cereals and cereal preparations	59528	1643	2.8	67875	1654	2.4
	042	Rice	6706	1213	18.1	7192	896	12.5
05		Vegetables and fruits	73884	816	1.1	90898	962	1.1
06		Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	16490	392	2.4	18280	301	1.6
07		Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices and manufactures	28230	743	2.6	33531	785	2.3
	071	Coffee and coffee substitutes	8764	205	2.3	9617	234	2.4
	074	Tea and mate	2598	327	12.6	3074	334	10.9
	075	Spices	2494	212	8.5	2781	213	7.7
08		Feeding stuff for animals	22439	316	1.4	25875	731	2.8
12		Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	20920	152	0.7	21841	172	0.8
	121	Unmanufactured tobacco and refuse	5253	152	2.9	5568	172	3.1
	122	Manufactured tobacco	15666	0	0.0	16273	0	0.0
22		Oilseeds and oleaginous fruit	15486	147	0.9	21144	364	1.7
28		Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	48501	1225	2.5	59479	1468	2.5
	281	Iron ore and concentrates	9972	864	8.7	11656	1112	9.5
51		Organic chemicals	139003	1756	1.3	175427	2405	1.4
52		Inorganic chemicals	33895	108	0.3	38225	130	0.3
53		Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	35451	512	1.4	40458	663	1.6
54	541	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	15187	1760	11.6	200797	2021	1.0
55		Essential oils and perfume materials Soap, cleansing etc.	52917	232	0.4	65184	366	0.6
57		Explosives and pyrotechnic products	1226	7	0.6	1525	7	0.5
58		Artificial resins, plastic materials. cellulose esters & ethers	125959	224	0.2	151433	989	0.7
59		Chemical materials and products n.e.s.	66584	448	0.7	78049	578	0.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
61		Leather, leather manufacturers & dressed fur skins	25269	855	3.4	27423	839	3.1
	611	Leather	17095	507	3.0	18496	549	3.0
	612	Manufactures of leather or of composition leather	6986	349	5.0	7628	290	3.8
	613	Fur skins, tanned or dressed etc.	1188	0	0.0	12.99	0	0.0
65		Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles	166897	6009	3.6	186080	6856	3.7
	652	Woven cotton fabrics	24521	1009	4.1	26638	951	3.6
	653	Woven fabrics of man made fibres	28388	760	2.7	29654	953	3.2
	654	Woven fabrics other than of cotton or man-made fibres	8500	346	4.1	9497	420	4.4
66	667	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	56027	7592	13.6	60476	8414	13.9
67		Iron and steel	14686	2357	1.6	185581	3165	1.7
69		Manufactures of metals n.e.s.	130758	1193	0.9	150746	1587	1.1
71		Power generating machinery & equipment	168350	232	0.1	187816	469	0.2
72		Machinery specialized for particular industries	157912	409	0.3	185906	663	0.4
73		Metal working machinery	35949	160	0.4	42009	219	0.5
74		General Industrial machinery & equipment & machine parts thereof	239046	84	0.0	281769	898	0.3
75		Office machinery and ADP equipment	342805	0	0.0	381825	424	0.1
76		Telecommunication and sound recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	290248	0	0.00	324451	0	0.0
77		Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances	554929	168	0.0	654906	1368	0.2
78		Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	607614	404	0.1	702499	1628	0.2
79		Other transport equipment	171050	113	0.1	182022	0	0.0
84		Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	206040	6048	2.9	235083	6641	2.8

Note: A zero in India's share means negligible or no share at all.

Source: International Trade Statistics Year Book: United Nations 2005.

[Translation]

Opening of Residential Schools

3705. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open residential schools in remote areas for girls belonging to Scheduled Castes, Schedules Tribes, Other Backward Classes and minority classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent for the purpose by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government of India has launched the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme in July 2004, for setting up residential schools at upper primary level predominantly for girls belonging to the SC, ST OBC and minority communities in educationally backward blocks (EBBs) where the female rural literacy is below the national average and the gender gap in literacy is more than the national average. In particular, areas with concentration of tribal population, SC, OBC and minority populations, or areas with a large number of small scattered habitations that do not otherwise qualify for an upper primary school, are being covered.

The scheme provides for a minimum reservation of 75% of the enrolment in these residential schools for girls from SC, ST, OBC or minority communities and 25% for girls from families below the poverty line.

A provision of Rs. 489 crore has been made for the Scheme during Tenth Plan period.

[English]

Setting up of Educational Institutions

3706. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to open educational/technical Institutions to promote education in the constitutionally recognised most backward and neglected scheduled tribal area (region);

(b) if so, the places identified for the purpose, location-wise;

(c) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The National Policy of Education 1986 (as modified in 1992) has been providing the necessary vision to steer the course of development education in the country particularly in removing regional imbalances. A number of universities/technical institutions already exist in areas falling under both Schedule-V as well as Schedule-VI of the Constitution of India. In so far as the Central Government is concerned, it has established the North-East Hill University, Shillong, the Nagaland University, the Manipur University and the Mizoram University. The Regional Engineering Colleges of Warangal and Rourkela and Engineering College, Raipur have been upgraded as National Institutes of Technology. It has been decided "in principal" to confer Central University status to the State Universities of Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh and setting up of a Central University in Sikkim. An Indian Institute of Management (IIM) is proposed to be established at Shillong.

Refund to Exporters

3707. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of exporters who are entitled to refund under various export schemes have not yet got their entitled refunds;

(b) if so, the total amount blocked under various schemes; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to refund the blocked money at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Exporters are entitled for refund of duty under the Duty Drawback Scheme for physical export (administered by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance) and refund of the Duty Drawback and Terminal Excise Duty for deemed exports (administered by Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry). Terminal Excise Duty and duty drawback on deemed export refunded by the offices of DGFT are linked to the budgetary provision. During the Financial year 2005-06, against a budgetary requirement of Rs. 917.45 crores, only Rs. 525 crores could be received under budgetary allocation and refunded to the exporters in respect of the claims of deemed export Duty Drawback and Terminal Excise Duty. With the recent budgetary allocation of Rs. 396 crores, all the pending claims preferred till 31st March, 2006 have been finalised for processing and reimbursement by the Regional offices of DGFT. Details of duty drawback refund by the Department of Revenue for physical export are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details regarding refund of duty drawback against physical/exports

In all, 35602 All Industry Duty Drawback claims involving an amount of Rs. 225.56 crores were pending before the various Customs formations as on 30.11.2005. Out of these, 18852 claims are 3-6 months old and 6354 claims are more than 6 months old. The claims were pending because of non-receipt of the required documents, non-receipt of test reports, exporters name figuring in the alerts issued by various agencies, non-compliance of requirements like furnishing CENVAT non-available certificate, etc. The delay in fixation of brand rates of duty drawback is due to non-submission of required documents, pending investigations relating to exports by various agencies, etc.

2. The Ministry is monitoring the pending of drawback claims. Concerted efforts are being made to liquidate the pendency as detailed below:

(a) Instructions have been issued to the Commissioners to ensure that drawback amount is credited into the accounts of exporters immediately after 'Let Export' order and filing of the manifest by the carrier and also to look into the grievances of the exporters wherever there is delay of more than 72 hours in drawback disbursement for claims complete in all respects.

- (b) An arrears clearance drive was launched by constituting special drawback counters and by observing months of July, 2005, August, 2005 and September, 2005 as arrears clearance months which resulted in liquidation of many long pending drawback claims.
- (c) The facility of Revised Simplified Procedure has been extended to select categories of exporters for expeditious disposal of brand rate applications. Under this scheme, drawback rates are fixed without pre-verification of the data. The rates are subject to post audit.
- (d) The field formations have been instructed to issue provisional brand rate letters within a maximum period of 15 days of receipt of the complete application.

[Translation]

Import of Dairy Products

3708. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the import of dairy products during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether there is huge stock of dairy products in Indian markets imported on cheaper rates from Western Countries;
- (c) if so, whether quantitative restriction on import of dairy products has been lifted as reported in *Navbharat Times* dated April 12, 2006;
- (d) if so, the details and facts of the matter reported therein; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the domestic dairy industry and the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The value of import of dairy products is as under:

Value in Rs. lakhs			
2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006 (Apr-Sep)
6161.22	12920.51	5136.29	1261.74

(b) to (d) No case of alleged dumping of dairy products has been received. Quantitative restriction on dairy products had been removed since 1st April, 2001 to fulfil the WTO obligation.

(e) The import duty on skimmed milk powder (SMP) and whole milk powder (WMP) had been enhanced from zero to 60% with annual tariff rate Quota of 10000 MT with both lines together at 15% duty after negotiations under Article XXVIII of GATT. The import duty on butter oil has also been enhanced to 40% to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship. Further the Government has put in place a mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items including dairy products.

Import of Spices

3709. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:

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

- (a) whether spices are being imported every year in large quantity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity imported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give subsidy and other incentive to spices growers to enhance their production in order to curtail import expenditure; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The details of import of spices are given as under:

Year	Value (Lakhs)	Quantity (MT)
2002-03	58873.11	121366
2003-04	56363.72	126235
2004-05	54023.93	99100
2005-06 (estimated)	51540.50	84500

Foreign trade regime has ensured access to imports which are essential for meeting the requirements of exports, domestic consumption, growth and development.

(c) and (d) The assistance are provided for enhancing spices production under National Horticulture Mission on following aspects:

1. Production of planting material
2. Establishment of new garden

3. Rejuvenation/replacement of senile plantation.
4. Protected cultivation
5. Promotion of IPM/organic farming
6. HRD including horticulture institutes
7. Technology dissemination
8. Post Harvest Management
9. Processing and value addition.

[English]

Inspection of Technical Institutions by AICTE

3710. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

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

(a) whether the Indian Council of Technical Education has recently conducted any inspection of all the technical institutes of the country as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated May 05, 2006;

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

(c) whether the AICTE has decided to bring down intake of students by the institutes violating norms fixed for infrastructure and faculty, etc.;

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

(e) the action taken by the AICTE against such institutes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), during the year 2006-07, as per the Approval Process (December, 2005) has done away with the process of physically inspecting each and every institution and is granting extension of approval/additional courses on the basis of information submitted by the institutes in prescribed formats for Compliance Reports alongwith Mandatory Disclosures and Detailed Project Report (DPR). However, surprise/random visits are conducted round the year by the Council. On the basis of the above exercise, out of total 4080 technical institutions, 3269 have been processed till date for extension of approval/increase in intake/additional courses.

(c) The Council has reduced the intake of students including putting the institutions under no admission

category in case of institutions having faculty deficiency and/or built up area deficiency. However, institutions have been given an opportunity to apply for restoration of the reduced intake by complying with the faculty and/or built up area deficiency by 31st May, 2006 as per the guidelines.

(d) and (e) Intake in 430 technical institutions, have been reduced to be extent of 26790. Increase in intake and additional courses were approved to institutions, which had complied with norms and standards of AICTE, which amounted to an increase of 22869 seats. The net effect on seats as on 28th April 2006 is reduction of 3921 seats.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission Bill

3711. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision to increase fixed capital investment incorporated in Khadi and Village Industries Commission Bill, will have any impact on the number of beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether increase in number of members and Zonal Committees will enhance the expenditure; and

(d) if so, the manner in which it is proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The number of beneficiaries is unlikely to be affected adversely on account of increase in the monetary limit of fixed capital investment per head of an artisan or a worker in village industries. This increase is justified because the existing limit of investment (Rs. 50,000/-) was fixed by notification under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956, as long ago as in October 1994.

(c) and (d) The increase in expenditure will not be significant and will be met out of the Government grants to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

Waiving of Security Clearance

3712. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the security clearance for the bus and rail passengers from neighboring countries have been waived off;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No Sir, Security clearance is an inbuilt procedure for grant of visa/permit and immigration check for rail/bus passengers from neighbouring countries of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

**National Commission for Minorities
Educational Institutions**

3713. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established National Commission for Minorities Educational Institutions;

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

(c) the time frame fixed for the Commission to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) established under Act No. 2 of 2005, consists of one Chairperson and two Members.

(c) The NCMEI Act, 2004 provides for annual reports.

[Translation]

Production of Coir

3714. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of coir produced in the country from the years 2003 to March, 2006;

(b) the details of the coir exported during the said period;

(c) the names of the countries to whom coir is exported alongwith the quantity thereof; and

(d) the initiatives taken by the Government for growth of coir industry and increasing coir production in view of competition in coir products at international level?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The details are as under:

[Quantity in metric tones (MT)]

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
Production	Export	Production	Export	Production	Export
3,64,000	1,02,253	3,85,000	1,22,927	4,10,000	1,32,962

(c) The country-wise details are as under:

Country	Quantity of coir exported in (MT)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
USA	26894	32583	35810
Netherlands	17856	22323	20724
UK	8624	9333	9543
Italy	5719	5274	4605
Germany	5540	5909	6970
Spain	5389	7419	7419
Australia	4513	4082	3811
France	3378	3885	3545
Belgium	2984	2218	2403
Canada	1944	2238	2909
UAE	1904	—	4005
Japan	1722	892	1080
Sweden	1068	1183	1205
Turkey	852	1132	—
Greece	656	—	—

1	2	3	4
South Africa	—	1332	1356
Denmark	—	692	—
South Korea	—	—	11743
Other countries	13210	22422	15834
Total	102253	122927	132962

(d) The Coir Board, established by the Central Government, has been implementing several schemes of research and development, technology upgradation, market promotion, skill development, infrastructure upgradation, etc., for sustainable development of the coir industry. Besides, new schemes titled "Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI)" and "Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme" (the operated by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Ministry of Commerce & Industry) also include projects for cluster-based development of coir industry.

[English]

Inclusion of Gondi Language in 8th Schedule of Constitution

3715. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any memorandum from 'All India Gondi Samaj Religious Conference' to include Gondi Language in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution of India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Demands of Gondi and various other languages for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution are pending with the Government.

A Committee was set up under Shri Sitakant Mohapatra to evolve a set of objective criteria for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule. The Committee has submitted its report and made certain recommendations. A decision on the pending demands for inclusion of languages in the Eighth Schedule, including Gondi, will be taken in the light of the recommendations of the Committee.

Setting up of Agro and Rural Industries

3716. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agro and rural industries set up after the department has been made a separate Ministry;

(b) whether any industry has been set up in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Chingleput; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Government (In the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries) has been implementing two credit-linked subsidy schemes, namely, the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), for creation of employment opportunities by assisting eligible entrepreneurs/educated unemployed youth/self help groups, etc., in setting up agro and rural industries. REGP is implemented in village and small towns with population upto 20,000, while PMRY is implemented in both rural and urban areas. The details of the units set up under REGP and self-employment ventures set up under PMRY, after 2001-02 (*i.e.*, year of establishment of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries), are given below:

Year	Number of units set up Under REGP	Number of self-employment ventures set up under PMRY
2002-03	21024	190251
2003-04	24747	219444
2004-05	24353	244884
2005-06	24505*	226974*

*Provisional figures.

(b) and (c) 4239 (provisional figures) units have been set up in Tamil Nadu under REGP during 01 April 2002 up to 31 March 2006. Of these, 66 units have been set up in Chingleput Taluka (REGP is not implemented in Chingleput city as its population is above 20,000). Similarly, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India, 52309 (provisional figures) self employment ventures have been set up in Tamil Nadu under PMRY during 01 April 2002 up to 31 March 2006. As reported by the Government of

Tamil Nadu, 882 ventures out of these have been set up in Chingleput.

Scheme for Protection of Border

3717. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has suggested any scheme to Union Government for further protection of its border adjacent to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) Security fencing along with border roads are being constructed in Gujarat along the India-Pakistan border. In addition assistance is being provided to the Government under the Coastal Security Scheme framed in consultation with coastal States, including Gujarat. Government of India would be providing assistance for setting up 10 coastal police stations, 25 check posts and 46 outposts equipped with 30 vessels and vehicles, etc. The scheme has commenced from 2005-06 vessels and vehicles, etc. The scheme has commenced from 2005-06 and an amount of Rs. 3.01 crores has already been released to Government of Gujarat as first instalment. In addition a scheme to strengthen Coast Guard for undertaking patrolling off Gujarat coastline along the International Maritime Boundary line between India and Pakistan is under implementation.

Indo-Israel Trade Agreement

3718. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel have entered into an agreement to increase trade;

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

(c) the present status of trade between the two countries along with the items of trade during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As agreed between India and Israel, a Joint Study Group (JSG) had been set up to examine ways and means to promote bilateral economic relations and to consider an Economic Partnership Agreement between India and Israel. The JSG Report was released at Tel Aviv, Israel on 10th November, 2005, recommendations of which include on India-Israel Action Plan for Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between India and Israel viz. a WTO compatible Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA), Customs Cooperation, Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for items of both side's export interest, early utilization of R&D funds, establishment of investment dialogue, liberalization of trade in services, joint websites, and negotiations on bilateral shipping agreements, etc.

(c) During the last three years, both export and imports registered a steady growth and during the year 2005-06 (April-Dec.), exports to Israel increased by 18.28% and import from Israel showed a growth of 21.07%. The details of bilateral trade between the two countries during the last three years are as under:

(in US\$ million)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Apr.-Dec.)	
Export from India	634.54	723.98	989.95	844.01	(713.55)*
Import by India	602.68	669.76	972.52	777.08	(641.83)*
Trade Balance	31.86	54.22	17.43	66.93	(71.72)*

(Source: DGC&S, Kolkata)

*Figures in brackets refers to the period April-December 2004-05.

Top five items of exports from India to Israel during these years have been Gems & Jewellery, Drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals, cotton yarn, fabrics,

made-ups etc., Plastic & linoleum products, Inorganic/Organic/Agro Chemicals etc. Top five items of imports from Israel during these years have been Pearls precious/

semi-precious stones; Fertilizers manufactured; Electronic goods; Professional instruments etc. except electronic; and Organic Chemicals.

Privatisation of Vocational Education

3719. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the role of the private sector in vocational education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other measures taken/to be taken by the Government for improvement of vocational education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) Considering the felt need of strengthening the Vocational Education System in the country, the existing scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at + 2 level is under revision to formulate a revised scheme. The scope of the scheme has not yet been finalized for approval of all concerned.

Opening of Trade Border

3720. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of North Eastern States have requested the Government to open Centre for trade and commerce along the International border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has requested for opening up of additional trading points on the international border at Bumla, Pangsau Pass and Bleting for carrying out trade with China, Myanmar and Bhutan respectively. These trading points can be operationalised only after bilateral negotiations with the concerned countries.

Industrialisation and Trade Promotion

3721. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals pending before the Government for industrialisation, trade promotion and setting up of industries for the over all economic development and Karnataka; and

(b) the time by which these proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Under the liberalized Industrial Policy, investment decisions are based on the commercial judgement of entrepreneurs, keeping in view the initiatives taken by the State Government/UTs concerned in creating a conducive environment by way of providing basic infrastructural facilities and other incentives. The Central Government supplements these efforts to the extent possible by providing support/incentive under its various Schemes.

During August, 1991 to March 2006, 2536 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda were filed and 253 Letters of Intent and Direct Industrial Licences were issued for establishment of proposed projects in the State of Karnataka.

[Translation]

Promotion and Development of Small Scale Industries

3722. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes launched by the Government for promoting and developing small scale industries alongwith the eligibility criteria fixed to extend assistance/subsidy to entrepreneurs;

(b) the details with regard to the financial assistance/subsidy extended to the entrepreneurs during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of traditional occupations included in the category of small scale industries for promotion and development by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Development and promotion of small scale industries (SSI) are primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory

(UT) Governments/Administrations. The Central Government, however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations through various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, etc. The major schemes/programmes being implemented throughout the country for the promotion of small scale industries are listed in the enclosed Statement-I. Benefits of these schemes are availed of by individual SSI units or their groups.

(b) Details of financial assistance/subsidy so availed of by SSI units, in terms of their State-wise location, during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) In accordance with the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, small scale industries are defined in terms of investment in plant & machinery and not by occupations, traditional or otherwise.

Statement I

Major Schemes and Programmes implemented for Promotion and Development of Small Scale Industries in the Country

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme/Programme	Objective	Eligibility criteria for assistance/subsidy
1	2	3	4
1.	Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for Technology Upgradation	Under the scheme, 15% capital subsidy is granted on loans upto Rs. 1 crore for technology upgradation.	The eligible beneficiaries are SSI units. Capital subsidy under the scheme is available for projects of technological upgradation for which term loans are sanctioned by the notified primary lending institutions.
2.	Integrated Infrastructural Development Scheme	Assistance is provided to State Governments, State level PSUs, etc., for setting up/upgradation of industrial estates for SSI units, upto 40% of the cost or Rs. 2 crore, whichever is less. For the North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal, assistance is upto 80% of the cost or Rs. 4 crore, whichever is less.	No direct assistance/subsidy to entrepreneurs.
3.	Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme	This scheme provides guarantee cover upto 75% of credit (term-loan and working capital loan) extended by banks and financial institutions. The scheme is administered by the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Small Industries (CGTSI) and the member lending institutions (banks, etc.) of the Trust. The Government contributes 80% of the corpus of the Fund.	The Scheme facilitates collateral free credit (term and/or working capital loan) upto Rs. 25 lakh extended by member lending institutions to new and existing small enterprises/small scale service and business enterprises.

1	2	3	4
4.	Small Industry Cluster Development Programme	This programme aims at holistic development of industrial clusters, <i>i.e.</i> , agglomerations of SSI units producing the same or similar type of products in a defined area. Assistance for development of cluster includes technological upgradation, marketing and export promotion, skill development, creation of common facility centre, etc.	No direct assistance/subsidy to individual entrepreneurs.
5.	ISO 9000/14001 Certification Reimbursement Scheme	Cost of obtaining ISO 9000/14001 Certification by Small Scale Industries is reimbursed to the extent of 75% or Rs. 75,000 whichever is lower. The objective of the scheme is to improve the marketability of the SSI products by enhancing their quality.	All small scale industries with permanent registration are eligible to avail of the benefit.
6.	Performance and Credit Rating Scheme	The objective of the Scheme of "Performance and Credit Rating of SSIs" is to sensitise the SSI units to the need to obtain credit rating and encourage them to maintain good financial track record which would help them earn higher rating for their credit requirements when they approach the banks for their working capital and investment requirements. The rating is done by accredited rating agencies. One-time grant upto 75% of the rating, fee, subject to a maximum of Rs. 40,000 is reimbursed to the SSI units availing of the benefit of the Scheme.	SSI units with permanent registration.
7.	Reimbursement Scheme for Adopting of Bar Coding of Products	The Scheme is meant to encourage SSI exporters to tap and develop overseas markets. Marketing Development Assistance for SSI exporters provides for reimbursement of 75% of one-time registration fee to be paid by SSI units to EAN India for adoption of Bar Coding.	SSI units having permanent registration.

Note: All these schemes are demand-driven.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23.	Mizoram	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
24.	Nagaland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
25.	Orissa	4.80	2.40	14.40	2.88	13.66	8.20	1.90	0.0
26.	Pondicherry	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.54	5.19	0.40	0.11
27.	Punjab	16.74	94.66	71.77	40.10	119.04	122.71	7.82	1.42
28.	Rajasthan	3.72	126.40	206.78	36.81	90.38	84.23	6.32	1.76
29.	Sikkim	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30.	Tamil Nadu	185.72	381.98	512.84	60.82	296.05	415.75	44.06	3.34
31.	Tripura	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
32.	Uttar Pradesh	10.78	45.52	80.89	41.87	183.35	180.90	23.54	3.04
33.	Uttaranchal	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.51	9.65	10.10	0.40	0.0
34.	West Bengal	0.0	23.4	22.17	21.47	74.16	73.84	14.28	1.39
Total		374.49	1359.76	1814.25	489.29	1730.51	1944.64	241.02	39.13

*Scheme started in 2005-06

Artificial Kota Stone

3723. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether polished kota stone found is facing competition from artificial kota stone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign trade of kota stone has been affected;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps to save this industry from artificial Kota-Stone; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (f) Kota stone being a building stone, is a minor mineral in terms of Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development

and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). As per the provisions of the MMDR Act, minor minerals are dealt by the State Governments. Detailed data on minor minerals is not centrally maintained.

[English]

Activities of ISI

3724. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been infiltration of ISI agents on the Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the number of such persons arrested in 2005-06 in various States including Maharashtra; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop infiltration and activities of ISI agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) During the period January 01, 2005 to April 30, 2006, 27 ISI backed modules were neutralized in various

parts of the country resulting in arrest of 41 espionage agents including 15 Pak resident agents, some of whom had infiltrated through the Indo-Pak Border.

(c) The Government has adopted a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach, for tackling the activities of ISI by strengthening the border management to check illegal cross border activities, gearing up the intelligence machinery, close interaction and coordination between different agencies of the Centre and the State Governments for neutralizing plans of militants and anti national elements, modernization and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system, action against these elements under the Official Secrets Act, etc.

Setting up of Spy Wing by CRPF

3725. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CRPF is going to set up its own Spy Wing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the CRPF has favoured a separate air wing to give more teeth to its operations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether around 1500 officers and men from over 200 battalions are already under training with the Intelligence Bureau;

(f) the time by which such wing is likely to be formed; and

(g) the aspects on which training will be imparted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a), (b), (e) to (g) CRPF has established intelligence cells to support counter insurgency and internal security related operations by training personnel in such skills.

(c) and (d) CRPF has projected requirement of a dedicated Air Wing for casualty evacuation, air dropping supplies and emergency deployment in remote areas.

Participation in International Exhibition and Trade Fair

3726. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the details of participation in International Exhibition and trade fair to display the products of Small Scale Industry units and to improve the position of the SSI products in international market by the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) during the last three years along with the impact?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): The Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) participated in 26 International Trade Fairs/Exhibitions during the last three years since 2003-04 in which 785 small scale industries (SSI) exhibits were displayed. The details are as under:

Year	Trade Fairs	SSI Exhibits Displayed
2003-04	07	186
2004-05	09	378
2005-06	10	221

These events provide opportunities to the SSI units to demonstrate their capabilities to produce quality products to compete in the global market. The SSI entrepreneurs participating in these fairs get an exposure to the global market and the best international marketing practices. The participating SSI units are also advised to follow up the trade enquiries generated during these fairs and explore the possibilities of actual exports.

FDI Flow in Textile Sector

3727. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers employed in textile industry during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the flow of FDI money into the sector during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to review a policy to change labour laws for the industry in order to make it internationally competitive and attract more FDI in the sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The number

of workers employed in textile industry during the last three years is given below:—

Year	'000' Nos.		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (prov.)
Spinning (Non SSI+SSI), Composite, Exclusive weaving	959	948	939
Powerloom	4592	4757	4844#
Manmade fibre/yarn manufacturing	66	65	65
Total	5817	5770	5848

up to Feb. 2006

(b) During the last three years the flow of FDI in the textile sector has been as under:-

Year	(Rs. Crore)			Total
	2003-04 (Apr-Mar)	2004-05 (Apr-Mar)	2005-06 (Apr-Feb)	
FDI inflow in textile sector (including dyed, printed)	42.84	196.84	355.92	595.61

Source: Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA)

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for overall review of policy to change the labour laws.

Additional Grants for Primary Schools

3728. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various State Governments particularly Government of Madhya Pradesh have approached the Union Government for additional grants for construction and repair of primary school buildings and for providing other facilities during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Against the Annual Work

Plan under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan presented by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 2006-07, a total outlay of Rs. 1869.88 crores has been sanctioned by Government of India which includes approvals for construction of 2284 primary school buildings and 11798 additional classrooms for existing primary schools.

Survey Conducted by the National Institute of Nutrition

3729. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Nutrition has conducted any survey to ascertain the quality of food supplied under Mid-Day Meal Scheme as reported in the 'Hindustan' dated April 17, 2006;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the quality of food supplied under the said Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by National Institute of Nutrition, no such survey has been conducted by them.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government to improve the quality of food supplied under MDM scheme:-

- (i) Mid-Day Meal has been made nourishing with minimum 300 calories and 8-12 grams of protein.
- (ii) States are introducing weekly menus offering a variety of food. Some States are also adding eggs, fruits, soya-nuggets etc.
- (iii) Mothers of all school children are being mobilised to take turns to supervise preparation and serving of meals, to ensure regularity and quality.
- (iv) FCI has appointed Nodal officers in all States to ensure smooth supply of quality foodgrains.
- (v) States are being exhorted to train cooks/helpers and teachers on issue of hygiene, cleanliness and safety.

Report on Killing of Tribals

3730. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought detailed report from State Government on the killing of tribal in Dantewada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had requested the Government of Chhattisgarh to furnish a report about the reported incident killing of 25 tribals in a naxal attack on

28.2.2006. The State Government has reported that 28 persons died and 27 persons have been injured. All the dead and injured persons belong to the Scheduled Tribes. The dependants of each person killed in the incident have been paid Rs. 2 lakh and each injured person has been paid Rs. 30,000 as ex-gratia. The persons injured were also given free medical treatment. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also sought a report on the killing of 13 Scheduled Tribes, which was reported in newspapers on 30.4.2006. The report from the State Government is yet to be received.

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted a Coordination Centre to review the naxal scenario in the country. Affected States have been asked to strengthen their police stations in terms of manpower, weaponry, communication equipment, etc. in addition to a dedicated intelligence set up at the district and police station levels.

At the meeting of the Standing Committee of Chief Ministers of naxal affected States held on 13.4.2006, it was decided that the States will take immediate policy and operational measures for speedy and effective implementation of land reforms, putting in place a progressive and forward looking rehabilitation and resettlement policy for displaced tribals, ensuring meaningful implementation of Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), withdrawing/compounding of minor forest offences and allowing debt waiver in the naxal affected areas.

Quake Relief to J&K

3731. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of about Rs. 600 crore were announced by the Prime Minister as quake relief to Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, whether the amount has been released;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th October, 2005 had announced an immediate release of Rs. 100.00 crore

to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of the earthquake of 8th October, 2005. Further, the Hon'ble Prime Minister during his visit to the State of J&K had announced a package of Rs. 500 crore for the earthquake affected areas. Against these announcements of Rs. 600 crore, an amount of Rs. 300.28 crore had been released by the Government of India on an 'on account' basis from the NCCF to the Government of J&K to enable the State Government to undertake immediate rescue and relief operations in the earthquake affected areas.

In addition to the above, the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 30th March, 2006 have approved an amount of Rs. 242.95 crore towards expenditure for providing relief items and for the provision of shelter materials as well as for construction of intermediate/ temporary shelters in the earthquake affected areas in the State.

Further, the State Government has projected a tentative requirement of Rs. 717.42 crore for long term rehabilitation/reconstruction of damaged infrastructure in the earthquake affected areas. This proposal is being considered by the Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) set up under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairperson, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The State Government is now required to submit detailed sector-wise Plan proposals to the Government of India in this regard.

Allocation of Funds for Technical Education

3732. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought an additional assistance of Rs. 1425 crore from Planning Commission to meet technical education expenditure during the remaining period of 10th Plan;

(b) if so, whether Rs. 100 crore from this has been demanded by IIT;

(c) if so, whether there was also demand of Rs. 80 crore for technology development mission and Rs. 42 crore for upgradation of 7 existing IITs;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Planning Commission; and

(e) the time by which this amount is likely to be provided to such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) The Ministry had proposed a sum of Rs. 1367.22 crores in respect of Technical Education Sector for the year 2006-07, which included Rs. 320.00 crores for existing IITs, Rs. 80.00 crores for Technology Development Mission and Rs. 21.00 crores for upgradation of existing seven Engineering Institutes to the level of IITs. Out of the total approved outlay of Rs. 3617.50 crores for the Department of Secondary and Higher Education during 2006-07, an amount of Rs. 930.00 crores has been allocated to the Technical Education Sector. The allocated funds are provided to the institutions during the course of the year.

[*Translation*]

Amendment in Section 377 of IPC

3733. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Additional Solicitor General has submitted before the Supreme Court that the Section 377 of IPC dealing with unnatural sex is required to be examined in view of the changed social scenario;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring suitable amendments in Section 377 of IPC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The Naz Foundation, a non-governmental organization filed a Special Leave Petition No. 7217-7218 of 2005 before the Supreme Court against the verdict of Delhi High Court on their Writ Petition, challenging the constitutional validity of Section 377 of IPC. In a Counter Affidavit filed before the Supreme Court on behalf of the Union of India in the matter, the Supreme Court was, *inter alia*, informed about the recommendations of the Law Commission of India in its 172nd Report on 'Review of Rape Laws',

recommending changes for widening scope of the offence in Section 375 IPC by replacing 'rape' 'sexual assault' and to make it gender neutral. In the light of the changes recommended by the Law Commission in Section 375 to 376E of IPC, they opined that Section 377 of IPC deserves to be deleted.

Implementation of the recommendations of the Law Commission in its aforesaid Report is subject to the Government taking a final view based on the comments of the State Governments and other stakeholders, introduction and passing of an amendment Bill in Parliament for which no time-frame can be fixed.

[English]

Scholarship to School Drop outs

3734. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has started incentive for school drop outs to go back to school in 2006 and stay on till the Ph.D. Degree;

(b) if so, whether in an attempt to make the national talent promotion scheme more inclusive the NCERT has decided to offer scholarships to the class-VII drop out from schools;

(c) if so, whether under the national talent promotion scheme NCERT will give 100 scholarships to the drop out students after class-VII and VIII;

(d) if so, whether such scheme is likely to be made available throughout the country; and

(e) whether the state level commission for scholarship is likely to be established during May 2006; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) NCERT has introduced National Talent Promotion Scheme (NTPS) for school drop outs for a period of one year only on trial basis during 2005-06. The scheme offers 100 scholarships for children who have

dropped from regular schooling after class-VIII. The scheme is applicable throughout the country. Identification of talent comprises of two-stage selection process. While the individual States/UTs conducted the first stage selection, on November, 26-27, 2005 the second stage National Level NTPS is to be held by NCERT on May 14, 2006.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Drunken Drivers in Delhi

3735. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tendency to drunken driving is rising in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested for the said offence during the last two years;

(c) the action taken by the Government against them;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such tendencies; and

(e) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) Persons found drunk while driving are arrested/prosecuted by Delhi Police. The number of persons challenged/arrested by Delhi Police for drunken driving in 2005 was more than those challaned/arrested in 2004 as indicated below:

Year	Number of drivers prosecuted	Number of drivers arrested
2004	3347	1808
2005	4292	2028

The steps taken by Delhi Police to check drunken driving include checking the concentration of alcohol in

the blood of drivers with the help of Alco Meter (breath analyzer), organizing special drives at night and on roads which are prone to drunken driving; and educating motorists through newspapers and visual media to avoid driving after consumption of alcohol.

Export Oriented Status

3736. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government has been operating hundred per cent export oriented units scheme to increase export;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the manufacturers/growers benefited under the scheme during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether increase in exports has also led to increase in foreign exchange; and

(d) if so, the foreign exchange received during the current year in comparison to the previous years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 31.3.2006, a total of 2,037 Export Oriented Units (EOUs) were functioning in the country. EOUs are given a package of incentives which includes income tax exemption; duty free import of capital goods, raw materials and components; exemption from Central Excise duty and other levies on local purchases; deemed export benefits on capital goods and other inputs provided to the EOUs by Domestic Tariff Area suppliers and reimbursement of Central Sales Tax paid on the purchase of goods.

(c) and (d) The export performance of EOUs in US Dollar terms during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Export (In US \$ Million)	Percentage Growth over previous year
2003-04	6390.77	—
2004-05	8280.64	29.57
2005-06	7433.02	-10.24

[English]

Subsidy to Cotton Corporation of India Ltd.

3737. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cotton Corporation of India is adequately subsidized for procurement of cotton at the minimum support price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether no subsidy is provided to State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd., Gujarat and Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the steps taken to provide subsidy to these Marketing Federation;

(e) whether any proposal to recognize/nominate the above Federations are pending with the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to clear the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) and (b) Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) is reimbursed the losses, if any, incurred by it in carrying out the Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation in cotton as the Nodal agency of the Government of India. CCI had undertaken MSP operations on following occasions:-

Cotton Year (Oct.-Sept.)	Purchase under MSP operation (in lakh bales)
1	2
1982-83	1.91
1983-84	0.11
1984-85	0.78
1985-86	12.51
1986-87	4.55
1988-90	0.02

1	2
1996-97	0.10
1999-2000	0.06
2001-02	9.00
2004-05	27.52
2005-06 Provisional upto 01.05.2006	12.46

(c) to (f) From the cotton season 2004-05, the Government of India has also nominated NAFED as the second agency for undertaking MSP operations in the event of kapas prices touching the MSP level. No State level agency including State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd., Gujarat and Maharashtra have been nominated as agencies on behalf of Government of India to undertake MSP operations in cotton.

[Translation]

Mining of Sponge Iron

3738. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies to whom mining of sponge iron licences have been issued in the country;

(b) the terms and service conditions for issuance of such licences;

(c) whether the licenced companies engaged in mining of sponge iron are selling raw sponge iron at higher prices as a result of which sponge iron based industries are gradually closing down; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government alongwith corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Sponge Iron is a finished product of iron ore and mining of sponge iron is not undertaken. States being the owner of mineral grant mining leases for minerals, which includes iron ore. Prior approval of the Central Government is mandatory for minerals listed in the First Schedule of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1960, (MMDR

Act), that includes iron ore. Prior approval in respect of 33 proposals for grant of mining leases for iron ore has been accorded by the Ministry of Mines during 2005-06.

(b) The terms and conditions in respect of mining leases for iron ore are governed by the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder.

(c) and (d) Government does not control the price of iron ore, and these are determined by market forces.

Mobile Phone to BSF Jawans

3739. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken the decision to provide mobile phones to the BSF jawans posted at the border;

(b) if so, the time by which the said action is likely to be taken;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to provide the rations, allowances and leave to BSF jawans at par with the said facilities available to the army jawans; and

(d) if so, the time by which the such proposals is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As sanctioned by the Government, BSF has provided mobile telephones to Border Out Posts covered by mobile telephone services.

(c) and (d) Parity already exists in case of ration money allowance whenever CPFs, including BSF, personnel are posted along side or ahead of the Army and in the matter of leave, for the personnel posted in field informations.

Enhancement in allowances of BSF personnel is considered by the Government from time to time taking into account the conditions in which they work.

National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration

3740. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the suggestion given in Delhi High Court in November 2004 by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) not to declare any student as failed up to matric level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(d) whether the Union Government has any scheme to not to declare any student fail up to the matric level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Government is aware of an affidavit filed by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) in the Delhi High Court in which a statement has been made that children should not be subjected to pressure of competition which can be avoided only by ensuring that no student is ever failed in any class up to and inclusive of the 10th.

(c) Government has noted the suggestion made by NIEPA.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Admission in KVS

3741. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has framed a committee recently for admission in Kendriya Vidyalaya;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications has been received by the Government and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas upto now;

(d) the number of admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas made by the Government and its department under the various discretionary quota in each state of the country during the last three years and current year 2006 as on date; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) General admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas are done at the school level in accordance with the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) admission Guidelines. A Committee comprising of Joint Secretary (Secondary Education) in the Ministry of Human Resource Development as its Chairman, Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) as Member and Joint Commissioner (Admn.), KVS, as Member-Secretary has been set up on 13.3.2006 to decide the special admissions under the discretionary quota for Chairman, KVS.

(c) 2500 Applications have been received by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for admission till 9.5.2006.

(d) and (e) The relevant information is given in Statement-I, II and III.

