

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Fifteenth Session**  
**(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)**



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Wednesday, July 25, 2018/Shravana 03, 1940 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Q. No. 101, Shri Prataprao Jadhav.

#### Adarsh Railway Station

[Translation]

\*101. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to develop Malkapur railway station in Buldhana district of Maharashtra as Adarsh railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the allocation of funds proposed for this purpose during the next financial year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) A Statement laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Malkapur railway station was identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in 2012-13. Adarsh station scheme was started from 2009-10 and since then stations have been identified for development under this scheme. Malkapur Railway Station is a Non-suburban Grade (NSG-4) (earlier 'B') category station on Bhusawal-Badnera section of Bhusawal Division in Central Railway and has already been developed under Adarsh Station Scheme as per norms/guidelines effective for Adarsh Stations.

Various facilities such as improvement in facade, circulating area, lighting arrangements, retiring room, Pay and Use toilet, platform surface, Passenger guidance system including signage's & coach indicator boards have been provided at Malkapur station under Adarsh Station Scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV: Hon. Speaker, Buldhana district in Maharashtra is the most backward district. There are two railway stations in Buldhana, one in Shegaon and another in Malkapur. Both stations were accorded Adarsh 'A' grade Model Station in the year 2012-13. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister about the kind of facilities desired to be provided at the said stations under Model Station Scheme, and the number of facilities provided there so far.

Hon'ble Speaker, there is no facility at the stations. It has been stated in the reply that waiting room facility has been provided there. There are many errors in the reply. Waiting room available there is such that one cannot sit there. There is no sanitation facility at the station, there are very less public facilities. As Buldhana district is a backward district, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that despite the administrative approval of ₹3000 crore for Khamgaon and Jalna railway line under Capital Investment Programme in the budget of 2014-15, no work has been undertaken there till now. By when the said work is going to start? What is the responsibility of the State Government under Capital Investment Programme?

HON. SPEAKER: How many questions are you going to ask? Please sit down.

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV: Hon'ble Speaker, what is the responsibility of the State Government and what kind of role the Union Government is going to play in this regard? People have been on agitation there for that route for the last 100 years, still agitation is going on. By when these model stations would be upgraded? By when the work in regard to Khamgaon and Jalna railway route would be initiated? Through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister these two questions...(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Indian Railways has categorised all railway stations of the country on the basis of number of passengers commuting from there and their earnings. In view of it, railway stations have been upgraded on various models, Malkhapur is a very important station. Around 74 mail express trains and passenger trains halts here, Around 4967 passengers board trains daily from the station and around 3 lakh 35 thousand rupees is passenger earnings per day. Taking all this in view, earlier it was 'B' category station. Due to low earning, now it has become fourth class station in Non-Suburban Group NSG-4. Despite that, it was selected as Model Station. Under this scheme, facade and circulating area will be improved so that commuting could be facilitated. Besides that, line illumination was done. Tower Water Booth, Pay and Use toilet were set up. As per the information provided to me in regard to retiring room, if there is lack of proper facilities, I will seek report from the divisional manager, zonal manager and take action in this regard. Platform surface has been repaired. Booking office has been improved ...*(Interruptions)* All these works have been under taken there.

At present, I am not having information in regard to another station. It was not in the question. I will send information to him. As far as Jalna line is concerned, unfortunately, earlier much politicisation of railway was done. So many schemes were announced in the country but sufficient budget was not available to undertake works on all those schemes at the same time. We tried to give priority wherever land has been acquired, land is available and lines which are more essential, by which overall traffic could be unclogged and by which maximum railway facilities could be provided to the people, in this way work on various projects is going on. My office will send the information in regard to this specific project to hon'ble Member.

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV: Hon. Speaker, hon'ble Minister told that earning from the said station is low. I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister that for the last many days, the demand to give stoppage to long route trains is being raised, the railways is not having stoppage there. If more trains do not get stoppage at that station, how will earning increase? There is a large temple of Sant Gajanan Maharaj ji at Shegaon station. Everyday, around 25 to 30 thousand

persons visit that place through rail, but as the trains do not have stoppage at that station, people board train from Akola station, or Bhusawal station. Therefore, earning which could be made from that station, is not visible. Will the demand of providing stoppage at the station be fulfilled?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon'ble Speaker, as I have just apprised, 74 trains halts at Malkapur. 68 of them are Mail Express trains and 6 are passenger trains. Despite that if the number of passengers to commute from the said station is less than five thousand the question of providing stoppage to more trains does not rise. Secondly, I would like to appraise all hon'ble Members of the House. All hon'ble Members demand that more and more trains should stop at the stations in their constituencies, providing stoppage to train does not only mean stoppage for one-two minutes, train slows down, stops, and then gradually gains speed. Till the train leaves the station, the next train cannot start from the previous station from safety point of view. In such circumstances, if we continue to add more stoppages, the capacity constraints of railways will increase. Punctuality is a very serious issue. When we try to improve it, a very big problem of capacity utilisation emerges, due to which at some routes there is 100 percent, somewhere 130 percent, somewhere 150 percent and at some places 180 percent line capacity utilisation is taking place. In these circumstances, if more stoppages are added, the railway system would be clogged, more trains would be delayed, and the long run, it will cause adverse effect on freight traffic, earnings and facilities of railways.

Through you, I would like to request all hon'ble Members that as far as possible, we try to give stoppages. Everyone wants that every train should stop at every station of his constituency, but we have certain technical and operational challenges.

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Hon'ble Speaker, I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister for selecting Ahemdnagar station under 'Adarsh Station Scheme' and the station has earned third prize under the category. I would like to congratulate him for this. Alongwith this, there is a need to increase facilities at this station, like there should be separate toilet facilities for ladies and gents. Retiring

room is also required. Alongwith it, making it Adarsh station, hawkers sitting outside the compound wall should be checked. There are many small businessmen. Through you, I would submit to the hon'ble Minister that vast land is available, whether in view of augmenting railway income, commercial complex would be set up, so that small traders may be able to do business there. They would get commercial place, and they would be able to run good business, by taking loan through MUDRA scheme. Will any thing be done from this point of view?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon'ble Member has given a very good suggestion. Study in regard to development capacity of all railway stations wherever it is possible in the country, is going on. We will include Ahmednagar also in it and will do, whatever is possible there.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE: Hon. Speaker, there is an Adarsh Station named Mira in my constituency. When hon'ble Suresh ji was the Minister of Railways, he had accorded it the status of Model railway station. Since then, three-years has passed since then. What is the exact plan of Model Station? By when Model station would be completed? Toilets have not been constructed there and there is demand for new platform. Mira station is located in Purander Pune district. By when it is likely to be completed? What are details of 'Adarsh Station Scheme', because adequate funds have not been allocated for this purpose in our area?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon'ble Speaker, some stations in India are 100 years old and some are 70-80 years old. They are in a very bad condition. I was going through the figures as to how much funds were spent to upgrade those stations in the past. In the year 2009-10, ₹1000-1100 crore were incurred and ₹700-800 crore were incurred in the year 2008-09. In this way, small amounts were allocated for development of these type of stations.

All hon'ble Members would be glad to know that the way we have given emphasis on development of the stations and now generally ₹1500-1700 crore are spent every year in the various sectors. We want that we should be able to provide essential passenger amenities. Besides this figure, foot-over bridge, under-bridges, fall under different heads, they come under

safety. In these circumstances, under Adarsh Station concept, the aim is to provide very essential passenger amenities. It is obvious that good toilets should be available. Hon'ble Member has already stated that there should be separate ladies and gents toilets. We have launched a drive in the entire country under which effort will be made to provide toilet at all active stations in the next three-four months. People don't stay at halt stations, I have instructed that effort should be made to provide toilets at those stations also, but maintenance problem will come up at those stations. We are trying to make toilet facilities available for men and women separately at every station in the entire country.

Hon'ble Speaker, waiting room is not available at every station, it has to be seen how existing one should be upgraded. I have new concept for platform surface in mind as some kind of rough stone should be used in construction of platforms so that they should be free of the problem of slipping. Similarly, essential facilities should be available at all stations like lighting. We have installed bright LED lighting at every station of the country and has conceptualised brightly lit stations.

Similarly, passengers face extreme inconvenience due to shops at entry and exit of the stations therefore we have instructed the officers to make the entry and exit free so that entry and exit to the stations become convenient. Probably, no Government would be able to provide capacity and budget to make ideal model stations. There are 8600 stations in the country. They should upgrade themselves from their pocket, means from their earning. All of you are aware that in India, passengers travel is 43 percent subsidised. It means if ₹100 are spent, passenger is charged only ₹57 through ticket. In a way, Railway is run with 43 percent direct and indirect budget support. It seems to me that in such circumstances, the Government of India is making its full efforts to provide the best facilities as per the available funds.

HON. SPEAKER: Q. 102 Shri Hemant Tukaram Godse.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Some hon'ble Members are raising queries regarding railway zones. If these people sit down, I am ready to give them reply...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: They have got separate demand, what answer you will give?

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: They are not going to sit. They will do it like this only.

...(Interruptions)

### Mobile Internet Access

[English]

\*102. SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural India has much less mobile internet access;

(b) if so, the details thereof in comparison to urban areas; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote use and access of mobile internet in rural areas of the country?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) The total number of wireless internet subscribers in India as on 31.03.2018 stood at 472.72 million, of which the rural areas accounted for 143.89 million and the urban areas accounted for 328.83 million wireless internet subscribers. Thus, 30.44% of total wireless internet subscribers are from rural areas and the rest from urban areas.

(c) Overall mobile internet penetration in the country has seen major changes in the last four years. The total number of Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) across the country has increased from 7.9 Lakhs in 2014 to more than 18 Lakhs as on March 2018 of which 9.05 Lakhs BTS are of 4G. The increased number of BTS has resulted in greater adoption of mobile internet across the country.

In addition to this, the Government is implementing the flagship BharatNet project (in two phases) to link each of the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats

of India through optical fibre network. Phase-I of the Project has been completed in December 2017 and over 100,000 GPs have been made Service Ready. Phase II of BharatNet project which aims to connect 1.5 lakh GPs through high speed broadband, has been launched and is targeted to be completed by March 2019. the optical fibre being laid under the BharatNet project is expected to be the primary means for internet backhaul which can be leveraged to service the telecommunications towers in the rural areas. This in turn will give boost to mobile internet availability and adoption in the rural areas.

As part of BharatNet project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology is being provided at all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. At each GP, on an average five Access Points (APs) are envisaged which include three APs for Government institutions and two APs for public places.

This apart, the Department has executed a project for providing Mobile Services in identified locations in ten States affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). Under this project, 2355 locations in LWE areas were taken up for installation of towers in Phase-I. As of now, a total of 2335 mobile towers are radiating. Phase-II of the project, involving installation of 4072 towers, has been approved by the Government on 23.05.2018.

The government is also providing connectivity to uncovered villages of the North Eastern Region (NER) through a comprehensive telecom development plan under which nearly 7,000 telecommunications towers will be erected to provide connectivity to over 8,600 villages.

[English]

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE: Madam Speaker, as on date, internet penetration in urban India is about 65 per cent and it is just 20 per cent in rural India. Thus there is a wide gap in internet usage in urban and rural areas.

In urban areas, along with BSNL and MTNL, private ISPs also provide services because there is a volume business. But private ISPs do not provide much service in rural areas. In some sectors, for example in banking, the Government has made presence mandatory in rural areas before it gives permit in urban

areas. So, I want to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government has any plan to introduce regulation and incentives for promoting private sector along with BSNL's participation in providing broadband connectivity in rural areas so as to drive rapid penetration of internet services in rural areas to fulfill the gap.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, in reply to the question asked by the hon'ble Member, I would like to bring to his notice that during the last four years, broadly speaking, telecom infrastructure has doubled. In the year 2014 there were 7.9 lakh BTS in the country, today their number is 18 lakh in the country, out of which 9 lakh BTS are of 4G. Internet penetration has moved at very fast pace in the country. It is true that there are many such areas of the country, where we have not been able to reach. We are implementing BharatNet projects for broadband connectivity. Its first phase has been completed in December, 2017. We have extended this facility upto one lakh village panchayats and the work in regard to rest of 1.5 lakh village panchayats has to be completed by March, 2019. Besides that, BSNL is installing 25,000 Wi-Fi hotspot in its rural telephone exchanges. The Ministry headed by hon'ble Ravi Shankarji has installed 7,000 Wi-Fi hotspots at common service centres. We have asked his Ministry to install 34,000 more Wi-Fi hotspots. I can say that in the coming days 2.5 lakh Wi-Fi hotspots would be installed in the entire country. Once this project is completed, our Government would be able to fulfill the target of providing facility to 60 crore people of this country...*(Interruptions)* I feel that no other country of the world has undertaken any project for making broadband provision at such a big scale.

*[English]*

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE: The Government has targeted to connect remaining 1.5 lakhs Gram Panchayats till March 2019. I want to know the status of BharatNet project phase-II in Maharashtra. By connecting Gram Panchayats, e- governance facility will be provided. In addition to e-governance, I feel the quality of education and healthcare service in rural areas should also be targeted. By connecting schools in rural areas by high speed broadband, teaching

standards can be improved through the remote teaching over interactive video conferencing. Similarly, by connecting public health sector through broadband, advantages of telemedicine can be harnessed for increasing quality of healthcare. So, I want to ask the hon. Minister whether the Union Government has any plans to connect schools and public health centres for increasing quality of education and healthcare service in rural areas.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, Phase-II of BharatNet is going on in Maharashtra. We had changed the strategy in the second phase and eight states of the country are themselves implementing this project and Maharashtra is one of those states. The State Government of Maharashtra is running a scheme named 'MahaNet'. The State Government of Maharashtra has formulated a major scheme to provide broadband facility to all educational institutions and Government organisations. The Government of India has also taken a decision to bear expenditure for providing broadband connectivity to all high schools and higher educational institutions, police stations, post offices and public health centres in the country.

I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that there are 611 village panchayats in his district Nasik from where he hails, we have laid 1204 kilometers of optical fibre cables and have extended this facility to 607 village panchayats. A large part of Maharashtra has been covered in the first phase. I would like to inform the hon. Member that the 'MahaNet' project formulated by the State Government of Maharashtra is definitely an ultra modern project and all educational institutions will be connected by it. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra came, he said that he want to provide e-education, telemedicine, etc. facilities in the entire state. I feel that the Digital India vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister is being fulfilled by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Hon'ble Speaker, first of all, I would like to congratulate Ravi Shankar Prasad ji and Manoj Sinha ji that the work which was not done in 70 years, has been accomplished by them.

OFC of 100 GBPS have been awarded. Total expenditure of Andaman and Nicobar in this regard is

₹1213 crore. One tower costs ₹1.6 crore in the village having population of 10 in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They have never dreamed it, nor thought about it. By this way, 2G and 4G tower is being installed in 214 villages of Andaman. I would like to request that the work being done by the Government under BharatNet ...*(Interruptions)* My dear friend, it is coming. In my area also work is being done. I would like to submit that there are around 70 Panchayats in Andaman and Nicobar. As per the target given for the year 2019, this work would be completed by March. Is the work in Andaman and Nicobar also likely to be completed by the set time limit?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, it is in the knowledge of hon'ble Member. When he met me in person, I told him, but I would like to bring to his notice that there are 5 islands of Andaman Nicobar from Chennai Mainland- whether it is Car Nicobar, Little Andaman, Havelock or Great Nicobar, our Government is trying to connect all of them by optical fibre i.e. submarine optical fibre. Tender has been awarded, all other preliminary works have been initiated and the benefit of Digital India campaign, conceptualised by hon'ble Prime Minister will definitely be earned not only by people living in Andaman, but people living in every corner of the country and our Government is fully committed towards it.

*[English]*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

The hon. Minister is speaking about active involvement in connections. First of all, I have to say that he should at least stop the call drops. We are not in a position to speak for 30 seconds. Whenever a BSNL call is started, every minute or even every second, there is a call drop. The then hon. Minister Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad had assured this House that this would be rectified within six months but nothing has happened. We are not in a position to speak.

As far as mobile expansion is concerned, the hon. Minister has informed the House that 4G facility would be provided all over India. Even in the TAC meeting that I had convened in my constituency of Alappuzha, they were saying that there was no clarity from the side of the Government about 4G installation. I would like to

know from the Minister whether the Government has any plan to stop the call drops and for 4G expansion.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that the Government is having a very good plan. He is saying that there is no plan, it is not so. 4G is being rolled out in the entire nation. Wherever Reliance Jio network is available, 4G is there. The license area where Airtel is there...*(Interruptions)* Please be quiet. 4G network has rolled out there.

*[English]*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: What about BSNL? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, Airtel has rolled out the entire 4G network. Third service provider Vodafone is also going to roll out in the coming days. As far as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is concerned, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited had spectrum but 4G spectrum was not available with it. They are providing 4G facility in some parts of Kerala and Karnataka, but our Government is committed and we are making efforts to make 4G spectrum of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited available at the earliest so that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is able to make 4G facility available in the entire nation.

As far as call drop is concerned, I would like to inform the hon'ble Members that call drop measurement methods are determined by TRAI. He may see the report of TRAI. In the reports of the last three consecutive quarters, it is being said in every report, situation is continuously improving. It is true that continuous monitoring is required. Secondly, we have installed IVRS system in the Ministry. It was set up in the year 2016 and we talk with around 25 lakh telephone consumers everyday. We want to know from them that whether call drop is happening in their house or some particular place and give directions to telecom service providers to end the problem at the earliest. But, I would like to tell him a very basic thing that wireline network is a reliable network and wireless network is not reliable. Wireline network has not been set up in our country and when mobile came, the

country moved towards wireless. Due to which, problem is coming. Our Government is trying to resolve this problem in the leadership of Modiji. 7 lakh kilometers of optical fibre was laid till 2014 and we have laid 14 lakh kilometers of optical fibre in the entire country. In the coming days, we will further increase it so that its reliability could be maintained.

SHRIMATI ARPITA GHOSH: Hon'ble Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. One feels happy after seeing these figures, but when I visit district South Dinajpur in my parliamentary constituency, Balurghat, I am not able to find any 'G'. Leave aside 4G, even 2G is not available. In our area 4G is being provided by private parties. It is working very well. Hon'ble Minister is present here, I would like to tell him that no BSNL line works there and there is not even a single office. It is in Raiganj, but not in South Dinajpur. There is one officer, who is never available. Forget about 'G'. You have quoted very good figures, if these figures can be made available in our Dinajpur also we would be very grateful to you. Sir, please give a reply. Thank You.

HON. SPEAKER: Ok. Give a reply.

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, I am grateful to the hon'ble Member for drawing my attention towards this fact. Our Government is committed to providing good network, not only in your parliamentary constituency but in entire India. In regard to the matter towards which you have drawn my attention, I would like to say that, I do not have information in regard to every exchange and every block. I will definitely gather information in regard to the officers who do not visit the site and make detailed information available about the place of your Lok Sabha constituency that you have mentioned in the question.

SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE: Hon'ble Speaker, through you, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister that many a times call drop problem is faced in private BTS. Internet service often remains down. But there is no arrangement to file complaint against them at district level. Whether we make any such arrangements, so that people may be facilitated?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, I have already given a reply to the hon'ble Member's question. Already such system is in place. If you want, you can

directly file complaint with us. We will take care of it and try to resolve your problem.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Udit Raj - Absent.

### **Promotion of BPOs**

*[English]*

\*103. \*DR. UDIT RAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of India BPO Promotion Scheme in training and employment till date;

(b) whether this scheme provides assistance and incentives to huge profit making private institutions/companies/business houses at the cost of tax players, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether small companies and startups/new entrepreneurs are being discriminated/kept out of incentive sharing in comparison to bigger and established players, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(d) whether the Government intends to put in place an upper limit in the scheme to keep the big players out and whether there is a condition of a minimum turnover requirement, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to create level playing field for all in order to support participants/contenders and also small and new entrepreneurs?

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

(a) The Government launched India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) and North East BPO

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\* Since Dr. Udit Raj was not present, the Hon'ble Speaker asked the Minister to lay the reply on the Table and allowed Shri Gopal Shetty to ask the supplementary question.

Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) under Digital India programme to incentivize setting up of BPO/ITeS operations across the country, particularly in small town/cities, to create employment opportunities and promote dispersal of the industry. The BPO Promotion Schemes have allocated about 41,000 BPO/ITeS seats to about 160 companies, resulting in setting up of about 230 units distributed across 115 locations of 26 States & 2 UTs. Out of these, nearly 120 units have started operation for a total of about 23,000 seats distributed across about 60 locations of 21 States & 2 UTs. The direct employment reported by the units under the schemes is over 15,000 at present. The employees in BPOs/ITeS sector get trained on industry standards processes to enable them to meet the business requirements of domestic and international clients.

The experience gained thus far in implementation of BPO schemes shows healthy trend relating to employment of women and persons from marginalized section of society indicating digital empowerment in smaller towns and cities.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. The BPO schemes do not discriminate among Units (Companies/LLPs/ Consortiums) as regards availing benefits. In fact, units of all sizes may avail benefits of BPO Promotion Schemes. The schemes have been formulated with an aim to enable participation of units of all sizes including start-ups and new entrepreneurs. Further, the schemes have an enabling provision of forming consortiums. The schemes promote participation of local entrepreneurs also by way of special incentives. As per the IT industry classification (NASSCOM), 97% of the eligible bidders who participated in the schemes fall under the categories of Small and Emerging units and about 80% seats have been allocated to these units. The small sized and emerging units are classified as having turnover less than USD 10 million, and between USD 10 million and 100 million respectively.

(d) Yes, Madam. In order to ensure wider and equal participation of the units of all sizes, there is a cap of 5,000 seats per bidder across the country for IBPS and cap of 1,500 seats per bidder across the NE region for NEBPS. A minimum annual turnover requirement of ₹1 crore has been kept to ensure that the prospective bidder has requisite wherewithal to set-up infrastructure and sustain operations. Further, the

schemes provide reimbursement based financial support.

(e) A number of steps have been taken to ensure level playing field to all categories of prospective participants/contenders, and in fact, the Schemes have been designed to ensure the same at every stage of implementation process. Some of the key steps include:

- The minimum turnover of a prospective participant has been kept at ₹1 crore;
- A number of Seat Slabs have been provided for, ranging from small BPO operations (25 seats) to large BPO operations (over 1000 seats);
- At the time of bid evaluation, Lowest Bid in each Seat Slab Category is determined separately to avoid comparison between small and large units/ operations; and
- The requisite Bank Guarantee has been kept at 10% of the admissible financial support, with a further provision of 10% advance at the time of commencement of operations.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY: Hon. Speaker, the hon'ble Minister has given information in detail, but still more facilities are needed to be provided. The BPO scheme of the Government.

*[English]*

“A healthy trend relating to employment of women and persons from marginalised section of society indicating digital empowerment in smaller towns and cities”

*[Translation]*

It is a very good scheme. It includes women empowerment also, but its ambit should be increased and it is essential to submit the report before the House so that we could know the number of women who have got jobs and the extent to which empowerment has been done. The number of persons to whom these services have been provided, if the hon'ble Minister gives information in this regard, the people of the country will also get information in this regard.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Hon'ble Speaker, in reply to the earlier question asked by hon'ble Shetty ji, respected Manoj ji has talked about Digital India. The Prime Minister has instructed to make



inclusive Digital India under Digital India Programme. I would like to inform the House very humbly that I visited Bengaluru after becoming Minister of Information Technology in the year 2014. The NASSCOM was holding a meeting with a very big I.T. company. The young people from Bihar, M.P and U.P were standing. They asked me to do something so that they may return to their towns. Therefore BPO scheme for small cities was formulated. First, we gave 48000 seats for the country and gave 5000 seats separately for North-East.

Hon'ble Speaker, I am happy to inform the House that we had formulated a scheme in the year 2015. Till now, we have approved 205 units in the country, which are located in 101 small cities of the country. 113 units have started operating in which 21858 persons have got jobs. It includes a large number of girls from the small villages. But I would like to tell the House that the places where BPOs have started operating include Vishakhapatnam, Bhimavaram, Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh and Srinagar, Jammu-Sopore in Jammu and Kashmir. In Jammu and Kashmir where we talk of terrorism only, there also BPOs have got started. BPOs have also been started in Patna, Muzaffarpur, Coimbatore, Madurai and Deoria, Bareilly, Lucknow and Kanpur, etc. in Uttar Pradesh. It has also been started in Ranchi, Jharkhand and it is likely to be started in your region also very soon. I mean to say that in small cities where inclusive India may be seen, a lot of work is being done there presently.

Hon. Speaker, in North-East, BPO has started at places like Kohima, Imphal and Guwahati. In this field, many companies are getting work from foreign countries like America, England, Australia, etc. We talk of empowerment. One point of Shetty ji is correct. Right now, our target in the first phase is 48 thousand seats. When it is achieved, we will expand it further. Our vision in this direction is very open.

Hon. Speaker, I would like to submit one thing that I visited 5 to 6 seats in the Centre. I have seen new hopes in the faces of the girls. These girls belong to Dalit and marginalised families. Recently, the Prime Minister has communicated with such beneficiaries, from Delhi. Thus, he got the opportunity to talk with

such girls. It is good programme. I hope that the House will welcome it.

[English]

SHRI V. ELUMALAI: Thank you, Hon. Speaker Madam.

Today, the BPO is on metro-centric basis. The majority of the population in India resides in metro cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Bengaluru, etc. There is a growing trend of people migrating from rural areas to metro cities.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any plan to create more BPOs or ITeS seats in rural areas.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, I wish to inform the hon. Member who I believe comes from Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, he is from Tamil Nadu.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I only wish to inform him that in his State, BPOs have started operating in Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Namakkal, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruppattur, Vellore and all these places. ...*(Interruptions)* Metro cities are well-known in the country. But, what is important is that one new city is having 400 BPOs operational constituting mostly women.

Therefore, I take your point that we need to go further below. This is a movement which has started, becoming a kind of a digital inclusion giving job opportunity. We will take note of your concern. We will surely follow it up.

KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV (Silchar): Thank you Madam Speaker.

The BPOs actually form an opportunity for employment in many areas, especially in smaller cities which have been mentioned here. The hon. Minister of IT had been to my constituency on one or two occasions. I remember seeing in newspapers a news item regarding opening of BPOs in Silchar, Cachar and Districts of Barak Valley.

Madam, the hon. Minister has mentioned that he has opened one BPO in Guwahati. I thank him for that. The only heavy industry in my constituency namely the

Hindustan Paper Corporation is in trouble. Employment is a big challenge. I would request the hon. Minister to tell me that under the North-East BPO Promotion Scheme whether there is any development or any plan of starting a BPO in any of the districts of Barak Valley in Assam.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, we are very earnestly and sincerely following the concerns of the young people of the North-East. Therefore, when I was finalising the scheme, one scheme came for the creation of 48,000 BPO seats for the rest of the country and one scheme for the North-East for creation of 5000 BPO seats.

I am very happy to announce in this House that two BPOs have started operating in Guwahati; two BPOs in Imphal; and there is also a BPO in Kohima. Yes, I went to the hon. Member's constituency. Young people met me there. I have taken on-board their concerns. The fresh bid is going on. It is very important that people file the bid. The requisite and eligible companies must also file the bid. My officers go on a roadshow. They talk to the people. The hon. Member is the local representative. If a BPO comes in Silchar, beyond the political divide and whosoever is in power, the young people of your constituency are the ones who will win. If we go with that mode and commitment in mind, I am sure, Silchar would have a good opening. I have personally pushed this issue. I had been to her constituency a number of times. I know that there is a case for opening a BPO in Barak Valley. I will surely look into this. But, I would also urge her to ensure that in the bidding process, the IT companies also apply.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Madam, I hail from the State of Odisha. Fortunately, with the blessings of my electorate, I have been here since 1971. The way things are moving in the State of Odisha, it is horrible. I should say that. No officers are posted in different strategic positions. Recently, I had to go to my constituency. My constituency people gheraoed me. They pressed me to visit the places where these things are almost in a mess.

So, I would request the hon. Minister, who is a friend of mine, to visit the State of Odisha at least once. As far as I know, during the last four years, no officer has visited the State of Odisha. Therefore, I would request you to take a review meeting in the capital city of Bhubaneswar, Odisha. You will be able to find out

how they have made a mess of things. You please visit our State to have a first-hand study of the things. It is because in my constituency, including in my own house, these things are not working. Therefore, I would once again request you to have a first-hand knowledge of the situation.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam before I reply to him, I would like to reply to the hon. lady Member from Silchar. I want to inform her that a fifty-seat BPO has been allotted to Silchar. It is a good news.

As far as hon. Member, Shri Sethi, is concerned, he is a very senior Member. He is entitled to my respect. I have visited his State a minimum of three times. Recently, I went to inaugurate a Data Centre. Before that I went as a Minister of Communications to Puri. Again, I am going to his State on the 4th to inaugurate an STPI.

The Prime Minister's vision is that without the development of Eastern India including his State, India cannot progress. Therefore, we are working beyond political divide. But I want to inform him that in the BPO scheme, six BPOs have come up in Bhubaneswar; one in Cuttack and one in Jalesar. They all have started working under the Government of India scheme. I wish him good luck. However, every problem of the State Government should not be passed on to the Central Government. We are doing our best and will continue to do our best.

HON. SPEAKER: We will take up Q. 104 and Q. 111 together.

Q. 104 – Shrimati M. Vasanthi – Not present.

Q. 111 – Shri K. Ashok Kumar –

...(Interruptions)

#### **Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project**

\*104. \*SHRIMATI M. VASANTHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land acquisition issue is plaguing the ambitious Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project and if so, the details thereof;

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\* Since Shrimati M. Vasanthi was not present, the Hon'ble Speaker asked the Minister to lay the reply on the Table and allowed Dr. Kirit Somaiya to ask the supplementary question.

(b) whether so far the National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has acquired only 0.9 hectares of land for the above project and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said project is anticipated to be completed by 2022-23 and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the collaborators in the bullet train project have asked the Government to expedite the acquisition of land; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) No, Madam. Land acquisition process for currently identified 1484 Hectare of required land has been initiated in all the 12 districts along the alignment of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project, falling in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Dadar and Nagar Haveli.

(b) No, Madam. Approximately 4.92 Hectare of land in Vadodara has been handed over by Indian Railways to National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL). In addition Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has given their consent to hand over 0.9 Hectare of land at Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) for Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project.

(c) Yes, Madam. Master Implementation Programme (MIP) for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project has been prepared. In the feasibility report, the project completion date was indicated as December, 2023. However, all efforts are directed towards its completion in 2022.

(d) and (e) Land acquisition has been taken up and is as per schedule.

#### **Bullet Train Project**

\*111. SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited has floated tender for India's first bullet train project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this tender would be for the first of the 60 bridges on the 508 kilometer high speed corridors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Out of total 26 Contract Packages associated with the execution of Mumbai High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project, 6 tender packages have been invited. Of this, 4 tender packages have already been awarded.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. One of the 6 tender packages invited pertains to a special bridge (Bridge No. 10) at 235.379 km (from Mumbai side). Its bid opening date is 03.08.2018. This is one of the 59 special bridges on the alignment. This bridge is a pre-stressed Balanced Cantilever Bridge spanning across NH 48 in Navsari District, Gujarat and is 210 meters long.

#### *[Translation]*

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Hon. Speaker, at the outset, I would like to thank our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad-Pune Bullet Train Project which he has started after taking into the consideration coming 20-30 years. During the last two years, the very important infrastructure projects from the point of view of requirements in Mumbai, such as Metro Rail Project, Bullet Train, Second Airport, D-Link Road, Coastal road have got immense pace.

Madam, when Gadkariji had started Mumbai-Pune express highway, then many comments were passed. I would like to know as to what are the advantages of

Bullet Train, what is the project cost, what benefit is going to be accrued and how industrialisation is going to take place on this account. Hon'ble Minister has informed us that the Government is going to offer attractive prices for land acquisition.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon. Speaker, the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister is that India should become a modern power. The people of India and all passengers should get world-class facilities. They can move from one place to another quickly, the capability of our engineers will get enhanced with the introduction of new technology in India, our technical abilities may increase and the goods made in India may be exported throughout the world. When he dreamt of Bullet Train, then not only the question of Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train was pertinent for him but the question before him was also that from where the money for the same will be managed, which technology to be opted and what would be the benefit from it. When all these things were reviewed, the Government realised that Shinkansen Technology of Japan was the most modern technology. But, even this technology is coming in India with a delay of 50 years. Shinkansen Technology in Japan started around the year of my birth. It took 50 years to come to India because Modi ji has come to the scene now and thought that such facilities should be introduced in the country. We have received loan for the same from Japan for a time period of 50 years at the interest rate of 0.1%. The facility of moratorium for 15 years has also been extended to us. This means that repayment will not be needed till this period. In view of this, we may complete this project at a cheap expenditure. As this train route will be completely elevated or 'under sea', its safety will be ensured and no one will be harmed. Along with it, we have ensured the technology transfer also. This technology will come to India and increase the economy of India under 'Make in India' scheme and by making this technology cost-effective we will be able to export it further to all the high speed rail projects of the world. The most important thing is that Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor will be developed as an economic corridor. In this way, we want to have a network of high speed rail in the country. Such high speed trains are available in different areas. This will facilitate farmers too. Their

perishable products will reach other places faster. Travelers will get completely state-of-the-art world class facilities.

As far as the land is concerned, we have decided that if we get the consent, we will pay five times of the market cost rather than four times.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Kharge ji, provide details regarding high speed rail.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, this question has been asked by Shri Kirit Somaiya to provide information about the bullet train in detail to the House. But, I want to say that this is not his idea. It already existed there. You may see the concerned files. If a high speed rail corridor of 500 kms is being developed by spending one lakh ten thousand crores of rupees, its cost is just one factor. Secondly, no ordinary consumer or passenger will travel in it. He will have to pay more than the aeroplane fare for this.

You are talking of farmers. When a farmer will use it as a means of transport, will he be able to get the cost of his products? Thus a farmer will not be able to transport his goods through bullet train.

I would like to say that the land which was required for it has not been acquired till date. At the same time, the number of tracks which falls within the proposed area have not been provided with arrangement for their maintenance. The electrification work of railways which was required throughout the country is being done a little in comparison to the required...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, I am asking this because we can work to build thousands of kilometers of good railway tracks by using the same money...*(Interruptions)* There is one last question ...*(Interruptions)* Whichever Government was in the past, a promise to set up three railway divisions was made in the House...*(Interruptions)* These proposed divisions were to be set up in Jammu and Kashmir, Assam and Gulbarga...*(Interruptions)* For this purpose, land was also allotted but these three divisions have not yet been opened. My fourth question about the

matter which TDP and Congress members are also asking and it is that the zonal division in Vishakhapatnam...*(Interruptions)* These are all promises...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge ji, you are so wise. But when I interrupt you, you become angry. If you have to ask question about the Bullet Train then ask.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, these are all promises. When will these promises be fulfilled? ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Yes Minister?

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon. Speaker, the hon'ble leader of the Congress Party has asked eleven questions ...*(Interruptions)* I hope that you will allow me to answer these eleven questions...*(Interruptions)* As respected Kharge ji is a senior leader, I want him to keep in mind as to how the proceedings of the House takes place and the Government functions...*(Interruptions)* Perhaps, he has also been the Minister of Railways...*(Interruptions)* therefore, it is necessary that through these all eleven questions the difference between the previous Government and the present Government may come to the fore...*(Interruptions)* They have asked eleven questions...*(Interruptions)* Madam, firstly he raised question mark on the question asked by hon. Member, Kirit Somaiya ji...*(Interruptions)* I feel that it is objectionable...*(Interruptions)* If any member has any question in his mind, he can raise it...*(Interruptions)* When Members of Congress party raise any question we never object...*(Interruptions)* The remarks made by Shri Kharge that Kirit Somaiya asked his question so that I can give a detailed description regarding bullet train. It is quite objectionable...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: This question was not asked by Kirit ji.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I explain the same to him. ...*(Interruptions)* His first question was that the project of this bullet train was already introduced in Congress

regime...*(Interruptions)* It is a good thing...*(Interruptions)* I welcome that this project was introduced during Congress regime...*(Interruptions)* Why are they shedding tears for it now?...*(Interruptions)* Why are they criticising it?...*(Interruptions)* He should be happy that the work which he did not perform in the capacity of Minister of Railways, this Government accomplished the same work ...*(Interruptions)* The work for which he could not arrange the money, we are executing this project at a cheaper rate...*(Interruptions)* Then why is he shedding tears? ...*(Interruptions)* He should be happy that we have completed his incomplete work...*(Interruptions)* He is showing his concern about the expenditure of ₹1,10,000 crores...*(Interruptions)* Madam, he cannot understand the benefit we are going to get by spending ₹1,10,000 crores and the technology that will come and a whole corridor will get developed is all holistic thinking which he cannot understand because he is thinking of only Gulbarga division...*(Interruptions)* Gulbarga is his constituency...*(Interruptions)* How long will the politicisation of railway continue?...*(Interruptions)* For how long will the Minister of Railways continue to think only about himself and consider that his division should be set-up and others should go to hell ...*(Interruptions)* It does not matter even if ₹250 crores are spent on the project, but the division under his constituency must be set up...*(Interruptions)* Is this a proper thinking?...*(Interruptions)* Is this the way a Government functions?...*(Interruptions)* He asks how does the ordinary consumer get benefit of the project? ...*(Interruptions)* This is the very reason that keeping ordinary consumers in our mind we managed loan at the interest rate of 0.1% only...*(Interruptions)* so that the burden on ordinary consumer is decreased ...*(Interruptions)* He is comparing the future bullet train fare with the present aeroplane fare...*(Interruptions)* What type of comparison is this?...*(Interruptions)* In future, the bullet train fare and aeroplane fare may get adjusted of its own...*(Interruptions)* After that he asked as to how a farmer will transport his goods?...*(Interruptions)* This is the specialty of this Government...*(Interruptions)* We arrange for special facilities with regard to farmers. ...*(Interruptions)* Separate fare will be fixed for farmers. ...*(Interruptions)* Separate train will be introduced for

them...(Interruptions) Again he says that land has not been acquired...(Interruptions) The 40 years old project of his regime are yet to get land...(Interruptions) Our project is only one year old...(Interruptions) At almost every concerned place it has been ascertained that we will get the land...(Interruptions) Fruitful negotiations in this regard is going on...(Interruptions) The Government of Maharashtra and the Government of Gujarat are co-operating with us...(Interruptions) I do not feel there will be any difficulty with regard to acquiring the land because we are going there with an honest approach and arrangement...(Interruptions) We are not like these people who were not able to acquire land even during a long period of 40 years which caused delay of projects and cost over-run...(interruptions) He said that track maintenance is not taking place...(Interruptions) Respected Khargeji perhaps is not aware of the fact that the volume of work of track maintenance which is taking place within a year at present was not possible to take place within 3 years during their regime...(Interruptions) Only during last year, we have renewed about 4,500 kilometers rail tracks.

I would ask him whether they have done the same volume of work during their long regime...(Interruptions) He acknowledged electrification work. I would like to tell for his information that during the year 2013-14, electrification of a total length of 800 kilometers was done. However, during the last year, 4,100 kilometers electrification was done. This is the way of working. As the hon'ble Prime Minister says we do not delay the project, do not distract the people with false promises, we are committed to work.

He is talking of doubling the tracks...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: He is answering your questions, what can I do in this regard?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Now it is 65 years since our country got independence. During this period, 50 years of time span was of Congress regime. He has asked eleven questions and I am answering those questions. He asked about doubling of tracks. I may narrate you an incident regarding doubling. During 65 years of our independence a single party ruled for 50 years and the members of a family or the members appointed by them ruled the country for 48 years.

**11.52 hrs**

*At this stage, Shri Naramalli Sivaprasad came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

...(Interruptions)

**1152½ hrs**

*(At this stage, Shri Naramalli Sivaprasad went back to his seat.)*

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: These people could not complete the work of doubling the tracks between Mumbai and Bengaluru, Mumbai and Chennai, and between Mumbai and Hyderabad during 65 years. We under took this work and the work of track doubling will be completed by the end of this year or by March next year.

In the end, I would like to submit that the money we have received for this project cannot be used elsewhere or for any other project. It is a project-specific international loan. Project-specific loan can be used for the same project and not for other purposes. But, we did not ever make excuse of the shortage of money. The Railway have got sufficient money from the Government of India. Modiji did not allow any railway work to get derailed for want of money.

[English]

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR: Madam, it has been reported that 80 per cent of the land acquisition for the bullet train shall be completed by December, 2018. However, it has also been reported that so far even an acre of land has not been acquired. Therefore, I would like to know as to how the Railways are planning to acquire such a huge area of land during such a short period of time....(Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, this is not fair. This is not the way to reply....(Interruptions)

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Well, you ask such questions and I answer you in the same voice. ....(Interruptions)

Madam, as regards the hon. Member's supplementary, land acquisition does not happen in piece-meal. We have taken up the issue of entire land acquisition of 1485 hectares. Land acquisition has been

done in 12 districts and work is in progress. In regard to some small patches, there are some people who are objecting to it. We will have a healthy dialogue with them. We will have a social impact study done and the entire land will be acquired well in time.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Q. No. 105 Shri Raosaheb Danve Patil - Not Present.

Shri Virendra Kashyap ji, please speak.

#### Broadband Penetration in Rural Areas

[English]

\*105. \*SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of broadband penetration in the rural areas *vis-a-vis* the total broadband subscribers in the country;

(b) the percentage increase in the rural broadband penetration during the last three years;

(c) whether the broadband services in rural areas have not seen any progress so far despite huge progress in the telecommunication sector, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The number of broadband connections in the country as on 31.03.2018 stood at 412.60 million out of which the rural broadband connections are 106.53 million which constitutes 25.82% of total connections.

(b) The percentage increases in the rural broadband penetration during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Rural broadband connections (in million)	% increase
2017-18	106.52	49.9
2016-17	71.06	113.46
2015-16	33.29	56.14

Source: TRAI

(c) and (d) Broadband services in rural areas have seen good progress on the back of substantial development in the telecommunication sector. The Government is implementing the flagship Bharatnet project (in two phases) to link each of the 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats of India through optical fibre network. This is the largest rural connectivity project of its kind, and is the first pillar of the Digital India Programme. Phase-I of the Project has been completed in December 2017 and over 100,000 GPs have been made Service Ready. Phase II of BharatNet project which aims to connect 1.5 lakh GPs through high speed broadband, has been launched and is targeted to be completed by March 2019. As on 15.7.2019, a total of 113091 GPs have been made service ready.

As part of BharatNet project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology is being provided at all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. At each GP, on an average five Access Points (APs) are envisaged which include three APs for Government institutions and two APs for public places.

The government has also proposed to set up 25,000 Wi-Fi hotspots at existing rural exchanges of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), besides providing connectivity to uncovered villages of the North Eastern Region (NER) through a comprehensive telecom development plan for the region.

This apart, the Development has executed a project for providing Mobile Services in identified locations in ten States affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). Under this project, 2355 locations in LWE areas were taken up for installation of towers in Phase-I. As of now, a total of 2335 mobile towers are radiating. Phase-

\* Since Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve was not present, the Hon'ble Speaker asked the Minister to lay the reply on the Table and allowed Shri Virender Kashyap to ask the supplementary question.

II of the project, involving installation of 4072 towers, has been approved by the Government on 23.05.2018.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Hon'ble Speaker Madam, under the governance of Modi Government 'Digital India', 'Make in India' and 'Skill India' programmes are working in an effective manner. But today's question is linked with digital India. We are happy to note that the work to connect 2.5 lakhs Panchayats through BharatNet is going on satisfactorily. But, I would like to ask one thing from the Hon'ble Minister. You have said that you want to connect 25 thousand Wi-Fi hotspots through BharatNet. You are also aware of the fact that all the members had adopted a village under 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana' and till now all the MPs have adopted three villages each.

I would like to know whether free Wi-Fi facilities will be provided through these hotspots to all the villages adopted under 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana'.

Alongwith this, I would like to tell you that I come from Shimla Parliamentary Constituency in Himachal Pradesh. I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister whether he will take any action to enhance the connectivity given through power grid which at present is very slow. Whether the minister would take any steps to enhance it further?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon'ble Speaker, Madam. Hon'ble member has asked several questions. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. alone is installing 25 thousand Wi-Fi hotspots in its rural exchanges. We will install a total of 2.5 lakhs hotspots across the country.

Not a single Gram Panchayat of the country will be left in this scheme. All of your 'Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana' will be covered in it. Therefore, there is no need to worry...(Interruptions) Secondly, Hon'ble member has asked about BharatNet project in Himachal Pradesh. Three CPSUs are implementing this project. One is Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., second is Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. and third is Rail Tel. In hilly areas, Power Grid has been engaged as we can take optical fibres through over head wires. There are some villages in Himachal Pradesh where we are not able to take optical fibres. So we will consider to provide this

facility through satellite as is being done in the North-East. This project will be completed within the prescribed time-limit.

[English]

DR. BOORA NARSAIAH GOUD: Madam Speaker, Digital India is a very important programme, not because it is technologically innovative, but it is important because it is aimed at improving the life of poor people. Our State Telangana is very actively involved in this programme. Even the Prime Minister's DISHA programme is also running effectively and every district has got a Coordinator. Now, under the Prime Minister's DISHA programme, in each village 300 people are being educated. They are made digitally literate and each person is paid ₹500. I have got six districts under my parliamentary constituency. I have been personally interacting with all the Coordinators. The biggest problem in villages is lack of proper net connectivity. Now, Broadband is given to villages. But unless and until net connectivity really happens, it will not be helpful. Today, under *Swacch Bharat* programme, if you want to know who has got a toilet in his house, we can check it through the App. But without net connectivity in villages, this programme cannot progress further.

So, I would like to know as to whether the hon. Minister will take it on a Mission mode. In the case of *Swacch Bharat* programme, the Government has declared that entire country will be made Open Defecation Free by 2nd October, 2019. Similarly, we can take up this programme also on a Mission mode and set a deadline. Unless and until we do it on a Mission mode by involving all State Governments and allocate adequate funds, we will not be able to really achieve the target of Digital India programme and also, we will not be able to fulfill the dream of every citizen of our country, including our Prime Minister. Therefore, I would like to know what the Minister is going to do in this direction.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker, Madam, hon'ble member is right in saying that we provide the basic infrastructure for Digital India. I would like to bring to the notice of hon'ble member that Telangana itself is implementing its projects. We have provided them with



full funds. Now, it depends on the Telangana State Government how fast they complete this project. If they need any technical assistance we are ready to provide that also. Telangana is one of the eight states of the country which are themselves implementing these projects. IT Minister of Telangana met me. They have added other things with it. I hope that they will complete this project at the earliest. We have set the target of March, 2019. We can say in the House with confidence that we will complete this project by March 2019.

### Defence Budget

[English]

\*106. SHRI PINAKI MISRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a marginal increase of 6 per cent in the defence budget including ₹86,488 crore for modernization is likely to adversely affect stagnate the defence modernization prospects and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether China's annual defence budget outlay is almost triple the size of India's annual defence budget outlay; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government proposes to modernize the Indian forces with a meager increase of 6 per cent in the defence budget to match the might of the neighbour's modern technical strength supported by immense defence budgetary outlay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) The Total Defence Budget (including the Pension and the Miscellaneous Grant) in Budget Estimate 2018-19 is ₹4,04,364.71 crore which is ₹44,510.59 crore more than Budget Estimate 2017-18. The percentage increase in Budget Estimate 2018-19 over Budget Estimate 2017-18 is 12.37%. Capital Budget of Ministry of Defence for 2018-19 is ₹99,563.86 crore, which is an increase of ₹7984.16 crore (8.72%) over Capital Budget of 2017-18 (₹91,579.70 crore). Further, Capital Budget of Ministry of Defence for 2018-19 is approximately 33% of the total Capital expenditure of the Central Government.

The allocated budgetary resources are optimally utilized towards meeting the operational requirements of the Armed Forces. Depending upon the allocated resources schemes are also reprioritized to ensure that urgent and critical capabilities are acquired without compromise of operational preparedness.

(b) No official data relating to China's annual Defence Budget is available in this Ministry. However, as per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) database on Military Expenditure, comparative data of India and China for 2016 and 2017 is as under:

Military Expenditure (in current million USD)		
Country	2016	2017
India	56637.60	63923.70
China (SIPRI Estimates)	216031.30	228230.70

Military Expenditure (in %age of GDP)		
Country	2016	2017
India	2.5	2.5
China (SIPRI Estimates)	1.9	1.9

Military Expenditure (in %age share of Government spending)		
Country	2016	2017
India	9.0	9.1
China (SIPRI Estimates)	6.0	6.1

(c) Capital Acquisition of defence equipment is undertaken as a continuous activity to keep the Armed Forces in a state of preparedness and remaining equipped with modern weapon system. DPP-2016 contains provisions for reducing the timelines for completion of procurement activities. Further, Government regularly monitors progress of on-going procurement projects so as to ensure that the Armed Forces are equipped to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.

Government is also taking measures for modernization of the Armed Forces, through procurement of new equipment and upgrading of existing equipment and systems. The modernization projects are being progressed as per the approved

Capital Acquisition Plans and in terms of the extant Defence Procurement Procedure.

During the last three financial years and current year (upto June, 2018), 168 contracts have been signed (106 with Indian vendors and 62 with Foreign vendors) for capital procurement of Defence equipment for Armed Forces such as Tanks, Rifles, Rockets, Ships, Frigates, Aircraft, Radars, Missiles, Artillery Guns, Ballistic Helmets, Helicopters, Electronic Fuzes, Simulators, Bullet Proof Jackets and Ammunition.

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: Madam Speaker, it is very disappointing that the hon. Minister of Defence is not present now. I mean no disrespect to the hon. Minister of State for Defence.

HON. SPEAKER: You should not say this. He is dealing with it and that is why he is present here.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please don't insult the state Minister like this.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: It is very unfortunate that when such a vital question is being taken up, the hon. Minister of Defence is not here.

HON. SPEAKER: The Minister of State is also capable.

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: I mean no disrespect to him. But the Minister of Defence should have been here.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Minister of State is also capable to answer the question.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PINAKI MISRA: I meant no disrespect to him. I have already said that.

Anyway, these figures are alarming. These figures show that there is five times disparity in the military expenditure between India and China. We know what China's intentions in the Northeast are. They are encircling us on all sides and in the Northeast, they refuse to acknowledge Arunachal Pradesh till today and we have seen what happened in Doklam. What do we

do when there is five times disparity in military expenditure between our two countries? Last year, our military expenditure was 56 billion US dollars and their figure was 216 billion US dollars. This year, our figure is 64 billion US dollars as compared to their expenditure of 228 billion US dollars. So, how long will our soldiers be martyred because of lack of military expenditure? What is the Government's thinking on this?

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member as well as the House that with regard to the comparison he is trying to make and the figures that he has given, it is not exactly five times, but then I will come to his point.

**12.00 hrs**

Please listen to me. The total defence budgetary estimate for 2018-19 is ₹4,04,000 crore, which is ₹44,000 crore more than the budgetary estimate of 2017-18. The percentage increase in budgetary estimate for 2018-19 over budgetary estimate of 2017-18 is 12.37. The capital budget of Ministry of Defence for 2018-19 is ₹99,563 crore, which is an increase of almost ₹8,000 crore. The capital budget of 2017-18 is ₹91,000 crore. I would like to bring one issue to the hon. Member's notice that the capital budget of Ministry of Defence for 2018-19 is approximately 33 per cent of the total capital expenditure of the Central Government.

I will give you the comparative figures relating to China and India. There is no official data relating to China's annual defence budget available in this Ministry. However, as per Stockholm International Peace Research Institute database on military expenditure, comparative data of India and China for 2016-17 is as follows: India's military expenditure for 2016-17 in terms of percentage to GDP is 2.5 while China's military expenditure in terms of percentage of GDP is 1.9. ...(Interruptions). Then, the percentage of government expenditure on military...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You complete the issue.

...(Interruptions)

DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: Please listen. As regards percentage share of Government's spending on defence, India is at 9 per cent, while China is at 6 per cent....(Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]***Coal Imports**

\*107. SHRI A.ARUNMOZHITHEVAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal imports have increased due to transport constraints;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the trend of coal imports is expected to continue as power, cement and steel industries are expected to witness improvement in demand and capacity utilisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b): Coal imports have constantly reduced from 217.78 MT in 2014-15 to 190.95 MT in 2016-17. However, during 2017-18, coal imports increased to 208.27 MT due to increase in demand by the consuming sectors. There is no official report to suggest that coal imports have increased due to transport constraints. In fact, coal imports by power plants has reduced from 80.58 MT in 2015-16 to 56.41 MT in 2017-18. The annual average rakes provided by Railways for coal dispatch from Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased constantly from 194.5 (rakes/day) in 2014-15 to 229.2 (rakes/day) in 2017-18.

(c) and (d) Coal is imported to bridge the gap between domestic demand and domestic supply. Niti Aayog has estimated a higher coal demand for Power, Cement and Steel in 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18. In order to increase domestic supply, CIL has been given a higher aspirational production and dispatch targets, which are being reviewed regularly. It may be mentioned that in the first quarter of 2018-19, CIL produced and dispatched 136.87 MT and 153.43 MT which shows a growth of 15.2% and 11.7% respectively. The growth in dispatch of coal to power sector has helped coal based generation to achieve positive growth of 5.3% in the 1st quarter 2018-19. This is 101.3% of programme generation for coal based

power. CIL has been directed to work out a definite action plan to ensure higher production and off take in future. CIL has also been directed to ensure that necessary clearances for the existing coal mines are in place which will help in increasing the coal production in the short/medium term and also operationalizing the newly allocated coal mines for further increasing production in the medium term. New rail lines are being laid for smooth evacuation of increased coal production from the mines of growing coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited and Central Coalfields Limited.

**Reforms in Bureaucracy**

\*108. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to reform the bureaucracy which is long overdue and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether lateral entry in bureaucracy has taken place earlier also, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for lateral entry at this stage;

(c) whether the move of the Government for lateral entry into senior positions will demoralise the civil servants, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to extend lateral entry in Government run educational institutions also and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) In keeping with the principle of 'Reform, Perform and Transform', the Government has taken several measures to reform bureaucracy. Issue of provisional appointment orders on receipt of duly filled attestation form and self declaration by candidates pending police verification of character and

antecedents, streamlining the system of posting at senior levels with due regard to integrity and merit, strengthening performance appraisal system of civil servants, strengthening of vigilance system, amendment of All India Services (Disciplinary and Appeal) Rules to provide for specific 'timeline' for completing enquiry against officers of All India Service(AIS) in a time bound manner and adequate safeguard against arbitrary suspension of All India Service (AIS) officers, discontinuation of interviews for lower level posts, removing dead-wood from bureaucracy (i.e. those found ineffective and non-performing are to be compulsorily retired), are some of the reforms made in the recent time.

(b) and (c) Some prominent persons have been appointed earlier also on lateral entry basis to man specific assignments from time to time. This includes among others, appointment of Dr. Manmohan Singh, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Shri Vijay Kelkar, Shri Bimal Jalan, Shri Shankar Acharya, Shri Rakesh Mohan, Shri Arvind Virmani, Shri Arvind Panagariya, Shri Arvind Subramanian and Shri Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Shri Parameswaran Iyer and Shri Ram Vinay Shahi. No adverse effect on the morale of the civil servants has resulted from lateral recruitments.

NITI Ayog in its three year Action Agenda 2017-18 to 2019-20 has also highlighted that it is essential that specialists be inducted in to the system through lateral entry on fixed term contract. The Sectoral Group of Secretaries (SGoS) submitted a report in February, 2017 in which it has inter alia been observed that there is shortage of officers at the Joint Secretary/Director/Deputy Secretary Level, due to reduction in recruitment in the Service during 1995-2002. Based on the recommendation of SGoS, Government has decided to undertake lateral recruitment of ten Joint Secretaries on contract basis in order to achieve the twin objectives of bringing in fresh talent as well as augment the availability of manpower.

(d) The entry in Government run educational cadre at Asstt/Associate/Professor is open to all individuals who are fulfilling the required eligibility criteria independent of whether the person is currently within the educational institution or not.

### **Defence Land**

\*109. SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated area of defence land under his Ministry in the country State and area-wise;

(b) the total area of defence land acquired by the Ministry after independence of the country;

(c) the total estimated area of defence land which has been transferred to other agencies / institutions, till date, institution-wise;

(d) whether the Government has approved transfer of defence land to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for the construction of Kendriya Vidyalayas in some parts of the country recently and if so, the details including the terms and conditions thereof; and

(e) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to streamline the data-of defence land in the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The total area of land under Ministry of Defence in the country, State and area-wise is enclosed herewith as Statement-I

(b) The total area of land acquired by the Ministry of Defence after Independence in the country is enclosed as Statement-II

(c) The total area of defence land which has been so transferred to other agencies / institutions, for the period 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18 till date (as on 30.06.2018), institution-wise, is enclosed as Statement-III The total area transferred on permanent basis, lease out and licensed, is about 522 acres, 37 acres and 94 acres & about 16,745 running mtr respectively.