Statement I

Admission under Special Dispensation Quota of Hon'ble HRM for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

Sl.No.	Name of State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	03	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	41	02	03
3.	Assam	49	0	10

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	0	0
5.	Bihar	29	34	120
6.	Chandigarh	05	01	01
7.	Chhattisgarh	22	0	13
8.	Daman and Diu	03	0	0
9.	Delhi	40	823	1050
10.	Goa	05	0	02
11.	Gujarat	42	06	04
12.	Haryana	28	17	32
13.	Himachal Pradesh	20	0	04
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	35	01	03
15.	Jharkhand	25	02	04
16.	Karnataka	32	10	30
17.	Kerala	26	19	138
18.	Madhya Pradesh	72	246	207
19.	Maharashtra	51	04	13
20.	Manipur	05	0	02
21.	Meghalaya	07	0	0
22.	Mizoram	02	0	0
23.	Nagaland	06	0	0
24.	Orissa	29	13	14
25.	Pondicherry	02	0	0
26.	Punjab	39	0	02
27.	Rajasthan	54	15	29
28.	Sikkim	02	0	0
29.	Tamil Nadu	29	11	09
30.	Tripura	05	0	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	94	191	336
32.	Uttaranchal	38	15	10
33.	West Bengal	49	11	11
34.	Abroad	02	0	01
	Total	902	1421	2048

Statement II

State-wise special admissions under discretionary Quota of Chairman, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for the year 2006-07 as on 9.5.2006

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of Admissions
1	2	3
1.	Bihar	9
2.	Chhattisgarh	2
3.	Delhi	157
4.	Haryana	5
5.	Karnataka	8

1	2	3
6.	Kerala	23
7.	Madhya Pradesh	26
8.	Maharashtra	1
9.	Orissa	1
10.	Rajasthan	7
11.	Uttar Pradesh	22
12.	Uttaranchal	2
13.	West Bengal	4
Total		267

Statement III

State-wise Admissions through Quota of MPs 2003-04

Sl.No.	State	Rajya Sabha	Lok Sabha	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	6	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	4
3.	Assam	11	10	21
4.	Bihar	30	27	57
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	8
6.	Goa	0	2	2
7.	Gujarat	9	15	24
8.	Haryana	3	11	14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6	4	10
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	6	8
11.	Jharkhand	2	6	8
12.	Karnataka	27	22	49
13.	Kerala	22	25	47
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16	32	48

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Maharashtra	8	9	17
16.	Manipur	2	4	6
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	2	2	4
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	15	20	35
21.	Punjab	8	6	14
22.	Rajasthan	18	26	44
23.	Sikkim	2	2	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	31	9	40
25.	Tripura	0	0	0
26.	Uttaranchal	6	10	16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	54	68	122
28.	West Bengal	22	25	47
UTs				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	2	2
2.	Chandigarh	0	2	2
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
4.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
5.	Delhi	18	14	32
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
7.	Pondicherry	2	2	4
Total		325	374	699

State-wise Admissions through Quota of MPs 2004-05

Sl.No.	State	Rajya Sabha	Lok Sabha	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	8	18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	2

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	10	11	21
4.	Bihar	39	34	73
5.	Chhattisgarh	8	14	22
6.	Goa	0	2	2
7.	Gujarat	17	20	37
8.	Haryana	6	10	16
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8	2	10
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	2	4
11.	Jharkhand	3	4	7
12.	Karnataka	24	19	43
13.	Kerala	21	22	43
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19	40	59
15.	Maharashtra	10	13	23
16.	Manipur	02	2	2
17.	Meghalaya	00	0	0
18.	Mizoram	01	1	1
19.	Nagaland	2	0	2
20.	Orissa	27	22	49
21.	Punjab	7	6	13
22.	Rajasthan	11	30	41
23.	Sikkim	00	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	41	14	55
25.	Tripura	00	0	0
26.	Uttaranchal	8	9	17
27.	Uttar Pradesh	64	66	130
28.	West Bengal	25	23	48
UTs				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	00	00	0
2.	Chandigarh	00	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	00	00	0
4.	Daman and Diu	00	00	0
5.	Delhi	19	7	28
6.	Lakshadweep	00	00	0
7.	Pondicherry	02	02	0
Total		383	381	764

State-wise Admissions through Quota of MPs 2005-06

Sl.No.	State	Rajya Sabha	Lok Sabha	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	24	33	57
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	02	02	04
3.	Assam	12	21	33
4.	Bihar	28	62	90
5.	Chhattisgarh	06	24	30
6.	Goa	03	04	07
7.	Gujarat	22	28	50
8.	Haryana	10	11	21
9.	Himachal Pradesh	06	07	13
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	04	05	09
11.	Jharkhand	05	10	15
12.	Karnataka	23	36	59
13.	Kerala	21	37	58
14.	Madhya Pradesh	21	51	72
15.	Maharashtra	10	19	29
16.	Manipur	02	02	04
17.	Meghalaya	00	02	02
18.	Mizoram	01	02	03
19.	Nagaland	00	02	02

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Orissa	18	34	52
21.	Punjab	10	13	23
22.	Rajasthan	20	39	59
23.	Sikkim	00	00	00
24.	Tamil Nadu	36	58	94
25.	Tripura	00	00	00
26.	Uttaranchal	06	10	16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	55	115	170
28.	West Bengal	24	36	60
UTs				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	00	00	00
2.	Chandigarh	00	02	02
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	00	00	00
4.	Daman and Diu	00	00	00
5.	Delhi	19	16	35
6.	Lakshadweep	00	00	00
7.	Pondicherry	02	02	04
Total		390	683	1073

State-wise Admissions through Spl. Dispension 2006-07 MPs

Sl.No.	State	Rajya Sabha	Lok Sabha	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	23	29
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	4
3.	Assam	9	5	14
4.	Bihar	16	24	40
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	9	14
6.	Goa	2	4	6
7.	Gujarat	19	22	41

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	8	11	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	1	3
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	5	10
11.	Jharkhand	0	7	7
12.	Karnataka	23	43	66
13.	Kerala	15	28	43
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	15	15
15.	Maharashtra	4	14	18
16.	Manipur	2	3	5
17.	Meghalaya	0	2	2
18.	Mizoram	0	2	2
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	12	26	38
21.	Punjab	1	9	10
22.	Rajasthan	15	16	31
23.	Sikkim	0	1	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	22	42	64
25.	Tripura	0	0	0
26.	Uttaranchal	4	2	6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	39	63	102
28.	West Bengal	17	23	40
UTs				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
4.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
5.	Delhi	81	182	263
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
7.	Pondicherry	0	2	2
Total		309	586	895

Reduction in Excise Duty

3742. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry has asked the Government to slash excise duty on man-made fibres and textile machinery and remove custom duty on synthetic fibre; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Budget 2006-07, excise duty on man-made fibres and yarns has been reduced from 16% to 8% and customs duty from 15% to 10%. The excise duty on textile machinery has remained unchanged at 16%.

Setting up of Medicinal Processing Zones

3743. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI PANNIAN RAVINDRAN:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up National Medicinal Plant processing zones in the country;

(b) if so, the purpose and the number of such zones proposed to be set up, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve export share in the global herbal medicine market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No proposal to set up a National Medicinal Plant processing zone is under consideration of the Government. However, according to information made available of the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), under the Department of AYUSH, the NMPB has sanctioned 725 promotional and more than 3500 contractual farming projects in different states to provide assistance for the development and cultivation of medicinal plants.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government is taking steps to promote the exports of all goods, including Herbal Medicines. The schemes formulated for the promotion of exports, *inter alia* include the Advance Lincene Scheme (ALS), Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPB), Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDA), Market Access Initiative Scheme (MAI), etc.

Terrorists Threats on BARC

3744. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Laker-e-Taiyaba Terrorists has threatened to attack Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether terrorists recently caught in Mumbai have revealed the plan of sudden air strike on entire Mumbai City; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to avert such probable attack?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Though there is no recent input yet BARC continues to be in the target list of terrorist organization including LeT.

(b) The terrorists arrested on Jan. 6, 2006 at Nagpada, did not reveal any plan of sudden air strike of entire Mumbai City.

(c) All the concerned security forces as well as agencies have been alerted to strengthen the security arrangements to avoid any untoward incident.

New Design for Coal Wagons

3745. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad is preparing new design for Railway coal wagons to check theft of coal from them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) National Institute of Design (NID) has not received any enquiry for such a design project from Indian Railways.

Disinvestment of BALCO

3746. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to disinvest the remaining 49 per cent equity in the Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this move could result into a loss of Rs. 9000 crore to the exchequer;

(d) if so, the reasons for disinvesting the remaining stake in the Bharat Aluminium Company; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for proper valuation of the BALCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (e) The matter is under consideration and the decision would be laid on the Table of the House after finalization.

[Translation]

Export of Goods Manufactured by Heavy Industries

3747. DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH
DEO:

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

(a) whether the Government has explored the possibility of exporting the goods manufactured by heavy industries; and

(b) if so, the details of the exports made during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There is no formal classification of industry as heavy industry. However, the Government is actively promoting exports of goods manufactured by various industries.

The export performance figures of Public Sector Enterprises under the Department of Heavy Industry are as under:

(Rupees in crores)

Year	Exports
2002-03	2253.48
2003-04	2104.90
2004-05	2242.12
2005-06	4000.00 (provisional)

[English]

Performance of Special Economic Zones

3748. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

(a) the performance of Special Economic Zones during the last three years, zone-wise;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any study to improve the performance of these zones;

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

(d) the action taken by the Government on the basis of outcome of the survey;

(e) whether the Government has any plan to exempt SEZs from the labour laws; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) A statement

showing the zone-wise details of exports from Special Economic Zones (SEZs) during the last three years, is as below:

(Rs. in crores)

Zone	Exports		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (April-Dec, 2005) (P)
Kandla SEZ	1018.82	1060.14	735.14
SEEPZ SEZ	7832.81	8298.59	5896.07
Noida SEZ	1534.17	4266.00	4109.00
Madras SEZ	1037.96	1376.91	1286.00
Cochin SEZ	298.91	462.99	519.37
Falga SEZ	825.34	569.15	355.32
Visakhapatnam SEZ	435.67	579.27	427.01
Surat SEZ	869.90	1539.72	1121.68
Manikanchan SEZ	Nil	95.94	304.18
Jaipur SEZ	Nil	5.27	10.83
Indore SEZ	Nil	55.02	107.22
Jodhpur SEZ	Nil	Nil	1.21
Total	13853.58	18309.00	14873

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Labour Laws are applicable to SEZs and are enforced by the respective State Governments. The SEZ Act and Rules do not provide for any relaxation in labour laws.

[*Translation*]

Licence for Tobacco Production

3749. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the licences are issued for production of tobacco; and

(b) if so, the number of licences issued to tobacco growers during the last five years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of licences issued to tobacco growers during the last five years and the current year, are indicated below State-wise:-

Crop season/State	No. of Growers	No. of Barns
1	2	3
2000-01		
Andhra Pradesh	Crop Holiday	
Karnataka	18131	24478
Maharashtra	—	—
Orissa	121	126

1	2	3
2001-02		
Andhra Pradesh	43982	38817
Karnataka	18751	25207
Maharashtra	47	63
Orissa	—	—
2002-03		
Andhra Pradesh	44562	39178
Karnataka	19351	25886
Maharashtra	31	40
Orissa	189	205
2003-04		
Andhra Pradesh	45448	39592
Karnataka	19702	26330
Maharashtra	27	36
Orissa	108	122
2004-05		
Andhra Pradesh	45280	39168
Karnataka	39702	55425
Maharashtra	31	40
Orissa	76	90
2005-06		
Andhra Pradesh	45824	39677
Karnataka	40544	56630
Maharashtra	30	40
Orissa	107	123

*[English]***Recruitment in CISF**

3750. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal of recruiting young boys and girls from militancy affected States, especially from Jammu and Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The strength of CISF is enhanced from time to time by sanctioning additional manpower for new induction or augmentation on the basis of request received from various units of the Central Government.

(c) and (d) As per recruitment policy of the Government, 20% vacancies in the Border Guarding Forces (BSF, ITBP, SSB, Assam Rifles) and 40% vacancies in CRPF and CISF are earmarked for militancy affected areas, including the State of J&K.

*[Translation]***Trade Relations with Australia**

3751. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) whether the Government has offered to form a joint economic forum with Australia as reported in *Nav Bharat Times* dated March 7, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement on trade and economic framework has been signed between the two countries;

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

(e) the total investment made by Australia in the country till date; and

(f) the amount likely to be invested by Australia under the new agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) There is presently no proposal to form a joint economic forum with Australia.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. India and Australia signed a bilateral 'Trade and Economic Framework (TEF)' on 6th March 2006. TEF provides an institutional framework to enhance bilateral economic engagement in mutually identified areas.

(e) and (f) An amount of US\$ 155.32 million has been received as foreign investments from Australia between August, 1991 and January 2006. Investment decisions depend upon a variety of factors, therefore it is not possible to estimate the likely investment to be made by Australia under the new agreement.

Compensation to Victims of Custodial Violence

3752. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Court of Justice has recommended payment of compensation to the victims of the custodial violence;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to adopt the UN declaration of 1997 in case of custodial tortures;

(d) if so, the time by which the Government is likely to make announcement in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The International Court of Justice, which deals with legal disputes between countries, has not in any case ordered payment of compensation to the victims of custodial violence in the national context.

(c) to (e) There is no UN Declaration of 1997 in the case of custodial torture.

[English]

MoU between India and Mexico

3753. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mexico on cooperation in the fields of micro, small and medium enterprises; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the objectives of MoU?

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

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of micro, small and medium enterprises has been signed between the Secretariat of Economy (SE) of the United Mexican States and the Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) and the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries (ARI) of the Government of India. The MoU Was signed on 27.3.2006 at Mexico by Minister of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries of India and the Minister of Economy of Mexico. The objective of this MoU is to establish the basis and mechanisms for cooperation, to increase and strengthen commercial ties between micro, small and medium sized enterprises of the two countries, with a view to achieving mutually beneficial economic development and employment generation in the two countries.

Allocation of Funds under Various Schemes

3754. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by the Government under the various schemes for development of Textiles in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) the amount spent by the State Governments on such schemes during the above period, State-wise and scheme-wise; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of textiles

alongwith the incentives and the facilities proposed for skilled and unskilled artisans and workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) The activities in textiles are mainly concentrated in decentralized sector *yiz*, handlooms, handicrafts, silk, wool. The Government has initiated various measures for the development of textiles, which *inter-alia*, includes launching of various schemes. The funds under these schemes are not allocated State-wise, and these are released on the basis of viability of the proposals received from various implementing agencies. Some of the important schemes being implemented and amount allocated and released during the last three years and Budget Estimates for current year are given below:

Sl.No.	Sector	Name of important Schemes	Funds allocated (Rs. in crore)				Funds Released (Rs. in crore)		
			2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	BE 2006-07	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Handlooms	Deen Dayal Hathkargha Pratsahan Yojana	68.27	87.59	93.15	90.88	67.34	63.94	93.15
		Handloom Export Scheme (HES)	5.85	4.15	4.80	5.50	4.42	4.15	4.55
		Marketing Promotion Programme	8.20	9.10	13.95	15.50	7.91	9.09	11.47
		Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	17.98	15.00	14.44	12.50	17.97	15.00	14.44
		Weavers Welfare Scheme	7.55	8.09	8.88	10.00	5.76	8.09	8.8
2.	Handicrafts	Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastashilp Vikas Yojana	16.50	23.06	30.20	33.00	15.56	21.10	29.75
		Export Promotion Scheme	9.87	14.35	13.90	15.25	9.82	9.85	14.64
		Training & Extension Scheme	0.62	0.50	1.10	1.00	0.44	0.50	0.92
		Bima Yojana for Handicrafts Artisans	0.60	0.62	3.70	1.00	0.60	0.62	1.00
		Design & Technical Upgradation Scheme	8.75	16.64	18.70	13.00	8.48	15.80	15.41
		Marketing & Support Service Scheme	14.60	18.45	18.60	18.70	11.15	15.69	19.06
3.	Cotton	Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC)	30.00	40.00	80.00	100.00	30.00	40.00	40.00
4.	Silk	Catalytic Development Programme	39.23	48.44	67.11	82.00	39.23	48.44	67.11
5.	Wool	Integrated Wool Improvement Programme (IWIP)	10.00	12.00	5.00	5.00	10	—	5.00
6.	Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS)		250.00	334.00	435.00	535.00	249.00	283.60	485.00

*[Translation]***Trade Deficit**

3755. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
 SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
 SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
 SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:
 SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
 SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

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

(a) whether the target for import/export during the last three years has been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the trade deficit has increased during 2005-06;

(d) if so, the reasons for excessive increase in imports;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring situation under control; and

(f) the targets fixed for import/export during 2005-07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The export targets fixed during the last three years and achievements against these targets is given below:-

(US \$ Billion)

	Target	Achievement
2003-04	58	64
2004-05	75	81
2005-06	92	101

As can be seen from the above, there has been an over achievement of export targets. No targets are fixed for imports.

(c) to (e) As per the provisional data of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, trade deficit increased from around US \$ 26 billion in 2004-05 to around US \$ 40 billion in 2005-06. The increase in deficit was mainly on account of sport in international price of crude oil and higher demand for expanding manufacturing sector. In view of this there was no action taken by the Government to curb imports or to artificially balance trade.

(f) No targets are fixed for imports. Exports are expected to reach US\$120 billion by the end of 2006-07.

*[English]***Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme**

3756. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposals submitted by various State Governments under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme, location-wise, State-wise;

(b) the number of proposals cleared and funds allocated so far State-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information relating to status, sanction and Central grant, etc., on various proposals received from State Governments under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) is mentioned in the enclosed Statement. Since the entire 10th Plan allocation of Rs. 675 crores for IIUS has already been committed for various projects sanctioned so far, it has not been possible to sanction any new proposal.

Statement I

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State	Cluster/ Category	Name of Cluster/ Location	Project cost	Central grants approved	Central grants released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Proposal approved.						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Pharma	Hyderabad	66.16	49.62	16.54
2.		Auto	Vijayawada	31.08	23.50	7.80
Total				103.24	80.12	32.34
3.	Chhattisgarh	Ispat	Raipur	65.55	29.87	9.96
4.	Gujarat	Chemical	Ahmedabad	69.86	41.39	13.79
5.		Chemical	Bharuch	152.83	50.00	40.50
6.		Gem & Jewellery	Surat	86.55	50.00	16.70
7.		Chemical	Vapi	54.31	40.49	12.50
Total				140.86	90.49	29.20
8.	Haryana	Textile	Panipat	54.53	40.90	13.63
9.	Karnataka	Machine Tools	Bangalore	135.78	49.12	16.37
10.		Foundry	Belgaum	24.78	18.54	6.19
11.	Kerala	Coir	Alapuzha	56.80	42.60	14.20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Auto	Pithampur	73.29	49.94	16.65
13.	Maharashtra	Textile	Ichalkaranji	66.55	32.70	10.90
14.		Auto	Pune	59.99	44.99	15.00
Total				126.54	77.69	25.90
15.	Orissa	Steel & Metallurgy	Jajpur	80.60	47.00	15.66
16.	Punjab	Textile	Ludhiana	17.19	12.69	4.21
17.	Rajasthan	Marble	Kishangarh	36.80	27.60	9.20
18.	Tamil Nadu	Auto	Chennai	59.05	35.00	11.70
19.		Leather	Ambur	67.34	43.94	14.65
20.		Food Grain	Madurai	39.96	29.97	10.00
21.		Pump, Motor	Coimbatore	66.39	39.59	13.00
22.		Textile	Tirupur	150.00	50.00	33.33
Total				382.74	198.5	82.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Leather	Kanpur	27.34	9.75	3.25
24.	West Bengal	Multi Industry	Haldia	67.25	36.97	12.32
25.		Foundry	Howrah	126.74	40.40	13.47
26.		Rubber	Howrah	29.74	15.72	5.24
Total				223.73	93.09	31.03

B. Proposals rejected

Sl.No.	State	Cluster Category	Location	Project cost
1	2	3	4	5
27.	Andhra Pradesh	Precision Engineering Tools & components	Balanagar, Hyderabad	72.22
28.		Readymade Garments Cluster	Rayadurg, Distt. Anantapur	7.05
29.		Leather Tanning Industry	Warangal & Neighbouring Districts	21.42
30.		Leather Tanning Industry	Distt. Vijayanagaram and Neighbouring areas	15.00
31.		Coir Cluster	West & East Godavari, Hyderabad	67.42
32.		Sircilla Powerlooms	Distt. Karimnagar	32.62
33.	Delhi	Okhla Ind. Area	Okhla, New Delhi	49.67
34.		Wazirpur Indl. Area	Wazirpur, Delhi	60.00
35.	Haryana	Light Engineering Industrial Cluster	Faridabad	60.44
36.	Gujarat	Forging, Packaging, Plastics, Glass, etc.	Lodhika GIDC Industrial Park, Rajkot	65.20
37.		Pharma, Textile, Engg., Chem., etc.	Sachin	47.50
38.		Chemical cluster	Nandesari	18.58
39.		Engineering Cluster	Makarpura, Vadodara	36.04
40.		Sea food processing	Veraval, Junagarh	20.00
41.		Leather cluster	Many Parts of Gujarat	16.21
42.	Gujarat	Ceramic	Amrapur	1.96
43.	Kerala	Herbal Drugs Cluster	Thriessur	10.19
44.	Haryana	Automotive Components	Gurgaon	66.67

1	2	3	4	5
45.	Jharkhand	Auto Cluster	Adityapur Jamshedpur	64.99
46.	Karnataka	Valves Cluster	Hubli	70.00
47.		Auto & Allied Industries Cluster	Shimoga	58.36
48.	Kerala	Chemical Cluster	Kochi	53.50
49.	Madhya Pradesh	Engineering & Allied Cluster	Bhopal	68.77
50.		Readymade garments	Jabalpur	41.71
51.		Food Processing & Packing Industries	Chhindwara	32.31
52.		Handloom fabric	Chanderi	2.25
53.		Herbal & Pharma Park	Indore	61.45
54.	Mizoram	Zuangtui Industrial Estate	Aizwal	33.21
55.	Maharashtra	Pomegranate Cluster	Solapur, Sangli, Pune	21.43
56.		Dal Milling	Kapsi, Tal. Kamptee, Distt. Nagpur	35.42
57.		Chemical cluster	Mahad, Distt. Raigad	15.00
58.		Foundry & Eng. Cluster	Kolhapur, Maharashtra	42.44
59.	Punjab	Re-rolling Steel Mills	Mandi Gobindgarh	59.26
60.		Bicycle & Parts	Ludhiana	50.00
61.		Machine Tools	Batala	50.00
62.		Steel Forging Cluster	Ludhiana	12.12
63.	Rajasthan	Marble Cluster	Raj Samand	29.08
64.	Tamil Nadu	Printing & Publishing cluster	Sivakasi (TN)	60.00
65.		Coir Cluster	Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Vellore	49.70
66.		Leather Cluster	Ranipet, Vishram & Pernambut	54.55
67.	Tripura	Bamboo Handicraft	Tripura	29.30
68.	Uttar Pradesh	Woodware Industries Cluster	Saharanpur	44.97
69.		Silk & Carpet Cluster	Varanasi	48.13
70.		Jagdishpur Industrial Cluster	Amethi	77.47
71.	West Bengal	Iron & Steel Industry Cluster	Durgapur	73.05

C. Proposals neither approved nor rejected

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Cluster Identified	Location	Project cost
1	2	3	4	5
72.	Andhra Pradesh	Artificial Jewellery Cluster	Machilipatnam, Distt. Krishna	9.70
73.		Aqua-culture Cluster	Bhimavaram-Vishakhapatnam Zone	40.00
74.	Arunachal Pradesh	Bamboo Mat Cluster	Along, West Siang Distt.	70.00
75.	Assam	Bamboo based Cluster	Guwahati	41.78
76.	Bihar	Quality certificate and bench marketing centre	Patna	9.80
77.		Bench marking centre Herbal and medicinal Plants	Hajipur	12.17
78.		Fatuah Industrial cluster	Fatuah	56.87
79.	Chhattisgarh	Heavy Steel Industrial Cluster	Bhilai	1.23
80.		Light Steel Cluster	Bhilai	14.85
81.		Kosa Industries	Janjgir-Champa	7.00
82.		Rice Industry Cluster	Dhamtari	5.70
83.		Blackstone Cutting & Polishing	Basin (Rajim) Raipur	3.42
84.		Rice Industry Cluster	Tikda-Neora	4.85
85.		Metal Craft Industry	Nagamar, Bastar	4.10
86.		Wood Craft Industry	Jagdapur, Bastar	3.46
87.		Chemical Cluster	Bhilai	10.71
88.		Electrical Cluster	Bhilai	2.90
89.		Automobile Cluster	Bhilai	4.33
90.		Carpet Industry	Mainpat, Ambikapur	4.00
91.		Rice Mills Industry	Navapara-Rajim	5.35
92.		Rice Mills Industry	Raigad-Kharsia	5.38
93.		Rice Mills Industry	Rajnandgaon	5.33
94.		Rice Mills Industry	Durg	5.33
95.		Rice Mills Industry	Mahasamund-Arang	5.32
96.		Rice Mills Industry	Bhatpara-Balodabazz	5.38

1	2	3	4	5
97.	Gujarat	Machine Tools & foundry Industries	Rajkot	36.00
98.		Jewellery cluster	Rajkot	17.23
99.		Engineering Cluster	Chitran, Bhavnagar	64.75
100.	Himachal Pradesh	Electronic Complex	Rangreth	10.02
101.		Industrial Complex	Khunmoh	8.62
102.		Industrial Complex	Shalteng	1.52
103.	Karnataka	Garment Cluster	Bellary	23.75
104.		Cashew Cluster	Mangalore	24.17
105.		Coir Cluster	Hassan	49.65
106.		Dal Industries Cluster	Gulbarga	43.56
107.	Maharashtra	Chemical Cluster	Thane—Belapur Indl. Area, Navi Mumbai	65.32
108.		Chemical & Engineering Items	Roha, Distt. Raigad	22.85
109.		Chemical Cluster	Lote Parshuram Industrial Estate	25.52
110.		Automobile Cluster	Aurangabad	61.20
111.	Rajasthan	Common waste treatment facility	Mavli, Udaypur	105.00
112.	Tamil Nadu	Mango Pulp Project	Krishnagiri (Dharmapuri District)	42.91
113.		Pharmaceutical	Chennai	15.00
114.		Matches & Fireworks Products	Shivakasi (TN)	5.42
115.		Tea Cluster	Nilgiris (TN)	66.77
116.	Uttar Pradesh	Glass Industry	Ferozabad	58.08
117.	Himachal Pradesh	Textile Cluster	Nalagarh, Beddi, Barotiwala	48.72
118.	Karnataka	Coir Cluster	Chennapatna	23.27

[Translation]

Natural Disaster Management Units

3757. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to strengthen the units set up in the country for natural calamity disaster management;

(b) if so, the details of the work undertaken so far for strengthening of natural disaster management units, State-wise;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to recognise the Bhopal Disaster Management Institute; and

(d) if so, the details and the action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Disaster Management Act, 2005, enacted on 23rd December, 2005, *inter-alia* provides for setting up of Disaster Management Authorities at National, State and District levels; constitution of National Institute of Disaster Management and National Disaster Response Force.

(b) The National Disaster Management Authority was constituted by an executive order and started functioning from 28th September, 2005. The National Institute of Disaster Management is engaged in training, research and documentation. The Institute, *inter alia*, provides technical assistance to the disaster management faculties in the State level training institutes by developing training modules and for imparting training to the functionaries at State and district level. The National Disaster Response Force is being established by training and equipping eight battalions of Central Para Military forces for the purpose of specialist response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster. The State Governments have also been advised to develop their Specialist Response Teams. They are allowed to utilize upto 10% of the annual allocation to the Calamity Relief Fund for purchase of search and rescue and communication equipment. Disaster Management faculties are being financially supported by this Ministry in 29 State Level training institutes located in 28 States. The State Training Institutes take up focused training programmes for different target groups within the State.

(c) and (d) Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal already stands designated by the State Government as the nodal institute for capacity building and training in the field of disaster management. Government of India is providing financial assistance for operation of the disaster management faculty to this institute subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15 lakh per year at present, as per the guidelines adopted for such assistance to States. In addition, Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal has been designated as one of the Regional Training Institutes for imparting training related to Incident Command System.

Boarding School Facilities to Tribal Children

3758. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to provide free boarding school facilities for children in the tribal dominated areas;

(b) if so, salient features of the scheme;

(c) whether any provision has also been made to provide free boarding school facilities in the scheme for the non-tribal children of the tribal dominated areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Government in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has several schemes under which free boarding school facilities are provided for tribal children. These are:

(i) Grants to State Governments to establish Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) to provide high quality education to tribal boys and girls from class 6 to class 12;

(ii) Grants-in-aid to NGOs: grants, up to 90% of the cost are given to 'NGOs to run residential schools in tribal areas;

(iii) Grants (100% of cost) are given to NGOs to run educational complexes (residential schools) for tribal girls in low female literacy districts.

(c) to (e) The scheme is meant specifically for tribal students.

[English]

Revamping of Minority Education

3759. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to revamp the minority education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations made at the Convention on Minority Education held in June, 2004; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to implement such recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) A National Commission has already been established to strengthen and protect the rights of minority educational institutions on the basis of the recommendations of 'A Dialogue on Minority Welfare and Education' held on 3-4th July, 2004 at New Delhi. The Dialogue had also recommended the constitution of a National Monitoring Committee for Minorities Education and a Standing Committee thereof. These Committees have also since been constituted.

[Translation]

Explosive Manufacturers

3760. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited is eager to open its doors to multinational explosive manufacturing companies;

(b) if so, the likely impact thereof on the internal security of the country; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure fool proof internal security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of M/s. Coal India Limited (CIL) to go in for joint ventures with multinational explosives manufacturing companies.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Price of Tea

3761. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea growers have been affected due to decline in tea prices especially in Kerala;

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

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

(d) whether the State Government of Kerala has put forth any package to save the tea plantation industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Indian tea industry, including the tea industry in Kerala, was affected by fall in prices during the last few years mainly due to the imbalance in the supply demand position. The average all India auction price in 1998 was approximately Rs. 76 per kg. which went down to about Rs. 56 per kg. in 2003. Even though there was an improvement in average auction prices of tea during 2004, auction prices were lower during 2005. However, the auction prices of tea have shown some improvement in 2006.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to help the Indian tea industry. These include, withdrawal of the additional duty of excise of Re. 1 per kg on tea from 2005-06, sanctioning of schemes for grant of financial assistance for production of orthodox teas and assistance to R&D institutions to be financed from the Special Fund set up with the collections of additional excise duty on tea, issue of a new Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order 2005 in order to maintain quality and retain the brand equity of Indian teas, reducing the import duty on tea bagging & packaging machinery used to improve quality and add value to Indian tea to a rate of 5%, extending subsidy for setting up of new factories for manufacture of orthodox teas by all producers, continuance of the subsidy on export of tea through ICD Amingaon in Assam and notification of the Darjeeling tea area as an Agri Export Zone.

(d) No special package for the tea plantation industry has been received from the Government of Kerala recently.

(e) Does not arise.

Contribution of Handloom Sector

3762. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of handloom in total cloth/textile production in Tenth Plan period, Plan-wise;

(b) the steps the Government has taken to ensure availability of raw materials to handloom weavers;

(c) the details of the schemes being implemented in handloom sector and the results thereof;

(d) whether the share of handloom industry which contributed 18% in textile production in 2001-02 had come down to only 13% in 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to regain its lost ground and improve handloom production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) The contribution of handloom in total cloth/textile production comprising handloom, mill and powerloom in Tenth Plan period, year-wise, is as follows:—

Year	Contribution of handloom
2002-03	18%
2003-04	16%
2004-05	16.09%
2005-06 (Anticipated)	16.48%

(b) The main raw material used in the handloom sector is cotton and viscose spun yarn in hank form besides silk, wool etc. With the objective of providing the handloom weavers with adequate quantity of yarn in the hank form at reasonable prices and on an assured basis, Government of India has promulgated the Hank Yarn Packing Notification since 1974. The Hank Yarn Packing Notification 2003 prescribes that every producer of yarn who packs yarn for civil consumption shall pack yarn in hank form in proportion of not less than forty percent (40%) of total yarn packed by him for civil consumption, provided that in regard to yarn containing cotton including cotton waste to the extent of 90% or more by weight, not less than eighty percent of the yarn required to be packed in hank form shall be of counts 40s and below.

Ministry of Textiles is also implementing the Mill Gate Price Scheme, under which the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC), a Government of India Undertaking is arranging supply of all types of yarn required for the handloom weavers and their organizations at Mill Gate Price. The expenditure for transportation of yarn from the Mill Gate to the godown of the handloom agencies is being reimbursed by NHDC to the handloom agencies and then by Government of India to NHDC.

(c) The Government has been implementing a number of schemes for promotion and development of the handloom Sector and welfare of handloom weavers, such as, Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana, Marketing Promotion Programme, Handloom Export Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Design Development and Training Programme, Workshop-cum-Housing Scheme, Integrated Handloom Training Project, Weavers Welfare Scheme comprising-Thrift Fund Scheme and New Insurance Scheme and Implementation of Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. In addition to the above schemes, the following new schemes were introduced during the year 2005-06:

- (i) Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (IHCD),
- (ii) Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY),
- (iii) Health Insurance Scheme (HIS).

Several schemes, including schemes for Cluster Development, Life Insurance and Health Insurance announced in the last Budget 2005-06 for the Handloom Sector are being implemented. The cluster development approach will continue. It is proposed to cover an additional 100 cluster at a cost of Rs. 50.00 crore in 2006-07. Yarn depots will be established in different parts of the country to ensure uninterrupted supply of yarn to weavers. It is also proposed to launch a "Handloom Mark". A scheme similar to TUFs will be introduced for the handloom sector to provide interest subsidy.

(d) and (e) The share of handloom industry in the textile production, including hosiery sector has come down from 18% in 2001-02 to 13% in 2004-05 and 2005-06. The Government is implementing various schemes for improving handloom production in the country, as per details given in part (c) of the question.

Setting up of Model Residential Schools

3763. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up 100 model residential schools with a view to provide quality education to tribal students;

(b) if so, the places selected for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) the aims and objectives of such schools; and

(d) the amount sanctioned/released to each State and School particularly for Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating places for setting up of the Eklavaya Model Residential Schools in various States is enclosed. In case of 4 schools in Assam and

Meghalaya, the concerned State Government are yet to decide and report the exact location.

(c) The aims and objectives of such schools are to provide quality education to tribal students from 6th to 12th Standard to enable them to avail the facility of reservation in higher and professional educational courses as well as in higher levels of jobs in the Government and various public sector undertakings.

(d) The amount sanctioned/released for these schools to various States including Andhra Pradesh is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

(Rs. In lakh)

Sl.No.	State	No. of Schools for which amount released during	Amount Released (Upto 2005-06)	Location <i>i.e.</i> name of District
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	2660.00	Adilabad Warangal Mahbubnagar Nizamabad Nellore Karimnagar Karimnagar East Godavari
2.	Assam	2	200.00	
3.	Jharkhand	4	1400.00	Ranchi West Singhbhum Dumka Sahebganj
4.	Gujarat	10	3120.00	Dangs Surat Narmada Sabarkantha

1	2	3	4	5
				Surat
				Valsad
				Valsad
				Navsari
				Dahod
				Panchmahal
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1	100.00	Kinnaur
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	200.00	Leh
				Jammu
7.	Karnataka	4	1290.13	Belgaum
				Kodagu
				Chickmagalure
				Raichur
8.	Kerala	2	460.00	Wayanad
				Idukki
9.	Madhya Pradesh	12	3707.75	Jhabua
				Dhar
				Badwani
				Mandla
				Dindori
				Betul
				Anuppur
				Ratlam
				Seoni
				Sidhi
				Chhindwara
				Umaria
10.	Maharashtra	4	920.00	Thane
				Nasik

1	2	3	4	5
				Amravati
				Nagpur
11.	Manipur	3	625.00	Tamenglong
				Senapati
				Chandel
12.	Orissa	10	3560.00	Koraput
				Rayagada
				Mayurbhanj
				Sundargarh
				Nawrangpur
				Kandhamal
				Sundargarh
				Sundargarh
				Gajapati
				Keonjhar
13.	Rajasthan	7	1820.00	Banswara
				Udaipur
				Sirohi
				Baran
				Dungarpur
				Udaipur
				Tonk
14.	Sikkim	2	350.00	North District
				Gangyap
15.	Tamil Nadu	2	540.00	Villupuram
				Salem
16.	Tripura	3	750.00	West Tripura
				South Tripura
				North Tripura

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1	250.00	Lakhimpurkheri
18.	Uttaranchal	1	100.00	Dehradun
19.	West Bengal	7	1800.00	Jalpaiguri Bankura Purulia Burdwan Paschim Medinipur Birbhum Daakhin Dinajpur
20.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	205.44	East Kameng
21.	Meghalaya	2	200.00	
22.	Mizoram	1	260.00	Lunglei
23.	Nagaland	3	750.00	Tuensang Dimapur Mon
24.	Chhattisgarh	8	285.00	Dantewada Bastar Bastar Koria Sarguja Jashpur Durg Jashpur
		100	25553.32	

Vanila Cultivators

3764. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had convened meetings of the representatives of Vanila Cultivators and Members of Parliament to discuss the crisis faced by the Vanila Cultivators due to price crash;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions and decisions of the meeting; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by the Government to help the Vanila cultivators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Commerce and Industry Minister took a meeting on 27 June, 2005, which was attended by growers, exporters and Members of Parliament. As a follow up, another meeting, under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Commerce, was held on 26 October 2005. Major conclusions/decisions of these meetings are:

- Setting up of a credible electronic system for dissemination of information on production, prices etc. of vanilla beans.
- Undertaking a study by State Trading Corporation (STC) with a view to provide benchmark information on global trends in demand, supply and prices. The study will look into the viability of setting up of a processing plant for extraction of natural vanillin as well as improvement in various packages of practices relating to vanilla cultivation and processing.
- Increasing demand for natural vanillin.
- Monitoring of import of low quality green beans into India.

(c) The steps taken to help the Vanilla farmers are as follows:—

- Based on the decisions in the meeting, STCL has procured 2.75 tonnes of cured vanilla beans (A Grade) from Vanilla Growers' Association at 1500 per kg.
- Rooted cuttings and tissue cultured plantlets of vanilla at concessional rates are being provided to the vanilla growers.
- A new Scheme has been introduced to assist vanilla growers to harvest rain water by creating rain water harvesting devices for which a subsidy of 33.33% of the cost of construction subject to a maximum of Rs. 6666 is provided by Spices Board.
- Spices Board provides assistance to the rate of Rs. 2500 to farmers interested in on-farm curing of fresh beans.
- Central Board of Excise & Customs and Directorate General of Foreign Trade have been requested to look into the matter regarding import of low quality green beans and to take appropriate corrective action.

- National Dairy Development Board/Amul have been requested to consider use of natural vanillin in places of synthetic vanillin with a view to increase domestic demand for natural vanillin.

[Translation]

Insurance for Handloom Weavers

3765. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has achieved the target of including 20 lakh weavers in two years in the life insurance scheme announced for the handloom weavers in the year 2005-06;

(b) whether an assessment has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if so, whether data of the number of beneficiaries of the life insurance scheme has been received;

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

(f) whether insurance cover upto Rs. 50,000 has been made available to such handloom weavers;

(g) whether the whole amount earmarked for the said scheme has been spent/utilized; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) to (c) The Government of India introduced a modified Bunkar Bima Yojana called Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana during 2005-06 for providing Insurance Cover for handloom weavers in the case of natural as well as accidental death. The scheme was formally launched on 2nd October 2005 and 204894 weavers were covered under this scheme during the period October 2005 to March 2006. Prior to the introduction of the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana the earlier Bunkar Bima Yojana was in existence upto September 2005. The

coverage under the Bunkar Bima Yojana during the period April to September 2005 was 94712 weavers. The total coverage under the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana and Bunkar Bima Yojana during 2005-06 was 299606 weavers, which is higher than the coverage of 213600 weavers under the Bunkar Bima Yojana during 2004-05.

(d) The State-wise coverage of weavers under the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana and the Bunkar Bima Yojana during 2005-06 as per the reports received from the Life Insurance Corporation of India is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) As per the information received from the Life Insurance Corporation of India, 1557 natural death claims amount to Rs. 3,11,400,000 and 15 accidental death claims amounting to Rs. 7,25,000 under the Bunkar Bima Yojana were received and settled during 2005-06. Under the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana 7 natural death claims amounting to Rs. 3,50,000 were received and settled during 2005-06.

(f) and (g) A sum of Rs. 3.15 crore earmarked for the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana during the year 2005-06 has been released to the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) towards Central Government Share of premium for coverage of weavers under the scheme.

(h) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise, no. of weavers covered under the Bunkar Bima Yojana and Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana during the year 2005-06

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Bunkar Bima Yojana April to September 2005	Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana October 2005 to March 2006
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	51210	14258
2.	Assam	5859	2219
3.	Delhi	942	—
4.	Gujarat	2673	804

1	2	3	4
5.	Himachal Pradesh	—	3505
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	25	366
7.	Karnataka	23645	4220
8.	Kerala	2145	1610
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2361	1692
10.	Maharashtra	55	5631
11.	Orissa	2864	20505
12.	Rajasthan	1183	12451
13.	Uttar Pradesh	1595	16016
14.	Uttaranchal	96	411
15.	Tamil Nadu	59	117220
16.	West Bengal	—	3986
Total		94712	204894

[English]

Computer In Schools/Panchayat

3766. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make at least one computer/laptop available in each Panchayat/School to meet the objective of providing computer education in villages and school located in the villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds provided to State Governments including U.P. for achieving the targets during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The Department of Secondary and Higher Education has no proposal at present to provide at least one computer/laptop in each Panchayat/School. However, under a centrally sponsored scheme called "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) at Schools" launched in December 2004, financial assistance

is provided to States/UTs for providing Computers in Government and Government aided Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools on the basis of the Computer Education Plans received from them.

The details of the financial assistance released to the States/UTs during the last three years under ICT @ School Scheme are given in the enclosed Statement. No funds have been released to the State Government of U.P. under this scheme as no proposal has been received.

Statement

Funds released to States/UTs during the last three years under ICT @ Schools Schemes

Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Karnataka	Since ICT @ Schools Scheme was launched in December 2004, no assistance was provided in 2003-04.	3,89,52,500/-	12,00,00,000/-
2.	Andhra Pradesh		5,27,59,375/-	—
3.	Nagaland			3,19,59,000/-
4.	Goa			2,92,50,000/-
5.	Sikkim			2,70,00,000/-
6.	Daman and Diu			25,00,000/-
7.	Rajasthan			53,26,000/-
8.	Bihar			2,25,00,000/-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir			90,00,000/-
10.	Madhya Pradesh			5,75,00,000/-
11.	Orissa			5,00,00,000/-
12.	Punjab			5,00,00,000/-
13.	Arunachal Pradesh			4,44,81,000/-
14.	Mizoram			1,50,00,000/-
15.	Kerala			3,12,50,000/-
16.	Uttaranchal			75,00,000/-
17.	Haryana			2,30,50,000/-
18.	Tamil Nadu			2,10,000/-
19.	West Bengal			3,93,17,000/-
	Total		917,11,875/-	56,58,43,000/-

**Protest of NGOs against Foreign
Contribution Bill, 2005**

3767. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Non-Government Organisations have raised a strong protest against some clauses in the Foreign Contribution (Management and Control) Bill, 2005;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to overcome the objections raised by these NGOs;

(c) whether officers have been given discretionary power in this bill and has been apprehended by NGOs that this step would encourage corruption; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The draft Foreign Contribution (Management and Control) Bill, 2005 was placed in the Ministry of Home Affairs' website—<http://mha.nic.in/fore.htm> in June, 2005 for inviting views and comments of various stake-holders. In response to this, more than 600 representations were received by the Government from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and others. These have been considered by the Group of Ministers (GoM) and as per their directions, the Bill has been redrafted in consultation with the Ministry of Law (Legislative Department). This would be circulated to all concerned Ministries/ Departments for seeking their views/comments.

(c) and (d) Though some NGOs have expressed their concerns, there are no provisions in the draft Bill to give discretionary powers to the officers, which would encourage corruption.

Influx of Nepalese

3768. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been heavy influx of Nepalese into India due to political turmoil in Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There are no reports suggesting any heavy influx of people from Nepal to India.