(d) Yes Madam, following approvals have been issued by the Ministry of Defence during the last three years:

(i) Transfer of 6.5628 acres of defence land in Village Chandari, Kanpur to Kendriya Vidyalaya, approval issued by Ministry of Defence (MoD) on 03.05.2017.

- (ii) Transfer of 5 acres of defence land in Malangpora (Awantipur), Pulwama to Kendriya Vidyalaya, approval issued by MoD on 16.06.2015.

The Cabinet has also recently approved the following for the construction of Kendriya Vidyalayas:

- (i) Transfer of 4 acre of Defence land in Delhi Cantt to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) on lease in perpetuity, at a nominal rent of Rs.1/- per annum.
- (ii) Transfer of 7.5 acres of Defence land in Jalandhar Cantt to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) on lease in perpetuity, at a nominal rent of Rs.1/- per annum.
- (iii) Transfer of 7.118 acres of Defence land on lease on long term basis initially for 30 years renewable for two like terms of 30 years at a nominal rent of Rs.1/- per annum (without any premium) to the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) at Village Thill, Tehsil and

(e) The Government has taken several steps including preparation of digital data of defence land as explained below:

- (i) Computerization of Defence land records - Raksha Bhoomi Software: The computerization of defence land records under the project "Raksha Bhoomi" had been undertaken by the Defence Estates Organization in association with NIC. Defence land records contained in General Land Registers (GLRs) for defence land inside cantonments and Military Land Registers (MLRs) for defence land outside cantonments were entered in the Raksha Bhoomi software and it was made operational after verification and authentication of database in July, 2011. The data is updated periodically and shared with user services.
- (ii) Digitization of Files and Documents for Protection and Preservation of Land Records: The Department has also under taken scanning, indexing and digital preservation of defence land related records. As on date total 4,08,056 files have been scanned and digitized. The

digitization of records has been made a continuing process.

- (iii) For physical verification of Defence Lands: Demarcation, physical survey of entire defence land outside Cantonments and detailed polygon survey of defence land inside Cantonments have already been undertaken. Approximately 98.62% and 100% survey work has been completed respectively for defence land outside cantonments and inside Cantonments. Survey reports have been finalized / issued in respect of 79.81% of total defence land.
- (iv) Integration of Land Survey Maps with BHUVAN: The maps of defence land pockets generated in the recently carried out land surveys (2012-13 to 2016-17) are being integrated with satellite maps of National Remote Sensing Centre under ISRO (NRSC) i.e. BHUVAN for assigning geo-coordinates and integration with Raksha Bhoomi database (land records system).
- (v) Archival Unit and Resource Centre (AU&RC): As part of a multi- pronged approach and disaster management strategy, a central facility has been created for preservation and back up and to provide accessibility to all user organizations. An Archival Unit & Resource Centre has been operational since 2012 in Raksha Sampada Bhawan, New Delhi.

**Statement – I**

*State/UT-Wise Details of Defence Land*

Sl. No.	State / UT	Area (In acres)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8166.392
2.	Andhra Pradesh	14523.728
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4787.388
4.	Assam	25493.314
5.	Bihar	11925.439
6.	Chandigarh	176.247

Sl. No.	State / UT	Area (In acres)
7.	Chhattisgarh	1582.410
8.	Daman and Diu	196.000
9.	Delhi	11628.550
10.	Goa	3025.579
11.	Gujarat	24807.000
12.	Haryana	37211.360
13.	Himachal Pradesh	8096.651
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	22338.505
15.	Jharkhand	7713.620
16.	Karnataka	33124.710
17.	Kerala	5279.401
18.	Lakshadweep	39.847
19.	Madhya Pradesh	231073.961
20.	Maharashtra	138802.102
21.	Manipur	1294.405
22.	Meghalaya	4029.402
23.	Mizoram	0.000
24.	Nagaland	551.284
25.	Odisha	18015.717
26.	Puducherry	20.381
27.	Punjab	78329.182
28.	Rajasthan	821186.681
29.	Sikkim	3078.068
30.	Tamil Nadu	21233.458
31.	Telangana	25211.300
32.	Tripura	2679.505
33.	Uttar Pradesh	123309.966
34.	Uttarakhand	27168.067
35.	West Bengal	40955.704
<b>Total:</b>		<b>1757055.324</b>

**Statement – II***Total Area of Land Acquired by the Ministry After Independence of the Country*

Sl. No.	State / UT	Area (in acres) Current
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT)	475.450
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2232.740
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5348.412
4.	Assam	12314.188
5.	Bihar	6608.420
6.	Chandigarh	167.618
7.	Chhattisgarh	1205.370
8.	Delhi	1531.295
9.	Diu and Daman	73.111
10.	Goa	2666.230
11.	Gujarat	11108.260
12.	Haryana	24522.417
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2683.990
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	13686.749
15.	Jharkhand	4865.087
16.	Karnataka	8522.118
17.	Kerala and Lakshadweep	938.406
18.	Madhya Pradesh	102258.978
19.	Maharashtra	79869.038
20.	Manipur	947.335
21.	Meghalaya	3858.807
22.	Mizoram	0.000
23.	Nagaland	115.950
24.	Odisha	13832.337
25.	Puducherry	20.381
26.	Punjab	67888.505
27.	Rajasthan	373044.759

1	2	3	1	2	3
28.	Sikkim	1856.110	32.	Uttar Pradesh	47729.425
29.	Tamil Nadu	9471.835	33.	Uttarakhand	3187.497
30.	Telangana	15135.381	34.	West Bengal	19722.724
31.	Tripura	1098.369	Total:		838987.292

**Statement – III**

*Details of Transfer of Defence Land to Agencies/Institutions in the Country from the period 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18 (upto 30.06.2018)*

Sl. No.	Name of DEO Circle/ Cantt. Board under whose Jurisdiction defence land falls	State	Name of agencies/ institutions to whom defence land has been transferred	Area (in acres)/ running metre	Working permission given or not given. Transfer of land done / involved or not.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Vizag	Andhra Pradesh	Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation of Andhra Pradesh	1.76	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
2.	Jorhat	Assam	Indian Oil Corporation Limited	3.03	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
3.	Jorhat	Assam	Govt. of Assam	5.563	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
4.	Jorhat	Assam	NHAI	2.26	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
5.	Cantonment Board, Delhi	Delhi	NHAI	0.015	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
6.	Delhi	Delhi	NHAI	0.016	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
7.	Delhi	Delhi	NHAI	13.301	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
8.	Delhi	Delhi	NHAI	0.88	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Goa	Goa	MORMUGAO PORT TRUST (MPT), Mormugao, South Goa.	0.95	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
10.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	Tower Vision India Private Limited	0.098	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
11.	Ambala	Haryana	Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd (DFCCIL)	35.9189	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
12.	Chandigarh	Haryana	NHAI	23.4875	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
13.	Cantonment Board, Ambala	Haryana	Min. of Railways	0.85696	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
14.	Ambala	Himachal Pradesh	NHAI	12.235	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
15.	Bangalore	Karnataka	NHAI	1.575	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
16.	Bangalore	Karnataka	M/s GAIL Ltd.	9700 running mtr	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
17.	Bangalore	Karnataka	M/s GAIL Ltd.	1960 running mtr	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
18.	Bangalore	Karnataka	M/s Indus Towers Pvt. Ltd	0.0534	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
19.	Bangalore	Karnataka	M/s Indus Towers Pvt. Ltd	0.0275	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
20.	Cochin	Kerala	KOCHI METRO RAILWAY LTD (KMRL)	0.22115	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
21.	Cochin	Kerala	KOCHI METRO RAILWAY LTD (KMRL)	0.1134	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.



1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	NHAI	1.329	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
23.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	MPPTCL (Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company Ltd.- An undertaking of M.P. Govt.)	0.388	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
24.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	M/s MPSEB (MPPTCL-Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company Ltd.)	5.559	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
25.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	MPPKWCL (MADHYA PRADESH PURVA KSHETRA VIDHYUT VITRAN COMPANY LIMITED)		Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
26.	Mhow	Madhya Pradesh	Narpanchayat Mhowgaon	0.1606	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
27.	Mhow	Madhya Pradesh	Sainik Awas Mhow	0.2397	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
28.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	NHAI	11.208	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
29.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran (MJP)	1978.3 running meter	Working permission given. In respect of licence given, no transfer of land involved
30.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran (MJP)	0.0104	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
31.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Indian Railways	0.0496	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
32.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Ordinance Factory Bhusawal	0.7894	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
33.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)	0.1676	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Limited (MMRCL)	485 running meter	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
35.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)	23.83	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
36.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC)	1.126	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
37.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC)	1.729	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
38.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC)	7.2678	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
39.	Pune	Maharashtra	Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra	97.32	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
40.	Cantonment Board, Khadki	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Natural Gas Limited (MNGL)	2622.50 Rmt	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
41.	Cantonment Board, Pune	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd	0.82	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
42.	Guwahati	Meghalaya	State Govt of Meghalaya	31.825	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
43.	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	State Govt of Odisha	6.043	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
44.	Chandigarh	Punjab	GMADA (Greater Mohali Area Development Authority)	3.239	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
45.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited (RRVPL)	0.0839	Working permission given. Transfer by lease not yet done.
46.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	Jaipur Development Authority (JDA)	33.16	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved

1	2	3	4	5	6
47.	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	Air Port Authority of India (AAI)	37	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
48.	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	NHAI	4.38	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
49.	Secunderabad	Telangana	Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (HMWS & SB)	1.25	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
50.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	NHAI	0.3854	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
51.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Cantonment Board Varanasi	18.726	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
52.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	North Central Railway	0.068	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
53.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Railways	9.4606	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
54.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Airport Authority of India	1.1	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
55.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	NHAI	3.585	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
56.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	KV No.3 at AF Stn Chakeri Kanpur	6.5628	On lease basis done.
57.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	M/s Indian Oil Corporation	0.0367	On lease basis done.
58.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	PWD/UP Bridge Corporation Ltd., Uttar Pradesh State Govt.	14.999	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
59.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (LMRC Ltd)	0.214	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.

1	2	3	4	5	6
60.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (LMRC Ltd)	0.216	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
61.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	UP Jal Nigam (State Govt of UP)	1.6749	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
62.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	UP Jal Nigam (State Govt of UP)	3.3846	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
63.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	BPCL	0.128	On lease basis done.
64.	Cantonment Board, Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd (UPBCL)	4.38	Working permission given on licence basis.
65.	Cantonment Board, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Green Gas Ltd.	2.5451	Ex-posto sanction given on licence basis.
66.	Bhopal	Uttar Pradesh	NHAI	6.194	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
67.	Cantonment Board, Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	U P Jal Nigam	3.384	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
68.	Cantonment Board, Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	State Govt. U.P.	1.6749	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
69.	Cantonment Board, Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	UPPWD	0.31	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
70.	Kolkata	West Bengal.	Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)	0.123	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
71.	Kolkata	West Bengal.	RVNIL	29.22	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.
72.	Kolkata	West Bengal.	KMRCL	0.332	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
73.	Kolkata	West Bengal.	Bengal Aerropolis Project Limited	167.13	Working permission given. Permanent transfer of defence land not yet done.

1	2	3	4	5	6
74.	Kolkata	West Bengal.	IOCL	6.67	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved
75.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pune Corporation (PMC)	Municipal 0.029	Working permission given on licence basis. No transfer of land involved

### **Strategic Partnership Model**

\* 110. KUMARJ SHOBHA KARANDLAJE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dhirendra Singh Committee had recommended in 2015 that the Government should adopt a strategic partnership model, whereby a private firm may be chosen for the development of a specific identified platform and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to forge joint venture of Defence PSUs with foreign companies under its ambitious strategic partnership model and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has created a level-playing field for all the stakeholders to build key military platforms like submarines and fighter jets in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has envisaged clear role for major Defence PSUs like HAL, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and BRML which are leading producers of key military platforms and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the concrete steps taken / being taken for indigenisation of defence manufacturing?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (e) A Committee of Experts headed by Shri Dhirendra Singh constituted by the Ministry had made recommendations to the Government on 'Strategic Partnership Model' for creating capacity in the private sector on a long-term basis. Based on these recommendations, the VK Aatre Task Force was constituted to lay down criteria for selection of Strategic Partners for various platforms from the Private sector. Government finalised the policy on Strategic Partnerships in Defence Sector and

promulgated the same on 31.05.2017 as Chapter VII of Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2016 as "Revitalising defence Industrial ecosystem through Strategic Partnerships". The Policy is intended to encourage broader participation of the private sector, in addition to DPSUs / OFB, in manufacture of defence platforms and equipment. In order to enhance indigenous defence manufacturing capabilities, Ministry of Defence may consider the role of DPSUs / OFB at the appropriate stage(s) keeping in view the order book position, capacity & price competitiveness. The following 04 segments have been identified for acquisition under the SP route: (i) Fighter Aircraft; (ii) Helicopters; (iii) Submarines; and (iv) Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVs) / Main Battle Tanks (MBTs). The Policy will serve to enhance competition, increase efficiencies, facilitate faster and more significant absorption of technology, create a tiered industrial ecosystem, ensure development of a wider skill base and trigger innovation, leading to reduction in dependence on imports and greater self-reliance in meeting national security objectives.

### **Punctuality of Trains**

\*112. SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:

SHRI HARISH MEENA:

Will the Minister off RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of passenger trains running very late in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of trains that were late during 2017-18 and the average delay noticed during the last six months, zone-wise;

(b) the reasons noticed for late running of the passenger trains;

(c) whether stopping of trains at outer signals due to non-availability off vacant platforms at railway

stations is also a major reason for delay of passenger trains and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to monitor platforms properly for timely operations of passenger trains and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Railways have recently extended the arrival time off 185 trains to address the punctuality issue and if so, the details and the results achieved as a result thereof along with the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure punctuality of all trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Madam. The zone-wise percentage of trains which were delayed during 2017-18 and the average delay noticed during the last six months, zone-wise, is as under:-

*Zone-Wise Percentage of Trains Delayed During the Financial Year 2017-18*

Zonal Railway	Mail/Express	Passenger
Central	10	28
East Coast	27	34
East Central	41	62
Eastern	18	17
Konkan	28	10
North Central	47	59
North Eastern	27	35
Northeast Frontier	19	09
Northern	35	46
North Western	12	08
South Central	09	15
South East Central	20	05
South Eastern	09	03
Southern	19	17
South Western	10	04
West Central	15	22

Zonal Railway	Mail/Express	Passenger
Western	09	09
<i>Zone-Wise Details of Average Delay (in Minutes) of All Trains Run During Last 8 Months (Jan. to June 2018)</i>		
Zonal Railway	Mail/Express	Passenger
Central	32	29
East Coast	42	29
East Central	148	105
Eastern	113	22
Konkan	17	30
North Central	117	92
North Eastern	133	73
Northeast Frontier	95	22
Northern	118	50
North Western	58	13
South Central	20	23
South East Central	60	09
South Eastern	42	09
Southern	26	11
South Western	29	10
West Central	40	44
Western	31	09

(b) For maintenance of assets and infrastructure augmentation, 18,90,403 block hours have been given during the year 2017- 2018 as against 15,91,258 block hours during 2016- 2017, which is 2,99,145 (18.8%) more block hours as compared to the previous year which affected train running and caused loss of punctuality. Further, during the last several months, a large number of safety related track maintenance works have been undertaken for which a number of speed restrictions have been imposed which led to drop in punctuality of trains over Indian Railways.

Indian Railways carried out renewal of 4405 Kms old track in 2017-18 as against 2597 Kms in 2016-17 i.e about 70% more than previous year. Highest ever track renewal work of 642 Kms carried out in March 2018 as against earlier best of 576 Kms In January 2018.

Earlier, manual system of data entry in control office application was used for recording arrival and departure time of trains. Now Indian Railways have started capturing data from data loggers which are installed at 72 critical points in the network. This has reduced the possibility of inadvertent error in data entry to great extent.

Trains have also got delayed due to various reasons such as asset failures related to Locomotives, Over Head Electrical Equipment Failures, Track Failures, Signal Failures, Mechanical Failures etc., besides Law and Order problems- observance of Bandhs and security threats in sensitive areas requiring reduction of speeds for maintaining the safety of operations, adverse weather conditions (fog, rains, breaches), public agitations, natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, heavy rains, electricity grid failures, miscreant activities such as theft of Railway assets, cattle run over, heavy road traffic at level crossing gates etc.

(c) and (d) The platforms for trains at major terminals are nominated as per platform berthing charts. Scheduled platform berthing of trains gets disturbed due to late running of certain trains on account of various reasons resulting in detention to other trains at signals for non availability of platforms.

(e) The arrival time of 185 trains has been altered at the destination stations as a temporary measure on Northern Railway and Southern Railway to cater to time for maintenance works on their Railway which has marginally improved punctuality.

Steps being taken to improve punctuality include:

- (i) Rigorous monitoring at Divisional, Zonal and Railway Board levels.
- (ii) Standardization of rakes and provision of spare rakes to improve punctuality.
- (iii) Removal of infrastructure bottlenecks in a planned manner.
- (iv) Integrated Mega Blocks are planned in such a way that all asset maintenance departments can do their work simultaneously.
- (v) End to end running of some trains with diesel locomotives to avoid detention on account of loco changing from diesel to electric.

- (vi) Replacement of conventional passenger trains with MEMU rakes gradually.
- (vii) Conversion of conventional rakes of Mail/Express trains (Integral Coach Factory rakes) into LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) rakes.
- (viii) Rationalization of Time Table in order to make a group of similar speed trains.
- (ix) Curtailment of stoppage time at major terminals.
- (x) Fencing along the track in Allahabad division in the most cattle run over prone area.
- (xi) Commissioning of 1st phase of Dedicated Freight Corridor,
- (xii) Allahabad -Mughalsarai 3rd line work sanctioned (153 Kms.)
- (xiii) High capacity water pumps at watering stations to detention on this account.
- (xiv) Provision of Bye-pass stations to avoid engine reversal etc.

#### **Post Office**

\*113. SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices across the country, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra, Gujarat and West Bengal along with the total number of savings accounts in these post offices, State/ UT-wise;

(b) whether the number of such accounts has increased during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of money deposited therein, State/UT-wise and the amount of money out of the said total amount remaining unclaimed in these post offices, State/UT-wise along with the manner in which the said unclaimed amount of money is likely to be utilized;

(d) whether the Government proposes to offer digital banking services for aforementioned post offices savings account holders across the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along With the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(e) the details of the services being provided to such account holders along with the details of schemes, if any, proposed by the Government for these account holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):  
(a) Madam, the number of post offices along with the total number of savings accounts postal circle wise may be soon at enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) Yes Madam, the number of savings accounts during the last three years is as below:

Year	Number of Savings Accounts (In Crores)
2015-16	15.46
2016-17	16.45
2017-18	17.69

(c) The total amount of money outstanding in savings accounts postal circle wise as on 31.03.2018 (March-1 supplementary) and the amount identified as unclaimed postal circle wise as per policy of the Government may be enclosed as Statement-II. Government has decided to utilize the unclaimed money for the welfare of Senior Citizens and has already established a Senior Citizens Welfare Fund.

(d) Yes Madam, the Government has already started providing digital banking services to the savings account holders by implementing Core Banking Solution in the post offices across the country.

(e) The details of digital banking services provided to these account holders may be enclosed as Statement-III.

**Statement – I**

*Number of Post Offices alongwith the Total Number of Savings Accounts Postal Circle-Wise in the Country (as on 31-03-2018)*

Name of the Circles	Total No of Post Offices	Number of Savings Accounts
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	10490	11518704
Assam	4012	4430854
Bihar	9084	18209166

	1	2	3
Chhattisgarh		3187	3075131
Delhi		554	1046856
Gujarat (including Dadra and Nagar Haveli)		8948	6025026
Haryana		2693	2819446
Himachal Pradesh		2792	2468127
Jammu and Kashmir		1699	1176804
Jharkhand		3460	7041213
Karnataka		9663	9550952
Kerala (including Lakshadweep)		5064	7594782
Madhya Pradesh		8280	10993949
Maharashtra (including Goa)		12870	7641106
North East (including Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura)		2919	1216414
Odisha		8215	8658119
Punjab (including Chandigarh)		3870	2605310
Rajasthan		10311	11935783
Tamil Nadu (including Puducherry)		12043	16642041
Telangana		5811	7147062
Uttarakhand		2723	3777336
Uttar Pradesh		17671	15883555
West Bengal (including Andaman and Nicobar and Sikkim)		9077	15309698
BASE (Army Postal Service)	2 (CBPO)		117648
<b>Total</b>		<b>155533</b>	<b>176885182</b>



**Statement – II**

*Details of Total Outstanding Balance in Savings Accounts, and the Amount Identified as Unclaimed Balance, Postal Circle Wise*

Circle	Outstanding Balance (₹)	Unclaimed Balance Identified (₹)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	37461866750	117771198
Assam	28757990047	46592818
Bihar	55965086841	120995945
Chhattisgarh	16168100466	18110001
Delhi	37702916611	274803390
Gujarat(including Dadra and Nagar Haveli)	62218824158	39426143
Haryana	33451639805	78909081
Himachal Pradesh	28837467574	17981920
Jammu and Kashmir	10071721457	3951097
Jharkhand	5444093975	27031863
Karnataka	29046818535	140062346
Kerala (including Lakshadweep)	34825463252	69792106
Madhya Pradesh	63077257891	104614453
Maharashtra (including Goa)	92591737129	130748748
North East (including Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura)	11115533626	28506637
Odisha	38859384273	123342120
Punjab (including Chandigarh)	47675337095	335015907
Rajasthan	41487456588	33815007
Tamil Nadu (including Puducherry)	108909391960	384127316

	1	2	3
Uttarakhand		28672230146	31599671
Uttar Pradesh		141286325783	404473128
West Bengal (including Andaman and Nicobar and Sikkim)		135631922236	388911416
Base		2027847402	0
Total		1091286413598	2920582312

**Statement – III**

*Details of Digital Banking Services Provided to Savings Account Holders*

- (i) Anywhere Any time banking facilitating fund transfer from any core banking solution enabled post office across the country
- (ii) Withdrawal of Money by using any Automated Teller Machine (ATM) across the country
- (iii) Auto credit of funds using National Automated Clearing House (NACH) platform
- (iv) Auto debit of premium of Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
- (v) Auto credit of maturity value of any small savings scheme in to savings account
- (vi) Auto debit of funds from savings account for credit into any other small savings scheme accounts

[Translation]

**Kalwa-Airoli Elevated Rail Corridor**

\*114. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Kalwa-Airoli elevated rail corridor has not been started so far despite the fact that Bhumi Pujan ceremony of the said work has already been performed;

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

(c) the time by which displaced persons due to the said project are likely to be rehabilitated along with the

place identified therefor and the present status of rehabilitation work;

(d) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has made any contribution in the said project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b): An inauguration function for Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)-III was done on 24.12.2016. Airoli-Kalwa elevated rail link (3 Km) is one of the components of MUTP-III. The work of elevated rail link between Airoli and Kalwa has been taken up by Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. and construction of Dighe Railway Station which is part of Airoli-Kalwa rail link has commenced.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Railway and Government of Maharashtra will share the cost of this project on 50:50 basis. The land acquisition shall be done by Collector, Thane for Railways and Rehabilitation and Resettlement of PAPs (Project Affected Persons) shall be done by Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).

[English]

#### **Delay in Recruitment Process of SSC**

\*115. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether unnecessary delay has been reported in the recruitment process of graduate as well as matric level posts by the Staff Selection Commission;

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

(c) the number of posts of various levels filled up across the country during the said period, post, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to fill up the posts of the said levels in a time bound manner keeping in view the rising level of unemployment across the country and shortage of staff; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b): No madam, generally there is no unnecessary delay on the part of SSC in conducting its examinations. The Staff Selection Commission (SSC) announces its calendar of exams well in advance and all efforts are made to strictly adhere to the said examination schedule announced by the SSC in the public domain. In exceptional circumstances some delay may occur in the conduct of an examination, due to unavoidable/ compelling circumstances. yet the SSC makes all efforts to conduct the said delayed examination at the earliest.

(c) The data relating to filling up of posts is not maintained centrally. However the number of candidates recommended by SSC for appointment during the past three years and the current year upto 30th June. 2018. is as under:

FY 2015-16	:	25138
FY 2016-17	:	68880
FY 2017-18	:	45391
FY 2018-19	:	10997 (as on 30.6.2018)

(d) and (e) Recruitment for various posts in the Government is a continuous process. Instructions have already been issued to all Ministries/Departments that advance action may be taken by Ministries/Departments and their attached and subordinate offices of the Government of India for reporting vacancy position in respect of Direct Recruitment (DR) posts to the concerned recruitment agencies viz. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Staff Selection Commission (SSC) etc. for filling up such DR vacancies in a timely manner.

[Translation]

### New Train Services

\*116. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:  
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria laid down to introduce new train services on any route;

(b) the reasons for not introducing new train services on East bound routes from Delhi despite the fact that waiting list remains 300 to 400 every day on East bound trains from Delhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Introduction of new passenger carrying trains is an ongoing process on the Indian Railways. The decision to introduce new train services depends on the following factors:

- (i) Availability of spare line capacity so that the path and schedule for the train can be fixed.
- (ii) Availability of terminal infrastructure such as pit lines, stabling lines and platform.
- (iii) Availability of resources - rolling stock including locomotives and coaches.
- (iv) Availability of manpower for maintenance and safe operation of trains.
- (v) Impact on freight traffic.
- (vi) Patronization/demand for travel on any particular sector.

Requests for introduction of trains are constantly received from members of the Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee, Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee, Passenger Associations, Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assemblies and other VIPs/dignitaries. These requests are studied in detail by the Divisions and the Zonal Railways and proposals for new services are formulated

based on demand, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

(b) and (c) To facilitate the passengers travelling from Delhi to stations situated in Eastern region, 22 pairs of new Express/Passenger train services have been introduced during the period from 2014-15 to 2017-18. In addition, to clear the extra rush of passengers during peak seasons like summer vacations, winter vacations, festivals special trains are operated by Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, commercial justification, availability of resources etc. Line capacity utilization of major routes going from Delhi to Eastern India is very high (Ghaziabad-Tundla section- 141.82%, Tundla-Kanpur-163%, Kanpur-Allahabad- 138%, Allahabad-Mughalsarai- 157.03%, Mughalsarai-Buxar-154.6% with maintenance block). Therefore, further addition of new trains is difficult.

### Production of Coal

\*117. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has failed to increase the production and sale of coal;

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

(c) whether less production of coal is directly affecting the power production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government to increase the production of coal and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Raw coal production of Coal India Limited (CIL) during last five years is shown in the table below:

Year	Production (Million Te.)
2013-14	462.422
2014-15	494.238
2015-16	538.754
2016-17	554.140
2017-18	567.365

It can be seen from the above table that raw coal production of Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased steadily over the years and during the last five years CIL has attained a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.2%. Further, while there was an increase of 105 MT in production between 2013-14 and 2017-18, production increased by only 31.15 MT in the preceding five years between 2009-10 to 2013-14.

Offtake of Coal by CIL has also steadily increased over the years. Supply of Coal by Coal India limited (CIL) in the year 2017-18 was 580.28 Million tonnes, whereas in the year 2016-17 it was 543.32 Million tonnes, thereby achieving a growth of about 7%. Between 2013-14 and 2017-18, CIL increased its offtake by 109.12 MT as compared to an increase of 55.04 MT achieved in the preceding five year between 2009-10 to 2013-14. In the 1st Quarter of current fiscal, CIL achieved an offtake of 153.43 Million tonnes registering a growth of about 12% over the corresponding period of the last year offtake of 137.42 Million tonnes.

(c) There is no shortage of coal for the Power Sector. In the beginning of 2018-19, Coal India Limited (CIL) had a pithead stock of 55.55 Million Tonne (MT) and stock at power house end was 16.27 MT. In the 1st Quarter of 2018-19, CIL dispatched a record quantity of 122.2 MT coal to Power Sector, thereby achieving a growth of 15% over the dispatch in the corresponding period of last year. The growth in dispatch of coal to Power Sector has helped coal based generation to achieve positive growth of 5.3% in the 1st Quarter of 2018-19. This is 101.3% of programme generation for coal based power.

(d) Due to concerted and co-ordinated efforts, the offtake/dispatch of coal of CIL has increased from 488.86 MT in 2014-15 to 580.04 MT in 2017-18. The progress of production/dispatch of CIL is reviewed regularly. CIL has been directed to work out a definite action plan to ensure higher production and offtake in future. CIL has also been directed to ensure that necessary clearances for the existing coal mines are in place which will help in increasing the coal production in the short/medium term and also operationalizing the newly allocated coal mines for further increasing production in the medium term. New rail lines are being

laid for smooth evacuation of increased coal production from the mines of growing coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL).

*[English]*

### **Construction of ROBs**

\*118. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in construction of Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in the country including those in the eastern railways;

(b) whether delay in budgetary allocations is the main reason for such delays and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways has consulted various State Governments for reconciling issues of land acquisition which is also a reason for the delay in construction of railway development projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the progress of arbitration with the State Government of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges (ROBs/RUBs) are being constructed in lieu of level crossings on cost sharing basis with State Govt. In a few cases, ROBs/RUBs are constructed on the request of State Government at their cost on deposit term basis, where level crossings are not present. Normally, Railway undertakes construction of ROBs/RUBs in Railway portion whereas approaches are being constructed by State Govt. Generally, there is no problem of construction of ROBs/RUBs in Railway portion. However, construction of ROBs/RUBs on approaches depends upon many factors such as availability of land, removal of encroachments, utility shifting, fixing the alignment of approaches, allocation of requisite funds etc. by State Government. There is no delay in the release of budgetary allocation from Railway side.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways has a number of projects of New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling where considerable investments have been made but returns are not forthcoming due to land acquisition problems. Therefore, it has been decided that the commencement of physical work of New Line projects shall be taken up only after completion of substantial land acquisition. Chief Secretaries of State Governments have been requested to take necessary steps to expedite land acquisition process for the construction of Railway line projects. There is no Arbitration case with State Government of West Bengal.

#### **Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

\*119. SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

SHRI DEVENDRA SINGH BHOLE:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by the States to evaluate the achievements vis-a-vis targets periodically,

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

(c) whether there is any provision of penalties for non-performing States under the various schemes and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the improvements/corrective steps proposed to be undertaken along with the time by which these improvements/steps are likely to be undertaken; and

(e) the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure that benefits under various schemes reach the targeted population in non-performing States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The programme implementing Ministries/Departments of the Government of India conduct evaluation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) being implemented by them. The NITI

Aayog also conducts concurrent evaluation of the selected programmes/schemes. Besides this, in States, the State evaluation offices conduct evaluations of their prominent schemes/programmes.

(b) List of 11 programmes evaluated by the NITI Aayog during the last three years is enclosed as Statement. valuation Reports have been put in the public domain by uploading the soft copies to the NITI Aayog website.

(c) The progress of scheme and fund utilization are kept in view while deciding fund allocations by the Ministry of Finance. Further continuation of schemes from one period to another is not permissible without a third party impact evaluation.

(d) and (e) While the programme implementing Ministries/Departments are primarily responsible to monitor the implementation of their programmes and for taking corrective steps to ensure that the programme benefits reach the targeted population, the NITI Aayog helps them in the following ways:

- By bringing findings of the evaluation studies to the knowledge of the programme implementing Ministries/Departments for taking corrective measures;
- NITI Aayog monitors the progress in the implementation of Output-Outcome Management Framework (OOMF) of the Government of India. NITI Aayog has developed a dashboard for this purpose which is accessed by the Departments/Ministries for updating the dashboard with the latest data about their programmes.
- PMO conducts review of sectors on quarterly basis and the following up of the major action points agreed in the review meetings, is being done by NITI Aayog through a dashboard developed specially for this purpose. Concerned Departments/Ministries have been provided with the access to update the dashboard with the latest information on the action points pertaining to them. There are 15 sectors at present being monitored by NITI Aayog through the dashboard.

**Statement***List of Schemes/Programmes Evaluated by DMEO, NITI Aayog During Last 3 years (2015-16 to 2017-18)*

Sl.	Studies by DMEO	FY	Ministries
1.	Evaluation Study on Direct Benefits Transfer in Food (Results from one year of Process Monitoring): The Evaluation Report was issued on September, 2017	2017-18	DFPD
2.	Quick Evaluation Study on Indira Gandhi Matritva SahyogYojana (IGMSY): The Evaluation Report was issued in April, 2017.	2017-18	WCD
3.	Quick Evaluation Study on Nai Roshni (The scheme for leadership development of Minority Women). The Evaluation Report was issued in July, 2016.	2016-17	SJE (Minority Affairs)
4.	Efficacy of Minimum Support Price to Agriculture Farmers (MSP): The Evaluation Report was issued in February, 2016.	2015-16	Agriculture/CACP
5.	Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CADWMP): The Evaluation Report was issued in December, 2015.	2015-16	Water Resource
6.	Border Area Development Programme (BADP): The Evaluation Report was issued in July, 2015.	2015-16	Home
7.	Kasturba Gandhi Ballka Vidyalaya (KGBV): The Evaluation Report was issued in July, 2015	2015-16	School Education
8.	Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vldyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY): The Evaluation Report was issued in July, 2015.	2015-16	Power
9.	Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF): The Evaluation Report was issued in October, 2015.	2015-16	Rural Development
10.	Quick Evaluation study on Anaganwadis under ICDS; The Evaluation Report was issued in July, 2015.	2015-16	WCD
11.	Role of Public Distribution System in shaping Household and Nutritional Security: The Evaluation Report was issued in Dec, 2016	2016-17	DFPD

### Auxiliary Polling Stations

\*120. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the participation of differently-abled persons in the election process is very low and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for the same;

(b) whether the Election Commission of India (ECI) has decided to establish auxiliary polling stations for the people with disabilities during the elections and if so, the details thereof along with its features;

(c) whether ECI has also launched the distribution of Electoral Photo Identity Cards with Braille features for visually challenged voters;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be distributed to visually challenged persons; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for maximum participation of persons with disabilities in the election process?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The Election Commission has informed that mapping of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) polling station-wise is being conducted in all the States/UTs for planning of specific facilitation measures for the PwDs at the time of registration and voting. Provisions have also been made in Form 6 relating to application for inclusion of name in electoral roll for specification of type of disability. However, PwD electors have not been segregated in the present format of the electoral roll, therefore, segregated data of the electors of past elections, is not available in compiled form.

The Commission has informed that printing of Elector's Photo Identity Cards (EPIC) with Braille for persons with visual impairment or blind and provision of auxiliary polling stations for persons with disabilities (PwD) are amongst some of the measures towards their facilitation that have been announced by the Commission on 4th July, 2018 during "National

Consultation on Accessible Elections" organized by the Commission.

The Commission has taken measures from time to time to enhance enrollment of Persons with Disabilities and their participation in election process. The Commission has a dedicated programme, namely; Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) for creating awareness among the voters in general and also for targeting specific groups like persons with disabilities.

[Translation]

### Spying Incidents

1151. SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of spying and honey trapping in the armed forces have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered during the last three years and the current year so far along with the officials found involved and the action taken against them;

(c) the names of countries / foreign organisations with which these spying activities were connected; and

(d) the steps taken to strengthen the intelligence machinery to eliminate spying activities effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The details of armed forces personnel involved in spying and honey trapping during the last three years and the current year are as under:

(i)	2015	-	02
(ii)	2016	-	Nil
(iii)	2017	-	02
(iv)	2018	-	01

One serving Army personnel and one serving Air Force personnel have been arrested in 2015 for alleged involvement in espionage activities. Army personnel is presently in police / judicial custody and case is under trial. Air Force personnel has been dismissed from service and is presently under judicial custody. Two

Army "personnel were punished by Army in 2017 for alleged involvement in espionage activities. One Air Force personnel has been arrested in 2018 and handed over to Civil Police for investigation and is under judicial custody.

(c) Investigations suggest the involvement of inimical Intelligence agencies in these spying activities.

(d) Service personnel and ex-servicemen are regularly sensitized on the likely modus operandi of Foreign Intelligence Operatives. Regular advisories are issued to all concerned.

[English]

#### **National Civil Aircraft Development Programme**

1152. SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched National Civil Aircraft Development Programme (NCADP) but the same is still on paper and there is no progress;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind non-execution of NCADP; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for execution of the programme and financial implication expected by the Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) No, Madam. CSIR had formed a high powered committee on 6th May 2010 for formulation and management of the project "National Civil Aircraft Development (NCAD)" for conducting feasibility studies. The feasibility study report was submitted to CSIR on 31st May 2011 to seek 'in- principle' approval for initiating and completing preliminary design phase. The feasibility report submitted was deliberated at the erstwhile Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) level. It was suggested that a Joint Venture with private equity participation be created and a Cabinet Note for obtaining in-principle approval for the implementation of the NCAD programme accordingly be moved. In view of it, CSIR formed two Committees - Technical Committee

to examine feasibility report and Joint Venture Creation Committee to oversee formation of joint venture in Public-Private Partnership mode for developing civil aircraft for India. The JV committee had submitted the report in September 2012.

(c) The matter was taken up with the NITI Aayog which expressed the immediate need to take up the project and called for meeting of Cabinet Committee of Secretaries. The Committee has deliberated the matter and given a decision to form a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with participation of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), CSIR- National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) and Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) with initial commitment of ₹10 crore by each. Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has been asked to submit the proposal for creation of SPV for appraisal by PIB and thereafter to the Cabinet. The Financial implications are estimated to be of the order of ₹ 10,000 crore.

#### **ITAT**

1153. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) has made it mandatory to tax the interest free loan provided by an employer to employee and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Government has issued any special ruling on this issue and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) In a recent order dated 16.05.2018, in appeal No. 2172/M/2016 in the case of Ms. Neha Saraf Vs. ACIT for Assessment Year 2011-12, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai Bench, has held that notional interest on interest free loan may be taxed as perquisite u/s 17 (2)(iii)(c) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 read with rule 3(7)(i) of the Income Tax Rules, 1962.

(b) The Government has not issued any special ruling on this issue. However, for the taxability of perquisite in respect of interest free or concessional loan, the existing provisions of the Income tax Act, 1961, read with relevant rules, are applicable.



[Translation]

### Work Done Through ICCR

1154. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to make India a cultural super power;

(b) the details of works done through Indian Council for Cultural Research (ICCR) in this regard;

(c) the details of expenditure Incurred and earning of ICCR during each year of the last four years and the current year;

(d) whether the Government is taking/proposes to take concrete steps on the basis of report submitted to her Ministry by the Parliamentary committee and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether in order to strengthen foreign diplomacy, the Government proposes to provide more financial support to the ICCR to promote cultural campaign; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD))]: (a) and (b) Govt. of India is taking many steps to promote culture of India. This work is being done by several Ministries/Departments of Government of India as well as autonomous bodies working under them. As an autonomous body under Ministry of External Affairs, work undertaken by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) includes establishing Indian Cultural Centres abroad, sponsoring visits of performing art groups, hosting cultural groups from abroad and organizing their performances in various cities of India, organizing/ supporting conferences/ seminars/ workshops in various fields including Yoga & Ayurveda, establishing Chairs of Indian Studies in various foreign universities, offering scholarships to students to study in India, supporting visits of eminent academicians/ dignitaries to India, promotion of Hindi and other Indian languages including publication of Gagananchal a bi-monthly Hindi journal, commissioning of busts/ statues of Indian Leaders and visual art exhibitions, administering various awards, maintaining of collection of over 10,000 rare books/ manuscripts donated by

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, organizing International Day of Yoga, and organizing festivals/ India Week etc.

(c) The details of earning and expenditure incurred by ICCR during the last 4 years and the current year are as following:

(₹ in Crores)		
Financial Year	Expenditure	Earning
2014-15	157.02	3.50
2015-16	140.40	3.94
2016-17	186.30	4.64
2017-18	189.22	4.41
2018-19	80.47	—
(up to 10 July 18)		

(d) Yes. Action Taken Report has been laid on the table of the House on 04 April 2018.

(e) and (f) Yes. Government has been increasing the grant given to ICCR. There was a significant increase from ₹ 185.80 crores in 2016-17 to ₹ 233.14 crores in 2017-18 and for Current Financial Year, the grant is ₹ 255 crores.

[English]

### Filling Up of Vacant Posts

1155. SHRI M. MURALI MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in each Ministry/Department of Government of India at present, post and Ministry/ Department-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to fill up all vacancies so as to address the issue of unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Annual Report on Pay & Allowances of Central Government Civilian Employees

2016-17 published by Pay Research Unit, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance containing information on Central Government civilian employees group-wise (Gazetted/Non Gazetted) estimated number of Central Government civilian regular employees Ministry / Department wise as on 01.03.2016 is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) The posts sanctioned in Ministries/Departments are required to be filled as per the Recruitment Rules as and when vacancies arise. The filling up of posts is a continuous process depending on the vacancies arising across Ministries/Departments

during the years and action calendars of the recruiting agencies. In this regard all Ministries/Departments have been requested to take advance action for reporting vacancy position with respect to Direct Recruitment Posts recruiting agencies such as Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Staff Selection Commission (SSC) etc. Further all Ministries/Departments have also been requested for timely convening of the Departmental Promotion Committee meeting for filling up of promotional posts.

**Statement**

*Group-Wise Number of Sanctioned Posts and Employees in Position, Vacancies and their Percentage to Total Sanctioned Posts as on 01.03.2016*

Group	Number of Sanctioned posts	Number of employees in position	Number of vacant Posts	Percentage of vacant Posts to total sanctioned posts in the group
A*	117285	101901	15284	13.04
B(g) 136079	109769	26310	19.33	
B(NG)	168481	118741	49740	29.52
C(NG)'	3212190	2890772	321418	10.00
Total	3633935	3221183	412752	11.36

*Group-Wise and Status-Wise (G/NG) Estimated Number of  
Central Government Civilian Regular Employees as on 01.03.2016*

No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Number of Sanctioned Posts										Number in Position		
		A(G)*	B(g)	B(NG)	C(NG)S	Total	A(G)*	B(g)	B(NG)	C(NG) <sup>§</sup>	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
1.	Agricultural Research & Education**	20	0	19	7	46	20	0	19	7	46			
2.	Agriculture and Cooperation	652	545	614	4274	6085	432	362	405	2837	4036			
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	327	169	187	3269	3S52	194	86	102	2072	2454			
4.	Atomic Energy	11439	561	9770	15040	36810	11006	532	9174	11337	32049			
5.	AYUSH	73	38	37	89	237	60	26	25	68	179			
6.	Bio-Technology	78	29	69	78	254	61	19	42	49	171			
7.	Cabinet Secretariat**	96	0	80	122	298	96	0	80	122	298			
8.	Chemicals, Petrochemicals & Pharmaceuticals	70	45	65	209	389	60	39	62	165	326			
9.	Civil Aviation	807	70	464	883	2224	452	48	169	444	1113			
10.	Coal	58	51	94	221	424	42	29	83	146	300			
11.	Commerce**	669	886	1006	4354	6915	669	886	1006	4354	6915			
12.	Consumer Affairs	228	140	255	564	1187	176	97	147	393	813			
13.	Corporate Affairs	495	172	696	1110	2473	318	97	359	602	1376			
14.	Culture"	206	269	259	7128	7862	206	269	259	7128	7862			
15.	Defence (Civilian)"	17405	38807	46132	483132	585476	17160	30576	28839	321847	398422			
16.	Development of NE Region	68	56	50	174	348	58	37	37	105	237			

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
17. Drinking Water & Sanitation	37	33	33	43	51	164	36	15	33	28	112	
18. Earth Sciences	747	1625	2252	2861	7485	382	1355	1342	1784	4863		
19. Economic Affairs**	256	132	198	499	1085	256	132	198	499	1085		
20. Environment & Forests	855	1104	278	2730	4967	638	637	145	1509	2929		
21. Expenditure	218	336	252	602	1408	176	284	151	332	943		
22. External Affairs	2376	1028	2571	2727	8702	2125	901	1820	2347	7193		
23. Fertilizers	47	51	13	88	199	39	34	8	55	136		
24. Financial Services	299	51	495	855	1700	242	36	307	576	1161		
25. Food & Public Distribution	228	82	299	503	1112	206	78	258	385	927		
26. Food Processing Industries	47	27	45	70	189	53	14	30	47	144		
27. Health & Family Welfare"	2357	658	1035	17264	21314	2357	658	1035	17264	21314		
28. Heavy Industry	55	44	57	132	288	47	26	43	82	198		
29. Higher Education	283	132	341	651	1407	175	93	234	441	943		
30. Home Affairs	24780	17005	34600	944246	1020631	20540	13041	27766	886919	948266		
31. Indian Audit & Accounts	696	18022	288	49189	68195	553	14590	242	30494	45879		
32. Industrial Policy & Promotion**	227	133	198	1451	2009	227	133	198	1451	2009		
33. Information and Broadcasting	516	644	784	4314	6258	347	411	630	2624	4012		
34. Information Technology	3852	605	511	1599	6567	3649	539	437	897	5522		
35. Investment S Public Asset Management	21	8	16	14	59	20	7	13	13	53		
36. Labour & Employment	1373	511	1237	4914	8035	941	346	883	3100	5270		

37. Land Resources	35	24	30	42	131	26	11	17	22	76
38. Law and Justice**	282	157	257	663	1359	197	115	204	530	1046
39. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	222	370	96	2090	2778	173	289	73	1576	2111
40. Mines	3039	741	2104	3841	9725	2791	564	1791	3248	8394
41. Minority Affairs	69	59	36	97	261	42	43	22	62	169
42. New & Renewable Energy	115	34	52	88	289	81	18	41	70	210
43. Panchayati Raj	31	21	29	51	132	29	16	20	36	101
44. Parliamentary Affairs	23	21	45	59	148	23	12	35	52	122
45. Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions	1549	620	2598	6331	11098	1159	436	1816	5271	8682
46. Petroleum and Natural Gas	56	77	66	113	312	50	65	64	65	244
47. Planning	225	124	121	176	646	171	96	99	165	531
48. Posts**	614	3070	5588	184539	193811	614	3070	5588	184539	193811
49. Power	545	240	441	631	1857	415	124	235	432	1206
50. President's Secretariat	29	36	68	190	323	48	16	69	134	267
51. Prime Minister's Office	57	62	115	271	505	59	63	102	179	403
52. Public Enterprises	31	10	25	56	122	24	7	16	24	71
53. Railways**	9557	7103	0	1314773	1331433	9557	7103	0	1314773	1331433
54. Revenue	12456	32395	34590	99492	178933	7848	25239	18022	49171	100280
55. Road Transport & Highways	347	69	289	371	1076	321	66	237	296	920
56. Rural Development	106	110	127	244	587	94	91	98	178	461
57. School Education and Literacy	82	74	131	172	459	60	47	102	109	318
58. Science & Technology	592	789	291	10505	12177	267	660	777	3693	53,97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
59.	Shipping	371	156	620	1739	2886	203	164	378	1089	18.34
60.	Social Justice & Empowerment	127	122	192	309	750	106	89	159	241	595
61.	Space**	7251	496	2699	4936	15382	7034	399	2377	2537	12347
62.	Statistics & Programme Implementation	518	1801	2751	1285	6355	375	1492	1776	968	4611
63.	Steel	53	40	77	107	277	45	44	71	82	242
64.	Telecommunication"	1048	391	94	1230	2763	1048	391	94	1230	2763
65.	Textiles	319	206	725	3489	4739	262	180	665	3131	4238
66.	Tourism	73	102	1	402	578	64	91	1	334	490
67.	Tribal Affairs	76	42	47	145	310	60	31	41	109	241
68.	Union Public Service Commission	172	282	433	1046	1933	155	191	384	678	1408
69.	Urban Development	3281	891	5620	10586	20378	3078	1186	5207	8922	18393
70.	Vice President's Secretariat	6	5	2	47	60	5	4	1	39	49
71.	Water Resources & River Development	1724	1155	2565	6000	11444	1271	834	1428	3760	7293
72.	Women & Child Development	93	79	151	391	714	78	59	82	249	468
73.	Youth Affairs and Sports	50	36	95	269	450	149	30	68	255	402
Total		117185	136079	168481	3212190	3633935	101901	109769	118741	2890772	3221183

\* Includes some non-gazetted posts also.

\*\* Sanctioned strength/In position are provisional/repeated.

\*\*\* Including HUIPA.

s Erstwhile Group D posts have been categorised as Group C after implementation of 6th CPC

**NRI Marriages**

1156. SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes for registration and proper documentation of the NRI marriages as abandoning the wife of NRI husbands has increased to a large extent;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made a survey of such cases and if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the Government proposes to conduct a survey to safeguard Indian women from such incidents of violence; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) Yes. The Government has accepted the recommendation for compulsory registration of NRI marriages of the Expert Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Justice Arvind Kumar Goel, ex-Chairperson, NRI Commission Punjab, to look into the issues and difficulties faced by Indian nationals married to overseas nationals of Indian origin and suggests amendments in existing laws/policies/regulation. An Integrated Nodal Agency has also been set up under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development to discuss all issues related to NRI marital disputes.

(c) to (e) No such survey has been conducted. However, the Ministry maintains a record of complaints received from distressed women deserted by their NRI spouses and provides them necessary counseling, guidance and information on related matters.

**Triple Talaq**

1157. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

SHRIMATIKIRRON KHER:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Honourable Supreme Court has pronounced that the practice of triple talaq is invalid

and if so, the details thereof and reasons advanced by the court in support of its judgement;

(b) whether keeping in view the judgement, Government proposes to bring forward a legislation in this regard and if so, whether all the stakeholders were consulted before drafting such legislation;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the way in which Muslim women are likely to be benefited by the new legislation;

(d) the number of cases of triple talaq recorded in the country and the State-wise distribution of these cases;

(e) the number of complaints that have been lodged by Muslim women after being divorced through triple talaq; and

(f) the details of distress caused to Muslim women as a result of triple talaq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Madam. The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in the matter of Shayara Bano Vs. Union of India and Others [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 118 of 2016] and other connected matters, on 22nd August, 2017, in a majority judgment of 3:2 set aside the practice of 'talaq-e-biddaf- triple talaq. The Court found that the said practice of divorce is manifestly arbitrary in the sense that the marital tie can be broken capriciously and whimsically by a Muslim husband without any attempt at reconciliation so as to save it. The full text of the judgment is available in the website of the Supreme Court <https://www.sci.nic.in/iudgments>.

(b) and (c) In order to prevent the continued harassment meted out to the married Muslim women by their husbands, who are still resorting to talaq-e-biddat to divorce them in spite of the same having been set aside by the Supreme Court, the Government has introduced, a Bill, namely the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2017, in Lok Sabha on the 28th December, 2017 and the same was passed by that House on the same day. Presently, the Bill is pending in Rajya Sabha. Comments/views have been sought from all the State Governments/ Union territory Administrations before the same was

introduced. The Bill, inter alia, protects the rights of married Muslim women and children and prohibits divorce by pronouncing triple talaq by their husbands.

(d) So far approximately 160 cases have been reported from various parts of the country after the judgment of the Supreme Court.

(e) The Government does not have any details of the complaints that have been lodged by Muslim women after being divorced by triple talaq.

(f) This cannot be explained by any mode of accuracy as the distress may not be similar in all cases.

### **Crimes in Trains**

1158. SHRI ANOOP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the emergency complaints mechanism established for reporting crimes inside railway compartments especially when the train is passing through regions with no network connectivity;

(b) the mandate for railway police personnels on every train and whether it has been revised in the past few years and if so, details thereof; and

(c) the measures the Government is taking to strengthen security of passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) To provide round the clock security related assistance to passengers, including reporting of any crime in trains, All India Security Helpline 182 has been operationalised through Divisional Security Control Rooms of Railway Protection Force (RPF) across Indian Railways. Security Helpline is presently functioning on manual mode. Upgradation of Security Helpline 182 has been undertaken at an approved cost of ₹ 5.59 crore. Integration of Security Helpline 182 with an APP has been further envisaged to make it more passenger friendly and effective. Functioning of Security Helpline 182 is being reviewed at regular interval of time to ensure smooth functioning of the Helpline System.

In case of problems in network connectivity, on duty staff of RPF/Government Railway Police (GRP), Commercial Department of Railways and Guards can also be approached by passengers for seeking assistance or getting their First Information Report (FIR) registered at the next GRP police station.

(b) Prevention and detection of crime, registration of FIRs, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in railway station premises as well as in running trains are the statutory responsibility of State Governments, which they discharge through the GRP. RPF supplements the efforts of the GRPs of respective States by deploying its staff for strengthening of security over railways.

Prior to the year 2003, role and responsibility of RPF was restricted to protection and security of railway property only. In the year 2003, the Railways Act, 1989 and the RPF Act, 1957 were amended and charter of duties and responsibilities of RPF was extended to cover protection and security of passenger area, passengers and matters connected therewith, in addition to railway property. However, commensurate legal powers to deal with passenger related offences under the IPC are not available with RPF and powers of registration of cases and their investigation still rests exclusively with GRPs of respective States.

(c) Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of GRPs of respective States to strengthen security across Indian Railways. Measures initiated by Railways to strengthen security include escorting of 2500 trains by RPF (on an average daily), in addition to escorting of 2200 trains by GRP, access control at important stations, operationalisation and upgradation of Security Help Line number 182, surveillance through CCTV cameras, prosecution of offenders under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989, security of women passengers, rescue of children, etc. Regular coordination is being maintained with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels. In addition, State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/ Commissioner of States/ Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements for the Railways.

### **Filling up of Vacancies**

1159. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and the Supreme Court have come to any understanding regarding the filling up of the vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts; (b) if so, the details thereof; and



(c) the time by which all these vacancies are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Court is a collaborative process involving both the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Differences of opinion, if any, are mutually reconciled by the Executive and the Judiciary to ensure that only the opposite persons are appointed to the posts of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges. Hence, the time frame for filling up of the vacancies cannot be indicated.

*[Translation]*

#### **Charges for Call Drop**

1160. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:

SHRI BHARAT SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to take strict and effective action against erring telecom operators with regard to increase in instances of call drops;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard so far;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to levy any charges on the mobile companies for call drop in view of rising number of call drop problems faced by the customers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the Quality of Service performed by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) against the benchmarks for the various quality of service parameters laid down by TRAI through regulations issued from time to time, including parameters relating to call drop.

TRAI had recently reviewed the network related parameters and issued "the Standards for Quality of Service for Basic (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2017" dated 18th August 2017. These Regulations, effective from 1st October 2017 have prescribed two revised parameters for assessing call drop in mobile network, viz. Call drop-rate Spatial distribution measure (benchmark < 2%) implies that at-least 90% of Cells in the network should perform better than specified 2% benchmark on at-least 90% of days. Similarly, another new parameter, Call drop-rate Temporal distribution measure will give confidence that on at-least 90% of Days, network performed better than specified 3% benchmark for at-least 97% of the Cells.

Revised approach for assessing Call drop-rate will give better insight into the network performance of service provider and help to highlight the specific areas and specific days when network performance was excellent or good or poor. The performance on these parameters is monitored quarterly through Performance Monitoring Reports (PMR) submitted by service providers for the service area as a whole. As per PMR for the quarter ending March 2018, all TSPs offering mobile services are generally meeting both the parameters in all License Service Areas (LSAs) except, M/s Idea & Tata is not meeting in 5 LSAs each, M/s Telenor in 2 LSAs and M/s BSNL in 1 LSA only. For the parameter Call drop-rate Temporal distribution measure, M/s Tata is not meeting in 7 LSAs, M/s Idea & Telenor in 2 LSAs each and M/s BSNL in 1 LSA only.

So far as violations are concerned, the Authority has now introduced a revised graded Financial Disincentives (FD) structure, effective from 1st October 2017, for monitoring compliance against these

parameters. If network does not meet benchmark, then financial disincentives may also be increased by Rupees One lakh for every 2% deviation from the benchmark, subject to a maximum FD of Rupees Five lakh per parameter, in case of first contravention. However, in the case of non-compliance in consecutive quarters, then the amount of FD may be increased by a factor of 1.5 for first consecutive contravention and by a factor of 2 for second and subsequent consecutive contraventions. The total amount payable as financial disincentives under this new regulation in a quarter, for one or both parameters combined, shall not exceed Rupees Ten Lakhs.

In accordance with above, action has been initiated for imposing financial disincentives on TSPs for non-compliance with the benchmarks.

[English]

#### **Impact of Massacre in Burma on India**

1161. SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the massacre of Rohingya Muslims in Burma has any adverse Impact on India and if so, the details along with the response of the Government in this regard;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to hold 'Indo-Burma bilateral talk' in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) to (c) Government has been deeply concerned by the developments in the Northern Rakhine State of Myanmar following incidents of large scale violence in late-2016 and mid-2017, which resulted in exodus of a large number of people from the state, many of whom have sought shelter in neighbouring Bangladesh.

This issue has been taken up with Government of Myanmar, including during the visit of Prime Minister of India and visit of External Affairs Minister of India to Myanmar in September 2017 and May 2018 respectively. India has pressed for safe, speedy and sustainable return of the displaced population to Myanmar. The two sides have agreed that the only

lasting solution to the problem lies in overall development of the Rakhine State. In this regard, Governments of India and Myanmar signed an MoU on Rakhine State Development Programme on December 20, 2017. In order to meet the pressing relief needs of the displaced persons, Government of India has supplied essential requirements to both Myanmar and Bangladesh.