(c) SSB, deployed as a Border Guarding Force on the India-Nepal border, has intensified patrolling. All the border outposts of SSB on the India-Nepal border have been put on alert. SSB has also been asked to work in close coordination with the Governments of States having border with Nepal to check entry of undesirable elements into India.

Setting up of National Police University

3769. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to set up its own university specially for conducting the courses on policing and internal security;

(b) if so, the courses likely to be offered to the candidates;

(c) the name of the authority which would control this new university; and

(d) the total amount likely to be provided by the Government on such new National Police University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Need has been projected to the Government for a University to conduct courses on policing and internal security matters. The control structure and funding will depend on the final shape of the project.

Suicide by Weavers

3770. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the weavers all over the country are in distress;

(b) the total number of weavers who have committed suicides during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether weavers are demanding minimum wages for the workers employed in looms;

(d) whether the Government has received a number of representation from weavers all over the country especially from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the response of the Union Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) Information has been called from all States/Union Territories. The Director/Commissioner in-charge of Handlooms in the following State/UTs have informed that they have not received any such report:

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal and Pondicherry.

The following State authorities have informed that weavers are in distress in their States:-

Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that 52 handloom weavers are reported to have committed suicides during the last three years. No such reports have received from other States/UTs from whom information has been received.

(c) to (f) The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Sikkim have informed that the weavers are being paid wages under the Minimum Wages Act.

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Pondicherry, Rajasthan and Uttaranchal have informed that they have not received any such demand/specific demand/representation.

The Government of Assam has, however, indicated that weavers are demanding minimum wages.

Funds for Modernisation of Police Force

3771. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for the 2005-2006 from various State

Governments including Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat for the modernisation of Police Force of the respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the scheme for Modernisation of State Police Force, proposals were received for the year 2005-06 from all the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. The proposals covered critical areas of police infrastructure such as construction of police station buildings and residential buildings, weaponry, mobility, communication, forensic science equipments, security equipments etc. These were considered by a High Powered Committee constituted by the Government and based on the funds available, total Central assistance of Rs. 1025 crore was released to the various States in 2005-2006.

[Translation]

Stone/Gem Testing Centres

3772. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up some more Stone and Gem testing centres in the country especially in National Capital Region of Delhi;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Government do not have any proposal to set up more Stone and Gem Testing Centres in the country. However, setting up of any Stone and Gem Testing Laboratory or Centres does not require any specific approval from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Export of Milk Products

3773. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the dairy products exported during 2004-05 and 2005-06 and the foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise; and

(b) the further efforts made by the Government to explore foreign markets for the export of milk products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The export of dairy products from India mainly comprises of Skimmed Milk Powder, Whole Milk Powder, Ghee, Butter, Cheese. The value of dairy products exported during each of the last two years is as under:

Year	Value in Rs. Crores
2004-05	413.55
2005-06 (Apr-Dec.)	498.24

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata.

The country-wise details of export of milk products are available in the Foreign Trade Statistics of India compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata.

(b) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) operates various schemes under which financial assistance is provided to the exporters for market development, infrastructure development, quality development, research and development and transportation. Efforts are constantly being made for opening up of new markets. As a special measure to boost export of milk and milk products, the Dairy sector has been brought within the purview of "Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana", under the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09.

Performance of Export Promotion Council

3774. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of Export Promotion Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the shortcomings identified during the review;

(d) whether the Export Promotion Council helps only a few selected export houses;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(f) the reformation steps taken by the Government to improve the funding of EPCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Performance of the Export Promotion Councils is reviewed periodically during a year with regards to export performance targets. Initiatives and activities of Export Promotion Councils such as participation in trade fairs, buyer seller meets, market access in focus areas etc. are also reviewed. During the review, Export Promotion Councils are urged to meet targets set under their annual action plans.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government has restructured the Market Development Assistance Scheme to further facilitate Export Promotion Councils.

[English]

Cyclone-Prone Areas

3775. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of cyclone-prone States in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to take up a national cyclone risk mitigation project;

(c) if so, the details along with the main components of the project; and

(d) the details of measures established by the Government to face the cyclone in each of such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government has drawn up a National Cyclone Risk

Mitigation Project (NCRMP) to be implemented in all cyclone prone coastal States namely Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Pondicherry, Lakshdweep, and Daman and Diu.

(c) The main components of the Project include up-gradation of Cyclone Forecasting, Tracking and Warning System, Cyclone Risk Mitigation Investments and Capacity Building in multi Hazard Risk Management.

(d) Indian Metrological Department has established an early warning system for tracking, forecasting and dissemination of cyclone related information to the concerned States/Union Territories enabling them to take timely preventive measures. Some States have constructed cyclone shelters, missing road links and strengthened community based early warning system as a measure of preparedness and reducing the impact of cyclones.

Foreign Trade Policy

3776. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:
SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:

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

- (a) the salient features of the annual supplement of Foreign Trade Policy announced recently;
- (b) the changes introduced in the supplement;
- (c) the target fixed for export/import and growth rate of employment generation; and
- (d) the extent to which the problems of the exporters are likely to be solved under the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Following are the salient features and key changes introduced in the supplement:

- (i) Focus products and focus market schemes introduced to promote exports of products having

large employment potential and penetration of strategic markets by Indian products.

- (ii) The export of village and cottage industries products have been incentivised by including these products in the Vishesh Kirshi and Gram Udyog Yojana.
- (iii) A new Duty Neutralize Scheme called duty free import authorisation scheme has been introduced with the primary objective reducing working capital requirements of exporters who import most of their inputs.
- (iv) A number of features have been introduced in the Served from India Scheme to promote Service Exports.
- (v) A number of initiatives have been taken to facilitate emergence of India as Gems & Jewellery hub.

Electronic copies of the Annual Supplement and the Foreign Trade Policy are available on the DGFT web-site and can be accessed at <http://www.dgft.gov.in/>. Copies of these documents are also available in the Parliament Library.

(c) No targets are fixed for imports. Exports are expected to reach \$120 billion by the end of 2006-07. According to the RIS study on employment an additional 21 million jobs are expected to be created between 2004-05 and 2009-10 as a result of export growth.

(d) Foreign Trade Policy is formulated/modified based on consultations with the trade and industry and the felt needs are addressed.

Allocation of Funds to Employ Tribals

3777. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the funds earmarked to employ tribals in various projects have been siphoned off by various Governmental agencies in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether there is lack of coordination between Union Government and the State/UT Governments;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control the siphoning of funds?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (e) Instances of the type mentioned in part (a) of the Question have not come to the notice of this Ministry. The schemes of the Ministry for the socio-economic development of tribal people/tribal areas are implemented through the State Governments and a few through NGOs. Funds under these schemes are released to the Departments in charge of Tribal Welfare in the State/UT Governments, which are required to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the target groups/areas. Funds, released under the various schemes are required to be utilised within 12 months from the date of sanction.

In order to ensure that the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry are utilised properly and expeditiously, the Ministry monitors progress of implementation of schemes through periodic meetings with State Secretaries and also through personal visits of officials of the Ministry of the States. The Ministry has further reiterated to the States that release of further funds would be dependent on utilisation certificates within the time prescribed to the effect that funds have been utilised for the purpose for which they were released.

Industrial Development Centres

3778. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial development centres in West Bengal, location-wise;

(b) the details of works performed by these centres during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up such centres in each and every district in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion under the Union Ministry of Commerce

and Industry operates a scheme to promote industries through the Growth Centre Scheme. Three Growth Centres have been sanctioned for West Bengal under the Growth Centre Scheme. These are at Bolpur, Jalpaiguri and Malda.

(b) Land has been acquired in all these Centres. Plots have been allotted to industrial units and 31 units have been established at Malda Growth Centre so far.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to sanction any new growth centre under the Growth Centre Scheme.

Computer Aided Design Centres

3779. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Computer aided design centres set up by the Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of such centres proposed to be set up during the current year in each State;

(c) whether handloom and other traditional industries engaged in textile production would also have access to these design centres; and

(d) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) The computer aided design centers are set up in the Powerloom Service Centres under the Textile Research Associations. No new CAD Centres has been set up by the Government during the last 3 years.

(b) No proposal for setting up of such centres during the current financial year.

(c) There is no restriction for the Handloom and other Traditional industries engaged in Textile production to have access of this CAD Centres of Textile Research Associations—Powerloom Service Centres.

(d) The amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme, year-wise and State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Allocation	Actual Expenditure	Allocation	Actual Expenditure	Allocation	Actual Expenditure
1.	Gujarat		6.75		5.95		6.03
2.	Maharashtra		6.75		Nil		Nil
3.	Tamil Nadu		13.50		6.75		Nil
4.	Karnataka		6.75		Nil		Nil
5.	Uttar Pradesh		6.75		6.59		Nil
6.	Haryana		6.75		6.75		Nil
7.	Madhya Pradesh		6.75		5.84		6.75
	Total	54.00*	54.00	41.00*	31.88	14.00*	12.78

Note: *Indicates the total budget allocation for releasing the Grant-in-aid to eligible CAD Centres set up in Powerloom Service Centres of Textile Research Associations.

Day Care and Creche Facilities

3780. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure and strengthen the ICDS to include provision of day care/ creche facilities in pre-school education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to include provision of day care/creche facilities in pre-school education component of ICDS. However, several steps have been taken by the Government to increase the effectiveness and impact of the ICS Scheme during the recent past, which include:

- Expansion of the Scheme to additional 467 Projects and 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres;

- Doubling of financial norms for supplementary nutrition;
- Sharing of 50% cost of supplementary nutrition with the States;
- Increase in the rent of Anganwadi Centres;
- Constant emphasis on States to:
 - Operationalise all sanctioned Projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs);
 - Fill up all vacant posts of ICDS functionaries;
 - Ensure regular supply of supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms;
 - Make available medicine and pre-school education kits in all AWCs;
 - Ensure effective convergence of health nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes.

[Translation]

Trade Relation with Japan

3781. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the trade relations with Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of fields on which talks have been taken place till date; and

(d) the time by which both the countries are likely to reach any consensus in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Government is very keen to increase trade relations with Japan. A number of initiatives have been taken in this regard. CIM led a high level FICCI business delegation in April 2005 to Tokyo to participate in 'Destination India' event. This was followed by visit of Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi to India in the end of April 2005. During the visit, an eight-fold initiative was launched for strengthening India-Japan Global partnership with particular and urgent focus on broadening and deepening bilateral economic and trade cooperation and to work toward quantum increase in trade volume as well as for diversifying trade. During Prime Minister's meeting with Prime Minister Koizumi of Japan on 29.11.2004, it was agreed to establish a Joint Study Group (JSG) to undertake a comprehensive review of economic and commercial relations between India and Japan and give its recommendations on upgrading those linkage in various fields. Three meeting of the JSG have already taken place. The fourth meeting is scheduled to be held during the period 5-7 June 2006.

[*English*]

Export of Marine Product from West Bengal

3782. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal has vast marine product potential;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for exploitation of the same during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the export of marine products from the State in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith proposal mooted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government, through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), have been making efforts to promote aquaculture in coastal states, including West Bengal, through various proportional measures. Several extension programmes like farmers' meets, training programmes, seminars/workshops have been conducted by MPEDA to create awareness among entrepreneurs and farmers to encourage them to undertake shrimp farming in scientific way in order to achieve better yield. Financial assistance for development of new farm is also extended to aquaculture farmers.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the export of marine products from the country, including West Bengal, Government is taking a number of steps, which include the schemes for extending financial assistance for upgrading processing facilities, expansion of aquaculture, imparting of training to aquaculture farmers, assistance for production of value-added, products and marketing support.

[*Translation*]

Closed Mines in Rajasthan

3783. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines closed in Rajasthan during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government proposes to restart these closed mines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per information furnished by the State Government of Rajasthan, the number of mining leases/quarry licences closed/cancelled in Rajasthan during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
20996	10	61	Nil

(b) and (c) Out of 20996 mining leases/quarry licences closed/cancelled during 2003-04, 15047 have been reopened. All the 10 mining leases/quarry licences closed during 2004-05 have been reopened. Of the 61 mines/quarries closed in 2005-06, none have restarted their operations.

UNDP Report on Atrocities against Women

3784. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ): Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in atrocities on women and children in many States of the country has been reported by UNDP;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to upgrade the condition of these classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) According to the information furnished by UNDP office, New Delhi, increase in violence against women across Indian States has not been dealt in any of the States Level Human Development Reports prepared with UNDP assistance.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

New Industrial Policy

3785. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to frame a new Industrial Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be framed and adopted?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for a New Industrial Policy presently under the consideration of the Union Government. However, Government policies are constantly under review and subject to change as may be required in public/national interest.

Rehabilitation Scheme of NTC

3786. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has launched a rehabilitation scheme;

(b) if so, whether any review has been made on the implementation of the scheme; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof in terms of revival of the mills and modernization of viable mills under NTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) had approved a Revival Scheme for National Textile Corporation (NTC) in respect of its 8 subsidiary Corporations and the Government had approved a Revival Scheme for the 9th subsidiary corporation, thus covering all 119 mills of NTC. Out of 119 Mills, 65 mills, identified as unviable in BIFR/GOI approved schemes, have been closed under ID Act and 2 mills located in Pondicherry have been transferred to the State Govt. of Pondicherry. Thus, NTC, presently is having 52 potentially viable mills.

(b) and (c) The Schemes approved by BIFR are under implementation. While reviewing the implementation of earlier approved Schemes in respect of balance 52 bills, the Government decided to modernize 22 mills at an estimated cost of Rs. 530 crores by NTC itself through sale of surplus assets and 29 mills are available for revival through joint venture with private partnership. Besides this, it has been decided to construct an India International Trade Tower on the land of 1 mill in Mumbai. NTC has already started modernization of mills by placing orders for machinery.

Allocation for Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme

3787. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any reduction in the allocation under Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme in 2006-07 in comparison to 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to promote establishment of the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme was launched in July 2004. The allocation for the year 2004-05 was Rs. 100 crore and Rs. 250 crore for 2005-06 wherein capital costs of setting up new schools were included. A provision of Rs. 128 crore has been made for the year 2006-07 largely for recurring costs.

The Government of India has sanctioned 1180 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas till date, wherein an additional 430 schools were approved in 2005-06.

Joint Ventures with China

3788. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is interested in exploring joint venture opportunities in various fields in India as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated April 22, 2006;

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

(c) whether China has also shown keen interest in entering into partnership with Indian States like Gujarat and Maharashtra for strengthening trade and investment ties;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen trade and investment ties with China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) During the visit of FICCI, CEOs Delegation to China in April

2006, the Chinese CEOs expressed their interest in greater economic engagement with India.

(c) No concrete proposal in this regard was received by the FICCI, CEOs delegation.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Both India and China are looking at the possibility of diversification of trade, enhancing mutual cooperation for exploring the possibility of investment opportunities. The India-China Joint Study Group in its report has recommended evolving of a China-India Regional Trading Arrangement comprising Trade in Goods and Services, Investment, Trade and Investment Promotion and Facilitation and measures for promotion of economic cooperation. In pursuance to the recommendation of the Joint Study Group, a Joint Task Force to study in detail the feasibility of and the benefits that may derive from the China-India Regional Trading Arrangement has been constituted and its first meeting has already been held on the 13.03.2006.

[*Translation*]

Import of Cars

3789. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to stop the import of foreign cars under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (E.P.C.G.);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of cars imported under E.P.C.G. Scheme in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Jharkhand between April 01, 2003 to March 31, 2006;

(d) the details of persons/companies misused E.P.C.G. Scheme during the above period State-wise; and

(e) the action taken against those persons/companies so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 105 cars were imported under the EPCG Scheme in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Jharkhand between April 01, 2003 and March 31, 2006.

(d) and (e) The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), New Delhi have reported that they have booked 13 companies for alleged misuse of EPCG Scheme during the above period as per the enclosed Statement. In addition to the action initiated by DRI, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has also issued Show Cause Notices under Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 against the defaulters who have violated the provisions of the Foreign Trade Policy/ Procedure for import of cars under EPCG Scheme. Eleven EPCG licences for import of Cars have been cancelled so far in respect of M/s History Logistics, New Delhi and M/s Vacation Travels & Tours, New Delhi.

Statement

List of companies who have misused EPCG Scheme for import of Cars between April 01, 2003 to March 31, 2006

1. M/s Air Travel Bureau, New Delhi
2. M/s G.B. Morrison Travels (P) Ltd., New Delhi
3. M/s Onkar International (P) Ltd., New Delhi
4. M/s Bright Star Hotels (P) Ltd., New Delhi
5. M/s Inter Globe Enterprises, New Delhi
6. Ms/ History Logistics, New Delhi
7. M/s V.K. Tours & Transport, New Delhi
8. M/s Raj Mahal Bhinder, New Delhi
9. M/s North West Marwar Health and Resorts SPA, New Delhi
10. M/s J.P. Hotels & Convention Centre, Agra
11. M/s J.P. Hotels, New Delhi
12. M/s J.P. Greens Hotels, Greater Noida (U.P.)
13. M/s Vacation Travels & Tours, New Delhi.

[English]

Nodal Authority on Human Trafficking

3790. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a nodal authority at the Central as well as at State levels to effectively prevent and combat human traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said Authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposed Immoral Traffic Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 2006 envisages the setting up of a Central Nodal Authority by the Central Government and State Authorities by State Government.

The process of setting up of such Authorities will be initiated once the Bill is passed by Parliament.

Export Promotion Schemes

3791. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch any schemes to promote the exports of our country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance likely to be provided under each scheme to the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In the Annual Supplement of the Foreign Trade Policy, Government has announced some initiatives on 7th April, 2006 to promote exports of notified markets within the overall framework of the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-2009. Further Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana has been expanded to include Gram Udyog products and renamed as Vishesh Krishi and gram Udyog Yojana. The details of these new export promotion measures are available in the book titled "Foreign Trade Policy 2004-2009" updated as on 7th April,

2006 and "Handbook of Procedures Vol. I, 2004-2009" updated as on 7th April, 2006. Both these publications are available in the Parliament Library. The total yearly financial assistance in the form duty credit scrips to be issued to the exporters is projected to be approximately Rs. 600 crores for notified products and notified countries and Rs. 150 crores for Gram Udyog products.

Sea Food Industry

3792. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sea Food Industry in the country is facing crisis as the employees are finding job elsewhere due to lack of infrastructure and foreign competition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate the jobless workers and boost the infrastructure of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of the above, rehabilitation of jobless workers does not arise.

Rural Credit to Industries

3793. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India/Associated Banks have provided any credit to Agro and Rural Industries;

(b) if so, the amount disbursed by SIDBI/Associated Banks to various States particularly to Rajasthan during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(c) the number of industries provided assistance during the said period, item-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) provides loans to the small scale industries, including agro and rural industries, directly as well as under the refinance route through State level institutions and banks. State-wise information on the number of agro and rural industry units provided loans (including those in Rajasthan) and the amount disbursed by SIDBI (both directly and through lending by banks/ State Finance Corporations with SIDBI refinance), during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement. So far, no unit has been assisted by SIDBI during the current financial year.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise Details of the Agro and Rural Industry Units provided Loans by SIDBI and the Amounts Disbursed during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06

Sl.No.	States/Union Territories	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Number of units	Amount disbursed (Rs. lakh)	Number of units	Amount disbursed (Rs. lakh)	Number of units	Amount disbursed (Rs. lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	163.43	4	66.06	8	251.58
2.	Gujarat	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	154.00
3.	Haryana	0	18.46	11	116.04	0	0.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	20.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Jharkhand	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	50.00
6.	Karnataka	4	27.81	4	21.35	1	5.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	2	20.30	3	25.28	1	30.00
8.	Maharashtra	2	19.73	49	820.26	4	540.80
9.	Orissa	1	65.59	0	0.00	0.	0.00
10.	Punjab	19	4311.44	2	10.92	0	0.00
11.	Rajasthan	2	32.87	3	71.55	1	60.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	2	7.68	1	14.45	3	368.06
13.	Uttaranchal	0	0.00	2	2.92	0	0.00
14.	West Bengal	0	0.00	1	7.01	0	0.00
15.	Delhi	0	0.00	6	69.21	1	0.00
Total		36	4667.31	86	1225.05	22	1480.19

Visit of Bangladesh P.M.

3794. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the discussions held with the P.M. of Bangladesh relating to trade and commerce during her recent visit to India;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed between the two countries;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement signed; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister to India in March, 2006 the two sides held comprehensive discussions on entire gamut of bilateral relations including trade related issues. It was agreed that the meetings of the concerned bilateral institutional mechanisms, such as Joint Economic Commission, would be held more frequently to ensure movement in a positive direction and their outcome monitored by the political leadership on a continuous basis. The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed the commitment

to work closely together to find mutually satisfactory solutions on all bilateral matters.

(b) and (c) The revised Bilateral Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh was signed on 21st March, 2006 which would be valid for a period of three years w.e.f. 1st April, 2006. This Agreement provides *inter-alia* for expansion of trade and economic cooperation, making mutually beneficial arrangement for the use of waterways, railways and roadways, passage of goods between two places in one country through the territory of the other, exchange of business and trade delegations and consultations to review the working of the Agreement atleast once a year.

(d) The Government of India is taking all steps to encourage bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two countries on an ongoing basis, such as regular initiatives through various institutional mechanisms under which periodical meetings are held to address issues concerning the above.

NGOs in Basic and Primary Education

3795. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in basic and primary education for girls in the southern States, especially in Karnataka; and

(b) the details of the funds granted to these organisations for this purpose during the last three years and the details of their activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D.

PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) 643 Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Andhra Pradesh, 44 in Karnataka, and 26 in Tamil Nadu are reported to be engaged with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya programmes for education of girls. The list of NGOs in Karnataka and funds allocated to them, is enclosed as Statement. Their activities include residential schools for girls, awareness camps for girls, skill training and remedial teaching.

Statement

List of NGOs engaged for the implementation of Girls Education programmes in Karnataka and funds allocated to them

				(Rs. in lakhs)
Sl.No.	District	Details of NGOs	Funds granted	
1	2	3	4	
1.	Bagalkot	1. Samaja Kalyana Samsthe, Belgaum	6.925	
		2. Kanakadasa Gramina Abiruddi Samasthe	0.500	
		3. Gramina Abiruddi Sanga Geddana Keriteggi Biligi Taluk	0.500	
		4. Mumal Group Primary Teachers Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Bagalkot	0.500	
		5. Margadarshana Samasthe Vidhya Nagar, Hunagund	0.500	
2.	Bangalore Rural	6. Rajiv Gandhi Yuvaka Shakti Sangha	3.300	
		7. Sideshwara Catering Agency, Channapatana	2.520	
		8. Hindustan Security Services	2.000	
3.	Belgaum	9. United Social Welfare Associates, Belgaum	12.032	
		10. Sarvodaya Service & Labour Employment Welfare Society, Belgaum	6.000	
		11. Adarsha Education & Social Welfare Samiti, Marihalla	4.123	
4.	Bellary	12. Stree Shakti Sangha	17.400	
		13. Kasturba Mahila Samaste	2.400	
		14. Vaishanavi Self Help Group, Bommagatta	4.820	
		15. Vishwaspurty Kalyana Samste, Boomagatta	2.000	
		16. Sri Rama Self-Help Group Hampi Power House	1.920	
5.	Dakshina Kannada	17. Gangani Samasthe, Mangalore	3.025	
6.	Davanagere	18. Sudarshan Traders, O.T. Road Shimoga	6.350	
		19. Gemini Security Services, Davangere (It is an Agency)	2.000	

1	2	3	4
7.	Dharwad	20. Rajiv Gandhi Yuvaka Shakti Sangha	5.300
		21. Maitri Association, Dharwad	10.615
		22. Sri Heremat Spring Swayam Seva Samasthe, Saravatpura, Dharwad	30.25
8.	Gadag	23. Swayam Udyog Trabtethi Ghataka and Gramina Abhivardhi Society, Gadag	4.329
		24. Jana Chethana Shikshana Samitee Cheenthana Shikshan Samitee	2.000
		25. Annapurna Sahakari Self Help Group, Gadag	2.984
		26. Sarvodaya Parivar	2.000
9.	Gulbarga	27. Bhoruka Corporate Sector	10.525
		28. Rajashree Corporate Sector	5.750
10.	Hassan	29. Rajiv Gandhi Yuvaka Shakti Sangha	2.800
		30. Subbaya Food Agency	4.935
		31. Athri Agency, Holenarsipura	2.000
11.	Haverly	32. Parisara Vedike Samsthe, Idary Organisation, Jana Vignaya Samithi	3.235
12.	Kolar	33. Rajiv Gandhi Yuvaka Shakti Sangha	11.500
		34. Gajana Vidya Samasthe, JP Nagar B'lore Navodhya Vidhya Samasthe	18.210
		35. Novodhya Education Trust, Chintamani	8.000
		36. Jayachamarajendra Educational Trust, Mulbagilu	2.000
		37. Navodhya Vidhya Samithi Kadahanamari, Chintamani Taluk	9.384
		38. Arogya Foundation, Kamasamudra, Bangarpet, Kolar	2.000
13.	Mysore	39. Mahalakshmi Women's Self Health Group, K.R. Nagar	3.600
		40. Janani Community Management, Resource Centre, K.R. Nagar	2.000
14.	Raichur	41. Devendrappa Food Agency, Ragalparvi	4.284
		42. Samarpana Development Organization	2.000
15.	Tumkur	43. Devanampriya Agriculture Education Society, Pavagada	4.800
		44. Manjula Food Agency, Pavagada	5.100
Total			211.191

*[Translation]***Image of Police Personnel**

3796. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any directives to Union Government as well as State Governments to improve the image of police force;

(b) if so, the details of such directives issued by the Supreme Court;

(c) whether any action plan in this regard has also been prepared by the Union Government and State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Directives on aspects of functioning and conduct of the police were issued by the Supreme Court *inter-alia* in Writ Petition (Criminal) No. 340-343 of 1993, Vineet Narain and others *Vs.* Union of India and others, and W.P. (crl) No. 539 of 1986, D.K. Basu *Vs.* The State of West Bengal and others. In another case WP (C) No. 310/1996-Prakash Singh *Vs.* Union of India and others, the matter is under consideration of the Supreme Court.

(b) in Vineet Narain and others *Vs.* Union of India the Supreme Court has highlighted the need for the insulation of investigating agencies against extraneous influences. The Supreme Court also underscored the need for the State Governments to set-up credible mechanism for selection, appointment, tenure, transfer and posting of the Chief of the State Police as well as all police officers of the rank of Superintendent of Police and above. In D.K. Basu *Vs.* State of West Bengal, the Supreme Court issued directions regarding procedural safeguards to be adopted for effecting arrest and detention of an accused in custody.

(c) and (d) Directions of the Supreme Court in the above cases have been conveyed to the State Governments for implementation, as 'Police' is a State subject.

In addition, Government has taken the initiative to set up a Review Committee on police reforms. The recommendations of the Review Committee have been sent to the State Governments for implementation. The matter is also being regularly reviewed by the Central Government. A committee has also been set up to draft a new Police Act.

Further, in order to improve the public-police inter face and the facilities at the police station, Central assistance is given to the States through the Scheme of Modernization of State Police Forces for construction of police stations with proper facilities and houses for police personnel, computerization of police stations for efficient service, modern transport and communication for achieving better response time, etc. Further, in order to make crime

investigation scientific, the State police forces are provided with funds to modernize their forensic facilities. For ensuring better public dealing, emphasis is laid on imparting training *inter-alia* to sensitize the police personnel on human rights, gender issues, concern for the weaker sections, and inculcate service-oriented attitude towards people.

[English]

FDI in Construction Sector

3797. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

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

(a) whether the Government has given its clarification on FDI policy in construction sector;

(b) if so, the details of areas where the policy is likely to be applied;

(c) whether FDI policy on townships, housing and construction projects will not be applicable to hotels, hospitals;

(d) whether the Government has received a request from investors seeking clarification on the applicability of Press Note 2005; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) In March 2005, Government allowed FDI up to 100% under the automatic route in townships, housing, built-up infrastructure and construction-development projects which included housing, commercial premises, hotels, resorts, hospitals, educational institutions, recreational facilities, city and regional level infrastructure. Detailed guidelines were notified *vide* Press Note 2 (2005 Series).

(d) and (e) Based on requests from investors, it was clarified *vide* Press Note 2 (2006 Series) that since a liberal policy dispensation was already available for hotels, and hospitals; and Special Economic Zones (SEZ) were governed by the SEZ Act of 2005, provisions of press Note No. 2 (2005 Series) would not apply for these.

*[Translation]***Closure of Cottage Industries**

3798. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cottage industries closed during the last three years and are on the verge of closure, State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to save such industries?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Some village industry units do suffer losses and close down. The reasons for such losses include use of obsolete technology, inconsistent quality to products, product designs not being in keeping with market demand, lack of entrepreneurial and managerial skills, etc. The State-wise details of the present financial status of individual or groups of units of these industries is not maintained centrally.

(b) Existing village industry units/self-employment ventures, which were set up with credit from banks but have now become sick, are eligible for rehabilitation assistance available to sick units in the small scale industries sector, as per the guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). These measures include, *inter alia*, waiver of penal interest on cash credit and term loan from the year the unit started making cash losses, segregation of unpaid interest on cash credit and term loan from the total liability and treating the former amount as a separate interest-free loan, reduced rate of interest (reduction of up to 3 per cent for tiny units) to be charged on unpaid term loans, additional working capital loan to be given at a rate of interest not exceeding the prime lending rate, etc.

Further, based on the "Policy Package for Steeping up credit to Small and Medium Enterprises" announced by the Government in the Parliament on 10 August 2005, the RBI has issued guidelines on 8 September 2005 to all public sector banks that envisage debt restructuring mechanism for nursing sick/potentially sick SME units back to health.

*[English]***Progress Report on Delhi Police**

3799. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police Commissioner presented a progress report in respect of Delhi Police in first half of January 2006;

(b) if so, the salient features of such report;

(c) whether the Commissioner has failed to acknowledge the need for better police work in areas such as forensic and case management at court level in a bid to restore the credibility of the police; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Commissioner of Police, Delhi, made a presentation on 5th January, 2006 before the media about the work done by Delhi Police during the year, 2005. Some of the salient features of the presentation are indicated below:—

- (i) There was increase of 4.57% in registration of IPC Crime and 3.35% in registration of heinous crime.
- (ii) there was decrease in crime under the Crime Heads of dacoity, murder, attempt to murder, riot and theft.
- (iii) Working out of IPC cases increased from 61.84% in 2004 to 67.54% in 2005.
- (iv) Working out of heinous crime increased from 86.89% in 2004 to 89.94% in 2005.
- (v) Rate of conviction increased from 50% in 2004 to 55% in 2005.
- (vi) There was 11.67% increase in the number of persons arrested in IPC offences and an increase of 4.64% in detection under Local & Spl. Laws.
- (vii) Analysis of rape cases shows that about 97% of rapes were committed by persons known to the victims.

- (viii) 51 militants belonging to organizations were arrested which was the highest number in any single year.
- (ix) Progress was made in modernization of police force, traffic management and providing security to senior citizens.
- (c) and (d) Due to scientific investigation and better police follow up during trial of cases, about 55% conviction rate has been achieved. The detection rate has been 67%.

Dumping of Silk

3800. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

- (a) whether several silk producing countries including China are dumping silk yarn and fabrics in the country illegally;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to impose further anti-dumping duties in Chinese silk;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the opening of Indo-China trade through Nathula in Sikkim have increased illegal dumping of cheap silk products;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to check dumping of silk yarn and fabrics by silk producing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) had received two applications alleging dumping of silk fabric and mulberry raw silk. (i) On the basis of

application made by the Cooperative/Federations/Associations of power loom silk fabric producers of India, anti-dumping investigations into imports of silk fabric of specification 20-100 gms per meter from the People's Republic of China (PR China) had been initiated by the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) on 18th May, 2005. DGAD has issued preliminary findings on 27th April, 2006 recommending to the Central Government the imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty on the dumped imports of silk fabric of specification 20-100 gms per meter from the PR China. (ii) On the basis of an application filed by the cottage/filature/multiend silk reelers association located in the states of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the DGAD had initiated anti-dumping investigation on 17.7.2002 into the import of mulberry raw silk (not thrown), 2A grade and below, originating in or exported from the People's Republic of China. Definitive anti-dumping duty was imposed on mulberry raw silk from PR China at the rate of difference between US\$ 27.97 per kg and the landed value of import, with effect from 2.1.2003 for a period of five years.

(e) to (g) Nathula Border Trade point has not yet been operationalised. As per the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder, Anti-dumping investigations are normally initiated by the DGAD on receiving a fully documented petition from the domestic industry with *prima-facie* evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between the dumped goods and injury to the domestic industry. The purpose of Anti-dumping duties is to counteract trade distortion caused by dumping and the consequential injury to the domestic industry. Anti-dumping is an instrument for ensuring fair trade and is not a measure to restrict competition.

Expensive Higher Education Books

3801. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the expensive higher education books by U.S. authors that were being published and sold in India at concessional rates are now making their way to the U.S. market as reported in Hindu Business Line dated February 07, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and facts thereof; and
- (c) the measure taken by the Government to stop misuse of the provisions meant to provide international books at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Exports of books by Indian publishers are done according to contractual arrangements with their importers. The Central Government has no role in this. No valid exports of books can take place in violation of the terms of the contracts. Parties to the contract are free to take legal recourse in the event of violations. The country of import can also deal with such violations under its own domestic laws.

(c) Does not arise.

Recognition to Private Schools

3802. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the norms prescribed in the bylaws of CBSE for new and old affiliated Schools;

(b) whether any difficulty has cropped up in renewal of recognition to the old private schools again due to changes made in the affiliation bylaws of CBSE in 2001;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of private and Government Schools which have been de-recognised during the said period in view of the lack of basic infrastructure and other malpractices in private educational institutions, State and UT-wise; and

(e) the total number of various CBSE recognised Schools in the country particularly Jharkhand and Bihar during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) As per the bye-laws of CBSE, the following norms have been prescribed for grant of affiliation to schools:-

- (i) The school should be run by a Registered Society or Trust.
- (ii) The society/Trust running the school should be of non-proprietary character.
- (iii) The school should have about two acres of land. For cities having population exceeding 25 lakh and for notified hilly areas minimum requirement of land is 1 acre. In Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai, the minimum requirement of land is 2000 sq. mts.

However, considering the requests made from different stake holders, the CBSE has made a recent change in the Affiliation Bye laws by giving relaxation in land requirement conditions. Schools having atleast 1.5 acres of land in place of 2 acres are also considered for grant of affiliation.

- (iv) The Society/School should have obtained 'NOC' from the State Government.
- (v) The school should have adequate physical and academic facilities.

(b) No, Sir. Any changes in affiliation bye-laws have generally a prospective effect.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A list of the schools disaffiliated by CBSE during the year 2001 is enclosed as Statement-I.

(e) State-wise number of schools affiliated with the Board during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 is given to the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise list of Schools disaffiliated from the Board during the year 2001

Sl.No.	Affiliation Code No.	Name of the School	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	3441	The Jaintpur Public School Maripur, Muzzaffarpur, Bihar	Due to serious irregularities and other deficiencies

1	2	3	4
2.	1323	Ekashila Public School Jangaori, Dist. Warangal Andhra Pradesh	Affiliation withdrawn due to opting of State Syllabus
3.	1355	HAL Sr. Sec. School HAL Township, Hyderabad Andhra Pradesh	Affiliation withdrawn due to opting of State Syllabus
4.	19429	Madura Public School Poonmani, Jayanagar Madurai-10	Withdrawn as the school is running upto class VI-VII only.
5.	6336	Tibetan Children's Village School, Patil-Khul, Dist. Kullu (HP)	As the school was not prepared to upgrade to Secondary Stage
6.	26340	St. Soldier's Int. School Sector 28-B, Chandigarh	Withdrawn the recognition by the DPI, Chandigarh
7.	26444	Gyandeep Model High School, Sector—20-C, Chandigarh	Withdrawn the recognition by the DPI, Chandigarh
8.	9394	Farook English Medium School, Changuvatti, Parappur, Kottakkal Kerala	Withdrawn as the school was running upto Class VII with State Syllabus
9.	9447	Vivekanand Mem. Public School, Aaralummodu Via Distt., Balaarampur Trivandrum, Kerala	Withdrawn approval of syllabus for Middle Class due to running of school upto Secondary Stage without affiliation.

*Statement II**The number of CBSE affiliated schools*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total No. of CBSE affiliated Schools as on			
		30.9.2003	30.9.2004	31.12.2005	31.3.2006
1.	All States/UTs	6769	7246	8097	8409
2.	Bihar	*358	*369	204	222
3.	Jharkhand	—	—	226	234

*Includes Schools in Jharkhand also.

Import of Meat

3803. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of meat imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) whether according to an endocrinologist various types of medicines and vaccines are used to increase the weight of animals abroad;

(c) whether the consumption of such meat leads to heart attacks and diseases;

(d) whether the Government has decided to impose ban on meat import;

(e) whether the Government has received requests/suggestions from various sections of the society in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The quantum of meat imported is given as under;

(Quantity in Tonnes)

2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Apr-Sept)
10.49	5.65	113.89	19.12

The country-wise details of the meat imported by India is given in the publication 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Volume-II (Imports) Annual Number' published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the library of the Parliament.

(b) Oestrogen and Bovine Somatotropin hormones are generally used to increase the weight of animals.

(c) There is no existing evidence to show that use of hormones and vaccines in cattle may be harmful. Till now the studies have found that no appreciable increase in risk for its human consumption.

(d) The ban has been imposed on the import of poultry meat and pork from Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) positive countries.

(e) and (f) No specific request/suggestions to this effect has been received.

Production of Tea

3804. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:

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

(a) whether the Government has ever assessed the per hectare production of Tea in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the production of tea has decreased during the last three years;

(d) the per hectare yield of tea in foreign countries and the reasons for lesser per hectare yield in India;

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the production of tea; and

(f) the incentives likely to be given to tea growers to increase tea production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Yield per hectare of tea during 2004 was 1713 kg. (provisional)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per available information, the average per hectare yield of tea in Sri Lanka, China, Kenya and Indonesia during 2004 (provisional) was 1633 kg., 662 kg., 2470 kg. and 1154 kg. respectively. The yield per hectare in India is higher than Sri Lanka, China and Indonesia. In the case of Kenya, the tea plantations are relatively young whereas in India about 38% of the tea bushes have crossed the economic threshold age of 50 years.

(e) and (f) A number of developmental schemes are being implemented by the Tea Board during the 10th Five Year Plan for enhancing productivity, quality and marketability of tea produced in the country under which financial and technical assistance is provided for undertaking replantation, rejuvenation, new planting in non-traditional areas in North Eastern States and Uttaranchal, creation of irrigation facilities, setting up of self help groups among the small tea growers, modernization of factories, etc.

Government is also examining ways and means of introducing a programme for massive replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes. The detailed costing and modalities of funding the programme, including setting up of a Special Purpose Tea Fund, is under consideration.

Visa Policy

3805. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreign tourists are being deprived from visiting India due to visa denial;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to change the visa policy; and

(c) if so, the time by when the new visa policy is likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Tourist visa is granted by Indian Missions abroad after security check and getting satisfied from the supporting documents submitted along with the application about individual's financial standing and return after the visit. Denial of tourist visa is part of the process.

(b) and (c) Change in Visa Policy is continuous process. A new category of visa called 'Medical Visa' was introduced on 21.6.2005 to facilitate medical tourism in the country and 'Students Visa' regime has been streamlined on 21.6.2005.

[English]

Enhancement in Investment Limit

3806. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government has enhanced the investment limit in certain hi-tech and export oriented items of the Small Scale Sector during the last three years;

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

(c) the extent to which the Small Scale Sector has been able to adjust in the changing scenario of economic liberation and globalisation by such enhancements; and

(d) the other steps taken by the Government to increase participation of Small Scale Industries in the present scenario?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) During the last three years, the investment limit of small scale industries (SSI) in plant and machinery has been raised from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 5 crore in respect of 99 high technology and export-oriented items which, *inter alia*, include stationery, drugs pharmaceuticals, food and allied industries, plastics, chemicals and chemical products, glass and ceramics, ceramic tableware and allied items in stone wares, semi vitreous wares and earthen wares and auto parts, components and ancillaries, from among items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the SSI sector. The limit has also been similarly raised in respect of drugs and pharmaceuticals which are not reserved for such manufacture by the SSI.

(c) This enhancement of the investment limit has enabled the SSI units engaged in the manufacture of these items to meet the requirements of technological upgradation, modernisation and international quality standards and become competitive, in both domestic and global markets.

(d) Government has been implementing several programmes/schemes to enable the SSI become competitive and participate effectively in the present market—driven economic environment. These include Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme for Technology Upgradation, which provides 15% upfront capital subsidy for loans up to Rs. 1 crore for technology upgradation; reimbursement of 75% of the cost of obtaining ISO 9000/14001 certification up to Rs. 75,000/-; reimbursement of registration fee up to Rs. 15,000/- for adopting bar coding of products; providing facilities of testing product quality through a network of Testing Centres set up in the country; organising sensitisation programmes on

Intellectual Property Rights (IPR); setting up of a Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Fund of Rs. 10,000 crore and also a Technology Development and Modernisation Fund Scheme (TDMSFS) under the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), etc.

Free trade agreement with Gulf Arab Countries

3807. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

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

(a) whether the India and Gulf Arab countries have made any Free Trade Agreement in a recently held conference at Muscat;

(b) if so, the details of agreements signed between India and each of the Gulf Arab countries with regard to special investments in the infrastructure sector in India; and

(c) the extent to which these agreements will further help in improving the present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No agreement on investment was signed with Gulf countries during the Conference.

(c) Question does not arise.

Hand Processing Units

3808. PROF. M. RAMADASS:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing training facilities to handloom and powerloom weavers, handicrafts artisans throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 83% of textile processing units consisting of hand processing sectors are lacking in high technology and good training facilities; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing training facilities to Handloom, Powerloom Weavers and Handicraft Artisans through Weavers Service Centres, Powerloom Services Centres, Computer Aided Design Centres, Carpet Training Centres, and Apparel Training & Design Centres.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The textile hand processing as well as, power processing segments are highly fragmented, therefore, the production process is unscientific and unsystematic. They suffer from technological obsolescence and lack of trained manpower. To overcome technological obsolescence in the Powerloom Sector, the Government has introduced a Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) \$ 10% under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), in addition to the existing 5% interest reimbursement. The rate of depreciation on investment in high-tech processing machines has increased from 25% to 50%. Eco testing laboratories have been set up to take care of quality requirement and facilitate eco-friendly production of processed fabrics.

Agreement between India & EU

3809. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement on textiles has been signed between India and the European Union recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and its implications on the domestic textile industry and its capability to face the competition in the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAAN): (a) and (b) No agreement on textiles has been signed between India and the European Union (EU) recently. However, the 4th Meeting of the EU-India Joint Working Group on Textiles and Clothing, set up under the auspices of the Joint Commission under Article 22 of the Co-operation Agreement between India and the European Community, was held on 22.11.2005 in Brussels.

*[Translation]***Trade between India and Germany**

3810. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the Hanover trade fair held in Germany;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the trade likely to increase between the two countries due to this trade fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India participated in the Hannover trade fair from 24-28 April 2006 as a partner country. The fair was jointly inaugurated by German Chancellor and the Prime Minister of India. A large space was taken by India and over 300 Indian companies, large as well as small & medium enterprises and 5 State Governments participated in the fair to showcase India's prowess in various engineering sectors including Automotive, Energy, Engineering Services, Micro Technology, Science & Technology. Various seminars, on business and investment opportunities in India, were held during the fair days.

(c) During the financial year 2004-05 Indo-German bilateral trade was about US \$ 6.5 billion and during 2005-06 (April-December) a growth of 44.9% has been registered over the corresponding period of the preceding year.

During 2004-05, India's exports to Germany were to the tune of US \$ 2.7 billion out of which the exports of engineering goods to Germany was about US \$ 545 million. During the Fair, business of around US \$ 1.3 billion is reported to have been generated.

*[English]***UNICEF Reminder on Malnutrition**

3811. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 per cent of the malnourished children in the world are from India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon and the remedial measures contemplated by the Government to arrest this trend;

(c) whether the Union Government has directed State Governments to speed up the implementation of ICDS in regard to UNICEF reminder; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per UNICEF report titled "Progress for Children, A Report Card on Nutrition, No. 4, May, 2006", 39.04% of the underweight children under 5 years in the world are from India. As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS) the extent of malnutrition among children declined from 53.4% in 1992-93 to 47% in 1998-99. Third round of NFHS is currently underway and findings are likely to be available by March, 2007.

(b) Malnutrition is a multifaceted problem which requires a series of actions in the area of food security, safe drinking water and sanitation, health care, family welfare, nutrition and poverty alleviation. The Government is already seized of the problem and has undertaken several remedial measures to arrest this trend. Some of these are as under:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme [Ministry of Women & Child Development];

(ii) Reproductive & Child Health Programme including Iron and Folic Acid, and Vitamin-A Supplementation Programmes [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare];

(iii) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare];

(iv) National Rural Health Mission [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare];

(v) Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (MNCI) [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare];

(vi) National Programme for Nutritional support to Primary Education (Mid-day Meal Scheme) [Department of Elementary Education & Literacy];

- (vii) Targeted Public Distribution System [Department of Food & Consumer Affairs];
- (viii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant & nursing mothers [Ministry of Women & Child Development].

(c) and (d) UNICEF, an organ of United Nations Organization, works in many countries to promote development and welfare of children. However, its role is generally in the nature of advocacy and not that of a supervisory body over national Governments.

Since ICDS is a Centrally sponsored scheme implemented through State Governments, the States have been directed to operationalise all sanctioned Projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs); fill up all vacant posts of ICDS functionaries; ensure regular supply of supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms; make available medicine and pre-school education kits in all AWCs; ensure effective convergence of health nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes..

[Translation]

Promotion of Labour Intensive Industries

3812. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote the labour intensive industries as reported in the 'Danik Jagaran' dated March 19, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and the areas with which these industries are associated;
- (c) whether any scheme has been contemplated to provide incentives to those industrial units which are likely to be set up in the areas with huge unemployment;
- (d) whether there is any scheme to set up such industries in backward States; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (e) While the primary responsibility for industrial development is of the State Governments, Government of India is, *inter-alia*, helping the process by supporting the setting up of Growth Centres, upgrading industrial infrastructure, developing clusters of small industries and providing assistance to industrially backward areas for industrial development under various schemes. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at present for providing incentives to set up industries in areas with large unemployment.

Export of Cotton

3813. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Maharashtra State Cotton Federation has sought permission from Union Government for export of the cotton bales;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) whether there is huge scope to export cotton from India as the international cotton market is facing shortage of cotton this year; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to maximise export of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) and (b) As per the policy guidelines in force the cotton exports from the country are under Open General Licence (OGL) and any one including Maharashtra Federation can export cotton without any restrictions. No special permission is required for the purpose.

(c) and (d) Due to wide gap between its production and consumption levels, China (Mainland) needs to import huge quantities of cotton and it offers good opportunities for increased exports from India. In order to increase exports, an incentive of 1% duty drawback is payable on shipped quantity of cotton from India since 2004-05 cotton season.

Package for Tribal Areas

3814. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

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

(a) the funds earmarked for tribal dominated areas under the Industrial Development Centre Scheme during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;

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

(c) the number of tribal persons who have been provided employment under the scheme;

(d) whether the funds allocated/released by the Union Government have been utilized by all the States especially Madhya Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (f) The Growth Centre Scheme, being operated to promote industrialisation of backward areas in the country, does not stipulate earmarking of funds for tribal dominated areas. Information regarding various Growth Centres sanctioned under the scheme is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

(Rupees in lakh)

Sl.No.	Growth Centre	Central assistance released	Utilisation Certificate
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Hindupur (Anantpur)	250.00	Received
2.	Jedcherla (Mehboobnagar)	645.00	Received
3.	Bobbili (Vizianagaram)	601.00	Received
4.	Ongole (Prakasam)	860.00	Received
ARUNACHAL PRADESH			
5.	Niklok-Ngorlung (East Siang)	768.00	Received
ASSAM			
6.	Matia (Goalpara)	917.80	Received
7.	Chariduar (Sonitpur)	1116.00	Received
8.	Chaygaon-Patgaon (Kamrup)	765.00	Received
BIHAR			
9.	Begusarai (Begusarai)	500.00	Received
10.	Bhagalpur (Bhagalpur)	50.00	Received
11.	Chhapra (Chhapra)	50.00	Received
12.	Darbhanga (Darbhanga)	50.00	Pending
13.	Muzaffarpur (Muzaffarpur)	50.00	Received
CHHATTISGARH			
14.	Borai (Durg)	1000.00	Received
15.	Siltara (Raipur)	1000.00	Received

1	2	3	4
GOA			
16.	Electronic-City (Verna-Plateau)	1000.00	Received for Rs. 824 lakh
GUJARAT			
17.	Gandhidham (Kutch)	785.00	Received for Rs. 585 lakh
18.	Palanpur (Banaskantha)	350.00	Received for Rs. 250 lakh
19.	Vagra (Bharauch)	1000.00	Received
HARYANA			
20.	Bawal (Rewari)	1000.00	Received
21.	Saha (Ambala)	850.00	Received
HIMACHAL PRADESH			
22.	Kangra (Kangra)	1103.00	Received
JAMMU AND KASHMIR			
23.	Lassipora (Pulwama)	925.00	Received
24.	Samba (Jammu)	1500.00	Received for Rs. 1000 lakh
JHARKHAND			
25.	Hazaribagh (Hazaribagh)	400.00	Received for Rs. 200 lakh
KARNATAKA			
26.	Dharwad (Dharwad)	1000.00	Received
27.	Raichur (Raichur)	1000.00	Received
28.	Hassan (Hassan)	1000.00	Received
KERALA			
29.	Kannur-Kozhikode (Kannur-Kozhikode)	1000.00	Received
30.	Allappuza-Malappuram (Alappuza-Malappuram)	1000.00	Received
MADHYA PRADESH			
31.	Chainpura (Guna)	550.00	Received
32.	Ghirongi (Bhind)	1000.00	Received
33.	Kheda (Dhar)	1000.00	Received
34.	Satlapur (Raisen)	1000.00	Received

1	2	3	4
MAHARASHTRA			
35.	Akola (Akola)	1000.00	Received
36.	Chandrapur (Chandrapur)	815.00	Received
37.	Dhule (Dhule)	780.00	Received
38.	Nanded (Nanded)	1000.00	Received
39.	Ratnagiri (Ratnagiri)	440.00	Received
MANIPUR			
40.	Lamlai-Napet (Imphal)	150.00	Received for Rs. 50 lakh
MEGHALAYA			
41.	Mendhipattar (East Garo Hills)	550.00	Received for Rs. 50 lakh
MIZORAM			
42.	Luangmual (Aizawl)	1280.00	Received
NAGALAND			
43.	Ganeshnagar (Kohima)	1500.00	Received for Rs. 1245 lakh
ORISSA			
44.	Chhatrapur (Ganjam)	50.00	Received
45.	Kalinganagar-Duburi (Cuttack)	1000.00	Received
46.	Jharsuguda (Jharsuguda)	847.00	Received
47.	Kesinga (Kalahandi)	175.00	Received
PONDICHERRY			
48.	Polagam-Karaikal (Karaikal)	650.00	Received
PUNJAB			
49.	Bhatinda (Bhatinda)	1000.00	Received
50.	Pathankot (Gurdaspur)	1000.00	Received
RAJASTHAN			
51.	Abu-Road (Sirohi)	1000.00	Received
52.	Bhilwara (Bhilwara)	600.00	Received
53.	Khara (Bikaner)	820.00	Received
54.	Dholpur (Dholpur)	1000.00	Received
55.	Jhalawar (Jhalawar)	600.00	Received

1	2	3	4
SIKKIM			
56.	Salghari-Samlik Marchak	600.00	Received
TAMIL NADU			
57.	Erode (Periyar)	1000.00	Received
58.	Oragadam (Kancheepuram)	800.00	Received
59.	Tirunelveli-Gangai Kondan	930.00	Received
	(Tirunelveli-Kattabomman)	930.00	Received
TRIPURA			
60.	Bodhjangnagar (West Tripura)	1500.00	Received for Rs. 1130 lakh
UTTARANCHAL			
61.	Siggadi (Pauri-Garhwal)	1150.00	Received
UTTAR PRADESH			
62.	Bijauli (Jhansi)	593.00	Received
63.	Jamaur (Shahjahanpur)	561.00	Received
64.	Pakbara (Moradabad)	1000.00	Received
65.	Dibaipur (Auraiya)	450.00	Received
66.	Jainpur (Kanpur Dehat)	1000.00	Received
67.	Satharia (Janupur)	767.00	Received for Rs. 567 lakh
68.	Shajanwa (Gorakhpur)	1000.00	Received
WEST BENGAL			
69.	Bolpur (Birbhum)	400.00	Received
70.	Jaipaiguri (Jaipaiguri)	400.00	Received
71.	Malda (Malda)	400.00	Received

Mine Leasing to SCs/STs

(b) if so, the details thereof;

3815. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(c) the number of lease allotted to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in main and subsidiary mines as per the policy;

(a) whether there is any reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in allotment of mines on lease under Government policy;

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

(e) whether the people of these particular castes are not able to undertake mining even after allotment of lease;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) There is no reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in allotment of mines under National Mineral Policy, 1993.

(b) to (g) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

[English]

Companies Engaged in Domestic and Foreign Market

3816. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies in India manufacturing goods for Indian and foreign markets;

(b) the volume and value of their production alongwith the export earnings to the country during each of the last five years company-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes a policy to encourage domestic manufacturers to manufacture quality products for export and for the growth of manufacturing sector alongwith increase in employment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Separate data regarding number of companies in India, having foreign investment, manufacturing goods, for Indian and foreign market, is not maintained centrally.

(c) and (d) Government has provided a liberal policy environment aimed at promoting modernisation and upgradation of technology, productivity, efficiency and competitiveness and creating additional employment. Government has also set up the National Manufacturing

Competitiveness Council to recommend policy-measures to enhance competitiveness of manufacturing sector.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

3817. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) even after implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for years, it is not yet well publicized for general information, especially in the remote inaccessible tribal and rural areas; and

(b) the further steps have been and are being taken to keep the populace duly informed to reach all those who need it and the facilities provided thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central Government, through print and electronic media, has been promoting the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme in all regions of the country. In addition, States and Union Territories have been undertaking their own media publicity programmes for promoting awareness of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Construction of Hostels

3818. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds so far released to the states under the Scheme 'Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels in tribal areas, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, State-wise; and

(b) the expenditure incurred so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Under the scheme of Boys/Girls Hostel, grant-in-aid is released to the States and UTs not only for the tribal areas but for the whole State/UT as per the requirements communicated by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Details of the funds released during the last three years and expenditure reported by the State Governments/UTs including Andhra Pradesh are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Details of grant released and expenditure reported by the State Govt. under the scheme of Boys/Girls Hostel for STs.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Fund released	Expenditure	Fund released	Expenditure	Fund released	Expenditure
1.	Andhra Pradesh	277.00	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	—	20.50	20.50	21.44	Nil
3.	Gujarat	Nil	—	67.70	Nil	Nil	—
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	—	Nil	—	108.18	Nil
5.	Jharkhand	817.60	606.04	98.86	Nil	Nil	—
6.	Karnataka	150.00	150.00	120.00	120.00	86.00	Nil
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	—	300.00	300.00	724.00	440.00
8.	Maharashtra	Nil	—	242.04	242.04	194.46	Nil
9.	Manipur	49.84	49.84	Nil	—	142.70	Nil
10.	Nagaland	150.00	150.00	151.00	151.00	116.52	Nil
11.	Orissa	41.46	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	—
12.	Tripura	50.00	50.00	Nil	—	Nil	—
13.	West Bengal	47.76	47.76	Nil	—	6.71	Nil
14.	JNU/IIT, Delhi	230.62	Nil	234.88	234.88	64.21	Nil
15.	Panjab University, Chandigarh	Nil	—	65.12	65.12	100.79	Nil
Total		1814.50	1053.64	1300.00	1133.54	1565.00	440.00

Honorarium to Anganwadi Workers

3819. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present honorarium given to Anganwadi workers and helpers under the ICDS and the additional

benefits offered to them by State Governments, State-wise;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for enhancing the honorarium of the Anganwadi workers and helpers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has revived any memoranda received from the various organizations

demanding healthier remuneration and conditions of work for the Anganwadi workers and helpers;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(f) whether the work load of the Anganwadi workers and helpers has been enhanced by assigning them new responsibilities; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and any additional benefits being offered to them for the additional work they do?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The honoraria being paid to Anganwadi Workers by the Government of India ranges from Rs. 938/- to Rs. 1063/- per month, depending upon their qualifications and experience. Helpers are paid fixed amount of Rs. 500/- per month. In addition, some States are also giving monetary incentives to Anganwadi Workers/Helpers out of their own resources, as given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The other facilities/benefits extended by Government of India to Anganwadi Workers and Helpers include:

- Maternity leave of 135 days at par with women employees of organized sector;
- Insurance cover through Anganwadi Karyakatri Bima Yojana;
- Awards, both at the National and State level, to dedicated Anganwadi Workers. The award at National level comprises of cash of Rs. 25,000 and a Citation. State level awards comprise of cash of Rs. 5,000 and a Citation.

The State Governments have been requested to:

- Recruit at least 25% of Supervisors and ICDS Scheme from matriculate AWWs with 10 years' experience;
- Consider the services rendered as AWWs as additional qualification for recruitment as primary school teachers and ANMs, etc.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Representations have been received from some Anganwadi Workers & Helpers' Associations. The main demands made by them and response of the Government thereto is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(f) and (g) It has been observed that Anganwadi Workers are being assigned work relating to Schemes/ Programmes of some other Ministries/Departments of Government of India as well as State Governments. The States have been advised to ensure that AWWs are not drawn into every programme diluting her core functions under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

Statement I

State-wise Information regarding Addl. Honorarium to AWWs/AWHs

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Addl. Honorarium to AWWs	Addl. Honorarium to AWHs
1.	Goa	1000	400
2.	Haryana	200	100
3.	Himachal Pradesh	200	100
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	245-280	140
5.	Karnataka	250	75
6.	Kerala	400	400
7.	Maharashtra	400	125
8.	Sikkim	750	450
9.	Punjab	200	100
10.	Tamil Nadu	807	600
11.	Tripura	680	500
12.	West Bengal	200	200
13.	Delhi	200	100
14.	Pondicherry	460	400
15.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	500	240
16.	Chandigarh	400	300
17.	Lakshadweep	500	200
18.	Jharkhand	250	100
19.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	500	300
20.	Daman and Diu	500	300

Statement II

Main demands raised in the representations		Response of the Government
1		2
i.	To increase the honorarium of Anganwadi Workers & Helpers	i. In January 2003, the Government of India almost doubled the honoraria of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers with effect from 1.4.2002
ii.	To treat Anganawadi Workers & Helpers as Govt. employees	ii. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages Anganwadi Workers and Helpers to be "honorary workers" from the local community who render services on part-time basis and paid fixed honorarium as decided by the Government from time to time. At present, there are more than 7.5 lakh AWCs and an equal number of Helpers in position. As such, it is neither feasible nor appropriate to treat them as Government employees.
iii.	To provide Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Insurance Scheme, Pension Scheme, etc.	iii. Government of India has already introduced 'Anganwadi Karyakatri Bima Yojana' for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers w.e.f. 1.4.2004 under Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Scheme.
iv.	To provide retirement and other benefits	iv. AWWs and Helpers are voluntary workers engaged on part-time basis, it is not possible to extend pension and other benefits to them.
v.	To promote the experienced workers as Supervisors	v. The GOI has already issued instructions to States/UTs for reservation of minimum of 25% posts of Supervisors for selection from AWWs who are matriculates and have put in minimum of 10 years of service.
vi.	To provide medical and leave facilities	vi. The extant guidelines provide casual leave upto 20 days in a year of which 10 days' leave can be granted at a time to take care of illness etc. Besides, they have also been allowed "paid absence on Maternity" for a period of 135 days.
vii.	To provide them with two sarees as uniform	vii. Under the ICDS Scheme, there is no provision for providing uniforms to AWWs and Helpers.
viii.	Additional honorarium for the work of other Ministries/ Departments	viii. Many States are giving additional honorarium to AWWs and Helpers out of their own resources. The States/UTs have been requested to ensure that the AWWs are not drawn into every programme as it is taking away their time from core activities. However, additional monetary incentive may be given to them for work of other programme, wherever necessary.

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| <p>ix. Giving preference to AWWs in the recruitment as Teachers, etc.</p> <p>x. To provide TA/DA to AWWs for attending the Refresher Training Programme, etc.</p> <p>xi. Setting up of Grievance Redressal Committee</p> <p>xii. No privatization of ICDS and handing over the AWCs to Panchayats or Mother's Committees should also be stopped</p> | <p>ix. States/UTs have been requested to treat the honorary services rendered by Anganwadi Workers and Helpers as additional qualifications for recruitment as Primary School Teachers, ANMs and other such village based positions.</p> <p>x. Instructions already exist which provides for payment of TA/DA to AWWs and Helpers, whenever they are required to attend Project Headquarters for monthly meetings/short re-orientation/refresher training courses, etc.</p> <p>xi. States/UTs have been requested to set up Grievance Redressal Committee for AWWs and Helpers at the district and State level to improve the morale and motivation of AWWs. Responses have been received from all the States/UTs.</p> <p>xii. The Scheme envisages that the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), voluntary organisations, local bodies, Panchayati Raj Institutions (where these are functioning efficiently) etc. are to be actively involved in this programme for implementation, soliciting community support, etc. Instructions have been issued by the Government of India from time to time to the State Governments involve the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and voluntary organizations in the implementation of the programme.</p> <p>Given the spirit of the Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act, 1992, it is expected that various functionaries involved in the developmental tasks will work harmoniously with PRIs.</p> |
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*[Translation]***Citizenship of Terrorists**

3820. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any information has been recently received on the hideouts of the foreign trained terrorists involved in terrorist activities at Varanasi as reported in the 'Rastriya Sahara' dated April 07, 2006;

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

(c) whether such terrorists have acquired citizenship in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the activities of terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Some of the terrorists believed to be behind the Varanasi incidents were staying at Phoolpur and Baraut in U.P.

(c) There are no such reports.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Central Government pursues a multi dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities and extends support to the State in neutralizing such activities. In order to curb terrorist activities, the Government has taken measures which include border management to check infiltration, galvanizing intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment of security forces both at the Centre and in the States, neutralizing plans of terrorists by well coordinated intelligence based operations. Besides, steps have also been taken to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to deal with the menace of terrorism, given its global dimensions.

Border Dispute

3821. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG:
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to boundary dispute persisting amongst various States alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the commission so far appointed to review the Centre-State relation;

(c) whether more powers to the States have been recommended in these reports;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith other recommendations given by such commissions and accepted by the Union Government/State Governments;

(e) the criteria fixed to examine these recommendations and the proposal for more autonomy and power made by the State Governments;

(f) whether the Government proposes to set up another commission to resolve the boundary dispute between these States; and

(g) the details thereof alongwith the time by which the commission is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT):

(a) As per available information, there are border disputes mostly arising out of claims and counter claims over territories between Maharashtra-Kamataka-Kerala; Bihar-Uttar Pradesh; Haryana-Uttar Pradesh; Punjab-Haryana; Orissa-Andhra Pradesh; Orissa-Jharkhand; Orissa-Chhattisgarh; Orissa-West Bengal; Uttaranchal-Himachal Pradesh; Andhra Pradesh-Maharashtra; Andhra Pradesh-Karnataka; Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu; Andhra Pradesh-Pondicherry; Assam-Meghalaya; Assam-Arunachal Pradesh and Assam-Nagaland.

(b) to (e) The Government constituted, in June 1983, a Commission under the chairmanship of Justice R.S. Sarkaria to examine and review the working of the existing arrangements between the Union and the States. The Commission made 247 recommendations on various aspects affecting Centre-State relations. The Inter-State Council which consists of Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of Union Territories considered and took a view on all recommendations of Sarkaria Commission. Out of the 247 recommendations made by the Commission, 65 have not been accepted in the Inter-State Council/Administrative Ministries and 179 have been accepted and implemented.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

Alarming Rise in Prostitution

3822. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been sharp increase in prostitution during the last three years in the country particularly in Delhi;

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

(c) the measures taken or being taken by the Government to check sharp rise in the prostitution;

(d) whether any study has been conducted by National Human Rights Commission in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) As per statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act 6598, 5510 and 5748 cases were reported in the country during 2002, 2003 and 2004 respectively thereby showing a mixed trend. Similarly 69, 52 and 124 cases under the same Act were reported in Delhi during this period which shows a decline in 2003 and an increase in 2004 over 2003.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Government. However, the Union of India has from time to time issued advisories to the State Governments and Union Territories to make concerted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crimes against all vulnerable sections of society including women.

(d) and (e) The National Human Rights Commission in collaboration with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi conducted an Action Research on Trafficking in Women and Children in India. On the findings of NHRC on this research being made available, the Union Government advised Governments of concerned States to evolve a holistic approach encompassing prevention strategy for effectively dealing with the problem. The need to sensitize and train police officials at all levels was emphasized and the State Governments advised that the police be asked to immediately carry out special drives in the most vulnerable areas.

[Translation]

Settlement of Border Disputes amongst NE States

3823. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:
SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations/letters from various associations, political parties and other, especially from Greater Cooch Behar Peoples' Association for settlement of Centre-State

problems and encouraging balanced socio-economic development in concerned zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the work done by Inter-State Councils, Zonal Councils and related Commissions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) Representations were received from Greater Cooch Behar People's Association alleging that merger of erstwhile Cooch Behar State with Bengal from 1.1.1950 is illegal and unconstitutional and demanding (i) Formation of Greater Cooch Behar State comprising the Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, North and South Dinajpur, districts of West Bengal and undivided Goalpara district of Assam (ii) Withholding of election of Legislative Assembly of West Bengal in Cooch Behar area (iii) Implementation of promises made in the merger agreement between the Maharaja of Cooch Behar and the Government of India, and (iv) Formation of a caretaker Ministry for administration of Cooch Bihar. These matters have not been brought before the Inter-State Council, Zonal Council or any other Council/Commission.

[English]

GI Certificate

3824. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geographical Indications Registration has granted GI Certificate to Bidriware of Bidar, Channapatna toys and dolls, Nanjangud banana, Coorg orange, Mysore betel leaf, Mysore rosewood inlay, Mysore traditional paintings and Mysore agarbathi; and

(b) if so, the manner in which this is likely to help the producers of these industrial and agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Geographical Indication Registration (GI) gives to the registered proprietor and all authorized users the legal right to the exclusive use of the geographical indication in relation to the goods in respect of which the

geographical indication is registered and also the right to obtain relief in respect of its infringement. Exclusion of unauthorized persons from misusing geographical indications would ensure that genuine products of the rightful producers only are marketed.

Project of Women Hostels

3825. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any project from various State Governments for establishing hostels in each District including one hostel for working women;

(b) if so, the time by which such project is likely to be approved; and

(c) the total amount is likely to be incurred on such project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development has not received any proposal from any State Government for establishing a hostel for working women in each District of the State.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Terrorist Activities in J&K

3826. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has made or likely to make any assessment of the situation of Jammu and Kashmir after elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of terrorists who have surrendered consequent upon the final warning given by Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) the details of the arms seized from surrendered terrorists; and

(e) the details of the amount spent on bringing these terrorists into the mainstream and on their rehabilitation so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The situation in Jammu and Kashmir is reviewed periodically at various levels in the State Government (including the two Unified Headquarters headed by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir) and in the Central Government. The number of incidents of terrorism in the State has declined in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous years.

(c) As per information received from the State Government 81 terrorists including 25 surrendered at line of control (LOC), have surrendered between November, 2005 when the present Chief Minister took over charge on May 12, 2006.

(d) The details of arms and ammunitions seized from the surrendered terrorists are as under:-

Type of weapons and Ammunition	Nov., 2005	Dec., 2005	Jan., 2006	Feb., 2006	March 2006	April, 2006	May 2006 (upto 12)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A.K. Rifles	1	5	7	3	5	8	2
Magazines	6	21	25	19	25	25	—
Ammns.	15	430	712	216	643	436	456
Pistols	4	5	3	9	2	9	1
H. Grenade	—	9	8	2	66	12	1
W. Sets	—	13	4	2	3	1	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
RDX (in Kg)	—	30	—	—	—	—	—
Binoculars	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
SLR	—	1	1	—	1	—	1
UBGL	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
UBGL Grenades	—	8	5	—	12	6	—
Rockets	—	—	1	—	4	—	—
Pika Gun	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
303 Rifles	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Boosters	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
LMG	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
UBGL/RPG Shell	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Mines	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
RPG	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Detonators	—	—	—	—	—	—	9

(e) The State Government gives incentives to surrendered militants to rehabilitate them. The incentives are released only after ascertaining the genuineness of the case. The State Government has so far paid Rs. 3,47,482 to two surrendered terrorists after verifying their case.

[English]

Closure of Textile Mills

3827. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills closed in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether workers of closed textile mills are eligible for compensation under Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme;

(c) if so, the details of compensation made available to workers of each of such closed mills; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN): (a) The number of textile mills closed in the country during each of the last three years is as follows:-

Sl.No.	State	Year wise No. of Mills Closed		
		2003	2004	2005
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	—	1
2.	Assam	1	—	—
3.	Haryana	1	1	—

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Karnataka	1	—	—
5.	Kerala	4	—	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2	—	—
7.	Maharashtra	9	2	2
8.	Orissa	1	1	—
9.	Rajasthan	1	1	—
10.	Tamil Nadu	26	7	1
11.	West Bengal	2	—	—
12.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2
13.	Gujarat	—	5	—
Total		55	17	6

(b) Not as on date. As per the guidelines only Non-SSI mills under private sector are covered under TWRFS. To become eligible for relief under TWRFS, the mills should be declared closed under section 25(O) of I.D. Act 1947 or alternatively an Official Liquidator was appointed under Companies Act 1956 for the purpose of winding up of the unit. None of the above mills meets the above criteria. Hence, the workers of these mills are not eligible to get relief under TWRFS, as on date.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme

3828. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend the export obligation period under the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme (EPCGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of this decision on export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Foreign

Trade Policy 2004-2009 provides for extension in the export obligation period for a period of two years. This extension is permitted either on payment of a composition fee of 2% of the duty saved amount or imposing an additional obligation to the extent of 10% of the obligation already fixed. Extension in EO period beyond two years period is also permitted for a period of another two years on the condition that 50% of the duty payable in proportion to unfulfilled export obligation is paid by the EPCG authorisation holder to the Customs Authorities. This is basically in facilitation measure and gives an opportunity to defaulting exporters to fulfil their obligation and enables them to remain competitive in global market.

Primary Education to Tribals

3829. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to import primary education for the tribal students in their mother tongue; and

(b) if so, the steps to implement the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education 1986 as modified in 1992 stipulates the need

to develop curricula and devise instructional in tribal languages at the initial stages, with arrangements for switching over to the regional language. This commitment has been adequately reflected in the National Curriculum Framework 2005, of NCERT.

Handloom Export Organisation

3830. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up/proposes to set up Handloom Export Organisation (HEO);
- (b) if so, the main functions thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the handloom exports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) does not arise.

(c) The following steps have been taken to boost the handloom exports in the country:

- (i) There is a Handloom Export Scheme in the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textile, Government of India under which financial assistance is provided to the handloom cooperative societies/corporations/private exporters through Handloom Export Promotion Council for development of exportable products and their international publicity & marketing through participation in international fairs, exhibitions, Buyer Seller Meets;
- (ii) In the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09), the handloom sector has been identified as a "Thrust Sector". In the Annual Supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy announced on 7th April 2006, in addition to various export promotion schemes meant for boosting the exports of all products including handloom products, the Government has also launched "Focus Product Scheme" under which exports of notified handloom products bearing handloom mark shall be entitled for Duty Credit Scrip equivalent to 1.25% of the total FOB value of exports for each licensing year commencing from 1st April, 2006.

- (iii) Further, in the Annual Supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy (2004-09) announced on 7th April, 2006, the Government has also identified certain "Special Focus Initiatives" for the handloom sector like specific funds would be earmarked under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) for promotion of handloom exports; duty free import entitlement of specified trimmings and embellishments shall be 5% of FOB value of exports during the previous financial year; duty free import entitlement of hand knotted carpet samples shall be 1% of FOB value of exports during the previous financial year; duty free import of old pieces of hand knotted carpets on consignment basis for re-export after repair shall be permitted; new towns of export excellence with a threshold limit of Rs. 250 crore shall be notified and handloom mark shall be developed to enable the handloom products to develop a niche market with a distinct identity.

National Disaster Management Authority

3831. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has started functioning;
- (b) if so, the main functions thereof;
- (c) whether the NDMA has formulated any scheme to minimize the dangers in the event of natural disasters in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) started functioning w.e.f. 28.9.2005 following the appointment of the Vice-Chairperson and Members.

(b) The main functions of the National Disaster Management Authority are to lay down the plans and policies for disaster management. The Authority may:-

- (i) Lay down polices on disaster management;
- (ii) Approve the National Disaster Management Plan;

- (iii) Approve plans prepared by the Ministries and Departments of the Government in accordance with the National Disaster Management Plan;
- (iv) Lay down guidelines to be followed by a State Authority in drawing up the State Plan;
- (v) Lay down guidelines to be followed by different Ministries and Departments of the Government of India for the purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects;
- (vi) Coordinate the enforcement and implementation of the policies and plans for disaster management;
- (vii) Arrange for, and oversee, the provision of funds for mitigation measures, preparedness and response;
- (viii) Provide such support to other countries affected by a major disaster as may be determined by the Central Government;
- (ix) Lay down guidelines for the minimum standards of relief to be provided to persons affected by disaster, which shall include:-
- the minimum requirements to be provided in the relief camps in relation to shelter, food, drinking water, medical cover and sanitation;
 - the special provisions to be made for widows and orphans;
 - ex-gratia assistance on account of loss of life as also assistance on account of damage to houses and for restoration of means of livelihood; and
 - such other relief as may be necessary.
- (x) Give directions regarding relief in loan repayment or for grant of fresh loans on such concessional terms as may be appropriate in the judgment of the Authority;
- (xi) Take such other measures for the prevention of disaster, of the mitigation of its effects, or for preparedness and capacity building for dealing with the threatening disaster situation or disaster as it may consider necessary.

(c) and (d) NDMA is presently interacting with various departments, institutes, organizations and experts. No specific scheme has been formulated by NDMA so far.

Free Trade Agreement

3832. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:
SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU:

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

(a) the impact of the Free Trade Agreement between India and other countries;

(b) the manner in which it helped in improving trade inflows; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure a favourable balance to trade with whom there is negative balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) are expected to enhance the bilateral trade and investment flows between the countries by providing better market access resulting from the exchange of tariff concessions.

After the operationalisation of India-Sri Lanka FTA in March, 2000, the bilateral trade has increased from US \$ 685.15 mn. in 2000-01 to US \$ 1719.62 mn. in 2004-05.

India and Singapore have signed a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) on 29th June, 2005 which is effective 1st August, 2005. The CECA covers, *inter-alia*, Free Trade Agreement in Goods. During August-December, 2005, India's exports to Singapore increased by around 42% while its imports from Singapore increased by around 31% over the same period in the previous year.

The India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade and Commerce is essentially a Free Trade Agreement which has been in existence since 1972. The bilateral trade with Bhutan has increased from US \$ 21.97 mn. in 2000-01 to US \$ 134.17 mn. in the year 2004-05.

(c) India does not have a negative trade balance with these FTA partners.

Indo-Bhutan Bilateral Trade Agreement

3833. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Bhutan have any bilateral regional trade agreement;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the details of the items to be traded between the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India-Bhutan bilateral trade is regulated as per the India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade and Commerce which provides for free trade between the two countries. Under this Agreement Government of India allows transit facilities for Bhutan's trade with third countries through specified entry/exit points. The text of the Agreement is available in the website of Department of Commerce "<http://www.commerce.nic.in>" under the heading "Trade/Transit Arrangements".

India and Bhutan are also signatories of the Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) which has come into force from 1st January, 2006. SAFTA provides for a phased tariff liberalization programme (TLP) which is scheduled to come into force from 1st July 2006. This TLP would not be applicable to the items in the Sensitive List Kept by each member state. India has kept two sensitive lists, one with 884 items for Non-LDC Members (Pakistan and Sri Lanka) and other with 763 items for LDC members (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal) whereas Bhutan has kept one list of 137 items. The text of the SAFTA Agreement and its annexes are available in the website "<http://www.commerce.nic.in>" under the heading "Trade/Transit Agreements-Indians current engagements in RTAs".

(c) The Agreement on Trade and Commerce does not provide for any Negative List. Top five items of Exports from India to Bhutan are (1) Machinery and Instruments (2) Manufactures of Metals (3) Transport Equipments (4) Primary and Semi-finished Iron and Steel, and (5) Electronics Goods. Top five items of imports by India are (1) Primary Steel, Pig Iron based items (2) Inorganic Chemicals Man-made filament/spun yam.

Silk Industry

3834. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam Silk Industry is facing a serious crisis due to rising prices resulting in distress sale of finished products;

(b) if so, whether the Assam Silk Industry/ Government of Assam has approached the Union Government for a package to help the industry and the traditional Assam Silk weavers;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVA): (a) No, Sir. The state of Assam is producing mainly eri and muga silk varieties. Prices of eri and muga cocoons and yarn have shown only marginal increase.

(b) No such proposal has been received from Government of Assam.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Ban on Tobacco

3835. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

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

(a) whether the sale of tobacco within 100 metres of schools has been banned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a ban is being implemented properly in Delhi and other Metros;

(d) if so, the details of monitoring of ban;

(e) whether there are reports about non-implementation of this ban;

(f) if so, the number of cases reported, state-wise; and

(g) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the Rules promulgated by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade & Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 2003, sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products in an area within a radius of one hundred yards of the educational institution is strictly prohibited and it is an offence punishable with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

(c) to (g) The power to enforce the various provisions of the Act are vested in the State Governments, and it is for them to put-in place suitable monitoring mechanism. Details of non-implementation of the ban are not centrally maintained.

Bomb Blasts

3836. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been a series of bomb blasts in various States during 2005 and 2006, till date;

(b) if so, the number of persons died/injured and loss of property reported in each of such blasts, State-wise;

(c) the details of compensation paid to the victims;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any investigation of each of such blasts;

(e) if so, the outcome of such investigations;

(f) the number of persons arrested and the name of the outfits responsible for such blasts;

(g) the action taken by the Government against the persons responsible for such blasts; and

(h) the steps taken to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per available information, a Statement showing the number of incidents of terrorist violence including involving bomb blast in J & K, North-Eastern States and Naxal affected states and the persons killed in 2005 and 2006 (up to 30.4.2006) as also details of bomb blasts that occurred during the same period in Delhi, U.P., Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Chandigarh is enclosed. Some of these incidents also entailed damage to public/private property in varying degrees whose details are not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

(c) compensation is paid by the State Governments as per the extant guidelines of the respective states. However, in respect of J & K, NE and Naxal affected states, the Central Government reimburses the ex-gratia payment, as per the prescribed norms under the security related expenditure (SRE) schemes.

(d) to (g) All such incidents are investigated and action taken by the State Governments against the responsible persons and outfits under the relevant laws. Among the outfits responsible for these incidents are mainly Pak based terrorist outfits such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), and their associate outfits/offshoots, Hizbul Mujahidden (HM), Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), and ULFA and CPI (Maoist).

(h) The Government pursues a multi-dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities and extends support to the States in neutralizing such terrorist activities. In order to curb terrorist activities, the Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, ensuring improved technology, weaponry and equipment of security forces both at the

Centre and in the States, by well coordinated intelligence based operations. Besides, steps have also been taken

to achieve bilateral/multi-lateral cooperation to deal with the menace of terrorism, given its global dimension.

Statement

Name of the State/UT	2005		2006	
	No. of incidents	Persons Killed (civilians and security forces)	No. of incidents	Persons Killed (civilians and security forces)
Jammu and Kashmir	1990	746	466	141
North East	1332	463	419	116
Naxal Affected States	1594	669	550	281
Delhi	5	67 (Civilians)	1	—
Uttar Pradesh	2	15 (Civilians)	2	17 (Civilians)
Chandigarh	1	—	—	—
Gujarat	—	—	1	—
Andhra Pradesh*	1	1(SF)	—	—

*This incident is other than those included in the naxal related incidents.

**The shoot-out incident at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, on 28.12.2005, is not included as it was not an incident of bomb blast.

Visit of WTO Director General to India

3837. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI DHANSUKODI R. ATHITHAN:
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

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

(a) whether Director General of WTO has recently visited India to bring consensus on various issues raised during WTO Conference especially at Doha Round Programme;

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

(c) the stand of the Government on the issues raised by him;

(d) the impact of WTO decision on Indian economy; and

(e) the steps take by the Government to save the Indian farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) During his visit to New Delhi from 5-7 April, 2006, Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director General, World Trade Organisation (WTO), held ministerial level consultations with the Minister of Commerce and Industry and Finance Minister. During these consultations, the main issue that came up was on ways and means to meet the approaching deadline of 30th April 2006 for finalizing the modalities on negotiations on Agriculture and Non-Agriculture Marked Access (NAMA) as decided by the Ministers at the Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference held in Hong Kong, China, from 13-18

December 2005. Besides this, he also held discussions on the other issues covered by the WTO Doha Work Programme. During these discussions, the Government reiterated its concerns and interests in the ongoing negotiations under the Doha Work Programme and on the need to deliver pro development outcomes applicable to all WTO Members, which meet the aspirations of the diverse group of countries, especially the developing countries. Since, these consultations were informal in nature, no decision was required to be taken. Further, the WTO Members could not finalise the modalities on negotiations on Agriculture and NAMA by the deadline of 30 April 2006 as mentioned above. Members have continued negotiations in Geneva since then with a view to achieving appropriate outcome.

(e) In the negotiations on Agriculture under the Doha Work Programme India has engaged itself effectively to ensure that its core concerns and interests continue to be adequately addressed. As required by the exigencies of these negotiations, India has been submitting proposals in the various negotiating bodies of the WTO with a view to pursuing its national interests and to protect the interests of various stakeholders including the farmers. Further, India has been pro active in articulating its position on issues of concern to it, and other developing countries through coalition building, such as the G-20 on Agriculture and G-33 on Special Products and Special Safeguard Mechanism. On the domestic front, the Government is continuously monitoring the surge in import of sensitive items into the country. The Government is committed to intervene in a WTO compatible manner to protect the interests of all domestic stakeholders, especially the farmers.

Delhi Metro Security

3838. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five members of Expert Group constituted by the Government to look after the Delhi Metro security has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) the action so far taken by the Government on such recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Team of Officers constituted by the Government to prepare a security plan for Delhi Metro Rail has submitted a draft security plan which, *inter alia*, envisages setting up of a dedicated police force for Delhi Metro Rail. The draft security plan is under consideration of the Government.

Tenth Plan Outlay for NEC

3839. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the North Eastern Council for the Tenth Plan is not as per the proposed demand;

(b) the details of the amount demanded and allocated;

(c) whether the amount initially allocated has not been released till the end of the fourth year of the Tenth Plan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government for early release of said funds for speeding up the process of development?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Against Rs. 6594.40 crore proposed by the North Eastern Council (NEC) for the Xth Plan period, the Planning Commission agreed to an outlay of Rs. 3500 crore for the Tenth Five Year Plan to NEC.