#### **Bullet Trains**

1162. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways is 20 years behind those of advanced nations as there is no technical upgradation, the average speed of most prestigious trains has come down, punctuality is worst and accident record has not improved and almost 20,000 lives are lost on tracks yearly;

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

(c) whether despite many deficiency in the Indian Railway network, the Government is focusing on its dream project "Bullet trains".

(d) if so, whether Bullet trains will cater only to the elite community and it is highly expensive and beyond the reach of ordinary people;

(e) if so, whether country needs a modern, clean, safe and fast rail system;

(f) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve Indian Railway network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) While there is no yard stick to measure the technological gap between Indian Railways and foreign Railways, the

Indian Railways in the last few years have been focusing on the completion of a large number of safety related works which have helped Railways achieve an all time best safety record in the last financial year. Once these safety related works are completed, punctuality is also bound to improve.

(c) and (d) To keep on par with new technology and global achievements, Bullet trains are need of the hour which is expected to attract the global investment in technology in India.

Bullet trains shall reduce the journey time considerably thereby would be an economical alternate to the rail users.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) and (g) Upgradation and modernisation of Indian Railways is a need based ongoing continuous process. Railways have planned to improve stations and strengthen major routes of Indian Railways through modern technological inputs. This includes provision of passenger amenities and doubling/tripling of routes with electrification, Dedicated Freight Corridors, introduction of High Speed and Bullet Trains, etc.

Zone (IRCTC)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
North Zone	₹ 6,116/-	₹ 4,53,264/-	₹ 36,61,893/-	₹ 38,50,376/
East Zone	₹ 650/-	₹ 1,63,410/-	₹ 13,52,583/-	₹ 22,96,565/
South Zone	₹ 1,656/-	₹ 1,96,496/-	₹ 10,78,660A	₹ 18,63,004/
South Central Zone	₹ 2,255/-	₹ 3,52,214/-	₹ 26,53,481/	₹ 32,91,965/
West Zone	₹ 2,578/-	₹ 3,18,479/-	₹ 51,32,741/-	₹ 69,86,186/-

(b) The details of the existing catering service providers consisting of 136 Active Vendors and 12 Aggregators are as given below.

LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS
1. A B SAWANT AND BROS
2. AJS CATERERS
3. A K NAZER MOOSA
4. A S SALES CORPORATION
5. AAR KAY VAISHNO DHABA
6. AASTIK HOTELS PRIVATE LIMITED

### e-Catering Services

1163. SHRIMATI RITA TARAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of revenue earned through e-catering services during the last four years, zone-wise;

(b) the details of existing catering service providers along with the details of subsidies provided/expenditure incurred in relation to e-catering;

(c) whether the Railways intends to expand the e-catering services in the country and include more Indian brands; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The revenue earned by Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC) Zone wise through e-catering during the last four financial years are as follows:-

LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS
7. AATISH ENTERPRISES
8. ACUMEN INFRASTRUCTURE P.LTD (CRYSTAL PALACE)
9. ADYAR ANANDA BHAVAN
10. AJWA CATERING
11. ALOK KUMAR GHOSE CATERING PVT LTD
12. AMAN CATERER
13. AM RUT HOSPITALITY SERVICES LLP
14. ANAND RESTAURANT

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 LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS
 

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15. ANNAPURNA VAISHNAV BHOJNALAYA
  16. ARENCO CATERING
  17. ARYA BHAVAN HOTEL SOUTHERN GRAND
  18. ASHIK FAMILY PARADISE
  19. AVALA MURTHY
  20. BABU CATERERS
  21. BALLA SPICE TOUCH
  22. BRINDAVANS ICE AND SPICE
  23. BTW INDIA PVT LTD
  24. CAFE KUDUMBASHREE
  25. COMESUM RESTAURANT PVT. LTD
  26. DALMA COMFORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY PVT LTD
  27. DEEP JYOTI
  28. DEEPAK AND CO
  29. DEEPLAXMI CATERERS
  30. FARHAN ENTERPRISES AND CATERERS
  31. FOOD ON CALL
  32. FRESH YES
  33. GUPTAJI CHAATWALA
  34. HALDIRAM MARKETING PVT LTD
  35. HARISH HOSPITALITY
  36. HOT BOX
  37. HOTEL ARYAN
  38. HOTEL BHIMAS
  39. HOTEL DHARAMRAJ
  40. HOTEL EDEN ROC
  41. HOTEL GOLDEN SWAN
  42. HOTEL GUPTAJI
  43. HOTEL HARDEO PVT LTD
  44. HOTEL KOSALA
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 LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS
 

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45. HOTEL MEERA GREEN CHILLI AND RESTAURANT
  46. HOTEL NELLAI SARAVANA BHAVA
  47. HOTEL RANJEET
  48. HOTEL SANDARSHINI
  49. HOTEL SARAVANABHAVAN
  50. HOTEL SHIKHA
  51. HOTEL SREE ANANDHA BHAVAN
  52. HOTEL TILAK
  53. JAI JAGANNATH RESTAURANT
  54. JAI SIYA RAM KISHORI BHOJANALYA
  55. JAY VIJAY RESTAURANT
  56. KANHAI FOODS PVT LTD
  57. KATRA MATA VAISHNODEVI HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS P LTD
  58. KMA CATERERS
  59. KRISHNA ENTERPRISES
  60. KRISHNUM RESTAURANT
  61. KVR FOODS SERVICE
  62. LITTLE SISTER
  63. LOK SANCHALIT SADHAN KENDRA RATNAGIRI
  64. M/S.JAI BHAVANI HOTEL
  65. M/S.MANASA HOTEL AND CATERING
  66. MADHURAM CAFE
  67. MADRAS BAKERY
  68. MADRAS COFFEE HOUSE
  69. MAHER LOKSANCHALIT SADHAN KENDRA SAWANTWADI
  70. MANOHAR FOODS
  71. MIRCHI FOOD MALL
  72. MIZAZ E BHOPAL
  73. MURUGAN IDLI SHOP
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LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS	
74.	MUSKAN CATERS AND SUPPLIERS
75.	NAIVEDHYAM RESTAURANT
76.	NAMAN FOOD CENTRE
77.	NAVIVAN AND SONS ENTERPRISES
78.	NIKI RESORTS PVT LTD
79.	OM SHANTI ENTERPRISES
80.	ONLY ALI BABA
81.	PK SHEFI
82.	P N RAMEES ALI
83.	P SIVA PRASAD
84.	PANDITS
85.	PORWALS
86.	PREM CATERERS PVT LTD
87.	R AND K ASSOCIATES
88.	R K FOOD PRODUCTS
89.	R S ENTERPRISES
90.	RADHE O RADHE
91.	RAJADHANI HOTELS PVT LTD
92.	RAMEN DEKA
93.	RAMYAS HOTELS PRIVATE LIMITED
94.	RASOI VEG THALI
95.	RENUKA ENTERPRISES
96.	RIVER VIEW HOTEL
97.	RJ'S HOME KITCHEN
98.	RMD HOTEL AND RESORTS PVT LTD
99.	ROMYS DINE
100.	S MOHANLAL AGARWAL
101.	SAGAR VEG RESTAURANT
102.	SAI AAHAR
103.	SAI BALAJI FOOD CORPORATION
104.	SAI BALAJI FOOD CORPORATION
105.	SAI BALAJI FOOD CORPORATION

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LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS	
106.	SAI KADAM ENTERPRISES
107.	SAMARTH DINING HALL
108.	SANSKAR MAHILA MANDAL
109.	SANTUSHTI RESTAURANT
110.	SHAHEED ENTERPRISES
111.	SHARMA FOODS
112.	SHIV GOPAL SATYENDRA NATH PANDEY
113.	SHREE GANESH BHANDAR
114.	SHREE MAHALAXMI SWAYAM SAHAYATA BACHAT GAT
115.	SHRI GURU KRIPA CATERS AND ENTERPRISES
116.	SHRI NIVAS
117.	SMRUTI ENTERPRISES
118.	SPICE IT UP
119.	SREE ARYAS HOTEL
120.	SRI RAGHAVENDRA CATERERS PRIVATE LIMITED
121.	SRI VANI SHG
122.	SRI VISHNU VILAS
123.	SUNIL ENTERPRISES
124.	SWAGATH BAR AND RESTAURANT
125.	TASTE OF BHAGWATI
126.	THE BANYAN TREE MULTICUISINE
127.	THE GRAND BHAGWATI
128.	TIPSY TOPSY
129.	TIRUPATI ASSOCIATES
130.	TORAL DINING HALL
131.	TRAVEL FOOD SERVICES
132.	TULSI CATTERS
133.	V2 THE FOOD PARADISE
134.	VASANTHAM CATERERS
135.	VRINDAWAN ENTERPRISES

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## LIST OF ACTIVE VENDORS

136. YASH INN AND RESORTS PVT LTD

## LIST OF AGGREGATORS

1. FOOD PANDA
2. RAIL RESTRO
3. RELFOOD
4. DEWSIS
5. YATRIBHOJAN
6. ZOOP
7. TRAVOFOOD
8. GARG RAJDHANI ONLINE FOOD
9. RAIL DARBAR TRAVEL SERVICES PVT. LTD.
10. BALAJI FOOD & BEVERAGES
11. COMESUM
12. MERA FOOD CHOICE

No subsidies have been paid in relation to E-Catering and also no expenses incurred in relation to vendor empanelment. However, an expenditure of (i) 2,30,994/- was incurred during the year 2014-15 (ii) ₹ 129,62,930/- during the year 2015-16, (iii) 289,16,273/- during the year 2016-17 and (iv) ₹ 390,91,703/- during the year 2017-18 in relation to E-Catering by Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC).

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. 08 Indian brands viz., (i) Paradise Biryani (ii) Khan Chacha (iii) Karim's (iv) Nazeer Foods (v) Sarvana Bhawan (vi) Sagar Ratna (vii) Bikanerwala (viii) Amul intended to be included in the E-Catering project by Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC).

**Coal Production**

1164. SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of coal production, supply and use for the ongoing projects and for the newly proposed projects of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries as well as NLC India;

(b) whether the Government has taken adequate measures to reduce carbon footprints by reducing the production, supply and use of coal in various industries in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the CIL and its subsidiaries had given any specific reply to the Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The current status of coal production of ongoing projects' of CIL as on Mar,2018 is as follows-

Subsidiary	Total Projects	Total Sanctioned Capacity (MTY)	Coal Production 2017-18 (MT)
ECL	12	22.92	15.72
BCCL	5	12.95	3.03
CCL	15	57.72	22.56
NCL	3	50.00	39.80
WCL	26	45.16	24.95
SECL	33	202.66	83.43
MCL	16	167.83	80.80
NEC	4	1.20	0.78
<b>Total CIL</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>560.43</b>	<b>271.07</b>

*Sector Wise Coal Supply from CIL During 2017-18 (upto Mar'18) is as under:*

(in Million tonnes)

Sectors	Actual Dispatch 2017-18 (Provisional)
1	2
Power	454.22
Fertilizer	1.88
Steel	3.14
CPP	40.08
Cement	4.83

1	2
Sponge Iron	8.07
Others	69.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>581.47</b>

The current status of coal production of 'ongoing projects' of NLCIL is as follows:

NLCIL, at present operates 3 lignite mines (28.5 MTPA) linked to 4 pit head power stations at Neyveli (2990), one lignite mine (2.1 MTPA) linked to pit head power station at Barsingsar, Rajasthan (250 MW). NLCIL uses the Lignite produced in its mines to the linked pit head power plants. Also a small quantity of lignite is being sold to an Independent power producer and small scale industries.

New mining projects of NLCIL are:

- > Expansion of Mine-I 10.50 MTPA (Area Expansion) & Expansion of Mine- IA (From 3.0 MTPA To 7.0 MTPA)
- > Hadla Lignite Mine (1.9 MTPA) and Bithnok Lignite Mine (2.25 MTPA) at Rajasthan.
- > Mine-III project at Neyveli (11.5 MT per Annum)
- > South of Vellar at Tamilnadu (11.5 MT per Annum) -(as a replacement for Mine-I&II)
- > Pachwara South in Jharkhand (11 MTPA) - allocated on 25.07.2013.
- > Talabira-II & III in Odisha (20 MTPA) - allocated on 02.05.2016.

(b) to (d) Government of India has already taken several initiatives to improve the efficiency of coal based power plants and to reduce its carbon footprint. All new, large coal-based generating stations have been mandated to use the highly efficient supercritical technology.

Renovation and Modernization (R&M) and Life Extension (LE) of existing old power stations is being undertaken in a phased manner. About 144 old thermal stations have been assigned mandatory targets for improving energy efficiency. Coal beneficiation has been made mandatory. Introduction of ultra-supercritical technology, as and when commercially available is part of future policy. Besides, stringent

emission standards being contemplated for thermal plants would significantly reduce emissions.

To promote cleaner and alternate use of coal, CIL is pursuing initiatives for setting up plants for gasification of coal and its further processing into downstream chemicals. In this direction, CIL has formed a JV company along with RCF, GAIL and FCIL namely; Talcher Fertilizers Limited (TFL) to set up a coal based Ammonia-Urea plant at Talcher, Odisha, through Surface Coal Gasification route.

#### **Destination Alert for Passengers**

1165. ADV. JOICE GEORGE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to introduce the Destination Alert for train passengers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is also planning to refund 50 per cent of the amount against cancellation of Tatkal tickets and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ticketing facility is going to start soon in Railway Overseas Languages and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the other major decisions taken by the Railways;

(e) whether the Government is of the opinion that these changes will increase the customer satisfaction; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Destination alert facility has been provided in selected trains wherein Short Message Service (SMS) alert is sent to the reserved passengers 20 minutes before actual arrival on the station where passenger will de-board the train during night hours i.e. 2300 hours in the night to 0700 hours in the morning. Destination alert facility is also available through 139 wherein reserved passengers can set destination alert on 139 Railway Enquiry Service Interactive Voice Response (IVR), 139 Railway Enquiry service with assistance from customer service executive and through SMS 139 with one simple keyword. The user receives a confirmation

message on his mobile number as Destination Alert Call has been set on your mobile number for destination station name.

(b) If waitlisted Tatkal ticket is cancelled within the prescribed time limit, the refund of fare minus clerkage charge is granted. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to grant 50% refund on confirmed Tatkal ticket.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) to (f) Salient initiatives taken by Railways for the benefit of passengers and to increase customer satisfaction are as under.

- (i) Online ticket booking facility through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website thereby obviating the need to stand in queues at reservation counters.
- (ii) Reserved and unreserved ticket booking facility through mobile phones for which App has been provided.
- (iii) Provision of Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs) at Railway stations for dispensation of tickets.
- (iv) Provision of various cashless modes of payment like net banking, e-wallets, credit/debit cards through Point of Sale (POS) machines, through Unified Payment Interface (UPI)/ Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), etc.
- (v) Earmarking of separate counters at various Computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centres for dealing with the reservation requisitions received from persons with disability, senior citizens, ladies, former Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assemblies, accredited press correspondents and freedom fighters.
- (vi) Automatic preparation of first reservation charts at least 4 hours before scheduled departure of train and thereafter booking of available accommodation through internet as well as through PRS counters till preparation of second reservation chart.
- (vii) Intimation to passengers through SMS in case of change in passengers' reservation status

from waiting list/Reservation against Cancellation (RAC) to confirmed, cancellation of trains, late running of train in identified trains.

- (viii) Cancellation of computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counter tickets through IRCTC website or through 139.
- (ix) Automatic refund against e-tickets in case of cancellation of trains.
- (x) Introduction of Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme 'VIKALP' to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers in alternate train to ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation.
- (xi) Increase in number of berths earmarked as RAC to accommodate more passengers.
- (xii) Enhancement of the existing combined quota earmarked for Senior Citizens, pregnant women and female passengers 45 years of age and above to 6 lower berths per coach in Sleeper, 3 lower berths per coach in 3AC and 3 lower berths per coach in 2AC class. Further, in Rajdhani, Duronto and fully Air Conditioned/Express trains, the number of lower berths has been increased to 4 lower berths per coach.
- (xiii) Earmarking of reservation quota of two berths in 3AC class and four berths in Sleeper class for persons with disability.
- (xiv) With a view to expanding ticketing facilities, centres called Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK) have been established on public private partnership model to issue reserved/unreserved tickets through UTS-cum-PRS terminals.
- (xv) Introduction of Sarathi Seva to help old and disabled passengers requiring assistance at the station and strengthen the existing services for enabling passengers to book Battery Operated Car (BOC), porter services etc. on a paid basis in addition to the existing pick up and drop and wheelchair services.
- (xvi) Provision of Yatri Mitra Sewa at major stations for enabling passengers to book wheelchair services cum porter services.



- (xvii) Online booking of Retiring Room has been commissioned at 506 Railway stations.
- (xviii) Provision of cushioned seats/berths, fluorescent lights, air- conditioning, fans, toilet, dustbins and wash basin facilities etc. in all main line trains/coaches being manufactured.
- (xix) Provision of looking mirrors, snack tables, water bottle holders, coat hooks, small luggage racks, luggage securing arrangements, mobile/laptop charging sockets in identified classes of coaches.
- (xx) Provision of dust bins in Non-AC coaches, Braille signages in coaches, mugs with chain in Non-AC coaches.
- (xxi) Introduction of train services with higher facilities like Tejas, Humsafar, Mahamana Express, Deen Dayalu Express etc.
- (xxii) Introduction of station-based e-catering for widening the range of options available to passengers for ordering food of their choice.
- (xxiii) Introduction of pre-cooked food ('ready to eat' meals) in the range of options available to passengers.
- (xxiv) Operation of Centralised Catering Service Monitoring Cell (CSMC) (Toll free Number. 1800-111-321) for prompt Redressal of passenger grievances related to the catering activities and real time assistance to travelling public.
- (xxv) Operation of all India helpline Number 138 for Rail users to lodge complaints/suggestions regarding food and catering services.
- xxvi) A twitter handle -@IRCATERING has also been made operational to cater to the complaints/suggestions with regard to catering services.
- (xxvii) Optional catering service introduced on 32 Rajdhani/ Shatabdi/Duronto/Gatiman trains.
- (xxviii) A third-party audit to examine the quality of food, hygiene and cleanliness in pantry car and base kitchen has been started by IRCTC. IRCTC has awarded Food safety, hygiene audit for 96 trains, 206 Food Plazas/Fast Food Units.
- (xxix) Water Vending Machines (WVM) policy was notified w.e.f. 16.06.2015 and 1850 WVMs have already been installed at various stations with the objective to provide potable drinking water of prescribed Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) standards and other regulations to passengers at affordable price.
- ( xxx) IRCTC has set up a Central Control and Monitoring Centre at New Delhi for real time monitoring of its base kitchens across the country through Artificial Intelligence (AI) equipped high definition Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system. Sharing of live streaming of the Base Kitchens through website of IRCTC has been made operational w.e.f. 04/07/2018.
- (xxxi) In order to generate printed bill and invoice reflecting all details of transactions undertaken at catering units, hand held Point of Sale (POS) machines have been provided and at present, 100 POS machines are in operation on 26 trains.

Strengthening/upgrading of existing facilities and introduction of new facilities to improve customer satisfaction is a continuous and ongoing process.

*[Translation]*

### **Railway Projects**

1166. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

SHRI NIHAL CHAND:

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

SHRI DEVENDRA SINGH BHOLE:

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sanctioned and ongoing railway projects pertaining to new lines, gauge conversion, electrification and route doubling during the last three years and the current year, zone-wise;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and spent therefrom, zone-wise/State-wise;

(c) the total number of projects running behind schedule along with those pending due to financial constraints, zone-wise;

(d) whether any committee has been set up to monitor the implementation of the aforesaid projects and find out the reasons for the delay therein and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to generate extra budgetary support for the purpose and expedite completion of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Zone-wise details of sanctioned/included in budget, projects of New Line, Gauge Conversion, Doubling and Electrification are as under:-

Zonal Railway	New Line	Gauge Conversion	Doubling	Electrification
Central Railway	11	0	14	10
Eastern Railway	13	1	24	3
East Central Railway	26	4	21	12
East Coast Railway	7	0	16	4
Northern Railway	19	0	31	20
North Central Railway	1	3	28	8
North Eastern Railway	11	7	12	7
Northeast Frontier Railway	22	2	8	5
North Western Railway	7	3	11	8
Southern Railway	10	4	17	4
South Central Railway	17	0	14	5
South Eastern Railway	6	2	22	1
South East Central Railway	9	4	9	3
South Western Railway	15	1	11	7
Western Railway	4	26	14	8
West Central Railway	3	0	12	5

(b) The details of all works in progress and new works including, funds spent on each project, allotment of funds and expenditure are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in and are also available in Pink Books presented before the House alongwith Budget every year.

(c) to (e) The completion of Railway projects requires clearances from various departments of State Government and Central Ministries like acquisition of land, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life, shifting of utilities etc. leading to time overrun. For important projects, capacity enhancement projects, last mile connectivity etc, institutional financing has been done by arranging loan from M/s Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited for RS. 1.5 lakh crore, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.

[English]

### Supply of Drinking Water

1167. SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the various provisions made at the railway stations for supply of drinking water to the passengers especially in the State of Gujarat;

(b) whether the Railways are able to meet the demand of drinking water at railway stations and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Railways proposes to install water vending machines at railway stations so as to provide potable water at an affordable cost especially in the context of the State of Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the number of machines likely to be installed and estimated cost along with the employment likely to be generated as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) It is Railways' endeavour to provide free potable water at all Railway Stations. Indian Railways have more than 8500 railway stations spread over the length and breadth of the country and adequate arrangements have been made to provide free potable water at all

Railway Stations to meet the demand of drinking water at these railway stations including the railway stations in Gujarat. Railways are using various sources of water like bore-well, hand pumps municipal supply, tankers, river/dams etc.

(c) and (d) Guidelines have been issued for installation and operation of Water Vending Machines by Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC) to provide purified, chilled and clean drinking water to Railway Passengers at affordable prices of i.e 300ml @ ₹ 1/- and one litre @ ₹ 5/-.

In total there are 61 contracts in operation for installation of approximately 2700 Water Vending Machines throughout the country including the State of Gujarat, out of which nearly 1850 Nos. of Water Vending Machines have been installed till 30.06.2018 and the likely employment generation is estimated to be around 3700 persons @ 2 persons per machine.

IRCTC has executed tenders over Bhavnagar, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Mumbai Central Divisions of Western Railway falling in the State of Gujarat, for installation and operation of Water Vending Machines.

In the State of Gujarat, total number of 80 Water Vending Machines are operational over 30 Railway Stations as per the enclosed. Further 07 Nos. of Water Vending Machines are under installation and are likely to be operational by August 2018.

### Statement

#### *Details of Water Vending Machines Installed Over the Railway Stations of Gujarat State*

S. No.	Name of Station	Western Railway	No. of machines installed
1	2	3	4
1.	Bhavnagar Terminus	Bhavnagar Division	2
2.	Junagarh		2
3.	Botad		1
4.	Porbandar		2
5.	Gondal		1

1	2	3	4
6.	Vadodara	Vadodara Division	9
7.	Ankleshwar		2
8.	Anand		4
9.	Bharuch		3
10.	Veraval		2
11.	Nadiad		3
12.	Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad Division	10
13.	Palanpur		2
14.	Mahesana		3
15.	Viramgam		3
16.	Gandhidham		1
17.	Bhachau		1
18.	Samakhayali		1
19.	New Bhuj		1
20.	Rajkot	Rajkot Division	3
21.	Jamnagar		2
22.	Surendranagar		2
23.	Dwarka		1
24.	Wankaner		2
25.	Okha		1
26.	Hapa		2
27.	Surat	BCT Division	9
28.	Navsari		2
29.	Udhana		2
30.	Udwada		1
TOTAL			80

[Translation]

### Stoppage at Bilaspur Station

1168. SHRI VIKRAM USENDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any stoppage has been provided at Bilaspur Station for train number 12262/12261 running between Howrah to Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal,

(Duronto Express) and train number 12222/ 12221 running between Howrah to Pune (Duronto Express) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is no stoppage for these trains at Raipur, the capital city of Chhattisgarh and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide stoppage for these trains at Raipur Station and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam. Stoppage of 12261/12262 Howrah-Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Duronto Express & 12221/12222 Howrah-Pune Duronto Express has been provided at Bilaspur w.e.f. 03.01.2016 & 02.01.2016 respectively.

(b) and (c) At present, 12261/12262 Howrah-Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal Duronto Express & 12221/12222 Howrah-Pune Duronto Express do not have scheduled stoppage at Raipur, as these train services do not run through Raipur.

### Implementation of CSR Policy by CIL

1169. DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the present Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy approved by the public undertakings department for public sector undertakings;

(b): the manner in which this policy is being implemented by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries along with details of expenditure made by CIL and its subsidiaries;

(c) the mechanism put in place for monitoring/functioning of CIL and its subsidiaries under CSR policy;

(d) whether the Government has received complaints regarding non-implementation of CSR policy by the coal companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year along with the action taken thereon, State/subsidiary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a)

As per Companies Act, 2013 and DPE guidelines effective from 01.04.2014, the funds for CSR are allocated based on 2% of the average net profit of the company for the three immediate preceding financial years.

(b) In Coal India Limited (CIL), the funds for CSR are allocated based on 2% of the average net profit of the company for the three immediate preceding financial years or ₹ 2 per tonne of coal production of previous year whichever is higher. Subsidiaries of CIL spend 80% of the budgeted amount within the radius of 25 kms of the Project Site/Mines/Area HQ/Company HQ and 20% of the budget within the State/States in which the subsidiary companies are operating. In respect of CIL (HQ), CSR activities are executed on national basis including the areas under its subsidiaries. Details of expenditure made by CIL and its subsidiaries during the last three years are given below:

Financial Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
CSR Expenditure (₹ Crores)	1076.07	489.67	483.96

(c) Board Level Committee on CSR of CIL as well as its subsidiaries review the implementation of CSR activities from time to time and recommend the amount of expenditure to be incurred on CSR activities.

(d) CIL has informed that no complaint has been received in regard to non-implementation of the CSR Policy.

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

[English]

#### **Inadequate Transportation Facilities**

1170. DR. J.JAYAVARDHAN:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE:

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coal in the country is being affected due to inadequate transportation facilities;

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

(c) the total quantum of coal which could not be transported to the destination due to lack of transportation facilities during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the details of the projects affected so far; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for providing adequate infrastructural facilities for the transportation of coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Transport facility is not a constraint on coal production. There was an increase of 105 MT in production between 2013-14 and 2017-18 compared to an increase of only 31.15 MT in the preceding five years between 2009-10 to 2013-14. However, there are a few mines in Mahandi Coalfields Limited (MCL), Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) which are unable to operate at optimal capacity due to coal evacuation constraint.

(c) The offtake of Coal India Limited (CIL) has increased from 534.20 MT in 2015-16 to 581.5 MT during 2017-18. The increase in offtake of CIL between 2013-14 and 2017-18 is 109.12 MT as compared to an increase of 55.04 MT between 2009-10 to 2013-14. Annual average rakes provided by Railways to CIL for transportation of coal has increased from 212.8 (rakes/day) in 2015-16 to 229.2 (rakes/day) in 2017-18. Transportation by other modes (MGR, Belt and Rope) by CIL have also increased from 105.52 MT in 2015-16 to 110.22 MT in 2017-18. Therefore, there is adequate transportation facility to transport coal to the destination.

(d) The Projects affected due to transport constraint are Kulda and Basundhara (West) Extension of MCL in Odisha, Magadh and Amrapali of CCL in Jharkhand and Chhal and Baroud of SECL in Chhatisgarh.

(e) The following railway infrastructure facility projects have been taken up for improving coal evacuation in Chattishgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha:

1. Tori - Shivpur - Kathotia New BG Line (Total length 93.45 Km) in Jharkhand : Tori-Balumath Rail line section has been inaugurated on 09.03.2018 and currently coal dispatch is going on. Remaining work beyond Balumath is under progress.
2. Mahanadi Coal Railway Limited (MCRL) PROJECTS: The project consists primarily of 3 components: Angul - Balaram (12.9km), Balaram-Putagadia and Jarapada-Putagadia-Tentuloi (55 Km) in Odisha.
3. Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. (CERL) (Length: 132 Km) : Bhupdeopur-Gharghoda-Dharamjaigarh up to Korba with a spur from Gharghoda to Donga Mahua in Chhattisgarh.
4. Chhattisgarh East-West Railway Ltd. (CEWRL) (Length : 135 Km) : Gevra Road to Pendra Road via Dipka, Katghora, Sendurgarh, Pasan in Chhattisgarh.

#### **Database of Contract Workers**

1171. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is coming up with a database of contract workers in non-operational areas such as housekeeping, cleaning, consultancy, trailing and other such services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this new database would help to keep an eye out for any violation of labour rights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) A comprehensive computerized contract labour management system for creating a database and monitoring attendance shall be put in place by the contractor or by Indian Railways, as decided by the Railways and as per the special conditions of contract. Use of this system shall be mandatory in labour intensive service contracts i.e. housekeeping etc. In other service contracts, a special mention of the applicability of this clause shall be made in the Special Conditions of Contract. Railways have taken up the

development of an e-application "Contract Labour Payment Management Portal on Indian Railways" in which labour details like Name, Aadhar Number, Bank details, Wages paid etc., engaged by railway contractors shall be entered into by the contractors. The e-application is likely to assist Railway in ensuring enforcement of labour rights like, minimum wages, payment of wages etc.

#### **Paperless Courts**

1172. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court is considering to become paperless in phases and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the first five Courts, each Judge will have a computer before him and the Judges will peruse fresh case files on the computer ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Integrated Court Management Information System is almost ready to help the apex court registry towards implementing its paperless objective and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which entire judiciary would become paperless?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Madam. The Supreme Court is considering to become paperless in phases. Paperless work environment through introduction of E-office in Supreme Court was started in 2013. Supreme Court of India then launched the Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS) in 2017 with the introduction of digital filing. Digitized case records can be sent by High Courts to Supreme Court Registry after implementation of Integrated Case Management Information System. Digitization/scanning of case records, including fresh files/petitions is in progress. With the launch of ICMIS, integration of High Court's Digital Case details with Supreme Court in a two way communication mode has been implemented. Interlinking of all High Courts and Supreme Court with Wide Area Network (WAN) with the implementation of

high bandwidth digital MPLS network for facilitating speedy digital data movement and Video Conferences among High courts/Jails in the future will result in speedier movement of e-files and reduction in trial time of cases.

(b) Yes, Madam. In the first nine Courts of the Supreme Court of India, each Judge can peruse a fresh case file on the computer.

(c) Yes, Madam. The launching of ICMIS is a step towards achieving paperless Supreme Court. The salient features of the system are: web-based case status displaying each movement of the case to lawyers/litigants and all stakeholders time to time, online availability of information, online availability of scanned paper books for judges, file tracking, e-Cause list etc.

(d) The time by which entire judiciary would become paperless cannot be ascertained as it relates to availability of infrastructure, networking, capacity building and digitization of records at respective High Courts and Subordinate Courts.

*[Translation]*

#### **Model Stations in Jharkhand**

1173. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway zones under which Sahebganj-Pakud, Godda and Dumka districts in Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand falls and the number of railway stations in this constituency along with the details thereof, classification-wise;

(b) the stations upgraded in Sahebganj-Pakud, Godda and Dumka district under Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand during the last three years, station-wise;

(c) the number of railway stations declared as model stations in these districts including the east and west Singhbhum districts and the facilities provided and upgraded at such stations during the last three years; and

(d) the requirements to be met by these declared stations and the work done to fulfill these requirements till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) District/constituency - wise details of stations/Zones are not maintained. However, Sahebganj, Pakur and Dumka stations fall under Eastern Railway, (b) to (d) The details of development stations under 'Adarslf Station Scheme are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and State-wise. 'Adarslf Station Scheme was started in 2009-10 and since then 30 stations have been identified for development under this scheme in the State of Jharkhand and out of that, 08 stations have been identified during the last three years and out of that, three stations viz. Bokaro Thermal, Gomia and Tori Railway stations have been developed under 'Adarslf Station Scheme as per norms/guidelines effective for Adarsh stations and remaining railway stations are planned to be developed under 'Adarsh' station scheme by 2018-19.

*[English]*

#### **Public Private Partnership in Railways**

1174. SHRIMATI PRATYUSHA RAJESHWARI SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have identified projects to be executed through Public-Private Partnership (PPP);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the stations identified in various States including Odisha;

(c) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised for this purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Railways have any proposal to launch a scheme for revamping and transforming the railway stations especially by private developers in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the scheme; and

(f) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Railways has identified the following areas/projects under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) :-

- (i) Building/strengthening of rail Connectivities;
- (ii) Private Container Train Operations;
- (iii) Building private freight terminals;
- (iv) wagon investment/leasing schemes; and
- (v) Redevelopment of stations.

At present, the following stations have been identified for redevelopment through PPP mode : Charbagh (Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh), Ernakulam Junction (Kerala), Gomtinagar (Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh), Habibganj (Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh), Delhi Sarai Rohilla (Delhi), Jammu Tawi (Jammu and Kashmir), Kota (Rajasthan), Kozhikode (Kerala), Madgaon (Goa), Nellore (Andhra Pradesh), Puducherry (U.T. of Puducherry), Surat (Gujarat) and Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) railway stations. Bhubaneswar station in Odisha has been taken up for redevelopment through Partnership with the State Government.

(c) No funds have been allocated as these schemes are generally conceived in cost-neutral manner. For the purpose of strategy development for the program funds to the tune of ₹ 10 crore have been allotted and spent on consultancy in the last three years.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. Re-development is an ongoing programme for which private developers are invited through open bidding process. Re-development of stations is planned through leveraging of commercial development of vacant land/air space in and around stations. A redeveloped station generally envisages provision of following amenities:

- Segregation of arrival/departure of passengers.
- Essential facilities at concourse.
- Integration of both sides of city.
- Integration with other modes of transport.
- No parcel movement across the length of platform.

- User friendly international signages etc.

(f) Stations redevelopment projects are complex in nature and require detailed techno-economic feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local bodies. Therefore, no time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

#### **Nexus Between Bureaucracy and Private Companies**

1175. DR. RATNA DE (NAG):

SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nexus between bureaucracy and private companies is delaying the decisions making process of defence projects and the decision are delayed indefinitely if the favoured company is unlikely to win contract;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH Ramrav BHAMRE) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE:

(a) to (c) Capital procurement of defence equipment is undertaken in accordance with the extant Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) which incorporates provisions to ensure the highest degree of probity, public accountability, impartiality and transparency in the procurement process. It envisages signing of an Integrity Pact between Government and bidders for all capital procurement / schemes of ₹20 crore and above, as against earlier requirement for such a Pact for schemes of over ₹100 crore. No specific vendor is favoured in defence procurement.

Capital Acquisition of defence equipment is undertaken as a continuous activity to keep the Armed Forces in a state of preparedness and remaining equipped with modern weapon system. DPP-2016 contains provisions for reducing the timelines for completion of procurement activities. Further, Government regularly monitors progress of on-going procurement projects so as to ensure that the Armed Forces are equipped to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.



During the last three financial years and in the current year (upto June, 2018), 168 contracts have been signed for capital procurement of Defence equipment for Armed Forces.

#### **Civil Service Recruitment and Allocation Rules**

1176. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that apart from UPSC's establishment process, Government proposes to change civil service recruitment and allocation rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under special examinations and recommendation, the vacancies of almost 800 posts of officers of various services have not been filled yet; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the proposals of the Government to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) There is no proposal to alter the existing mode of recruitment to civil services through Civil Services Examination (CSE) which is conducted according to the CSE Rules notified by the Government every year.

(b) Does not arise

(c) There is no proposal for any special examination. For Civil Services Examination-2018, a total of 782 vacancies (tentative) has been advertised by UPSC on 07.02.2018 in its notice of Examination for 24 (twenty four) participating services.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Panchayat Election**

1177. SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be please to state:

(a) whether supreme Court of India has expressed shock over the fact that more than twenty thousand

seats went uncontested in the recently held panchayat elections in west Bengal and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Election Commission of India has sought report over the issue from the State Election Commission of West Bengal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND INISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per article 243K of the Constitution, the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all election to the Panchayats shall be vested in a State Election Commission consisting of State Election Commissioner to be appointed by the Governor. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to all matters relating to, or in connection with elections to the panchayats. The election commission of India has informed that the mater does not pertain to it.

#### **Simple Procedure for Passports**

1178. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to simplify the procedure to get a passport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to reduce passport fee for children and elderly people;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to simplify the procedure for getting passports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a), and (e) Yes. The Ministry has eased the passport issuing process and has made it an online procedure including getting appointments for submission of documents for passports. Effective technical infrastructure is in place to ensure that the

Passport Seva system is available for access at all times from any location. The Passport Portal([www.passportindia.gov.in](http://www.passportindia.gov.in)) is accessible to anyone, anywhere and anytime. With a view to address the challenge of digital divide, especially in the rural hinterland, the Ministry in association with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (which is promoted by the Department of Electronics and IT), has facilitated online filing of passport applications, through the vast network of Common Service Centres (CSCs) across rural hinterland.

An applicant can now apply for a passport from anywhere in India. But Police verification would be conducted by the Police Station in whose jurisdiction the address mentioned in the form falls and the passport will also be dispatched at the same address.

mPassport Seva mobile app launched on 26.06.2018 enables to apply, pay and schedule appointments for passport services. This App is available in Android and iOS platforms. It also provides passport related information including PSK and POPSK locator, applicable fees, mode of submission, and tracking of passport application status on smart phones. Citizens would not require access to a computer and printer to apply for passport services.

Securing online appointments for submission of passport applications at PSK/ POPSK has been simplified. The current provision is allowing applicants to choose any appointment date from the earliest five available dates (working days) for scheduling/rescheduling an appointment for passport related services. Earlier, the System used to offer only one available date to the applicant for seeking appointment for passport related services.

The Ministry has expanded the outreach by opening PSK and POPSK. At present, 93 PSKs and 215 POPSKs are operating across the country as extended arms of the 36 Passport Offices.

The passport rules have also been simplified to make it easier for the citizens to get passports. This is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) The Ministry announced a new scheme with effect from 24 June, 2017 in respect of senior citizens (age of 60 & above) and minors up to the age

of eight years under which, a discount of 10 per cent is given on the applicable passport fee for all fresh applications for passports to such persons.

### **Statement**

#### *Simplification of Passport Rules*

In order to streamline, liberalize and ease the process of issue of passport, the Ministry of External Affairs has taken a number of steps in the realm of passport policy to ease the process of issue of passports. The details of these steps are given below:-

#### A. Documents in support of proof of Date of Birth

As per the extant statutory provisions of the Passport Rules, 1980, all the applicants born on or after 26/01/1989, in order to get a passport, had to, hitherto, mandatorily submit the Birth Certificate as the proof of Date of Birth (DOB). It has now been decided that all applicants of passports can submit any one of the following documents as the proof of DOB while submitting the passport application:

- (i) Birth Certificate (BC) issued by the Registrar of Births & Deaths or the Municipal Corporation or any other prescribed authority whosoever has been empowered under the Registration of Birth & Deaths Act, 1969 to register the birth of a child born in India;
- (ii) Transfer/School leaving/Matriculation Certificate issued by the school last attended/recognized educational board containing the DOB of the applicant;
- (iii) PAN Card issued by the Income Tax Department with the DOB of applicant;
- (iv) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar having the DOB of applicant;
- (v) Copy of the extract of the service record of the applicant (only in respect of Government servants) or the Pay Pension Order (in respect of retired Government Servants), duly attested/certified by the officer/in-charge of the Administration of the concerned Ministry/Department of the applicant, having his DOB;

- (vi) Driving license issued by the Transport Department of concerned State Government, having the DOB of applicant;
- (vii) Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India having the DOB of applicant;
- (viii) Policy Bond issued by the Public Life Insurance Corporations/Companies having the DOB of the holder of the insurance policy.

**B. Other Changes:**

- (i) The online passport application form now requires the applicant to provide the name of father or mother or legal guardian, i.e., only one parent and not both. This would enable single parents to apply for passports for their children and to also issue passports where the name of either the father or the mother is not required to be printed at the request of the applicant.
- (ii) The total number of Annexes prescribed in the Passport Rule, 1980, has been reduced to 9 from the present 15. Annexes A, C, D, E, J, and K have been removed and certain Annexes have been merged.
- (iii) All the annexes that are required to be given by the applicants would be in the form of a self declaration on a plain paper. No attestation/swearing by/ before any Notary/ Executive Magistrate/ First Class Judicial Magistrate would be henceforth necessary.
- (iv) Married applicants would not be required to provide the erstwhile Annexure K or any marriage certificate.
- (v) The passport application form does not require the applicant to provide the name of her/his spouse in case of separated or divorced persons. Such applicants for passports would not be required to provide even the Divorce Decree.
- (vi) In case of children not born out of wedlock, the applicant for the passport of such children should submit only extant Annexure C while submitting the passport application.
- (vii) In case of issue of passport to in-country domestically adopted children, submission of the registered adoption deed would no longer be required. In the absence of any deed to this effect, the passport applicant may give a declaration on a plain paper confirming the adoption.
- (viii) Government servants, who are not able to obtain the Identity Certificate (extant Annexure-A)/ No-Objection Certificate (extant Annexure-G) from their concerned employer and intend to get the passport on urgent basis can now get the passport by submitting a self-declaration in extant Annexure-'H' that he/she has given prior Intimation Letter to his/her employer informing that he/she was applying for an ordinary passport to a Passport Issuing Authority.
- (ix) Sadhus/ Sanyasis can apply for a passport with the name of their spiritual Guru mentioned in the passport application in lieu of their biological parent(s) name(s) subject to their providing of at least one public document such as Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India, PAN card, Aadhaar Card, etc wherein the name of the Guru has been recorded against the column(s) for parent(s) name(s).
- (x) Orphaned children who do not have any proof of DOB such as Birth Certificate or the Matriculation Certificate or the declaratory Court order, may now submit a declaration given by the Head of the Orphanage/Child Care Home on their official letter head of the organization confirming the DOB of the applicant.
- (xi) An applicant for a passport has to submit any one of the documents as mentioned in (A) above as proof of Date of Birth (DOB) while submitting the passport application. The DOB mentioned in the document would be recorded in the passport. In case there is a discrepancy between the DOB previously recorded in the passport and the new proof of DOB submitted by the applicant, the Passport Issuing Authorities (PIA) have been authorized to consider the explanation of each applicant

seeking change in the DOB (irrespective of the period that would have lapsed after the issue of the passport) to find the genuineness of the claim and if the PIA is satisfied with the claim and with the documents) submitted by the applicant in support of the claim, the PIA shall accept all such requests made by the applicant to issue the passport with revised DOB.

- (xii) Passports can be now obtained under the 'Tatkaal' Scheme without providing the Verification Certificate from a Gazetted Officer, which was required earlier. The documents to be submitted for getting a passport under this Scheme have been notified vide G.S.R. 39(E) dated 18 January, 2018 and O.M. No. VI/401/1/4/2013 dated 23 March 2018 read with O.M. of even number dated 17 April 2018. Applicants may submit minimum three out of the following documents for obtaining passport:
- (a) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar containing the 12 digit Aadhaar number/28-digit Aadhaar Enrolment ID printed on the Aadhaar Enrolment Slip issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
  - (b) Electors Photo Identify Card (EPIC)
  - (c) Service Photo Identity Card issued by State or Central Government, Public Sector Undertaking, local bodies or Public Limited Companies;
  - (d) Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Class Certificate;
  - (e) Arms License;
  - (f) Pension Document such as Ex-servicemen's Pension Book or Pension Payment order, ex-servicemen's widow or dependent Certificate, Old Age pension Order;
  - (g) Self-Passport (unrevoked and undamaged);
  - (h) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card;
  - (i) Bank/Kisan/Post Office Passbook;
  - (j) Student Photo Identity Card issued by an Educational Institution;

(k) Driving License (valid and within the jurisdiction of State of submission of applicant);

(l) Birth Certificate issued under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act; and

(m) Ration Card

- (xiii) Now Passports can also be obtained under the Normal scheme on out-of-turn post-Police Verification basis without paying any additional fees on the submission of minimum three documents mentioned in para-xii.

#### **Broadband Services Through Public Wi-Fi**

1179. SHRI V. ELUMALAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecom commission has approved proliferation of broadband through public Wi-Fi network as recommended by TRAI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether internet telephony will allow users to make calls to cell phones as well as landline via internet service and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the wide coverage and usage of Wi-Fi is expected to bring down approximate cost per MB of data usage to less than 2 paise as opposed to 23 paise per MB on 2G, 3G, and 4G networks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to expand the network of public Wi-Fi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its suo motu recommendations dated 09.03.2017 to Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on the subject "Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks". Telecom Commission (TC) has approved these recommendations as mentioned in the "Summary of Recommendations" except the recommendations at S. Nos. 2 (which shall be brought before TC separately) and 5 (wherein no action is required at this stage).

This matter is presently under consideration in DoT and decision, as appropriate, will be taken in due course.

(c) All the Telecom Service Providers having Unified Access Service License, Cellular Mobile Telephone Service License, Unified License with Access Service Authorisation and Unified License (Virtual Network Operators) with Access Service Authorisation have been permitted to provide Internet Telephony by using the mobile numbering series. Internet telephony will allow users to make calls to cell phones as well as landline via internet services. The copy of amendment carried out on 19.06.2018 in the Unified Access Service Licenses in this regard is enclosed as Statement.

(d) TRAI in its consultation paper dated 13th July 2016 on "Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks) has stated that estimated cost per MB in Wi-Fi network could be less than 2 paise. It has also stated that consumers on average are paying around 23 paise per MB for the data usage in the cellular Network (2G/3G/4G).

However, as per "The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators" reports published by TRAI on 27th June 2018 for the period January-March, 2018, average outgo per GB for mobile users for GSM including LTE<Long Term Evolution) (2G+3G+4G) is ₹ 14.94 which amounts to less than 1.5 paise per MB.

(e) BharatNet is being implemented to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology is being provided at all the GPs. At each GP, on an average five Access Points (APs) are to be provided, three APs for Government institutions and two APs for public places.

Further, the following schemes, funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), are under implementation for providing broadband services through Wi-Fi hotspots in country:

- Public Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up by BSNL at its 25,000 Rural Telephone Exchanges.
- Wi-Fi Choupals are being set up by CSC-SPV at its 5,000 Gram Panchayats.

- Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up by RailTel at 200 rural Railway Stations.
- Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up by BSNL at 200 Gram Panchayats.

Under Ministry of Tourism funding, Wi-Fi hotspots at 90 tourist places across the country have been set up.

#### Statement

*No. 20-573/2017 AS-I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Communications  
Department of Telecommunications  
20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001*

Dated 19th June, 2018

To,

All the UAS Licensees.

Subject: Amendment to the UAS License on Internet Telephony

In pursuance to Condition 5.1, the Licensor hereby amends the UAS License Agreement as under:

Existing Clause	Amended Clause
1.	Part-I, General Conditions 2.6(H) Internet Telephony calls originated by International out roamers from international locations shall be handed over at the International gateway of licensed ILDOs and International termination charges shall be paid to the terminating access service provider. In case the Licensee is not able to ensure that Internet Telephony call originated outside of the country is coming

Existing Clause	Amended Clause
	through ILDO gateway, International out-roaming to Internet Telephony subscribers of the access provider shall not be allowed. Further, the calls originated outside the country using internet telephony shall be routed through ILD (International Long Distance) Gateway like any other international call.
2.	<p>Part-I, General Conditions</p> <p>2.6(iii) The mobile numbering series should be used for providing Internet Telephony by a Licensee. TSPs are allowed to allocate same number to the subscriber both for Cellular Mobile service and Internet Telephony service.</p> <p>The access service licensee should use private ENUM in its network for Telephone number mapping from E.164 to SIP/H.323 addresses and vice-versa.</p>
3.	<p>Part-I, General Conditions 2.6(iv) The licensees should comply with all the interception and monitoring related requirements as specified in the licence</p>

Existing Clause	Amended Clause
	<p>as amended from time to time for providing Internet Telephony.</p> <p>The Public IP address used for originating/terminating Internet Telephony calls should be made a mandatory part of CDR in case of Internet Telephony. The location details in form of latitude and longitude should also be provided wherever it is feasible. CLI Restriction (CLIR) facility should not be provided for Internet Telephony Subscribers.</p>
4. "IP Address assigned to a subscriber for Internet Telephony shall conform to IP addressing Scheme of Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) only. Translation of E.164 number / private number to IP address and vice versa by the licensee for this purpose shall be as per directions/instructions issued by the Licensor."	<p>Part-I, General Conditions 2.6 (v) IP Address assigned to a subscriber for Internet Telephony shall conform to IP addressing Scheme of Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) only.</p>
5.	<p>Part-I, General Conditions 2.6 (vi) The Licensees providing Internet Telephony service may facilitate access to emergency number calls using location services;</p>

Existing Clause	Amended Clause
	however it is not mandated to provide such services at present. The subscribers may be informed about the limitation of providing access to emergency services to Internet Telephony subscribers in unambiguous terms.
6.	Part-I, General Conditions  2.6 (vii) The Licensees must inform QoS parameter supported by them for Internet Telephony so that the subscribers can take an informed decision.

2. These amendments shall be part and parcel of the UAS License Agreement and all others Terms & Conditions shall remain unchanged.
3. These Amendments come into force with immediate effect.

(R.K.Soni)  
Director (AS)  
Ph. No. 23036284

Copy to,

1. Secretary (TRAI)
2. Sr. DDG (TEC)/ Wireless Advisor/ Sr. DDG (DGT-HQ)/ Sr. DDG (LFP)/ DDG (LFA) and DDG (WPF)
3. DDG (CS)/ DDG (DS)/ DDG (A/C)/ CVO
4. COAL
5. Director (IT) may kindly arrange to upload this letter on the website of DoT.
6. All Directors of AS Division.

[Translation]

#### **Violation of Law in Ignorance**

1180. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian labourers who were working in Gulf countries and who did not know the Arabic language are serving in jails there, as they failed to follow the oral instructions of their Arabl masters and violated law in ignorance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these Indian nationals are imprisoned in the jails of Gulf countries for a long time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate a foreign policy to get them released and bring back to India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) The Ministry has not come across any case of Indian labourers serving prison sentence in Gulf countries due to not following the oral instructions of their employers or violation of law in ignorance.

(c) and (d) As per the information available with the Ministry, the number of Indian nationals imprisoned In the Jails of Gulf countries, for varying periods of sentences, is 4604 as of May 2018. Detailed country-wise list is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) and (f) As soon as Indian Missions and Posts abroad receive information from the local authorities about Indian nationals who are arrested or convicted after due process of law, the Missions/Posts seek consular access and visit them and renders all possible assistance including legal assistance through empanelled law firms. In addition, Mission officials visit the prison every month and meet Indian prisoners to look into their welfare, provide basic needs like toiletries and phone cards to enable them to speak to their families, assist in dispatch and receipt of their personal mails, advice them in respect of mercy petitions, etc. If any mercy petition for remission of sentence is received from family members of Indian prisoners, the Mission recommends them to the local authorities for consideration. In addition, the Mission regularly requests the local authorities for their early release and royal pardon. On their release, prisoners are issued travel documents by the Mission. Their

repatriation is facilitated by the Mission at the Airport to enable their smooth return. Air tickets and financial assistance /payment of fines are facilitated by the Mission on a case to case basis.

**Statement**

*Countrywise Number of Indian Nationals Imprisoned in Gulf Countries*

S. No.	Name of Country	Number of Indian nationals imprisoned In Gulf countries
1.	Bahrain	97
2.	Iraq	NIL
3.	Kuwait	484
4.	Oman	113
5.	Qatar	210
6.	Saudi Arabia	2060
7.	Syria	NIL
8.	United Arab Emirates	1640
Total		4604

[English]

**INDO-US Relationship**

1181. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the impact on India's relationship with America consequent upon aligning with Russia and China on the issue of sanctions against Iran;

(b) the areas of mutual interest on which broad consensus between the US and India has been arrived at;

(c) the crucial areas on which divergent views between the two countries emerged; and

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to address these areas of the Indo-US relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VINAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) to (d) On 08 May 2018, the U.S. Administration announced its decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with

Iran and re-impose the U.S. sanctions suspended under JCPOA, in two stages effective 6 August 2018 and 4 November 2018.

India has maintained that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy by respecting Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy as also the international community's strong interest in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program. All parties should engage constructively to address and resolve issues that have arisen with respect to the JCPOA.

India-U.S. bilateral relations have developed into a comprehensive strategic and global partnership, based on shared democratic values and increasing convergence of interests on bilateral, regional and global issues. India-U.S. strategic partnership extends to the entirety of human endeavour.

India and the U.S. continue to engage with each other, including at the highest level and in structured Ministerial and Senior official-level dialogue mechanisms, on a wide range of issues of shared interest and concern.

**ICCR in Kerala**

1182. DR. SHASHI THAROOR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the regional office of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in Thiruvananthapuram has been an important link for cultural and academic activities between foreign countries and Kerala for the last four decades and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the closure of this office and merging its functions with the Chennai Office, will severely be disadvantageous to students in Kerala, who require assistance from the Council, owing to the 725 Km distance between Thiruvananthapuram and Chennai;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the remedial measures taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) Yes, the Regional Office of ICCR in Thiruvananthapuram has been an important link for



cultural and academic activities between foreign countries and Kerala.

The Council keeps sponsoring cultural groups from Kerala to foreign countries for performances and similarly invites foreign cultural groups for performances in Kerala. Apart from cultural activities, the Council also sponsors foreign students from various countries for studying in universities/institutes in Kerala under various scholarship schemes administered by ICCR.

(b) The Regional Office in Thiruvananthapuram is operational in the same capacity as before.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

### **Maritime Dialogue**

1183. SHRI P.R. SENTHIL ATHAN:

SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has held effective bilateral maritime dialogues with France and Indonesia and has proposal to have maritime dialogue with China and Russia to strengthen our maritime ties in Indo-Pacific region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has proposed any specific agenda on providing safety and security for Indian mariners and fishing community in this region through these maritime dialogues;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Government's stand in this regard; and

(e) the current status of our ties with foreign countries in Indo-Pacific region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) India has held bilateral maritime dialogues with a number of countries in the Indo-Pacific region including Australia, China, France, Japan and the United States. The dialogues are conducted alternately in India and in the dialogue partner countries.

(b) The third maritime dialogue with France was undertaken in Paris from 14-15 June 2018 and the second maritime dialogue with China was held in Beijing on 13 July 2018.

(c) and (d) The agenda for maritime dialogues covers a broad spectrum of issues in the maritime domain including safety of personnel and security of shipping and sea lanes. These dialogues, inter alia, cover exchange of views on best practices and cooperative mechanisms to tackle challenges related to safety and security of marine personnel.

(e) India enjoys friendly relations with all countries of the Indo-Pacific region.

*[Translation]*

### **New Nuclear Power Plants**

1184. BR. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up atomic power plants with a view to meet the shortage of electricity in the country;

(b) if so, the status along with the names of locations where atomic power plants are likely to be set up, State/UT-wise;

(c) the names of various countries with whom negotiations have been held for the supply of fuel for these atomic power plants; and

(d) the time by which these atomic power plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam

(b) At present, there are nine (9) nuclear power reactors at various stages of construction. Twelve (12) more nuclear power reactors have been accorded

administrative approval and financial sanction by the Government in June 2017. Currently, pre-project activities are in progress on these projects. In addition,

the Government has also accorded 'in principle' approval of sites for setting up nuclear power reactors in future. The details are as follows:

*Nuclear Power Reactors under Construction:*

State	Location	Project	Capacity (MW)
Gujarat	Kakrapar	KAPP 3&4	2 × 700
Rajasthan	Rawatbhata	RAPP 7&8	2 × 700
Tamil Nadu	Kudankulam	KKNPP 3&4	2 × 1000
	Kalpakkam	PFBR <sup>&amp;</sup>	500 <sup>&amp;</sup>
Haryana	Gorakhpur	GHAVP 1&2 <sup>§</sup>	2 × 700

<sup>&</sup>Project being implemented by BHAVINI

<sup>§</sup> Excavation commenced

*Nuclear Power Reactors accorded administrative approval and financial sanction:*

State	Location	Project	Capacity (MW)
Haryana	Gorakhpur	GHAVP 3&4	2 × 700
Rajasthan	Mahi-Banswara	Mahi Banswara 1 & 2	2 × 700
		Mahi Banswara 3 & 4	2 × 700
Karnataka	Kaiga	Kaiga 5 & 6	2 × 700
Madhya Pradesh	Chutka	Chutka 1 & 2	2 × 700
Tamil Nadu	Kudankulam	KKNPP 5 & 6	2 × 1000

*Sites accorded 'in principle' approval for setting up more reactors in future:*

State	Site	Capacity (MW)	In Cooperation with
Maharashtra	Jaitapur	6 × 1650	France
Andhra Pradesh	Kovvada	6 × 1208	United States of
Gujarat	Chhaya Mithi Virdi	6 × 1000*	America
West Bengal	Haripur	6 × 1000*	Russian Federation
Madhya Pradesh	Bhimpur	4 × 700	Indigenous PHWR

\*Nominal Capacity

(c) The names of the countries with whom negotiations have been held for the supply of fuel for the Atomic Power Plants are Russia, Kazakhstan, Canada, Uzbekistan, France and Australia.

(d) The reactors under construction and accorded administrative approval and financial sanction are expected to be completed progressively by 2031. In respect of reactors to be set up in future at sites

accorded 'in principle' approval, the completion would depend on their respective start dates.

[English]

#### **Modernisation under Madurai Division**

1185. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed any modernization work in Kottarakkara and Avaneswaram Railway stations under Madurai division in Kerala;

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

(c) the details of facilities provided/proposed to be provided at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Kottarakkara and Avaneswaram, both Railway stations, have been developed under Adarsh station scheme. All Minimum Essential Amenities have been provided at both the stations as per norms.

In addition, following works have been proposed at both the stations:-

- Provision of additional Fans.
- Provision of Platform Shelters 2 bays each including replacement of damaged AC sheets with Galvalume sheets for Platform shelter and Foot over Bridge Roof.
- Pay and Use Toilets in circulating area & Concourse.
- Ramps at entry of station for physically challenged persons
- Landscaping of circulating area at Avaneswaram.
- Provision of LED clock with real time connectivity at Avaneswaram.

#### **New Station Between Thanjavur and Alakudi**

1186. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is having any proposal to operate the empty rake of Uzhavan Express

as a passenger special upto Thanjavur after completion of primary maintenance works at Thlruchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways is also having any proposal to establish a new railway station between Thanjavur junction and Alakudi station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. At present, 06865/06866 Thanjavur-Tiruchchirappalli special Passenger train is being operated, w.e.f 29.05.2018, by utilizing the rake of 16865/16866 Chennai Egmore-Thanjavur Uzhavan Express after maintenance at Tiruchchirappalli.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Wi-Fi in Rural Areas**

1187. DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a government scheme or programme to set up Wi-Fi in rural areas of the country specifically in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) BharatNet is being implemented to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology is being provided at all the GPs in the country, including in the State of Gujarat. The project is targeted to be completed by March 2019. A total of ₹ 562 crore has been approved for 14050 GPs of Gujarat.

Other schemes being implemented to provide Wi-Fi services in Gujarat are:

- a) Public Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up by BSNL at its 1850 Telephone Exchanges in rural areas of Gujarat.

- b) Wi-Fi hotspots are being set up at 15 rural Railway Stations in Gujarat by M/s RailTel.

**Modernisation/Upgradation of Post Offices**

1188. DR. P.K. BIJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to modernise/upgrade the post offices in view of the important works assigned to them including issuance of train reservation tickets, Aadhaar enrolment centres, Passport seva, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the post offices where modernisation/upgradation has already been undertaken, State/UT-wise, especially in Kerala; and

(d) the post offices where modernisation/upgradation is proposed to be undertaken, State/UT-wise especially in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Yes, Madam. The Government modernises/upgrades post offices for the purposes of important

works assigned including issuance of train ticket reservation, Aadhaar enrolment centre, Post Office Passport Seva Kendra and setting up of India Post Payments Bank counters in Post Offices, based on service specific requirements.

(b) A total of 13352 Post Offices were modernised/upgraded for Aadhaar updation centres with an investment of ₹ 176.28 crores. An amount of ₹7.53 crores for setting up of 215 Passpost Seva Kendras in Post Offices and ₹ 34.70 crore for setting up of 650 India Post Payments Bank counters have been spent in the year 2017-2018, for modernisation/upgradation in these Post Offices.

(c) and (d) The list of modernised / upgraded Post Offices are available at <https://www.indiapost.gov.in>. The number of Post Offices, Circle-wise, where modernisation/upgradation has been undertaken for the purposes of passenger reservation system, Aadhaar updation and enrolment facility, Post Office Passport Seva Kendras, India Post Payments Bank counters and Automated Teller Machines (ATM) and the names of Post Offices in Kerala Circle in the enclosed Statement I and II, respectively. Further, modernization and upgradation of post offices including in the state of Kerala is under the consideration of the Department.

**Statement – I**

*The circle-wise number of post offices upgraded for the purpose of Indian Post. Passenger reservation system, Aadhar. Upgradation and enrollment facilities, Post Office Passport Seva Kendra, Indian Post Payments Bank and Automated Teller Machine.*

Circle	India Post - Passenger Reservation System	Aadhaar Updation and Enrollment Facility	Post Office Passpost Seva Kendra	India Post Payments Bank	Automated Teller Machine
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	25	578	11	24	58
Assam	5	216	10	26	26
Bihar	7	582	15	38	44
Chhatisgarh	9	161	4	27	14
Delhi	2	261	4	3	26

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	13	878	16	32	41
Haryana	3	289	7	20	20
Himachal Pradesh	0	254	6	12	22
Jammu and Kashmir	1	87	6	8	13
Jharkhand	10	207	7	22	19
Karnataka	41	869	12	31	76
Kerala	1	1050	5	15	52
Madhya Pradesh	23	473	9	42	51
Maharashtra	51	1293	14	42	75
North East	11	122	3	47	19
Odisha	21	473	7	33	44
Punjab	12	503	5	23	26
Rajasthan	15	600	16	33	64
Tamil Nadu	19	1435	12	37	97
Telangana	25	266	7	23	37
Uttar Pradesh	32	1425	26	73	89
Uttarakhand	9	214	6	12	18
West Bengal	2	1116	7	27	64
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>13352</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>995</b>

**Statement – II***List of Modernised Post Offices of Kerala*

SI No.	India Post - Passenger Reservation System	Aadhaar Updation and Enrollment Facility	Post Office Passpost Seva Kendra	India Post Payments Bank	Automated Teller Machine
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Perambra MDG	Ernakulam HO	Pathanamthitta HO	ALAPPUZHA BRANCH	Ernakulam H.O
2.		Kocbi HO	PMs Quarters	ERNAKULAM BRANCH	Thiruvananthapuram G.P.O.
3.		Ambalamedu	Kavaratti MDG	IDUKKI BRANCH	Neyyattinkara H.O
4.		Changampuzha Nagar	Chengannur HO	KANNUR BRANCH	Alappuzha H.O
5.		ChittoorEKM	Kattapana H O	KASARAGOD BRANCH	Kollam H.O

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.		Chottanikkara		KOLLAM BRANCH	Kottarakara H.O
7.		CSEZ		KOTTAYAM BRANCH	Cherthala H.O
8.		Edappally		KOZHIKODE BRANCH	Thrissur H.O
9.		Elamakkara		LAKSHADWEE P BRANCH	Chalakudi H.O
10.		Ernakulam College		MALAPPURAM BRANCH	Irinjalakuda H.O
11.		Ernakulam HighCourt		PALAKKAD BRANCH	Tiruvalla H.O
12.		Ernakulam North		PATHANAMTH ITTA BRANCH	Chengannur H.O
13.		Eroor		THIRUVANAN THAPURAM BRANCH	Aluva H.O
14.		HMT Colony		THRISSUR BRANCH	Kayangulam H.O
15.		Kadavanthra		WAYANAD BRANCH	Mavelikara H.O
16.		Kalamassery			Muvattupuzha H.O
17.		Kakkanad			Kottayam H.O
18.		Kaloor			Pathanamthitta H.O
19.		Kanjiramattom			Kattappana H.O
20.		Kochi MG Road			Adur(Kla) H.O
21.		Kochi University			Karunagappaly H.O
22.		Maradu			Kanjirapally H.O
23.		Mulanthuruthy			Changanacherry H.O
24.		Pachalam			Punalur H.O
25.		Palarivattom			PERUMBAVUR H.O
26.		Panampilly Nagar			Calicut Civil Station HO
27.		Panangad			Calicut H.O
28.		Perumanoor			Pallickal S.O

1	2	3	4	5	6
29.		Puthencruz			Palakkad H.O
30.		Shanmugham Road			Balaramapuram
31.		Thammanam			Palai H.O
32.		Thevara			Kannur H.O
33.		Thiruvankulam			Wadakanchery-TC H.O
34.		Trikkakara			Peroorkada MDG
35.		Tripunithura			Kasaragod H.O
36.		Udayamperoor			Attingal H.O
37.		TJdyogamandal			Vaikom H.O
38.		Vaduthala			Olavakkot H.O
39.		Vennala			Perintalmanna
40.		Vytila			KUMILY S.O
41.		Kannamali			Ottapalam H.O
42.		Kochi Naval Base			Guruvayur MDG
43.		Mattancherry			Koyilandi H.O
44.		Narakkal			Thalassery H.O
45.		Nayarambalam			Pulpalli
46.		Ochanthuruth			Areadcode MDG
47.		Palluruthy			Kondotty MDG
48.		Thoppumpady			Tanur S.O
49.		Willingdon Island			Nemmara MDG
50.		Alappuzha HO			Taliparamba H.O
51.		Alappuzha IB			Kochi HO
52.		Alappuzha Medical College			Munnar MDG
53.		Ambalapuzha			
54.		Aroor			
55.		Avalukkunnu			
56.		CherthalaHO			
57.		Kalavoor			
58.		Mayithara Market			

1	2	3	4	5	6
59.		Pattanacaud			
60.		Poochackal			
61.		Thuravoor			
62.		AluvaHO			
63.		Perumbavoor HO			
64.		Muvattupuzha HO			
65.		Kothamangalam MDG			
66.		Paravur MDG			
67.		KaladyMDG			
68.		Angamaly MDG			
69.		Koothattukulam MDG			
70.		Piravom SO			
71.		Muvattupuzha Market SO			
72.		Kolenchery SO			
73.		Kuruppampady SO			
74.		Alangad SO			
75.		Vazhakulam SO			
76.		Athirampuzha			
77.		Muttambalam			
78.		Nattasseri SH Mount			
79.		Anthinad			
80.		Arunapuram			r i
81.		Ramapuram Bazar			
82.		Kaduthuruthy			
83.		Manjoor			
84.		Ettumanoor			
85.		Kottayam Collectorate			



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1	2	3	4	5	6
86.		Puthupally			
87.		Thalayolaparamb u			
88.		Gandhi Nagar			
89.		Kuravilangad			
90.		Kottayam HO			
91.		PalaHO			
92.		Vaikom HO			
93.		Kavaratti			
94.		Changanassery HO			
95.		Kanjirapally HO			
96.		Karukachal SO			
97.		Perunna SO			
98.		Anikad SO			
99.		Erumeli SO			
100.		Mundakayam SO			
101.		Pampady SO			
102.		Ponkunnam SO			
103.		KUNNAMKULAM HO			
104.		THRISSURHO			
105.		WADAKAKNCHE RI-TC HO			
106.		ANTIKAD			
107.		AYYANTHOLE			
108.		CHAVAKKAD			
109.		CHELAKKARA			
110.		CHERUTHURUT HY			
111.		ERUMAPETTY			
112.		GURUVAYUR			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
113.		JUBILEE MISSION PO, THRISSUR EAST 680005			
114.		KANDASSANKAD AVU			
115.		KURKANCHERI			
116.		MANNUTHY			
117.		MULAGUNNATH UKAV U			
118.		OLLUR			
119.		PAZHANJI			
120.		PAZHAYANNUR			
121.		POOTHOLE			
122.		PUNKUNNU			
123.		PUNNAYURKULA M			
124.		THIRUVILWAMA LA			
125.		THRISSUR CENTRAL			
126.		THRISSUR CITY			
127.		KECHERI			
128.		PAVARATTY			
129.		KURIACHIRA			
130.		PATTIKKAD			
131.		PURANATTUKAR A			
132.		PUTHUR			
133.		VATANAPALLY			
134.		Kattappana HO			
135.		Thodupuzha HO			
136.		Kumily			
137.		Vandiperiyar			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
138.		Munnar			
139.		Nedumkandam			
140.		Peermade			
141.		Idukki Colony			
142.		Chithirapuram			
143.		Kalayanthani			
144.		Adimali			
145.		Karimannoor			
146.		Irinjalakuda HO			
147.		Cherpu SO			
148.		Kaipamangalam SO			
149.		Kalletumkara SO			
150.		Kattoor SO			
151.		Kodungallur MDG			
152.		Valapad			
153.		Chalakuadi HO			
154.		Kodakara SO			
155.		Koratti MDG			
156.		Mala SO			
157.		Pariyaram SO			
158.		Pudukkad SO			
159.		MAVELIKARA HO			
160.		KAYANGULAM HO			
161.		CHETTIKULANG ARA			
162.		MANNAR			
163.		CHARUMMOODU			
164.		HARIPAD			
165.		KARTHIGAPALL Y			
166.		KARUVATTA			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
167.		MTJIHUKULAM SOUTH			
168.		NOORANAD	•		
169.		PALLICKAL			
170.		THRIKKUNNAPU ZHA			
171.		THATTARAMBAL AM			
172.		TVMGPO			
173.		Attingal HO			
174.		Alamcode			
175.		Chirayinkil			
176.		Ayroor Varkala			
177.		Edava			
178.		Kadakkavoor			
179.		Kallambalam			
180.		Kazhakoottam			
181.		Kaniyapuram			
182.		Kallara			
183.		Kilimanoor			
184.		Pallippuram			
185.		Perunguzhi			
186.		Pothencode			
187.		Vamanapuram			
188.		Venjaramoodu			
189.		Karyavattom			
190.		Nalanchira			
191.		Pattom Palace			
192.		Sreekaryam			
193.		Varkala			
194.		TVMAGs			
195.		TVM Chalai			
196.		TVMISRO			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
197.		TVM Medical College			
198.		Public Office			
199.		TVM Pettah			
200.		TVM University			
201.		Vallakkadavu			
202.		Vanchiyur			
203.		Vikas Bhavan			
204.		TVM Fort			
205.		Amaravila			
206.		Aryanad			
207.		Balaramapuram			
208.		Kanjiramkulam			
209.		Karakulam			
210.		Karamana			
211.		Kattakada			
212.		Kaudiar			
213.		Manacaud			
214.		Nedumangad			
215.		Nemom			
216.		Ottasekharamang alam			
217.		Pacha			
218.		Perurkada			
219.		Peyad			
220.		Puvar			
221.		Sasthamangalam			
222.		Thycaud			
223.		Tirumala			
224.		Uchakada			
225.		Vattiyookavu			
226.		Vellanad			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
227.		Vellarada			
228.		Vithura			
229.		Vizhinjam			
230.		Neyyattinkara			
231.		Parassala			
232.		Poojappura			
233.		Chathannur			
234.		Chavara			
235.		Ezhukone			
236.		Kadakkal			
237.		Kavanad			
238.		Kollam Station	Civil		
239.		Kollam Cutchery			
240.		Kottiyam			
241.		Kundara			
242.		Mayyanad			
243.		Ochira			
244.		Paravur			
245.		Paripally			
246.		Perinad			
247.		Pulamon			
248.		Puthur			i
249.		TKM College			
250.		Kollam HO			
251.		Kottarakara HO			
252.		Karunagapally HO			
253.		Kilikollur			
254.		Vadakkevila			
255.		Thevally			
256.		Chengannur			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
257.		Edathua			
258.		Kumbanad			
259.		Mallapally West			
260.		Kunnamthanam			
261.		Manjadi Jn			
262.		Niranam			
263.		Pullad			
264.		Tiruvalla			
265.		Vennikulam			
266.		Adur HO			
267.		Pathanamthitta HO			
268.		Punalur HO			
269.		Anchal MDG			
270.		Ayur SO			
271.		Elanthur SO			
272.		Konny SO			
273.		Koodal SO			
274.		Kozhencherry MDG			
275.		Kulanada SO			
276.		Kunnicode SO			
277.		Mallassery SO			
278.		Omallur SO			
279.		Pandalam MDG			
280.		Parakode SO			
281.		Pathanapuram SO			
282.		Ranny SO			
283.		Ranny Pazhavangadi SO			
284.		Ranny Perinad SO			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
285.		Sasthamcottah SO			
286.		Vadasserikara SO			
287.		Calicut Beach			
288.		Calicut Civil Station HPO			
289.		Calicut HPO			
290.		Calicut Medical College			
291.		Chalapuram			
292.		Chevayur			
293.		Eranhipalam			
294.		Farook College			
295.		Feroke			
296.		Kallai			
297.		Kalpetta HPO			
298.		Kalpetta North			
299.		Karaparamba			
300.		Kotuvalli			
301.		Kunnamangalam			
302.		Kutaranhi Kuthiravattom			
304.		Marikunnu			
305.		Mavoor			
306.		Meenangadi			
307.		Meppadi			
308.		Mokkam			
309.		Nadakavu			
310.		Narikuni			
311.		NIT Campus			
312.		Pantheerankavu			
313.		Pulpalli			
314.		Puthiyara			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
315.		Ramanattukara			
316.		Sulthan Bathery			
317.		Tamaracheri			
318.		Tiruvambadi			
319.		Westhill			
320.		alakode			
321.		AZHIKODE			
322.		BURNACHERRY			
323.		CHEPPARAPADA VA			
324.		CHERUKUNNU MDG			
325.		CHERUPUZHA			
326.		CHIRAKKAL			
327.		CHOVVA			
328.		CIVIL STATION KANNUR			
329.		IRUKKUR			
330.		KADACHIRA			
331.		KALLIASSERY			
332.		KANNUR HO			
333.		KANNUR RLY STN			
334.		KANNUR THANA			
335.		KARIMBAM			
336.		KOLACHERRY			
337.		KOODALI			
338.		MATHAMANGAL AM BAZAR			
339.		MAYYIL			
340.		MUNDALUR			
341.		PALLIKUNNU			
342.		PAPPINISSERI			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
343.		PAYYANGADI MDG			
344.		PAYYANNUR MDG			
345.		SREEKANDAPU RAM			
346.		TALIPARAMBA HO			
347.		THOTTADA			
348.		VALAPATTANAM MDG			
349.		Anandashrama SO			
350.		Bekal Fort SO			
351.		Bekal so			
352.		Chengala SO			
353.		Cheruvathur SO			
354.		Kanhangad HPO			
355.		Kasaragod HPO			
356.		Kudlu SO			
357.		Kumbla MDG			
358.		Manjeshwar MDG			
359.		Mulleria SO			
360.		Nileshwar MDG			
361.		Rajapuram SO			
362.		Trikarapur LSG SO			
363'		UdmaSO			
364.		Uppala MDG			
365.		Vidyanagar SO			
366.		Angadipuram			
367.		Areacode MDG			
368.		Calicut University			
369.		Chungathara			
370.		Downhill			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
371.		Edakkara			
372.		Kondotti MDG			
373.		Kuzhimanna			
374.		Malappuram HO			
375.		Manimooly			
376.		Manjeri HO			
377.		Nilambur MDG			
378.		Pattikkad			
379.		Perinthalmanna MDG			
380.		Pulamanthole			
381.		Pulikkal			
382.		Tenhipalam			
383.		Wandoor			
384.		Agali			
385.		Alanallur			
386.		Chalisseri			
387.		Cherpalcheri			
388.		Katambazhipuram			
389.		Kumaranallur			
390.		Kuttanad			
391.		Mannarkkad College			
392.		Mannarkkad MDG			
393.		Nellaya			
394.		OttapalamHO			
395.		Palappuram			
396.		Panamanna			
397.		Pattambi MDG			
398.		Pulasserri			
399.		Shoranur Govt. Press			
400.		Shoranur MDG			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
401.		Sreekrishnapuram			
402.		Thiruvazhiyode			
403.		Trikatiri			
404.		Trithala			
405.		Vaniamkulam			
406.		Alathur			
407.		Chandranagar			
408.		Chittur			
409.		Coyalmanna			
410.		Kallekulangara			
411.		Koduvayur			
412.		Kollengode			
413.		Komgad			
414.		Kozhinjampara			
415.		Mannur			
416.		Nemmara			
417.		Nurani			
418.		Olavakkot			
419.		Palakkad			
420.		Palakkad City			
421.		Palakkad Collectorate			
422.		Tattamangalam			
423.		Vadakkancherri - MBR			
424.		Chokli			
425.		Etakkad			
426.		Iritty			
427.		Kadirur			
428.		Kelakam			
429.		Kuthuparamba MDG			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
430.		Mananthavady MDG			
431.		Mattanur MDG			
432.		Panamaram MDG			
433.		Panoor			
i 434.		Peravoor			
435.		Pinarayi			
436.		Templegate			
437.		Thalassery HO			
438.		Tiruvangad			
439.		BETTATHPUDIA NGADI			
440.		EDAPAL			
441.		KADAMPUZHA			
442.		KALPAKANCHER I			
443.		KOTTAKKAL			
444.		KUTTIPPURAM			
445.		NANNAMUKKU			
446.		PARPANANGADI			
447.		PONANI HO			
448.		PONANINAGARA M			
449.		TANUR-MBR			
450.		TAVANUR			
451.		TIRUNAVAYA			
452.		TIRURANGADI			
453.		TIRUR-KERALA HO			
454.		VALANCHERI			
455.		VENGARA-MLP			
456.		Azhiyur			
457.		Balusseri MDG			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
458.		Kakkattil			
459.		Kallachi			
460.		Kavilampara			
461.		Koyilandi HO			
462.		Kuttiadi			
463.		Mahe MDG			
464.		Meppayur			
465.		Naduvannur			
466.		Nut street			
467.		Payyoli			
468.		Perampra MDG			
469.		Vadakara HO			
470.		Villiappaly			
471.		Ambalamugal			
472.		AIMS Ponekkara			
473.		Arakunnam			
474.		Cheranellur			
475.		Mulavukad			
476.		Poonithura			
477.		Tripunithura fort			
478.		Vadavucode			
479.		Ayyampilly			
480.		Edavanakad			
481.		Kumbalanghi			
482.		Malipuram			
483.		Mundanveli			
484.		North End			
485.		Mattancherry Town			
486.		Matsyapuri			
487.		Alappuzha Collectorate ND			
488.		Alappuzha North			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
489.		Arthingal			
490.		Champakulam			
491.		Eramallur			
492.		Kadakkappally			
493.		Kainakary			
494.		Kavalam			
495.		Kuthiathode			
496.		Mannanchery			
497.		Moncombu Thekkekkara			
498.		Muhamma			
499.		Pallippuram			
500.		Pathirappally			
501.		Pazhaveedu			
502.		Pulincunnu			
503.		Punnapra			
504.		Sanathanapuram			
505.		Sethulekshnipura m			
506.		Sreenarayanapur am			
507.		Thakazhy			
508.		Thanneermukkom			
509.		Thathampally			
510.		Thirumalabgom			
511.		Thiruvambady Jn			
512.		Angamaly south S. O			
513.		Chelad Junction S.O			
514.		Chendamangalam S.O			
515.		Chengamanad S.O			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
516.		Cherai S.O			
517.		Edathala SO			
518.		Kaitharam S.O			
519.		Kalloorkkad S.O			
520.		Kanjoor S.O			
521.		Karukutty S.O			
522.		Keezhillam S.O			
523.		Koonammavu S.O			
524.		Koovappady S.O			
525.		Kurumassery S.O			
526.		Manjapra S.O			
527.		Mannam Paravur S.O			
528.		Mooklcannur S.O			
529.		Moothakunham S.O			
530.		Nellimattam S.O			
531.		Palliport S.O			
532.		Pampakuda S.O			
533.		Pothariicaud S.O			
534.		Ramamangalam S.O			
535.		Thottakkattukara S.O			
536.		Thrikkariyoor S.O			
537.		Union Christian College S.O			
538.		Vadakkekara S.O			
539.		Valayanchirangar a S.O			
540.		Varapuzha S.O			
541.		Vengoor S.O			
542.		Ayarkunnam			
543.		Kanakkari			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
544.		Kottayam West			
545.		Kumarakom			
546.		Kumaranelloor			
547.		Manarcadu			
548.		Mannanam			
549.		Priyadarsini Hills			
550.		Vadavathoor			
551.		Aruvithura			
552.		Bharananganam			
553.		Erattupetta			
554.		Kidangoor			
555.		Marangattupilly			
556.		Melukavumattam			
557.		PalaTown			
558.		Poonjar			
559.		Poonjar Thekkekara			
560.		Poovarani			
561.		Teekoy			
562.		Kallara			
563.		Kulasekhara Mangalam			
564.		Monipally			
565.		Muttuchira			
566.		Njizhoor			
567.		Ozhavoor			
568.		Peruva			
569.		Minicoy			
570.		Chihgavanam SO			
571.		Kangazha SO			
572.		Karikattoor SO			
573.		Kurissumood SO			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
574.		Kuzhimattom SO			
575.		Manimala SO			
576.		Nedumkunnam SO			
577.		Perumpanachy SO			
578.		Thottakad SO			
579.		Thrickodithanam SO			
580.		Thuruthy SO			
581.		Vakathanam SO			
582.		Vazhapally West SO			
583.		Kalaketty SO			
584.		Koottickal SO			
585.		Kunnam Vechoochira SO			
586.		Mukkootuthara SO			
587.		Parathode SO			
588.		Pulikakavala SO			
589.		Vazhoor SO			
590.		Velloor SO			
591.		AMMADAM			
592.		ARJMPUR			
593.		ARIYANNUR			
594.		CHITTATTUKAR A			
595.		DESAMANGALA M			
596.		ENGANDIYUR			
597.		ENKAKAD			
598.		KANIMANGALAM			
599.		KANJANI			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
600.		KARIKKAD			
601.		KOTTAPPADI			
602.		KUMARANELUR- TC			
603.		KUNDALIYUR			
604.		MATTOM			
605.		MULLASSERY			
606.		MULLURKKARA			
607.		MUNDUR-TC			
608.		NADATHARA			
609.		ORUMANAYUR			
610.		PARAPPUR			
611.		PULLAZHY			
612.		PUVATHUR			
613.		RAMAVARMAPU RAM			
614.		TALIKULAM			
615.		THIRUVAMBADY -TSR			
616.		THRITHALLUR			
617.		VADAKKEKKAD			
618.		VARAVUR			
619.		VELUR THRISSUR			
620.		VENKITANGU			
621.		VIYYUR			
622.		Karimkunnam			
623.		Maraiyur			
624.		Vazhithala			
625.		Moolamattom			
626.		Muthalakodam			
627.		Muttom			
628.		Rajakad			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
629.		Santhanpara			
630.		Thodupuzha east			
631.		Vannapuram			
632.		Vengalhfr			
633.		Idukki Painavu			
634.		Kattappana South			
635.		Elappara			
636.		Kallar			
637.		Murickassery			
638.		Erattayar			
639.		Vandanmettu			
640.		Aripalam SO			
641.		Chentrapinni SO			
642.		Edamuttam SO			
643.		Edathurumy SO			
644.		Edavilangu SO			
645.		Eriyad SO			
646.		Irinjalakuda North SO			
647.		Karuvannur SO			
648.		Kilakkumuri SO			
649.		Konathukunnu SO			
650.		Kothaparamba SO			
651.		Kottappuram SO			
652.		Mathilakam SO			
653.		NattikaSO			
654.		Panangad SO			
655.		Pazhuvil SO			
656.		Peringottukara So			
657.		Perinjanam SO			
658.		Puthenchira SO			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
659.		Thazhekad SO			
660.		UrakamSO			
661.		Vellangallur SO			
662.		Alagappanagar So			
663.		Annamanada SO			
664.		Ashtamichira SO			
665.		Chengallur SO			
666.		KuzhurSO			
667.		Melur SO			
668.		Nellayi SO			
669.		PadySO			
670.		Parappukara SO			
671.		PottaSO			
672.		Poyya SO			
673.		Varandarapilly SO			
674.		CHENNITHALA			
675.		CHERUKOLE			
676.		ENNAKKAD			
677.		KALLUMALA			
678.		KARAKKAD			
679.		KODUKULANJI			
680.		KOLLAKADAVU			
681.		KUDASSANAD			
682.		KUTTEMPEROO R			
683.		MULAKUZHA			
684.		OLAKETTIAMBA LAM			
685.		THAZHAKARA			
686.		THEKKEKARA			
687.		VENMONY			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
688.		CHEPPAUD			
689.		CHINGOLI			
690.		KANDALLUR			
691.		KAREELAKULAN GARA			
692.		KEERIKAD			
693.		KRISHNAPURAM			
694.		KUMARAPURAM			
695.		MUTTOM			
696.		NANGIARKULAN GARA			
697.		PADANILAM			
698.		PALLJPAD			
699.		PUTHIYAVILA			
700.		PULLIKANAKKU			
701.		PUTHUPALLY			
702.		THAMARAKULA M			
703.		VALLIKTJNNAM			
704.		Anjengo			
705.		Avananchery			
706.		Cherunniyur			
707.		Kizhuvalam			
708.		Kudavoor			
709.		Madavoor Pallickal			
710.		Mithirmala			
711.		Moongode			
712.		Murukkumpuzha			
713.		Navaikulam			
714.		Palayamkunnu			
715.		Pallickal Kilimanoor			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
716.		Pangode			
717.		Pulimath			
718.		Puthencurichy			
719.		Sreenivasa puram			
720.		St.Xaviers College			
721.		Vadasserikonam			
722.		Vakkom			
723.		Vattappara			
724.		Vembayam			
725.		Mel vettoor			
726.		Anayara			
727.		Attakulangara			
728.		Chempazhanthy			
729.		Karikkakom			
730.		Kulathur			
731.		Kythamukku			
732.		Muttada			
733.		Palkulangara			
734.		PMG Junction			
735.		TVM Engineering College			
736.		Thattathumala			
737.		TVM Beach			
738.		Aralumoodu			
739.		Chenkai			
740.		Karakonam			
741.		Koovalassery			
742.		Malayinkil			
743.		Panavur			
744.		Pappanamcode			
745.		Pazhakutty			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
746.		Peringamala			
747.		Perumkadavila			
748.		Poonthura			
749.		Poovachal			
750.		Pulluvila			
751.		Thirupuram			
752.		Thiruvallam			
753.		Venganur			
754.		Kudappanakunnu			
755.		Adichanalluf			
756.		Alumkadavu	•		
757.		Arinallur			
758.		Asramom			
759.		Athinad North			
760.		Bhoothakulam			
761.		Chadayamangalam			
762.		Chandanathope			
763.		Chavara South			
764.		Chithara			
765.		Clappana			
766.		East Kallada			
767.		Eravipuram			
768.		Kadappakada			
769.		Kalayapuram			
770.		Kalluvathukkal			
771.		Kanjavelly			
772.		Kannanallur			
773.		Karamcode			
774.		Kollam Cantonment			
775.		Kuzhimathacaud			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
776.		Mangad			
777.		Mukathala			
778.		Mulavana			
779.		Mynagapally			
780.		Neendakara			
781.		Nilamel			
782.		Odanavattom			
783.		Oyur			
784.		Pallithottam			
785.		Pattathanam			
786.		Perumpuzha			
787.		Pooyapally			
788.		Prayar			
789.		Sakthikulangara			
790.		SRP Market			
791.		Thangassery			
792.		Thazhava			
793.		Thattamala			
794.		Thevalakkara			
795.		Kollam Taluk Cutchery			
796.		Thirumullavaram			
797.		Vadakkumthala East			
798.		Valakom			
799.		Vavvakkavu			
800.		Vellimon			
801.		Vettikavala			
802.		Kollam Bazar			
803.		Kulakada			
804.		Aranmula			
805.		Cherianad			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
806.		Edayaranmula			
807.		Eraviperoor			
808.		Ezhumattoor			
809.		Kallisseri			
810.		Kaviyoor			
811.		Kavumbhagom			
812.		Keezhvaipur			
813.		Kottathur			
814.		Kuttapuzha			
815.		Kuttur			
816.		Maramon			
817.		Muthoor			
818.		Othera			
819.		Pandanad			
820.		Parumala			
821.		Peringara			
822.		Puliyoor			
823.		Puramattom			
824.		Putheocavu			
825.		Ramankary			
826.		Thadiyur			
827.		Thalavady			
828.		Tiruvanvandur			
829.		Valanjavattom			
830.		Vallamkulam			
831.		AngadiSO			
832.		Chellakad SO			
833.		Chittar SO			
834.		Elamannur SO			
835.		Elavumthitta SO			
836.		Enathu SO			
837.		Eroor SO			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
838.		Kadampanad SO			
839.		Kadampanad South SO			
840.		Kaipattur SO			
841.		kalanjoor SO			
842.		Kodumon SO			
843.		Kumabazhamuri SO			
844.		Kulathupuzha SO			
845.		Manakala SO			
846.		Mylapra Town SO			
847.		Naranaganam SO			
848.		Pattazhy SO			
849.		Payyanamon SO			
850.		Piravanthur SO			
851.		Poruvazhy SO			
852.		Sooranad SO			
853.		Thumpamon SO			
854.		Thannithode			
855.		Tholicode			
856.		Ambalavayal			
857.		Beyepore			
858.		Cheeral			
859.		Chelannur			
860.		Chundale			
861.		Elathur			
862.		G A College			
863.		Kakkoti			
864.		Kenichira			
865.		Kotancheri			
866.		Malaparamba			
867.		Mankavu			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
868.		Nanminda			
869.		Omasseri			
870.		Pozhuthana			
871.		Pudiyangadi			
872.		Pudupadi			
873.		Vythiri			
874.		ALAVIL			
875.		ANJARAKANDY			
876.		CHALAD			
877.		CHEMPERI			
878.		EACHUR			
879.		EDAYAMNUR			
880.		KAKKAT			
881.		KANNADIPARAM BA			
882.		KANNUR CITY			
883.		KARIVELLUR			
884.		KUNHIMANGALA M			
885.		MADAYI			
886.		MAMBA			
887.		MATTUL			
888.		MOTTAMMAL			
889.		MOWANCHERRY			
890.		NADUVIL			
891.		PARASSINIKADA VU			
892.		PATTUVAM			
893.		PAYANGADIRS			
894.		PAYYAVUR			
895.		RAMANTHALI			
896.		VARAM			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
897.		VENGARA- KANNUR			
898.		Chittarikkal SO			
899.		Elambachi SO			
900.		Kalanad so			
901.		Mangalpady SO			
902.		Muliyar SO			
903.		Padne SO			
904.		Parappa SO			
905.		Perdala SO			
906.		Perla SO			
907.		Talangara SO			
908.		Vellarikundu SO			
909.		Anamangad			
910.		Chelembra			
911.		Cherukara			
912.		Cheruvayur			
913.		Edavanna			
914.		Kalikavu			
915.		Karuvambram			
916.		Karuvarakundu			
917.		Kodur			
918.		Kolathur			
919.		Koottilangadi			
920.		Makkaraparamba			
921.		Malappuram Civil Station			
922.		Mampad			
923.		Manjeri College			
924.		Mankada			
925.		Melattur			
926.		Mongam			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
927.		Munduparamba			
928.		Nilambur.R.S			
929.		Pandikkad			
930.		Pookkottumpada m			
931.		Tuwur			
932.		Vaniyambalam			
933.		Ambalapara,PIN- 679512			
934.		Chunangad,PIN- 679511			
935.		Kanniampurain,PI N-679104			
936.		Karakurissi, PIN- 678595			
937.		Kavalappara, PIN- 679523			
938.		KulukkaUur, PIN- 679337			
939.		Lakkidi, PIN- 679301			
940.		Manisseri, PIN- 679521			
941.		Melepattambi, PIN- 679306			
942.		Naduvattom Pattambi, PIN- 679308			
943.		Pallipuram Pattambi, PIN- 679305			
944.		Peringode, PIN- 679535			
945.		Perur Ottapalam, PIN-679302			
946.		Tachampara, PIN- 678593			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
947.		Thiruvegapura, PIN-679304			
948.		Thottakara, PIN- 679102			
949.		Vallapuzha, PIN- 679336			
950.		AYALUR			
951.		ELAPULLI			
952.		KALPATHI-			
953.		KANJIKODE			
954.		KANJIKODE WEST			
955.		KANNADI- PALAKKAD			
956.		KANNAMBRA			
957.		KAVASSERY			
958.		KERALASSERI-			
959.		KILAKKANCHERI			
960.		KOTAMBU			
961.		KOTTAYI			
962.		KUNNATHURME DU			
963.		KUTTANUR			
964.		MALAMPUZHA DAM-			
965.		MANKARAI			
966.		MATHUR- Palakkad			
967.		MELARCODE			
968.		MUDAPPALLUR			
969.		MUNDUR- PALAKKAD			
970.		MUTHALAMADA			
971.		NALLEPILLY			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
972.		PALAKKAD COLLEGE			
973.		PALAKKAD ENG. COLLEGE			
974.		PALLIPURAM			
975.		PARLI- PALAKKAD*			
976.		PERUVEMBA			
977.		POLPULLI			
978.		PUDUNAGARAM			
979.		PUDUPPARTYAR AM			
980.		PTHUCODE- PKD			
981.		VADAKANTHARA			
982.		VANDALI			
983.		VANDITHAVALA M			
984.		Champad			
985.		Cherakkara			
986.		Chittariparamba			
987.		Dharmadam			
988.		Eranholi			
989.		Kadavathur			
990.		Kartikulam			
991.		Kiliyanthara			
992.		Muzhappilangad			
993.		Nettur			
994.		Nirmalagiri			
995.		Palayad			
996.		Paral			
997.		Pathayakunnu			
998.		Payam			
999.		Peringathur			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1000.		Ponniam West			
1001.		Thalappuzha			
1002.		Thuvakunnu			
1003.		Ulikkal			
1004.		Vellamunda			
1005.		ABDURAHTMAN NAGAR			
1006.		CHETTIPADI			
1007.		EDARDCODE			
1008.		KADALUNDINAG ARAM			
1009.		KALADI-MLP			
1010.		KANHIRAMUKKU			
1011.		MANGALAM-MLP			
1012.		MARANCHERI			
1013.		MOONNIYUR			
1014.		PERUMBADAPP U			
1015.		PONANI SOUTH			
1016.		PONMUNDAM			
1017.		TANALUR			
1018.		TAYYALINGAL			
1019.		THALAKADATHU R			
1020.		THEKKUMURI			
1021.		TRIKKANDIYUR			
1022.		VALAKOLAM			
1023.		VATTAMKULAM			
1024.		VELIANKODE			
1025.		VELIMUKKU			
1026.		Atholi			
1027.		Chemancheri			
1028.		Chombala			

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1029.		Chorode			
1030.		Edacheri			
1031.		Edakkulam			
1032.		Iringal			
1033.		Kayanna			
1034.		Kollam			
1035.		Koorachund			
1036.		Madappally College			
1037.		Nadapuram			
1038.		Orakatteri			
1039.		Parakkadavu			
1040.		Payyoli Angadi			
1041.		Peruvannamuzhi			
1042.		Puduppanam			
1043.		Purameri			
1044.		Thalacolathur			
1045.		Thiruvallur			
1046.		Tikkoti			
1047.		Tuneri			
1048.		Unnikulam			
1049.		Vadakara Beach			
1050.		Valayam			

### **Ban on Employment**

1189. SHRI P.P.CHAUHAN:

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints of re-employment of retired Indian Armed Forces officials in the companies operating in defence sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken / being taken by the Indian Armed Forces to cancel such employment and blacklist such companies for specified time;

(c) the details of employees working in private sector defence manufacturing companies whose parents are working in Indian Armed Forces;

(d) whether there is any obligation on the part of officers to inform the Indian Armed Forces regarding employment of their relatives in private defence manufacturing companies; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not informing the Indian Armed Forces as it causes conflict of interest between Indian Armed Forces and the private sector manufacturing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH/BHAMRE): (a) While there is no ban on re-employment of retired Armed Forces officials in companies dealing in the defence sector, officers of the rank of Colonel or equivalent and above, who retire with pension, gratuity or other benefits are, required to obtain prior permission of the Government for accepting any commercial employment within a period of one year of the retirement. There are conditions that stipulate that they should not have dealt with sensitive projects or the company which they wish to join.

(b) and (c) Details are being collected from the Services.

(d) and (e) Serving officers whose spouse, children and other persons who are dependent on and normally live with the officer are obliged to intimate the appropriate authority if such dependent / family member takes up employment with foreign commercial organisations, including foreign companies operating in the Defence Sector.

Further, the son / daughter / other persons wholly dependent on an officer wishes to accept employment with a private firm with which the officer has had official dealings during the last three years, the officer concerned is required to obtain prior sanction of the competent authority as indicated below:-

Officer of the rank of Colonel or equivalent and above	Central Government
Lt. Colonel or equivalent and below	Chiefs / Vice Chiefs of the Armed Forces

#### **Engine-Less Trains**

1190. SHRI OM BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of locomotives both electrical and fossil fuel based currently deployed in the Railways;

(b) whether the Government plans on introducing new batch high speed 'engine-less' trains in passenger fleet of the railways and if so, the details thereof along with expenses incurred by the Government thereon;

(c) the details of various companies along with their country of incorporation which had shown interest or are shortlisted by the Government for the supply of new trains;

(d) the duration within which the Government plans to replace the current fleet of the old trains with the new more efficient trains;

(e) whether the Government is also working on development of railway coaches and engines in line with that of international ones under 'Make in India' initiative; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) As on 01.07.2018, 5758 electric and 6082 diesel locomotives have been deployed in the Railways.

(b) Yes, Madam. Integral Coach Factory (ICF)/Chennai is manufacturing Trainset which will be a self - propelled train. ICF will manufacture 6 train sets. The first two Trainsets will be turned out of ICF during 2018-19. The cost of one Trainset coach is about ₹ 6 Crore. These Trainsets are likely to be inducted in day journey and overnight journey trains.

(c) The above planned Trainsets are being produced in-house by ICF. So far, no short-listing of companies/firms has been done for supply of new trains.

(d) Indian Railways has already taken a decision not to manufacture ICF design coaches from April 2018 onwards. After completing their codal life, ICF coaches will be progressively replaced by Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, Trainsets and Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) trains.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) Railway Production Units are already producing LHB coaches and MEMUs 'in-house'.

Following contract agreements was signed by Ministry of Railways on 30.11.2015 for long term Procurement cum Maintenance of state of the art, high horse power locomotives under Make in India' initiative:

- (i) Ministry of Railways entered into a long term Procurement-cum-Maintenance with Madhepura Electric Locomotive Private Limited (MELPL), a joint venture Company of Ministry of Railways (26% equity participation limited to ₹ 100 crore) and Alstom Manufacturing India Limited (74% equity participation) for setting up of electric Locomotive Factory at Madhepura, Bihar and Procurement cum Maintenance of electric Locomotives. The company is required to supply 800 high horse power electric locomotives (12000 horse power) to Indian Railways over a period of 11 years. One prototype locomotive has already been supplied by the company.

These locomotives have advanced features like improved energy efficiency, high reliability & availability, air conditioned cab etc.

- (ii) Ministry of Railways entered into a long term Procurement-cum-

Maintenance agreement with GE Diesel Locomotive Private Limited (GEDLPL), a joint venture company of Ministry of Railways (26% equity participation limited to ₹ 100 Crore) and GE

Global Sourcing India Private Limited (74% equity participation) for setting up Diesel Locomotive Factory at Marhowra, Bihar and Procurement and Maintenance of Mainline Diesel Electric Locomotives.

These Diesel Locomotives have advanced featured like improved fuel efficiency, environment-friendly, having electronic fuel injection system, higher reliability & availability, air conditioned cab etc.

The Company is required to supply 1000 high horse power Diesel Locomotives (700 locomotives of 4500 horse power and 300 locomotives of 6000 horse power) to Indian Railways over a period of 11 years. Two prototype locomotives have already been supplied by the Company.

### **Digital Connectivity in Gram Panchayats**

1191. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: -

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote Information Technology infrastructure for providing digital connections in Gram Panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to bring in private sector for promoting the digital connectivity in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MIINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) BharatNet project is being implemented to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As on 15.07.2018, 1,18,087 Gram Panchayats have been connected on optical fibre cable (OFC) by laying 2,83,708 KM of OFC with 1,13,091 service ready GPs.

As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology is being provided at all the GPs in the country. At each GP, on an average, 5 Access Point (APs) are being provided (3 APs of Govt. institution and 2 APs for public places)

(c) and (d) The cabinet approved a modified strategy for BharatNet on July 19, 2017 to expedite the implementation of BharatNet phase-II which includes, inter alia, implementation of the project under State Model, CPSE Model and Private Sector Model.

[Translation]

### **Grievance Redressal Officer**

1192. SHRI RODMAL NAGAR: Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to appoint a grievance redressal officer for the social networking companies/websites in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 prescribes that intermediaries, which include social networking sites, shall publish on their website the name of the Grievance Officer, contact details as well as the mechanism by which a user/victim can notify their complaints. The Grievance Officer shall redress the complaints within one month from the date of receipt of complaint.

[English]

#### **Fast Track Courts**

1193. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up fast track courts for speedy trial of Civil and Criminal cases separately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for speedy trial of Civil and Criminal cases have been set up by the State Governments. The Government of India has also supported the setting up of Special Courts to try criminal cases against MPs/MLAs in fast track mode. 12 Special Courts to try cases in fast track mode have been set up in 11 States (One each in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and two in NCT of Delhi) for expeditious trial of criminal cases involving elected MPs/MLAs. In the remaining states, where the number

of such cases is not very large, High Courts have been requested to give directions for trial of such cases in the Courts where they are pending, in fast track mode.

(c) and (d) Setting up of Fast Track Courts and their functioning comes within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the concerned High Courts.

The 14th Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Union Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, inter-alia, establishing FTCs for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years. The State Governments were urged to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the form of enhanced tax devolution (from 32% to 42%) to meet such requirements. As per available information, 727 Fast Track Courts are functioning in various states.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of Patan Bhildi Rail Line**

1194. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the undue delay in the construction of Patan Bhildi via Rani ki Vah rail line;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for expediting and timely completion of the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Patan-Bhildi new line project includes renovation of old railway line from Patan to Khalipur (10 km) and 41.03 km new construction from Khalipur to Bhildi. The work on this project was objected by Archeological Survey of India (ASI) near 'Rani ki Vav'. Indian Railways had approached National Monument Authority (NMA) for grant of No Objection Certificate (NOC) in this regard,

which was, however, denied. Consequently, Indian Railways suggested an alternative alignment for which "No Objection Certificate (NOC)" was issued by Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi on 06.05.2015. Indian Railways accordingly planned and had started execution of project. The possession of 2.84 hect. land out of 2.92 hect. has been taken in June, 2018. However during the process of the land acquisition, an issue of handing over of small area of 566 Sq. M of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)'s land near 'Rani Ki Vav' had also cropped up, but the same has been resolved through exchange of equal amount of railway land. Now the work has been started on land where possession is taken.

[English]

#### **Dirty Conditions of Biotoilets**

1195. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were more than two lakh complaints regarding choking, foul smelling and non-functional bio-toilets in trains during 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also true that the railways has decided to equip coaches with 10,000 bio-toilets without waiting for results of performance trials of different variants of bio-toilets;

(c) if so, whether the decision for large scale installation of bio-toilets in coaches had been taken in a hurry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways have received some complaints regarding foul smell and choking of bio-toilets in trains. Bio-toilets, being proliferated in Indian Railways' coaches, are sensitive to misuse. Generally, the problems of choking and foul smell in coach lavatories are due to use of toilet pan as garbage bins, inadequate water flow in flushing and inadequate ventilation. Choking of toilet pan/bowl makes the bio-toilet non-functional for further use.. While educating travelling public to refrain from

throwing garbage in the pan/bowl, provision of individual dust bin in each coach lavatory has been made mandatory to make the disposal of waste more convenient, thus preventing the toilet pans/bowls from being dumped with inorganic waste. In addition, improvement to flushing and ventilation systems is also underway to eliminate foul smell.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. The decision for large scale proliferation of bio-toilets based on Bio-digester technology of DRDE (Defence Research and Development Establishment), one of the laboratories of DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) was taken after reviewing, analyzing, examining and considering the in-service performance of such bio-toilets for a period of about 10 months since their induction in passenger services in Bundelkhand Express in January 2011.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Bus to Nepal**

1196. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently launched a new bus route between India and Nepal called 'Ram-Janaki Marg';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to operate more such buses between our neighbouring countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) During the State visit of Prime Minister of India to Nepal, the Prime Ministers of India and Nepal flagged off the inaugural direct bus service between Janakpur (in Nepal) and Ayodhya (in India) on 11 May 2018, from Janakpur. The frequency and other associated matters for the operation of the Janakpur-Ayodhya bus service are being worked out bilaterally by the two Governments.

(c) to (e) Passenger bus services on international routes are operated as per specific agreements signed with neighbouring countries. To further strengthen

connectivity and facilitate people to people linkages, India and Nepal signed a bilateral agreement for the regulation of passenger traffic between the two countries on 25 November 2014. A bilateral Joint Working Group on cross-border transport facilitation has been constituted to facilitate effective implementation of the Agreement. Within the enabling framework of bilateral Agreement with Nepal, the operation of direct passenger bus services is considered through consultations between the two Governments.

#### **Minority Cyber-Gram**

1197. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plans of launching Minority Cyber-Gram all across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of Cyber-Grams that exist across the country;

(c) the objectives and the target beneficiaries of the yojana;

(d) the total funds allocated by the Government for this programme;

(e) the total number of Cyber-Grams that have been opened across the country and that are functional; and

(f) whether the Government proposes to discontinue the scheme and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (e) A pilot project for minority Cyber Gram was launched for digital literacy in a minority dominated village Chandauli, District Alwar, Rajasthan. The Ministry mainstreamed the Cyber Gram project with the Multi-sectoral Development Programme in the year 2014-15 as a special initiative. Under this initiative, students of minority communities are provided hands on training in computers to enable them to acquire basic Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills; become digitally literate; actively participate in knowledge based activities; access financial, social and government services and use internet for communications. The initiative covers students of Class VI to Class X belonging to notified minority communities (Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains) residing in minority

concentration areas identified under Multi-sectoral Development Programme.(MsDP). The project is being implemented through Common Service Center (CSC) e-governance India Ltd- a company under Department of Electronics and Information Technology with support of States/UTs. The fund per candidate sanctioned under the programme is ₹1555/- which is shared by Central Government and State. As per Cybergram Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) of CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd( <http://www.cybergramyojana.in>), the present status of implementation of cybergram is as under:-

State	Approved unit (nos. of participants)	Training completed (nos. of participants)
Uttar Pradesh	173143	107050
West Bengal	170005	213085
Tripura	18109	18630
Maharashtra	28000	19998
Rajasthan	10400	9194

(f) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram, the restructured version of Multi-sectoral Development Programme has given thrust on creating institutional infrastructure and has no provision for individual oriented schemes.

#### **Delivery of Speedy Justice**

1198. SHRI D. K. SURESH:

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

DR. BHARITIBEN D. SHYAL:

SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA:

SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

SHRI K.R.P. PRABAKARAN:

SHRI ALOK SANJAR:

SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of civil and criminal cases pending in various courts as on date, State, court and category-wise;

(b) whether the Government has made any arrangements or plans to expedite their disposal and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of judges appointed during the last three years, year and court-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to stipulate a time period for the disposal of criminal and civil cases in the High Court and various other courts of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the process of dispensing justice in time is getting affected due to the shortage of judges and infrastructural facilities in the country and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far; and

(f) whether the Government has set up any task force to deal with huge pendency of cases or fixed the accountability on someone in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Data on pendency of cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts respectively. As per latest information available on the website of Supreme Court of India, the total number of pending cases in the Supreme Court is 54,013. As per information available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 43.48 lakhs cases are pending in various High Courts as on date. High Court-wise details of pending cases are given in a Statement-I. 2.75 crore cases are pending in various District and Subordinate courts of the country (excluding State / Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Lakshadweep and Puducherry) as on date. State / UT - wise details of pending cases are given in a Statement Statement-II.

(b) Disposal of cases pending in various courts is within the domain of judiciary. In pursuance of resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, all the High Courts have set up Arrears Committees to take necessary steps for clearing the backlog of pending cases. The Arrears Committees have chalked out Action Plans to reduce pendencies in their respective jurisdictions. The

Supreme Court has also constituted an Arrears Committee to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts. At district level, the District Judge holds monthly meeting of all judicial officers to monitor progress made in reduction of long pending cases. Further, the Central Government has taken several steps to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve this objective. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for improving the working condition of the district and subordinate judiciary through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging information, communication and technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of judges in High Courts and Supreme Court.

(c) The details regarding total number of judges appointed during the last three years, year and court-wise in the Supreme Court and High Courts are given in a Statement -III.

(d) Disposal of cases pending in various courts is within the domain of judiciary.

(e) Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures.

Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High courts is a continuous and collaborative process, between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also the increase in the strength of Judges. The total number of judges appointed during the last three years, year and court-



wise in the Supreme Court and High Courts is given in reply to part (c) above.

As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States. Department of Justice had written in March, 2018 to the Registrar General of High courts as well as State Governments to share the action plan for 2018-19 to fill up vacancies in subordinate judiciary. All High Courts have shared the action plan they propose to follow to fill up vacancies in subordinate judiciary in 2018-19. Sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased from 19,518 as on 31.12.2013 to 22,545 as on 31.03.2018. Working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased from 15,115 as on 31.12.2013 to 17,109 as on 31.03.2018.

Further, in order to strengthen judicial infrastructure in districts, the Central Government has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored

Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary, being implemented since 1993-94, beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period i.e. from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an estimated outlay of ₹3,320 crore. Under this scheme, a total of ₹ 6292.44 crore has been released since 1993-94, out of which ₹ 2848.14 crore (45.26%) has been released since April, 2014. 18,444 Court Halls and 15,853 Residential Accommodations have been Made available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on date. In addition, 2,709 Court Halls and 1,472 Residential Accommodations are under construction.

(f) In pursuance of resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, all the High Courts have set up Arrears Committees to take necessary steps for clearing the backlog of pending cases. The Arrears Committees have chalked out Action Plans to reduce pendencies in their respective jurisdictions. The Supreme Court has also constituted an Arrears Committee to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts. At district level, the District Judge holds monthly meeting of all judicial officers to monitor progress made in reduction of long pending cases.

**Statement – I**

*Details of Cases Pending in High Courts*

S. No.	High Court Name	Civil	Criminal	Writs	Total
1.	Allahabad High Court	155237	308292	247945	711474
2.	Calcutta High Court	107960	42241	84634	234835
3.	Guwahati High Court	14019	7374	16005	37398
4.	High Court of Bombay	302656	50704	110714	464074
5.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	18033	24354	20178	62565
6.	High Court of Delhi	30442	19591	22733	72766
7.	High Court of Gujarat	36136	35012	38270	109418
8.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	25758	6426	5853	38037
9.	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	76638	8452	0	85090
10.	High Court of Jharkhand	15220	43832	29975	89027
11.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	131580	50826	171229	353635

S. No.	High Court Name	Civil	Criminal	Writs	Total
12.	High Court of Karnataka	122764	31970	69925	224659
13.	High Court of Kerala	81427	39963	68150	189540
14.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	107763	122293	91763	321819
15.	High Court of Manipur	14183	1552	0	15735
16.	High Court of Meghalaya	323	48	655	1026
17.	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	201456	125485	75341	402282
18.	High Court of Rajasthan	86479	72261	106138	264878
19.	High Court of Sikkim	59	64	117	240
20.	High Court of Tripura	939	450	1625	3014
21.	High Court of Uttarakhand	10027	10618	14776	35421
22.	Madras High Court	128196	42105	144044	314345
23.	Odisha High Court	42926	41403	83059	167388
24.	Patna High Court	30658	57640	61556	149854
Total Pending Cases		1740879	1142956	1464685	4348520

Source : National Judicial Data Grid.

**Statement – II**

*Details of Cases Pending in District and Subordinate Courts*

State	Civil	Criminal	Total
1. Andaman and Nicobar	3296	7889	11185
2. Andhra Pradesh	287927	223174	511101
3. Assam	61284	209067	270351
4. Bihar	259069	1477027	1736096
5. Chandigarh	16579	24521	41100
6. Chhattisgarh	57137	208654	265791
7. Delhi	186821	494501	681322
8. Diu and Daman	1042	867	1909
9. Dadra & Nagar Haveli t Silvasa	1451	2045	3496
10. Goa	21673	20827	42500
11. Gujarat	508751	1099682	1608433
12. Haryana	273527	395403	668930
13. Himachal Pradesh	112327	127024	239351
14. Jammu and Kashmir	62822	75147	137969

	State	Civil	Criminal	Total
15.	Jharkhand	57626	288891	346517
16.	Karnataka	690758	775626	1466384
17.	Kerala	385566	869204	1254770
18.	Madhya Pradesh	310405	1059926	1370331
19.	Maharashtra	1152230	2272750	3424980
20.	Manipur	5831	4218	10049
21.	Meghalaya	2040	4840	6880
22.	Mizoram	1569	2464	4033
23.	Odisha	246773	828347	1075120
24.	Punjab	255658	354444	610102
25.	Rajasthan	397705	1053170	1450875
26.	Sikkim	592	880	1472
27.	Tamil Nadu	610667	462119	1072786
28.	Telangana	215779	270064	485843
29.	Tripura	7890	16257	24147
30.	Uttar Pradesh	1618730	4997036	6615766
31.	Uttarakhand	33641	191652	225293
32.	West Bengal	484068	1389169	1873237
Total Pending Cases		8331234	19206885	27538119

Source : National Judicial Data Grid.