(c) to (e) A statement indicating the outlay approved during 2002-03 to 2006-07 is given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Outlay 2002-03	Outlay 2003-04	Outlay 2004-05	Outlay 2005-06	Outlay 2006-07
450.00	500.00	500.00	500.00*	600.00**

*Provision of Rs. 461.50 crore made in the budget for grant component

**The amount is provided in the budget as grant.

As informed by Planning Commission, while outlay fixed for 10th Five Year Plan of NEC is notional, the actual allocation depends on the total availability of Central Assistance to the States under Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for each year. Allocation to NEC also depends on the provision of Central Assistance made to the states of NER in the Annual Plans and also investments made in the NER by different Ministries in each year. There are no unallocated resources available with the Planning Commission for allocation to NEC during 10th Five Year Plan.

Industrial Growth Rate

3840. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate target fixed by the Government for infrastructure industries for the year 2004-2005 and 2005-2006;

(b) the extent to which growth rate has been achieved till December, 2005;

(c) whether growth rate of some industries has declined during the above period;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targetted growth rate during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Target, achievement and growth rates of infrastructure industries for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 are given in the table below.

Targets and Production of Infrastructure Industries

Infrastructure Industries	Unit	2004-05		2005-06		Production Growth rate (%)	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	2004-05	2005-06
Cement	MT	133.00	133.57	142.00	147.18	8.2	10.2
Coal	MT	364.65	377.27	399.78	401.99	6.4	6.6
Power	Bu	586.41	587.37	621.50	617.38	5.2	5.1
Finished (Carbon) Steel	MT	44.10	40.06	50.44	42.64	8.4	6.4
Petroleum Refinery Product	MMT	121.94	127.12	128.86	129.84	4.3	2.1
Crude Oil	MMT	33.14	33.98	34.45	32.19	1.8	(-)5.3

Note: BU = Billion Units MT = Million Tonnes MMT = Million Metric Tonnes

Source: (1) concerned Ministries, (2) Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

(c) to (e) Crude oil, petroleum refinery products and steel are industries which mainly witnessed decline in growth rate during 2005-06. Decline in the first two industries is on account of loss of production from the wells of Mumbai High North resulting from fire, and environmental constraints in the Eastern region.

Steps taken to increase crude oil and petroleum refinery products include new exploration, improving recovery from existing oil fields and acquiring equity in the oil and gas from abroad. For steel sector, the National Steel Policy (NSP) is in place which aims at increasing

steel production through reform, restructuring and globalization. Steps to increase power include improvement in the plant load factor (PLF) of the thermal power station, renovation and modernization of old generation units, strengthening of the distribution system, Ultra Mega Power Project initiative, etc.

Export Share of Tea Coffee and Cash Crops

3841. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether India has lost its share in export of tea, coffee, rubber, cardamom and pepper in the Italian and Russian markets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has consulted experts from Brazil to suggest ways to reoccupy India's share in the Italian and Russian markets;

(d) if so, the measures suggested by the said experts; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There has been no significant variation in the exports of tea, coffee, rubber, cardamom and pepper to Italy. However, exports of tea and coffee to Russia have shown a decline. The decline in export of tea to Russia is mainly on account of the change in the consumption pattern of tea consumers in Russia to orthodox tea and stiff competition from Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Indonesia. In the case of Coffee, the decline in exports is due to intense competition in the Russian market from Vietnam and Brazil who have tremendous cost advantages.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Pension Benefit to Sashastra Seema Bal

3842. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the scheme of granting pensionary benefits to the personnel of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) equivalent to those of army as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated March 28, 2006;

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

(c) whether proposal of raising a women battalion in SSB has been approved;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to provide schooling facility to the children of SSB personnel on the line of army has been considered; and

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The personnel of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), like those of other Para-Military Forces, are entitled to pensionary benefits under CCS (pension) Rules, 1972.

(c) and (d) All Para-Military forces have been asked to rise the representation of women in their respective Forces.

(e) and (f) Government provides assistance to SSB for undertaking welfare activities including schooling facility for the children of SSB personnel.

Enhancement of Freedom Fighter Pension

3843. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance pension of freedom fighters and Hyderabad Mukti Andolan fighters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has fully disposed of all the pending cases relating to pension of freedom fighters and Hyderabad Mukti Andolan fighters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Claims for pension in 192 cases, in all, have been received from the State Governments with their verification and entitlement reports; the examination of which by the Central Government is an ongoing process.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

**Courses Offered by Small Industries
Service Institutes**

3844. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the courses offered by the Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs) have failed in getting recognition from the Department of Technical Education and AICTE;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. The training courses offered by the Small Industries Service Institutes fall mainly under the category of skill development programmes for enhancing the awareness and the skills of the candidates for self-employment or for better management of operating small scale industries. As these are short-term courses, they do not come under the purview of the AICTE or the State Departments of Technical Education.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I on behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09, Annual Supplement to Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09 and Handbook of Procedures (Vol. I) (all updated upto 7th April, 2006) (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4200/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi for the year 2004-2005.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4201/2006]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi for the year 2004-2005.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4202/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Manikrao Gavit, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Amendment Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 193(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2006, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4203/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the table—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 365(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2006, appointing Deputy Central Intelligence Officer, Officer-in-Charge of Immigration check Post, Munabao, Rajasthan, as the "Civil Authority" for the purpose of the Foreigners Order, 1948, issued under clause (2) of the Said Order.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4204/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Central Reserve Police Combatised Assistant Sub Inspector, (Steno) and Head Constable (Ministerial) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 409 in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 2005, under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4205/2006]

- (3) A copy of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, General Duty Cadre (Group 'B' posts) Recruitment (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 137(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2006, under sub-section (3) of section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4206/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the All India Council for Technical Education (Member-Secretary) Recruitment Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 212(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 2006, under section 24 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4207/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the

Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Banaras Hindu University for the year 2004-2005 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4208/2006]

- (3) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report of the Mizoram University for the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 and the Audited Accounts for the years 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the respective accounting years.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4209/2006]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Social Research, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4210/2006]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Rural Institutes, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Rural Institutes, Hyderabad, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4211/2006]

(8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Kolkata, for the year 2004-2005.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4212/2006]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4213/2006]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, for the year 2004-2005.

(13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4214/2006]

(14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 2004-2005.

(15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4215/2006]

(16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

(17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4216/2006]

(18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 2004-2005.

(19) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (18) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4217/2006]

(20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2004-2005.

(21) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (20) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4218/2006]

(22) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Institute of Advance Study, for the year 2004-2005 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4219/2006]

(23) A copy of the statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, for the year 2004-2005 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4220/2006]

(24) A copy of the Notification No. IG/Admn(G)/Ord./2001/350 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 2005, making certain amendments to Ordinance on Career Advancement of Teachers (Ordinance 3) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University under sub-section (2) of section 40 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4221/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ashwani Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Indian Boiler (Amendment) Regulations, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 27 in Gazette of India dated the 4th February, 2006, under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Indian Boilers Act, 1923.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4222/2006]

(2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trade Marks and Registrar of Geographical Indications, for the year 2004-2005.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4223/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): 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 MMTC Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4224/2006]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the PEC Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4225/2006]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the the State Trading Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4226/2006]

(2) A copy of the S.O. No. 1776(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the

19th December, 2005, appointing the 1st Day of January, 2006 as the date on which sections 2, 5 and 6 of the Tea (Amendment) Act, 1980 shall come into force, issued under section 1 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4227/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4228/2006]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Primary Education Development Society Kerala (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-2005, along Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Primary Education Development Society Kerala (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-2005.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4229/2006]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State Mission Authority Meghalaya, Shillong, for the year 2003-2004, along Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State Mission Authority Meghalaya, Shillong, for the year 2003-2004.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4230/2006]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Manipur, for the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, along Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Mission Authority (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Manipur, for the years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4231/2006]

- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 33 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993:-
- (i) The NCTE (from of application for recognition, the time limit of submission of application, determination of norms and standards for recognition of teacher education programmes and permission of start new course or training) (6th Amendment) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 49-5/2005/NCTE (N&S) in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 2005.

(ii) The National Council for Teacher Education (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. 49-42/2005-NCTE (N and S) in Gazette of India dated the 13th January, 2006.

(iii) The National Council for Teacher Education (the Criteria for relaxation in qualifications required for appointment to teaching posts in degree level teacher training courses) Regulations, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 49-29/2005-NCTE (N and S) in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 2006.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reason for delay in the papers mentioned at item No. (1) of (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 4232/2006]

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have to report a message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th May, 2006 agreed without any amendment to the Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2006 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th May, 2006."

12.02¹/₂ hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received a letter dated 15th May, 2006 from Shri

Nitish Kumar, an elected Member from Nalanda Parliamentary constituency, Bihar, resigning from his membership of Lok Sabha with immediate effect.

I accept his resignation with effect from 15th May, 2006.

12.03 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for you information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week consisting of three sittings.

Out of the three sittings, on the first day, the House had to be adjourned after paying tributes to the passing away of two sitting Members and four ex-Members of Lok Sabha.

Out of the 60 Starred Questions admitted, only four could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 674 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table. Besides, one Half-an-Hour Discussion was also taken up.

During the period, as many as 12 matters of urgent public importance were raised after the Question Hour and before the adjournment of the House for the day.

As regards the Legislative Business, the House discussed the Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Bill, 2006 for about 1 hour 41 minutes before it was passed.

As regards the Private Members' Business, 8 Bills were introduced. One Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 (insertion of new article 45A), with a view to provide nutritious food to all children who have been provided free and compulsory education by the States, moved by Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy was taken up for consideration and discussed for about 51 minutes. The Bill was withdrawn by the leave of the House.

The Crop Insurance Bill, 2005, with a view to provide for insurance of crops and for matters connected therewith moved by Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi was also taken up for consideration and discussed for about

1 hour and 23 minutes. However, the discussion was not concluded.

During this period, one Report was presented.

During the week, we lost 5 hours and 46 minutes of valuable time due to interruptions and adjournments. This was mainly on account of the early adjournment of the House on 11th May, 2006 due to the demand made by some Members from the Opposition Parties for bringing an early legislation to check large scale demolitions carried out in Delhi.

I wish to convey my thanks to the hon. Members for their kind co-operation in the conduct of the proceedings.

12.06 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Eleventh Report

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Sir, I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances regarding requests for dropping of assurances.

12.06½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

Fifteenth to Seventeenth Reports

[English]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment:—

- (1) Fifteenth Report on the "National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation" (NBCFDC) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

- (2) Sixteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

- (3) Seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

12.07 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Statements

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Sir, I beg to lay the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs:—

- (1) Statement showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 9th Report (14th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 6th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs for the year 2005-2006.
- (2) Statement showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the 8th report (14th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the 7th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 2005-2006.

12.07½ hrs.

PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF DISQUALI- FICATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2006*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I would like to submit one point, through you, to the House.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 16.5.2006

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

As agreed in the usual Leaders' Meeting in the morning today, item No. 15, that is, the introduction of the Bill may be taken up before item No. 14 and the Calling Attention may be taken up after the introduction. Then, after the disposal of the Calling Attention, we shall take up the Bill for consideration and passing about which I have conveyed to you officially through a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: It may be after mentioning some urgent matters. I think the House agrees to it.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: We will oppose it at the time of introduction also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is there. That right is not taken away. I believe this is prior to that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Sir, I feel that when the Offices of Profit Bill would be taken up, you may not be in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not wish to be there.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I appreciate your decision. But I would like to plead with you on one point because, after all, you are the hon. Speaker. The manner in which this particular matter is being dealt with by the Government is not the right way. For example, waiving of notices require for Bills or the circulation of the copy of the Bill to the Members can be waived in certain circumstances. But by saying that the Bill is to be introduced today, to be passed today and is to be passed by the other House today, they are trying to bulldoze it which is not necessary at all. I would like the Leader of the House to remember how this particular issue was messed up even in the beginning and how the House was adjourned *sine die* and, because of all that happened, we had to again convene a meeting, and the House could not be prorogued.

I would like to plead with the Speaker to advise the Government and let the Government also decide on this matter. There is ample time. We are sitting till the 23rd of May. What is the hurry about it? Why is it being

bulldozed? There should be a fullfledged discussion on this particular matter so that whatever has to be said can be said. Even though it was said that before the Bill would be introduced, the Opposition would be consulted, I was not consulted. My Party was not consulted. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please do not misunderstand me. Let me leave the Chair. Hon. Deputy-Speaker would occupy the Chair.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not referring to the Offices of Profit Bill at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. Now, hon. Deputy-Speaker is occupying the Chair. Please do not misunderstand me.

12.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: It is today against the spirit of morality. This is not a matter of morality. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Most respectfully, I would just like to clarify one position. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Leader of the House is on his legs. Other hon. Members, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am just trying to clarify one position which the hon. Leader of the Opposition raised. ...*(Interruptions)*

I have no intention of participating in the debate. ...*(Interruptions)* I am responding to the point which the Leader of the Opposition referred to. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Pranab Mukherjee says.

...*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will you not allow anyone to speak? ...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete and then you can speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would just like to clarify that nothing has been messed up which the hon. Leader of the Opposition referred to. I gave the explanation why the House was adjourned *sine die* in the previous part of this Session.

As far as the consultation with the leaders of the parties is concerned, I would like to say that hon. Leader of the Opposition would recollect that first my colleague, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs had a meeting with the leaders of various groups of the Parliament. After that I myself wrote letters to all the Opposition parties. I have received responses including the Leader of the Opposition of BJP in Rajya Sabha. The Leader of the Opposition of this House told me personally that whatever have been pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Jaswant Singh, are the views of the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha. Therefore, it is totally surprising to me to hear that the Government has not consulted all the Opposition parties.

In regard to the procedure to be adopted, I would say that the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs discussed the matter as to the manner in which the Bill will be taken up with the floor leaders well in advance. Therefore, it is not being bulldozed. Nobody is going to take away the rights of the hon. Members to discuss it in detail. The House can decide as to how much time it wants to discuss the Bill. You can take as much time as is needed to debate the Bill. We can give them. There is no problem regarding that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, a mention has been made by the Leader of the House to what I spoke to him and to what I said to him. I have said that so far as the board approach is concerned it has already been indicated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and I endorse it. This was my personal talk with him. But that letter itself says that we would give our considered view when the Government's thinking comes to us in the shape of the draft Bill. That Bill was brought to the House without discussing with anyone else. You may have discussed it with your allies. But you did not discuss the Bill with us.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I am afraid, Sir, the Bill which is being discussed is nothing but the original Bill. Along with my letter a copy of the Bill, which exists,

was referred to. What is being done is only the Schedule is being expanded. When you study the Bill, you will find that there is nothing more than that. Only the Schedule, which contains the offices of profit which are to be exempted, is being expanded. Only that is being added. There is no other new element in the Bill, in the text of the Bill at all. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Shri Kharabela Swain, please allow me to speak.

I would like to submit very sincerely and faithfully that in the presence of all the leaders on the first day of leaders meeting; then in the normal meetings that the hon. Speaker holds in his Chamber, I made it abundantly clear, with the consensus and unanimity of all the leaders, that this Bill should be introduced, considered and passed on the same day. Nobody can deny this fact. All were present in the meeting. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Do not say "all". ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Shri Tripathy, if you fail to attend the meeting, that is not my fault. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: My simple objection is you have not consulted us. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Then you can give your objection. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I must clarify this point. I contacted the Leader of the BJD, Shri Arjun Sethi, over the phone. He said that he was in a village and that he would let me know his party's views within seven days. No view came from the BJD after my interaction.

I personally called on all the Leaders, which was followed by the letters of the Leader of the House. Then, some Leaders wrote in their opinion and some said that they would interact later. So, in this matter, a comprehensive drill has been done by the Government with the parties.

As regards the Draft Bill, also I said in the Leaders' Meeting that there is no Constitution Amendment but only a section will be amended to include more list to expand the Schedule. I do not know what is lacking in terms of informing the Leaders. We have done our job very transparently. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, please allow me. *...(Interruptions)* I have a valid point. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Legislative Business. We will take up Item No. 15—Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959.”

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I oppose the Bill. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Now, you can oppose it! *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, ordinarily, I would not have opposed introduction of a Bill. It is not the convention. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Observe silence, Azmiji. The Bill is a very serious one. Take it seriously.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I rise to oppose this introduction only because of one clause, and that clause is clause 2(i). Otherwise, I would have waited for the Third Reading and that at the end of the Third Reading, as has been decided already by members of the National Democratic Alliance, we would have opposed the passing of the Bill. But, I believe, that when the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill was first passed in 1953, later in 1959, it was never conceived that this would include offices which are virtually constitutional offices. It was never contemplated. I am reading the particular clause to which I am objection. It says:

“after clause (ac), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

“(ad) the office of the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council constituted by the Government of

India in the Cabinet Secretariat *vide* Order No. 631/2/1/2004-Cab., dated 31st May, 2004;”

Now, I have with me this Order, which creates the National Advisory Council to monitor the implementation of the National Common Minimum Programme of the Government. It mentions the functions of the National Advisory Council, and the first and foremost function is:

“to monitor the progress of the implementation of the Common Minimum Programme.”

The second function is:

“to provide inputs for the formulation of policy by the Government and to provide support to the Government in its legislative business.”

Now, I cannot conceive how an office of this kind can be created by a simple law, not by a constitutional amendment Act. Of course, the Law Minister is present there. He must have advised that the National Advisory Council Chairman does not come within the meaning of the. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, it is not a debate. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not going into the details. I am confining myself only to one point. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen. I have given him the time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mistryji, please listen.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am not going into any other provision because I know that already the Prevention of Disqualification Act is there under which many offices have been named, some more to be added. But this particular provision is not in the Schedule. It is one of the principal clauses in the Bill. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, he is going into the details. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mistryji, this is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister will reply. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I know better than you. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have given him time. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The Council would be supported by a secretariat with the necessary complement of officers and staff who shall be responsible to the Chairperson. The Council would be provided adequate and appropriate office space by the Central Government. All expenditure incurred in connection with the functioning of the Council would be met by the Central Government. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: This is exactly what I am saying. ... (Interruptions) They want to bulldoze. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Mr. Advani.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Advaniji.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please continue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will continue but the concern which I had expressed before the hon. Speaker.

[English]

this is only an evidence of that. There is ample time. You will pass it. You have a majority. Who do you allow this kind of sycophancy to prevail in your Party? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

What is this?

[English]

Your Chief Whip is behaving in this manner. There is nothing else except the sycophancy.

[Translation]

I spoke while others were not speaking, only I was speaking. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, my point is simple. I would think that a provision of this kind where a National Advisory Council is to be created and the Chairperson has to be given these rights and those rights, in actual practice, the whole country has seen in the last two years. For all practical purposes, the Chairperson of this National Advisory Council became a Super Prime Minister. ... (Interruptions) For that and everyone agreed that the Office of Prime Minister, as conceived by the Indian Constitution makers, has been devalued, has been diminished.

It is, therefore, that I feel that if this had to be done, this should be done by a Constitutional amendment, not by a simple law as this one. If it is done in that manner then I am afraid that our opposition to this particular Bill becomes more intense. We think, after you may by majority pass it, and everyone knows it will be passed. You will say that it will benefit your people also, it will benefit others also. Yes, I know that. Let it be, Sir. But, basically, I think that this should have been separated from the Office of Profit Bill that you have brought in

[Shri L.K. Advani]
today. This is my basic objection to the introduction of the Bill. Other points will be made in the course of the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I have to speak about point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you given any notice?
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, at the introduction stage a notice is to be given for raising objection. This is the rule of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Without giving the notice, nobody can be allowed to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am raising point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you given notice?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: It is in the rule book. Nobody can oppose the introduction except the notice maker. You cannot. You cannot take the House in your own hands. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Braja Kishore Tripathi, have you any point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: I am drawing attention to rule 371. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to say that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: First you should go to your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The established rule of the House cannot be violated by anyone whomsoever be the party. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I agree with you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, allow me to conclude my point of order. The rule is very clear. If before introduction of a Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Dasmunsi, that will be decided by the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, Rule 72 (2) says:

"Notice to oppose introduction of a Bill shall be addressed to the Secretary-General..."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Chair will decide about that.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, how can you prevent me from raising a point of order? You cannot prevent me from raising the point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nobody is going to speak without prior notice. This is what I was going to say.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a point of order under rule 376. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not calling anyone who has not given notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you given any notice?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given notice.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not received any notice so far.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Tripathy, please sit down.

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

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Advaniji, please conclude

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I will again read out the rule relevant to this particular matter. Rule 72 (1) says:

"If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, brief statements from the member who opposes the motion and the member who moved the motion, may, without further debate, put the question:"

After what I have said now, you are correct in putting the question and allow it to be voted. That is all right. But there is a proviso to this rule which says:

"Provided that where a motion is opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House, the Speaker may permit a full discussion thereon:"

I have not used the words that this Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House, but I have certainly pointed out that my objection to the introduction of this Bill is confined to just one clause which, I believe, should have been more appropriately brought through a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, not through an ordinary Bill, as in this case and, therefore, I think that the Speaker, in his wisdom, can permit other Members also, who have not given notice, to speak. This is my submission. This is your discretion. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, this is not possible.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, there is no disrespect to you. You are fully entitled to decide. We would like to register our protest against the introduction of this Bill by the hon. Minister and, therefore, we stage a walk out.

12.28 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri L.K. Advani and some other hon. Members left the House)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Under what rule?

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Under rule 376. I am drawing your attention to rule 376. Kindly listen to me. When the introduction of a Bill is opposed under rule 72, you put the question to seek permission of the House to introduce the Bill and it also deserves division. So, I am now drawing your attention to rule 371. It says:

"If the vote of a member in a division in the House is challenged on the ground of personal, pecuniary or direct interest in the matter to be decided, the Speaker may, if he considers necessary, call upon the member making the challenge to state precisely the grounds of his objection and the member whose vote has been challenged to state his case and shall decide whether the vote of the member should be disallowed or not and his decision shall be final:"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the proper time for that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the proper time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, so many Members' interests are involved. How can they participate in this? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I will briefly deal with.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no point of order.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, he is challenging your ruling. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Tripathy, please sit down.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I have given a notice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, we want division. How can the Members, who are involved, participate in voting? ...(Interruptions) At the time of introduction of the Bill, we can challenge it.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Tripathiji, you can speak only after the hon. Minister concludes his statement.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, he is the Leader of his Party. He should respect the ruling of the Chair. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded, except what Shri H.R. Bhardwaj says.
...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling. You have to sit down now, Shri Tripathy.
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, you should give your ruling. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling. Please sit down. You can participate in the discussion and say what you want to say.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, if we are not allowed to speak, then we stage a walk out.

12.33 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy and some other hon. Members left the House)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I will briefly deal with, and it is my duty to deal with, the objection raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Shri Advani. I never expected it from a Leader of Opposition to make such a frivolous objection. Sir, I have been in Parliament for some time now and I know that the introduction of the Bill cannot be objected, in my humble view, except for the legislative incompetence. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to the hon. Minister.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Legislative competence can be challenged only when the Parliament lacks competence and only then the hon. Members can say that there is lack of competence. Sir, you heard the hon. Leader of the Opposition. He has nothing to say on the matter of legislative competence of this House. He straightaway touched upon one point that this National Advisory Committee is a constitutional body. ...(Interruptions) and hence it is a constitutional appointment. It is farthest from truth. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I have given a notice. It is with you. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, we all know what is a constitutional appointment. Here in this case it has nothing to do with the constitutional appointment. ...(Interruptions) Sir, I humbly submit that what the hon. Leader of the Opposition has said is absolutely without any foundation.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I have given a notice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I think, we should now. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am supporting the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, allow him to continue his speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow him to speak. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The Bill is defective. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is on his legs. Please allow him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I would not have liked to speak at all because I know at the introductory stage nobody makes long speeches, but the way the Leader of the opposition spoke and for his lack of knowledge of Parliamentary law, I am surprised what will happen to this great institution when he said that this NAC is a 'constitutional office'. It is not even a statutory office. It was the creation of an order of the Government, of the Cabinet Secretariat and that is what is being termed as a constitutional office. With greatest humility at my command I would like to submit that whatever the Leader of the Opposition has said shows exactly the lack of knowledge of Parliamentary law, and this should not have come from his mouth. Therefore the only thing that at this stage could be said is that this law, and Sir, I would also like to submit one thing, we are not dealing with today the question of appointment or qualification. We are dealing with preventing the disqualification and by inserting one or two more offices into the already existing

law. The Parliament has already passed the Prevention of Disqualification Act which is a valid law and time tested Act and we are inserting certain offices which will otherwise disqualify 40 sitting MPs of this House. What a lack of responsibility has been shown by this party! ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I would submit that there is no merit in what Shri Advani, the Leader of the Opposition said, and permit me to introduce this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I introduce* the Bill.

12.37 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Re: Situation arising out of communal Violence in
different parts of the Country**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up Item No. 14, Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of communal violence in different parts of the country."

*THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): the number of communal incidents and the number of persons killed and injured during 2000-2006, as per information received by the Government of India, are as under:

*Not recorded.

*Placed in Library. See No. LT 4232/2006.

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

Year	No. of incidents	Persons killed	Persons injured
2000	787	243	1814
2001	823	221	2382
2002	722	1130	4375
2003	711	193	2261
2004	677	134	2132
2005	779	124	2066
2006 (January — May 12) (Tentative)	198	58	706

(i) On 28.1.2006, a prayer meeting of Christians was going on in a house at LIG No. 210 of Bharti Niketan, Govindpura, Bhopal. At that time, around 20-25 youth assembled in front of that house and indulged in stone-pelting on the house. The youth also assaulted the people praying there. The injured persons were admitted in the Hamidia Hospital and underwent treatment there. During investigation, five accused persons were arrested.

(ii) On February 3, 2006, Basant Panchami coincided with the Friday Namaj prayers at the Saraswati Mandir—Kamal Maula Masjid at Bhojshala (Dhar) in M.P. The Archeological Survey of India had divided the daylight hours among the two communities. From sunrise to 12.30, and again from 3.30 to sunset, the Hindus were to offer Saraswati Puja. In between 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m., the Muslims were to offer Namaj, which was done. When the Hindus refused to vacate at 12.30 p.m., tension arose. Rapid Action Force (RAF), which was deployed, held back the Hindu devotees. They had to resort to lathi-charge and tear-gas. Curfew was imposed and the situation was brought under control. The rest of the day passed peacefully. Over 900 persons were arrested.

(iii) Between February 11-13, 2006, the Banwasi Kalyan Parishad in Dangs district of Gujarat observed Shabri Mahakumbh. Large gathering of devotees took place. The Christian tribals feared a Shuddhikaran or Reconversion drive. The Union Government was in constant touch with the State Administration for several days. The Special Secretary (IS), MHA visited the State. The event passed off peacefully.

(iv) Communal tension developed in Ladakh and Kargil region of Jammu and Kashmir between Buddhists and Shia Muslims on 5.2.2006 when some miscreants entered the Mosque and allegedly tore pages of the holy Quran. A mob of Muslims attacked the Buddhists of Bodh Kharboo. Processions were taken out at various places in Kargil, Dras and Leh. Police resorted to lathi-charge and curfew was imposed. The situation was brought under control by the senior officials who camped in the area from 8th to 14th February 2006.

(v) Aligarh city in Uttar Pradesh witnessed communal violence during the period from 6.4.2006 to 10.4.2006 over the large scale arrangements made for the Ram Navami programme. Six persons died and 23 persons were injured in the clashes and firing. A total of 265 persons were arrested and 12 cases have been registered in connection with these incidents so far. A two-member team comprising Principal Secretary of the State Government and Additional DGP, Uttar Pradesh has been constituted to enquire into these incidents.

(vi) On 1.5.2006, the officials of the Municipal Corporation of Vadodara went to remove the dargah of Rasiduddin Rehamatullah Aleh near Champaner Gate as part of its anti-encroachment drive. Thousands of people collected and resorted to stone-pelting.

The control the situation, Police resorted to lathi charge, tear gas and firing in which 2 persons were killed. Subsequently, another 2 persons died due to stabbing and several others were injured. Curfew was imposed in 6 Police Station areas. One of the injured died on 2.5.2006. Meanwhile, a Sumo met with an accident in Ajwa in Panigate Police Station. The mob in the area burnt the vehicle and the driver. A total of 6 persons died, 51 injured, 254 persons have been arrested in substantive cases, 306 in preventive cases and 616 persons were arrested for violation of curfew and 53 offences have been registered. To control the situation, the State police, para-military forces, rapid deployment forces, and army columns were used. Two companies of BSF, one company of CRPF, eight companies of Rapid Action Force, and army columns were inducted to control the situation. The situation in Vadodara is now under control. However, vigil is being maintained.

The matter of urban encroachment removal was reviewed by the hon. High Court of Gujarat under a *suo moto* writ petition and the Court under order dated 2.5.2006, directed the State Government to remove all encroachments in Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Rajkot and other places. In the wake of this order and in the interest of the maintenance of peace and communal harmony, the Union Government moved the Supreme Court of India and obtained a stay on 4.5.2006, on the said High Court order and the State Government has been informed accordingly.

The Union Government monitored the situation and issued appropriate advisories in the above incidents and provided central forces on the request of the concerned State Governments. Shri Sriprakash Jaiswal, Minister of State for Home Affairs visited Aligarh and Vadodara for an assessment of the situation and met the State authorities and visited the hospitals where injured were receiving treatment. The State Governments have been advised to take necessary steps to control the communal disturbances. The Union Government has been giving them information and assistance needed to maintain communal harmony.

The communal situation in the country, by and large, is under control. All the same, it has become necessary for the State Governments, the Union Government, and the people at large to increase the vigilance, and take timely action, and see that nothing is said or done, by anybody which can fuel the fire of unnecessary communal violence.

While replying to the Calling Attention Motion, which covers all communal incidents and the communal situation, only a few major incidents which attracted the attention of the people have been mentioned. The Government agrees to have a discussion, if required, on these issues, which can give greater time to the Members to express their views in greater details. The views expressed may prove useful to combat the communal violence.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, my notice was not for a general discussion on the communal situation in the country. My Calling Attention notice was very specific about the recent incident that took place at Vadodara in the State of Gujarat. ...(*Interruptions*)

Sir, On 1st May, 2006 when the Chief Minister of Gujarat was celebrating Gujarat Gaurav Divas, the 47th Foundation Day of Gujarat, 300 years old *Dargah* of a Sufi saint, Syed Rasiduddin Chusti was demolished by the Municipal Corporation. That demolition was done under the direct supervision of the BJP leaders and Bajrang Dal.

Sir, this particular *Dargah* was targeted for many years. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): Sir, the thing which is being said here. ...(*Interruptions*)

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, I had said earlier also that it was going as per the orders of the court. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will be given an opportunity to speak, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will be given time.

...(*Interruptions*)

YOGI ADITYA NATH: It was going on as per the orders of the court and not that of the government. ...(*Interruptions*) To mislead the house. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Whenever there are communal incidents in the State of Gujarat and whenever there were communal incidents elsewhere, the BJP and the Bajrang Dal attempted to destroy this particular *Dargah*. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will be given time to speak. Then, you can speak whatever you want.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give time to your party also.

...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this reminds us as to what happened in the State of Gujarat on 20th February, 2002. During the State-sponsored mayhem which was committed in the State of Gujarat in the month of February, 2002, 300 religious places were destroyed by the BJP, the Bajrang Dal and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad people. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Md. Salim, please do not disturb. Your Leader is on his legs.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This tomb in Ahmedabad was raised to the ground by these forces. It vanished overnight and a road was paved on the spot where it once stood. ...(Interruptions) Not it has been stated that particular *Dargah* was encroaching the Highway. The *Dargah* was some 300 years old. ...(Interruptions) The Outlook magazine has published. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Before this, 20 temples were razed to the ground. ...(Interruptions) To mislead the house ...(Interruptions) a misunderstanding is being created. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Time will be given to your party also.

[English]

Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You party will be given time.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Any newspaper. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Vadodara City Survey Map of 1912 showed that the *Dargah* was there. This *Dargah* came up much before the Municipal Corporation was formed. How did this *Dargah* encroach upon the Highway? The notice was issued by the Municipal Corporation and there was discussion and there was agreement also to dismantle a part of *Dargah*. In spite of that, on the first of May, only seven feet high *Dargah*, which is a small structure, was demolished. In order to dismantle the small structure how much machinery was deployed and how many people were deployed?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have so many names with me. Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The violence continued and the Chief Minister waited and watched for two days as he did in the case of the State-sponsored carnage that was committed in the State of Gujarat in 2002. Sir, six people were killed by police firing and by mob violence. What we have seen in the State of Gujarat as well as in the State of Rajasthan is that the religious places are the target of attack. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Nothing of this sort exists in Rajasthan.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The religious places are the target of attack.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This was when there was no need for demolition of that *Dargah*. This *Dargah* was 300-years old and it is a national monument. We enacted a law here, in this House, in 1991. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is very important. We have enacted a law in this House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing more will go on record. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta to speak now. The hon. Members are requested to kindly seek clarifications only.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it was on *status quo* of religious places. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now request Shri Gurudas Dasgupta to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This *Dargah* was built 300 years before. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs one thing. Where we have enacted a law to protect the religious monuments. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down now. Nothing will go on record. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta to speak now.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you have repeated it so many times.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This was in order to protect these religious monuments from the attack by the BJP and Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded now. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta to speak now.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, nothing will go on record.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why, Sir? Why will you not allow me to finish my speech?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken enough time.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How much time have I taken? I have taken only five minutes. Please let me finish.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken more than ten minutes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Report this to the Supreme Court. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Minorities Commission demanded for a judicial inquiry. I demand that a judicial inquiry should be set up because in this House a demand was made that all the cases should be handed over to the CBI. Otherwise the people will not get justice. Sixty-five thousand people were still homeless. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Please take your seat. Nothing more will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Please sit down now. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta to speak now.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government of Gujarat have failed to protect the minority community. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, you please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, nothing is going on record. You are a senior Member of this House. Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request the other hon. Members to kindly seek clarifications only.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, I understand your predicament regarding paucity of time, but considering the importance of the subject, kindly allow the Members to have their say. He will also have his say. Let all of us have our say. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Equal time should be given to every Member. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think, he has more than sufficient time.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I have gone through the statement of the hon. Minister. He has given an innocent catalogue of the incidents, too innocent to go into the root of the grave national problem. He has said less and not said much. I am very sorry to say that it appears that the issue has not been taken into proper perspective by the Minister. He has soft-peddled the issue. The statistics does not show that communal incidents in the country have declined.

Sir, what is the reason that we have raised the Calling Attention?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: May I have your indulgence, if you yield for a minute? *...(Interruptions)*

Sir, this is going on very irregularly. Call Attention Motion is on an incident of urgent public importance. Now, Shri Basu Deb Acharia says that he wanted that this Call Attention Motion should be limited to Vadodara—it would have been very helpful to me—but then it was

changed into the communal violence in the country. I cannot either reply to his notice or that notice. If I reply in writing to the entire communal violence in the country, I have to deal with thousands of incidents. That is why, I was requesting that take this matter under Rule 193 and discuss it for three hours or four hours.

Sir, under this rule, one matter has to be discussed and only four Members are allowed to ask questions and that too, each Member is allowed to ask only one question and that too a clarification. Without understanding the provisions of the rule, this matter is brought before the House. In my statement, I have said that I am willing to discuss it. You discuss it for three hours or four hours. But you do not commit before the House as per the rules and then, do not allow us time to speak. Then, you find fault with us. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, do not waste the time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, a Calling Attention notice can be converted into a discussion under Rule 193. Hon. Speaker has to take a decision about it. If the Minister is agreeable to a three-hour discussion, since this issue is of national importance, my suggestion is that the Hon. Speaker may consider the issue of discussing the matter so that the Minister can clarify his position and we, the Members, also can give details regarding the incidents. Otherwise, he is only restricted to ask clarificatory question and nothing else. Only clarificatory questions are allowed.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia made a lengthy speech. That is against the rule. He can ask only a clarificatory question, but he was making a lengthy speech. Now, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta will make a lengthy speech and other Members will also do the same thing. So, it may be converted into a discussion under Rule 193.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you want the discussion under rule 193, please give a notice.

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I am willing to discuss it at length. My request to the House is that this is an

important matter. Let it not be discussed as a Call Attention Motion, turn it into a Short Duration Discussion. I am willing to reply.

13.04 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We have no objection and you do not allow more than four Members to ask the questions. Then, we will say that the matter is important and allow more Members to ask the question. Each Member is allowed to ask only one clarificatory question. You will allow that also. What I am saying is that I am willing to discuss this matter at length, if the hon. Members request the Presiding Officer that it should be turned into a Short Duration Discussion. I shall have no difficulty.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we have no objection if it is converted into a discussion under Rule 193. We also want to have a structured debate on communal violence.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the respected Home Minister and the former Speaker of the House is making use of his wisdom and experience to scuttle my opinion. It is not fair. It is unfair on his part to do it.

MR. SPEAKER: No, let us not have mutual allegation.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No, it is unfair. I am not alleging. Let me finish my submission. If the Minister was so keen to convert this discussion into a Short Duration Discussion, then instead of reading out the speech he should have appealed to the hon. Speaker.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have done it. You can ask him.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Yes, but it was rejected.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have also informed the Secretary about it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, Mr. Patil appears to be impatient. Impatience should not be the characteristic of a Minister. He should listen to his friends and Members.

MR. SPEAKER: No, personal accusation or comment is not necessary.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, please listen to me. I am only saying that while you were announcing yesterday about today's business and while you were introducing today's business hon. Minister had stood up and suggested to you that: "How can there be a Calling Attention like this?" It is on record. Thereafter, you had kindly stated that you had admitted it. Now, after the Motion was admitted; after the hon. Minister read out his speech; after an hon. Member had spoken, while I told him that it is an innocent statement, he rises to say that it is wrong. Unfortunately, this is not the way the Parliament should be run, and the senior Members should not run it like this. I am also in this House for long.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. Kindly take your seat. Let us try to find a solution for it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I know, but I should not have been interrupted. I am only saying this. I am only submitting that I should not have been interrupted like this.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dasgupta, you have made your point.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Anyway, I am coming back to the subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody is to pass judgement on the conduct of the hon. Members and Ministers. It is not necessary. Mr. Dasgupta, kindly take your seat. This is a very important issue, and there is no doubt about it. I had also suggested that it might be discussed under Rule 193, and I would convert it to discussion under Rule 193. But some of the hon. Members—who had given notice—insisted that it should be discussed as a Calling Attention so that it can be decided earlier. Therefore, I maintained and continued it as a Calling Attention. Nobody can dispute the importance of the issue.

The hon. Minister also spoke to me, and he also wanted a fuller discussion to be held on different aspects of this matter. It was felt that it might be proper to have a discussion under Rule 193. I did not reject what was admitted, once, and I had taken the opinion of the hon. movers and Members in whose names it was admitted, including you. You wanted it to be continued as a Calling Attention. Therefore, I did not disturb it. But I think that

[Mr. Speaker]

if the sense of the House is that there should be a fuller discussion, then we can do it. We can either do it today or tomorrow depending upon how it is convenient, so that all sections of the House can participate. Is it the sense of the House? Can we find it out?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, it should be a fuller discussion.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, it should be a fuller discussion under Rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, it is 1310 hours now. We can continue for some time, and probably another hour and a half can be kept for this.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I have business in the other House also.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you suggesting it to be taken up tomorrow?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, Sir. I have a Bill and discussion on the same subject in the other House also. So, if you think it proper, then after that business I can come here or it can be fixed for tomorrow under Rule 193 or any rule.

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow I am committed to a discussion on the reservation matter. I am being misunderstood. Therefore, I am committed for that issue also. Can you be free by 4 o'clock?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, at 4 o'clock they have fixed the business.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, there is another matter under Rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, it is also important with regard to suicide by farmers. Hon. Members, I will appeal to all sections of the House including the hon. Minister to do it tomorrow after the reservation matter because the hon. Member feels very strongly about it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, do you want to have this discussion after the discussion on reservation? We can do it.

MR. SPEAKER: We will try to regulate it, and I hope it to be for felicity of our own understanding.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it will be very difficult tomorrow. I would request if it could be taken up day-after tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Does it mean that I will continue at that time?

MR. SPEAKER: You will have full liberty to have your say.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I will start the discussion.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But I was not allowed to speak for more than five to six minutes. Therefore, you will have to allow me also to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: May I make a submission to all? You are all very experienced, senior and responsible Members. We can surely find out a solution in this matter with your goodwill and cooperation.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, it can be converted into Discussion under Rule 193.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, today, there is a BAC meeting. We can discuss it in the BAC.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to do that because that will be a new discussion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, please listen to me. The only point is that I was stopped in the middle. Therefore, you should allow me to begin the discussion. After I have finished my speech, you can call others.

MR. SPEAKER: You can start your speech from the beginning, if you want.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, who will initiate the debate among these two?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I will initiate the discussion, and then he will follow me.

MR. SPEAKER: I may decide to sort of delete the entire discussion. I will look into it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: That discussion will be on a fresh Motion, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I can assure you all that on a matter like this, full opportunities will be given to you all subject to the rules and the procedure.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Anyway, the House agreed to allow me to speak fully at the beginning.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, not at the beginning, but after I have initiated the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: It is very nice, sometimes, to have some laughter in the House.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, please give me an opportunity at that time also.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give the opportunity to Shri Basu Deb Acharia and then to Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, then Harin Pathak should be given the opportunity.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Harin Pathak Ji, your name was included in today's list also. You will also get an opportunity.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): I should also be given an opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: Every one will get an opportunity by converting the calling attention into a discussion under rule 193.

[English]

You send your name on behalf of your Party. I cannot allow you just like that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to initiate the discussion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I will be the second speaker. I will have the opportunity to speak next after him.

MR. SPEAKER: I will decide that. You leave it to me.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I started the discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Please give this little liberty to the Speaker, your Speaker. The only thing I wish to say is about the comment of the hon. Home Minister, whom I highly respect and he knows it very much, who said that the rule does not provide it. I wish that everybody complied with all parts of the rule.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Including the Minister, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Certain things are happening, and we are tolerating many deviations, sometimes, for smooth functioning. His experience is much greater than mine, I am sure. Let us have goodwill and cooperation.