**Statement – III**

*Details of Number of Judges Appointed During the Last Three Years, Year and Court-Wise in the Supreme Court and High Courts*

**A. Supreme Court:**

Fresh appointment made during 01.01.2016 to 31.12.2016	Fresh appointment made during 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017	Fresh appointment made during 01.01.2018 to 20.07.2018
04.	05	01

**B. High Courts:**

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Fresh appointment made during 1.1.2016 to 31.12.2016	Fresh appointment made during 1.1.2017 to 31.12.2017	Fresh appointment made during 1.1.2018 to 20.07.2018
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad	20	31	--

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	01	10	—
3.	Bombay	06	14	--
4.	Calcutta	01	06	07
5.	Chhattisgarh	03	03	04
6.	Delhi	05	04	—
7.	Guwahati	05	02	—
8.	Gujarat	05	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	04	—	—
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	03	—
11.	Jharkhand	04	02	03
12.	Karnataka	05	02	07
13.	Kerala	05	03	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	—	05
15.	Madras	25	12	07
16.	Manipur	01	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
18.	Odisha	—	—	—
19.	Patna	06	06	—
20.	Punjab and Haryana	01	08	—
21.	Rajasthan	11	05	—
22.	Sikkim	~	01	—
23.	Tripura	—	—	01
24.	Uttarakhand	—	03	—
Total		126	115	34

[Translation]

**Disputed Defence Land**

1199. DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the disputed defence land in the country, location-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to end the dispute;

(c) whether the army proposes to use the unused defence land for some special purpose;

(d) the details of the scheme formulated to clearly demarcate the scholarships by the Ministry; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to get the illegally occupied defence land vacated at various places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE): (a) and (b) The

information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No defence land is unused / surplus. All open spaces / defence lands are utilised / earmarked for defence purposes.

(d) The following schemes / steps have been formulated for clear demarcation of defence land boundaries:

- (i) The Government sanctioned a project in February 2011 for survey, demarcation and verification of Defence lands. About 98.62% and 100% survey work has been completed for defence land outside and inside Cantonments respectively.
- (ii) The maps of defence land pockets generated in the recently carried out land surveys (2012-13 to 2016-17) are being integrated with satellite maps of National Remote Sensing Centre under ISRO (NRSC) i.e. BHUVAN for assigning geo-coordinates. These will be integrated with Raksha Bhoomi 5.0 database (land record system).
- (iii) Defence lands located in isolated locations are being fenced and regular patrolling is being carried out to safeguard the lands.

(e) Detection, prevention and removal of encroachment / illegal occupation is a continuous exercise. Action for removal of encroachments on defence land are taken under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 as well as under the Cantonment Act, 2006. Cases are also taken up with State or Municipal authorities for resolution of the problem. The Government has undertaken the following steps to check encroachment / illegal occupation;

- (i) Strengthening of defence land management by way of digitisation of land records, survey, demarcation and verification of defence lands and land Audit.
- (ii) Issue of detailed instructions by the Government emphasizing the need for ensuring vigilance, detection and prevention of new encroachments.

(iii) The process of defence land audit has been institutionalised from 2011-12 as continuing process.

(iv) Court cases are being pursued to evict encroachers.

(v) Close liaison is being maintained with revenue and civil police authorities to detect attempt to encroach upon the defence land by encroachers.

(vi) Defence lands located in isolated locations are being fenced and regular patrolling is being carried out to safeguard the lands from encroachers and unauthorized construction.

*[English]*

#### **Killing of Animals/Elephants**

1200. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision in rules to punish errant drivers who refuse or neglect to slow down while passing through national parks causing intentional death of elephants and other animals using the track; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Speed restriction is imposed to the extent feasible on trains passing through the wildlife protected areas wherever advised by wildlife authorities and compliance of speed restrictions as imposed from time to time is mandatory for drivers to observe as per General and Subsidiary Rules (G&SR). If the Loco Pilots fail to adhere to the speed restrictions imposed in such sections/crossings, they are liable to be taken up for the act of overspeeding under the provisions of Disciplinary and Appeal Rules (DAR).

#### **National Cadet Corps**

1201. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any record regarding the total number of National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets in the country;

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

(c) whether less students are joining NCC in recent years;

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

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to make NCC attractive to students in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) The total number of NCC cadets in the country at present is 13,15,401 as Statement enclosed.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise

(e) The steps taken by the Government to make NCC attractive to students in the Country are:-

(i) Free institutional training is imparted by service personnel to all NCC Cadets.

(ii) Provision of free set of uniform to cadets studying in Govt, institutions.

(iii) Refreshment allowance to cadets after NCC parades from State Govt, funds.

(iv) No fees charged from Students (Full cost is borne by the Central/State/Institute).

(v) Membership to Cadet Welfare Society (CWS).

(vi) Issue of A, B & C certificates which has varying benefits / concessions for:-

(i) Higher Education.

(ii) Employment.

(vii) Opportunity to visit foreign countries through NCC youth Exchange Programme.

(viii) Exposure to adventure activities like rock craft, mountaineering, etc.

(ix) Provision of training in SSB coaching, personality development, etc.

(x) Opportunity for handling of weapons, equestrian training, ship building, Microlites, etc.

(xi) Concession/priority in selection into Armed Forces.

(xii) State Governments are also providing varying benefits to their cadets with NCC certificates.

#### **Statement**

*State/Union Territory-Wise Total Number of NCC Cadets in the Country at Present Including No. of Schools and No. of Colleges where NCC has its Presence*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Cadets	No. of Schools	No. of Colleges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67,148	572	282
2.	Telangana	48,681	382	195
3.	Bihar	59,363	336	174
4.	Jharkhand	26,550	192	70
5.	Delhi	38,593	347	75
6.	Gujarat	57,258	533	283
7.	Daman and Diu	347	5	0
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	284	5	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	22,414	301	71
10.	Karnataka	70,656	548	385

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Cadets	No. of Schools	No. of Colleges
11.	Goa	3,686	37	23
12.	Kerala	77,046	603	219
13.	Lakshadweep	621	7	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	76,898	597	314
15.	Chhattisgarh	22,158	224	94
16.	Maharashtra	95,050	832	531
17.	Arunachal Pradesh	5,612	53	9
18.	Assam	42,492	350	182
19.	Manipur	8,340	88	20
20.	Meghalaya	5,982	67	34
21.	Mizoram	4,968	49	12
22.	Nagaland	9,613	124	30
23.	Tripura	5,129	50	16
24.	Odisha	55,105	695	226
25.	Punjab	54,322	489	254
26.	Haryana	34,831	325	195
27.	Himachal Pradesh	24,466	310	55
28.	Chandigarh	4,934	29	19
29.	Rajasthan	45,094	476	201
30.	Tamil Nadu	95,076	840	374
31.	Puducherry	3,804	38	20
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1,345	23	3
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1,26,632	644	717
34.	Uttarakhand	30,442	130	240
35.	West Bengal	85,611	638	233
36.	Sikkim	4,850	79	22
Total:		13,15,401	11,018	5,579

[Translation]

**Import of Coal**

1202. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal is imported at a large scale due to poor heat value of the coal found in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of the coal in metric tonne imported during each of the last three years;

(d) the total funds being spent on the import of coal; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to end the import duty levied on coal so that domestic steel, electricity and cement companies desire proper benefits therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Indian Coal, due to its drift origin, contains higher percentage of ash as compared to imported coal, resulting in lower heat value per tonne of coal. However, it does not affect Power Generation as most of the Power Plants are designed based on the quality of coal available in the country. Thus, large scale import of coal in the country does not take place due to poor heat value of Indian coal. In fact, coal import by power plants has reduced from 80.58 MT in 2015-16 to 56.41 MT in 2017-18. However, there is a gap between demand and domestic supply of coal which cannot be bridged completely as there is insufficient domestic availability of coking coal and power plants designed on imported coal will continue to import coal for their production.

(c) and (d) The quantity and value of import of coal during the last three years is given below:-

(Qty in Million Tonnes & Value in Million ₹)		
Years	Quantity	Value
2015-16	203.95	860338
2016-17	190.95	1002314
2017-18(P)	208.27	1384770

P = Provisional

(e) At present, import of coal attract 2.5% Basic Custom Duty (BCD) and there is no proposal to remove the import duty levied on coal.

[English]

#### **Commercialization of Indigenous Technology**

1203. KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH  
CHANDEL:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has increased the quality and quantity of basic research, technology transfer, innovation and start-ups;

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

(c) whether there is a need to develop commercial indigenous technology;

(d) if so, the steps taken to develop commercial indigenous technology and success achieved in this regard so far;

(e) whether the Ministry of Science and Technology intends to foster and support more collaborative teaching programmes with faculty from both medical and engineering institutions to promote skill development in healthcare technology; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. India's Gross expenditure on R&D (GERD) has been consistently increasing over the years and has increased 4 fold from ₹20,086.34 crores in 2003-04 to ₹ 85,326.10 crores in 2014-15. It is estimated to be ₹ 94,516.45 crores in 2015-16 and ₹ 1,04,864.03 crores in 2016-17. India is far ahead of many developed and developing nations in terms of GERD and it stands among the top 10 leading countries in the world. As per the DST Commissioned Study, 2016 by Elsevier based on SCOPUS, research publication output increased by 68% from 62,955 in 2009 to 106,065 in 2013. India ranked at 6th position in the world in scientific publications ahead of France, Spain and Italy during 2013. India's global citation



impact in scientific research has increased to 0.75 during 2009-13 from 0.68 during 2006-10 (World average citation impact is 1.0) According to the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, patent applications at Indian Patent Office (IPO) increased from 39,400 in 2010-11 to 47854 in 2017-18. Government has strengthened its institutions, established incubators, Centres of Excellence, Technology Parks to enhance the quality and quantity of translational research, technology transfer, innovation and start-ups etc.

Department of Science and Technology has substantially increased the support to research and development in various fields of fundamental research in physical, chemical, engineering and life sciences thereby increasing the quantity and quality of basic research through autonomous organization, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB). Participation of India in International projects like Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) under the Mega Science Programme of DST and institution of Science and Engineering Research Board demonstrate the commitment of the Government for advancement of fundamental research in the country. Establishment of new and attractive fellowships, strengthening research infrastructure for R&D in Universities etc. are some other steps aimed to step up quality and quantity of research.

Under the Technology Development Programmes of DST, nearly 100 projects are supported every year to develop technologies in the area of Advanced Manufacturing, Waste Management, and Devices for Agriculture, Textile, Analytical and Biomedical Applications. Two specific schemes Water Technology Initiative and Clean Energy Research Initiative have been formulated to develop indigenous research based technologies and also leverage international collaboration to further improve upon developed technologies. National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI), an umbrella programme was conceived and developed by Department of Science and Technology in 2016, for nurturing ideas and innovations into successful startups. This umbrella programme, NIDHI aims to nurture start-ups through scouting, supporting and

scaling of innovations. TIFAC-SIDBI Technology Innovation Programme (Srijan) is being implemented jointly by DST-TIFAC and SIDBI facilitates scaling up of indigenous technology innovations to I bring new technologies from lab to market. So far, 47 innovations are technically recommended for scaling, 25 projects approved and 16 innovations are successfully commercialized. In addition, in the Technology Foresight for Automotive Research (TEAR) programme, TIF AC is preparing R&D Plan for specific Technology interventions like Electric Mobility, rare earth magnet based permanent magnet motors for electric vehicles etc. Technology Development Board (TDB) is a unique organization under DST for providing financial assistance to the industrial concerns for attempting development and commercialization of indigenous technology. TDB provides financial assistance by way of Loan; Equity or Grant.

Department of Biotechnology has been implementing a program on basic research in modern biotechnology and is also promoting basic Research in the area of Medical, Agriculture and Environmental Biotechnology. Under the Startup India Action plan, the Department and its public sector undertaking Biotechnology Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), have taken several initiatives to increase the quality and quantity of technology transfer, innovations and start-ups. So far, the Department has supported 4 Bio-clusters and implemented Bangalore Boston Biotech Gateway Program to connect with the institutions in Boston. Further, 2 Equity Funding Schemes have been launched and are operational.

Department of Scientific and industrial Research (DSIR) through Council of Scientific and industrial Research (CSIR) has been publishing high impact papers in journals of international repute such as Nature, Nature Biotechnology, the Lancet and others. CSIR published 5382 research papers in SCI journals of national and international repute during 2017. The average Impact Factor per paper increased from 2.86 in 2013 to 3.18 during 2017. CSIR has been at the forefront of Intellectual Property generation - it enjoys a unique position amongst publicly funded R&D organizations nationally and internationally. CSIR has put in place enabling mechanisms to promote research and innovation in S&T which include: Sharing of the

premia & royalty received from the transfer of technology with scientists along with proceeds from contractual R&D and consultancy; Facilitating mobility of researchers between industry and CSIR national laboratories/institutions; and Allowing the researchers to have an equity stake in scientific enterprises; and also spin-offs while in service.

Indian Council of medical Research has set up Innovation and Translation Research Division at the ICMR Headquarters in 2015 which supports activities like up-scaling, validation, technology assessment, technology transfer under different programs.

Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) Scheme was of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to promote innovation by nurturing startups in Information Technology, Communications & Electronics (ICTE) domain.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under its initiative Atal Incubation Centres has been striving towards building the innovation and start-up ecosystem of India. Under this initiative during 2017, AIM has supported establishment of 13 Atal Incubation Centres and has extended support for scaling up of 6 Established Incubation Centres (EIC).

(c) and (d) Yes Madam. It is always desirable to develop commercial indigenous technologies. In this direction, the DST had sanctioned created 5 Technical Research Centres wherein work on more than 50 technologies is in progress. Technology Development Board (TDB) has been consistently providing financial support to the companies for manufacturing the outcome of indigenous research, at the same time, paving a path towards Hi-tech and Hi-risk domains. TDB, Since its inception in 1996, has signed a total of 343 agreements (31st March, 2018) with industrial concerns at a total project cost of ₹ 8160.00 crore involving TDB's commitment of ₹ 2122.25 crore. TDB has since then disbursed ₹ 1632.88 crore.

The support from DBT to innovative Research and Development activities, Entrepreneurs and Startups has resulted in development of 301 indigenous technologies/products.

CSIR has been pursuing focused efforts at enabling commercial exploitation of intellectual

property, knowledgebase and/or technologies/products developed at its constituent laboratories. Often, even after licensing of the technologies/products, CSIR handholds the industry partner for further development of the technology so as to facilitate market acceptance and thereby its commercial success.

In 2018, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has shortlisted 80 new institutions for establishment of Incubation Centres. Among these, 72 applicants are going to set up Atal Incubation Centres and 9 applicants are going to be supported for scaling up of Established Incubation Centres. These Atal Incubation Centres established so far have already incubated 360+ start-ups and contributed towards creation of 6000+ jobs and also encouraged deployment of innovations.

ICMR has its in-house mechanism for technology transfer which involves identifying leads that have potential for products are identified from the patents filed by the ICMR- both intramural and extramural. These technologies are placed on ICMR website for inviting proposals from interested companies/manufacturers for up-scaling and commercialization of technologies. ICMR also provides handholding in technical support, product launch, for spreading awareness through exhibitions and facilitate in obtaining regulatory approvals on case to case basis as per requirement of technology.

Ministry of Earth Sciences has set up Technology Research Board to promote indigenous technology in the field of Ocean, Atmosphere and Geosciences.

A Scheme for "Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector" has also been launched by the Government in the year 2014 with a financial allocation of ₹581.22 over a period of five years through Department of Heavy Industries. Till now, the projects worth more than ₹550 crore have been approved by the under various components of the Scheme such as Centers of Excellence (CoE), Common Engineering Facility Centers (CEFC), Technology Acquisition Fund Programme (TAFP) and Integrated Industrial Infrastructural Facility (IIIF).

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed and implemented Guidelines for Intellectual Property Management and Technology Transfer/Commercialization.

Institute Technology Management Units (ITMUs) have been established in all ICAR institutes as a single-window mechanism to pursue matters related to technology commercialization with Zonal Technology Management Centers (ZTMC) as the middle-tier and the apex Intellectual Property and Technology Management (IP&TM) Unit at the ICAR headquarters. Further, ICAR has created the National Agriculture Innovation Fund that retains the component of Innovation Fund to upscale the IP management activities and includes a component on Incubation Fund to address the much-needed requirements of business incubation (Agribusiness Incubation Centers established in 24 ICAR institutes and supported 154 Agri-entrepreneurs/start-ups in different sectors of agriculture). Agrinnovate India Limited a registered Company, was established by Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) for technology transfer/ commercialization. The success achieved in Intellectual Property Right (IPR) protection is reflected during 2014-15 to 2017-18 as filing of 479 IPRs and signing of 1572 agreements for transfer of ICAR technologies to different public/private organizations.

Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has a technology transfer and collaboration division (T&CD) who coordinate the transfer of technologies to private entrepreneurs. The technologies developed are transferred to industry on non-exclusive basis at very nominal technology transfer fee for fulfilling the requirements of the Nation. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed 142 indigenous technologies so far and transferred them to 176 licensees during 2015 to July, 2018.

(e) and (f) Yes Madam. CSIR has launched an integrated Skill Initiative Program to contribute towards government's enterprise enhancing programs in Skill India and Stand Up India. These training programs are interconnected and linked to industry requirements. CSIR has launched more than 30 integrated skill initiatives in diverse areas with varying duration.

#### **Free Antivirus**

1204. SHRI D.S.RATHOD:

SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI  
KUNDARIYA:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide powerful antivirus to the public free of cost to strengthen cyber security in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to involve the private sector in this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) Government has established the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre) for detection of systems infected by malware/botnet in the country and to notify, enable cleaning and securing systems of end users to prevent further malware infections. The Centre is working in close coordination and collaboration with Internet Service Providers and Industry. The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same for citizens.

#### **Modernization of Post Offices**

1205. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of post offices modernised and converted into Multi-Service Centres in the country under the 'Public Internet Access Programme-National Rural Internet Mission', State/ UT-wise and citizen centric services delivered by them; and

(b) the total number of post offices yet to be modernised and converted into Multi-Service Centres in the country, State/ UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Department of Posts is not implementing the Project of Public Internet Access Programme under National Rural Internet Mission for converting post offices into Multi Service Centres in the country. The Department of Posts has however, computerized 25,585 departmental Post Offices across the country. Further, under the Project "Digital Advancement of Rural Post offices for a New India" (DARPAN), the Department of Posts is providing in a

phased manner, SIM based Hand Held Devices in more than 1.29 lakhs Branch Post Offices in the rural areas of the country, for carrying out online Postal and Financial transactions. Postal Circle/State/UT-wise data of total number of post offices computerized and the implementation status of DARPAN Project State/UT-wise is enclosed Statement.

**Statements – I**

*Postal Circle- Wise Number of Post Offices  
Computerized as on 18.07.2018*

Sl. No.	Postal Circle/States /UTs	No. of Post Offices Computerized
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,594
2.	Assam	625
3.	Bihar	1,058
4.	Chhattisgarh	349
5.	Delhi NCT	407
6.	Gujarat (including UTs of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu)	1,341
7.	Haryana	504
8.	Himachal Pradesh	469
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	266
10.	Jharkhand	463
11.	Karnataka	1,717
12.	Kerala (including UT of Lakshadweep)	1,507
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1021
14.	Maharashtra (Including Goa State)	2,216
15.	North East Region (including Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh States)	340
16.	Odisha	1,204

1	2	3
17.	Punjab (including UT of Chandigarh)	768
18.	Rajasthan	1,335
19.	Tamil Nadu (including UT of Puducherry)	2,834
20.	Telangana	852
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2,554
22.	Uttarakhand	393
23.	West Bengal (including UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Sikkim State)	1,768
Total		25,585

**Statement – II**

*State/UT-Wise Number of Branch Post Offices Rolled Out Under Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices for a New India (DARPAN) as on 18.07.2018*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Branch Post Offices Rolled out
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,229
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21
3.	Assam	3,266
4.	Bihar	2,944
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,940
6.	Goa	138
7.	Gujarat (Including UTs of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli)	6,969
8.	Jharkhand	2,618
9.	Haryana	2,122
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1,866
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,232
12.	Kerala (including UT of Lakshadweep)	3,495

1	2	3
13.	Karnataka	3,105
14.	Nagaland	230
15.	Meghalaya	274
16.	Maharashtra	3,299
17.	Manipur	388
18.	Madhya Pradesh	6,301
19.	Mizoram	224
20.	Odisha	2,609
21.	Punjab (including UT of Chandigarh)	3,057
22.	Rajasthan	6,224
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu (Including UT of Puducherry)	0
25.	Tripura	592
26.	Telangana	2,883
27.	Uttarakhand	619
28.	Uttar Pradesh	7,143
29.	West Bengal (including UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands)	650
30.	Delhi NCT	88
Total		66,526

[Translation]

#### Paid Water ATMs

1206. SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase paid water ATMs for the convenience of passengers at Udaipur railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Presently 03 Water Vending Machines (WVM) are operational at Udaipur City Railway Station and it is proposed to install 02 more Water Vending Machines

by Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC) i.e. 01 at Udaipur City Railway Station and 01 at Ranapratap Nagar Railway Station, which is very near to Udaipur City Railway station.

[English]

#### Allocation of Coal to Tamil Nadu

1207. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any request from the Government of Tamil Nadu to allocate more coal to its thermal power stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the coal allocated and supplied to various States for the last six months, State-wise including Tamilnadu?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam, Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for enhancing coal dispatches to the tune of 72,000 tonnes/day to the thermal power stations of TANGEDCO. On the other hand, in 2017-18, TANGEDCO has surrendered 2409.5 MU power from Thermal Power Plants of NLCIL. Coal supply to power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter Ministerial Subgroup comprising representatives of Ministries of, Coal, Railways, Shipping, Central Electricity Authority, NITI Aayog, CIL etc. In the Sub group meeting dated 04.04.2018, it has been decided to supply more rakes to TANGEDCO to build up sufficient coal stock at the TPP end. The coal stock position, as on 22.07.2018, at the thermal power stations of TANGEDCO is given in the table below.

Name of TPP	Coal stock as on 22.07.2018	
	Quantity ('000 Tonne)	Stock (in days)
1	2	3
Mettur TPS	75.92	8

1	2	3
Mettur TPS-II	106.3	21
North Chennai TPS	79.48	5
Tuticorin (JV) TPP	91.31	11
Tuticorin TPS	227.81	25

1	2	3
Vallur TPP	237.48	15

(d) State wise Supplies to Thermal Power Plants from Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited during the last six months (from January, 2018 to June, 2018) is as under:

(in Million tonnes)

Name of the State	Coal Supplied to Power Plants during January, 2018 to June, 2018 (Provisional)			
	Coal India Limited		Singareni Collieries Company Limited	
	Contracted Quantity	Coal Supplied	Coal Allocated	Coal Supplied
Andhra Pradesh	17.97	12.07	3.30	4.93
ASSAM	0.89	0.69	—	—
Bihar	11.47	9.53	—	—
Chhattisgarh	34.84	30.12	0.25	0.07
Delhi	1.34	0.39	—	—
Gujarat	12.17	8.60	—	--
Haryana	11.94	8.81	—	—
Jharkhand	10.06	7.16	—	—
Karnataka	2.71	2.75	6.28	4.28
Madhya Pradesh	25.36	25.19	—	—
Maharashtra	39.91	27.35	2.19	2.91
Odisha	17.54	14.50	—	—
Punjab	10.96	7.37	—	—
Rajasthan	10.08	7.11	—	—
Tamil Nadu	16.53	13.20	—	—
Telangana	—	—	14.17	16.35
Uttar Pradesh	46.16	35.94	—	—
West Bengal	24.34	21.71	—	—

**Kamlesh Chandra Committee**

1208. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee headed by Shri Kamlesh Chandra constituted by the Government to look into the wage structure and other social security benefits of rural postal employees including Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details and the major recommendations thereof along with the action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the committee;

(c) whether the rural postal employees including the GDS are demanding for implementation of said recommendations of the committee and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) the reasons for delay, if any, in the implementation of the recommendations of the said committee; and

(e) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Major recommendations of Shri Kamlesh Chandra Committee report are enclosed as Statement. The Government has considered the recommendations and orders have been issued for implementation of approved recommendations relating to TRCA, GDS Gratuity, Severance amount, Maternity leave for female Gramin Dak Sevaks, and other allowances on 25.06.2018 and 27.06.2018.

(d) The recommendations of the Committee were examined by the Government and orders have been issued after receipt of necessary approvals.

(e) The recommendations relating to wages and allowances have been ordered to be implemented w.e.f. 01.07.2018. The recommendations pertaining to service matters are being processed by the Department.

#### **Statement**

*Major Recommendations Made by Shri Kamlesh Chandra Committee to Look into the Service Conditions of Gramin Dak Sevaks*

- The old system of payment of Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) is dispensed with and replaced with a new wage payment system. Under the new wage payment system, 11 TRCA slabs are subsumed into 3 Wage Scales with two Levels each for BPMs and for other than

BPMs. One wage scale would be common for both the categories of GDSs.

- The minimum working hours of GDS Post Offices and GDSs are increased to 4 hours from 3 hours.
- The new working hours for GDS Post Offices will be 4 hours and 5 hours only.
- The Level 1 GDS Post Offices / GDSs will have 4 hours as working hours and Level - 2 will have 5 hours as working hours.
- The Point System for assessment of workload of BPMs has been abolished.
- The new wage payment system is linked to revenue generation of GDS Post Offices. Under the new system, there will be no increase in wages of BPMs from Level -1 to Level -2 on the basis of workload but the same will be increased based on achievement of prescribed revenue norms which is fixed at 100% for normal areas and 50% for special areas.
- The GDS Post Offices not achieving the prescribed revenue norm within the given working hours will have to open GDS Post Offices for minimum of additional 30 minutes beyond the prescribed working hours.
- The GDS BPMs will be paid Revenue Linked Allowance @10% beyond level-2 wage scale if they will be successful in achieving revenue beyond prescribed norms.
- The GDS Post Offices has been categorized into A, B; C and D categories based on the revenue generation norms. The GDS Post Office in A category will achieve 100% revenue norm. The Committee has recommended a set of actions for each category of GDS Post Offices.
- The six approved categories of GDSs are subsumed into two categories only. One category will be Branch Post Master and all other 5 categories of GDSs are subsumed into one Multi Tasking Category.
- The GDSs working in the GDS Post Offices will be known as Assistant Branch Post Master (ABPMs) and those working in the Departmental Post Offices will be known as Dak Sevak (DS).

- The minimum wage has been increased to ₹ 10000/- per month and maximum pay to ₹ 35480/- per month, o The rate of annual increase is recommended as 3%.
- A Composite Allowance comprising of support for hiring accommodation for GDS Post Offices as well as mandatory residence, office maintenance, mobile and "electricity usage charges etc. has been introduced for the first time.
- Children Education Allowance @₹ 6000/- per child per annum has been introduced for GDSs.
- Risk & Hardship Allowance @₹ 500/- per month for GDS working in the special areas has also been Introduced.
- A Financial up-gradation has-been introduced at 12 years, 24 years and 36 years of services in form of two advance additional annual increases.
- The Ceiling of ex-gratia gratuity has been increased from ₹ 60,000 to ₹ 5,00,000
- The GDS Contribution for Service Discharge Benefit Scheme (SDBS) should be enhanced maximum up to 10% and minimum up to 3% of the basic wage per month, whereas the Department should contribute a fixed contribution of 3% of the basic wage of the GDSs.
- The coverage of GDS Group Insurance Scheme has been enhanced from ₹ 50000/-to ₹ 5,00,000/
- The contribution of Department in Circle Welfare Fund (CWF) has been increased from ₹ 100/ per annum to ₹ 300/ per annum.
- The scope of CWF is extended to cover immediate family members such as spouse; daughters, sons and dependent daughters in law in the scheme.
- The Committee also recommended 10% hike in the prescribed limits of financial grants and assistances in the Circle Welfare Funds.
- The Committee has recommended addition of ₹ 10,000/ for purchase of Tablet / Mobile from the Circle Welfare in the head "Financial Assistance of Fund by way of loans with lower rate of interest (5%)".
- Provision of 26 weeks of Maternity Leave for women GDS has been recommended.
- The wages for the entire period of Maternity Leave is recommended to be paid from salary head from where wages of GDSs are paid, o The Committee has also recommended one week of paternity leave.
- Leave accumulation and encashment facility up to 180 days has been introduced.
- Online system of engagement has been recommended.
- Alternate livelihood condition for engagement of GDSs has been relaxed.
- Voluntary Discharge scheme has been recommended.
- The Discharge age has been retained at 65 years.
- The Limited Transfer Facility has been relaxed from 1 time to 3 times for male GDSs. There will be no restriction on number of chances for transfer of women GDSs. The powers for transfer has been delegated to the concerned Divisional head.
- The ex-gratia payment during put off period should be revised to 35% from 25% of the wage and DA drawn immediately before put off.
- The Committee has recommended preferring transfer before put off duty.

[Translation]

#### **Doubling of Jhansi-Manikpur Rail Line**

1209. SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial sanction for the doubling of railway line in Jhansi-Manikpur and Khairad-Bhimsen section which passes through my constituency Banda has been accorded;

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work for the same is likely to be started along with the time frame for its completion; and



(c) the amount of funds released for the same along with the total cost of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam. Doubling of Jhansi-Manikpur and Khairar-Bhimsen (Kanpur) 411 km & Chord line at Mahoba and Khairar (14 km) has been sanctioned in March, 2018.

(b) Planning of tenders of the project has been done. The project is likely to be completed by the year 2022-23.

(c) The cost of the project is ₹ 4329 crore 53 lakh and an outlay of ₹ 100 crore has been provided for the year 2018-19.

[English]

### Operating Ratio

1210. ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is facing worst ever operating ratio and if so, the details thereof during 2017-18 and 2018-19;

(b) whether it is a fact that Comptroller and Auditor General in its latest report has remarked that Railways had under reported its expenditure liabilities in order to make its Operational Ratio look better than it actually was in 2016-17;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(d) the action proposed by the Government to effect improvement in Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The Operating Ratio (OR) of Indian Railways (IR) increased from 90.5% during 2015-16 to 96.5% and 98.4% during 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively. The Operating Ratio of 2017-18 is marginally higher than the Operating Ratio of 98.3% witnessed in 2000-01. This is largely due to implementation of recommendations of 7th Central Pay Commission which increased expenditure by about ₹ 22,000 crore per annum without corresponding increase in earnings. Whenever Pay Commission recommendations have been implemented, there has been sudden increase in OR. However for 2018-19, the Operating Ratio of Indian Railways has been budgeted at 92.8%.

(b) and (c) In Para 1.8.1 of its Report No. 1 of 2018, the Comptroller and Auditor General has observed that "Taking into account the actual amount of ₹ 40,025.95 crore required to be appropriated to Pension Fund (instead of ₹ 35,000 crore), the working expenses of IR would have increased by ₹ 5,025.95 crore to ₹ 1,64,537.93 crore instead of ₹ 1,59,511.98 crore. Hence OR of IR would have been at 99.54 per cent instead of 96.50 per cent as mentioned above. Thus, the OR of 96.50 per cent does not reflect the true financial performance of the Railways."

As per procedure, an Action Taken Report on the above observations has been submitted to the office of Comptroller and Auditor General. The appropriation of ₹ 35,000 crore to the Pension Fund in 2016-17 was need based as there was a fund balance of ₹ 5,658 crore from the previous year. The current appropriations to the fund along with the balances already available from previous year were enough to meet the pension outgo of ₹ 40,462.54 crore in 2016-17. It was, therefore, not considered financially prudent to appropriate more than ₹ 35,000 crore to the Pension Fund especially when Railway resources were under severe strain on account of low growth in traffic earnings and sharp rise in staff cost due to implementation of 7th CPC recommendations.

The methodology for calculating Operating Ratio of Indian Railways takes into account the amount of appropriation to Pension Fund and not the pension expenditure. Hence, the question of taking the pension expenditure of 2016-17 into account for calculating the Operating Ratio does not arise.

(d) The Ministry is taking measures on a continuing basis to improve the financial position and to bring the Operating Ratio to a reasonable level. The endeavour comprises of a combination of initiatives aimed at maximizing revenue receipts and minimizing controllable revenue expenses. Earnings enhancing measures, inter alia, include targeting progressively higher traffic throughput, effective and innovative marketing strategies to capture more and more traffic, creation of additional capacity and optimum utilization of the existing rail infrastructure including rolling stock, enhancement in productivity and efficiency, improvement of passenger interface, periodic rationalization of fare and freight rates and focus on increasing the share of non-fare revenue sources in Railways' earnings. Expenditure control measures

include strict economy and austerity measures, improved man-power planning, better asset utilization, inventory management, optimizing fuel consumption etc.

#### **Refund of Unspent Balance of Mobile Subscribers**

1211. SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued any directive to refund unspent balance of mobile subscribers, in view of discontinuation of its voice services and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the response of the telecom operators thereto; and

(c) the number of customers who received their refund along with the amount refunded by the telecom operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS and MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India issued the following Directions to the Service Providers who have recently closed their services / surrendered their license, directing them to refund the unspent balance of mobile subscribers:

- (i) Directions vide letter No. 116-23/2017-NSL-II dated 19th January 2018 were issued by TRAI to M/s Reliance Communications Limited and M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd. to facilitate refund of unspent balance of pre-paid mobile subscribers and security deposit of the post paid subscribers pursuant to closure of 2G/GSM, CDMA services and discontinuation of voice services in all the licensed services areas.
- (ii) Direction vide letter No. 116-22/2017-NSL-II dated 23rd April 2018 was issued by TRAI to M/s Aircel Ltd. and M/s Dishnet Wireless Ltd., in order to facilitate refund of unspent balance of pre-paid mobile subscribers and security deposit of the post paid subscribers pursuant to surrender of License in licensed service areas of Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh (West).

(b) and (c) The response of the service providers is as follows:

- (i) M/s Reliance Communications Ltd and M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd have submitted that they are duly refunding to the post-paid subscribers on account of security deposits made by such subscribers in accordance with the extant Regulations. As far as pre-paid subscribers are concerned, M/s RCL & M/s RTL have intimated that they are ready with the process and on-line application to get the authentication and banking details from the pre-paid subscribers to process refund of unspent balance. However, M/s RCL & M/s RTL have submitted that they have entered into the Strategic Debt Restructuring process and are currently under the control of the lenders. No refund has been made to pre-paid subscribers as per information available.
- (ii) As far as the subscribers of M/s Aircel are concerned, pursuant to an application filed by the Corporate Debtor(s) before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Mumbai Bench, in terms of Section 10 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with the rules and regulations framed thereunder, corporate insolvency resolution process has commenced and the NCLT has appointed an Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) for the Corporate Debtor(s) vide order dated 12th March 2018 in respect of M/s Aircel Ltd. The compliance of the Direction dated 23rd April 2018 has been sought from the IRP, but the matter is pending with IRP. No refund has been made to pre-paid subscriber as per information available.

*[Translation]*

#### **Proposals for Opening of Post Offices in Rural Areas**

1212. SHRIMATI KAMLA PAATLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of post offices located in rural and urban areas of the country, separately along with the State-wise and region-wise number thereof opened in the villages during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposals for the opening of post offices and branch post offices especially in the villages from various State Governments including Chhattisgarh;

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

(d) whether there is shortage of dak sevaks in the post offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) The number of Post Offices located in rural and urban areas of the country, separately (as on

31/03/2018) is given in the enclosed Statement-I. and State-wise & Region-wise number of Post Offices opened in villages during the period of last three financial years & current financial year (upto 30/06/2018) is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) and (c) No proposal has been received from State Governments including Chhattisgarh for opening of Post Offices and Branch Post Offices in the villages.

(d) and (e) Vacancies of Gramin Dak Sevaks' Posts occur from time to time due to incumbent Dak Sevaks attaining the age of superannuation, absorption to regular departmental posts, resignation, death etc. Presently 47,705 posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks are vacant. Filling up of vacancies is an ongoing process. Now a days it is done through an online selection process.

**Statement – I**

*State/UT-Wise Number of Post Offices in Rural and Urban Areas of the Country (as on 31-03-2018)*

S. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of Post Offices in Rural Areas	No. of Post Offices in Urban Areas	Total No. of Post Offices
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9707	783	10490
2.	Assam	3631	381	4012
3.	Bihar	8625	459	9084
4.	Chhattisgarh	2898	289	3187
5.	Delhi	83	471	554
6.	Gujarat	8116	776	8892
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	37	1	38
8.	Daman and Diu	14	4	18
9.	Haryana	2318	375	2693
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2661	131	2792
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1508	191	1699
12.	Jharkhand	3190	270	3460
13.	Karnataka	8624	1039	9663
14.	Kerala	4177	877	5054
15.	Lakshadweep	4	6	10

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Madhya Pradesh	7473	807	8280
17.	Maharashtra	11381	1233	12614
18.	Goa	203	53	256
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	273	29	302
20.	Manipur	644	57	701
21.	Meghalaya	465	26	491
22.	Mizoram	349	35	384
23.	Nagaland	302	28	330
24.	Tripura	633	78	711
25.	Odisha	7615	600	8215
26.	Punjab	3408	411	3819
27.	Chandigarh	9	42	51
28.	Rajasthan	9679	632	10311
29.	Tamil Nadu	10226	1817	12043
30.	Puducherry	57	38	95
31.	Telangana	5280	531	5811
32.	Uttarakhand	2513	210	2723
33.	Uttar Pradesh	15747	1924	17671
34.	West Bengal	7658	1110	8768
35.	Andaman and Nicobar	85	15	100
36.	Sikkim	197	12	209 -
Total		139790	15741	155531

**Statement – II**

*State-Wise & Region-Wise Number of Post Offices Opened During the Period of Last Three Financial Years (2015-16 to 2017-18) & Current Financial Year 2018-19 (up to 30/06/2018) in Villages*

Sl. No	States	Name of Region	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 30.06.18)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	2	2	4	0
		Vijayawada	4	4	94	0
		Kurnool	0	2	3	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Assam	Guwahati	3	0	0	0
		Dibrugarh	4	0	0	0
3.	Bihar	Patna	5	3	15	0
		Muzaffarpur	4	3	11	0
		Bhagalpur	7	3	15	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	13	9	23	0
5.	Delhi (NCT)	Delhi	4	2	0	0
6.	Gujarat	Rajkot	2	1	4	1
		Vadodara	2	4	3	0
		Ahmedabad	2	1	1	0
7.	Haryana	Ambala	5	4	5	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	3	3	4	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	3	2	2	0
10.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	10	11	343	0
11.	Karnataka	Bengaluru	0	2	1	0
		North Karnataka	3	3	1	1
		South Karnataka	2	4	6	0
12.	Kerala	Trivandrum	2	0	1	0
		Central Region	1	1	0	0
		Northern Region	1	1	1	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	3	7	4	0
		Indore	3	1	3	1
14.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	1	0	0	0
		Navi Mumbai	0	2	3	0
		Pune	2	2	3	0
		Nagpur	2	2	11	0
		Aurangabad	3	3	2	0
	Goa	Goa	2	1	1	0
16.	Tripura	Tripura	6	3	0	0
17.	Manipur	Manipur	1	1	1	0
18.	Mizoram	Mizoram	2	0	1	0
19.	Nagaland	Nagaland	3	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Meghalaya	Meghalaya	2	2	0	0
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0	0
22.	Odisha	Bhubaneswar	5	2	5	0
		Berhampur	2	5	36	0
		Sambalpur	3	4	1	0
23.	Punjab	Chandigarh	0	2	4	0
		Punjab West	2	4	3	0
24.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	3	3	1	0
		Jodhpur	3	0	5	0
		Jaipur	4	4	4	0
25.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai City Region	0	3	2	1
		Central Region	5	2	1	0
		Western Region	4	2	3	0
		Southern Region	3	1	2	0
26.	Telangana	Hyderabad Region	3	3	4	0
		Headquarter Region	1	2	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	4	4	3	0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	1	1	1	0
		Allahabad	1	2	0	0
		Bareilly	1	1	0	0
		Gorakhpur	2	3	2	0
		Kanpur	1	2	0	0
		Varanasi	0	0	4	0
		HQ Region Lucknow	0	1	2	0
		Ghaziabad	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	Kolkata Region	1	2	1	0
		South Bengal	0	2	3	0
		North Bengal	1	1	2	0
30.	Sikkim	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
Total			162	147	655	4

**Ticketless Travellers**

1213. SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT:

SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has details of money collected as penalty for ticketless travel;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last four years, zone-wise;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to prepare any concrete action plan to check ticketless travel and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has identified the zones where ticketless travel is the highest and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has prepared any specific action plan to check ticketless journey in these zones and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the zone-wise details of losses suffered by the Government during the last four years due to passengers travelling without ticket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The zone-wise details of amount of Railway dues realized from persons detected without ticket/ with improper ticket for financial years 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18 are given below:-

Zonal Railway	Amount of railway dues realized (in Rupees crores)			
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Central	98.00	117.91	125.13	149.96
Eastern	25.55	28.02	30.56	38.01
East Central	41.25	59.40	72.52	88.77
East Coast	15.63	21.19	22.11	25.80
Northern	90.13	111.62	116.52	164.72
North Central	66.56	77.99	84.09	98.35
North Eastern	50.32	55.71	60.80	69.21
Northeast Frontier	28.30	30.05	38.53	45.78
North Western	23.12	24.92	23.10	29.48
Southern	41.98	35.35	34.17	46.81
South Central	86.79	101.32	111.50	115.19
South Eastern	23.27	24.74	29.05	34.38
South East Central	14.35	15.93	17.55	21.09
South Western	20.55	22.64	30.46	39.26
Western	86.43	94.91	95.86	104.42
West Central	39.17	44.63	43.70	56.21

(c) Indian Railways take various steps from time to time to curb ticketless travel, some of which are as under:-

(i) Facilitating issuing of reserved as well as unreserved tickets by providing Automatic Ticket Vending Machines(ATVMs), engaging

Jansadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks(JTBS), Station Ticket Booking Agents(STBAs), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra(YTSK) licensee, proliferating e-ticketing, mobile ticketing etc.

- (ii) Conducting of regular and surprise checks against ticketless travel, which are intensified during peak rush periods.
- (iii) Conducting vigorous drives such as Ambush Checks, Fortress Checks in association with Railway Protection Force under the Action Plan framed by Railway Board.
- (iv) Setting up of Intensive Check Posts at important stations of each division of Zonal Railways to curb ticketless travelling in unreserved segments.
- (v) Ensuring effective manning of all designated/functional gates at major stations with a view to curb entry of without ticket passengers in ticketed areas and to reduce ticketless travel.
- (vi) Urging Travelling public to avoid ticketless travel through publicity campaigns launched by Zonal Railways through posters/notices/announcements at railway stations and advertisements in newspapers.

(d) and (e) No such zone has been identified. However, based on review of growth in passengers *vis-a-vis* window sales, sectors are identified by Zonal Railways from time to time to launch drives against ticketless travel. It is a continuous and ongoing exercise.

(f) It is practically not feasible to quantify the loss suffered by the Government on account of ticketless travelling.

[English]

#### **Guidelines for Dealing with Firms Having Direct Official Dealing**

1214. DR. ANUPAM HAZRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are clear cut guidelines for taking favour or accepting any kind of hospitality by any Government employees/CBI enquiry officer from any

institution with whom the officer has direct dealing in official capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any violation of such guidelines have been reported particularly by the employees of CB1; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b): Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 provides that no Government servant shall accept or permit any member of his family or any other person acting on his behalf to accept any gift. The said rules further provide that "gift" shall include free transport, boarding, lodging or other service or any other pecuniary advantage provided by any person other than a near relative or personal friend having no official dealings with the Government servant. Further, it has been indicated in these rules that a Government servant shall avoid accepting lavish hospitality or frequent hospitality from any individual, industrial or commercial firms, organisations, etc., having official dealings with him. Similar provisions are in existence in All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 in respect of Members of All India Services.

However, with reference to any Public institution, Government of India vide O.M. No. 371/13/87-AVD-III dated 19.9.1988 issued Single Directive regarding cooperation and facilities to be extended by the administrative authorities to CBI during the course of investigation. CBI has further issued internal guidelines/circulars on requisition of facilities from Government Department and Central Public Sector Undertakings but Conduct Rules do not allow CBI enquiry officer to take or accept any kind of hospitality from any Private Institution with whom the officer has direct dealing in official capacity.



(c) and (d) Such data is not centrally maintained. Whenever, any violation of the rule is reported, the concerned employee is liable to be proceeded as per the provisions of relevant Disciplinary & Appeal Rules.

However, during the last three years i.e. 01.01.2015 to 30.06.2018, action against one CBI employee was taken for violation of these rules/guidelines.

#### **Expert Committee**

1215. SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

SHRI O.K. SURESH:

SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up any Expert Committee to seek suggestions for the reorganization of the Railways and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the said Expert Committee has submitted any recommendations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) whether the Government has accepted the recommendations made by the Expert Committee to revive the organization/Railways; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Chaos in Judiciary**

1216. SHRI P. SRINIVASA REDDY:

SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been chaos/crisis in judiciary recently if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps being taken to address the issues raised by the Supreme Court judges and to solve their grievances;

(c) whether the steps taken by the Government has assured the aggrieved judges of a smooth functioning of the Supreme Court in near future; and

(d) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government to make sure such an outburst does not happen again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government has not received any information from the Judiciary in this regard. However, issues relating to the Judiciary have been highlighted in the media with some related representations. Judiciary being an independent organ under the Indian Constitution is capable of handling its internal matters. The Government is committed to the independence of Judiciary and does not and should not intervene in its functioning.

*[Translation]*

#### **INSPIRE Scheme**

1217. SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI

VASAVA:

SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

PROF. RICHARD HAY:

SHRI GEORGE BAKER:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Inspire Scheme along with the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under this scheme during the last three years and the current year across the country, State/UT wise including Kerala;

(b) the details of the number of scientists enrolled under this scheme for research during the above-mentioned period;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make some amendments in this scheme, if so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the target set and achievements made under this scheme so far along with its results;

(e) the maximum period of time provided under this scheme for research; and

(f) whether Government is planning to provide some more time to the scientists who fail to secure the regular positions after completion of the regular tenure of the scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR HARSH VARDHAN): (a) Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) program was conceptualized, designed, developed and is being implemented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to identify, sustain and strengthen human capacity for Research and Development base of the country. It has five components spread over three major schemes. These are:

- Scheme for Early Attraction of Talents for Science (SEATS) - INSPIRE Award- MANAK and INSPIRE Internship,
- Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE) - INSPIRE Scholarship, and
- Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC) - INSPDXE Fellowship and INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship.

The broad salient features of the scheme are as under:

- Aims to attract talents, foster creativity, motivate youth and promote research as career.
- An integrated scheme for age band of 10-32 years, covering students from 6th class to post-Ph.D.
- Respect existing examination systems in the country either at School or University level for selection of students in its all components, except INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship which is on competitive mode,
- The Awards or Scholarships or Fellowships are released directly to students in their Bank Account through Direct Benefit Transfer mode.

There is no separate allocation of funds with respect to any state or UT. However, the funds sanctioned and released during the last three years

including the state of Kerala are given below in the table.

Year	Funds Released (₹ in Crores)	Funds Utilized (₹ in Crores)
2015-16	475.82	475.82
2016-17	454.29	454.29
2017-18	519.29	519.29
2018-19 (as on 16.07.2018)	132.72	UC Not yet due

(b) 3677 scientists were enrolled for research under this scheme during this period.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) The target set for the scheme is 1,61,200 beneficiaries per year at present So far 18,67,036 students/ researchers have been enrolled in this scheme, since its inception in December, 2008.

(e) The maximum period of time provided for research is five years each for INSPIRE Fellowship to pursue Ph.D. and INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship for post-Ph.D.

(f) No Madam.

[English]

#### **Doubling/Electrification of Machilipatnam-Vijayawada Rail Line**

1218. SHRI KONAKALLA NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of long pending work of doubling and electrification of Machilipatnam-Vijayawada railway line and the reasons for delay, if any;

(b) whether any funds are being allocated to this project and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Machilipatnam-Vijayawada (79.43 km) is part of Vijaywada - Gudivada - Bhimavaram - Narasapur,

Gudivada - Machilipatnam and Bhimavaram - Nidadavolu (221 km) Doubling with electrification project which was sanctioned at total cost of ₹ 1503.71 crore on 50% cost sharing basis with Government of Andhra Pradesh. The various works such as earth works, construction of minor & major bridges, ballast supply etc. have been taken up.

(b) The funds to the project are allocated yearly on the basis of progress of works. Railways have allocated requisite funds for this project. The total expenditure on this project up to June 2018 is ₹ 543 crore.

(c) The Machilipatnam-Vijayawada section is planned to be completed by March 2021 subject to allocation of 50% funds by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Fixing of Coal Prices**

1219. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has adopted a new mechanism/formula for fixing coal prices in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new and old mechanism/formula and the reasons for adopting the new mechanism;

(c) the likely rise in the price of coal as a result thereof and the extent to which power, steel and cement industries would be affected by the coal price hike;

(d) whether various coal consumers such as power, steel and cement industries have opposed the new mechanism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the apprehension expressed by these industries?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) After complete decontrol of coal prices pursuant to Colliery Control Order, 2000 dated 01.01.2000, prices of coal produced by CIL are notified by CIL and its subsidiaries. As such fixing the price of coal is not in the domain of the Government. Pricing is an operational

decision of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Government does not play any role in it. As informed by CIL, as on date no change in mechanism for fixing coal prices has been adopted by CIL.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

#### **Problems within Judiciary**

1220. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the judiciary is plagued by pendency of cases, corruption, lack of transparency (particularly in the appointment of judges), plight of under trials, lack of information and interaction among people and courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to resolve each of these problems / issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Data on pendency of cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts respectively. As per latest information available on the website of Supreme Court of India, the total number of pending cases in the Supreme Court is 54,013. As per information available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 43.48 lakh cases are pending in various High Courts as on date. 2.75 crore cases are pending in various District and Subordinate courts of the country (excluding State / Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Lakshadweep and Puducherry) as on date. Disposal of cases pending in various courts is within the domain of judiciary. In pursuance of resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, all the High Courts have set up Arrears Committees to take necessary steps for clearing the backlog of pending cases. The Arrears Committees have chalked out Action Plans to reduce pendencies in their respective jurisdictions. The Supreme Court has also constituted an Arrears Committee to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts. At district level, the District Judge holds monthly meeting of all judicial officers to monitor progress made

in reduction of long pending cases. Further, the Central Government has taken several steps to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve this objective. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for improving the working condition of the district and subordinate judiciary through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging information, communication and technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of judges in High Courts and Supreme Court.

Any complaint against the Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts are handled as per the "In-house procedure". Further, as per Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the control over district courts and courts subordinate thereto vests in the High Court.

In order to bring transparency in the area of appointment of Judges in higher judiciary, the Government passed the National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC) Act 2014 but the same was struck down by the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court of India vide order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13 of 2015 directed the Government of India for bringing improvement in the Collegium system by supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium, taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat and mechanism to deal with complaints. The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP. The draft MoP was sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India vide letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium were received from Chief Justice of India vide letter dated 13.03.2017. Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 of Supreme Court in a "*suo moto*" Contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges. The Government of India has conveyed the

need to make improvement on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court vide letter dated 11.07.2017.

Under Trial Review Committees (UTRCs) headed by the District & Session Judges, who are also the Chairperson of the District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs), have been established in all the districts. The said committee holds quarterly meetings. The areas which primarily are looked into by the UTRCs includes Under-Trial Prisoners (UTPs) covered under Section 436A Cr.P.C; UTPs released on bail by the court, but who have not been able to furnish sureties; UTPs accused of compoundable offences; UTPs eligible under Section 436 of Cr.P.C; convicts who have undergone their sentence or are entitled to release because of remission granted to them; UTPs who are imprisoned for offences which carry a maximum punishment of 2 years; UTPs who are sick or infirm and require specialized medical treatment; UTPs women offenders.

Under Phase-I (2010-15) of eCourts Mission Mode Project undertaken by the Central Government, 13,672 district and subordinate courts were computerized. This includes the installation of hardware, the LAN and software. This has enabled the courts to upload the case status and orders online. Status of cases and copies of judgments have also been made available on the websites of the respective District and Subordinate Court Complexes which have been computerized. A budget outlay of ₹ 1,670 crore was approved for the Phase II of the eCourts Mission Mode Project (2015 to 2019), out of which ₹ 1073.18 crores has been released till date. The facilities of e-services etc. are being provided under the supervision of e-Committee of the Supreme Court and Computer Committees of respective High Courts for cause lists, case status, daily orders, judgements etc. . A total of 16,089 district and subordinate courts have been computerised under the eCourts Project till date. Video Conferencing facility has also been operationalised between 488 court complexes and 342 corresponding prisons during the period 2015-17. The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) developed under this project provides updated information on civil and criminal cases, including pending cases, for the computerised district / subordinate courts in the country.

**Research Work Undertaken by Scientists**

1221. SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:

SHRI MOHITE PATIL.

VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND STLE:

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to encourage young scientists to undertake research work, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the main features of young scientists research programme and the amount of funds allocated during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the details of the age related eligibility to avail the benefits of this programme and the details of the achievements made under the said programme so far;

(d) the number of young scientists who have benefitted from this programme;

(e) whether the Government is providing any special scheme or scholarship under this programme;

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

(g) the other steps taken by the Government to encourage more and more Young scientists to undertake research work?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) Yes, Madam. Government has taken several measures to encourage young scientists to undertake research work. The schemes / programmes are designed to identify promising young researchers with innovative ideas and provide them with training and research opportunities in niche areas of basic science and engineering. Some of the notable programmes of the Ministry targeted at young scientists include: Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), National Postdoctoral Fellowship (N-PDF), Early Career Research Award

(ECRA), Research Associateship, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Fellowship Schemes etc.

(b) The said schemes / research programmes provide a platform for young scientists to develop as independent researchers; and thereby elevating the S&T landscape of the country. Ease of funding, speed of delivery, attractive fellowships etc. are some of the main features of young scientist research programmes. The funds allocated exclusively for young scientist research programmes during 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and the current year by the Ministry of Science and Technology are ₹ 1039.6 crore, ₹ 1136.9 crore, ₹ 1122.6 crore and ₹ 1158.8 crore respectively.

(c) The required age groups for obtaining benefit from the following popular young scientist schemes are given below:

Scheme / Programme	Age group: Upper age limit of
Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Faculty Scheme of Department of Science and Technology (DST)	32 years with relaxation of three years to applicants belonging to SC/ST categories
National Postdoctoral Fellowship of Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)	35 years with relaxation of five years to applicants belonging to SC/ST/OBC/ Physically Challenged/Women categories
Early Career Research Award of SERB	37 years with relaxation of three years to applicants belonging to SC/ST/OBC/ Physically Challenged/Women categories
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSDi) Fellowship Schemes	35 years
Research Associate Scheme of Department of Biotechnology (DBT)	40 years and 45 years for women candidates

A number of quality publications in high impact journals and patents have emanated from the Young Scientist's projects. The schemes have helped many young researchers in the progress of their career in S&T, got appointment in academic and research institutions and received recognitions in the form of awards, membership in science and engineering academies.

(d) A total of 18,600 young scientists have been benefitted in the last three financial years through various young scientists programmes of SERB/DST and CSDI.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) CSIR provides Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowship to certain top ranking JRF- National Eligibility Test (NET) qualified candidates to nurture the budding scientific talent and to nourish the objective of pursuit of scientific research. Thematic Fellowship programmes in Solar Energy, Building Energy Efficiency Higher & Advanced Network, Bioenergy and Water Research have been initiated by DST to support young faculty and research scholars for conducting research in US R&D and academic institutions.

(g) Many other steps have been taken by the Government to encourage more and more young scientists to undertake research work. The recently approved Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) offers attractive research fellowship to potential students from Indian Institute of Science/ IITs/ National Institute of Technology/ Indian Institute of Science Education and Research / Indian Institute of Information Technology to undertake doctoral research in cutting edge science and technology domains. The Flexible Complementing Scheme / Merit based promotion scheme positioned in scientific departments and the implementation of the VII Pay Commission pay scale and introduction of Performance Related Incentive Scheme (PRIS) in strategic Departments have attracted young scientists to take research as career.

[*Translation*]

### **Crime in Trains**

1222. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to check rail accidents and the rising incidents of crime in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the incidents of crime, delay in running of trains and rail accidents have been increased during the last one year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and safety inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. As a result of these efforts the number of consequential train accidents have decreased from 104 in 2016-17 to 73 in 2017-18. Year-wise details of these consequential train accidents are given below:

Type of accidents	2016-17	2017-18
Collisions	5	3
Derailments	78	54
Manned Level Crossing Accidents	—	3
Unmanned Level Crossing Accidents	20	10
Fire	1	3
Miscellaneous Accidents	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>73</b>

Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains is the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP to provide

better protection and security of passenger area & passengers and for matters connected therewith.

Besides, the efforts of GRP, following steps have been taken by the Railways to prevent crime incidents and to ensure secure journey of passengers in trains:-

1. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 2500 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
2. Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras to ensure safety and security of passengers. At present, CCTV cameras are provided at 436 stations over Indian Railways.
3. Security Help Line number 182 is operational over Indian Railways for round the clock security related assistance to passengers in distress. It is being upgraded.
4. An Integrated Security System (ISS) consisting of surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, Access Control etc. has been sanctioned to improve surveillance mechanism over 202 Railway stations.
5. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.
6. Through various social media platforms viz. Twitter, Facebook etc., Railways are in regular touch with passengers including women passengers to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concern.
7. Drives are conducted from time to time against the entry of unauthorized persons in trains and railway premises.
8. Regular coordination is made with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels for prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains.

(c) and (d) Consequential train accidents have come down from 104 in 2016-17 to 73 in 2017-18. Zone-wise details of consequential train accidents are given as under:

RAILWAY	2016-17	2017-18
NORTHERN	14	16
SOUTH CENTRAL	1	3
NORTH EASTERN	3	5
NORTH WESTERN	4	5
SOUTH EASTERN	2	3
CENTRAL	7	8
METRO/KOLKATA	0	0
KONKAN	1	1
EAST CENTRAL	17	9
NORTHEAST FRONTIER	8	2
EASTERN	7	2
SOUTHERN	8	3
SOUTH EAST CENTRAL	5	1
EAST COAST	7	4
WESTERN	8	5
NORTH CENTRAL	7	5
SOUTH WESTERN	3	1
WEST CENTRAL	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>73</b>

Cases of Indian Penal Code (IPC) in trains are registered and investigated by the concerned GRP. Whenever any information about status of crimes on Railways is sought, State GRP is requested to provide information. As per the data provided by Government Railway Police Stations, incidents of crime in trains have increased during the year 2017 as compared to the year 2016. Based on the data received from Government Railway Police Stations, the zone-wise number of cases registered for crime in trains during the year 2017 over Indian Railways is as under:

Number of cases registered for crime in trains during the year 2017	
Zonal Railway	Number of cases registered
Central	8721
Eastern	831
East Central	951
East Coast	569
Northern	3737
North Central	1291
North Eastern	499
Northeast Frontier	283
North Western	465
Southern	1472
South Central	2527
South Eastern	447
South East Central	879
South Western	546
Western	4373
West Central	1517

[English]

#### **Advocates Act**

1223. SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has notified section 30 of the Advocates Act, 1961 recently, enabling the lawyers to practice in courts across the country irrespective of their enrolment in any bar council without the need to transfer their licence to the desired States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the date from which this section will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P.

CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Yes Madam. The Government had issued a notification number 8(5)/88-IC dated 9th June, 2011, appointing the 15th day of June, 2011 as the date on which Section 30 of the Advocates Act, 1961 shall come into force. This notification was published as S.O. No. 1349(E) in Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) of the Gazette of India.

[Translation]

#### **Delay in Completion of Power Projects**

1224. SHRI TAMRADHWAJ SAHU: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delay in completion of power projects and consequent cost overrun are causing huge losses to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the number of such power projects;

(c) whether the cost of mega basic infrastructural projects like rail and roads has increased due to delay in their completion;

(d) if so, the project-wise number of such projects which are lying pending for years and the details of cost over run so far because of delay;

(e) the number of mega projects shut down due to cost overrun; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government for monitoring of projects and their early completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above on time and cost overruns, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies on the On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) of this Ministry. As on 01.04.2018, a total of 38 projects of power sector are showing both delay in completion and consequent cost overruns. Total original cost of implementation of these projects



was ₹ 1,49,564.80 crore and their anticipated completion cost is likely to be ₹ 1,96,155.21 crore, which reflects overall cost overruns of ₹46,590.41 crore (31.15%).

(c) and (d) As on 01.04.2018, a total of 389 mega projects (costing ₹ 1000 crore and above) including rail and road sectors were on the monitor of this Ministry. Out of these, the cost of 59 projects has increased by ₹ 1,36,790.58 crore due to delay in their completion. The details of such Projects including rail and road sectors are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) The OCMS portal of this Ministry ([www.cspm.gov.in](http://www.cspm.gov.in)) maintains information in respect of on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects only.

(f) The major steps taken to ensure completion of on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns include:

- (i) Project appraisal by respective Ministries;
- (ii) On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS);
- (iii) Setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns;
- (iv) Regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and
- (v) Setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the concerned States under the chairmanship of Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and facilitating speedy implementation of major projects.

## Statement

Sector-Wise Details of Central Sector Projects Costing ₹1000 Crore and Above Showing Both Time and Cost Overruns (as on 01.04.2018)

SN	PROJECT	State	ORIGINAL DATE OF COMMIS-SIONING (month/year)	ANTICIPATED DATE OF COMMIS-SIONING (month/year)	COST ORIGINAL (₹ in crore)	ANTICIPATED (₹ In crore)	COST OVERRUN (₹ In crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ATOMIC ENERGY						
1.	PROTOTYPE FAST BREEDER REACTOR (BHAVINI, 500 MWE)	Tamil Nadu	09/2010	06/2018	3492.00	6100.00	2608.00
	PETROLEUM						
2.	PROPYLENE DERIVATIVES PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT(PDPP) AT KOCHI REFINERY	Kerala	08/2018	05/2019	4588.29	5245.96	657.67
3.	DISTILLATE YIELD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (COKER) AT HALDIA REFINERY	West Bengal	09/2017	06/2018	3076.00	4190.00	1114.00
4.	INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF VASHISTA AND S-1 FIELDS	Multi State	04/2016	03/2018	4124.35	5725.50	1601.15
5.	INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF B-127 FIELDS	Maharashtra	03/2015	12/2019	2059.63	2665.65	606.02
6.	CONVERSION OF RIG SAGAR SAMRAT TO MOBILE OFFSHORE PRODUCTION UNIT(MOPS)	Maharashtra	05/2013	11/2018	861.79	1256.72	394.93
7.	MH NORTH REDEVELOPMENT PHASE III	Maharashtra	05/2017	05/2018	5706.47	5813.25	106.78
	POWER						
8.	KAMENG HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT (NEEPCO)	Arunachal Pradesh	12/2009	10/2018	2496.90	6179.96	3683.06

9.	PARE HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT	Arunachal Pradesh	08/2013	04/2018	573.99	1337.76	763.77
10.	PARBATI HEP (4X200 MW) (NHPC) II	Himachal Pradesh	09/2009	12/2020	3919.59	8398.75	4479.16
11.	BARH STPP(3X660MW) NTPC	Bihar	01/2011	04/2021	3692.97	15095.67	6402.70
12.	BONGAIGAON THERMAL POWER PROJECT	Assam	09/2011	06/2018	4375.35	8150.00	3774.65
13.	BRBCL-NABINAGAR TPP- JV (4X250 MW)	Bihar	05/2014	02/2019	5353.00	7998.00	264500
14.	KUDGISTPP STAGE 1	Karnataka	01/2017	03/2018	15166.19	16934.65	1768.46
15.	GADARWARA SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT STAGE-I	Madhya Pradesh	09/2017	06/2019	11638.55	12865.92	1227.37
16.	DARLIPALLI STPP STAGE-I (2X800 MW)	Odisha	08/2018	06/2019	12532.44	13740.53	1208.09
17.	LARA SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT STAGE-I (2 X 800 MW)	Chhattisgarh	06/2017	06/2019	11846.00	12739.82	893.82
18.	TAPOVAN-VISHNUGAD HEP (4X130MW)	Uttarakhand	03/2013	12/2020	2978.48	3846.30	867.82
19.	MORTH KARANPURA STPP (3X660 MW)	Jharkhand	02/2019	10/2020	14366.58	15164.05	797.47
20.	MPGCPL-NABINAGAR STPP - JV (3X660 MW)	Bihar	01/2018	02/2019	12964.60	13731.26	766.66
21.	COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN A P	Multi State	12/2018	12/2019	4754.42	9141.97	4387.55
22.	NORTH- EAST NORTH WESTERN INTERCONNECTOR I PROJECT	Multi State	08/2013	03/2022	11130.19	13762.8C	2632.61
23.	TRANSMISSION SYSTEM ASSOCIATED WITH PALLATANA GBPP and BPTS.	Multi State	12/2012	06/2018	2144.00	2932.88	788.88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	COMMON SYSTEM ASSOCIATED WITH COASTAL ENERGEN PRIVATE LIMITED AND IND-BARATH POWER(MADRAS) LIMITED L	Tamil Nadu	09/2014	09/2018	1940.13	2702.65	762.52
25.	COMMON SYS. ASSOCIATED WITH EAST COAST ENERGY PVT- LTD AND NCC POWER PROJECTS LTD LTOA GEN PART- B	Multi State	12/2015	06/2018	2514.88	3190.27	675.39
26.	TRANMISSION SYSTEM ASSOCIATED WITH ALUSTENG (SRINAGAR)-DRASS-KARGIL-KHALSTI-LEH PROJECT	Jammu and Kashmir	09/2017	09/2018	1788.41	2333.71	545.30
27.	EASTERN REGION STRENGTHENING SCHEME-V	Multi State	04/2016	12/2018	1364.52	1891.41	526.89
28.	EASTERN REGION STRENGTHENING SCHEME-HI	Multi State	11/2012	09/2018	1272.80	1731.10	458.30
29.	TRANMISSION SYSTEM ASSOCIATED WITH IPPS OF NAGAPATTINAM/ CUDDALORE AREA PACKAGE A	Multi State	12/2015	06/2018	955.00	1364.00	409.00
30.	KUNADANKULAM APP TRANS SYSTEM (PGCIL)	Tamil Nadu	11/2008	09/2018	1779.29	2187.32	408.03
31.	TR. SYSTEM ASSOCIATED WITH MUNDRA ULTRA MEGA POWER PROJECT	Multi State	10/2012	12/2018	4824.12	5071.94	247.82
32.	TEHRI PUMPED STORAGE PLANT(1000MW)	Uttarakhand	02/2016	12/2020	1657.00	4401.90	2744.90
33.	VISHNUGAD PIPALKOTI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT	Uttarakhand	06/2013	11/2020	2491.58	3789.61	1298.03

RAILWAYS													
34.	MANDARHILL-DUMKA-RAMPURHAT (NL),ER	Jharkhand	12/2011	03/2020	900.05	1125.89	225.84						
35.	MUMBAI URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECT PHASE-II	Maharashtra	03/2014	03/2019	5300.00	7986.04	2686.04						
36.	BELAPUR-SEAWOOD-URAN ELECTRIFIED DOUBLE LINE(MTP)	Maharashtra	03/2004	03/2020	495.44	1781.98	1286.54						
37.	GWALIOR-SEOPURKALA WITH EXTENSION TO KOTA (GC)	Multi State	02/2020	12/2022	1176.09	3845.60	2669.51						
38.	DHOLPUR-SIRMUTTRA WITH EXTENSION TO GANGAPURCITY AND MOHARI-TANTPUR AND TANPUR-BANSI PAHARPUR	Multi State	02/2019	12/2022	622.41	2030.50	1408.09						
39.	JIRIBAM TO IMPHAL (TUPU)(NL)(NEFR)	Manipur	03/2011	33/2020	727.56	9658.00	8930.44						
40.	3HAIRABI SAIRONG, NL, NEFR	Mizoram	04/2014	33/2020	61934	4600.00	3980.66						
41.	BPUTRA BRIDGE AT BOGIBIL AND LINK LINES NEFR	Assam	04/2008	06/2018	1500.0C	5450.0C	3950.00						
42.	SEVOK RANGPO, NEFR	Sikkim	12/2015	03/2020	1339.48	4084.6S	2745.21						
43.	AGARTALA SABROOM. NL, NEFR	Tripura	03/2014	03/2020	813.34	3451.0C	2637.66						
44.	NEW MAYNAGURI TO JOGIGHOPA VIA CHANGRABANDHA (NL).NEFR	Multi State	12/2008	03/2019	733.00	3040.0C	2307.00						
45.	NEW LINE FROM DIMAPUR TO ZUBZA(KOHIMA) NATIONAL PROJECT (NEFR)	Nagaland	03/2015	03/2020	850.00	3000.00	2150.00						
46.	UDHAMPUR-SRINAGAR-BARAMULLA (NL),NR	Jammu and Kashmir	11/2002	12/2018	2500.00	27946.00	25446.00						
47.	HIMMATNAGAR - UDAIPIUR GAUGE CANVESSION (NWR)	Rajasthan	03/2015	12/2019	829.74	1143.70	313.96						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
48.	OBULAVARIPALLE-KRISHNAPATNAM(RVNL)	Andhra Pradesh	03/2008	03/2020	743.00	1825.00	1082.00
49.	SUKINDA ROAD - ANGUL (NL)(ECOR)	Odisha	02/2015	12/2019	183.23	1202.07	1018.84
50.	BHOPAL BINA 3D LINE DOUBLING	Madhya Pradesh	03/2010	03/2018	687.20	1030.00	342.80
51.	NEW WORK FOR CONSTRUCTION OF METRO RAILWAY FROM NSCB AIRPORT TO NEW GARIA VIA RAJARHAT (MTP)	West Bengal.	03/2016	12/2020	3951.98	4259.48	307.50
52.	GONDIA-JABALPUR(GC),(SECR)	Multi State	03/1998	12/2019	386.30	1776.81	1390.51
53.	LALITPUR-SATNA-REWA-SINGRULI NL,(NCR)	Multi State	05/2008	03/2023	247.66	6093.31	5845.65
54.	ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS PANIPAT-JALANDHAR 6 LANE(KM 96 TO 387.1 KM)	Haryana	11/2011	03/2018	1108.00	2288.00	1180.00
55.	SIX LANING OF CHITRADURGA-DAVANGERE INCLUDING CHITRADURGA BYPASS(KM 189+000 TO KM 260+000 OF NH-48(0	Karnataka	03/2020	05/2020	993.16	1434.00	440.84
56.	SIX LANING OF DAVANGERE-HAVERI FROM KM 260+000 TO KM 338+923 DF NH-48(OLD NH-4) STATE OF KARNATAKA	Karnataka	03/2020	06/2020	831.58	1177.00	345.42
57.	SIX LANING OF RANASTALAM-ANANDAPURAM SECTION OF NH-16 FROM KM 634.000 TO KM 681.000	Andhra Pradesh	03/2020	05/2020	1041.62	1187.10	145.48

TELECOMMUNICATIONS								
58.	NETWORK FOR SPECTRUM URBAN DEVELOPMENT	Multi State	07/2015	04/2020	13334.00	24664.00	11330.00	
59.	ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES(CAPFIMS) AT NEW DELHI	Delhi	10/2019	33/2020	1219.21	1592.00	372.79	
<b>Total</b>					<b>212562.90</b>	<b>349353.48</b>	<b>136790.58</b>	

^ - Cost Overrun = Anticipated - Original Cost.

\$- Time overrun = Anticipated Date of Commissioning minus Original Date of Commissioning

**Season Ticket Holders**

1225. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first class coaches from almost all the trains have been removed by the Railways;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any alternative arrangements for the first class season ticket holders and first class ticket holders; and

(c) if so, the time by which the first class coaches are likely to be attached with trains having numbers (12929-30, 22953-54, 19015-16, 22959-60, 19033-34, 22929-30) along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) In some Zonal Railways, First Class ticket/season ticket holders are being provided first class accommodation in EMUs & MEMUs. To give a comfortable journey to First Class Monthly Season Ticket (MST) Holders, good conditioned GS Coaches with marking of Zebra stripes and marked with caption "Vice WGFCZ" outside the coaches are attached over Western Railway.

(c) Due to discontinuation of production of First Class coaches, it is not feasible to attach any First Class coach in 12929/12930 Valsad-Dahod Express, 22953/22954 Mumbai Central-Ahmedabad Express, 19015/19016 Mumbai Central-Porbandar Express, 22959/22960 Surat-Jamnagar Express, 19033/19034 Valsad- Ahmedabad Express, and 22929/22930 Bhilad-Vadodara Express. However, General Class coaches (distinctly marked as zebra stripes) have been earmarked for such class of ticket holders in these trains.

**Safe Return of Indians**

1226. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH:

SHRI. RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure safe return of Indian citizens of Jharkhand State

stuck in other countries like Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia; and

(b) the number of such labourers/employees from Jharkhand, kidnapped or became victim of exploitation in foreign countries during the last two years along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD))]: (a) and (b) The Government of India accords the highest priority to ensure the safety and well-being of Indian nationals abroad. The Government has facilitated return of Indian nationals stuck due to distress situations in countries like Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia, which includes people from the State of Jharkhand.

As per information available with the Ministry, 125 Indian labourers/employees from Jharkhand [4 in Afghanistan, 1 in Ethiopia, 1 in Iraq, 86 in Malaysia, 31 in Saudi Arabia and 2 from Malawi] were repatriated from 2016 to 2018 (till 20.07.2018). The Indian Mission/Posts provided all required consular assistance to the persons and facilitated their return to India.

[English]

**Global Eols**

1227. SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN:

SHRIMATI V. SATHABAMA:

SHRI P.R. SENTHILNATHAN:

SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Global Expression of Interests (Eols) floated by the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) for the selection of Technological partner / Co-production / Joint Venture projects during the last three years and their present status;

(b) whether the OFB has approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with any foreign companies to sign JV / Co-production / transfer of technology during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof particularly with regard to OFL-Beltech co-production and the OFB-BAE system, USA;



(d) whether the OFB had formulated any SoP to decide on these Eols; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to

(e) In the last three years seven global Expression of Interests (Eols) have been floated by the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB). The status of the same is as under:-

Sl. No.	Item (i.e. Eol for selection of technology partner/co-production/joint venture projects during the last three years.)	Status
1.	Non Prohibited Bore Pistol	Eol was issued to identity/shortlist OEMs for collaboration in the production of modern weapons for civilian market. Meanwhile, in the changed scenario Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) shifted its focus from manufacturing of civilian weapon to manufacturing weapons for Services and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Therefore, the proposal for selection of partner for co-production of NPB weapons has been dropped by OFB.
2.	7.62x51 mm Assault Rifle	Eol was issued for selection of technology partner for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) of the Army HQ. Techno Commercial proposals received and MoU not signed yet.
3.	Mini Truck (Automatic Transmission, Gross Vehicle Weight 4200 kg, Payload 1200 kg)	Eol was issued for selection of technology partner for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) of the Army HQ. No offer was received from OEMs.
4.	70mm Rocket for Indian Air Force	Eol was issued for the selection of technology partner for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) of the Air Force HQ. A response has been received in May 2018 and MoU is not signed yet by OFB.
5.	Air Defence Gun for Indian Army	Eol was issued for the selection of technology partner for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) of the Army HQ. Offers received are under evaluation by OFB.
6.	AD Gun & Ammunition	Eol for AD Gun & Ammunition was floated for selection of technology partner for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) for AD Gun & Ammunition of the Army HQ. The case was closed as no respondent could meet the required criteria.
7.	Mounted Gun System	EOI for selection of technology partner was floated for participation in the forthcoming Request For Proposal (RFP) for 155mm Mounted Gun System of the Army HQ. MoU signed by OFB in August 2017 with M/s BAE Systems, USA with validity of two years from the date of signing.

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) had approved procurement of 957 nos of Muzzle Reference System (MRS) for TI-ESSA in T-90 Tanks from Opto-Electronic

Factory (OLF) Dehradun. DAC also authorised OFB to sign MoU for co-production of MRS with M/s Beltech, Belarus. MoU was signed in March 2014.

In September 2016, the Department of Defence Production (DDP) had directed OFB to formulate a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for selection of technological partners. OFB forwarded the draft SOP in August 2017 which after examining was returned to incorporate suggestions of the Ministry. OFB after incorporating the suggestions in the SOP forwarded revised SOP in February 2018, which after examination was approved by the Ministry in March 2018. Copy of the approved SOP by the Ministry is attached as Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Guidelines for Selection of Technology Partner*

*(As approved by DDP vide MoD*

*ID No. 2(4)/2016/Empowering OFB/DP (Rig-III)  
dated 12/03/2018)*

1. OFB is engaged in production of items for Indian Defence Forces and Security Forces. To keep pace with technological developments and enter into new business areas to align with core strength, OFB needs to acquire new and advanced technologies through Transfer of Technology (ToT), co-production or collaboration agreements with suitable technology partners.
2. Selection of technology partner may be necessitated by the need for the following:
  - a) Joint Research & Development activity
  - b) Manufacturing ToT
  - c) Co-production activity
  - d) Maintenance ToT
  - e) Short-term partnerships for specific projects/tenders
  - f) Separate Joint Venture company to be set-up jointly
  - g) To become Indian Offset Partner of foreign OEMs for areas relating to OFB
  - h) Up-gradation of existing products
3. Selection of technology partner has to be done after careful analysis and consideration of several factors. Therefore, there is a need to

formalise the process for selection of technology partners. The procedure, as outlined in succeeding paras, shall be followed for selection of technology partner.

- 3.1 The need for technology partner, in terms of technological requirement, can be divided in 2 categories:

- Where defence equipment is required against an available PSQR/GSQR of Indian Armed Forces: In such cases, it is essential that the technical/operational requirement of the equipment as mentioned in the QRs is fully met. If a respondent is not able to offer the equipment as per the stated QR, it becomes ineligible to be a technology partner.
- Where OFB is looking for a technology partner for a particular product segment or technology pro-actively, which could have the potential to be supplied to Indian Armed Forces, non-defence market and export: In such cases, the requirement of performance parameters of the product or technology can be divided into 2 parts -one part which would be essentially required for the respondent to be eligible to be a probable technology partner and the other part may become part of evaluation criteria.

4. The selection of technology partner will be through Global Expression of Interest (Eoi).

- 4.1 Member of the concerned division of OFB will decide to issue Global Eoi on case to case basis in consultation with Member/Finance.

5. Issue of Eoi

- 5.1 Eoi will be issued by OFBHQ.

- 5.2 Member of the concerned division of OFB will constitute an Eoi Committee for

preparation of Eol document to be issued for selection of technology partner. The Committee will have a member from Finance. Further, if considered necessary, an officer from concerned lab of DRDO may be co-opted as a member of the Eol committee. In case representative from concerned lab of DRDO in the Eol committee is not considered necessary, the reasons of the same may be recorded while constituting the Committee.

- 5.3 The Eol Committee will specify all the essential technical and financial parameters in the Eol document. These parameters will determine the eligibility of the respondents. Only those respondents, who satisfy these parameters, will be considered for further evaluation for ranking amongst themselves as stated in the succeeding paras.
- 5.4 Besides the essential parameters/criteria, the Eol document will invariably specify the criteria for comparative evaluation of the eligible responses. Comparative evaluation of eligible responses will be done only in those cases where more than one response is found eligible based on the essential parameters/criteria. If there is only one eligible response, comparative evaluation will not be required.
- 5.5 The criteria for comparative evaluation of eligible responses may include the following parameters:
- a. Range and depth of technology being offered: To evaluate range of technology being offered, the respondents will be asked to provide a list of all the assemblies and their value in terms of percentage of the total system. Against each system, the respondents will have to indicate whether technology for the assemblies would be provided or

not. This will also include details of propriety content. In order to assess the depth of technology, all the assemblies/sub-assemblies for which technology is being offered, will be divided into following categories:

- Category A: Complete technology is provided i.e. product documents/specifications as well as production process documents. For such assemblies, full weightage for the value of the assembly in percentage terms will be given.
- Category B: Only product document is provided and no production/process documents are provided. Only 50% weightage for such assemblies/sub-assemblies will be given.

The respondents will have to provide information in Table at Annexure-A There could be certain assemblies/sub-assemblies which may fall in the area of core-competency of OFB, and for which OFB may have greater preference for ToT as compared to other assemblies/sub-assemblies. Such assemblies/sub-assemblies should be specified in the Eol document. Further, the Eol Committee may assign higher weightage for such assemblies/sub-assemblies over and above the weightage specified for Categories 'A' & 'B' above.

- b. Proposed Indigenisation Content: In some cases, it is possible that the respondent, which may be foreign OEM, may already have tie-up with some Indian company for-supply of a particular sub-assembly and would like to continue supplying that sub-assembly through their Indian partner. Considering 'Make in India'

- policy of Government of India, weightage may be given to this parameter.
- c. Status of the respondent: The respondents against the EoI issued by OFB may have the status of being either OEMs or their authorized licensees or Design Agency or Government sponsored Export Agencies. However, considering the relative ease and advantage of partnership depending upon the status of the respondent, as mentioned above, suitable weightage may be given for this parameter.
- d. Status of System offered: Suitable weightage may be given against this parameter considering whether the system offered by the respondent is in- service or proven or under evaluation. In case the EoI Committee decides that the system has to be in-service/proven, this parameter may be removed from here and included in the eligibility criteria suitably.
- e. Technologies and performance parameters offered: As brought out at para 3.1 above, suitable weightage may be given for various technologies sought and performance parameters desired from the product.
- f. Exclusivity of collaboration/ToT in India: The respondents who would enter into an exclusive collaboration/ToT arrangement with OFB need to be given preference over others who intend to have collaboration/ToT arrangement with other companies in India also. This is to ensure that the respondent has full commitment towards OFB, which is essentially required to safeguard the interest of OFB.
- g. Possibility of addressing exports from India: The companies which do not put any restrictive clause in the collaboration agreement for export of defence equipment developed in collaboration to foreign countries will be given preference over others, who put conditions such that the equipment developed can be supplied to Indian Armed Forces only.
- h. The provision for support on upgrades: Suitable weightage may be given to this parameter considering that upgrades are a very important aspect of any defence industry.
- i. Addressing of obsolescence: Generally, defence equipment have a life cycle varying from 25-40 years and therefore addressing of obsolescence of spares/sub-assemblies of the defence equipment is a very important activity for sustaining the weapon for its full life.
- j. The provision of product support: Sometimes OFB may need product support to complement the capability and capacity at Ordnance Factories. Therefore, if necessary, suitable weightage may be assigned to this aspect.
- k. Delivery period required for proprietary items: Timely availability of proprietary items will have a bearing on production and supply of defence equipment by OFB. Higher weightage may be given for faster delivery.
- l. Financial Parameters: The EoI Committee may lay down suitable financial parameters to assess the

financial health of the respondent.

The Eol Committee may also like to refer to DPP or relevant guidelines/policies of Govt, of India for defining these parameters.

- 5.6 The above parameters are broad guidelines. The Eol Committee may choose to include any or all of the above parameters based on the specific requirement of Eol. Further, the Eol Committee may include additional technical parameters that may be considered necessary' for the Eol.
- 5.7 The Eol Committee will assign weightages to the parameters chosen for evaluation, as well as specify the method/principle for assigning unweighted score against each parameter. The weightages and the method/principle for assigning unweighted scores should be mentioned in the Eol document. Table at Annexure-'B' indicates the procedure to be followed for calculation of points for evaluation.
- 5.8 The Eol committee may also consider holding Pre-Bid meeting for any clarification required by the vendors.
6. Evaluation of Eol
- 6.1 An evaluation committee will be constituted by Member of the concerned

division of OFB for evaluation of Eol. The committee will have a member from Finance. Further, if considered necessary, an officer from concerned lab of DRDO may be co-opted as a member of the evaluation committee. In case representative from concerned lab of DRDO in the evaluation committee is not considered necessary, the reasons of the same may be recorded while constituting the Committee. The Eol committee and Evaluation committee can have common members. 6.1.1 The Evaluation Committee will prepare a matrix of various parameters as mentioned at para 5.5 above. The matrix will be prepared in the format given at Annexure-B Based on the matrix, the committee will rank the eligible technology holders as Rank I, Rank II, etc.

- 6.2 The Evaluation Committee shall recommend suitable technology partner with highest ranking for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) / Collaboration Agreement.
- 6.3 The evaluation report will be examined by the concerned division and approved by the concerned Member/OFB.
7. After the approval as above, a Board Paper will be processed for signing of MoU with the selected technology partner.

### **Annexure – A**

#### *Technology Transfer*

Name of the Sub-Assembly	Value of Sub-Assembly as a percentage of total system	ToT offer (Yes/No)	Category (A/B)	Weightage (1/0.5)	Final percentage after considering weightage
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(B × E)
Sub-Assy. (I)					
Sub-Assy. (II)					
Sub-Assy. (III)					

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(B × E)
Sub-Assy. (IV)					
Total Technology offered					$\Sigma (B \times E)$

**Annexure – B***Evaluation Matrix*

Performance Parameter	Weightage	Score		
		Respondent A	Respondent B	Respondent C
P1	W1	A1	B1	C1
P2	W2	A2	B2	C2
P3	W3	A3	B3	C3
Pn	Wn	An	Bn	Cn
Total Points earned by the respondent		$\Sigma (W_i \times A_i)$	$\Sigma (W_i \times B_i)$	$\Sigma (W_i \times C_i)$

**Mobile Service Quality Assessment**

1228. SHRI. M. UDHAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has conducted any assessment of mobile operators with regard to call drop issues and mobile service quality and if so, the details and the outcomes thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to take any action against operators not meeting the quality benchmarks of the mobile services and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said assessment is benchmarked to the new, more stringent call drop norms that came into effect in October, 2017 and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the operators continue to face many problems at ground level when it comes to getting approvals for infrastructure and networks roll outs and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS ((SHRI MANOJ

SINHA): (a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the Quality of Service performed by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) against the benchmarks for the various quality of service parameters laid down by TRAI through regulations issued from time to time, including parameters relating to call drop.

TRAI had recently reviewed the network related parameters and issued "the Standards for Quality of Service for Basic (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2017" dated 18th August 2017. These Regulations, effective from 1st October 2017 have prescribed two revised parameters for assessing call drop in mobile network, viz. Call drop-rate Spatial distribution measure (benchmark  $\leq 2\%$ ) implies that at-least 90% of Cells in the network should perform better than specified 2% benchmark on at-least 90% of days. Similarly, another new parameter, Call drop-rate Temporal distribution measure will give confidence that on at-least 90% of Days, network performed better than specified 3% benchmark for at-least 97% of the Cells.

Revised approach for assessing Call drop-rate will give better insight into the network performance of service provider and help to highlight the specific areas and specific days when network performance was

excellent or good or poor. The performance on these parameters is monitored quarterly through Performance Monitoring Reports (PMR) submitted by service providers for the service area as a whole. As per PMR for the quarter ending March 2018, all TSPs offering mobile services are generally meeting both the parameters in all License Service Areas (LSAs) except, M/s Idea & Tata is not meeting in 5 LSAs each, M/s Telenor in 2 LSAs and M/s BSNL in 1 LSA only. For the parameter Call drop-rate Temporal distribution measure, M/s Tata is not meeting in 7 LSAs, M/s Idea & Telenor in 2 LSAs each and M/s BSNL in 1 LSA only.

So far as violations are concerned, the Authority has now introduced a revised graded Financial Disincentives (FD) structure, effective from 1st October 2017, for monitoring compliance against these parameters. If network does not meet benchmark, then financial disincentives may also be increased by Rupees One lakh for every 2% deviation from the benchmark, subject to a maximum FD of Rupees Five lakh per parameter, in case of first contravention. However, in the case of non-compliance in consecutive quarters, then the amount of FD may be increased by a factor of 1.5 for first consecutive contravention and by a factor of 2 for second and subsequent consecutive contraventions. The total amount payable as financial disincentives under this new regulation in a quarter, for one or both parameters combined, shall not exceed Rupees Ten Lakhs.

In accordance with above, action has been initiated for imposing financial disincentives on TSPs for non-compliance with the benchmarks.

(d) The problems faced by the operators are mainly on account of resistance by residents & public against installation of mobile towers due to perceived fear of Electro-Magnetic Field (EMF) radiations and time-taken to get Right of Way permissions from concerned authorities & local bodies for laying Optic-Fiber Cable (OFC) and installation of mobile towers.

The Government has taken various initiatives to address these concerns and facilitate expansion of telecom infrastructure as follows:

- (i) adoption of norms for EMF-related compliances to dispel fear of EMF radiations on human health. These norms are more stringent than the

ones recommended by World Health Organisation (WHO).

- (ii) conduct of awareness programs for information of residents & public on continuous basis by the stakeholders including TSPs, Medical practitioners & officials from concerned jurisdictions.
- (iii) launch of Tarang Sanchar, a public web portal for information sharing on mobile towers and their status of compliance to Electro-Magnetic Field (EMF) norms. Any mobile user may also submit an online request by paying a nominal fee to get EMF compliance re-checked at a specified location.
- (iv) notification of Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 for regulating underground infrastructure (optical fibre) and over-ground infrastructure (mobile towers) so that applications by the operators are processed in a time-bound manner.

In addition, the Government has facilitated the operators to install additional mobile towers on the government estate on multiple-sharing basis.

#### **Land Acquisition**

1229. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total land required for the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) has been acquired and if not, the time by which the land acquisition would be completed;

(b) whether all civil engineering and systems contracts for the eastern corridor have been awarded and if not, the time by which the awarding of contracts would be completed; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in the corridors and the steps being taken to ameliorate the causes of delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Out of 11,664 Ha of total requirement of land 11,148 Ha has been acquired.

(b) Contracts for all civil works have already been awarded between Sonnagar to Ludhiana section in

Eastern Corridor. All System Contracts have also been awarded except four System Contracts for the sections of Khurja-Dadri, Khurja-Pilkhani, Pilkhani-Sahnewal and Mughalsarai-Sonnagar. These contracts are targeted to be awarded in the current year 2018-19.

(c) Some of the reasons for delay in implementation of DFC project are: delay in land acquisition, environmental/forest clearance and resistance in physical hand over of land by Project affected persons.

To resolve these difficulties, regular meetings are held with landowners and concerned State Government officials. Arbitration and court cases are also closely monitored.

### **First Aid in Trains**

1230. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether first aid facilities and first aid boxes are available in all the trains running in the country;

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

(c) whether adequate staff has been deployed in Railways to provide first aid treatment to sick/wounded passengers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any pilot projects in respect of various trains for the purpose especially in Durgam/Rajdhani/ other long distance trains have been successful;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Railways to ensure timely medical assistance/first aid to the needy passengers during the journey period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b): Yes, Madam. Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 3224 of 2006 had directed that a Committee of experts be constituted at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi for recommending the medical facility in trains and at stations for rendering emergency medical care to passengers. All the recommendations of the Committee have been implemented in Railways.

(c) Yes, Madam. Front-line staff deployed on trains and at railway stations have been trained in rendering First Aid. They are also deputed for regular refresher courses.

(d) and (e) No, Madam. A pilot project of deployment of doctors in Durgam Trains was undertaken for a period of two years. During the Pilot Project, it was noted that serious patients could not be treated on board and had to be de-trained for medical treatment at a hospital only because the medical diagnostic equipments, such as ECG machines etc. do not function properly on the trains due to noise/vibration.

(f) All the recommendations of the expert Committee constituted by AIIMS, New Delhi have been implemented which includes modified First Aid Boxes containing wide range of life saving medicines and materials required for rendering First Aid, provision of oxygen and training of front-line staff in rendering First Aid.

*[Translation]*

### **Trains on Tori-Shivpur Line**

1231. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the trains presently being operated on Tori-Shivpur rail line;

(b) whether any passenger train is being operated or proposed to be operated on Tori-Shivpur rail line and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which Shivpur-Kathotia rail line is proposed to be operated;

(d) the present status of the said rail line; and

(e) the time by which Tori-Shivpur-Kathotia rail line is scheduled to be completed along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) At present, only freight trains are being operated on Tori-Shivpur rail line.

(c) to (e) A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) named Jharkhand Central Railway Limited (JCRL) has been



formed to execute the Shivpur-Kathautia project. The project is targetted for completion in December, 2021.

The Tori-Shivpur (44 Km) new Line project is being executed as deposit work of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) at an estimated cost of ₹ 1589 Crore. So far, Tori-Balumath (22 Km) and Balumath-Bukru (5 Km) sections have been commissioned. Works on remaining sections have been taken up and are in advance stage. Simultaneously Doubling of Tori-Shivpur project has also been taken up. The whole project is targetted for completion during current financial year 2018-19.

[English]

#### Outlets at Stations

1232. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any outlets at railway stations have been allotted by IRCTC to various companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of companies, zone-wise;

(c) whether it is true that many crores of rupees of the railways are outstanding against many companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCTC) has awarded 339 Food Plaza/Fast Food Units over Indian Railways. The details of Food Plazas & Fast Food Units and the outstanding amount due from certain companies/firms of the units are as under:

SN	Name of Company	No. of outlets allotted	Name of Station	Type of Unit	Zonal Railway	Amount (in ₹) outstanding from companies as on date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	A Diet Express Hospitality Service Ltd.	1	Vijayawada	FFU	SCR	-
2.	A.B. Sawant & Bros.	1	Gondia	FFU	SECR	-
3.	A.K. Nazeer Moosa	2	Ambur	FFU	SR	-
4.	A.K. Nazeer Moosa		Arsikere	FP	SWR	-
5.	A.S. Sales Corp.	8	Manmad	FP	CR	-
6.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Kota	FP	WCR	-
7.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Varanasi	FFU	NR	-
8.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus	FP	CR	-
9.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Hubli	FP	SWR	-
10.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Allahabad	FP	NCR	-
11.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Pune	FFU	CR	-
12.	A.S. Sales Corp.		Sealdah	FP	ER	-
13.	Aayush Hospitality Enterprises	2	Sealdah	FFU	ER	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Aayush Hospitality Enterprises		Sainagar	FFU	CR	-
15.	ABCTCL	1	Kacheguda	FP	SCR	-
16.	Adyar Ananda Bhavan	1	Chennai Egmore	FP	SR	-
17.	Airport Restaurant	1	Ranchi	FP	SER	-
18.	Alak Kumar	1	New Tinsukia	FFU	NFR	-
19.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.	7	Dimapur	FP	NFR	-
20.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		Lumding	FFU	NFR	-
21.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		New Coochbehar	FFU	NFR	-
22.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		New Alipurduar	FFU	NFR	-
23.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		Bandel	FP	ER	-
24.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		Rangiya	FP	NFR	-
25.	Alok Kumar Ghose Catering Pvt. Ltd.		Mariani Jn	FFU	NFR	-
26.	Amazing India Contractors (P) Ltd.	2	Sahibganj	FFU	ER	-
27.	Amazing India Contractors (P) Ltd.		Sultanganj	FFU	ER	-
28.	Anjali Hotels Pvt. Ltd.	1	Ernakulam South	FP	SR	-
29.	Arenco Catering	7	Chennai Park	FP	SR	-
30.	Arenco Catering		Khandwa	FFU	CR	-
31.	Arenco Catering		Katpadi	FP	SR	-
32.	Arenco Catering		Nasik	FP	CR	-
33.	Arenco Catering		Thane	FP	CR	-
34.	Arenco Catering		Rourkela	FP	SER	-
35.	Arenco Catering		Bangarpet	FFU	SWR	-
36.	Ayyappa Caterers	1	Chikbanvar	FFU	SWR	-
37.	B.M. Singh	4	Koderma	FFU	ECR	-
38.	B.M. Singh		Narkatiaganj	FFU	ECR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
39.	B.M. Singh		Bakhtiyarpur	FFU	ECR	-
40.	B.M. Singh		Hatia	FFU	SER	-
41.	Bibekananda Das	1	Virudhachalam	FFU	SR	-
42.	Boon Catering		Surat	FP	WR	-
43.	Boon Catering	2	Jamnagar	FP	WR	-
44.	Boon N Zeal Enterprises	4	Jajpur Keonjhar Road	FFU	ECoR	-
45.	Boon N Zeal Enterprises		Suratgarh	FFU	NWR	-
46.	Boon N Zeal Enterprises		Rajgir	FFU	ECR	-
47.	Boon N Zeal Enterprises		Merta Road	FFU	NWR	-
48.	Brandavan Food Products	8	Mughal Sarai	FP	ECR	-
49.	Brandavan Food Products		Kolkata Terminal	FFU	ER	-
50.	Brandavan Food Products		Mumbai Central	FP	WR	-
51.	Brandavan Food Products		Bikaner	FP	NWR	-
52.	Brandavan Food Products		Raigarh	FP	SECR	-
53.	Brandavan Food Products		Jhansi	FP	NCR	-
54.	Brandavan Food Products		Howrah	FFU	ER	-
55.	Brandavan Food Products		Amritsar	FP	NR	-
56.	C K K Catering	2	Mangalore	FP	SR	-
57.	C K K Catering		Bangalore	FFU	SWR	-
58.	C R Catering Co.	2	Berahampore	FFU	ER	-
59.	C R Catering Co.		Adra	FFU	SER	-
60.	Commercial Food Services	2	Tirupati	FFU	SCR	-
61.	Commercial Food Services		Delhi Shahadra	FFU	NR	-
62.	Daffodil Caterers	1	Sitaphalamandi	FFU	SCR	-
63.	Deepak & Co.	5	Ajmer	FP	NWR	-
64.	Deepak & Co.		Lalkuan	FFU	NER	-
65.	Deepak & Co.		Katni	FP	WCR	-
66.	Deepak & Co.		Raipur	FP	SECR	-
67.	Deepak & Co.		Delhi	FFU	NR	-
68.	Devyani International Limited	1	Vijayawada	FP	SCR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
69.	Dinesh Kumar, Vending Contractor	1	Ratangarh	FFU	NWR	-
70.	Dream Hotel	1	Luckee sarai	FP	ECR	-
71.	Express Food Services	18	Patna	FP	ECR	-
72.	Express Food Services		Darbhanga	FP	ECR	-
73.	Express Food Services		Bhagalpur	FP	ER	-
74.	Express Food Services		Ujjain	FP	WR	-
75.	Express Food Services		Janghai	FFU	NR	-
76.	Express Food Services		Saharsa	FFU	ECR	-
77.	Express Food Services		Mehsana	FP	WR	-
78.	Express Food Services		Chhapra	FFU	NER	-
79.	Express Food Services		Pratapgarh	FFU	NR	-
80.	Express Food Services		Surendernagar	FFU	WR	-
81.	Express Food Services		Gaya	FP	ECR	-
82.	Express Food Services		Jamalpur	FFU	ER	-
83.	Express Food Services		Andheri	FFU	WR	-
84.	Express Food Services		Damoh	FFU	WCR	-
85.	Express Food Services		Patna	FP	ECR	-
86.	Express Food Services		Mughal Sarai	FP	ECR	-
87.	Express Food Services		Erode	FP	SR	-
88.	Express Food Services		Burdwan	FFU	ER	-
89.	Fine Caterers & Suppliers	2	Nalgonda	FP	SCR	-
90.	Fine Caterers & Suppliers		Nanded	FP	SCR	-
91.	Food Planet Pvt. Ltd	1	Andheri	FFU	WR	-
92.	Galav Foods	3	Visakha patnam	FFU	EcoR	-
93.	Galav Foods		Jind	FFU	NR	-
94.	Galav Foods		Panipat	FFU	NR	-
95.	Ganga Dairy Limited	4	Raxaul	FP	ECR	-
96.	Ganga Dairy Limited		Hajipur	FP	ECR	-
97.	Ganga Dairy Limited		Muzaffarpur	FP	ECR	-
98.	Ganga Dairy Limited		Gorakhpur	FFU	NER	-
99.	Gaurav Enterprise	1	Barka Kana	FFU	SER	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
100.	Goel & Goel	6	Varanasi	FP	NR	-
101.	Goel & Goel		Jaipur	FP	NWR	-
102.	Goel & Goel		Alwar	FP	NWR	-
103.	Goel & Goel		Lucknow Jn	FFU	NER	-
104.	Goel & Goel		Howrah	FFU	ER	-
105.	Goel & Goel		Hazrat Nizamuddin	FFU	NR	-
106.	Golden Caterers	4	Madhubani	FFU	ECR	-
107.	Golden Caterers		Shahganj	FFU	NR	-
108.	Golden Caterers		Jasidih	FFU	ER	-
109.	Golden Caterers		Muzaffarpur	FFU	ECR	-
110.	Griham Food & Hotel Pvt. Ltd.	1	Asansol	FFU	ER	-
111.	Gsk Agarwal	1	Bellary	FFU	SWR	-
112.	Hakmichand D Sons	2	Pune	FP	CR	-
113.	Hakmichand D Sons		Tatanagar	FP	SER	-
114.	Hallimane	2	Bangalore Cantt.	FP	SWR	-
115.	Hallimane		Bangalore	FP	SWR	-
116.	Haribabu	1	Hassan	FFU	SWR	-
117.	Harshad N	1	Kochuveli	FFU	SR	-
118.	Hms Host India Pvt. Ltd.	1	Secunderabad	FP	SCR	-
119.	Hotel Highway Palace	1	Ernakulam North	FP	SR	-
120.	Hotel Mahamaya	2	Satna	FFU	WCR	-
121.	Hotel Mahamaya		Rewa	FP	WCR	-
122.	Hotel Rajasthan	6	Bhadrak	FFU	EcoR	-
123.	Hotel Rajasthan		Nazibabad	FFU	NR	-
124.	Hotel Rajasthan		Jhajha	FFU	ECR	-
125.	Hotel Rajasthan		Kasganj	FFU	NER	-
126.	Hotel Rajasthan		Sitapur	FFU	NER	-
127.	Hotel Rajasthan		Manduadih	FFU	NER	-
128.	Hotel Ranjeet	1	Maihar	FFU	WCR	-
129.	Hotel Samdariya	1	Jabalpur	FP	WCR	-
130.	Hotel Sandharsini	1	Bangalore City	FFU	SWR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
131.	J.S. Enterprises	1	Salem	FP	SR	-
132.	J.S. Catters	4	Kengri	FFU	SWR	-
133.	J.S. Catters		Chennai Egmore	FFU	SR	-
134.	J.S. Catters		Thalassery	FP	SR	-
135.	J.S. Catters		Shoranur	FP	SR	-
136.	Jeet India Pvt. Ltd.	1	Ahmednagar	FP	CR	-
137.	Joshi & Co	1	Gadag	FFU	SWR	-
138.	K.K. Mashood	1	Aluva	FFU	SR	-
139.	K.M. Musthafa	1	Tumkur	FFU	SWR	-
140.	K. M. Khandelwal	2	Daund	FP	CR	-
141.	K. M. Khandelwal		Solapur	FP	CR	-
142.	Khurshid Ahmed Refreshment & Tea Stall	1	Bhabua Road	FFU	ECR	-
143.	Kishore H. Caterers	3	Puri	FP	EcoR	-
144.	Kishore H. Caterers		Vadodara	FP	WR	-
145.	Kishore H. Caterers		Rajkot	FP	WR	-
146.	KMA Caterers	4	Jolarpet	FFU	SR	-
147.	KMA Caterers		Tatanagar	FP	SER	-
148.	KMA Caterers		Vasco Da Gama	FFUi	SWR	-
149.	KMA Caterers		Patliputra	FP	ECR	-
150.	Krishna Enterprises	4	Kishanganj	FP	NFR	-
151.	Krishna Enterprises		Basti	FFU	NER	-
152.	Krishna Enterprises		Dehri on Sone	FFU	ECR	-
153.	Krishna Enterprises		Kiul	FFU	ECR	-
154.	Ktg Hotel & Resorts P. Ltd	1	Ambala Cantt	FP	NR	-
155.	Kvr Foods Service	1	Cannanore	FP	SR	-
156.	M. V. Sathyabalan	1	Changanachery	FFU	SR	-
157.	M.M. Sunil Dath	1	Tiruvanmiyur	FFU	SR	-
158.	M.Y. & Sons	4	Devlali	FFU	CR	-
159.	M.Y. & Sons		Gomoh	FFU	ECR	-
160.	M.Y. & Sons		Bhilwara	FFU	NWR	-
161.	M.Y. & Sons		Balharshah	FP	CR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
162.	Madan Petha Store	1	Orai	FFU	NCR	-
163.	Mahadev Sales Agencies	1	Marwar	FFU	NWR	-
164.	Metro Cool Joint	1	Purulia	FFU	SER	-
165.	Murti Devi	7	Babina	FFU	NCR	-
166.	Murti Devi		Chitrakoot	FFU	NCR	-
167.	Murti Devi		Satara	FFU	CR	-
168.	Murti Devi		Sangli	FFU	CR	-
169.	Murti Devi		Junagadh	FFU	WR	-
170.	Murti Devi		Bhatni	FFU	NER	-
171.	Murti Devi		Unnao	FFU	NR	-
172.	N.Harshad	1	Varkala Shivagiri	FFU	SR	-
173.	Nest Bar & Rest.	1	Akola	FP	CR	-
174.	New Classic Caterers Private Limited	2	Shyam Bazar	FFU	K Metro	-
175.	New Classic Caterers Private Limited		Valsad	FFU	WR	-
176.	Nile Catering	1	Tiruttani	FFU	SR	-
177.	Om Sai Ram Enterprises	4	Pune	FFU	CR	-
178.	Om Sai Ram Enterprises		Badshahnagar	FFU	NER	-
179.	Om Sai Ram Enterprises		Aligarh	FP	NCR	-
180.	Om Sai Ram Enterprises		Mughal Sarai	FFU	ECR	-
181.	Oriental Cuisines	2	Calicut	FP	SR	-
182.	Oriental Cuisines		Thrissur	FP	SR	-
183.	P R Kumar	7	Madhupur	FFU	ER	-
184.	P R Kumar		Koderma	FFU	ECR	-
185.	P R Kumar		Sagauli	FFU	ECR	-
186.	P R Kumar		Dhanbad	FFU	ECR	-
187.	P R Kumar		Anugrah Narayan Road	FFU	ECR	-
188.	P R Kumar		Katihar	FP	NFR	-
189.	P R Kumar		Mokama	FFU	ECR	-
190.	P. Bharat	2	Oharmavaram	FFU	SCR	-
191.	P. Bharat		Giddaluru	FFU	SCR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
192.	P. Siva Prasad	1	Chirala	FP	SCR	-
193.	P.K.Shefi	5	Yeshwantpur	FP	SWR	-
194.	P.K.Shefi		Arakonam	FFU	SR	-
195.	P.K.Shefi		Thiruchirapalii	FP	SR	-
196.	P.K.Shefi		New Delhi	FP	NR	-
197.	P.K.Shefi		Veiachery	FP	SR	-
198.	R&K Associates	2	Malkapur	FFU	CR	-
199.	R&K Associates		Kolhapur	FP	CR	-
200.	R.C. Goel	1	Siwan	FFU	NER	-
201.	R.D. Sharma & Sons	1	Bhopal	FP	WCR	-
202.	R.K Sharma	1	Dwarka	FP	WR	-
203.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.	6	Bangalore	FP	SWR	-
204.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.		Hazrat Nizamuddin	FP	NR	-
205.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.		Gwalior	FP	NCR	-
206.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.		Nagpur	FP	CR	-
207.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.		Delhi	FP	NR	-
208.	R.K.Associates & Hoteliers Pvt. Ltd.		Vijayawada	FP	SCR	-
209.	R.K.Foods Product's	1	Makrana	FFU	NWR	-
210.	Radha Krishna Associates	1	Necklace Road	FP	SCR	-
211.	Raj Group	2	Dibrugarh Town	FFU	NFR	-
212.	Raj Group		Chengannur	FFU	SR	-
213.	Ram Niwas	1	Chopan	FFU	ECR	-
214.	Ramen Deka	2	New Jalpaiguri	FP	NFR	-
215.	Ramen Deka		Howrah	FP	ER	-
216.	Ratan Refreshment Pvt. Ltd.	4	Mahanayak Uttam Kumar	FFU	K Metro	-
217.	Ratan Refreshment Pvt. Ltd.		Master Da Surya Sen	FFU	K Metro	-



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
218.	Ratan Refreshment Pvt. Ltd.		Master Da Surya Sen	FFU	K Metro	-
219.	Ratan Refreshment Pvt. Ltd.		Wardha	FFU	CR	-
220.	Roop Caterers	2	Mathura Jn.	FP	NCR	-
221.	Roop Caterers		Rajahmundry	FP	SCR	-
222.	S. Mohanlal Agarwal	1	Yadgir	FFU	SCR	-
223.	S.L. Kachhwaha & Sons	2	Champa	FFU	SECR	-
224.	S.L. Kachhwaha & Sons		Bhatapara	FFU	SECR	-
225.	S. Ramchandrudu	1	Dhone	FP	SCR	-
226.	Sai Balaji Food & Beverages (I) Pvt Ltd	3	Trivandrum	FP	SR	-
227.	Sai Balaji Food & Beverages (I) Pvt Ltd		Beigaum	FP	SWR	-
228.	Sai Balaji Food & Beverages (I) Pvt Ltd		Tuni	FFU	SCR	-
229.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation	8	Abu Road	FP	NWR	-
230.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Anantapur	FFU	SCR	-
231.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Tadepalligudem	FFU	SCR	-
232.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Bilaspur	FFU	SECR	-
233.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Palimarwar	FFU	NWR	-
234.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Jaipur	FFU	NWR	-
235.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Guntakal	FFU	SCR	-
236.	Sai Balaji Food Corporation		Churu	FFU	NWR	-
237.	Sanraj Hospitality Private Limited	2	Khalilabad	FFU	NER	-
238.	Sanraj Hospitality Private Limited		Samastipur	FFU	ECR	-
239.	Satkar Caterers	2	Agra Fort	FP	NCR	-
240.	Satkar Caterers		Mirzapur	FP	NCR	-
241.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.	6	Lucknow	FP	NR	-
242.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Kanpur Central	FP	NCR	-
243.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Varanasi	FFU	NR	-
244.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Lucknow Jn	FP	NER	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
245.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Bilaspur	FP	SECR	-
246.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Tirupati	FP	SCR	-
247.	Shaheed Enterprises	3	Falna	FFU	NWR	-
248.	Shaheed Enterprises		Chandausi	FFU	NR	-
249.	Shaheed Enterprises		Patliputra	FFU	ECR	-
250.	Shree Mahaveer Distributor & Caterer	2	Chandrapura	FFU	ECR	-
251.	Shree Mahaveer Distributor & Caterer		Barh	FFU	ECR	-
252.	Shubham Awasthi Caterers	1	Rajnandgaon	FFU	SECR	-
253.	Sopan Restaurant	2	Jaynagar	FFU	ECR	-
254.	Sopan Restaurant		Vizianagaram	FFU	EcoR	-
255.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises	15	Berhampur	FP	EcoR	-
256.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises.		Begumpet	FFU	SCR	-
257.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Lingampalli	FFU	SCR	-
258.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Gooty	FFU	SCR	-
259.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Deoria Sadar	FFU	NER	-
260.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Raichur	FP	SCR	-
261.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Siwan	FFU	NER	-
262.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Gonda	FFU	NER	-
263.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Sambalpur	FP	EcoR	-
264.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Rayagada	FFU	EcoR	-
265.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Vizianagaram	FP	EcoR	-
266.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Pakala	FFU	SCR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
267.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Srikalahasti	FFU	SCR	-
268.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Kurukeshtra	FFU	NR	-
269.	Sree Venkateswara Enterprises		Jalandhar City	FP	NR	-
270.	Sri R.K. Enterprises	1	Chennai Beach	FP	SR	-
271.	Srinathji Caterers	5	Davangere	FP	SWR	-
272.	Srinathji Caterers:		Mysore	FP	SWR	-
273.	Srinathji Caterers		Anand Vihar	FFU	NR	-
274.	Srinathji Caterers		Lucknow	FFU	NR	-
275.	Srinathji .Caterers		Jodhpur	FFU	NWR	-
276.	Sunil Catering Services	2	Yeshwantpur	FFU	SWR	-
277.	Sunil Catering Services		Tirur	FFU	SR	-
278.	Sunil Enterprises	1	Shahdol	FFU	SECR	-
279.	Sunshine Caterers Pvt. Ltd.	3	Cuttack	FP	EcoR	-
280.	Sunshine Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Kopargaon	FP	CR	-
281.	Sunshine Caterers Pvt* Ltd.		Aurangabad	FP	SCR	-
282.	Switz Foods	1	Bhubaneshwar	FP	EcoR	-
283.	Tasty Foods	4	Buxar	FP	ECR	-
284.	Tasty Foods		Danapur	FP	ECR	-
285.	Tasty Foods		Gurgaon	FP	NR	-
286.	Tasty Foods		Rayagada	FP	EcoR	-
287.	Tirupati Associates	22	Asansol	FP	ER	-
288.	Tirupati Associates		Malda Town	FP	ER	-
289.	Tirupati Associates		Bokaro StreeI City	FP	SER	-
290.	Tirupati Associates		Nagda	FP	WR	-
291.	Tirupati Associates		Bhavnagar	FP	WR	-
292.	Tirupati Associates		Palanpiir	FP	WR	-
293.	Tirupati Associates		Chhapra	FP	NER	-
294.	Tirupati Associates		Firozpur Cantt	FP	NR	-
295.	Tirupati Associates		Durgapur	FP	ER	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
296.	Tirupati Associates		Khurda Road	FFU	EcoR	-
297.	Tirupati Associates		Saugor	FP	WCR	-
298.	Tirupati Associates		Veraval	FFU	WR	-
299.	Tirupati Associates		Barabanki	FFU	NR	-
300.	Tirupati Associates		Motihari	FFU	ECR	-
301.	Tirupati Associates		Betiah	FFU	ECR	-
302.	Tirupati Associates		Gulbarga	FP	CR	-
303.	Tirupati Associates		Guwahati	FP	NFR	-
304.	Tirupati Associates		Bongaigaon	FP	NFR	-
305.	Tirupati Associates		Muzaffarnagar	FP	NR	-
306.	Tirupati Associates		Patiala	FFU	NR	-
307.	Tirupati Associates		Kamakhya	FP	NFR	-
308.	Tirupati Associates		Balasore	FP	SER	-
309.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.	8	Visakhapattiam	FP	EcoR	-
310.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Pune	FP	CR	-
311.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Madurai	FP	SR	-
312.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Visakhapatnam	FP	EcoR	-
313.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Agra Cantt	FP	NCR	-
314.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Vijayawada	FP	SCR	-
315.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Vijayawada	FFU	SCR	-
316.	Travel Food Services Pvt. Ltd.		Chennai Central	FFU	SR	-
317.	Trivarga Food And Beverage	1	Nellore	FFU	SCR	-
318.	Vasantham Catering	3	Nagercoil	FFU	SR	-
319.	Vasantham Catering		Villupuram	pp	SR	-
320.	Vasantham Catering		Tiruchira ppalli	FFU	SR	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
321.	Vrindavan Catering Company	1	Sasaram	FFU	ECR	-
322.	Vrindawan Enterprises	2	Kathgodam	FP	NER	-
323.	Vrindawan Enterprises		Gorakhpur	FFU	NER	-
324.	Hotel Aryan	1	Jharsuguda	FP	SER	-
325.	Fine Caterers & Suppliers		Gudur	FP	SCR	₹ 3,85,152
326.	J.S. Enterprises	1	Renigunta	FFU	SCR	₹ 22,02,638
327.	J.S. Catters	1	Tambaram	FP	SR	₹3,54,57,000
328.	Kma Caterers	1	Bhusawal	FP	CR	₹ 13,57,567
329.	Nile Catering	1	Cuddapah	FFU	SCR	₹ 3,271
330.	R&K Associates	1	Burhanpur	FFU	CR	₹ 3,123
331.	Riya Fast Food	1	Ahmedabad	FP	WR	₹ 38,05,492
332.	SM Corporation	1	Maninagar	FP	WR	₹ 15,858
333.	Sai Balaji Food & Beverages (1) Pvt Ltd	2	Shegaon	FFU	CR	₹ 2,80,627
334.	Sal Balaji Food & Beverages (1) Pvt Ltd		Badnera	FFU	CR	₹ 8,21,507
335.	Satyam Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Howrah	FP	ER	₹ 65,01,885
336.	Shegaon Kachori Centre	1	Betul	FFU	CR	₹ 20,443
337.	Sunil Kumar Agarwal	1	Mantralayam	FFU	SCR	₹ 9,59,128
338.	Sunshine Caterers Pvt. Ltd.		Kharagpur	FP	SER	₹ 2,53,000
339.	Wimpy International	1	Ludhiana	FFU	NR	₹ 4,01,001
Total		339				₹ 5,24,67,692

## Expanded form of Abbreviations used

FP	Food Plaza	FFU	Fast Food Unit
CR	Central Railway	SCR	South Central Railway
ECoR	East Coast Railway	SECR	South East Central Railway
ECR	East Central Railway	SER	South Eastern Railway
ER	Eastern Railway	SR	Southern Railway
NCR	North Central Railway	SWR	South Western Railway
NER	North Eastern Railway	WCR	West Central Railway
NFR	Northeast Frontier Railway	WR	Western Railway
NR	Northern Railway	K Metro	Kolkata Metro
NWR	North Western Railway		

[Translation]

### Shortages of GDS In Madhya Pradesh

1233. SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is huge shortage of Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) in the Parliamentary Constituency of Sagar and in Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of the sanctioned posts as against the actual strength of GDS in the aforesaid region;

(c) whether GDS are not willing to work in these districts due to shortcomings in the present selection process; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to start selection procedure at division level to recruit the locals and persons knowing regional language as Gramin Dak Sewaks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Sanctioned posts as against the actual strength of GDS in the Parliamentary Constituency of Sagar and Vidisha District of Madhya Pradesh are as under:-

Name of Region	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength (working)
Sagar	445	348
Vidisha	146	121

(c) No, Madam. The Department is not cognizant of such a matter.