The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fourteen of the Clock.

14.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at one minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the hon. Members of the House agree, today's Matters under Rule 377—Item No. 16—be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 are laid on the Table and they will form part of the proceedings.

...(Interruptions)

14.02 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

- (i) **Need to make available drinking water free from fluoride and arsenic to the people at large particularly in Andhra Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY (Narasaraopet): The contamination of ground water in India has become a major health hazard in recent years. To bank on ground water has become dangerous because of unscientific disposal methods, municipal waste seeps through solid layers which contaminates ground water with heavy metals.

According to a survey report of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, Andhra Pradesh has more than 7000 habitants where drinking water is totally contaminated with fluoride. In Rajasthan, more than half of its villages and as many as 15 Indian States have areas where fluoride contamination of water has been threatening the health of the people. In some State like West Bengal, arsenic-contaminated water is being used by villagers for drinking, resulting in deadly diseases.

I would request the Central Government to take up necessary steps on priority basis to make available drinking water uncontaminated by fluoride and arsenic in a time bound strategy programme involving Government agencies, NGO's, International Agencies and affected communities to meet the situation.

- (ii) **Need for construction of a bridge at Khairgaon crossing on Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway in Gujarat**

[Translation]

SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL (Bulsar): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Road Transport and National Highways to the problems being faced by the people of my parliamentary constituency due to Gudlav crossing on the way from my parliamentary constituency Bulsar to Khairgaon and Dang.

In the absence of a bridge on Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway, occurrence of accidents at Gudlav

crossing on Bulsar-Khairgaon road on this National Highway has become order of the day for the people of my parliamentary constituency. Thousands of commuters from Bulsar to Dang and Guldav Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation have to cross this National Highway. There is heavy rush of traffic on this crossing but it is unfortunate that no bridge has been constructed over this crossing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request the Government, through you, that keeping in view the frequent occurrence of accidents at Gudlav Khairgaon crossing on Mumbai-Ahmedabad National Highway the concerned officers should be directed by the hon. Minister to construct a bridge without any further delay.

- (iii) **Need to construct over-bridges at Kadodara-Char Rasta and Kamraj Char Rasta on National Highway No. 6 and 8 in Gujarat**

[English]

DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY (Mandvi): I want to draw the attention of the Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways towards construction of over-bridges at Kadodara-Char Rasta and Kamrej Char Rasta on National Highway Nos. 6 and 8 in Gujarat. Kamrej Char Rasta is located at National Highway No. 8 which also connects Surat City. There is always a heavy rush of traffic on this Highway. Kadodara Char Rasta is a place where NH 8 crosses NH 6. As both the Highways crosses at Kadodara, there is always a heavy rush on this road. NH 6 on one hand connects my Constituency, 25-Mandvi, and on the other hand it connects Surat City.

Due to heavy rush on these Highways there is always traffic jam on the above two locations. If the over-bridges on Kadodara and Kamrej are being constructed it will ease the problem of the lakhs of the people of these areas who face traffic jam problem on these Highways.

Sir, I request the Government to construct over-bridge at Kadodara-Char Rasta and Kamrej-Char Rasta on National Highway Nos. 6 and 8 in Gujarat.

- (iv) **Need to review the implementation of National Employment Guarantee Programme in Jharkhand**

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Sir, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 has

*Treated as laid on the Table.

been implemented in 200 districts of the country and 20 districts of Jharkhand since Feb 2, 2006. I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that this act is being implemented at snail's pace in Jharkhand. Even after passage of three months, its implementation has not been started at village level. Only application form are collected and dumped in the divisional office. Job cards have not been issued so far. The intention of the officers behind working in such a manner is to escape legal provisions because once the job cards are issues, it becomes mandatory to give work to the willing card holders within 15 days, for which they are not ready.

The amount of second instalment under Sampooran Gramin Rojgar Yojana which was to be discontinued from 31.3.2006 and merged into National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme from 1.04.2006 is being shown as post incidence expenditure on the schemes under Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana.

Therefore, I demand from the Government that the Central Employment Guarantee Council should look into the factual position of the implementation of the National Development Rural Employment Guarantee Act in all districts of Jharkhand and take necessary steps.

(v) Need to check the quality of material being used in the construction of International Trade Centre building at Karimganj, Assam

[English]

SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIIDYA (Karimganj): An International Trade Centre (ITC) is supposed to provide assistance to the exporters and importers, which has the potential of creating new entrepreneurs and open new avenues of employment in related sectors. My experience from the visit of the ITC—three storey building in Sutarkandi under Karimganj is shocking. One portion of the gate and one wall of the godown had to be rebuilt as the original construction has collapsed. The walls of the main building have already developed cracks in vital areas. The surface of the "Transshipment Platform" already sank more than 6" inches. I understand the ITC will house Custom Office, Post Office, Bank, Conference Hall and one Exhibition Hall for use of the importers and exporters, of both countries. However, in view of the very poor standard of construction, which is evident from these incidents of collapses and cracks, it is strongly suggested that before the building is officially opened for operation, an expert opinion from competent civil engineers should

be obtained regarding its safety and use. Otherwise, there are chances of mishaps, which might even cause loss of human lives and property leading to not only huge financial loss of the Government but also raise question about the transparency of the whole affairs, which may collapse the whole prospects of International Trade and Commerce of this North East region.

(vi) Need to revive 'The Panch Mahal District Cooperative Bank' in Godhra, Gujarat for the benefit of the farmers

[Translation]

SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI (Godhra): Sir, it's quite ironical that on the one hand the Govt. is going to make declarations to protect the rights and interests of the farmers of the country, on the other hand, the farmers belonging to different parts of the country are being compelled to commit suicide. The banks run by the co-operative societies are lying closed and virtually an effort is being made by the Govt. to revive them. One such bank falls in my parliamentary constituency Godhara namely Panchmahal District Co-operative Bank that's lying closed for the past three years. This bank has been functional for the past 40 years. Nearly 2000 primary societies concerning the poor and the farmers were affiliated to it. The bank had 40 branches in toto and nearly 500 people were employed with the bank. The annual turnover of the bank was to the tune of Rs. 300 crore. The poor farmers of my parliamentary constituency would seek financial aid/soft loans from this bank for agricultural purposes. They have no other choice but to take loans from the other banks at higher rate of interest and in case of being unable to make repayment of the loans, they are forced to commit suicide.

Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Finance and the Minister of Co-operatives to revive the Panchmahal District Co-operative Bank so that the poor farmers of my constituency are not compelled to commit suicide and they may get loans at an easy rate of interest.

(vii) Need to allocate adequate funds for development of tourism in Orissa

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Orissa has been and always will be a State for heritage, archaeological and eco-tourism. As the State is economically poor it becomes difficult for the State

[Shri Bikram Keshari Deo]

Government to allocate sufficient funds for construction of infrastructure like, hotels and panthniwas. So, it is my request to Central Government and the concerned Ministries to give adequate funds to develop different kinds of tourism pockets in Orissa.

(viii) Need to find permanent solution to recurring floods in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, there is huge loss of life and property every year due to the natural disasters like floods, earthquake, draught etc. Flood is not such natural disaster like earthquake or tempest that can be forecast. Certain districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh such as Gorakhpur, Siddharthnagar, Maharajganj coupled with a few districts of Bihar face the fury of flood every year. The areas falling in the zone of Himalayan terrain first all prey to floods due to overflowing of Saryu, Rapti, Rohini, Gandak, Narayani following heavy rains. A permanent solution to this recurrent problem can be embarked on by incurring a bit more expenditure rather than spending lots of money in giving away relief packages by conducting surveys of the affected areas. In the post independence era, in order to find a permanent solution to the problem of flood; Gangajal Commission was constituted in Uttar Pradesh for proper water treatment and to avoid the devastation of floods. This Committee made recommendations to construct a dam over Karali Pancheshwar and Bhalu in Nepal itself at the originating point of the Purvanchal rivers to check the overflow of western and the required quantum of water be diverted into some catchments sort of reservoir. However, this could not see the light of the day owing to political reasons.

Hence, I urge upon the House to ponder over this problem and would request Hon. Prime Minister to take necessary steps in order that the loss of life and property caused by the natural tragedy of flood every year could be checked.

(ix) Need to release funds for development of Manmad in view of forthcoming Kumbh Mela of 2008 at Nanded, Maharashtra

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN (Malegaon): Sir, Kumbh Mela of the Sikh is to be organized on account of Swarnjayanti celebration of Nanded based Gurdwara in 2008. Nearly 50 to 60 lakh devotees shall be visiting this fair from across the country. All these devotees will

bow their heads in Manmad Gurdwara (Kalkhand) and will head towards Manmad. Subsequently they will come back via Manmad itself. The Union and the State Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 718 crore to provide basic facilities in Nanded town. On the lines of Nanded, Rs. 100 crore ought to be offered for the city of Manmad as well as all the devotees shall attend the Kumbh Mela journeying via Manmad itself. Funds are required to arrange for 100-bed hospital, safe drinking water, lavatory, additional police booths for all these visitors. Manmad is also known as tourists' spot. Needless to mention that all religious instructions like Shirdi, Nasik, Traymbkeshwar, Aurangabad, Verul, Ajantha are quite adjacent to Manmad, therefore, funds must be allocated to it.

(x) Need to approve setting up of Readymade Garments Complex at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Sir, Jabalpur, the major city of Madhya Pradesh is a leading place in readymade garments. All the states of the country place their orders for the clothes and garments manufactured here. Nearly 40,000 people have been employed with almost 400 garments manufacturing units.

Sir, despite huge potentialities available here, the proposal of setting up a readymade garments complex here is lying pending for years. A host of initiatives have already been taken to set it up. An on-the-spot inspection has also been carried out by the consultants appointed by the industry, department of the Union Govt. to explore the viability of setting up a readymade garment complex here. In the report submitted by the consultants it has already been mentioned that Jabalpur is pregnant with the potentialities to get equipped with such complex.

As much as 75 per cent of the cost involved in the establishment of this complex is to be borne by the Union Govt. and in terms of the rest amount the garment manufacturers' Association and the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh have agreed to contribute 15 per cent and 10 per cent respectively. Now only the approval of the Union Govt. is remaining which is pending for the last one year. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the garments manufacturing units are very much willing to facilitate the industrial development in Jabalpur.

The local administration is also not deviating from the responsibility on its part. In such a situation, this potential industrial sector is not developing due to lack of requisite support from the Centre.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I request the Central Government that in view of broad potential in this sector, the proposal for setting up of Readymade Garment Complex may kindly be accorded approval at the earliest.

(xi) Need to provide remuneration to contract workers at par with regular employees in Oil PSUs

[English]

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): Contractorisation has reached atrocious level in the oil PSUs. Prior to 1991, the contract work dominated the auxiliary and peripheral work and the regular workers generally manned production and operational jobs. But in the post liberalization period the situation has undergone a sea change and the regular operational and production jobs are also assigned to contract workers. This is being done in violation of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. A serious unhealthy situation has emerged that two sets of workers have been doing the same job under the same roof where one set of worker (contractor workers) is receiving one-tenth of the wages or even less than being received by their regular counterparts.

I would strongly request the Government to find permanent solution to this problem, Government of India should take urgent step to provide interim relief to the huge exploited contractor workers immediately.

(xii) Need to check increase in prices of gold and stop online bidding by speculative traders

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): In the Bullion Market, the price of gold is determined the speculative traders in the garb of online bidders. If the price of gold costs Rs. 10 lakh per one kilogram, it is enough the bidders pay Rs. 50,000 as a deposit. With this less money the bidders get a right to determine the price of gold that is valued more than 10 lakh. Thus this speculative traders push up the price of gold on a daily basis. Small jewel makers are heavily affected by this. Poorer sections and middle class families find it difficult to arrange the marriages of their daughters.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to stop forthwith the online bidding by speculative traders. Gold price must be under check and the Union Government must take appropriate steps to have control over determining the price of gold.

(xiii) Need to provide compensation to the farmers whose land have been acquired for setting up units of NTPC at Unchahar, district Rai Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chall): Sir, in Uttar Pradesh, the district Raebareli is a historical district. Unchahar is situated in this district where the former Prime Minister Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi while inaugurating the setting up of NTPC had said that the families of the farmers whose lands were acquired for setting up units of the NTPC, would be provided employment. However, neither they have been provided with employment nor proper compensation. Most of the people belong to the Scheduled Castes who are very poor and small farmers. Recently when I visited this area during the bye-election of Lok Sabha, I found that a dam has been constructed over the S. Tide ashes coming out of the NTPC factory. For this purpose, thousands of acres of lands of farmers have been acquired and this process of acquiring lands of farmer is still continuing. This is on account of dams and lakes that dozens of villages look like an island comprising of the villages of Sumer Bagh, Jhala Bagh, Raipur, Balduka Pura, Gauspur, Powerganj etc. which come under the newly created Rohania Development Block. The situation of farmers is very pitiable. They have no lands for farming. As a result, people of a number of villages have left their profession and are heading towards other districts and States.

I would request the Government of India to conduct a high level inquiry into the whole incident and to provide proper compensation and employment to the affected families or to resettle the affected villages elsewhere.

(xiv) Need to lay a new railway line between Harpalpur and Hamirpur Road railway station, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.): Sir, the railways have not carried out any work in Hamirpur district since independence. The people of the area are very much angry over this issue. The area from Harpalpur, Madhya Pradesh, railway station to Pandwadi-rath, Muskara, Vivar, Hamirpur Headquarters upto Hamirpur road railway station is densely populated. The people of this area feel difficulty due to non-availability of any means of transport. At present, the state of railway traffic in Hamirpur district is not satisfactory. If the railway line is constructed between Harpalpur, Madhya Pradesh

[Shri Rajnarayan Budholia]

Railway Station to Panwadi-rath, Muskara, Vivar, Hamirpur Headquarters and Hamirpur road railway station which has a total length of around 135 kilometres, the people of this area will be directly connected with Lucknow by railway train service.

Therefore, keeping in view the difficulties being faced by the people, through this House, I would request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to undertake survey of the above railway line at the earliest and the proposal for construction of this railway line be included in the next railway budget.

(xv) Need to lay a new rail line between Gaya and Tori via Chatra in Bihar and complete the pending construction work of railway line between Barwadih and Chirmiri

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (Chatra): Sir, if the construction work of a new railway line between Gaya and Tori via Chatra is commenced, then we can minimize the distance of 200 kilometres of the railway service between Delhi and Ranchi. If the construction work of the incomplete railway line from Barwadih to Chirmiri is commenced at the earliest, then the distance between Howrah and Mumbai can be shortened by around three hundred kilometers. With the construction of these railway routes, we can save the travel time of the railway passengers to a great extent. This will bring about efficiency in operating the railway service. There is excessive mines and mineral work in the above areas which will lead to more profit to railways from freight work related to minerals. At the same time, these backward districts will get opportunities for development.

The Central Government is requested through the House that the incomplete work of construction of the new railway route from Gaya to Tori via Chatra and from Barwadih to Chirmiri may please be undertaken in public interest at the earliest.

(xvi) Need to address the grievances of aspiring Indian pilots in the country

[English]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation regarding requirement of pilot in India. Certain airlines operating an aircraft called 'ATR' have been granted permission to hire foreign "First Officers" (Co-pilot). The same permission already exists for the

position of a "Commander" in all the airlines in our country. Sir, if the above mentioned permission granted for the employment of expatriate First Officers persists, then the future of aspiring pilots does not look bright and favourable in our country.

Sir, Alliance Air which is one amongst the first airlines to operate ATR type of aircrafts, has been flying the aircraft for many years with expatriate commanders. So in a similar situation, after permitting expatriate First Officers to fly in the sensitive areas of our territory wherein now both the pilots (*i.e.* Commander and First Officer) are expatriates, an issue of National Security raises some sort of concern.

DGCA has increased the fees for the issue of all the civil aviation licences and the fees for the application for the DGCA exams. Further, DGCA does not provide adequate facilities to the candidates. Also, DGCA has not been able to provide a proper, specific and detailed syllabus for the different subjects after conducting the exams for so many years.

DGCA conducts exam every 3 months whereas most of the member countries of ICAO have a facility of providing the examination to the candidate as per the availability of the candidate.

There is a need to increase the medical check up of pilots who desire the professional license.

I would request the Hon'ble Minister through you to address the above mentioned grievances of the aspiring Indian pilots.

(xvii) Need to expedite the recruitment process of Gangmen in Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): A long pending recruitment process for the post of 1312 gangmen in Kharagpur Division under South Eastern Railway is not been completed. The Hon'ble Court, Central Railway is not been completed. The Hon'ble Court, Central Administration Tribunal, Kolkata Bench passed judgement in this regard on 11.04.2001 asking the Railway Authority to take necessary steps to fill up the vacancies. Again the same court passed the order dated 7.1.2005 directed the Railway Authority to implement the order in full within six months from the very date of issuance of order. Since then 15 months have been passed. But that has not been implemented so far. By this time railway authority

called the concerned candidates for undergoing written examination test. 2104 candidates appeared for the same. At the point of issuing notice for recruitment there was no provision for undertaking written test in case of gangmen recruitment. Only process of physical test was mentioned. But the Railway authority not only conducted written test, which is clearly a shift from its earlier stand. But also followed the RRB examination procedure for qualifying the test. Presently the vacancies have gone up substantially.

I urge upon the railway authority in this regard to expedite the process so that all the candidates who have been qualified earlier in a physical test in the year of 1998 are recruited at the earliest without any delay and the justice is not denied.

(xviii) Need to start teaching in Kendriya Vidyalaya at Maharajganj, Siwan district, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Sir, Maharajganj is a sub divisional headquarters of Siwan district in Bihar. Subdivisional Police Head Quarters, Railway station, High schools, Colleges and a number of High grade commercial establishment, Police Station Block Headquarters are already established in Maharajganj. Thousands of Central and State Government Employees including retired employees are residing in and around Maharajganj. Maharajganj is a densely populated area but there is not even a single good school in Maharajganj. These Employees have to send their children outside Maharajganj for education which causes unnecessary financial burden. There is a long awaited need of a good school in Maharajganj.

The Central Government has given approval for opening a Central School in Maharajganj. As per the directions of the Central Government the State Government had sent the draft of Maharajganj Central School but teaching work has not been started so far in Maharajganj Central School.

Through you, I would like to request the Government to start teaching work immediately in the Central School sanctioned for Maharajganj.

(xix) Need to set up monitoring mechanism for job reservation and appointment of OBCs in NDMC, Delhi

[English]

SHRI L. GANESAN (Tiruchirappalli): Under the very nose of the Union Government in the National Capital

NDMC has been found to be flouting the norms and natural justice in issuing appointment orders to OBC candidates who have been successfully cleared competitive exams and got selected finally by duly constituted recruitment bodies and section boards like Government of NCT of Delhi's 'Delhi Subordinate Service Selection Board'. NDMC change at will the already earmarked jobs for OBCs even at the final stages of a recruitment process. For instance, NDMC advertised for Nursery teachers under various categories in April, 2000. Based on DSSB's results notice in July, 2002, from among all successful candidates only forward caste candidates were appointed keeping in waiting the OBC candidates availing the Delhi High Court's Judgement pertaining to a OBC list case. When DSSB issued result notice in March, 2005 obtaining clearance from the High Court, the NDMC to the rude shock of the waiting candidates that the advertised posts were not available anymore. This cut at the root of social justice and also natural justice which the State and its organs must uphold. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government especially the Home Ministry and the Social Empowerment Ministry to make NDMC render justice and set up monitoring mechanism for OBC job reservation and appointment at the National level while ensuring education and job reservation even in private sector and MNCs.

(xx) Need to review 'City Forest' plantation project in Bijnore district, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI MUNSHI RAM (Bijnore): Sir, a city forest is being developed in Rawali Khadar Area by the Forest Department in my Parliamentary Constituency district Bijnore and I presume that crores of rupees must have been spent on it. Despite spending crores of rupees the city forest is not in its expected form. How many plants were planted during the last 10 years in Rawali Khadar city Forest Bijnore and in all the districts? How many plants out of them are still alive and what is the present growth rate of alive plants. This must be investigated at the high level to ascertain whether the Government of India is wasting crores of rupees in the name of plantation. City Forest Bijnore have acquired hundred of hectares of land. There is no plantation on the entire land. The land which is not being used should be handed over to the farmers for cultivation so that the proper utilization of the land and livelihood to poor farmers can be ensured.

14.03 hrs.

PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2006

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 16A—Shri Hans Raj Bhardwaj.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

Sir, article 102(1) of the Constitution provides that a person shall be disqualified for being chosen as and from being a Member of either House of Parliament, if he holds an office of profit under the Government of India or Government of a State other than the office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holders.

The expression 'office of profit' has not been defined in the Constitution or in any other Act not because it is impossible to define it but because it is not easy to frame an all-inclusive definition covering all kinds of posts which exist under the Government and which might hereafter be created. The Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 and several other Acts of Parliament such as the Coffee Act, 1942. The Rubber Act, 1947 and the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1999 creating authorities or bodies in which Members of Parliament are represented, contain specific provisions to the effect that such office will not disqualify the holder on the ground that he is holding an office of profit.

The main provision in the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 is contained in clauses (a) to (h) of section 3 which lists broadly 14 different categories of offices, the holding of which could not disqualify the holders thereof, or being chosen as and for being a Member of Parliament. Under clause (h) of section 3, holders of office of Chairman or Member of a Committee set up temporarily for the purpose of advising the Government or any other authority in respect of matter of public importance will not incur disqualification if such Chairman or Member is not entitled to any remuneration other than compensatory allowance.

At present, question regarding disqualification is to be decided in the case of pre-election dispute by the courts through election petition, and post-election disputes by the Election Commission of India under article 103 and article 192, and renders opinion to the President of India. Further, the Joint Committee on Office of Profit also examines the character and composition of various Committees, Boards, Commissions and other bodies, membership of which may disqualify a person from being chosen as and for being a Member of Parliament and to recommend what office should disqualify and what office should not disqualify.

Sir, as you are aware, recently the issue had to be re-visited on account of disqualification of Members of Parliament on the basis of holding an office of profit. It was brought to our notice that over 40 Members, from both the Houses, are being affected by such cases of disqualification. You will appreciate that the law is being enacted to prevent those 40 Members of Parliament from being disqualified.

With a view to include certain offices in Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, it is proposed to enact this legislation, so as to exempt the holders of such offices from incurring disqualification. We have been able to get the information from all the Members of Parliament who have given the names of the institutions which they want to be exempted; and we want to make it as comprehensive as possible. So, this measure covers all those cases of Members, who are urgently to be prevented from being disqualified. This Bill includes those offices which firstly are in any statutory or non-statutory bodies specified in the table and secondly, the office of Chairperson or Trustee of any Trust, by whatever name called, whether public or private. They are exempted. The offices of Chairman, President, Vice-President or Principal-Secretary or Secretary of the Governing Body of any society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 have also been included. This will enable office-bearers to contribute for the promotion of literature, science or arts and make use of their useful knowledge for charitable purposes in such institutions, which all are aimed at securing and achieving public welfare and public good.

A Trust, as you know, is defined as an arrangement whereby the legal ownership of property is vested in the trustees for the benefit of a defined group of persons or for a defined object. In Trust, legal ownership belongs to the trustees and equitable ownership belongs to

beneficiaries. Charity is a human instinct that drives man to think favourably of others and therefore do good to them. In our country, the benevolent role played by charitable Trusts has historical background and their existence has originated from the basic cultural trait peculiar to us. A trust is an obligation annexed to the ownership of property. The various forms of legal obligation apart from the Trust, *inter alia* are a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. A society registered under this Act is a legal entity apart from its members. Under the Societies Registration Act, the Governing Body may include, *inner alia* and offices of Chairman, President and so on and so forth. So, the table created under the Act includes all the institutions, the holders of office of which will be exempted under the present dispensation.

I commend this Bill for the consideration of this House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does this include exemption of the President of Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I deeply appreciate and have regards to the importance of this institution. They are included because as I said, all trusts—public as well as private—are included. I am aware of the Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee. They are the historic institutions and they are also covered.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, how much time has been allocated for its discussion?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Two hours have been allocated for its discussion.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: I am a Member of the Business Advisory Committee. This notice has been sent to me indicating that in today's BAC meeting it will be decided as to how much time should be allocated to this Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill. The meeting is to take place at 4 o'clock today. When the meeting has not taken place yet, how can the Chair say that two hours have been allocated?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there is any necessity, we will extend the time for its discussion.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, it should not be bulldozed in that way. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): It was decided in today's Leaders' Meeting at 1030 hours. It was unanimously decided in that meeting. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Who says that it was unanimously decided? Our Party Members were not present there. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your Leader was present in that meeting.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: This is very unfair. It is nothing but mere bulldozing. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Leaders of your party were present in the meeting held in the morning.

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI (Pilibhit): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful that I have been given this opportunity by my Party to speak on this particular Bill because it brings back particularly unhappy memories.

In 1995, Shri Rajesh Pilot of the Congress Party, who was then the Minister for Environment, appointed me as the Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board of India. I stayed in that post for many years and was re-appointed in 2000. In 2002, the Animal Welfare Board had become a great nuisance for the pharmaceutical companies that ran bad laboratories. So, it was decided to remove me. But how to do that without incurring my wrath as a Member of the NDA, since the NDA Government was in power. So, Shri Baalu, who was then the Minister for Environment, all of a sudden notified the post of the Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board as an office of profit—42 years after it had been made. I

[Shrimati Maneka Gandhi]

was removed and a Joint Secretary was put in my place for whom obviously it was not an office of profit even though it carried the same supposed perks.

This cynical exercise has been repeated in the last Session with the removal of a Rajya Sabha Member who also held the post of the UP Film Development Council. Tasting success in getting rid of an opponent, immediately the ruling coalition filed similar intents for other MPs that they were inimical to. Unfortunately this move backfired when it was seen that more Members of the ruling coalition including the Chairperson held similar offices of profit. Whereas the expelled Rajya Sabha Member did not take a house, car or any money given to her by the UP Film Development Corporation which in itself was in pathetic state, the Chairperson of the NAC on the other hand had both house, office and other perks given directly from the Prime Minister's office.

In order to stop the growing criticism, in another extraordinary move, Parliament was adjourned *sine die*, cutting short a Session in which financial Bills had to be debated.

Then, when the ruling coalition discovered that it could actually find a way to ensure that these perks of their people continued including their Chairperson, Parliament was suddenly recalled at great expenses for a short while for the single-minded purposes of passing a Bill that exempts 46 posts from the Prevention of Disqualification of Members of Parliament Act, 1959 popularly known as the Office of Profit Act. This may be of great importance to the politicians who are reluctant and obstinate to leave their posts. But is it of national importance? I can understand a special Session being called to discuss terrorism or the continuing desperation of farmers. But why a special Session for this small and insignificant reason. How extraordinarily cynical is this?

In this haste, every parliamentary norm has been abandoned. The then Speaker, Shri Shivraj Patil had once said that even if an amendment took place, the Bill should go back to the Standing Committee of the subject. This Bill has not gone to the Standing Committee at all. It has not been circulated two days before. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister said that it would only be passed with consensus. There is absolutely no consensus on the exemptions which have little meaning. The only consensus that we really do have is that every party has rushed to give the Parliamentary Affairs Minister a list of

their own special people who are holding offices of profit. That is the limited consensus that we have. This Bill was supposed to eliminate the confusion over the office of profit. It has merely added to the confusion becoming a Bill to save the office and keep the profit. It is even sadder that a large proportion of the saved offices should be those of West Bengal. I suppose that is one of the parties of being the driving force in the ruling coalition. The Left has 19 out of 46 which is approximately 40 per cent which is their share of this bizarre list.

Should the line between the legislature and the executive be blurred for any reason? Should this *lakshman rekha* be erased in which ever place we like? This opens a Pandora's box. Today, you exempt 46. Tomorrow, we will exempt 100 and put these 46 behind the line again and so forth. Once it is decided that the legislative member whether of Parliament or the State Assemblies can take handouts to hold an office of profit, then anything is possible. Parliament which took such a strong stand in expelling MPs for misuse of their MPLADS and for taking money for questions has taken three steps back to again show the people of India that we will tolerate and condone anything when it comes to our own comforts. Article 102(1)(A) bars an MP or an MLA from holding an office of profit under the Government of India or in any other State other than the office declared by Parliament law as not disqualifying the holder. So, we disregard the gravity of this law and sneak in through the loopholes to give 46 Members of Parliament their own little fiefdoms again. And we use Parliament's time and the taxpayer's money in order to do it. Again how extraordinarily cynical.

The hon. Speaker has chosen to stay away from the discussion. Perhaps he should have chosen to walk the straight and narrow path as well—to give up the Sriniketan-Shantiniketan Development Authority. Caesar's wife must be above all scandal. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Dasmunsi has said in the press:

"It is not a question of saving any one's skin. It is a question of saving the dignity of Parliament."

Have we saved it with today's Bill? Have you read the editorials all over the country which have made fun of the exemptions and the nakedness of the greed attached to them? All you have done is simply made the 1959 law redundant by protecting the posts that individuals want them to be protected.

Let us go into the bizarreness of some these exemptions. The Uttar Pradesh Film Development

Corporation cannot be exempt but the West Bengal Handicrafts Development can be exempt. No Adviser to the Chief Minister can be exempted except the Adviser to the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. The Wakf Board of West Bengal can be exempted but the much larger Wakf Boards of Delhi, Punjab and Haryana cannot be exempted. The Uttar Pradesh and the West Bengal Development Boards are allowed but no other State is allowed. Let us look at the people who head these. Strange and bizarre! You have exempted the Indian Institute of Psychometry. What is so important about this that we have to exempt it so that somebody can get a car and a red light?

Likewise, most of these are not of national importance. They are even of limited State importance. But who sit on them are relatives and people who are really important to the State Government, or the powers that be. So, what could be the reasons for exempting these posts? Does the Government wish to give an additional public image to those of their MPs who could not be accommodated in the Ministries but need a car and office? Could it be that these offices provided not just the holders the perks but with an opportunity to benefit not only himself or herself but their parties? Many of these exempted posts are held by special people, relatives of those in power or people who are exceptionally close to them.

Do you not think that the post of a Parliamentarian is in itself significant enough? Or, that the duties of a Parliamentarian are so onerous if taken seriously that there would be little time left to do justice to important independent organisations?

The voters send each one of us to Parliament to make good laws, monitor their implementation and to represent a section of India and make their lives better. Members are supposed to be present most of the time and take part in the issues that they feel competent to address. Any time given to yet another office would be stealing time unjustly from what you are elected to be. Surely, the Speaker's office, for instance, is already overcrowded with work.

Suppose we were appointed to be doctors and teachers, would the nation regard us with respect if we took time off from our professions to run other parallel enterprises that gave us extra money and have red lights on our cars? An office of profit is nothing but a second job done at the cost of the first one and often instead of

the first one. When the Act was made by people wiser than us had a point and that was to force lawmakers, which we are, to concentrate on law making.

Should Members of Parliament be continually seen as those poor unhappy people who did not get the crumbs of office that a few did in the Executive? Should the Legislature be begging from the Executive and depending on their largesse? Should Members of Parliament be seen as those that hanker after subsidiary posts thrown to them by the Executive to give them false sense of importance and access to money?

This Bill is a cynical exercise to protect power and privilege. Any talk of continual sacrifice becomes negated by the unashamed protection given to a few people who are desperate to cling to some loaves of office, even if they have to fight elections again and again protesting their morality. Either exempt all or bar all. There cannot be any exceptions.

We oppose this Bill.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvatipuram): Mr. Deputy Speaker, thank you. I rise to support this Bill. The hon. Minister has already mentioned that a very piquant situation would have arise if this Bill was not brought forward and there would have been a spate of elections litigations etc. This is just an amendment to give extension to certain posts which were already exempt in the Prevention of Disqualification Act, 1959.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was amazed and shocked at the manner in which the hon. Leader of the Opposition opposed the very introduction of this Bill in a rather very unprecented manner. I have always held him in some esteem having been here with him in Parliament for some time. But the only reason he did not oppose this Bill on various grounds that was mentioned by the predecessor speaker. The Leader of the Opposition specifically mentioned more than once that he was Opposition specifically mentioned more than once that he was opposing the introduction of the Bill only because the post of the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council was included in this amendment to be exempt from the office of profit.

Sir, I would like to assert, as the Law Minister has already said, that the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council was created by an Executive Order of the

[Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo]

Committee. It is not a creation of the Constitution. It was by an Executive Order of the Cabinet that this post was created.

Sir, the whole world knows that we are running a coalition Government. This particular arrangement was actually created after it was agreed upon by Members of the ruling coalition to facilitate the functioning of the coalition Government. I can understand Mr. Advani's anxiety. Certainly I do not expect neither he nor any of the friends sitting on the other side to be happy if the coalition runs in a smooth and effective manner. That is worth appreciation. Naturally, the Opposition would like that arrangement to collapse as soon as possible. Fortunately or unfortunately, the NAC is a political advisory body. It is only a political body which is of an advisory nature. As Mr. Advani himself quoted in the morning it was to monitor the national Common Minimum Programme and to provide inputs for policies. What is wrong in that?

Before I go further, I would like to mention that you must understand the very ethos of this particular legislation which was brought in 1959. Sir, we all know that in 1954, Bhargava Committee was set up and after it submitted its Report, the Prevention of Disqualification Act was brought as a sequel. Some statutory bodies and offices were included to be exempted from this provision. The main driving principle behind this legislation was actually to prevent conflict of interests. Conflict of interests where? Conflict of interests between one's personal interest, of what one would personally gain so that it does not come between you, and the issues that concern the public. So, this is to ensure that these do not have conflicting interests in the policies and programmes of the people that may come before the House. It was with this in mind that this particularly legislation was introduced.

By monitoring the National Common Minimum Programme or by providing inputs to policy matters, are you conflicting with the interests of the nation or the people? On the contrary, it is to facilitate that.

Sir, we all know that the National Employment Guarantee Scheme which was applauded by all sections of the House, the Right to Information Bill and several other legislations were brought in this House. They were accepted by all sections of this House after the National Advisory Council had vetted these various legislations and recommended them to the ruling coalition. What is wrong in that? Where is the personal interest that conflicts against national interests when it comes to this? I am

extremely sorry to say one point, when I heard the Leader of the Opposition. I felt that it was directed against one person. I did not expect this from a person for whom I have certain political respect. That is why, I was rather disappointed. I would have expected the Leader of the Opposition to oppose it on some principle, on some legal grounds or constitutionally or on some other procedure but not on a personal basis like this.

Sir, we have heard my predecessor, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi speaking. I can understand her anguish because, as she herself said, she was a victim of this earlier. But does that mean that we should push it all along to this extent. She was removed from a particular post and naturally, she has to vent those feelings and that anger is still burning within her. That is very well taken and I certainly appreciate whatever she said. But in this new situation and circumstance, there is a need for us to have a deeper look into this entire concept.

This Bill which has been introduced by the hon. Minister for Law only seeks to extend the list to see that a kind of unprecedented situation does not come before us. He had explained about that. So, I do not want to go into further details. I would like to mention that there is a necessity to debate this issue still further. There is no definition of an Office of Profit. As and when a certain matter came up, it went to the Committee. The Committee made its recommendations and based on that, an amendment was brought in Parliament and then, that particular office was either included or deleted from this particular list.

Today, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think there is a need for us to delve deeper into this matter and go into it in detail. Let there be a national debate on this. I think at a later date the Parliament should discuss this issue threadbare and then come up with certain permanent solution to this particular aspect.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): The point that you are making implies that this Bill is *ad hoc* ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Hon. Member Shri Gurudas Gupta is a very senior Member. I would like to clarify further my point. The amendment which is brought to this particular Act cannot be an *ad hoc* arrangement, it is a permanent arrangement. What I meant by saying so was that this entire aspect has to be debated further. I am prepared to explain as to why it

should be debated further. I am not saying that this should come along with this Bill itself. The Law Minister is present here. I am requesting him and the entire House to consider this aspect in the light of the new developments which have taken place in the course of time. Forty-five years have passed.

In 1985 the Anti-Defection Law was passed in Parliament. It was passed and the Tenth Schedule was incorporated in the Constitution of India. Prior to 1985 a Member could vote in any manner he liked on the floor of this House. But post-1985, after the Tenth Schedule was incorporated in the Constitution, there is no question of a Member's vote having conflict with his personal interest. Even if a member had a personal interest in a particular institution in which he was serving, he has to go by the party whip. What I am trying to say is that from 1985 onwards, in the last twenty years, if you violate the party whip, then you have to do it at the expense of losing your seat. What is the right that a Member has got? Apart from speaking in Parliament, he has the right to vote. It is a sacred right, an intrinsic right a Member or a legislator has to cast his vote in the Parliament or in the Legislature. This vote was unrestricted. But what I am trying to say is that after 1985, after the Tenth Schedule was incorporated, that vote is not unrestricted any more. It is controlled by the party. So, today an MP or a few MPs cannot vote against the party whip without losing the membership of this House. This is a qualitative difference which has come in. Till a decade ago, I think around the year 1995, I do not know the exact date, the Supreme Court held that people's representatives are to be treated as public servants. This was in order to enable cases framed against MPs by using the Prevention of Corruption Act. I have no problems with that at all. If you want to frame people's representatives under the Prevention of Corruption Act, go ahead. If you want to treat them as public servants, it is fine. But then you cannot treat them as public servants for one purpose and then say: "Do not hold public office." I do not know if I have understood the entire thing wrongly. But I would like the Members to apply their minds to this aspect also. These are new developments which have taken place somewhere down the line and it is necessary for us to apply our minds to all these various aspects when we are talking of office of profit.

Though this says that anything you take other than Compensatory Allowance shall be an office of profit. It is not clearly defined. I have gone through certain parts of Bhargava Committee's Report. I myself was thoroughly

confused at the end of it. It is not defined and it is not said what should be an office of profit and what should not be an office of profit. It says that it is not just a question of money or getting a red light or a car. It is whether it is in conflict in your functioning as Member of this House against the interest of the nation or of the people.

Once you are convinced that that is going to happen, then the issue becomes different. I do not want to go debating on or replying to these petty things about the usage of a car or of a red light, and so on and so forth. In this particular case, from the long list which is attached herewith, I am told that there have been Members who have been holding this post for the last 15 years or 20 years and nobody has objected. They are there on a particular Board as a Director or a Chairman for 10 years, 15 years or 20 years. Suddenly, someone sends a petition, then, you get a notice saying that you have to explain your position. Sir, very respectfully and humbly, I would like to submit that there are other constitutional bodies also which are going out of hand.

Sir, the Election Commission was given a list. I am not discussing the Election Commission. When they are given a list, Election Commission has no business to write to them asking for more information. You see, the petitioner should have given information and sent it to the Election Commission. You do not write back to them asking them for information and then to people who have been holding these offices for over two decades and then go on a binge and start asserting your right or authority to disqualify Members.

Sir, I have a different perception of this. This amendment is restricted only to controlling the present situation, which is there before us, to ensure that a spate of litigations, elections and unnecessary expenditure does not take place. Now, as far as the House is concerned, the House was anyway decided to be adjourned because of the elections, not because of this. The Demands were guillotined. The Finance Bill was passed. This was an earlier understanding to enable Leaders of political parties and all of us to go and campaign for the ensuing elections. In any case, I think, the Parliament was originally to have rescheduled and met on the 10th of May, 2006. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please. No running commentary.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Sir, hon. Members can have their say. I have no quarrels with them. What I am trying to say is that one should not look at this particular issue with a myopic kind of a view. This is a larger issue and it needs to be debated. The situation has changed from then today.

When you are talking of conflicting interests, I would like to put a few questions before this House. By holding a Government office, either of the State Government or of the Central Government, you may or may not be in a position to discharge your duties in an effective and proper manner. But today, especially in the context of the new developments that have taken place in our country, today I can be the owner of an airline company. I can get elected to Parliament and I can also become a Minister of Civil Aviation. No conflicting interests will be there. I can be a major ...*(Interruptions)* What I am trying to say is that even if it is not Government or State, my intention is this. Tomorrow, you may be a Director or a Chairman of a private company. You can become an MP ...*(Interruptions)* Okay. You have to step down to become a Minister but your interests are still over there ...*(Interruptions)* So, I think, these aspects need to be debated and discussed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary please.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: My opinion is that these situations are coming into play in our political system. I may be right or wrong but I am entitled to my views. If they have to resign, I do not know under which rule one has to resign from a Government job or of any connection with the Government. But if it is for any private company—private players are coming in today in large numbers in various sections of society—what about their conflicting interests when they come here to Parliament. Let there be a national debate on this. Let the House discuss it threadbare. I wish that some time later, the House and the Leaders of the political parties from various sides should discuss and come to some kind of a consensus on this issue as far as article 102 of the Constitution is concerned.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This has necessitated because the situation has arisen today that some of the offices have been treated as the office of profit. This is not a new

thing that for the first time the Schedule is being amended and some new corporations or some organizations are being added. It is being continuously done since 1952. After adoption of our Constitution, it has been stated in Article 102 in Constitution that:

“(1) person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament.

(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State, other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder;”

Sir, Constitution has very clearly stated that the Parliament has right to amend the law. The law was amended in 1952, then again in 1953 and subsequently in 1959 and since then, time and again, the Act has been amended. This provision has been incorporated in the Constitution of India. The main purpose is that the Member of Parliament or Member of Legislative Assembly will have an independent role and will not be subservient to the Executive. That is why that Member of Parliament is not permitted to hold the office of profit. But, the problem is that there is no clear definition of office of profit. Sir, the Supreme Court as well as the High Court, in different judgements, have stated which office could be treated as office of profit. There is a Joint Committee of Parliament on office of Profit.—What that Committee has stated in their recent report? That Parliamentary Committee has, in fact, on one occasion outlined the basic principle on this question:

“The Committee feels that the basic principle underlying the imposition of disqualification under Article 102 (1) (a) and Article 191 (1) (a) of the Constitution is that a member of the Legislature should not be indebted to Government by accepting an ‘office of profit’ under the Government and thus compromise his independence.”