(d) Online submission of applications for selection of GDS candidates has been introduced to ensure transparency. Selection process is carried out at divisional/sub divisional level in accordance with Gramin Dak Sevaks (Conduct & Engagement), Rules, 2011.

### Pending Divorce Cases

1234. SHRI KAUSHAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that cases related to divorce and atrocities against women are pending for years in lower courts of the country including Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the pending cases particularly of Delhi, court-wise;

(c) whether the Government has fixed/ proposed to fix any time limit for disposal of such cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) The data of cases related to divorce and atrocities against women in lower courts are maintained by the concerned State Governments/High Courts. As per information made available by the High Courts and also by National Crime Records Bureau, pending cases involving women which, inter alia, include divorce cases, are given State/UT-wise including Delhi at Statement-I to Statement-V.

No time limit is fixed for disposal of such cases. Section 12(5) of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 stipulates that the Magistrate shall endeavour to dispose of every application made under sub Section (1), within a period of sixty days from the date of its hearing.

The Government of India has promulgated 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 and has introduced amendments in the IPC, CrPC, The Indian Evidence Act and the POCSO Act and has brought in more stringent provisions for trial and disposal of cases involving women and children. Provision for effective deterrence through enhanced punishment in the Indian Penal Code including that relating to death penalty has been made. In order to eliminate delays in investigation, inquiry or trial due to postponement or adjournment of proceedings, it has been stipulated that the investigation of all rape cases be completed within two months from the date of lodging the First Information Report and that trials of such cases are completed within two months by the trial courts, as far as possible.

**Statement – I**

State-Wise/Union Territory-Wise Number of Pending Cases as on 30.06.2018

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE STATES/UTs	NO. OF CASES PENDING AS ON 30.06.2018
1.	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana	20312
2.	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram	5839
3.	Bihar	48326
4.	Chhattisgarh	12340
5.	Delhi	30676
6.	Gujarat	30987
7.	Haryana	19208
8.	Jharkhand	10134
9.	Karnataka	28273
10.	Kerala	65632
11.	Madhya Pradesh	41373
12.	Maharashtra	36096
13.	Manipur	634
14.	Odisha	32695
15.	Punjab	4430
16.	Puducherry	971
17.	Rajasthan	36615
18.	Sikkim	186
19.	Tamil Nadu	21889
20.	Tripura	2013
21.	Uttar Pradesh	270397
22.	Uttarakhand	9757
23.	West Bengal	1168
24.	Andaman and Nicobar	638
Total		730589

At present, there is no family court in the States of Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Meghalaya.

**Statement – II**

*The Total Number of Cases Filed by Women in the Country, Including Delhi*

State	Civil	Criminal	Total
Andaman and Nicobar	1040	206	1246
Andhra Pradesh	63754	17269	81023
Assam	13519	17897	31416
Bihar	55481	192787	248268
Chandigarh	3065	2417	5482
Chhattisgarh	11804	11532	23336
Delhi	21885	27261	49146
Diu and Daman	105	45	150
DNH at Silvassa	94	38	132
Goa	4647	1254	5901
Gujarat	29464	49114	78588
Haryana	47670	33019	80689
Himachal Pradesh	15486	11912	27398
Jammu and Kashmir	6436	4241	10677
Jharkhand	12130	30020	42150
Karnataka	137651	48306	185956
Kerala	84445	22290	106735
Madhya Pradesh	65038	70832	135870
Maharashtra	182744	138692	321436
Manipur	1363	674	2037
Meghalaya	610	162	772
Mizoram	322	35	357
Odisha	42492	34414	76906
Punjab	46868	39662	86530
Rajasthan	61998	65969	127967

State	Civil	Criminal	Total
Sikkim	94	25	119
Tamil Nadu	133619	14739	148358
Telangana	37797	30338	68135
Tripura	1751	1331	3082

State	Civil	Criminal	Total
Uttar Pradesh	241575	446273	687848
Uttarakhand	5219	5166	10385
West Bengal	81463	121963	203426
<b>Total</b>	<b>1411629</b>	<b>1439893</b>	<b>2851521</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

**Statement – III***Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act During 2014-2016*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
4.	Bihar	112	52	2	47	123	65	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Goa	2	1	0	2	1	1	0
7.	Gujarat	2	2	0	6	2	2	0
8.	Haryana	4	5	0	18	3	8	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5	4	0	6	5	4	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	5	2	0	1	4	2	0
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	140	106	2	195	116	115	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	53	51	2	33	59	59	5
15.	Maharashtra	4	3	0	21	6	5	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	2	0	0	0	2	0	0



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22.	Rajasthan	17	11	0	21	16	16	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	4	3	0	2	4	3	0
25.	Telangana	1	1	0	1	3	3	0
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	66	67	2	73	345	350	2
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	1	1	0	1	3	3	0
TOTAL STATE(S)		419	310	8	428	693	637	12
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	7	2	1	1	0	2	1
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT(s)		7	2	1	1	0	2	1
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		426	312	9	429	693	639	13

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	161	149	3	192	215	182	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	2	0	2	2	2	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
7.	Gujarat	2	2	0	8	2	2	0
8.	Haryana	11	10	0	25	22	11	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15	10	0	16	14	10	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	1	0	2	0	1	0
12.	Karnataka	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
13.	Kerala	132	122	6	296	124	129	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	91	93	9	114	100	100	9
15.	Maharashtra	8	4	0	25	24	11	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	2	2	0	2	1	2	0
22.	Rajasthan	14	11	2	28	19	19	2
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	4	1	0	3	2	2	0
25.	Telangana	6	4	0	4	4	4	0
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4	3	2	74	4	3	4
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	2	1	0	2	2	1	0
TOTAL STATE(S)		455	416	22	796	536	480	27
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	2	0	2	2	2	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	4	0	0	1	2	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total UT(s)	6	2	0	3	4	2	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	461	418	22	799	540	482	27

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
4.	Bihar	171	170	2	359	256	243	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	3	0	4	5	5	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
8.	Haryana	10	4	0	29	8	4	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11	13	0	24	9	13	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	111	96	8	344	118	108	9
14.	Madhya Pradesh	90	90	9	194	99	99	9
15.	Maharashtra	2	2	0	27	2	2	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	2	0	0	2	1	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	4	4	3	28	4	4	6

1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
25.	Telangana	1	2	0	6	2	2	0
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	23	16	0	90	38	26	0
28.	Uttarakhand	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	5	2	0	4	12	8	0
TOTAL STATE(S)		436	402	22	1127	655	514	27
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT(s)		1	1	1	3	1	1	1
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		437	403	23	1130	556	515	28

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

#### Statement – IV

##### Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives (Sec. 498-A IPC) during 2014-2016

sly	State/UT	2014						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6362	5646	228	15380	9270	8864	464
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	42	30	0	148	44	31	0
3.	Assam	9626	5946	159	13670	12960	7386	168
4.	Bihar	4672	3243	109	11579	5997	5346	232
5.	Chhattisgarh	964	968	225	4321	2531	2631	484

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Goa	35	29	1	76	38	64	1
7.	Gujarat	5991	6055	76	41722	19209	19441	236
8.	Haryana	3478	2288	89	7959	4205	3931	182
9.	Himachal Pradesh	325	282	6	1529	679	692	13
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	467	385	5	1057	985	994	8
11.	Jharkhand	1462	1091	138	1959	1755	1682	243
12.	Karnataka	3025	2610	70	10084	5523	5258	276
13.	Kerala	4919	4458	132	24090	6818	6642	165
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6451	6439	1039	15086	15860	15830	2702
15.	Maharashtra	7696	7515	113	57374	24741	25732	344
16.	Manipur	41	5	0	18	18	5	0
17.	Meghalaya	42	32	0	90	31	32	0
18.	Mizoram	8	6	4	5	11	9	4
19.	Nagaland	3	4	2	3	3	4	2
20.	Odisha	3114	2971	99	12174	6523	6364	211
21.	Punjab	1681	958	102	4004	2720	2116	277
22.	Rajasthan	1590S	8739	1811	32808	11583	11498	3006
23.	Sikkim	5	4	4	4	6	4	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	2103	1619	180	5175	3292	3150	403
25.	Telangana	6369	5292	158	13479	9604	8721	220
26.	Tripura	702	633	49	1708	1117	1385	54
27.	Uttar Pradesh	10471	6126	1376	19810	46755	25990	6139
28.	Uttarakhand	301	227	48	1244	472	424	86
29.	West Bengal	23278	22463	45	141888	32174	31409	56
			96064					
	TOTAL STATE(S)	119538	96064	6268	438444	224924	195635	159800
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14	8	0	57	8	8	0
31.	Chandigarh	141	62	11	241	130	110	20
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	2	0	17	5	5	0
33.	Daman and Diu	1	1	0	4	0	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
34.	Delhi UT	3173	940	146	5090	577	1023	180
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	4	4	0	8	4	4	0
Total UT(s)		1017	157	5418	724	1151	200	3672
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		122877	97081	6425	443862	225648	196786	16180

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6121	5254	240	14762	8984	8375	756
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	66	54	0	201	70	61	0
3.	Assam	11225	6444	231	16024	10404	6485	263
4.	Bihar	3792	2860	67	13108	5396	4438	143
5.	Chhattisgarh	620	628	265	3963	1592	1700	530
6.	Goa	19	23	1	81	14	33	1
7.	Gujarat	4133	3989	46	42518	12982	12774	120
8.	Haryana	3525	2190	133	8617	3628	3573	239
9.	Himachal Pradesh	226	188	4	1544	517	504	27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	400	357	5	1165	982	958	15
11.	Jharkhand	1654	1221	202	2466	1424	2006	283
12.	Karnataka	2732	2276	41	10380	4770	4779	91
13.	Kerala	3668	3342	149	25245	4998	5180	185
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5281	5269	785	15108	13317	13387	2270
15.	Maharashtra	7640	6622	197	58405	20129	19641	762
16.	Manipur	39	10	2	24	22	10	2
17.	Meghalaya	44	26	0	107	29	26	0
18.	Mizoram	9	9	3	4	9	9	4
19.	Nagaland	4	3	2	3	4	4	2
20.	Odisha	3605	3421	57	14190	5051	4703	171

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21.	Punjab	1583	1229	140	4395	2410	2386	478
22.	Rajasthan	14383	7732	1681	34666	9590	9727	2341
23.	Sikkim	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1900	1423	138	5631	3634	2568	368
25.	Telangana	7329	6897	165	15529	10082	11623	426
26.	Tripura	501	423	36	1878	575	576	37
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8660	6205	1541	22315	41802	30949	6708
28.	Uttarakhand	407	288	111	1277	634	619	238
29.	West Bengal	20163	20868	215	157761	22508	22688	244
TOTAL STATE(S)		109731	89251	6457	471367	185559	169782	16704
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14	7	1	53	16	18	1
31.	Chandigarh	126	91	4	260	192	199	7
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	3	0	19	15	11	0
33.	Daman and Diu	3	1	0	4	2	1	0
34.	Delhi UT	3521	1615	96	6280	1266	1591	144
35.	Lakshadweep	2	0	1	0	1	0	1
36.	Puducherry	4	3	0	3	16	3	0
Total UT(s)		1720	102	6619	1508	1823	153	4037
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		113403	90971	6559	477986	187067	171605	16857

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016						
		CR	CCS	CON	CPTEY	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6461	6566	445	14550	12381	10235	607*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	41	1	239	51	46	1
3.	Assam	9321	6162	191	18375	9370	6215	191
4.	Bihar	3794	4032	200	16019	5461	5394	331
5.	Chhattisgarh	622	619	192	3756	1691	1574	347

1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
6.	Goa	23	16	0	85	32	25	0
7.	Gujarat	3732	3726	50	43534	12449	12304	211
8.	Haryana	3313	2303	119	9068	3819	3378	191
9.	Himachal Pradesh	214	196	6	1526	461	457	16
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	342	265	1	1202	744	682	7
11.	Jharkhand	1002	854	153	2757	1461	1152	173
12.	Karnataka	2556	2071	54	10680	4578	3839	87
13.	Kerala	3455	3374	84	26276	4688	4574	163
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6264	6204	564	16946	16570	16472	J627
15.	Maharashtra	7215.	7290	124	60994	20926	19087	669
16.	Manipur	29	18	1	39	18	18	2
17.	Meghalaya	26	23	0	125	18	30	0
18.	Mizoram	19	16	9	10	19	14	9
19.	Nagaland	3	4	1	5	3	5	2
20.	Odisha	2781	2868	38	15942	3835	3995	163
21.	Punjab	1568	988	134	4641	2185	1637	294
22.	Rajasthan	13811	7469	1315	36761	9586	9644	1780
23.	Sikkim	2	2	0	2	2	2	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1256	1032	65	5776	3248	2537	125
25.	Telangana	7202	5675	126	16857	11569	10421	295
26.	Tripura	430	386	43	1758	519	512	52
27.	Uttar Pradesh	11156	6774	1286	26207	48219	29921	5828
28.	Uttarakhand	392	293	51	1436	596	572	102
29.	West Bengal	19302	20678	111	172549	20220	20866	111
TOTAL STATE(S)		106341	89945	5364	508115	194719	165608	13384
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7	9	0	54	13	10	0
31.	Chandigarh	122	99	1	311	131	121	1
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	4	0	19	6	10	0
33.	Daman and Diu	8	6	0	10	4	4	0
34.	Delhi UT	3877	1744	68	7390	3966	2293	126



1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35.	Lakshadweep	2	1	0	1	2	1	0
36.	Puducherry	15	2	0	4	10	6	0
Total UT(s)		1865	69	7789	4132	2445	127	
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		110378	91810	5433	515904	198851	168053	13511

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, CPTEY-Cases Pending Trial at the end of the year, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

**Statement – V**

*Dowry Deaths (Sec. 304 B IPC) Under Crimes Against Women during 2014-2016*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014					
		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	215	186	29	531	402	45
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1	0	0
3.	Assam	188	111	18	284	142	24
4.	Bihar	1373	1079	135	2384	1899	235
5.	Chhattisgarh	128	124	42	337	343	88
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	23	22	1	59	55	3
8.	Haryana	293	256	57	568	555	102
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	1	5	5	4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	5	0	14	15	0
11.	Jharkhand	350	368	70	498	683	96
12.	Karnataka	313	295	13	675	651	20
13.	Kerala	28	21	0	56	39	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	733	733	316	2017	2048	747
15.	Maharashtra	279	266	19	949	1004	45
16.	Manipur	1	0	0	1	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	2	0	1	2	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	1	0	0	1	0
20.	Odisha	441	466	41	1326	1267	129

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Punjab	90	80	38	186	165	82
22.	Rajasthan	408	319	134	531	528	244
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	95	143	45	292	326	97
25.	Telangana	289	282	37	722	754	64
26.	Tripura	33	40	4	95	78	5
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2469	2068	602	10660	7088	1895
28.	Uttarakhand	38	35	15	103	100	25
29.	West Bengal	501	599	26	994	1089	43
TOTAL STATE(S)		8296	7502	1643	23289	19239	3993
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	2	0	8	7	0
31.	Chandigarh	2	3	2	3	4	2
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	153	146	27	295	231	59
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	1	0	0	3	0	0
Total UT(s)		159	151	29	309	242	61
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		8455	7653	1672	23598	19481	4054

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015					
		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	174	182	14	400	398	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1	0	0	1	0
3.	Assam	216	196	30	278	243	37
4.	Bihar	1154	1058	120	1690	1929	214
5.	Chhattisgarh	89	91	66	239	263	110

1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
6.	Goa	0	0	1	0	0	2
7.	Gujarat	12	10	1	43	36	1
8.	Haryana	243	205	89	376	375	127
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	0	6	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	5	1	24	26	1
11.	Jharkhand	267	279	74	307	370	112
12.	Karnataka	254	228	16	538	530	28
13.	Kerala	8	20	4	21	35	4
14.	Madhya Pradesh	664	694	246	1907	1929	797
15.	Maharashtra	268	252	26	788	739	55
16.	Manipur	0	1	0	0	1	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	0	0	1	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	1	0	0	1
20.	Odisha	356	502	32	1076	1077	76
21.	Punjab	85	83	35	172	206	73
22.	Rajasthan	463	333	99	528	556	157
23.	Sikkim	1	0	0	1	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	65	97	18	131	276	35
25.	Telangana	262	256	39	463	573	70
26.	Tripura	28	21	5	35	26	6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2335	1876	785	9860	6321	2546
28.	Uttarakhand	54	35	34	61	58	66
29.	West Bengal	498	614	20	833	852	30
					19778		
TOTAL STATE(S)		7505	7039	1756	16820		4580
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	0	0	1	0
31.	Chandigarh	5	3	1	10	8	1
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	1	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
34.	Delhi UT	122	105	34	184	165	42
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	1	2	1		2	1
Total UT(s)		129	111	36	195	176	44
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		7634	7150	1792	19973	16996	4624

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016					
		CR	CCS	CON	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	193	173	22	468	360	37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	4	0	0
3.	Assam	157	103	21	213	127	22
4.	Bihar	987	1306	103	1678	2079	201
5.	Chhattisgarh	84	81	29	216	205	68
6.	Goa	2	0	0	1	0	0
7.	Gujarat	12	14	1	42	49	3
8.	Haryana	260	234	48	391	358	73
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	5	0	8	13	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	4	0	17	15	0
11.	Jharkhand	278	189	66	334	236	85
12.	Karnataka	234	235	12	546	495	19
13.	Kerala	25	12	3	33	18	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	629	610	198	1797	1760	504
15.	Maharashtra	248	241	16	761	789	35
16.	Manipur	0	1	0	0	1	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	1	0	0	1	0	0
20.	Odisha	397	368	30	850	879	84

1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
21.	Punjab	80	55	14	152	140	24
22.	Rajasthan	462	344	77	512	511	117
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	58	57	18	137	124	36
25.	Telangana	254	208	12	567	452	18
26.	Tripura	19	23	5	42	29	6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2473	2091	583	10504	6574	1959
28.	Uttarakhand	57	40	12	71	65	16
29.	West Bengal	535	532	25	886	843	46
TOTAL STATE(S)		7455	6926	1295	20231	16122	3358
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	4	3	0	12	9	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	1	0	0	1	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	3	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	162	137	30	299	183	42
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT(s)		166	141	30	314	193	42
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		7621	7067	1325	20545	16315	3400

Source: Crime in India

Note: CR-Cases Registered, CCS-Cases Chargesheeted, CON-Cases Convicted, PAR-Persons Arrested, PCS-Persons Convicted and PCV-Persons Convicted

[English]

### Complaints in CVC

1235. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CVC vide their Circular No. 000/VGL/018 dated 23.05.2000 has intimated to all Chief Vigilance Officers (Government of India) to clearly indicate on each complaint its logic conclusion within specific time limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some complaints are pending in CVC for a long time and Complaint No. 011/MCD/043/145090 is one of them;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for pending of the complaint; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND

PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. A copy of the Central Vigilance Commission's Circular No.000/VGL/018 dated 23.05.2000 is enclosed as Statement..

(c) to (e) Complaint No. 01 I/MCD/043 is not pending as on date with the CVC. The Hon'ble Delhi High Court, while disposing of a Writ Petition vide order dated 11.01.2014, has directed the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India to decide the case involving the issue raised in the said complaint through a reasoned order after giving a hearing to the petitioner. The Commission had noted the position and allowed the matter to rest.

**Statement**

*No.000/VGL/18 Government of India*

*Central Vigilance Commission*

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Satarkta Bhawan, Block 'A',

GPO Complex, INA,

New Delhi-110023

Dated the 23rd May 2000

To

The CVOs of Ministries/Departments, autonomous organisations and Societies etc.

Subject: Schedule of time limits in conducting investigations and departmental inquiries.

Sir,

Delays in disposal of disciplinary cases are a matter of serious concern to the Commission, Such delays also affect the morale of the suspected/charged employees and others in the organisation. The Commission has issued instructions, vide its commnuoication No. 8( 1)(g)/99(3) dated 03.03.1999, that departmental inquiries should be completed within a period of six months from the date of appointment of Inquiry Officers. Regarding other stages of investigation/inquiry, the time-schedule, as under, has been laid down in the Special Chapters on Vigilance

Management in Public Sector Banks/Enterprises, which are applicable to. the employees of public sector banks / enterprises. The Commission desires that these time-limits should also be adhered to by the Ministry/Departments of Government of India. autonomous organisations and other Cooperative Societies, in respect of their employees, so as to ensure that the disciplinary eases are disposed of quickly.

S. No.	State of Investigation or inquiry	Time Limit
1	2	3
1.	Decision as to whether the complaint involves a vigilance angle.	One month from receipt of the complaint.
2.	Decision on complaint, whether to be filed or to be entrusted to CBI or to be taken up for investigation by departmental agency or to be sent to the concerned administrative authority for necessary action.	-do-
3.	Conducting investigation and submission of report	Three months.
4.	Department's comments on the CBI reports in cases requiring Commission's advice.	One month from the date of receipt of CBPs report by the CVO/Disciplinary Authority.
5.	Referring departmental investigation reports to the Commission for advice.	One month from the date of receipt of investigation import.
6.	Reconsideration of the Commission's advice, if required.	One month from the date of receipt of Commission's advice.
7.	Issue of charge-sheet, if required	(i) One month from the date of receipt of Commission's advice.

1	2	3
		(ii) Two months from the date of receipt of investigation report
8.	Time for submission of defence statement.	Ordinarily ten days or as specified in CDA Rules.
9.	Consideration of defence statement.	15 (Fifteen) days.
10.	Issue of final orders in minor penalty cases.	Two months from the receipt of defence statement.
11.	Appointment of Io/Po in major penalty cases.	Immediately after receipt and consideration of defence statement.
12.	Conducting departmental inquiry and submission of report.	Six months from the date of appointment of IQ/PQ.
13.	Sending a copy of the IO's report to the Charged Officer for his representation.	(i) Within 15 days of receipt of IO 's report if any of the Articles of charge has been held as proved:  (ii) 15 days if all charges held as not proved. Reasons for disagreement with IO's findings to be communicated
14.	Consideration of CO's representation and forwarding IO's report to the Commission for second stage advice.	One month from the date of receipt of representation.

1	2	3
15.	Issuance of orders on the Inquiry report	(i) One month from the date of Commission's advice.  (ii) Two months from the date of receipt of IO's report if Commission's advice was not required.
		Yours faithfully,  Sd/-  (K.L. Ahuja)  Officer on Special Duty

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**NESIDS**

1236. SHRI PREM DAS RAI: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps his Ministry plans to take under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) in the State of Sikkim;

(b) whether the scheme aims to cover creation of infrastructure in the social sector as well; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve health and education in the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) As per extant guidelines, projects for physical infrastructure relating to connectivity, power, water supply enhancing tourism and social infrastructure relating to education and health sectors will be taken up under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS)

in the North Eastern States including Sikkim. Till date, two projects for the State of Sikkim have been selected for funding at a cost of ₹ 103.31 crore.

(b) and (c) The North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), inter alia, aims to address gaps in infrastructure in the education and health sectors. Those projects related to health and education sectors proposed by the State Governments in North East are considered, in consultation with the respective line Ministries.

#### **Relationship with Neighbouring Countries**

1237. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts made by the Government to improve its relation with the neighbouring countries; and

(b) the details of exchange programmes undertaken and agreements signed with the neighbouring countries during the last three years, areas, country and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD))]: (a) In accordance with the high priority accorded by the Government to relations with our neighbouring countries, several steps have been taken to strengthen and improve relations. These include initiatives for continued high-level political engagement, improving connectivity and people-to-people contacts, addressing developmental challenges, creating shared prosperity and security, and building greater trust and confidence. Details of these efforts are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement – I**

S. No.	Country	(a) Details of efforts made to improve the relationship
1.	Afghanistan	<p>The India-Afghanistan strategic partnership has seen further consolidation in recent years, with expansion in the multifaceted cooperation in all areas, including political, defence, security, trade and investment, connectivity, development partnership, social &amp; cultural issues, education and capacity building. This has been facilitated by several high level visits and exchanges since 2015, including two visits to Afghanistan by Prime Minister of India, four visits to India by President of Afghanistan, H.E. Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Ghani; three official visits to India by Chief Executive of Afghanistan H.E. Dr. Abdullah Abdullah.</p> <p>India has successfully completed large scale development projects such as the Afghan Parliament building in Kabul, Afghan-India Friendship Dam in Herat, restoration of Stora palace in Kabul, participation of Afghanistan in South Asia Satellite, etc. Over the last year, air-freight corridor between India and Afghanistan was established, first phase of Chabahar port in Iran which connects Afghanistan to India was operationalised, wheat supplies of 1,70,000 tonnes to Afghanistan via Chabahar port in Iran were undertaken; and the 'New Development Partnership' which aims to utilize India's next generation development assistance to Afghanistan has been launched.</p> <p>India has also expanded its support in human resources development and capacity building. In addition to highly successfully training and scholarship programmes, India has also started a new scholarship scheme for the next of kin of the martyrs of Afghan security forces and new tailor made courses for Afghan government officials.</p> <p>Success of India's bilateral relationship with Afghanistan can be gauged by the description of India by Afghan leadership as the preferred development partner. India continues to enjoy high level of public confidence and support in Afghanistan. During this time, India's constructive and positive role in Afghanistan also garnered wide appreciation from the international community.</p>



S. No.	Country	(a) Details of efforts made to improve the relationship
2.	Bangladesh	<p>India and Bangladesh enjoy close and multi-faceted relations. Since June 2014, India's robust partnership with Bangladesh has been further strengthened. Significant initiatives to advance bilateral ties include:</p> <p>Intensification of High-level exchanges: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Bangladesh in June 2015 and Prime Minister of Bangladesh visited India in April 2017. These visits have significantly advanced our mutual understanding and bilateral cooperation in areas such as economy, transit and connectivity, infrastructure, shipping, rail, road, nuclear energy, power, oil and gas, capacity building, solar energy, telecommunications, space, cyber security and blue economy.</p> <p>Visit of External Affairs Minister to Dhaka in October 2017 for the Joint Consultative Commission has given further impetus to our engagement with Bangladesh.</p> <p>Land Boundary Agreement: Exchange of Instrument of Ratification of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and its Protocol of 2011 and Exchange of Letters on the Modalities for their implementation during the visit of our Prime Minister to Bangladesh resulted in the settlement of the long outstanding land boundary between the two countries. Economic cooperation and connectivity: The EPC Contract for the 2x 660 MW Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant at Rampal, Bagherhat was awarded in July 2016 to operationalize the Joint Venture project between NTPC India and Bangladesh Power Development Board. Work on the project has commenced. India has been exporting 600 MW of electricity to Bangladesh to meet its energy demands. An additional 60 MW of electricity is being exported from Tripura to Bangladesh since April 2017. Petronet LNG Limited, India and Petrobangla, Bangladesh signed an MoU in December 2016 for installation of LNG terminal at Kutubdia by Petronet. ONGC commenced exploration activities under two Production Sharing Contracts signed between Petrobangla of Bangladesh and the Consortium of ONGC Videsh Ltd and Oil India in two shallow off-shore blocks in Bangladesh in 2016.</p> <p>To enhance connectivity and boost bilateral trade, the Phulbari-Banglabandha Immigration Check Post and Petrapole Integrated Check Post were inaugurated in 2016. A rail link is being implemented between Agartala in India and Akhaura in Bangladesh. Development cooperation: Bangladesh is the largest recipient of India's Line of Credit (LoC) with a total of US\$ 8 billion committed for its infrastructure development.</p> <p>During the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Dhaka, Government of India extended Line of Credit of US\$ 2 billion to Bangladesh while another Line of Credit of US \$ 4.5 billion was committed to Bangladesh during the visit of Prime Minister of Bangladesh to India in April 2017. Some of the major projects under implementation or those that have been identified for implementation under the Line of Credit include Bhairab and Titas Rail Bridges, construction of Khulna-Mongla Port Rail Line, supply of locomotives and passenger coaches, procurement of buses and dredgers, and other projects in Information and Communication Technology, Shipping, Health and Technical Education Sectors, Ports and Airports. Fifteen Small Development Projects were inaugurated in October 2017 in Bangladesh in the areas of health, sanitation and education.</p>

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3.	Bhutan	<p>People-to-people ties: To strengthen cultural ties between the people of India and Bangladesh, India has sought to facilitate easier cross border mobility of people from the two sides. The Kolkata-Dhaka-Agartala and the Guwahati-Shillong-Dhaka bus services links were inaugurated in June 2015 while the Kolkata-Khulna-Dhaka bus service commenced since April 2017. The new Bandhan Express between Kolkata and Khulna, end-to-end immigration and customs services for the existing Maitree Express (Kolkata to Dhaka) at the International Rail Passenger Terminus at Kolkata and two rail brides -Bhairabh and Titas were inaugurated in November 2017.</p> <p>India and Bhutan share unique and historical ties of friendship and cooperation characterized by deep mutual trust and understanding. Since June 2014, bilateral ties have witnessed sustained progress in diverse areas of cooperation such as trade and transit, economic and development partnership, hydropower development, border management &amp; security, water resources, education, culture &amp; capacity building. Significant initiatives taken to advance bilateral ties include:</p> <p>High-level exchanges: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chose Bhutan as his first foreign destination in June 2014. This was followed by the visit of Hon'ble Rashtrapati in November 2014. His Majesty the King of Bhutan visited India in November 2017. Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonchhen Tshering Tobgay recently visited India from 5-7 July, 2018 and had earlier paid visits to India in the last three years. Such intensive bilateral exchanges have imparted fresh momentum to the multi-faceted bilateral relationship.</p> <p>Development cooperation: For the 11th Five Year Plan (2013-2018) of Bhutan, Government of India extended development assistance of ₹ 5000 crore to Bhutan. This included ₹ 2800 crore Project-Tied Assistance, ₹ 850 crore Programme grant and ₹ 850 crore towards Small Developmental Projects. The projects implemented under India's developmental assistance programme have benefitted the people of Bhutan and generated goodwill for India.</p> <p>Economic Cooperation: Hydropower cooperation with Bhutan forms the core of bilateral economic cooperation. Three GOI-assisted hydro-electric power projects namely, 1200 MW Punatsangchhu-I, 1020 MW Punatsangchhu-II and 720 MW Mangdechhu Projects under inter-governmental mode and Kholongchhu Project (600 MW) under joint venture framework, are under various stages of implementation. The India-Bhutan Trade and Transit Agreement, renewed in November 2016, came into force w.e.f. 29 July 2017, to further enhance trade and investment through additional trade facilitation measures.</p> <p>Capacity building and people to people ties: Since 2014, the Government of India has expanded its scholarship programme for students from Bhutan to pursue higher studies in India. GOI has also expanded its technical training programmes to officials from Bhutan in several fields.</p>
4.	China	<p>During the visit of President of the People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping to India in September 2014, the two sides forged a Closer Developmental Partnership, which was further consolidated during the visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to China in May 2015 and April 2018.</p>

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5.	Maldives	<p>In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.</p> <p>Accordingly, both sides have been working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide range of areas. Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.</p> <p>India's relationship with Maldives is long-standing and time-tested, and based on support for stability, political pluralism and development.</p> <p>As a close neighbour, India has continued its engagement with Maldives encouraging democratic institution building and rule of law in the country to meet the aspirations of its citizens. The relationship has been strengthened during the period through exchange of high-level visits, defence and security cooperation, institution and capacity building, assistance in health and education sectors and cooperation across a wide spectrum of mutually beneficial areas.</p> <p>President Yameen visited India in May 2014 for the swearing in ceremony of Hon'ble Prime Minister. President Yameen also visited India from April 10-11, 2016 during which 6 key agreements were signed</p> <p>EAM visited Maldives on October 10-11, 2015 to co-chair the 5th Joint Commission Meeting between India and Maldives with her Maldivian counterpart. Minister of State for External Affairs MJ Akbar visited Maldives from February 21-22, 2017. Foreign Minister of Maldives Dr. Mohamed Asim visited India On August 16, 2016 and as President Yameen's Special Envoy on January 11, 2018.</p>
6.	Myanmar	<p>Our relations with Myanmar have been strengthened over the past three years, including through regular exchange of high level visits. Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi paid a State Visit to Myanmar from September 5-7, 2017. Eleven bilateral documents were signed and exchanged by the two sides on that occasion, in the areas of health, culture, capacity building, maritime security and collaboration between key institutions.</p> <p>President of Myanmar and State Counsellor of Myanmar paid State visits in August and October 2016 respectively. During these visits, seven MoUs were signed in the field of reconstruction of roads, renewable energy, power, traditional medicines and banking sector. External Affairs Minister of India Smt. Sushma Swaraj paid a bilateral visit to Myanmar on May 10-11, 2018, during which key documents, including the landmark Agreement on Land Border Crossing, establishment of Industrial Training Centres and conservation of Earthquake Damaged Pagodas in Bagan were signed.</p>
7.	Nepal	<p>India and Nepal share a unique relationship of friendship and cooperation based on age-old historical and cultural linkages and people to people ties. The Government has expanded its partnership with Nepal through, inter-alia, expediting implementation of connectivity and</p>

S. No.	Country	(a) Details of efforts made to improve the relationship
		<p>economic projects such as development of cross-border power transmission lines, construction of cross-border rail links, construction of roads in the Terai region, development of Integrated Check Posts at the India-Nepal border, hydro-power projects, and initiatives to enhance people to people contacts and capacity building.</p> <p>Further, under the concessional Lines-of-Credit of over US\$ 1.65 billion extended to the Government of Nepal, a number of infrastructure projects are under implementation in Nepal. Besides the regular meetings of India-Nepal Joint Commission at the level of Foreign Minister, which comprehensively reviews bilateral relations, a number of institutional mechanisms are in place between India and Nepal in the areas of defence &amp; security, trade &amp; commerce, power, water resources, connectivity and development cooperation to advance mutually beneficial cooperation. The Government is committed to advancing its cooperative ties across diverse sectors with Nepal, as per the priorities of the Government of Nepal, for the benefit of the two peoples.</p> <p>Significant initiatives undertaken to advance bilateral ties since June 2014 include:</p> <p>High level exchanges: Since June 2014, there have been eleven visits at the highest level from both the sides. Besides high-level political exchanges, a number of bilateral mechanisms at a functional level have been meeting regularly, covering issues such as trade, economic cooperation, agriculture, water resources, power cooperation, defence and security, post-earthquake construction efforts, culture, education and connectivity projects. The Joint Commission Meeting has been held twice, in July 2014 and October 2016. The high-level exchanges have provided an opportunity to review bilateral partnership and to discuss new initiatives for mutual benefit.</p> <p>Economic and Development Cooperation, and Connectivity: Developmental partnership is one of the important pillars of India-Nepal bilateral cooperation. A number of social and physical infrastructure projects within Nepal and cross-border connectivity projects are in different phases of implementation. A bilateral 'Oversight Mechanism' has been established to expedite project implementation. Power sector cooperation has deepened with the completion of three cross-border transmission lines during 2016 and 2017. India is currently exporting about 400 MW of electricity to Nepal. Agreement on Electric Power Trade, Cross-border Transmission Interconnection and Grid Connectivity was signed on 21 October 2014. An inter-governmental Memorandum of Understanding was signed in August 2015 to build the first cross-border petroleum products pipeline in South Asia on Raxaul/Motihari (India)-Amlekhgunj (Nepal) sector. A Line of Credit of US\$ 550 million has been extended for infrastructure projects (roads and irrigation) in Nepal. The Integrated Check Post at Birgunj was completed in April 2018 and work on two cross-border rail links is progressing steadily.</p> <p>The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in 2017 approved the investment for generation component of Arun III Hydro Electric Power Project (900 MW) being implemented by SJVN Limited in Nepal for estimated cost of ₹ 5723.72 crore. Pancheshwar Development Authority was constituted in August 2014 for the 5040 MW Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on the implementation of Terai Roads project in Nepal in February 2016. Community-driven Small Development Projects like schools, roads, bridges, irrigation facilities, are benefiting people in different districts of Nepal. A 200-bed emergency trauma centre was built in Kathmandu and handed over to Nepal in November 2014. The Treaty of Trade between India and Nepal was renewed in October 2016.</p>



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2.	Protocol for Exchange of Instruments of Ratification regarding the India - Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and Protocol of 2011 to the Land Boundary Agreement.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Demarcation of the Land Boundary
3.	Protocol on inland water transit between India and Bangladesh	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Inland water transit
4.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Coast Guards of the Republic of India and Bangladesh Coast Guard of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the Establishment of Collaborative Relationship to Combat transnational illegal activities at sea and development of regional cooperation between the India Coast Guard and Bangladesh Coast Guard.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Establishment of Collaborative Relationship to Combat transnational illegal activities at sea and development of regional cooperation
5.	Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Trade Facilitation
6.	Agreement between Bureau of Indian Standards and Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution on Cooperation in the field of Standardization and Conformity Assessment.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Cooperation in the field of Standardization and Conformity Assessment.
7.	Protocol on Operation of Passenger Bus Service between Guwahati in India and Dhaka in Bangladesh in Terms of Agreement between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Operation of Passenger Bus Service
8.	The Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the year 2015-2017.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Cultural Exchange Programme
9.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Republic of India (GoI) and Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) for Extending a New Line of Credit (LoC) of US Dollar 2.0 Billion by GOI to GOB	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Provision of Line of Credit (LoC)

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10.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways Government of the Republic of India and Ministry of Shipping Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh relating to the use of Chittagong and Mongla Ports for Movement of Goods to and from India.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Use of Chittagong and Mongla Ports for Movement of Goods to and from India
11.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh in the field of Blue Economy and Maritime Co-operation in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean Region	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Maritime Co-operation in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean Region
12.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on Bilateral Cooperation for Prevention of Human Trafficking Especially Trafficking in Women and Children; Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Reintegration of Victims of Trafficking.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Cooperation for Prevention of Human Trafficking
13.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Prevent and Counter Smuggling and Circulation of Fake Currency Notes.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Prevent and Counter Smuggling and Circulation of Fake Currency Notes
14.	Memorandum of Understanding on between the Republic of India and the People's Republic of Bangladesh for cooperation on Establishing Indian Economic Zone in Bangladesh.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Cooperation on Establishing Indian Economic Zone in Bangladesh.
15.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and Department of Environment and Forests of the People's Republic of Bangladesh relating to Grant Assistance from Government of India under the India endowment for Climate Change in South Asia (IECC-SA) for installation 70,000 in improved cook stoves (ICS) in selected areas of Bangladesh.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Grant Assistance for Climate Change in South Asia

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16.	Memorandum of Understanding between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India, and University of Dhaka, Bangladesh for Joint research on Oceanography of the Bay of Bengal	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Joint research on Oceanography of the Bay of Bengal
17.	Statement of Intent between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Republic of India on Education Cooperation.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Education
18.	Handing over of a Letter of Consent to the Chairman, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India by Chairman, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) of Bangladesh to Commence operations in Bangladesh by LIC	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Commence operations in Bangladesh by LIC
19.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for the Regulation of Motor Vehicle Passenger Traffic between the Two Countries.	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Regulation of Motor Vehicle Passenger Traffic
20.	Agreement on Coastal Shipping between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Coastal Shipping
21.	Agreement between India and Bangladesh for the regulation of motor vehicle passenger traffic between the two countries from Agartala to Kolkata via Dhaka and vice versa	Bangladesh	06-06-15	Regulation of motor vehicle passenger traffic
22.	Agreement for cooperation between Bureau of Indian Standards, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India and Bhutan Standard Bureau	Bhutan	11.06.15	Consumer Affairs
23.	2015-2020 Space Cooperation Outline between ISRO and China National Space Administration (CNSA).	China	15-05-15	Space Cooperation
24.	Protocol between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Establishment of Consulates-General at Chengdu and Chennai and the Extension of the Consular district of the Consulate-General of the Republic of India in Guangzhou to include Jiangxi province.	China	15-05-15	Establishment of Consulates-General at Chengdu and Chennai and the Extension of the Consular district of the Consulate-General of the Republic of India in Guangzhou to include Jiangxi province.



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25.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China on cooperation in the field of Vocational Education and Skill Development.	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the field of Vocational Education and Skill Development
26.	Action Plan between the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, the Republic of India and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in Setting up of Mahatma Gandhi National Institute for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship in Ahmadabad/ Gandhinagar Gujarat	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in Setting up of Mahatma Gandhi National Institute for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship in Ahmadabad/ Gandhinagar Gujarat
27.	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China on Consultative Mechanism for Cooperation in Trade Negotiations	China	15-05-15	On Consultative Mechanism for Cooperation in Trade Negotiations
28.	Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China	China	15-05-15	Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
29.	Action Plan between the National Railway Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India on Enhancing Cooperation in the Railway Sector (2015-2016)	China	15-05-15	Enhancing Cooperation in the Railway Sector (2015-2016)
30.	Exchange Programme between the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China in the field of Education.	China	15-05-15	Exchange Programme in the field of Education.

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31.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Land and Resources of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the fields of Mining And Mineral Sector	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the fields of Mining And Mineral Sector
32.	Final Protocol between the Export Inspection Council, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Republic of India, and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China for Health and Safety Regulation on Importing Indian Rapeseed Meal.	China	15-05-15	Health and Safety Regulation on Importing Indian Rapeseed Meal.
33.	Memorandum of Understanding between Doordarshan and China Central Television on Cooperation in the field of Broadcasting	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the field of Broadcasting
34.	Agreement between the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of India and the National Tourism Administration of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the field of Tourism	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the field of Tourism
35.	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Establishing India-China Think-Tanks Forum	China	15-05-15	Establishing India-China Think-Tanks Forum
36.	Memorandum of Understanding between NITI Aayog of the Government of India and the Development Research Centre, State Council of the People's Republic of China	China	15-05-15	Cooperation between NITI Aayog of the Government of India and the Development Research Centre, State Council of the People's Republic of China
37.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Republic of India and the China Earthquake Administration of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in the field of Earthquake Sciences and Earthquake Engineering	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the field of Earthquake Sciences and Earthquake Engineering
38.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Republic of India and the State Oceanic Administration of the People's Republic of	China	15-05-15	Cooperation in the field of Ocean Sciences, Ocean Technology, Climate Change, Polar Science and Cryosphere.

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	China on Cooperation in the field of Ocean Sciences, Ocean Technology, Climate Change, Polar Science and Cryosphere.			
39.	Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Cooperation between Geological Survey of India, Ministry of Mines, of the Republic of India and China Geological Survey, Ministry of Land and Resources of People's Republic of China in Geosciences	China	15-05-15	Scientific Cooperation
40.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries on Establishment of the State/Provincial Leaders' Forum	China	15-05-15	Friendship with Foreign Countries on Establishment of the State/Provincial Leaders' Forum
41.	Agreement on the Establishment of Sister-State/Province Relations between State Government of Karnataka of the Republic of India and Provincial Government of Sichuan of People's Republic of China.	China	15-05-15	Establishment of Sister-State/Province Relation
42.	Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Chennai, Republic of India and Chongqing, People's Republic of China	China	15-05-15	Establishment of Sister City Relations
43.	Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Hyderabad, Republic of India and Qingdao, People's Republic of China	China	15-05-15	Establishment of Sister City Relations
44.	Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Aurangabad, Republic of India and Dunhuang, People's Republic of China	China	15-05-15	Establishment of Sister City Relations
45.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Fudan University on the Establishment of a Center for Gandhian and Indian Studies	China	15-05-15	Establishment of a Center for Gandhian and Indian Studies
46.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations And Yunnan Minzu University on the Establishment of a Yoga College	China	15-05-15	Establishment of a Yoga College

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47.	MoU between India and China on Provision of Hydrological Information of the Langqen Zangbo/Sutlej River in Flood Season by China to India	China	6-11-15	Provision of Hydrological Information
48.	MoU between Foreign Service Institute, Govt of India and Foreign Service Institute of Maldives	Maldives	11-10-15	Cooperation in Diplomatic Affairs
49.	MoU on cooperation in sports and youth affairs between India and Maldives	Maldives	11-10-15	Cooperation in sports and youth affairs
50.	Memorandum of Understanding between Nepal Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) & Lalit Kala Akademi, India	Nepal	23-04-15	Culture Cooperation
51.	MoU between Government of India and the Government of Nepal for construction of Petroleum Products Pipeline from Raxaul, India to Amlekhgunj, Nepal and Re-engineering of Amlekhgunj Depot and Allied Facilities	Nepal	24-08-15	Petroleum Product Pipeline
52.	Memorandum of Understanding signed between Tribhuvan University and South Asian University	Nepal	22-07-15	Cooperation in Education
53.	Agreement between the Republic of India and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy	Sri Lanka	16-02-15	Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy
54.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Co-operation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters	Sri Lanka	13-03-15	Co-operation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters
55.	Programme of Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the year 2015-2018.	Sri Lanka	16-02-15	Cultural Cooperation
56.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of India on the Establishment of Nalanda University.	Sri Lanka	16-02-15	Establishment of Nalanda University

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57.	Work plan under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture for the year 2015-2016.	Sri Lanka	16-02-15	Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture for the year 2015-2016.
58.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of the Youth Affairs and Sports of the Republic of India and the Ministry of the Youth Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Cooperation in the field of Youth Development.	Sri Lanka	13-03-15	Cooperation in the field of Youth Development.
59.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialistic Republic of Sri Lanka on Exemption from Visa Requirement for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports	Sri Lanka	13-03-15	Exemption from Visa Requirement for Holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports
60.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka regarding Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Small Developmental Projects through Local Bodies Non-Governmental Organizations Charitable Trusts and Education and Vocational Institutions.	Sri Lanka	15-09-15	Grant Assistance for Implementation of Small Developmental Projects through Local Bodies Non-Governmental Organizations Charitable Trusts and Education and Vocational Institutions.
61.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the Provision of Medical Equipment and Furniture to 200 Bed Ward Complex at District General Hospital, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka.	Sri Lanka	15-09-15	Provision of Medical Equipment and Furniture to 200 Bed Ward Complex at District General Hospital, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka.
62.	Bilateral Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on Orbit Frequency Coordination of Satellite for SAARC Region	Sri Lanka	15-09-15	Orbit Frequency Coordination of Satellite for SAARC Region
63.	Exchange of Letters on Establishment of Emergency Ambulance Services in Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	15-09-15	Establishment of Emergency Ambulance Services in Sri Lanka

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64.	Memorandum of Understanding of Construction of Rabindranath Tagore Auditorium in Ruhuna University in Matara	Sri Lanka	25-09-15	Cooperation in Education Sector
65.	Motor Vehicles Agreement for the Regulation of Passenger, Personal and Cargo Vehicular Traffic between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal	(Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal)	15-06-15	Regulation of Passenger, Personal and Cargo Vehicular Traffic between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal
		Year: 2016		
66.	Agreement Between India And Afghanistan On Juridical And Judicial Cooperation In Civil And Commercial Matters For The Service Of Summons, Judicial Documents, Commission, Execution Of Judgments And Arbitral Awards	Afghanistan	14-09-16	Juridical And Judicial Cooperation In Civil And Commercial Matters For The Service Of Summons, Judicial Documents, Commission, Execution Of Judgments And Arbitral Awards
67.	Agreement Between India And Afghanistan On Exemption From Visa Requirement For Holders Of Diplomatic Passports	Afghanistan	01-02-16	Exemption From Visa Requirement For Holders Of Diplomatic Passports
68.	Extradition Treaty Between India And Afghanistan	Afghanistan	14-09-16	Extradition of Offenders
69.	MoU Between India And Afghanistan On Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Outer Space	Afghanistan	14-09-16	Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Outer Space
70.	MoU Between Indian Council Of Agriculture Research And Afghan National Agricultural Sciences And Technology University For Cooperation In Agriculture Research And Education	Afghanistan	21-04-16	For Cooperation In Agriculture Research And Education
71.	Bilateral Agreement Between India And Bangladesh Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For Saarc Region Proposed At 48e	Bangladesh	02-02-16	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region Proposed At 48e
72.	Bilateral Agreement Between India And Bhutan Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For Saarc Region Proposed At 48e	Bhutan	07-03-16	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region Proposed At 48e
73.	Agreement On Trade, Commerce And Transit Between India And Bhutan	Bhutan	12-11-16	Trade, Commerce And Transit Between India And Bhutan

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74.	MoU on Technical Cooperation in the field of Capacity Building, Benchmarking and bilateral exchange in Infrastructure Engineering between Central Public Works Department (CPWD) of India and Bhutan's Department of Engineering Services	Bhutan	23.11.16	Capacity Building in Engineering
75.	MoU on the loan of statue of Dharma raja/Zhabdrung between India and Bhutan	Bhutan	24-11-16	Loan of statue of Dharma raja/Zhabdrung
76.	MoU between ICCR and Centre for China Shanghai International Art Festival China	China	2016	Cultural Cooperation
77.	MoU between Indian Council for Cultural relations (ICCR) and china federation of literacy and Art circles (cflac)	China	08-08-16	Cultural Cooperation
78.	Action Plan between MeitY and NDRC on Digital India and Internet Plus Cooperation	China	7-10-16	IT Cooperation
79.	Statement of Principle between NITI Aayog and NDRC for Developing Cooperation on Manufacturing and Industrial Capacity	China	7-10-16	Cooperation on Manufacturing and Industrial Capacity
80.	Agreement Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of Maldives For The Avoidance Of Double Taxation Of Income Derived From International Air Transport.	Maldives	11-04-16	Avoidance Of Double Taxation Of Income Derived From International Air Transport.
81.	Action Plan For Defence Cooperation Between India And Maldives	Maldives	11-04-16	Defence Cooperation
82.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of Maldives For Co-Operation In The Area Of Conservation And Restoration Of Ancient Mosques And Joint Research And Exploratory Surveys In Maldives	Maldives	11-04-16	Conservation And Restoration Of Ancient Mosques And Joint Research And Exploratory Surveys In Maldives
83.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of Maldives On Cooperation In The Field Of Tourism	Maldives	10-04-16	Cooperation In The Field Of Tourism
84.	Bilateral Agreement Between India And Maldives Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of 'South Asia Satellite' Proposed At 48e	Maldives	11-04-16	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of 'South Asia Satellite' Proposed At 48e

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85.	Agreement Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of Maldives For The Exchange Of Information With Respect To Taxes	Maldives	11-04-16	The Exchange Of Information With Respect To Taxes
86.	Youth Exchange Programme between India and Maldives	Maldives	April 2016	50 member Indian Youth delegation visited Maldives
87.	Youth Exchange Programme between India and Maldives	Maldives	May 2016	50 member Maldivian Youth delegation visited India
88.	MoU Between India And Myanmar In The Field Of Renewable Energy	Myanmar	29-08-16	Field Of Renewable Energy
89.	MoU Between India And Myanmar On Cooperation In The Construction Of The 69 Bridges Including Approach Roads In The Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa Road Section Of The Trilateral Highway In Myanmar	Myanmar	29-08-16	Construction Of The 69 Bridges Including Approach Roads In The Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa Road Section Of The Trilateral Highway In Myanmar
90.	MoU Between India And Myanmar On Cooperation In The Construction Up-Gradation Of The Kalewa-Yagyi Road Section Of The Trilateral Highway Of Myanmar	Myanmar	29-08-16	Construction Up-Gradation Of The Kalewa-Yagyi Road Section Of The Trilateral Highway Of Myanmar
91.	MoU Between India And Myanmar On Cooperation In The Field Of Traditional Systems Of Medicine	Myanmar	29-08-16	Traditional Systems Of Medicine
92.	Memorandum Of Understanding On Designing And Implementing An Academic And Professional Capacity Building Program For The Insurance Industry Of Myanmar Between Insurance Institute Of India And Financial Regulatory Department, Ministry Of Planning And Finance Of The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar	Myanmar	19-10-16	On Designing And Implementing An Academic And Professional Capacity Building Program For The Insurance Industry of Myanmar
93.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar On Cooperation In The Field Of Power Sector	Myanmar	19-10-16	Cooperation In The Field Of Power Sector
94.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Reserve Bank Of India And The Central Bank Of Myanmar	Myanmar	19-10-16	Cooperation in Finance Sector



1	2	3	4	5
95.	MoU Between ICCR And Kathmandu University Dhulikhel Nepal On Cooperation For The Establishment Of The ICCR Chair Of Indian Studies	Nepal	13-16-16	Culture Cooperation
96.	First Amendatory Dollar Credit Line Agreement Between Govt Of Nepal And EXIM Bank	Nepal	16-9-16	Dollar Credit Line
97.	Dollar Credit Line Agreement Between Govt Of Nepal And EXIM Bank	Nepal	16-9-16	Dollar Credit Line
98.	MoU On Utilization Of USD 250 million Grant Component Of India's Assistance Package For Post-Earthquake Reconstruction In Nepal	Nepal	20-02-16	Assistance Package For Post-Earthquake Reconstruction
99.	MoU Regarding Strengthening Of Road Infrastructure In The Terai Area Of Nepal	Nepal	20-02-16	Strengthening Of Road Infrastructure In The Terai Area Of Nepal
100.	Bilateral Agreement Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region Proposed At 48e	Nepal	15-03-16	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region Proposed At 48e
101.	MoU between Nepal Academy of Music and Drama and Sangeet Natak Academy	Nepal	20-02-16	Culture
102.	Letters of Exchange to the Treaty of Transit between India and Nepal on: (i) Transit between Nepal and Bangladesh through Kakarbitta-Banglabandha corridor, and (ii) Operationalization of Vishakhapatnam Port	Nepal	20-02-16	Transit
103.	Letters of Exchange to the India-Nepal Rail Services Agreement on: (i) Rail transport to/from Vishakhapatnam, and (ii) Rail transit facility through Singhabad for Nepal's Trade with and through Bangladesh	Nepal	20-02-16	Rail Services
104.	MoU between the Department of Roads, Postal Highway Project, Government of Nepal and M/s National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) for Project Management Consultancy Services for Upgradation/Improvement of Road Infrastructure in Terai Area of Nepal	Nepal	16-9-16	Road Infrastructure