By accepting an office of profit, it means he compromises his independence. In other words, an office of profit does not mean an office that yields monetary profit. Holding an office of profit is like holding an Executive post, which is likely to create a conflict of interest. That is the most important thing, conflict of interest with the conduct of Legislature.

“In final analysis, the job of the Legislature is to keep a check on the Executive and not to be subservient to it.”

The question is whether such organisations, corporations and other bodies will be treated as offices of profit or not.

Sir, in December, 2005, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Office of Profit had submitted a Report to Parliament identifying three criteria to determine if holding a certain office should disqualify Members of Parliament under the law. These are:

- (a) whether the holder draws any remuneration like sitting fee, honorarium, salary, etc. other than the compensatory allowance;
- (b) whether the body in which an office is held exercises executive, legislative or judicial power or confers power of disbursement of funds, allotment of lands, issue of licences or gives power of appointment, grant of scholarship;
- (c) whether the body in which an office is held wields influence or power by way of patronage.

The Committee said that closer look at this criteria is needed and a comprehensive law defining the criteria which shall determine the categorisation of office of profit needs to be urgently taken up. This Committee have also recommended that there should be a clear definition of 'office of profit' and spell out the offices that can be treated as offices of profit.

Sir, in the proposed legislation, a list of 45 bodies has been included in the Schedule. Even during the NDA regime, such exemption was given when there was a need for that.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Is it 45 of 46?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It may be 45 or 46, but that does not mean that the spirit of the Constitution is being flouted because the Constitution itself provides that Parliament can enact law and Parliament can give exemption to certain bodies from the purview of office of profit.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: With restrospective effect!

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: May be with retrospective effect. What is the problem?

Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has raised an objection. His objection is only with regard to Clause 2 of this amending legislation. This is not the question of any individual. The Government has created advisory

bodies and advisory councils in the past also and the UPA Government has created the National Advisory Council. There is an Economic Advisory Council. In the same way, the National Advisory Council has been created. The Opposition's main purpose is to target one individual. The National Advisory Council is not a constitutional body also.

We have not targeted anyone.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: We are targeting his party more. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary please. Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Shri Acharia. Any Member speaking without my permission will not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is not a question of any individual. What is needed today is a clear definition of the Office of Profit. This legislation will not serve the purpose for which it has been brought because the problem will recur in future also.

Sir, the Members of Parliament are to discharge various responsibilities. They are accountable to the people of our country by discharging various responsibilities. We will have to see whether that accountability is being hampered or not. In order to have a clear definition in regard to Office of Profit, I suggest that a sub-committee be constituted, which will go into the question of definition of the Office of Profit because the Constitution of India has not defined which organisation or which body will be treated as Office of Profit.

The Constitution of India has stated that, 'only if he holds any Office of Profit under the Government of India or the Government of the State'. Today, those who are raising objection to this, I will request them to see what is happening in their States, particularly, in the State of Jharkhand.

Now we have passed a legislation and the number of Ministers has been restricted to 15 per cent. Those who have not been made Ministers have been made Chairmen of certain corporations and certain bodies in order to save the Government or even in order to form the Government also.

*Not recorded.

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

So, there is a need for a deeper look into this question. That is why we have suggested that the basic issues of the definition of Office of Profit under the Constitution, the separation of legislative and executive powers, and whether the Members of Parliament should hold non-legislative offices, should be examined in depth by a Special Committee constituted by the Parliament. The recommendation of that Committee should be taken up for consideration and implementation. So, Sir, the necessity has arisen to amend the Act. It is being done today. But to avoid any problem in future we should go deeper into this question and a clear definition of Office of Profit should be determined in future so that there will not be a problem as to which office can be treated as office of profit and which bodies can be treated as office of profit, and there will be a clear definition of office of profit.

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur): Sir, I would like to submit that we should first constitute a Committee to suggest the definition of 'office of profit' and then we should pass the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Please sit down.

Now, Shri Mohan Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I favour and rise to support this Bill but at the same time I have been subjected to certain confusion that I want to share with you all in this House. I think it proper to discuss the pressing issues in this House. This House has witnessed certain landmarks.

In the last session we set a record through expulsion of the Members found guilty of accepting bribes worth Rs. 10, 15, 20 and 25 thousand. Subsequently, three months later—when the membership of 40, 24 and 16 MPs who were thoroughly honest in managing the crores of budget was at stake, we are taking serious pains to save them. I want to hammer home the fact lest history should hold us guilty as I said in course of the discussion that such allegation must not be levelled against us that we adopt double standards while dealing with the cases of bribe worth Rs. 5 thousand on one hand and the misuse of public funds involving crore of rupees on the other. To my mind, these two are contradictory ones. This prompted the architects of our constitution to insert Articles 102 and 103. With the particular intention to debar

the MPs from holding any executive posts lest the independent functioning of the executive should be affected. A provision to this effect was made in the said Article with this sole purpose.

Right now, one of our colleagues was asking what office of profit was, this has not been defined in this section. This of course, has been defined. In the year 1954 a Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Thakur Prasad Bhargav. At that time Mavalankar Saheb was the Speaker. It took three long years to the Committee to fix this definition between the second Lok Sabha came into existence in 1958. At that time Ayengar Sahib referred that definition to the Select Committee. Thereafter a legislation was enacted in the year 1959. Thus, it took five years time to enact a legislation.

15.00 hrs.

When a need was felt to amend that legislation again in the year 1959, a bill was introduced in 1968 which was followed by General Election of 1977 and the legislation got automatically lapsed. The Bill could not be passed in Parliament. Even in three years' interregnum of time it could not be passed in Parliament. However, this time, three days earlier the Leader of the House called for a meeting and we were asked for the list of certain offices of profit. We suggested certain offices of profit and thereafter this bill has been presented in this House. Now, there is strong possibility of getting this bill passed. There is a saying in our Bhojpuri dialect "chat mangni pat byah". On the same pattern, we have taken an initiative to undertake this job. The day on which a legislation was being enacted for the expulsion of Members, the leader of the House quoted T.S. Eliot's poetic lines fortifying the spirit of sacrifices. I am not at home in English nor do I will remember the poems, stories or couplets penned by T.S. Eliot. I am a common citizen hailing from Bhojpuri belt. There is a very popular saying in our Bhojpuri dialect:

Ram ki chirai, Ramji ka khet
Bhag ja chirai, bhar bhar pet.

This implicates that it is public purse and we are representatives of the people, all of us should fill our belly out of that fund. I am afraid we are going to translate this epigram into reality. So, it sounds strange that out of 545 Members a meagre 20-25 Members should be allowed to hold the office of profit and the rest ones should sit idle by raising their hands in their support. This does not stand to my reason. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please keep silence.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: A few days back an incident occurred in the House which led to *sine-die* adjournment of the House. Subsequently somebody resigned from this House. This issue was blown out of proportion and it was projected as an extra-ordinary case of sacrificial trait and as many as 13-14 resignations were received. Just after a month or so, election was held and there were reports in the newspapers that massive mandate has been got. Then Statement was read—it is the outcome of sacrifice. I would like to assure our Communist MPs that I do not wish to target any particular individual. All the same, given the reports published in the English newspapers—one person got massive mandate by letting the other candidates forfeit their security deposit. I simply want to get the individual concern across in case he is asked to hold the same position by declaring it an office of non-profit, what shall be the scene in view, is anybody's guess.

Secondly, I would like to mention that she was holding an office of profit. She resigned from that post but holding that office of profit was much cheaper than the election that followed owing to her resignation. In this regard, I told my friends that the office of profit was much economical than resigning from it. Therefore, no member of this House should give such a great sacrifice that could provide to be more costlier to the public exchequer. We should strive to avoid such expenditure. I support this Bill but I have certain doubts in my mind with regard to this Bill because the membership of one of the lady members of my party, who is a renowned artist of this country and is famous throughout the country, has been terminated due to this law. It was said throughout the country that when she was holding the office of profit, it was obvious that she should be ceased to be a member of this House, but the people were not aware of this fact that the harm caused to her by them will be going to affect themselves in turn and had the people understood the gravity of these circumstances, this Bill, which has been brought in this House today, would have been placed before the House three months back.

With these certain apprehensions, I would like to make a request. It would be better to abolish section 102 and 103 of the constitution once for ever instead of their repeated insults. First, we create the offices, then we hold them and finally we declare those offices as non-profitable by using the powers of Parliament. It is an

insult of the framers of the constitution and also an insult of our dignity. Our Law Minister should constitute a multi-party committee for a permanent solution of these articles and abolish these sections of the Constitution for ever. Thereafter he may expel those members from the House with which he has no liking and continue to amend the law of 1959 to save the memberships of the members to whom he has a liking. It would be an appropriate measure to keep the Parliament free from such complex situations.

SHRI SITA RAM SINGH (Seohar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. There is a great need for such a Bill in the present circumstances. This Bill has been brought under very complex circumstances. A debate is going on this Bill in a very scholarly manner. While taking a glance at the articles 102 and 103 of the constitution it is evident that the interpretation of the Bill, that has been brought in the House and a debate on which is going on, given in the Constitution in the original form, has not yet been defined. Whatever interpretation is given in the constitution, there is no explanation of any office in any manner. It is evident from the Bill that has been brought here today that the Parliament has passed it through amendment while defining certain offices in the wake of the present condition of certain hon'ble Members of Parliament and hon'ble legislators.

Sir, while going through this Bill, I feel that there are a number of errors in it. Sir, I would like to clear the first point. When this Bill was being presented, the way in which the Leader of Opposition opposed this Bill, I feel that none of his argument was either correct or his explanation was up to the mark. This Bill was being opposed keeping in mind only the political rivalry and by targeting a particular individual. This is quite clear. Whatever explanation has been made above, 45 offices have been mentioned in it thereafter. There is interpretation about certain states. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister through this Bill, as to whether the same institutions, the name of whose concerned states have been mentioned in this Bill, exist in other states also and if so, whether those offices are separate from the offices of profit or included in the offices of profit.

Sir, this point should be made clear because the names of a number of states have been written in this Bill and the names of many other states have not been mentioned in it. The other issue, which is evident, is that whatever offices are being exempted from other offices of profit today, those offices will still continue to be considered as offices of profit in many states even today

[Shri Sita Ram Singh]

because pay and allowances are given in those offices. A firm has been mentioned in it at the top which is very clear that whether the persons belong to any trust and the bodies which are not specified in the schedule, there was no scope to explain the office of Chairman therein or any other office in the 45 offices mentioned therein. One point is mentioned above it that "any such office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman in any statutory or non-statutory body specified in the table, "which clearly indicates that in all parts of the country whether that is within State Government or within Central Government. When these offices were again explained, there appears an another paradox. I feel that hon'ble Minister should clarify this, about which he has not given any clarification earlier.

In addition to this, I would also like to say something with regard to the issue on which hon'ble members were putting up their views. The memberships of 11 members were terminated in this House. They were given a rigorous punishment. At that time, we were taking part in the debate and we passed the resolution with a voice vote. Certain members from opposition do raised some objection. I do not want to speak on that issue because a discussion is being made on a Bill. Sir, but I would like to urge upon the Government, Parliament and also to hon'ble Speaker that a very harsh punishment was given to the hon'ble Members of Parliament. The matter of hon'ble Members of Parliament may also be taken into consideration. Besides, I would also like to mention that one aspect was left aside which couldn't be interpreted in a proper manner, because we had taken revolutionary steps and we people have become a party to that event and the entire House has become a party to it.

Sir, one more issue deserves consideration. The persons that lured them with the offer of bribe has been left untouched. There has been exparte action and those covered in camera was imprisoned and executed. One needs to necessarily think over the issue at least once.

Finally, I would like to submit that Hon'ble Member Shri Mohan Singh has presented a realistic picture. Even today as many as 46 persons and 200 MLAs are involved in it. So many Governments may have to leave office. it appeals to everybody in haste. We know it well, the opposition was raising protest against this proposal. The State Governments may have to leave office with the passage of this Bill. The Hon'ble Members very aptly suggested that its interpretation and definition ought to

be embarked on having formed a special Committee. The amendment made to the original bill may please be passed but this will not suffice as this will lead to the altercation among many states. The issue is not related to the Hon'ble Members only. Everybody, be it an MLA or an MP is going to be subjected to this problem and it can not be resolved simply by passing a Legislation. So, therefore a thorough analysis and complete interpretation of the issue is highly required to embark on a proper explanation. No matter howsoever time it may take, the Government ought to bring in a legislation or incorporate amendments to the bill.

With these words, I conclude my speech supporting the Bill.

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA (Sangrur): I rise to support the bill that is going to be passed in the House today. The Constitution has been drafted by our elder-ones in which the powers of Legislature, Judiciary and Executive have been clearly defined. One finds an explicit mention in the Constitution that except Ministers no Legislature, would hold any office of profit. Such provision was made in order that they should centrally focus upon the framing of law rather than usurping the position. How come the recent developments took place. The Judiciary categorically mentions that the functions of Parliament or Assembly figure in the constitution but they are surpassing it and the executive surpasses both of these. I understand that there would be no sanctity of constitution if we go on enacting laws like this.

Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to quote a precedent. Two years back we had passed a bill according to which the maximum strength of Ministers in Parliament or Assembly shall not exceed 15 percent of the total number. As opposed to this the no. of Ministers have outnumbered Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Parliamentary Secretary and no. of Ministers that existed earlier in all the States. The sanctity of Parliament is diluted. I wish to offer you an instance, they can't discharge either of the duties as no file is forwarded to the Parliamentary Secretary. No Minister refers files to them, therefore, they can not perform the duties of a Minister either. He cannot function as an MLA in the Assembly as he is Parliamentary Secretary and is not supposed to ask any question. Since he is not a Minister, he can not ask questions in the assembly nor can reply in the assembly. It is no use passing this bill at the expense of the sanctity of Parliament. Had we perceived such impression, we would not have passed it at that

time itself and the Governments would have been allowed to appoint as many Ministers as they wished to. I want to drive home the fact that the sanctity of the bill passed by Parliament must be maintained.

I entirely agree with Shri Mohan Singhji as to why we should not do away with article 102. With the change of Government, the successive one shall come to power. For instance, Article 356 is in place, when there is some Government at the Center and the Opposite one at the state level. Article 356 is effected in the State under one pretext or the other and the Government concerned are toppled. For the obvious reasons our party demands that Article 356 should be abrogated. I am also in agreement with the view that Article 102 should not be in place as with the change of the Government all the laws made by the preceding Government shall be turned ineffective. If we continue to misuse it, I do not think it is of any use. Why don't you constitute Joint Parliamentary Committee. This proposal has been advanced a number of times and our party has written several times for constitutional review and there should be a federal system. In the existing system, powers are not delegated to states. So many Committees were constituted but their reports are not submitted, even if the report is submitted, it does not see the light of the day. Therefore, I would like to urge not to make mockery of the provisions of the constitution that's come into existence as a result of the hard and fast endeavours undertaken by our age-old predecessors. Whichever new Government comes to power, so many amendments are made to the Legislation to safeguard the Members as well as the Government concerned. Why do such things happen? I hold the firm conviction that our democratic system is lying close to its collapse by slow degrees and this does not augur well.

If we continue to make such fricious changes with this system then our democratic system will gradually come to an end. I am not talking about any specific party or individual. But in a democratic system it is necessary to lay down certain parameters and there should not be a tendency to amend the laws by the any party, which assumes office to shield its members and party. I am against it. Hence, I request that it is not necessary to pass this bill today itself. Committee should be constituted to look into the Bill. The list which contained name of 46 members earlier, now has 55 members. If we delay the voting, there are chances of inclusion of name of 5 or 10 more members in this list. So I want to say that why we should not do away with article 102. We will come again and Law Minister will again propose

to delete such and such clause from Bill. If a state matter gets involved, proposal will come for inclusion of corporations and boards. And in the next session it will be included. I on behalf of our party oppose this Bill. This Bill should not be passed. Our party is against it with these words I request that this Bill should be *de-novo*.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are going to enact such a law in India which is agitating the minds of politicians. A number of people were holding office of profit in various States and in Union Government. Many M.Ps and M.L.A.s who were holding the office of profit had to resign. Various State Governments enacted laws in this regard and the Central Government had to bring a Bill in Lok Sabha to this effect. We on behalf of the Bahujan Samaj Party rise to support this Bill. If we see it in right perspective we find that there is a crisis everywhere in India. We do not come up with the laws on the issue of farmers, inflation, electricity or water. There is scarcity of water in our country. But here is no law on these issues. Whether we are going to enact a law to provide Pucca houses to the Jhuggi Jhopri. We see that whenever influential people are entangled and implicated the constitution is amended. We thought over this matter very seriously and I feel that we should say the truth. I think the entire House will agree with me on this issue. When some members entangled in the net 12 members were punished. Why all this happened, because they were not influential people and they had no political background. But when big and influential people entangled in the net then law was enacted to acquit all of them. I appeal to this House that do we not have reliable people whom we can entrust office of profit. We have many friends; is it necessary to hold four posts by one person. This is a question of morality. This is a very serious matter. So, we should look into it very seriously. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please keep silence. He is supporting this bill.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: This is a very serious issue. We should not make mockery of this issue. We are taking it lightly in the House but the future generation will not forgive us for it.

When own head trapped then the law was enacted and when the head of a poor trapped he was punished. Law should be enacted to provide drinking water to every poor person. Law should be enacted to provide uniform

[Shri Brijesh Pathak]

education in the country. We should protect the dignity of poor and provide them livelihood. But no law will be enacted unanimously on this matter. But today whole House is united whether they are in power or in opposition. Our friends in BJP are against this Bill with a positive attitude. They only want to show the country that they are against this Bill. They have passed the Jharkhand Bill. It becomes known to the entire country that they have passed the Bill ex-parte. ...*(Interruptions)* They are against this Bill here. Hon'ble Sir, I would like to express my feeling. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt the hon'ble member. Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Shri Brajesh Pathak.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: We should take such step which is adjudged right by the world. I would like to assert as and when India will be faced with crisis, such legislation shall be put in place. I would like to make just one appeal to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: I would simply appeal to you that legislation should be put in place for providing safe drinking water, electricity and employment to the public. In so far as the issue is imparting education is concerned, one Private Member Bill has been already lying pending with us. It has not yet figured in the Ballot, as they are apprehensive that their intention shall be exposed. The prevalent system of education was propounded by Lord Macaulay. It needs to be changed. How long will such division be allowed to be in existence that the poor ones shall join our institution and the rich shall join the other.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House.

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Ultimately, I would like to quote only a couplet penned by the Celebrated Hindi poet Dinkar: "*Kechue Katiye Mein Fasaye Gaye, Is Vishdhari Ko Dudh Pilaya Gaya*" (The downtrodden section was crushed and the UCH (Upper Caste Hindu) was empowered). This has been the mainstay of our Indian tradition. This has been the conventional horn of our history. I wish to bring about a change in historical trends. I want the downtrodden to be empowered. The crushed and the backward people need to be strengthened. I would like to appeal the entire House to assert the people's voice or else the Indian public will continue to vote for them but the divinity will not spare them, all of them shall be subjected to punishment. I lay emphasis on this viewpoint. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Next Speaker is Shri Anant Gangaram Geete.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am here to oppose MPs (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006. The Amendment Bill presented here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: None but your party turns boisterous over every issue. I fail to see the reasons behind such state-of-affairs particularly when the bill has been introduced by your party itself.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to refer to a few points figuring in the statements of objects and reasons of the amendment bill introduced here. Paragraph 3 of the SOR is read as follows: "In the recent past it has become necessary to re-assess the legislation meant for the

disqualification of members on the basis of holding offices of profit. This has become all the more necessary given the recent developments where as many as nearly forty or even more members are holding the posts of President or have got the membership of different legislative and non-legislative boards and have been facing the threat of disqualification on this account.

15.29 hrs.

[SHRI MOHAN SINGH *in the Chair*]

If the *status-quo* is allowed to be maintained, a volley of Court cases are inevitable and there is strong likelihood of vacancies in both the Houses of Parliament which will lead to bye-election resulting in unnecessary and futile expenditure from the public exchequer.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I have quoted a few parts of the statement of objects and reasons of the bill as they clearly indicate that the hon'ble members playing their pivotal role in passage of the bill, have themselves violated it. They have broken the law. If this bill is not passed, they will be termed criminals and in case of being so, they will have to forfeit their respective posts.

Mr. Chairman Sir, when Shri Basu Deo jee was making a speech accidentally he is not currently present in the House. He said that Article 102(1)(a) too has earlier been amended several times. That is why I think the arguments being offered now would not have been opted at that time. The corporations or divisions listed to be dismantled under Article 102(1)(a) number 45. It seems that there is no difference between the list of Members of Parliament released by the Election Commission and this list. Perhaps that list has been included in this Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to read out the article which had been opposed by the Leader of Opposition at the time of introduction of the Bill and which has been included in this Amendment Bill. The order *viz.* 'The Post of Chairman of National Advisory Council constituted by the Government of India *vide* Cabinet Secretariat Order No. 631/2/1/2004 dated 31.5.2004', has been issued by the Cabinet Secretariat after the decision taken by the Cabinet. I would like to know from the Government whether advice of the Ministry of Law had been taken for creation of this post in the wake of this amendment Bill introduced by the Government. An attempt has been made to include certain post and corporations in this list. Most of the Members appointed to these posts with a

view to remove them from the offices of profit, have a fair amount of knowledge of law. This will be improper to say that they have no knowledge of this law and they are not aware that any such law exists in our country. This will not be proper to say that everyone has knowledge of this law. This law has been passed by this House and the same Members have breached the law and are taking steps to change the law to conceal their guilt. There is no other meaning of this action.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, prior to this, credibility of this Government has time and again been questioned but with the passage of this Bill, the credibility of this Parliament would also be questioned in future. Why are we going to do this? The Hon'ble Minister is required to provide information regarding the names of Members who were getting benefit from their positions in the corporations mentioned here and these corporations are being removed from the list of offices of profit. Is it not the responsibility of the Government that it should come out with the names of Members who stand to benefit by the passage of this Bill. If this matter had been referred to the court, the names would have been certainly come out. However, the Government is not willing to expose the names of those 45 Members benefited from it and they are being shielded. It appears to me as if these 45 Members are above the constitution and an attempt is being made to shield them. In this House, we have discussed a lot about the dignity of the House. We have learnt and we have taught the lessons of morality about the dignity of this House several times. I do not understand that exempting those Members by this Bill, will add to the dignity of the House. What is the morality in it? Why are we going to do such things? If a Member misbehaves in this House, he is watched by the entire nation. It is deserved from the Chair—"I am ashamed". Is it a matter of pride? If it is a matter of pride, then you please pass this Bill and I have no objection. Where we are directing our parliamentary democracy which has been adopted by us. We are breaking the laws enacted by us for our convenience and then we are going to pass a new law to protect ourselves. What will be the credibility of the House and that of the Parliament? There was never any credibility of the Government. The credibility of the Government has always been questioned. This is uncalled for. Hence, on the ground of principles and morality we oppose this Bill. The Parliamentary democracy which is praised by us, is the largest democracy in the world. It is there for making mockery or to get any undue benefit? So, this amendment Bill would damage the dignity and sanctity of our constitution and the Parliament. On behalf of our party, we strongly oppose this Amendment Bill.

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I stand to oppose the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006.

In the proposed Bill, the hon. Minister originally sought to exempt 46 offices of profit. Now, within the period of a few hours, that number has gone up to 56. I do not know how many more offices will be brought under the purview of the bill by the time it comes to the stage of passing. Perhaps the hon. Minister has no idea of that but can he tell us the exact figure?

Sir, this is the fate of this Parliament. Now the cat is out of the bag. The Government is completely exposed and its alliance parties are also exposed. Their highly propounded *aaj ka mahatma* and the so-called sacrifice are also exposed. It reminds me of the writing of the famous author, Mr. George Orwell who has written a novel called "The Animal Farm". Satirically, he has made a reference about the democracy of animals in that novel. In their constitution, all are equal but some are more equal than others. Now, the hon. Minister has asked us through this Bill to give a stamp to make some Members more equal. As per the Constitution, all are equal but some are going to be more equal. This is what the hon. Minister has tried to express in this legislation. So, we are now following the animal constitution and not the human constitution. The Minister has brought Parliament to this level.

What is happening outside Parliament? The entire media is laughing at us. The Parliament is becoming a laughing stock because of this legislation.

This reminds me of the pre-emergency period. What had happened at the time, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, was defeated in the Allahabad High Court in an election case? She used this Parliament to amend the election laws flouting the decision of the court. Now also, the hon. Minister is using the Parliament just for the benefit of some Members of the ruling party. If this Parliament passes this Bill protecting all prominent Members, then every State will follow suit and there will be a spate of legislation in States totally circumventing articles 102 and 191. By this amendment, the spirit of the Constitution is going to be diluted and defeated. Any further amendment or legislation to exempt a large number of Offices of Profit will make articles 102 and 191 redundant. Then what will happen? Is it enough to enlarge

the exemption list or is a clear definition necessary now? The hon. Minister should react to this point. Or should we go to the roots of the problem and strike off the clause disqualifying the MPs if they hold such offices? We have also not examined the rationale behind this concept and how important or relevant it is in the present day context. The Minister should reply to this point.

I would just like to remind you that the Constituent Assembly debates do not appear to contain a detailed discussion of the need for or the implication of article 102 which seems to be a faithful adoption of whatever was in vogue in the House of commons. We have just adopted the provisions of the House of Commons. There is no detailed discussion on this aspect.

Articles 18, 58, 59, 64, 158, 102 and 191 of the Constitution deal with the clause of Office of Profit. Article 102(1)(a) of the Constitution disqualifies MPs if they hold any Office of Profit under the Central or State Governments except those listed in the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959. Yet, the law of 1959 is silent on which Office of Profit is exempted and there is no strong ground or logic behind this exemption. What is the logic behind this? Why some offices should be exempted and why other offices will remain? What is the reason behind this? Why not all offices are exempted? What is the meaning of article 102 then? If you do not want the provisions of this article of this Constitution to remain, then we can repeal this saying that there is no need for it. If at all you want to maintain the spirit of the provisions of article 102, then I feel that this type of an amendment seems to be a mockery of parliamentary democracy.

The philosophy behind article 102 must have been the separation of power. Since a Member of Parliament or Legislative Assembly represents the legislature, which ought to enjoy independence and must be free to criticise the Executive, MPs holding an office of profit under the Government might involve a conflict of interest, diluting their independence.

Parties in power might create posts indiscriminately and use them to accommodate their Members, just as it is being done now. This amendment has been brought forward to accommodate some MPs. When other parties come to power they will also do the same thing. They will also follow the same example that we are setting today. ...*(Interruptions)*

Article 102 has already virtually neutralised itself by providing for legislative exemption in the article itself. Now, it is only to be expected that more and more posts would get exempted.

The National Commission which was appointed to review the working of the Constitution recommended that Constitution should be suitably amended to empower the Election Commission to identify which offices should be deemed to be offices of profit and which are not. Until that happens the criteria fixed by the Supreme Court should be the "settled law". Now, we are diluting that thing.

The Act of 1959 itself is of doubtful validity. Any further dilution of article 102 will be struck down by the Supreme Court as a fraud on the Constitution. Its object is not only to prevent conflict of interests but also to prevent the sale of souls. Can the hon. Minister assure this House that the Supreme Court will not strike down this provision that we are bringing in today? If the Supreme Court strikes down this provision, what will happen to the prestige of the House? I want to know this from the hon. Law Minister.

The damage was done by the Parliament through the Prevention of Disqualification Act, 1959. It was a cynical measure, in a complete break from the past. It was a substantial consolation prize to legislators who were denied ministerial berths. It is also a means of evading the ceiling of Cabinet berths. When we are not able to adjust the MLAs and MPs in the Cabinet, we are increasing these exemptions and take them out of the purview of the office of profit.

The House of Commons Disqualification Act, 1975 bars MPs from membership of public authorities and undertakings. We are following mostly the British Constitution. Hence it is now a dilution and mockery of parliamentary democracy.

No MP or MLA should occupy any office other than created by this House. We do not object to that if the House creates some posts. But it should not be done in this way. We have some posts created by the Parliament, like some posts in Coffee Board, etc. But it should not be done by way of dilution. If the Minister and the Government feels that provision of article 102 is redundant and is not necessary, then they can go for a Constitution (Amendment) Bill to repeal this provision of article 102. But it should not be done in this way.

With these few words I oppose this Bill. My Party is also opposing this Bill.

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Sir, I just want to make one point here. A special Session has been called only to discuss the office of profit. Heavens are not going to fall if we allot more time to discuss this. We also want to speak on this. Why is it that at 4 o'clock we want to pass it? What is the hurry about it? We also want to speak on this.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister for Law and Justice has brought this Bill bypassing the rules and procedures and everything, with the permission of the Speaker. There is no necessity. There is no hurry to bring this Bill hurriedly. It had never happened. This Bill was enacted in the year 1959. After 1959, it was amended five times in the years 1960, 1977, 1993, 1999 and 2000. But it had never happened with retrospective effect. All the time, the laws were with prospective effect. What is the necessity? What is the need to amend this Act with retrospective effect—to safeguard some people? The Statement of Objects and Reasons has been necessitated due to the recent developments. This concerns approximately 40 or more Members from both the Houses of Parliament who are holding offices of Chairman or they are members of various statutory, non-statutory bodies and who are facing disqualification proceedings on the ground that they are holding an office of profit. There is nothing wrong in it. Madam Gandhi also resigned. She has been re-elected and has come to the House. After the petition was filed against her, she resigned on moral grounds, or whatever may be, and she contested the election. Why have you given this exemption to all these people with retrospective effect? For the first time in the country, we are amending the Act with retrospective effect. My party opposes this 'with retrospective effect' and everything.

Sir, I come to this article 101—disqualification from the Membership. Even article 191 relates to the members of the Legislative Assemblies. So, what is the spirit of these articles? We have a right, the Parliament has a right, to enact a law, to give exempt who are holding office of profit. I admit it. I also voted in the years 1999 and 2000. I was a part of the Amendment Bill. I supported it. Even now, I decided to support it. But I am not happy with the way the Congress got this Bill. Nobody knew in

[Shri Kinjarappu Yerrannaidu]

the country that there was a Disqualification Act in the year 1959. So many amendments were made. After Shrimati Jaya Bachchan's disqualification, after Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's resignation only, the country could know office of profit Act, the Disqualification Act. I would like to ask the Law Minister that the Congress Government.
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, supposing, one Congress worker has filed a petition against Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. The President made a reference to the Election Commission to enquire whether she comes under the office of profit or not. Okay, I understand it. It came in the newspaper. If the Minister had brought the amendment at that time, this problem would not have arisen. The Government was silent. Why were you silent? Why are you in a hurry about all these MPs? Please answer to this House, answer to the people. So, this step is a hasty one. There should be equality before law. The Government should take everybody in the same footing. We have not done in the Jaya Bachchan's case. Now, we want to protect so many people. If this had been done earlier, if the legislation had been brought in the last Session, this problem would not have arisen. You please see the list. According to this amendment, 45 entities are included. Even other entities will also come. So many people are leaving the list. I have no objection. But instead of that, at this time, a comprehensive law is required. In so many States, so many Corporations and so many trusts are also there. It is better to include at one stage. It is better to refer to the Standing Committee. It is better to bring a comprehensive law with all entities and everything, once and for all. Then, everybody will appreciate. It should not be done piecemeal. Otherwise, if we want to include 140 or 200 entities, it is better to abrogate or repeal articles 101 and 191. What is the sanctity if we include by every amendment 100 entities or 200 entities? In that case, the sanctity of the Constitution and the spirit of articles 101 and 191 would carry no meaning. Instead of that, it is better to repeal these two articles. If the Government wants to appoint any person, there would not be any office of profit; nobody will file petition before the President. Nobody will do anything. Everybody will enjoy. The spirit of the

Constitution is to give respect. Any Member of Parliament, any Member of Legislature should not occupy office of profit. They may influence, they may get something. But, some exemptions are there. That is why the Constitution has given power to the Parliament to amend, to enact and also to give some exemptions. It means you have to include anything that deserves in a proper manner. So, even though we are supporting this thing but this is not the proper way. In future you have to be very cautious. If something happens, you bring the legislation like that.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY (Nalgonda): Sir, I rise to support the Bill introduced by the hon. Law Minister but. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Yerrannaiduji, you spoke well. I would just intervene. We have embodied in the list 'A' all trusts private or public in general, all societies under the Societies Registration Act and 'B' all the statutory bodies. So, trusts are covered, societies are covered without any exception.
...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Then why do you not repeal the Bill? You are having unlimited number of amendments. Why do you not repeal it and let it be done with it? How many-times will you bring like this? Why do you not repeal the Bill? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I want to respond to our Parliamentary Affairs Minister. You have included all the trusts and everything, what about the local bodies?
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only Shri Sudhakar Reddy should speak.

[English]

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Sir, I rise to support the Bill introduced by the hon. Law Minister but, to be frank, we are not happy with the way the Bill is introduced. But, the reasons are totally different from the friends of the BJP and from the right. Sir, 52 years back in 1954, this type of discussion had taken place in this House and the then hon. Speaker, Shri Mavalankar had appointed a Committee which has been referred by

the earlier speakers—Dr. Bhargava Committee. That committee recommended a comprehensive Bill to be brought. Unfortunately, a comprehensive Bill has not come and even his Bill, I believe, is an *ad hoc* arrangement instead of a comprehensive Bill. There are all sorts of arguments regarding the disqualification for the membership issue. The entire nation is today discussing on this issue and some Members are saying that, just because this type of Bill is introduced, repeal the Article 102 of the Constitution. I would like to read what exactly the Article 102 is. It is about disqualification for membership. It says:

“(1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament—

(a) if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State, other than an office declared by Parliament by law not to disqualify its holder;”

It is exactly in the same clause. The exemption is given which should be declared, which will not come under this law. So, I do not understand that if this law is enacted, why the whole Article should go. I do not think it is against the spirit of the Constitution or against the clause but the thing is that this definition on the question of disqualification is very vague. It may be very difficult to define. That is why various types of interpretations have come. But a time has come now that the Parliament should take it up more seriously and define what is an office of profit. There are several occasions where Members of Parliament will be asked to take up different type of responsibilities. Unfortunately, when this discussion is taking place, various types of interpretations and, particularly, personalized politics are coming here. For example, the National Advisory Council is being taken as a target. It is not because of the National Advisory Council but because Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is holding that post. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is 4 o'clock now. On behalf of the Government, may I propose to the House that the 193 Motion can be deferred till the disposal of the Bill?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, it can be done.

[English]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right.

[English]

16.00 hrs.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Sir, the post of the Chairman of the National Advisory Commission is not very lucrative. The National Advisory Commission has been constituted to supervise the implementation of the Common Minimum Programme and I do not understand why that should not be accepted.

There are several other posts also. But it is true that since several hon. Members of Parliament are holding some of these posts, all these exemptions have been brought now. But the Parliament should enact a very clear legislation as to what are the posts that are to be disqualified, instead of adding some posts, which are occupied by Members of Parliament, to the list of exemptions every now and then. This is not the proper way.

I would appeal to my friends in the BJP and the NDA not to look at this whole issue in a sadistic way in order to target a particular Member and to see that some Members resign. This type of a legislation has become necessary because there is a danger that more than 45 Members of Parliament might be disqualified. Our friends in the NDA say that let them be disqualified. Can we take such an approach? We cannot take such an approach because this will create a lot of confusion. As there is no clear definition of the term 'office of profit', we need such a law immediately.

Sir, I would like to request the Government that they should seriously consider all the suggestions made by different political parties. The Left Parties have suggested that a Committee should be appointed to go into the issue of disqualification and the Committee should give a clear definition of the term 'office of profit'. This Committee should be set up in the near future and this should not be postponed. A Joint Committee on Office of Profit is already existing. But a Committee consisting of all the leaders of different political parties represented in

[Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy]

Parliament should be constituted to discuss this issue and suggest a comprehensive Bill that should be introduced for this purpose. We have the experience of various other Parliaments also on this issue and different Parliaments have different provisions in this regard.

I would like to refer to the Report of the Bhargava Committee which suggested that various matters connected with disqualification of Members should be studied and recommendations should be made in order to enable the Government to come up with a comprehensive legislation before the Parliament. The Committee, which is to be created, should collect all the relevant data and make suggestions as to how the matter should be dealt with. Unfortunately that has not been done.

Secondly, it is not only the question of office of profit, but there are other issues like resignation from the House and other things. There are some Parliaments in the world which have more experience in democracy like Great Britain, France and other countries. In the British Parliament, a Member cannot resign. He will only be disqualified. If a Member resigns, he cannot contest again and come back to Parliament. We have to discuss all these things. In our country also, we have gained a lot of experience in the last 54 years since the time of the First Lok Sabha. So, it is necessary that we should go into all these aspects.

Sir, while I support this Bill, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that he should come back to Parliament with a comprehensive Bill on this subject, after a Committee consisting of leaders of all political parties study and make recommendations. With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar):
Sir, I rise to oppose the bill introduced here and there is reason behind it. The object of this Bill is strangely awkward. It reads:

"If the *status-quo* is allowed to be maintained, there shall be cases en-bloc".

This Bill has been introduced to avoid litigation. Second thing that finds mention here is:

"And vacancies are likely to rise in both Houses of Parliament, as a result of which the conduct of bye-

elections shall be inevitable. It would be futile expenditure and will put unnecessary financial burden over the country."

The objective of this bill is to eschew litigation and bye-elections otherwise the Government will be under undue financial burden and this House is being used as a contrivance to avoid these things.

The introduction of this Bill clearly implicates that individual is above constitution or law in this country. It has also been stated that more than forty persons are holding offices of profit and it is necessary to protect such forty individuals by effecting an amendment to the constitution and a new legislation to avoid their expulsion. If their membership is in tact, there won't be litigations or bye-election. It is an irony. I would like to put forward two to three points. If the House continues to be used to serve the interest of particular individuals, I don't think such a prolonged debate is of any use. In the draft of this bill, the number of posts being included are getting enhanced. Earlier they recommended 40-42 posts, now it has been increased to 55-56.

I too suggested a few names and they have also been covered. I think something has gone wrong on my part. Had I suggested name of a few more posts, those two would have been covered. This time, the Government is very generous. The reason is to save one person and to facilitate others to assume the same position.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you were speaking I said you have hit a six. You are simply unparalleled today. You made a speech in favour of the bill. I do not want to repeat your words. I agree with you. However, I must say that you simply elaborated one aspect of it. I would like to present another aspect of the same. When Menkaji was speaking she said that MP's post is an important post with heavy responsibilities and they are not supposed to answer those positions. We are aware when the House is in session, limited number of Members attend the business of the House. I am not commenting upon any particular individual but on visiting the Central Hall even now one will find a few members watching TV. During inter-session the members are left with no work like the unemployed farm-labourers. To my mind, if they do not keep themselves busy in taking care of the other social obligations and stop delivering speeches under the garb of one programme or the other, they will be virtually paralysed. They do not have anything what-so-ever to do. At such juncture, I would like to submit two things.

There should be unanimity on the issue of the existence of offices of profit.

If a professor of the College fights an election of Lok Sabha or the Vidhan Sabha, he/she does not accept payment there consequent upon their election, that post is not counted Office of Profit because they come from College. From personal standpoint, Doctors necessarily undertake Medical practice and amass huge wealth even after becoming an MP. But for Shri Bhardwaj jee Minister of Law, he would have earned a lot of wealth by practicing law in the courts. So many members of this House are in partnership with private companies and the law does not hold them accountable as they are not nominated by the Government. Likewise, a lot many are engaged in contract. This law does not include them as they have not been nominated contractor by the Government. If you genuinely wish to debar MPs the Government ought to bring in a legislation with clear-cut provision so long as the membership of the House continues, the MPs cannot undertake any private or Government/business, the lawyer cannot practice law in the apex courts the doctors cannot practice and no member can engage oneself in contracts only then we shall carry the impression that the proposed legislation is meant for unifying the Members into one entity. If you can not afford to embark on such remedy, you need not pass circumlocutory remarks.

I had suggested the hon'ble Minister by forwarding a request to bring in legislation in three distinct phases:

After Sl. No. 1 of Section 3 of MPs (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006 the following should be added:

"Any post which is held by any Member/Public Representative, as Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Secretary or member of the Board of Directors and is not in receipt of any salary allowances, etc. it will not be taken to be an office of profit and it shall be inserted w.e.f. 4th day of April 1959."

You please don't divide it in two parts. If you will make any bill for a particular person, no one will support it and concerned person will come to know about your intention. You are playing with words. You may say that this one is excluded and that one is included in the list. Please don't play with words. If you feel it necessary to keep someone away from the office of profit then why don't you include every post in the list of offices of profit? If any person does not draw his salary, he will be deemed

to be not holding an office of profit. If you want some one to hold an office of profit, you don't care if the member, who is to hold or already holding the post, losses her membership. You get the preparation for elections done. If you formulate policies and want to use the House to save some one, we are not ready for this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very impressed with the each and every word of your speech delivered in support of us because we feel that when you are here and anything related to the Government comes for debate you will always speak in support of the Government. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I rise to oppose the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill 2006. I am not against any person *per se*; I am against the Bill itself. I am against this West Bengal-centric Bill.

My first point is this. The Present Home Minister of this country, who is the ex-Speaker of Lok Sabha, has time and again on the floor of this House said that all the Bills originating from this House should go to the Standing Committee excepting those Bills which are dealing with grammatical or typographical error.

Sir, my point is this. In this Bill, the office which the Speaker of this House is holding in West Bengal is also being brought in. Is it not required that this Bill should be sent to the Standing Committee for discussion?
...(Interruptions)

Just take an example. Kindly see serial no. 8 in this Bill. The Sriniketan Santiniketan Development Authority, a body constituted under the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 (West Bengal Act No. 13 of 1979) has been exempted from being an Office of Profit. I am not going to explain anything else. But my appeal is that the Speaker should send this Bill to the Standing Committee for evaluation, for examination because his name is also brought into that. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): My colleague has suggested for a Committee. He said that an All-Party Committee should be constituted to examine it.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: My second point is this. All the time, the hon. Members from the Left have been specifically harping on one point that there is no clear definition of Office of Profit. The hon. Law Minister is an eminent lawyer of this country. Even he accused the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Advani by saying that he does not know the rules. Before some time he mentioned like this. He knows it pretty well. ... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): We never mentioned about the Speaker but you are committing another unreasonable precedent in the House by commenting on the Speaker. Has it ever happened that a Member made a comment on the Speaker? I have never said anything unethical. But this is the first time in my long parliamentary career, a Speaker of the House has been accused by a Member. That is the new thing you are opening. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundergarh): We will speak openly. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: This is what I said about your leader also. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am not accusing the hon. Speaker. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, continue your speech.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am not accusing the Speaker. My only point is that the Government itself have mentioned the name of an institution and they say that it should be exempted. What does it mean? That means, in all probability it is in the Office of Profit. The Government itself have brought this and the Opposition has not brought this. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please proceed with your speech.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Secondly, all the time the hon. Members from the Left, specifically Shri Basu

Deb Acharia and Shri Sudhakar Reddy mentioned that there is no clear definition to Office of Profit. The hon. Law Minister knows it pretty well that there is no law anywhere in the world which is inflexible, which has been made once and it has remained so. All the time, the law and the rules are an evolutionary process. It is an evolutionary process through conventions, through judicial pronouncements, and it keeps on changing. So, the founding fathers of our Constitution could not have foreseen about 58 years ago that they would make such a law which would continue and which would be sustainable for all time to come. It would not have been possible. That is why, they constituted a Committee called 'Joint Committee on Office of Profit'. I was a member of that Committee in the 13th Lok Sabha for four years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you spoke from here, you mentioned that in April 1954, this Committee under the chairmanship of Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava was constituted.

What was the necessity of that Committee? What was the purpose of that Committee? The purpose of that Committee was that they would define which post constitutes office of profit and which post does not constitute office of profit. That was the purpose.

I will bring another very important point here. This very Committee on Office of Profit decided on 15th July 1988 that all the Ministries of the Government of India and the State Governments might be asked to obtain prior approval of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha or the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, as the case may be, before nominating any MP to any Government or Committee or body unless the Act under which such Committee or body has been set up provides for appointment of an MP from incurring disqualification by the provisions of the relevant Act itself.

As you know pretty well, because you are a very senior Member, that whenever we are made a Director, a Member, a Chairman of any Committee in the State Government, these are being referred to the Committee on Office of Profit which clears whether it constitutes an office of profit or not.

My point is about these 40 people about whom it has been mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The Government is considering this because their membership will go. Here my question to the hon. Law Minister is this. Why did those people not refer their

case to the Office of Profit Committee? Do you mean to say that they will say that they did not know the rule? Is ignorance of law an excuse? They could have referred to it and the Joint Committee on Office and asked whether it constitutes an office of profit. They did not do that and I charge that they did it deliberately. They knew that if they refer it to the Committee, the Committee would say no, this is an office of profit and you cannot hold it.

We are being elected as MLAs and MPs. My point is this. Is it not sufficient? What more do you want? How many people in this country have the good fortune of coming and sitting in this House? Is it not sufficient? Still, you require Ministership. If not Ministership, then you require Chairman of any Board. If not, then something else is required. Is it not so? ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, please give me two or three minute's more time.

This Bill is against all the canons of morality. It is against all the canons of morality and it is against the Constitution itself. It is against ethics and everything. I will tell the hon. Members of the Left that when they were accusing the BJP at the time of disqualifying those Members who took bribe for asking questions, it is the leader of the Leftist Party, the CPM, who was accusing that it is the BJP which is having the most number of Members who are getting disqualified. I am asking them this question. Let them ask themselves what sort of backdoor business they are making. What sort of backdoor business are they making just to protect their own interests? ...*(Interruptions)* This is only the question of getting the plum posts. Just to have those plum posts, the so-called Leftists, who say that they are the greatest moralists in the world, and who are having 17 such Members here, are doing this.

My last point is that let this case be referred to the Election Commission. If they say that all these posts actually constitute office of profit then and these Members should be disqualified, let them go to the people. Let them face the by-election, because in a democracy there is nothing better than facing the election. The hon. Leader of the Congress Party, by her great renunciation, showed the way. ...*(Interruptions)* They are supporting the Congress Party. They should follow the principle adopted by great Shrimati Sonia Gandhi who also won the by-election. They can also do the same thing. Let them do that. ...*(Interruptions)* It is equally applicable to them not only to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

So, Sir, my appeal to you is that either this Bill should be sent to the Standing Committee for examination or else all these Members should resign. They should go to the people and face the election.

Sir, with these few words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K.S. Rao. Please conclude within five minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Yes Sir. But, first of all, please bring the House into order. ...*(Interruptions)*

I rise to support the Bill. I heard the objections raised for introduction of the Bill by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Shri L.K. Advani. I was also present on the day when the House was adjourned *sine die*. The ferociousness and the speed with which the opposition Leader had come that day and told the entire House that 'the ruling UPA Government is trying to adjourn the House *sine die* with a view to protect the membership of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, our leader' was visible then. That is visible. He directly expressed. He also expressed that he heard that there was a rumour going on that the Government was trying to bring an ordinance to protect her. So, the entire concentration of the Leader of the Opposition and the Members of the Opposition at that time, as I found, was only on her that she should lose her seat. The very next day, when she resigned her membership, the entire thing had cooled down. ...*(Interruptions)* We kept quiet very silent. ...*(Interruptions)* I was very silent when you spoke. ...*(Interruptions)*

If that was the view, if it were to be to protect her own membership, she should not have resigned. Obviously, it was with an intention that this is going to be a crisis, that more number of Members of Parliament are going to lose their seats on this issue, may be that the Government has thought to bring some amendment or to allow a legislation or ordinance.

Sir, when Shri Jaswant Singh, the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, was asked to give the opinion of the BJP, he did not give any clear idea. He did not say that 'we are opposed to it or we are in favour of it'. That means, they are neither this way nor that way. Obviously, as one of our hon. Members was telling, their entire concentration was only on Shrimati Sonia Gandhi because they feel that she has become a

[Shri K.S. Rao]

great leader or a block for them to come into power. If she were not to be a Member here or a Leader of this Party, then they have got a hope that they can come back to power one day or the other. I would have been very happy had they discussed about the issues of the poor, farmers, drinking water, education or healthcare to the poor who are below the poverty line or elimination of poverty, etc.

At any time we see, the concentration was only on her and not on these issues. I heard respectable Member, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi speaking on this very eloquently in a very good language. She was telling that when she was Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board, some of the pharmaceutical companies were doing wrong things in the laboratories. When she was highlighting all these things, she said, they brought pressure to see that she is out of the post of Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board. When the then Minister of Environment, Shri T.R. Baalu felt that the office that she was holding was an office of profit, which she cannot hold both as Member of this House as well as that office, she preferred to resign the post of Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board and not the membership of Parliament. That means she was ready to sacrifice the interests of the animals which is detrimental at the instance of the pharmaceutical companies. This is very clear. This is one.

Secondly, even at that time, this rule of office of profit was there on which she would have been disqualified at that time. Because the NDA Government was there, she could be saved and nobody spoke about it. She also says very categorically—"Sir, it was decided to remove me; but how to do that without incurring my wrath as a member of the NDA". It was not following the legislation. It was not following the ethics or norms. It was the power at which you are and so she says—"I cannot be removed like this because I am a Member of the NDA". So, Shri T.R. Baalu, who was then the Minister of Environment notified that that post was an office of profit after 42 years of its existence. Shrimati Maneka Gandhi was telling this now, today.

It may be because she thinks that she wants to take against Shrimati Sonia Gandhi or she is very much interested to see that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi should lose the seat, today she says about the ethics, about the office of profit and why should there be a legislation and all that. Did she say so at that time when she was holding two posts? Here is Shrimati Sonia Gandhi who

resigned the membership. Shrimati Maneka Gandhi did not resign the membership of this House. She resigned, on the contrary, from the other post.

As you were telling, Sir, when you were speaking from here, even in the case of Shrimati Jaya Bachchan, we never think that Shrimati Jaya Bachchan was holding the second post to earn money or to make benefit out of it. But because, under the legislation, as somebody has complained, the concerned organisation has given a verdict that she should leave the membership. But, none of us were interested. None of us can say that she was holding that post for making money out of it or out of any personal interest. Having realised, because of the incident, the attention of the entire country was caught that so many people are there in a similar situation. When it was spreading to so many people, it is the duty of this House to bring a legislation. We cannot leave it like that.

*No legislation, when it was made initially, was foolproof. There may be hundred mistakes in them. As time passes, as conditions change we amend those things. Shri K. Yerranna was telling that it was amended five times. Why should anybody oppose this Bill? Is it detrimental or is it against the dignity of the House? If it were to be against the dignity of the House, how was it made in 1959? In 1959 this Act was made when eminent people were there. When it was not opposed at that time why should it be opposed now? Why should the Members think that it is against the dignity of the House?

I can understand it. Many of the Members can propose many other posts, offices of profit which can be included in it under exemption. But it cannot be that simply because today Shrimati Sonia Gandhi was there in their mind that they can abuse or they can say it or attribute motives or make allegations and everything on this Bill.

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi was also telling and I want to quote. Now hon. Member Shrimati Maneka Gandhi says that "If you were to be a Member of Parliament, you have got full work here. So, there is no need to hold a second assignment." Then, why did she hold the assignment of the Chairman of the Animal Welfare Board? I do not attribute motives on her. She must have had an interest in the animal welfare and because she has got not only interest but she has got the capacity, she was holding that assignment.

There is nothing to find fault with it. Similarly, many of the Members might be experts in some areas, apart from being a Member. So, they are holding other posts also. I do not think that there is anything wrong in it. They should hold other offices with a fair intention that they should not make money by that position. So, we have brought this legislation. If a Member wanted to make profit, certainly there are other ways to condemn him. When some Members had taken money and it was proved beyond doubt, the other day this House had taken action and condemned their actions. In a similar way, if some Member was misusing the second position, you may condemn him.

It is very surprising that hon. Member has said "Does the Government wish to give an additional public image to those of their MPs who could not be accommodated in the Ministries but need a car and office?" Will the Members be preferring to hold second office simply for the sake of car, office or house? She attributes motive that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi was holding the office of National Advisory Council for the sake of office, for the sake of a car. These things are so petty. The nation can judge what amount of difference is there between her and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. She has never said anything about Shrimati Maneka Gandhi. Whatever applies to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi must be applied to me and to her also. She forgets all those things. Criticising others is easy, but when it comes to us, then it is known to everybody.

It is true that this Bill may not be comprehensive and may not be totally foolproof. Tomorrow, we may find some more assignments to be exempted. So, we can find a way where all such things will not be there. So, I wish the hon. Minister to go ahead with Bill and get this Bill passed. If any of the Member were to have any genuine areas which are also to be exempted, they can be included. We have already seen an amendment brought by the hon. Minister. Some more offices can be added. Otherwise, today we can pass the Bill and later, we can come with amendments. It is not a crime to bring amendments to an Act.

With a fair mind, if any Member were to think in this manner, not targeting any particular individual, it can be done. This House is not to settle individual scores and personal enmity. So, it is with the intention that the nation should be protected, this House should be protected that this Bill has been brought. If so many Members lose their seats, what is the amount that would have to be

spent for holding elections? For ten days, she has been telling that the House was convened now only because of this. This House should have been convened otherwise also. It was there earlier also. This is not a new proposition except that the House was adjourned *sine die* instead of getting adjourned.

With these few words, I request the hon. Members sitting in the House to think with a broader mind and not to make politics as a target or individual as a target and exploit the opportunity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan will speak. Please conclude your speech in five minutes.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, our Law Minister is a very efficient and experienced person, but I regret to say that this UPA Government is not having a priority in the matter of legislative business. Now, it is evident from the way in which this Bill has been brought. I recall that as early as March 17, 2006, I had made a Special Mention on the floor of this House asking the Government to bring in some amendments to the Office of Profit Act, 1959 because the controversy was not a new thing. The ruling of the Supreme Court also created such a situation. So, in the Special Mention, I had categorically stated that since there was a controversy regarding the term 'Office of Profit', it was better and safe for the Government to bring in a legislation immediately. It is available there in the records.

I also mentioned that the matter has become evident after the disqualification of Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. I brought it out immediately after this happened. But there was no response from the Government. Nobody was responding. If you had responded to it, then this situation could have been prevented.

What is the situation now? I will tell you about it. I am reading from the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill. It is stated that:

"...if this state of affairs is allowed to continue..."

We all will remember that the House was adjourned *sine die* under mysterious circumstances. I am saying this because it was already decided that we would meet again for a second time, and even the business to be transacted was designed. But all of a sudden the Government asked for adjournment *sine die*, and we

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

adjourned *sine die*. The Government was under the impression of bringing in an Ordinance, and I believe that for this purpose the House was adjourned. But Shrimati Sonia Gandhi resigned immediately after adjournment of the House *sine die*. Therefore, the necessity of issuing an ordinance did not arise. This is the position with regard to this issue.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is stated that there are about 40 Members in both the Houses of Parliament who are likely to lose their seats. It is further stated here that:

"...likely vacation of seats in both the Houses of Parliament, which will necessitate the holding of bye-elections to fill up the resultant vacancies..."

It means that the bye-elections would be a wasteful expenditure, and to prevent the wasteful expenditure this is being done. It is stated that:

"...This will be a wasteful expenditure and will enforce unnecessary financial burden upon the nation..."

It would mean that the Government is admitting that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's resignation, and the resultant bye-election is also a wasteful expenditure. If you had acted properly, then Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's resignation could have been prevented. But she resigned from Lok Sabha. Therefore, according to the Objects and Reasons, it is crystal clear that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's bye-election is a wasteful expenditure. It is written there, and it is not in my own words. It is written in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's bye-election is a wasteful expenditure. I am saying this because bye-election for 40 people is a wasteful expenditure, and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is included among them and her bye-election is also a wasteful expenditure. This is made crystal clear from the Statement of Objects and Reasons. This is how we are doing things.

What has happened because of this Bill? We do not have a proper discussion on this Bill. I am saying this because discussion includes discussion in the Standing Committee. When a Bill is under legislative scrutiny there will be elaborate discussions in the Standing Committees, and there will be limited time available for a short discussion on the floor of the House itself. Clause-by-Clause consideration, and a detailed discussion will only take place in the Standing Committees, and that process is prevented in this case.

We have two bitter experiences in this Session. Firstly, we all are quite aware about demolitions in Delhi. It is a process going on for long. But the Government became vigilant immediately after political pressure came for it, and they brought a Bill. They brought a Bill and got it passed on the same day. The introduction of the Bill was on the same day; Clause-by-Clause consideration was on the same day; and final passing of the Bill was also on the same day. It is quite unprecedented, and not a healthy parliamentary practice.

In this case also the same practice is being repeated. I am saying this because we are not getting an opportunity to discuss it in the Committee. Is this the way Parliamentary practices are followed? Is this the way you are holding the Session?

Not only that, there were five Assembly elections. For that purpose, what did the Government do? All the Demands for Grants were guillotined and finally passed preventing legislative scrutiny by the respective Standing Committees. It could have been prevented, if the Government was conscious enough, by bringing a Vote-on-Account. That has not happened.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you have to conclude your speech.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, I come to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you have to conclude your speech.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I now come to the Bill. The Bill, I must say, is patently defective. I am in a dilemma whether to support the Bill or not, knowing it to be practically difficult. You see, there is a list here. There are many States where the same Corporation exists, but it has been left out. It is patently discriminatory.

It is a concurrent subject. When you accept some office or a particular society, all people must be exempted. I think, in some States, particularly in West Bengal, almost all have been accepted, but very few in other States. That is not correct, and it is highly discriminatory. The Bill will not stand to scrutiny. The proper course would have been to give the powers of delegation to State Assemblies, to State MLAs, so that the States could do it. That is being done today. Why should you give a list?

The Parliament will have to consider the disqualification question of accepting office of profit by this House, but the Legislative Assemblies should decide what should be the office of profit in their respective States. Instead of doing that, you have enumerated a list of offices, mostly in West Bengal, and a few in some other States. This is highly discriminatory.

Not only that, I have the Bill with me. Nowhere the 'office of profit' has been defined. It must be defined. So, I suggest that a special committee should be appointed giving representation to all the political parties, and that committee should go into the details and make a clear definition regarding office of profit. That is the only way we can do that.

Not only that, retrospective effect is being given from 4th July, 1959, after a gap of 46 years. Subsequently, so many legislations have taken place, but nowhere it has given retrospective effect. The retrospective effect that is being given is unheard of, which looks very awkward and unfair.

On these conditions, I would request the Government to ponder over bringing a new law to make the situation more clear and definite.

In parliamentary democracy, for maintaining parliamentary practice and parliamentary integrity, ultimately, I support the Bill.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Sir, at the outset, I oppose the Bill. The reason for my opposing this Bill is that in the earlier part of the day, my leader, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, mentioned that he had no objection regarding other parts of the Bill, but he was only concerned with clause 2 of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006. The reason is the extra constitutional authority that has been created. This type of legislation requires a constitutional amendment with two-thirds of the House voting for it and getting a change in the Constitution. This thing has been taken very lightly. This Bill shows and proves that the ruling party is acting to protect some people from the ambit of office of profit and to keep their positions intact. This clearly warranted a Constitutional Amendment. It would have been appropriate if a Constitutional Amendment has been made.

Hon. Member Kishore Chandra Deo, who spoke first in this debate, said that the post of Chairperson of the

National Advisory Council was that of a facilitator for the ruling coalition. 'Facilitator' in other words means 'fixer'. The ruling coalition needed a fixer because the constituent parties do not have commonality of views on any issue.

CPI(M) has won the recent election in West Bengal. The Chief Minister goes and tells people that they are anti-reform and anti-globalisation. He has gone on record saying that because of reforms the people of Bengal have voted for them. I do not know how they would digest this. Eventually, the Left also has taken to the path of globalisation.

The post of Chairperson of the National Advisory Council constituted by the Government was just meant to protect a person. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons of his Bill it has been stated that unwanted expenditure would have taken place if re-elections were held. I am quite astonished to see this. If the Government wanted its party leader Shrimati Sonia Gandhi to head the UPA, it could have given her the status of a Minister without Portfolio.

As per our Constitution, a Member of either Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha only can become a Minister. Why do they not adopt the American way? In America, they invite experts to head various Ministries. For example, the Secretary of State for Defence, Secretary of State for Transport, etc. What pattern is the Government of India trying to follow? Is it trying to ape the Americans? What qualification has the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council got to occupy that post?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is exhausted.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Mr. Chairman, I oppose Clause 2 of this Bill while I support the rest of the Bill. I have given an amendment.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendments may be brought later.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Thank you.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): Sir, I have given notice to speak on this Bill.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is over. Now, the hon. Minister will reply.

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I am very grateful to all the hon. Members who have spoken on this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, I have given notice.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is over.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, the Session has been called only to pass this Bill. Why only two hours for this? We want to raise important issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, it is not possible. The hon. Member from your party has already spoken for more than allotted time. Mr. Minister, please continue your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Some hon. Members have said that there should have been a comprehensive review of this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Sir, the Session has been called only to pass this bill and we are not being allowed to speak. We want to speak on the bill and can sit for another two hours for this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the speech of the hon. Minister will go on record and nothing else.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing of your speech is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: What is required is to go into the Bill itself. It is a very limited measure to prevent from disqualification certain Members of Parliament whose occupying some offices is likely to disqualify them. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Article 102 of the Constitution provides that a person shall be disqualified from being chosen as, and for being, a Member of either House of Parliament and if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have spoken for more than the time allotted to your party.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I can not hear what you are saying. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, no more time can be given to you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, please keep on speaking. Their speech is not going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Mr. Minister, please speak, only your speech is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

(English)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I do not think this is the proper way to debate. I only want to say a few things for the benefit of the House.

Firstly, the Leader of the House, Shri Advani raised some points. When I replied, he was not in the House. He is a very senior Member. I thought that when he raised an objection about the introduction of the Bill, he would make a constitutional point and a parliamentary point. Only when Parliament lacks competence, then we can say that this cannot be introduced. But unfortunately they raised extraneous matters. Even now, the mood on this side seems to be that let there be no political debate in the House. This is not the way things can be discussed. Even the Leader of the Opposition will realise that when a Leader of the Opposition is appointed under the Statute, he or she has to be exempted under this law. All the Chief Whips who are appointed, they are also to be exempted under this law. In the case of post of Chairmen of various Commissions, namely National Commission on Scheduled Castes, National Commission on Minority, if a Member of Parliament holds the office of Chairman, they are also exempted under this very law.

Now, with your permission, I would give the constitutional background of Article 102. The World over, even in the United Kingdom—it was referred—they do not have a written Constitution. So, there is a convention. Whenever Parliament wants to bar an office of profit, they, by Resolution of Parliament add it as a disqualification. ...*(Interruptions)* You please listen. Have some etiquette in the House. It is no debate. We can discuss these matters.

What they do is, they go on adding offices which disqualifies a Member. This is one way of doing this. The Leader of the Opposition knows that after the Forty-Second Amendment in Mrs. Gandhi's time, this method was adopted and pursuant to the long research made in this by eminent Parliamentarians, they could say that, let us accept the British system in which there is no list of such disqualifications. They only disqualify by Resolution of Parliament. But in Morarji *Bhai's* Government, this was reversed by the Forty-Fourth Amendment, and they said, no.

I have heard some statements from the Leader of the Opposition. I hold him in very high esteem. We thought that, let us not tinker with the constitutional spirit.

He himself perhaps wanted it that we should not tinker with it, and let us continue with the present dispensation. Many eminent legal luminaries, Attorney Generals and very important people have gone into this issue. They also have given this opinion that it is not possible to define Office of Profit. Having regard to the status of Legislature, Executive, it is not possible to lay down or precise definition of what could be an office of profit. The Supreme Court also in several decisions have given conflicting opinions. The latest one is Jaya Bachchan's case, which is altogether a different approach.

17.00 hrs.

So, I have to cater to the desires of the House, and I think, if the House feel sincerely that you want to amend article 102 of the Constitution, that can be very well done with the consensus of the House. It is your House; it is your power; and you can do that.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Withdraw it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I do not like these kinds of interruptions when we talk well. This is where you should follow the parliamentary practice.

Sir, if the House is serious and there is a unanimity of views, we can definitely revert to a better system. But today, after the research made by senior parliamentarians like Thakurdas Bhargava and others, this was thought to be a better way in which we are going ahead.

Sir, this is a very small Bill. There are only five sections which have been dealt with in this Bill. Section 3 is the most relevant Section, which says that whenever any Member of Parliament or an eminent person is appointed to an office of profit, then he or she has to be exempted under this law. So, that is the point. When Shri Pranab Mukherjee was as the Deputy-Chairman, Planning Commission and he was to enter the Parliament House, I had to bring this Amendment, which nobody objected. Every Chief whip is exempted; every Leader of the Opposition is exempted; every Chairman of a Commission is exempted. But I am very surprised to say that if our leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi is exempted from heading the National Advisory Council, they feel differently! That is where we feel greatly pained.

Let us have respect for each other. If a leader of a very big party is appointed to a position, which is to

[Shri H.R. Bhardwaj]

advise some NGOs, what is wrong in it? There are 15 eminent NGOs working under the National Advisory Council giving a lot of inputs to the legislation, which practice was not invoked till this NAC was appointed. Times have changed. NGOs have a greater role. And, she was not drawing anything more than what a Member of Parliament gets. Somebody referred to her house. She has a house already allotted to her in her name, and she could draw the same salary as a Member of Parliament. There was nothing big she was getting out of it. Therefore, to allege that everything is being done in her interest or for her interest, is travesty of fact and far from truth.

So, with great respect, Sir, I would submit that let us have a little tolerance for each other. I have never seen this kind of an intolerance in Parliament. We may have different views. We go to the polls with different views, and people give their verdict. I think, she rightly did, against the wishes of all of us; she went through her own introspection, and decided; contested and came back to the Lok Sabha. Let us not make an issue out of it.

17.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Several eminent MPs are doing some public service in their own fields. Some hon. Members are doing such services in West Bengal also. Shanti Niketan is a very prestigious institution and if a Member of Parliament is giving time to serve Shanti Niketan, I think, he is doing service to the country. Why should there be an objection that it should be called an office of profit? Several eminent MPs, during their free time, do and work in their constituencies. Several Development Boards and other institutions are there. This is the approach that we should exempt them. I am sorry and I am greatly pained and I do not hold any partisan attitude. The day it was being thought after Jaya Bachchan' case—I have known here very well and intimately—if she had sought any help from us, we would have willingly helped her that she should not be debarred. But it is the Election Commission's litigation which was being fought by her, and when she got disqualified it became a big news. Thereafter, the whole process started seeing as to how many would be affected.

Sir, I would remind this House that there is an endless list which is continuously flowing to me everyday. Every MP is scared now. Therefore, if an exercise has

been undertaken, let us take it seriously. Why are you making a fun of it? All MPs should take it seriously and then decide it. I can frankly tell you that we are prepared for any discussion on this issue. But I am greatly pained by the attitude of the Bhartiya Janata Party. I talked to Sushmaji, I talked to Prof. V.K. Malhotra. Advaniji was not available, otherwise, I would have talked to him also. It was all to get help from them. I am not doing it for saving me from disqualification. I am doing it for Members of Parliament of different political parties. I hold them all in very high esteem.

Therefore, this is an exercise for public good and the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act is meant for this purpose. May I read one line from the Constitution? Article 102 itself says:

"All offices of profit can be exempted by the Parliament."

Parliament has this competence and some people doubt whether the Parliament has got the competence or not. This is where this partisan attitude does not do good for parliamentary debates. If this House decides unanimously, we could have the British system in India so that whenever you want to disqualify, you can bring a law or a resolution. It would be very well and this country would accept it. But it is this very Parliament which has said and some of the leaders who are still sitting in the Opposition were party to it that 42nd amendment is not good and that we rule it out by 44th Amendment did that system away.

Now there is a conflict of decisions in the courts and the Election Commission has interpreted it as the law stands. I am duty bound to bring this law before the House to protect all the Members across the board. It is not that I am doing it for my party. Let me tell you frankly, I will not name, the Members of Parliament's who is who here. But we have tried to cover the entire opposition and all other people. If some hon. Member of BJP suffers, he will suffer because of BJP's own attitude. You cannot blame us tomorrow. It is because you have not helped us. We have been going to your doors. How many leaders you want me to contact? I will again contact them. But this is lack of cooperation, consideration and lack of sincere desire to go into this kind of legislation.

The Constitution permits this Parliament to legislate on this issue and this is a very important matter. A

sensation is being created and said that the Government is bringing this and that. Sir, can any Minister bring an Ordinance unless the House is prorogued or at least one House is prorogued? A news was sent to the Press that tomorrow the Ordinance will come and heavens will fall. This is never done. I do not keep anything secret.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Why had you adjourned the House *sine die*?

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: After adjourning the House *sine die*, you have to prorogue the House. I presume you have at least this knowledge that without prorogation, you cannot have an Ordinance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you mean to say that this will also be applicable to Jayaji?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, nobody knew that Shrimati Jaya Bachchan's case was going on except her. It was pending with the Election Commission. There was certain election petition also. We have done justice to her also in this case. Whatever I could do to help her out, I have done. I have put her case also. So, there is no personal ill-will or animosity or prejudice against anybody. But today I am surprised to see that there is a calculated attempt to stop Parliament from discussing such a serious issue. This is never done. Therefore, this House has the authority and competence to legislate. When this House has the competence to legislate and if we do not legislate, that will be the abdication of duty. Even if one Member of Parliament of either side is disqualified for lack of performance of duty, I will presume myself guilty. Therefore, I brought this Bill. I have been very anxious from day one. I have been phoning leaders after leaders and asking them if there is any hon. Member who needs to be exempted. An exhaustive list is there. In England, there are thousands of such exemptions. If you follow English precedents, they go on adding because whenever they entrust some responsibility to any Member of Parliament, they have to exempt him. Therefore, addition of more officers of profit is not something bad.

One issue was raised that the Members of Parliament should not be doctors and advocates. That view has also been raised and discussed in England before Noland Committee went into this whole thing. The Members of

Parliament are not whole time employees. In one very important case, I argued for months and years and finally, I convinced the court that the Members of Parliament are nobody's servants. They are the most independent people. They are more independent than judges even because they speak openly for public and that is why they enjoy certain amenities and freedom under the Constitution.

Therefore, if you want Members of Parliament should be whole-timers, then you decide about their perks and salaries like as it is done in organisations where such provisions exist. Here, it is only parliamentary functions that are discharged by Members of Parliament. Otherwise, somebody is a farmer; somebody is a teacher; somebody is a doctor and somebody is a businessman and they are discharging their respective functions. I do not think we should bind them down totally. We should give them the freedom. Freedom of Parliament is one of the most important aspects of democracy. Any thought of putting fetters on this will not be appreciated in the larger interest of democracy. Therefore, we should all contribute our mite in building up healthy traditions that when Members of Parliament are asked to discharge certain functions, they should be free to do that and that is not for money. Nobody goes to these Trusts and Societies for money. There are certain prestigious Trusts and we have exempted them all. We have also exempted certain societies. There are certain institutions and corporations. Therefore, we had to bring this law. We had tried to be fair and much more fair than on any other occasion in the past. It is because we are all Members of Parliament. There is no partisan view. Once we are elected as Members of Parliament, we are Members of Parliament for the whole country. That is the approach. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me finish please. You can raise it later. There are many Members who have raised certain issues. I would like to address those issues.

Sir, we have exempted, under this law, all trusts whether public or private. So, Members of Parliament should not bother if they are holding any position in any Trust, be it public or private. Similarly, we have exempted all Government bodies and members of Societies registered under Society Act or any other law which is in force at the time being. These are the two major things that have been proposed and a large number of Members of Parliament, who are doing some kind of public service, will benefit from these provisions in this legislation. Some people are running schools. They are registered societies. A lot of work has gone into it. This exemption table is

[Shri H.R. Bhardwaj]

only with regard to statutory and those which needs specifically to be exempted. There is no other way to deal with this problem.

Sir, one issue was raised about dispensing with the rules. These are matters of procedure. The Chair is the final authority and if there is a consensus in the House, I am bound by it. This time was essentially kept because we could not deal with this problem then and now all these saving clauses are meant only with a view to achieving this objective for which this Bill is being brought forward. This is a very fair deal. The Government is bringing forward this Bill only to protect the interest of the hon. Members of this House who otherwise would be disqualified by the Election Commission. If any hon. Member has any suggestion, I have an open mind and we will constitute a Committee to go into those suggestions and the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit can also go into those suggestions. This is a never-ending procedure.

The courts will go on handing out judgments. We are examining the latest one. We have tried to enact this law according to what had been laid down in the Jaya Bacchan case. there were two different views of the Supreme Court earlier. This is the latest one. We have covered the suggestions given by everybody. I am grateful to the hon. Members for their suggestions.

Sir, before I conclude I would like to repeat that we do not have any ill-will against anybody. We have respect for leaders of all Parties, but unfortunately, it is our leader who is always under attack. Do people think that we have no commitment for our leader? If they will do like this, then we will also start doing this. We hold every leader in high esteem. Our leader has demonstrated a positive attitude. She has certain basic principles, ethical principles, moral values which are lacking in the other side.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House may now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3—Insertion of new Table

Amendments made:

Page 3, for line 2,—

substitute "13. The State Fisheries Development Corporation Limited, West Bengal." (6)

Page 3, Line 32,—

for "33. The Bihar State Religious Trust Board."

substitute "33. The Bihar State Board of Religious Trust, a body constituted under the Bihar Hindu Religious Trust Act, 1950 (Bihar Act No. 1 of 1951)." (7)

Page 3, after line 45, insert,—

- "46. The Dalit Sena, 12, Janpath, New Delhi.
- 47. The Social Justice Trust, 12, Janpath, New Delhi.
- 48. The Bahujan Foundation (Charitable Trust), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- 49. The Bahujan Prema Charitable Trust, Delhi.
- 50. The Central Wakf Council, established under section 9 of the Wakf Act, 1995 (43 of 1995).
- 51. The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML).
- 52. The Jalianwala Bagh Memorial Trust.
- 53. The Haj Committee of India constituted under section 3 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002 (35 of 2002).
- 54. The Malllickghat Phoolbazar Parichalan Committee.
- 55. The West Bengal Fisheries Corporation Limited." (8)

(Shri H.R. Bhardwaj)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prabhu Nath Singh ji, do you want to move your amendment?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): I had also urged while expressing my views. ...*(Interruptions)* Please hear me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already spoken. Now please tell whether you want to withdraw your amendment or not?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I don't want to withdraw my amendment. Please here me, I will conclude within one minute.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Would you withdraw your amendment after saying your words? Tell me, what would you like to say?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had urged the hon. Minister while participating in the discussion that in the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Amendment Bill, 2006, after serial number 2 of the article 3, it should be added that any of the posts held by a Member of Parliament as a public representative, chairman, deputy chairman or as a member of the Board of Directors and for which the member is not drawing salary or allowance, will not be considered an office of profit and it will be deemed to have been affected from 4th April, 1959. I would urge the hon. Minister to accept my request. What objection he may here? Therefore, I beg to move:

Page 4,

After line 14, insert,

"46. Bihar State Cooperative Land Development Bank, Patna.

47. Bihar State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. (BISCOMAN) Patna.

48. Bihar State Cooperative Bank, Patna.

49. Bihar State Cooperative Federation, Patna." (1)

[English]

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, may I give an explanation for this point? He has given a very attractive proposition. But his suggestions cannot be accepted

because the scheme of the law is, if you have to exempt each office, and you will have to amend the Constitution if you would like to give blanket exemptions. We cannot do that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 1 moved by Shri Prabhunath Singh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): I beg to move:

Page 3,—

after line 45, insert—

"46. The Midnapore Kharagpur Development Authority, a body constituted under the West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 (West Bengal Act No. 13 of 1979)". (2)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 2 moved by Shri Prabodh Panda to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to move:

Page 3, line 10,—

for "Powerloom and Handloom"

substitute "Handloom and Powerloom" (4)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: We accept this amendment.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Their amendment will be accepted but not ours.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment No. 4 moved by Shri Basudeb Acharia to the vote of the House.

The question is:

Page 3, line 10,—

for "Powerloom and Handloom"

substitute "Handloom and Powerloom" (4)

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Ramji Lal Sumanji, do you want to move the amendment?

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government have already accepted the amendment moved by me.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order? Under what rule?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, my point of order arises from the provisions of rule 371. At the time of introduction of the Bill also I raised this matter. I do not have any intention to offend any hon. Member. But this is a question of law. Rule 371 says that if any hon. Member derives any pecuniary benefit out of the Bill or the law, he should not participate in the proceedings and he cannot participate in voting. How are the hon. Members who are getting benefit out of this legislation sitting here? This is a question of law. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you should ask them to leave this House. I want a clear ruling from you. I am just reading it out. ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This rule does not apply here.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Article 371 says:

"If the vote of a Member in a division in the House is challenged on the ground of personal, pecuniary or direct interest in the matter to be decided, the Speaker may, if he considers necessary, call upon the Member making the challenge to state precisely the grounds of his objection and the Member whose vote has been challenged to state his case and shall decide whether the vote of the Member should be disallowed or not and his decision shall be final."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is applicable only when division is there.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Now, I am challenging their vote. How can the Members who are getting benefit out of this Bill participate in the voting and division? That is my point and I request you to give a ruling. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is no point of order and this is not applicable.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: We cannot be party to their decision to participate in the House. So, we are just leaving the House.

17.23 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy and some other hon. Members left the House.)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a breach of the credibility of the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.24 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Suicide by farmers in various parts of the country

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 19—Discussion under rule 193. Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the House resumes order, I shall start speaking.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You, please, start your speech.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, how can I speak in such a situation?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You, please, start speaking.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the House is discussing over an important matter which is related to the suicides being committed by the farmers in various parts of India. Not only today but many times earlier also this House has expressed its concern over this matter. The House has discussed over the issue of suicides by the farmers but I am very sorry to say that the Government has neither taken any positive steps nor made any better efforts to improve the condition of the farmers.

Sir, the various studies and investigations conducted at this subject and the as per the articles published in the newspapers indicate that nearly 26 thousand farmers

have committed suicide in the various states of the country. The Government should make a long term plan to prevent it.

17.28 hrs.

[*DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA in the Chair*]

The Government has not made any long term plan so far. Though the Minister of Finance Shri P. Chidambaram has said that the reason behind the suicides by the farmers is the non-availability of loans to them and that he is trying to solve this problem so that the farmers are not compelled to commit suicide. Sir, this problem can not be solved only by solving the problem of loans. The most important question, today, is that the agriculture is no longer a profitable profession. The farmer does not has the capacity to repay the loans borrowed by him. The situation today, is that even the people of Punjab, which is considered to be a better state in terms of agriculture, now want to leave the profession of agriculture. The former member of the Planning Commission Prof. S.S. Gill has said that 36 percent people of Punjab want to leave the profession of agriculture and 66 percent people are compelled to think of leaving this profession.

We should not forget that there has been a decrease in the size of the land holdings in the country. The government talks of loans, though it is another matter how many farmers do get the loans from the financial institutions of the country. After Reserve Bank's directions to provide 18 percent loans to farmers, situation needs to be reviewed.

I think that the amount of loan being provided to the farmer is not enough for his requirements. Fifty to eighty percent farmers take loans from their village's money lenders at a rate of interest ranging from forty to sixty percent. This is the situation responsible for the deteriorating condition of the farmers. This is the very reason that our farmers are fully dependent on the money lenders of the private sector. Fifteen percent farmers of the country have enough land while the rest of the farmers have on an average about one and half hectares land. Today, every farmer family has an average debt of rupees 12,585 on him. Even in the agriculturally prosperous State of Punjab every farmer family has a debt burden of rupees, 41,756 while every farmer family of Haryana carries a debt of rupees 26,700. You can imagine how the poor farmers of poor states like Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa and

[Shri Ramji Lal Suman]

Uttar Pradesh would be able to repay Governmental and non-Government debt? It is definitely a cause for concern.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the most important question before us is to free the farmers from debt trap. The data available with me indicate that from the year 1991 to 2001 the number of persons engaged in agriculture has been decreasing continuously. In the year 1991 a total number of 11 crore 70 lakh persons were engaged in agriculture work and now this number has come down to 10 crore 36 lakh. The average of the persons engaged in agriculture is continuously decreasing in the country day-by-day. During the first three years of 10th five-year plan, the growth rate of agriculture sector has come down to just 1.3 percent. This Government claims that it will bring the growth rate of agriculture sector to 4 percent. The way, the Government is providing protection and encouragement to the farmers indicates that farmers of this country are left to take care of themselves. The farmers are not being provided with facilities and still we hope to achieve the growth rate in the agriculture sector, I think it is nothing but a dream.

It is a matter of grave concern that the contribution of the agriculture sector to the Gross Domestic Production has been continuously decreasing in the independent India. Today the position is that, agriculture constitutes nearly 20 percent of the GDP. National Agriculture Commission has recommended that the Indian farmers should be offered loans at 4 per cent interest. The Hon'ble m/o Finance in his budgetary speech had announced that the farmers would be given loans at seven percent interest. However, there was a limit for this loan. He had said that farmers getting loans up to Rs. 3 lakh would have to pay interest at 7 percent and those getting loan for more than 3 lakh would be covered by other conditions fixed for this purpose. I would like to urge upon the Government that there should be no limits for the loans to be taken by the farmers. A uniform rate of interest should be charged from the farmers irrespective of the amount taken as loans.

It's an era of globalization. The most important issue is what we intend to do today. We have compelled our farmers to compete with the farmers of the rest of the countries but the facilities which are being given to the farmers by the Governments of other countries are lagging far behind from our side. We have to compete with the developed nations of the world like America, Canada, Japan and China. Shall we be able to compete with

them? The reality is quite otherwise. If we look at the statistics of the last two years, we will find that out of one hundred rupees loan nearly nine rupees has been made available to the farmers as loan. I'm of the opinion and not only I, the entire nation also agrees with this promise that nearly 65-70 percent population of our country depend on Agriculture. 68 to 70 percent people of our country live in rural areas and agriculture is the only source of sustenance for them.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to submit that figure of 18 to 20 percent is very meagre. That Bank loans should be given proportionate to the number of farmers engaged in the occupation of farming. If the Government genuinely want to improve the condition of the farmers, such move is inevitable. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): We will discuss this issue tomorrow.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: If the Chairman permits, I'm ready to take up this issue tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: A very important debate is going on.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, let's take up the issue tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It depends upon the consensus of the House.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Please take up this issue tomorrow.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur): This is the opinion of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may continue the debate till 6 o'clock. We have sufficient time. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Sir, keeping in view the rule of the House, you can take decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Special mentions are yet to be taken. The hon'ble members would also like to speak on it.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I urge upon you to take it up tomorrow, as it is a very important discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have no problem.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: The House is of the opinion that it should be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sumanji, zero hour discussion is yet to take place.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: You may take up zero-hour discussion now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What shall be of zero-hour?
...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Let the zero hour discussion may also be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This discussion will continue later on. Now, it's the turn for those who have given notices for zero-hour discussion.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman Sir, it's quarter to one. The clock is defective.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not be concerned for the clock. The clock fixed before us, shows right time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let me know the opinion of the House. Please tell me the final conclusion.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Let this issue be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What about zero hour.

...(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS: The zero hour discussion may also be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want that zero-hour should be taken up tomorrow.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Zero hour discussion should also be held tomorrow only. It's meant for us. It's for us to speak up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the entire House wants, this issue may be taken up tomorrow.

[English]

The House now stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

17.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, May 17, 2006/Vaisakha 27, 1928 (Saka)

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