1	2	3	4	5
Year: 2017				
105.	Motor Vehicles Agreement For The Regulation Of Passenger, Personal And Cargo Vehicular Traffic Between India And Afghanistan	Afghanistan	11-09-17	Regulation Of Passenger, Personal And Cargo Vehicular Traffic
106.	Bilateral Agreement Between India And Afghanistan Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of 'South Asia Satellite' Proposed At 97.3e	Afghanistan	11-09-17	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of 'South Asia Satellite' Proposed At 97.3e
107.	MoU Between The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, Directorate General Of Health Services (Cdsco/Dghs), India And National Medicine And Healthcare Products Regulatory Authority Of Afghanistan For Mutual Cooperation	Afghanistan	11-09-17	Health Cooperation
108.	MoU Of Technical Cooperation On Police Training And Development Between India And Afghanistan	Afghanistan	28-09-17	Cooperation On Police Training And Development
109.	MoU Between Defence Service Staff College, Wellington (Nilgiri), Tamilnadu, India And Defence Services Command And Staff College, Mirpur, Dhaka, Bangladesh For Enhancing Cooperation Concerning Military Education In The Field Of Strategic And Operational Studies	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Enhancing Cooperation Concerning Military Education In The Field Of Strategic And Operational Studies
110.	MoU Between National Defence College, New Delhi, India And National Defence College, Dhaka, Bangladesh For Enhancing Cooperation In The Field Of National Security, Development And Strategic Studies	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Enhancing Cooperation In The Field Of National Security, Development And Strategic Studies
111.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh On Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Outer Space	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Outer Space
112.	Agreement Between India And Bangladesh On Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Nuclear Energy	Bangladesh	08-04-17	On Cooperation In The Peaceful Uses Of Nuclear Energy
113.	Arrangement Between The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (Aerb) Of India And The Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority (Baera) Of Bangladesh For The	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Exchange Of Technical Information And Co-Operation In The Regulation Of Nuclear Safety And Radiation Protection

1	2	3	4	5
	Exchange Of Technical Information And Co-Operation In The Regulation Of Nuclear Safety And Radiation Protection			
114.	Inter-Agency Agreement Global Centre For Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) Department Of Atomic Energy India And Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) Ministry Of Science & Technology Bangladesh On Cooperation Regarding Nuclear Power Plant Projects In Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation Regarding Nuclear Power Plant Projects In Bangladesh
115.	MoU Between The Ministry Of Electronics And Information Technology Of India And Information And Communication Technology Division Of Bangladesh On Cooperation In The Field Of Information Technology And Electronics	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation In The Field Of Information Technology And Electronics
116.	MOU Between The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (Cert-In) Ministry Of Electronics And Information Technology India And The Bangladesh Government Computer Incident Response Team (Bg E-Gov Cirt) Bangladesh Computer Council Of Information And Communication Technology Division Ministry Of Posts, Telecommunications And It Bangladesh On Cooperation In The Area Of Cyber Security	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation In The Area Of Cyber Security
117.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh Establishing Border Haats Across The Border Between India And Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Establishing Border Haats Across The Border
118.	MoU Between Ministry Of Law & Justice Of India And Ministry Of Law & Justice & Parliamentary Affairs Of Bangladesh On Bilateral Judicial Sector Cooperation	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Bilateral Judicial Sector Cooperation
119.	MoU Between The National Judicial Academy India And The Supreme Court Of Bangladesh On Training And Capacity Building Programme For Bangladeshi Judicial Offers In India	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Training And Capacity Building Programme For Bangladeshi Judicial Offers In India

1	2	3	4	5
120.	Mou Between The Directorate General Of Lighthouses And Lightships (Dgll), Ministry Of Shipping, India Nd The Department Of Shipping (Dos), Ministry Of Shipping, Bangladesh Concerning Cooperation On Aids To Navigation (Aton)	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation On Aids To Navigation
121.	MoU Between Geological Survey Of India And Geological Survey Of Bangladesh On Mutual Scientific Cooperation In The Field Of Earth Sciences For Research And Development	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Mutual Scientific Cooperation In The Field Of Earth Sciences For Research And Development
122.	MoU On Passenger And Cruise Services On The Coastal And Protocol Routes Between The Ministry Of Shipping Of India And The Ministry Of Shipping Of Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Passenger And Cruise Services
123.	MoU On Development Of Fairway From Sirajganj To Daikhowa And Ashuganj To Zakiganj In Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route Between India And Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Development Of Fairway From Sirajganj To Daikhowa And Ashuganj To Zakiganj In Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route Between India And Bangladesh
124.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh On Cooperation In The Field Of Mass Media	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Cooperation In The Field Of Mass Media
125.	Audio-Visual Co-Production Agreement Between India And Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Audio-Visual Co-Production
126.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh For Extending A New Defence Line Of Credit Of Us\$ 500 Million	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Extending A New Defence Line Of Credit Of Us\$ 500 Million
127.	Agreement Between India And Bangladesh For The Regulation Of Motor Vehicle Passenger Traffic Between The Two Countries	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Motor Vehicle Passenger Traffic Between The Two Countries
128.	Financing Agreement Between India And Bangladesh For The Construction Of 36 Community Clinics In Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Construction Of 36 Community Clinics In Bangladesh
129.	SoP For Providing Security And Logistics Support To BGB For Construction Of Bops In Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Security And Logistics Support To BGB For Construction Of Bops In Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh
130.	Standard Operating Procedures For The Establishment Of Collaborative	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Establishment Of Collaborative Relationship To Combat

1	2	3	4	5
	Relationship To Combat Transnational Activities At Sea And Develop Regional Cooperation Between Indian Coast Guard And Bangladesh Coast Guard			Transnational Activities At Sea And Develop Regional Cooperation
131.	Joint Interpretative Notes On The Agreement Between India And Bangladesh For The Promotion And Protection Of Investments	Bangladesh	04-10-17	The Promotion And Protection Of Investments
132.	MoU Between Indian Council For Cultural Relations And University Of Dhaka For The Establishment Of The Iccr Chair For Hindi Language	Bangladesh	10-01-17	Establishment Of The Iccr Chair For Hindi Language
133.	Agreement Between India And Bangladesh Concerning To Orbit Frequency Of 'South Asia Satelite' Proposed At 48e	Bangladesh	23-03-17	Orbit Frequency Of 'South Asia Satelite' Proposed At 48e
134.	MoU On Defence Cooperation Framework Between India And Bangladesh	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Defence Cooperation Framework
135.	MoU Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The People's Republic Of Bangladesh For Extending A 3rd Line Of Credit (Loc) By Gol to GOB.	Bangladesh	08-04-17	Extending A 3rd Line Of Credit (Loc) By Gol to GOB.
136.	Sale And Purchase Agreement Between Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) And Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) For Supply Of Gasoil	Bangladesh	22-10-17	Sale And Purchase For Supply Of Gasoil
137.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between India And Bangladesh For Setting Up Of Common Facility Centre For Small & Medium Enterprises At Ideb, Khulna, Bangladesh	Bangladesh	22-10-17	Setting Up Of Common Facility Centre For Small & Medium Enterprises At Ideb, Khulna, Bangladesh
138.	MoU on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of information between Reserve Bank of India and Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan	Bhutan	13.04.17	Banking, Exchange of Information
139.	Amendment To The Bilateral Agreement Between India And Bhutan Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region" Proposed At 48 E	Bhutan	18-08-17	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For SAARC Region" Proposed At 48 E

1	2	3	4	5
140.	Amendment To The Bilateral Agreement Between India And Maldives Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "South Asia Satellite " Proposed At 48 E	Maldives	23-08-17	Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "South Asia Satellite "Proposed At 48 E
141.	Memorandum Of Understanding On Maritime Security Cooperation Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar	Myanmar	06-09-17	Security Cooperation
142.	Cultural Exchange Programme Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar For The Year 2017-2020	Myanmar	06-09-17	Cultural Exchange Programme
143.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar And The Government Of The Republic Of India On Enhancing The Cooperation Of The Upgradation Of The Women's Police Training Centre At Yamethin, Myanmar.	Myanmar	06-09-17	Enhancing The Cooperation Of The Upgradation Of The Women's Police Training Centre At Yamethin, Myanmar.
144.	Memorandum Of Understanding For Sharing White Shipping Information Between The Indian Navy And Myanmar Navy	Myanmar	06-09-17	Sharing White Shipping Information
145.	Technical Agreement Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar For Providing Coastal Surveillance System	Myanmar	06-09-17	Technical Agreement For Providing Coastal Surveillance System
146.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry Of Health And Family Welfare Of The Republic Of India And Food And Drugs (FDA), Ministry Of Health And Sports Of Myanmar On Cooperation In Medical Products Regulation.	Myanmar	06-09-17	On Cooperation In Medical \$\$\$ducts Regulation.
147.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Ministry Of Health And Family Welfare Of The Republic Of India And The Ministry Of Health And Sports Of The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar On Cooperation In The Field Of Health And Medicine.	Myanmar	06-09-17	Cooperation In The Field Of Health And Medicine.

1	2	3	4	5
148.	Memorandum Of Understanding In The Field Of Elections Between The Election Commission Of India And The Union Election Commission Of Myanmar.	Myanmar	06-09-17	Cooperation in the field of Elections
149.	Memorandum Of Understanding On Cooperation Between Myanmar Press Council And The Press Council Of India	Myanmar	06-09-17	Cooperation Between Myanmar Press Council And The Press Council Of India
150.	Memorandum Of Understanding In The Field Of Elections Between The Election Commission Of India And The Election Commission Of Nepal	Nepal	24-01-17	Cooperation in the field of Elections
151.	MoU Between India And Nepal On Modalities For Utilization Of India's Housing Grant Of US\$100 Million To Support Reconstruction Of 50,000 Houses	Nepal	24-08-17	Housing Grant Of US\$100 Million To Support Reconstruction Of 50,000 Houses
152.	MoU Between India And Nepal For Implementation Of The Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Education Sector In Nepal	Nepal	24-08-17	Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Education Sector In Nepal
153.	MoU Between India And Nepal For Implementation Of The Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Cultural Heritage Sector In Nepal	Nepal	24-08-17	Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Cultural Heritage Sector In Nepal
154.	MoU Between India And Nepal For Implementation Of The Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Health Sector In Nepal	Nepal	24-08-17	Grant Component Of India's Post-Earthquake Reconstruction Package In The Health Sector In Nepal
155.	MoU Between India And Nepal On Drug Demand Reduction And Prevention Of Illicit Trafficking In Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances And Precursor Chemicals And Related Matters	Nepal	24-08-17	Drug Demand Reduction And Prevention Of Illicit Trafficking In Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances And Precursor Chemicals And Related Matters
156.	MoU Between India And Nepal For Implementation Arrangement On Cost Sharing, Schedules And Safeguard Issues For Construction Of Mechi Bridge Under ADB's Sasac Road Connectivity Programme (Tranche2) Funded By Govt Of India	Nepal	24-08-17	Construction Of Mechi Bridge Under ADB's Sasac Road Connectivity Programme (Tranche2) Funded By Govt Of India

1	2	3	4	5
157.	Agreement Between India And Nepal On Cooperation In The Filed Of Standardization And Conformity Assessment	Nepal	24-08-17	Standardization And Conformity Assessment
158.	Amendment To The Bilateral Agreement Between India And Nepal Related To Orbit Frequency Coordination Of "Satellite For Saarc Region" Proposed At 48 E	Nepal	12-09-17	Satellite For Saarc Region" Proposed At 48 E
159.	MoU between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal	Nepal	24-08-17	Chartered Accountancy
160.	MoU Between India And Sri Lanka For Cooperation In Economic Projects	Sri Lanka	26-04-17	Cooperation In Economic Projects
161.	MOU between Kelaniya University and ICCR for Long Term Hindi Chair	Sri Lanka	Jan-2017	Hindi Chair
162.	LOC Agreement of USD 318 million for procurement of railway rolling stock and upgradation of rail tracks was signed between EXIM Bank of India and Government of Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	June-2017	Upgradation of Railways
Year: 2018				
163.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh On The Establishment Of The ICCR Rabindra Chair For Urdu Language	Bangladesh	09-04-18	Establishment of the ICCR Rabindra chair for Urdu language
164.	MoU Between India And Bangladesh For Construction Of The India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Between Siliguri(In India) And Parbatipur(In Bangladesh)	Bangladesh	09-04-18	Construction of the India-Bangladesh friendship pipeline
165.	MoU between India and China upon Provision of Hydrological Information of the Yaluzangbu/Brahmaputra River in Flood Season by China to India	China	9-6-18	Provision of Hydrological Information
166.	Protocol on Phytosanitary Requirements for Exporting Rice from India to China.	China	9-6-18	Exporting Rice from India to China
167.	Youth Exchange Programme between India and Maldives	Maldives	March 2018	13 member Maldivian youth delegation visited India
168.	MOU between Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, India and Strategic Studies and Training Department. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar.	Myanmar	10-5-18	Cooperation in diplomatic matters



1	2	3	4	5
169.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Republic of India on Land Border Crossing	Myanmar	10-5-18	Land Border Crossing
170.	MOU between the Government of India and the Government Myanmar for the conservation of Earthquake damaged Pagodas at Bagan.	Myanmar	10-5-18	Heritage Conservation
171.	MOU between the Government of Myanmar and the Government of India on " Setting up of Indo-Myanmar Industrial Training Center at Monywa, Myanmar"	Myanmar	10-5-18	Industrial Training Center
172.	MOU between the Government of Myanmar and the Government of India on "Setting up of Indo-Myanmar Industrial Training Center at Thaton, Myanmar".	Myanmar	10-5-18	Industrial Training Center
173.	MOU between the Embassy of India, Yangon and Ministry of Planning and Finance of Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the supply of 10 vehicles for the purpose of ceasefire monitoring work.	Myanmar	10-5-18	Supply of 10 vehicles for the purpose of ceasefire monitoring work
174.	MoU on cooperation in Electronics & IT	Sri Lanka	Jan-2018	Electronics & IT
175.	LoC Agreement for USD 45.27 million for rehabilitation of Kankesanthurai Harbour in Northern part of Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	10-01-218	Harbour rehabilitation
176.	MoU Between India And Sri Lanka For The Establishment Of A Collaborative Relationship To Combat Transnational Illegal Activities At Sea And Develop Regional Co-Operation	Sri Lanka	09-05-18	Combating transnational illegal activities at sea And Developing Regional Co-Operation

# List is not exhaustive and is as per information available as on 19-07-2018.

### Posting of Young IAS Officers

1238. DR. A. SAMPATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is considering to post young IAS officers in districts which rank low in development parameters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IAS officers, having 3 to 5 years experience, would be considered for such posting; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) The posting of IAS officers in the district is prerogative of the concerned

State Government. As on date no such recommendation in this regard has been issued by DoPT.

**Telecom Services in Unviable Rural and Remote Areas**

1240. SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government for provision of telecom services in unviable rural and remote areas of the country;

(b) the details of the villages connected with the telecom services under the said schemes/programmes so far across the country, State/UT-wise and scheme/programme-wise;

(c) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the said schemes/programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme/ programme-wise; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide telecom services in each village of the country along with the achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) The details of the schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government for the provision of telecom services in unviable rural and remote areas are:

- (i) Scheme for Mobile Communication Services in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected Areas
  - a. LWE Phase I Project for providing the mobile connectivity in inhabited and uncovered villages in the LWE affected areas by setting up 2355 MHA identified towers. The sites were identified by MHA and implemented by BSNL. 2335 mobile towers are radiating.
  - b. LWE Phase II project for providing mobile connectivity in inhabited and uncovered villages in MHA identified 4072 tower locations was approved by cabinet on

23.05.2018. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for LWE phase II is under preparation. Implementation of the project will commence after selection of implementing agencies through competitive bidding process.

- (ii) BharatNet - BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner for providing broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs), (approx. 2,50,000), including those in LWE areas. As on 15.07.2018, a total of 2,83,708 km Optical Fibre Cable (covering 1,18,087 GPs) has been laid, and 1,13,091 Gram Panchayats have been made Service Ready in the country (Statement-I)
- (iii) Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan (CTDP) for Andaman and Nicobar Islands
  - a. Submarine OFC Connectivity between Mainland India (Chennai) and seven Andaman and Nicobar Islands is being implemented by BSNL. The agency for implementation has been selected and the timeline for completion of the project is 2 years from the award of work.
  - b. Scheme for enhancement of satellite bandwidth from 260 Mbps to 1 Gbps has been completed.
  - c. Scheme for enhancement of satellite bandwidth from 1 Gbps to 2 Gbps is under progress.
  - d. On 09.01.2018, Telecom Commission has approved revised proposal for provision of mobile services on 2G & 4G technology for installation of 214 mobile towers in identified uncovered villages and along National Highways in Andaman and Nicobar Islands for an estimated cost of ₹ 342.4 Cr
- (iv) Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for Lakshadweep Islands
  - a. Ten new BTS installed and commissioned in Lakshadweep Islands for augmentation of 2G mobile coverage with EDGE BTS.

- b. Satellite bandwidth for Lakshadweep Islands has been augmented from 102 Mbps to 318 Mbps.
- (v) Plan for the North-Eastern Region (NER).
- a. Under Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan (CTDP) for NER, BSNL is installing 2817 mobile towers with minimal specification of 2G with EDGE technology for providing mobile coverage in uncovered villages of Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam with an estimated cost of ₹ 2258 Cr.
- b. M/s Bharti Airtel Limited and M/s Bharti Hexcom Limited selected through tender process to install 2004 mobile towers with minimal specification of 2G with EDGE technology to cover villages and seamless coverage on National Highway in Rest of NER (except Meghalaya) with an estimated cost of ₹ 1656 Cr. The TSP can go for higher technology.
- c. On 23.05.2018, Cabinet has approved revised proposal for provision of mobile services on 2G + 4G technology for installation of 2173 mobile towers in 2374 uncovered villages and along National Highways in the State of Meghalaya for an estimated cost of ₹ 3911 Cr.
- d. Under CTDP NER, ring connectivity between State Capitals and respective District Headquarters (DHQ) and augmentation of transmission media has been planned for strengthening of transmission network for improving the reliability and redundancy.
- (b) The details of Mobile Towers installed under LWE Phase I and LWE Phase II are detailed as per Statement-II and Statement-III.
- (c) Details as given in the enclosed Statement-IV.
- (d) DoT is in the process of identification of remaining uncovered / remote villages of the country through its field units. On identification of such uncovered villages, the plan for provision of telecom services will be formulated.

**Statement – I***Status of the BharatNet as on 15.07.2018*

Sr. No.	State/UT	Cable laid (km)	GPs for which Cable laid	Service Ready GPs
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	7	4	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3555	1046	800
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1424	550	24
4.	Assam	4347	1520	1520
5.	Bihar	14883	5725	5628
6.	Chandigarh	19	13	13
7.	Chhattisgarh	12886	4090	4039
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	68	21	21
9.	Daman and Diu	26	18	17
10.	Gujarat	13816	5789	4958
11.	Haryana	11591	6123	6123
12.	Himachal Pradesh	664	223	202
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	549	284	227

Sr. No.	State/UT	Cable laid (km)	GPs for which Cable laid	Service Ready GPs
14.	Jharkhand	6566	2370	2060
15.	Karnataka	13545	6201	6076
16.	Kerala	830	1129	1129
17.	Lakshadweep*	0	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	39116	12671	12644
19.	Maharashtra	32594	14582	14004
20.	Manipur	569	312	173
21.	Meghalaya	663	253	122
22.	Mizoram	650	109	19
23.	Nagaland	1945	621	61
24.	Odisha	10237	3665	3303
25.	Puducherry	92	98	101
26.	Punjab	12104	7732	7545
27.	Rajasthan	25607	8392	8386
28.	Sikkim	157	24	4
29.	Tamil Nadu*	0	0	0
30.	Telangana	5369	2047	2047
31.	Tripura	1681	816	489
32.	Uttar Pradesh	58364	27999	27843
33.	Uttarakhand	3156	1524	1493
34.	West Bengal	6628	2136	2020
Total		283708	118087	113091

\* Under Bharat project, tri-partite MoU for free right of way (RoW) was to be signed with all the States/UTs. As per the MoU, States/UTs are required to provide free RoW for the BharatNet/NOFN project. MoUs in respect of Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep were signed very late i.e. on 31.03.2017 & 18.07.2017 respectively. Hence, now Tamil Nadu is being implemented under State led model and Lakshadweep through BSNL.

**Statement – II**

*State-Wise Status of Mobile Towers Installed in LWE Phase I Scheme*

Sr. No.	State	No. of Total Locations identified by MHA	Additional 156 Sites	Total sites Under LWE Phase I	Radiating
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54	8	62	58
2.	Bihar	184	66	250	250

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	497	35	532	521
4.	Jharkhand	782	34	816	816
5.	Maharashtra	60	5	65	65
6.	Madhya Pradesh	22	0	22	22
7.	Odisha	253	8	261	256
8.	Telangana	173	0	173	173
9.	Uttar Pradesh	78	0	78	78
10.	West Bengal	96	0	96	96
Total		2,199	156	2355	2335

**Statement – III***State Wise List of Mobile Tower Locations Under LWE Phase II:*

	State	No of Districts	No. of Mobile Towers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	429
2.	Bihar	8	412
3.	Chhattisgarh	16	1028
4.	Jharkhand	21	1054
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1	26
6.	Maharashtra	2	136
7.	Odisha	18	483
8.	Telangana	14	118
9.	Uttar Pradesh	3	179
10.	West Bengal	5	207
Total		96	4072

**Statement – IV***Details of Funds Disbursed Under Various Schemes of Universal Service Obligation Fund*

₹ in Crore

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra			6.91	
2.	BharatNet	2415.10	5600.00	6000.00	
3.	Mobile Connectivity in Left Wing Extremism areas	617.05	280.68	710.90	177.36

Sl. No.	Name of Schemes	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
4.	Rural Household Direct Exchange Lines (RDELS)	0.53	1252.53		
5.	Setting up of Wi-Fi Choupals at 5,000 Gram Panchayats by Common Service Centre		35.70	68.16	
6.	Setting up of 25,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots using the infrastructure of BSNL's telephone exchanges in rural areas			187.50	
7.	Wi-Fi delivery model at 200 rural Railway Stations by M/s RailTel using their own backhaul, as a pilot project			7.39	0.42
8.	Wi-Fi hotspots at 200 Gram Panchayats by BSNL using BharatNet backhaul, as a pilot project			2.81	
9.	Augmentation, Creation and Management of Optical Fiber Network in Assam				. 0.77
10.	Augmentation, Creation and Management of Optical Fiber Network in NE-I	3.95	14.48		
11.	Augmentation, Creation and Management of Optical Fiber Network in NE-II		13.04		
12.	Rural Wire Line Broadband	48.66	21.09	13.03	0.24
13.	Augmentation of Satellite Bandwidth in Andaman and Nicobar Island	8.10			
14.	Augmentation of Satellite Bandwidth in Lakshadweep		4.65		
15.	Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme (Phase-I)	3.21	0.24		
16.	Village Public Telephones in uncovered villages as per census 2001	2.78	4.23	2.03	0.01
17.	Replacement of Multi Access Radio Relay Village Public Telephones	0.03			
18.	Uncovered Villages under A&N			0.03	

### Stoppage of Trains at Attabira

1241. DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government considers stoppage of Express Trains like Bhubaneswar-Bolangir Intercity Express (12893), Nagabali Express (18309) at Attabira in view of large public demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) At present, Attabira is being serviced by 2 pair of Mail/Express and 3 pair of Passenger services, which are considered adequate for present level of traffic at this station. 12893/12894 Bhubaneswar-Balangir Intercity Express and 22809/22810 (old no. 18309/18310) Sambalpur- Hazur Sahib Nanded Nagavalli Express are fast trains with scheduled stoppage at Bargarh Road, which is 18 km away from Attabira. Stoppage of Express trains in close proximity is not operationally desirable.

### PSUs in Defence

1242. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of her Ministry;

(b) whether the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with foreign countries for production of equipment and if so, the details thereof, company-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to revitalize and make Defence PSUs and Ordnance factories more dynamic and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government so far; and

(d) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to modernize?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) There are 9 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under

the administrative control of Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence as per following details:

- (1) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, HAL.
- (2) Bharat Electronics Limited, BEL.
- (3) Bharat Earth Movers Limited, BEML.
- (4) Bharat Dynamics Limited, BDL.
- (5) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited, GRSE.
- (6) Goa Shipyard Limited, GSL.
- (7) Hindustan Shipyard Limited, HSL.
- (8) Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited, MIDHANI.
- (9) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, MDL.

(b) The details of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) and Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) with Foreign Countries for production of equipments are as under:

- (i) OFB: Ordnance Factory Board has signed only one MoU with M/s BAE systems, Sweden for development in production of 155mm Mounted Gun system.
- (ii) HAL: To implement Inter Government Agreement (IGA) for manufacture of Kamov Ka-226T helicopters in India, a Joint Venture Company (JVC) between Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Russian Helicopters and Rosoboronexport has been incorporated in May 2017, as Indo Russian Helicopters Ltd (IRHL).
- (iii) BDL: Bharat Dynamics Limited has signed following MoU with Foreign Countries:
  - ✓ M/s THALES, UK : Transfer of Technology of State Streak Missile System.
  - ✓ M/S Chemring UK: Transfer of Technology for Chaffs and Flares.
- (iv) BEL: Details of major Transfer of Technology agreements signed with foreign companies in the defence sector for production of equipment are given below:

Company	Project
Elbit Systems Electro-Optics ELOP Ltd, Israel	Compact Multi-purpose Advanced Stabilized system (COMPASS)
Reshef Technologies Israel	Percussion, Time and Proximity Fuzes Setter for Artillery Ammunition
INDRA Sistemas, Spain	Mobile Ground Based ELINT System (MGBES)
Thales Air Systems, France	Low Level Transportable Radar (LLTR)

(v) GSL: Goa Shipyard Limited has signed following MoU with Foreign Countries:

- ✓ MoU with M/S NAIAD, UK for Indigenous manufacturing of Steering Gear and Fin / Roll Stabilisers.
- ✓ MoU with M/S FHS, Germany for Indigenous manufacturing of Helicopter Landing Grid, Traversing System and Hanger Doors.
- ✓ MoU with M/S Griffon, UK for range of Amphibious hovercrafts for Indian Army, Indian Navy & Coast Guard.
- ✓ MoU with M/s DCNS, France (Now Naval Group, France) for setting up of advanced submarine escape training tower(SeTT), IPMS Simulator and Combat Management Simulator for Submarine of Indian Navy.
- ✓ MoU with Thales, France for Transfer of Technology for Hull Mounted sonar, sweep system, Mcube CMS and Towed side scan sonar (TSAS) for forthcoming MCMV project.
- ✓ MoU with DRASS, ITALY for midget submarines scheduled to be constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited.
- ✓ MoU. with MTU Friedrichshafen GMBH for indigenous manufacturing of MTU Engine series 8000MXIL.

(vi) GRSE: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) has signed following MoU with Foreign Countries:

- ✓ Marine Diesel Engine: GRSE has signed a License Agreement with M/s MTU Friedrichshafen GmbH, Germany on 04th Mar 2017 for Indigenization of MTU 12V/16V4000M90 Diesel Engines.
- ✓ Rail LessHelo Traversing System: GRSE has a License Agreement for a period of 10 years with M/s Mac Teggart, Scott & Co. Ltd. UK regarding indigenization and supply of Rail Less Helo Traversing System for Warships and other ships within the periphery of India.
- ✓ Memorandum of Understanding between GRSE & CDCL, Bhutan: The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for promulgation of export business and cooperation on mutual interests was signed between GRSE and M/s Construction Development Corporation Ltd (CDCL), a state owned company under Druk Holdings and Investments [DHI], Royal Government of Bhutan on 19th March 2018 for procurement of components, equipment & services of GRSE manufactured Pre-Fabricated Portable Bridges.
- ✓ Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between GRSE & ELBIT Systems Ltd., Israel: GRSE has tied up with Elbit, Israel to develop and market a multi-mission Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV).

The MoU between GRSE and ELBIT Systems Ltd., Israel that became effective from 27th March 2018 was formally signed on 11th April 2018 during the Def-Expo-2018 at Chennai.

- ✓ Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between GRSE & Khulna Shipyard Limited, Bangladesh: The MoU between GRSE and Khulna Shipyard Limited, Bangladesh was signed on 08th



May 2018. Khulna Shipyard Limited (KSY), an independent commercial enterprise under Ministry of Defence, Government of Bangladesh and operated by Bangladesh Navy earlier expressed their keenness to develop their skill & know-how for design and construction of ships at their facility at Khulna, Bangladesh and other subsidiary locations under them.

(vii) MIDHANI: MIDHANI has signed following MoU with Foreign Countries:

- ✓ M/S Coresol, USA.
- ✓ M/S Viam, Russia.
- ✓ M/S Ukroboronprom, Ukraine.

(viii) HSL: Hindustan Shipyard Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with JSC United Shipbuilding Corporation, Russia for cooperation in construction of civil vessels, vessels & crafts for use in inland Waterways of Andhra Pradesh and Cooperation in area of Military & Technical Cooperation (including development/upgradation production facilities in India to ensure comprehensive after sales service of delivered Navy Products) following RFPs from Indian side duly approved by the Russian authorities (FSMTC of Russia).

(c) DPSUs have been instrumental in developing a robust Defence manufacturing eco-system in the country. DPSUs aim to be lead integrators, primarily through robust private partnership, while retaining its core competencies, thus ensuring availability of a vibrant defence manufacturing system in the country. To strengthen and consolidate Research and development functions, DPSUs / Ordnance factories are taking research assistance from academic institutes like IIT, NITs etc. The Government has also been encouraging all DPSUs for their meritorious performance by conferring Raksha Mantri awards.

Moreover, DPSUs and Ordnance Factories have been permitted to export up to 10% of their annual production. For items where there is a capacity constraint, in DPSUs export, they would be required to ramp up their capacity accordingly in subsequent years.

The strategy provides for creation of an Export Promotion Body, engaging Indian Missions / Embassies abroad in export promotion, better use of offset policy, export of indigenously developed defence systems and streamlining of the export regulation process. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for issue of "Authorisation" for export has been simplified and put in public domain and requirement of Government signed End User Certificate (EUC) for export of parts and components and other non-sensitive military store, sub-assemblies, sub-systems has been done away with.

(d) Modernizing the existing Production facilities is a continuous process of DPSUs. Modernization is taken up to enhance capability and capacity. This includes up-gradation of technology through establishment of new processes, state-of-the art manufacturing and design facilities with an aim of increased productivity efficiency and improved work condition.

DPSUs have modernized its infrastructure by increasing capital expenditure to meet the requirements of Indian Armed forces.

#### **Thalassery-Mysore Railway Line**

1243. SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any deadlock has been reported for the proposed project Thalassery-Mysore Railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Madam. (b) Does not arise.

(c) Feasibility report submitted by Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a Joint Venture Company of Government of Kerala and Ministry of Railways has been prepared without any survey on ground and there is no assessment of the impact of railway line in the forest zone involving fragile ecosystem and protected forest areas/sanctuaries. Local people are also agitating against the proposed alignment which passes through the State of Karnataka. Accordingly, KRDCL has been advised to sort out the issues of forest clearances and alignment with all the stake holders involved including Government of

Karnataka and thereafter, update the report for appropriate consideration.

#### **Issue of Confirm Tickets**

1244. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways has started new ticket confirmation process through website;

(b) if so, the confirmation and cancellation chances probability of last two years trend thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to issue confirm tickets to passengers whenever and wherever the person needs and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to issue confirm tickets to the patients travelling for treatment purpose for all the trains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) A tool has been developed to predict the probability of waitlisted ticket getting confirmed at the time of booking as well as during Passenger Name Record (PNR) enquiry of waitlisted ticket. The tool has been developed using the algorithm of Machine learning. The machine learning model has been developed using the waitlisted PNR data of past 2 years. This model creates the pattern for the various waitlist scenarios and predicts the probability for the future date journey. Currently this feature is integrated with Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website only. In IRCTC website this feature is operational w.e.f. 13 June, 2018 as under-

- (i) When the user is doing the booking transaction, and if the status of accommodation availability of the inputted journey is waitlisted, then the user can check the probability of confirmation.
- (ii) At the time of PNR enquiry of waitlisted ticket, the user can check the probability of confirmation.

(b) As far as trends of confirmation chances and cancellation chances probability is concerned, it is informed that it varies depending upon peak and lean

periods, type of trains like short distance trains, long journey trains, trains with limited stoppage, etc.

(c) In the computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS), confirmed berths/seats are allotted on first come first served basis till the availability and thereafter Reservation Against Cancellation (RAC) Waiting List tickets are issued. The status of RAC/Waiting List tickets get automatically updated against the cancellation of confirmed berths/seats and also against release of unutilised reservation quotas.

To facilitate those passengers who have to undertake journey at short notice and to save such passengers from the clutches of unscrupulous elements/touts, Tatkal scheme of reservation is available where the accommodation becomes available for booking on the previous day of journey from train originating station.

Further, with a view to providing confirmed accommodation to waiting list passengers and to ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation, a scheme known as Alternate Train Accommodation (ATAS) known as "VIKALP" was introduced as a pilot project in November, 2015. This scheme has been expanded to cover all type of train on all sectors from 01.04.2017. For this facility, waiting list passenger has to give an option at the time of booking of ticket & passengers with waiting list status at the time of preparation of first reservation charts are shifted to other trains, subject to availability of vacant accommodation.

(d) and (e) In the computerized PRS there is already a provision to permit cancer patients and their attendants travelling on concessional tickets issued in exchange of concession certificate, to directly access Emergency Quota at the time of booking itself. Maximum number of berths/seats out of the Emergency Quota in a train, which can be accessed by Cancer patients and their attendants in Sleeper, is 4 and 2 each in AC Chair Car, AC 3 tier, AC 2 tier and First Classes. In addition, separate Cancer Patient Quota has also been defined in some identified trains. Moreover, instructions are also there that in case requests are received for confirmation of berths out of emergency quota from patients who have to undertake journey for checkup like cancer treatment and dangerous ailments which cannot be postponed due to

compelling circumstances, the same should be considered by quota controlling authority as per extant norms so as to accommodate to the extent feasible after satisfying themselves of the genuineness of travel.

[Translation]

### Setting Up PSKs

1245. SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) in the post offices of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of post offices in Jharkhand and Punjab where PSKs are likely to be set up and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) The Ministry in association with the Department of Posts has announced opening of 289 Passport Seva Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/ Post Offices (PO) in the country called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendra' (POPSK) (Statement) This includes ten POPSK in Jharkhand and eight POPSK in Punjab, the details of which can be seen as under:

State	POPSK announced	POPSK functional
Jharkhand	Bokaro, Chatra, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, Giridih, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Lohardaga and MedinInagar.	Bokaro, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur and Medininagar.
Punjab	Bathinda, Moga, Pathankot, Patiala, Phagwara, Sangrur, SBS Nagar (Nawan Shahar) and Tarn Taran.	Bathinda, Moga, Pathankot, Patiala and Phagwara.

### Statement

#### List of 289 Post Office Passport Sevakendra (POPSK)

S. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
1	2	3	4
1.	Anantpur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
2.	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
3.	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
4.	Krishna	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
5.	Ongole	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
6.	Kadappa	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
7.	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
8.	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
9.	Amalapuram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatna m
10.	Eluru	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatna m
11.	Kakinada	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatna m
12.	Rajamundry	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatna m
13.	Srikakulam	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatna m
14.	Vizianagaram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatna m
15.	Changlang	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
16.	Tirap	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
17.	Barpeta	Assam	Guwahati

1	2	3	4
18.	Dhubri	Assam	Guwahati
19.	Dibrugarh	Assam	Guwahati
20.	Goalpara	Assam	Guwahati
21.	Kaliabor	Assam	Guwahati
22.	Karbi Anglong	Assam	Guwahati
23.	Kokrajhar	Assam	Guwahati
24.	Mangaldoi	Assam	Guwahati
25.	Nawgong	Assam	Guwahati
26.	North Lakhimpur	Assam	Guwahati
27.	Silchar	Assam	Guwahati
28.	Sonitpur	Assam	Guwahati
29.	Tinsukia	Assam	Guwahati
30.	Begusarai	Bihar	Patna
31.	Bettiah	Bihar	Patna
32.	Bhagalpur	Bihar	Patna
33.	Buxar	Bihar	Patna
34.	Chhapra	Bihar	Patna
35.	East Champaran	Bihar	Patna
36.	Gaya	Bihar	Patna
37.	Gopalganj	Bihar	Patna
38.	Madhubani	Bihar	Patna
39.	Munger	Bihar	Patna
40.	Muzaffarpur	Bihar	Patna
41.	Nalanda	Bihar	Patna
42.	Navada	Bihar	Patna
43.	Pumea	Bihar	Patna
44.	Samastipur	Bihar	Patna
45.	Sheohar	Bihar	Patna
46.	Sitamarhi	Bihar	Patna
47.	Siwan	Bihar	Patna

1	2	3	4
48.	Supaul	Bihar	Patna
49.	Bilaspur	Chattisgarh	Raipur
50.	Durg	Chattisgarh	Raipur
51.	Rajnandgaon	Chattisgarh	Raipur
52.	Surguja	Chattisgarh	Raipur
53.	Silvasa	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	Mumbai
54.	Daman	Daman	Mumbai
55.	Janakpuri	Delhi	Delhi
56.	Krishna Nagar	Delhi	Delhi
57.	Lodhi Road	Delhi	Delhi
58.	Nehru Place	Delhi	Delhi
59.	North West Delhi	Delhi	Delhi
60.	Patparganj	Delhi	Delhi
61.	Saket	Delhi	Delhi
62.	Yamuna Vihar	Delhi	Delhi
63.	South Goa	Goa	Panaji
64.	Anand	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
65.	Bharuch	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
66.	Bhavnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
67.	Bhuj	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
68.	Dahod	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
69.	Jamnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
70.	Junagadh	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
71.	Kheda	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
72.	Mehsana	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
73.	Navsari	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
74.	Porbandar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
75.	Veraval	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
76.	Palanpur	Gujarat	Surat
77.	Valsad	Gujarat	Surat

1	2	3	4
78.	Bhiwani	Haryana	Chandigarh
79.	Hisar	Haryana	Chandigarh
80.	Kaithal	Haryana	Chandigarh
81.	Karnal	Haryana	Chandigarh
82.	Panipat	Haryana	Chandigarh
83.	Yamunanagar	Haryana	Chandigarh
84.	Faridabad	Haryana	Delhi
85.	Namaul	Haryana	Delhi
86.	Rohtak	Haryana	Delhi
87.	Sonipat	Haryana	Delhi
88.	Hamirpur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
89.	Kangra	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
90.	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
91.	Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
92.	Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
93.	Una	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
94.	Kathua	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
95.	Rajouri	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
96.	Udhampur	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
97.	Anantnag	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
98.	Baramulla	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
99.	Leh	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
100.	Bokaro	Jharkhand	Ranchi
101.	Chatra	Jharkhand	Ranchi

1	2	3	4
102.	Deoghar	Jharkhand	Ranchi
103.	Dhanbad	Jharkhand	Ranchi
104.	Dumka	Jharkhand	Ranchi
105.	Giridih	Jharkhand	Ranchi
106.	Hazaribagh	Jharkhand	Ranchi
107.	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand	Ranchi
108.	Lohardaga	Jharkhand	Ranchi
109.	Medininagar	Jharkhand	Ranchi
110.	Belagavi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
111.	Bellary	Karnataka	Bengaluru
112.	Bidar	Karnataka	Bengaluru
113.	Devangere	Karnataka	Bengaluru
114.	Gadag	Karnataka	Bengaluru
115.	Hassan	Karnataka	Bengaluru
116.	Mysuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru
117.	Raichur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
118.	Shivamogga	Karnataka	Bengaluru
119.	Tumakuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru
120.	Udupi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
121.	Vijayapur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
122.	Chengannur	Kerala	Cochin
123.	Idukki	Kerala	Cochin
124.	Palakkad	Kerala	Cochin
125.	Kasargod	Kerala	Kozhikode
126.	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	Trivandrum
127.	Kavaratti	Lakshadweep	Cochin
128.	Balaghat	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
129.	Betul	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
130.	Chhindwara	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
131.	Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	151.	Mumbai North Central	Maharashtra	Mumbai
132.	Dewas	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	152.	Mumbai South Central	Maharashtra	Mumbai
133.	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	153.	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	Mumbai
134.	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	154.	Panvel	Maharashtra	Mumbai
135.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	155.	Sindhudurg	Maharashtra	Mumbai
136.	Khajuraho	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	156.	Akola	Maharashtra	Nagpur
137.	Ratlam	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	157.	Amravati	Maharashtra	Nagpur
138.	Rewa	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	158.	Chandrapur	Maharashtra	Nagpur
139.	Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	159.	Wardha	Maharashtra	Nagpur
140.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	160.	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	Pune
141.	Sehore	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	161.	Baramati	Maharashtra	Pune
142.	Shivni	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	162.	Beed	Maharashtra	Pune
143.	Shivpuri	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	163.	Jalna	Maharashtra	Pune
144.	Sidhi	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	164.	Kohlapur	Maharashtra	Pune
145.	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	165.	Latur	Maharashtra	Pune
146.	Vidisha	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	166.	Madha	Maharashtra	Pune
147.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Mumbai	167.	Nanded (N)	Maharashtra	Pune
148.	Dombivali	Maharashtra	Mumbai	168.	Pandharpur	Maharashtra	Pune
149.	Ghatkopar/ Vikroli	Maharashtra	Mumbai	169.	Pimpri Chinchwad	Maharashtra	Pune
150.	Jalgaon	Maharashtra	Mumbai	170.	Sangli	Maharashtra	Pune
				171.	Satara	Maharashtra	Pune
				172.	Baghmara	Meghalaya	Guwahati
				173.	Tura	Meghalaya	Guwahati
				174.	Balasore	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
				175.	Baripada	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
				176.	Berhampur (Ganjam)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
				177.	Bhawanipatna (Kalahandi)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar

1	2	3	4
178.	Koraput	Odisha	Bhubaneshwar
179.	Rourkela	Odisha	Bhubaneshwar
180.	Sambalpur	Odisha	Bhubaneshwar
181.	Karaikal	Puducherry	Trichy
182.	Tarn Taran	Punjab	Amritsar
183.	Bhatinda	Punjab	Chandigarh
184.	Patiala	Punjab	Chandigarh
185.	Sangrur	Punjab	Chandigarh
186.	Gurdaspur	Punjab	Jalandhar
187.	Moga	Punjab	Jalandhar
188.	Phagwara	Punjab	Jalandhar
189.	SBS Nagar (Nawan Shahar)	Punjab	Jalandhar
190.	Ajmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
191.	Alwar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
192.	Banswada	Rajasthan	Jaipur
193.	Banner	Rajasthan	Jaipur
194.	Bharatpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
195.	Bhilwara	Rajasthan	Jaipur
196.	Bikaner	Rajasthan	Jaipur
197.	Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
198.	Churu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
199.	Dausa	Rajasthan	Jaipur
200.	Dungarpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
201.	Hanumangarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
202.	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
203.	Jhalawar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
204.	Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
205.	Karauli- Dhaurpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur

1	2	3	4
206.	Kota	Rajasthan	Jaipur
207.	Kotputli	Rajasthan	Jaipur
208.	Nagaur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
209.	Pali	Rajasthan	Jaipur
210.	Sriganganagar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
211.	Tonk-Sewai Madhopur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
212.	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
213.	Kallakurichi	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
214.	Tiruvannamalai	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
215.	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
216.	Viluppuram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
217.	Namakkal	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
218.	Salem	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
219.	Tiruppur	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
220.	Dindigul	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
221.	Kanyakumari (Nagarcoil)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
222.	Ramanathapuram	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
223.	Sivaganga	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
224.	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
225.	Perambalur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirapalli
226.	Pudukkottai	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirapalli
227.	Adilabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
228.	Khammam	Telangana	Hyderabad
229.	Medak	Telangana	Hyderabad
230.	Mehbubnagar	Telangana	Hyderabad
231.	Nalgonda	Telangana	Hyderabad
232.	Siddipet	Telangana	Hyderabad
233.	Warangal	Telangana	Hyderabad
234.	Zahirabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
235.	Bijaur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly

1	2	3	4
236.	Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
237.	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
238.	Rampur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
239.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
240.	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
241.	GautamBudh Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
242.	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
243.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
244.	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
245.	AUahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
246.	Amethi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
247.	Ayodhya/ Faizabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
248.	Azamgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
249.	Bahraich	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
250.	Ballia	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
251.	Balrampur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
252.	Barabanki	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
253.	Basti	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
254.	Deoria	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
255.	Farrukhabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
256.	Ghazipur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
257.	Gonda	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
258.	Jaunpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
259.	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
260.	Kushi Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
261.	Maharajganj	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
262.	Mau	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
263.	Mirzapur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
264.	Misrikh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
265.	Pratapgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
266.	RaeBareli	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
267.	Sitapur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow

1	2	3	4
268.	Sultanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
269.	Unnao	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
270.	Almora	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
271.	Kathgodam (Haldwani)	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
272.	Nainital	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
273.	Pauri	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
274.	Pithoragarh	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
275.	Roorkee	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
276.	Rudrapur	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
277.	Asansol	West Bengal	Kolkata
278.	Balurghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
279.	Bardhaman	West Bengal	Kolkata
280.	Barrackpore	West Bengal	Kolkata
281.	Birbhum	West Bengal	Kolkata
282.	Chinsurah	West Bengal	Kolkata
283.	Darjeeling	West Bengal	Kolkata
284.	Diamond Harbour	West Bengal	Kolkata
285.	Malda	West Bengal	Kolkata
286.	Medinipur	West Bengal	Kolkata
287.	Nadia (Krishnanagar)	West Bengal	Kolkata
288.	North Kolkata (Beadon Street)	West Bengal	Kolkata
289.	Raiganj	West Bengal	Kolkata

[English]

#### **National Business Register**

1246. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to launch the National Business Register Platform (NBRP) to facilitate creation of a repository of information on economic activity from the formal and informal sectors



on various socio-economic parameters including employment;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the timeframe by which NBRP will be launched; and

(c) whether the Government will collate the data from various registration authorities to create NBRP and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) Yes Madam. The Government has decided to establish a Data Warehouse to integrate data from various official sources. Business Register is a component of it which will provide, at one place, registration data available with concerned authorities at the central and state level. The Data Warehouse has been included as an activity for initiation during the period 2017-20 in the Memorandum for the Expenditure Finance Committee of the Ministry.

#### **Socio-Economic Facilities to Minorities**

1247. SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:

SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge gap between national average and that of minority communities on backwardness parameters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether socio economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities particularly in the field of education, health and skill development are still lagging behind;

(d) the other steps taken by the Government for welfare of minorities in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) Minority Concentration Areas (MCAs) namely Minority Concentration Blocks(MCB), Minority Concentration Towns(MCT), Minority Concentration District Head

Quarters(MCD Hq) are relatively backward and have been identified on the basis of select socio-economic and basic amenities parameters of Census 2011 data by identifying areas having more than 25% minority population, where socio-economic or basic amenities parameters are found below the national average. While the national average of backwardness parameters in respect of MCD Hqs, MCBs, and MCTs was 56.91, 55.86, 58.42 respectively, the backwardness average of identified MCD Hqs, MCBs and MCTs was 40.05, 39.15 and 39.27 respectively. These areas have been identified for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) to improve such parameters which are below the national average by focusing on the areas of education, health and skill development, apart from the other areas, wherever need is felt.

(d) and (e) The problems of minorities are addressed by the Government through various schemes/programmes/initiatives which are implemented in the state and UTs. The schemes/ programmes implemented by this Ministry for the minority communities notified under section 2(c) of the NCM Act 1992 viz Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and Parsis are as under:-

- (1) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) [restructured Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP)] - implemented in identified Minority Concentration Blocks, Minority Concentration Towns, Minority Concentration District Hqs & Clusters of Villages for infrastructure development.
- (2) Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme - for educational empowerment.
- (3) Maulana Azad National Fellowship - for research fellows empowerment.
- (4) "Naya Savera" Free coaching and Allied Scheme - to enhance skills and knowledge of students and candidates for employment through competitive examination and admission in technical and professional courses.
- (5) Padho Pardes - Scheme for interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies in technical and professional courses.

- (6) Nai Udaan - Support for students clearing Preliminary Examination conducted by UPSC, SSC, State Public Service Commission (PSC), etc.
- (7) Jiyo Parsi - Scheme for containing population decline of Parsis.
- (8) Nai Roshni - Scheme for leadership development of minority women.
- (9) Seekho Aur Kamao - Skill development initiative for minorities.
- (10) Nai Manzil - Scheme for formal school education & skilling of school dropouts.
- (11) USTTAD - Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development.
- (12) Hamari Dharohar - Scheme to preserve rich heritage of minority Communities under the overall concept of Indian Culture.
- (13) Grants-in-Aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) for implementation of education and skill related schemes.
- (14) Garib Nawaz Skill Development Centre Scheme.
- (15) Equity to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) for providing loans at concessional interest rates to minorities for self-employment and income generating activities.

Details of the schemes and the achievements in respect of the schemes at serial No. (1) to (12) are available on the website of this Ministry ([www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in)), the one at serial No. (13) and (14) are available on the website of MAEF ([www.maef.nic.in](http://www.maef.nic.in)) and at serial No. (15) are available on the website of NMDFC ([www.nmdfc.org](http://www.nmdfc.org)).

[Translation]

### AIJS

1248. SHRI RAM CHARAN BOHRA:

DR. UDIT RAJ:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the progress made in the creation of All India Judicial Service (AIJS) in the country;

(b) whether the suggestions sought from States and High Courts regarding the proposed AIJS, have been received and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has constituted any advisory council in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to expedite creation of AIJS; and

(e) whether creation of such a service was ordered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in 2009 and if so, the status of implementation of such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Keeping in view the divergence of opinion among the States and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service (AIJS), the Government has undertaken the consultative process to arrive at a common ground. (b) The views of States and High Courts were sought on a comprehensive proposal formulated for constitution of AIJS which was recommended by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012.

The High Courts of Sikkim and Tripura have concurred with the proposal approved by Committee of Secretaries for formation of AIJS. High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Manipur, Patna, Punjab & Haryana and Guwahati have not favoured the proposal of formation of AIJS. High Courts of Allahabad, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha and Uttarakhand have suggested changes in the age at induction level qualifications, training and quota of vacancies to be filled through AIJS. High Courts of Jharkhand and Rajasthan have indicated that the matter is pending consideration. Most High Courts want administrative control over Subordinate Judiciary to remain with the respective High Courts.

State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh,

Meghalaya, Nagaland and Punjab do not favour the formation of AIJS. State Government of Maharashtra wants the recruitment to be done at Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) level. State Governments of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Odisha and Uttarakhand want changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government. State Government of Haryana has stated that the proposal seems to be justified. State Government of Mizoram has supported creation of AIJS on the lines of IAS, IPS and other Central Services.

(c) and (d) The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges / judicial officers at all levels was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015. It was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously.

Further, the comprehensive proposal formulated for constitution of AIJS which was recommended by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012 along with views received from High Courts and States was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 05th April, 2015. However, no progress was made on the subject.

(e) The Supreme Court of India, vide its judgment of 13.11.1991 in the matter of All India Judges Association versus Union of India and others, recommended that Government should examine the feasibility of implementing the recommendations of the Law Commission for setting up of All India Judicial Service. They have reiterated this later in their judgment of 24.11.1993 in the same case.

[English]

#### **Dismissal of Absentee Workmen**

1249. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether of late, the Indian Railways has conducted a drive to identify the long-term absentee

employees in its various establishments with a view to terminating their services and to improve the efficiency of the Railways and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a total of 13521 of 13 lakh employees in Groups C and D have been identified as chronic absentees who have been absent for a long term and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways has initiated the process of holding disciplinary proceedings against the absentees in accordance with the regulations with a view to terminating their services; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) In November, 2017, a drive was launched by the Railways to identify employees on unauthorised absence in various Zonal Railways and Production Units.

(b) The details of number of absentees are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) Appropriate action under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules has been initiated against such absentees.

#### **Statement**

##### *Number of Absentees*

Zonal Railway/Production Unit	No of Absentees
1	2
Central	1375
East Coast	683
East Central	1792
Eastern	1214
North Central	844
North Eastern	358
Northern	1301
North Western	360
South Central	650
South East Central	274

1	2
South Eastern	829
Southern	1476
South Western	216
West Central	550
Western	1414
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works	34
Diesel Locomotive Works	6
Diesel Loco Modernisation Works	6
Integral Coach Factory	115
Rail Coach Factory	19
Rail Wheel Factory	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>13521</b>

[Translation]

#### Digitization of Rural Post Offices

1250. SHRI HARI MANJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to connect the rural post offices in the country with digital system and to provide major banking facilities in other one lakh twenty thousand post offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to install more than one thousand automatic teller machines to facilitate the customers of post office saving bank in the coming three months; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes madam, the Government under "Digital Advancement of Rural Post offices for a New India" (DARPAN) Project, is providing in a phased manner,

SIM based Hand Held Devices in more than 1.29 lakhs Branch Post Offices in the rural areas of the country, for carrying out online Postal and Financial transactions. State/UT wise status of roll out of DARPAN Project as on 18.07.2018 is given in the enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) madam, the Government does not propose to install more than one thousand automatic teller machines (ATMs) in the coming three months. As part of the IT Modernization Project 2012, the Department of Posts had planned to install only one thousand ATMs across the country out of which 995 ATMs have been installed as on 19.07.2018. At present there is no plan to further expand the ATM network of Department of Posts.

#### Statement

*State/UT-Wise Number of Branch Post Offices Rolled Out Under Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices for a New India (DARPAN) as on 18.07.2018*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Branch Post Offices Rolled out
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,229
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21
3.	Assam	3,266
4.	Bihar	2,944
5.	Chhattisgarh	1,940
6.	Goa	138
7.	Gujarat (Including UTs of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli)	6,969
8.	Jharkhand	2,618
9.	Haryana	2,122
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1,866
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,232
12.	Kerala (including UT of Lakshadweep)	3,495
13.	Karnataka	3,105

1	2	3
14.	Nagaland	230
15.	Meghalaya	274
16.	Maharashtra	3,299
17.	Manipur	388
18.	Madhya Pradesh	6,301
19.	Mizoram	224
20.	Odisha	2,609
21.	Punjab (including UT of Chandigarh)	3,057
22.	Rajasthan	6,224
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu (Including UT of Puducherry)	0
25.	Tripura	592
26.	Telangana	2,883
27.	Uttarakhand	619
28.	Uttar Pradesh	7,143
29.	West Bengal (including UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands)	650
30.	Delhi NCT	88
Total		66,526

[English]

#### Improvement in Supervision

1251. DR. P. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has decided to increase the number of posts of additional divisional railway managers in all divisional offices to improve supervision;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of such additional divisional railway managers so far appointed by the railways, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Forty three (43) more Additional Divisional Railway Managers have been posted on the Zonal Railways as per details given below:

Central Railway	05
Eastern Railway	04
East Central Railway	01
Northern Railway	05
North Central Railway	03
North Eastern Railway	03
Northeast Frontier Railway	01
North Western Railway	04
Southern Railway	03
South Central Railway	03
South Eastern Railway	01
South East Central Railway	02
South Western Railway	03
Western Railway	02
West Central Railway	03
Total	43

#### Tellichery-Mysore Railway Line

1252. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether feasibility study of Tellichery-Mysore Railway Line has been completed and Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been submitted; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a Joint Venture Company of Government of Kerala and Ministry of Railways had submitted feasibility report for a new line from Thalassery to Piriapatna for consideration and requisite approvals. As per this report, total cost for construction of 180 Km long new

line has been assessed as ₹ 5000 crore. It is observed that the proposed new line passes through the Western Ghats having fragile ecosystem and protected forest areas/sanctuaries. However, the report has been prepared without any survey on ground and there is no assessment of the impact of railway line in the forest zone. Local people are also agitating against the proposed alignment which passes through the State of Karnataka. Accordingly, KRDCCL has been advised to sort out the issues of forest clearances and alignment with all the stake holders involved including Government of Karnataka and thereafter, update the report for appropriate consideration.

#### **Constitution of ZRUCC and DRUCC**

1253. SHRI MANOJ TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any information regarding the constitution of Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) and Divisional Railway Users Consultative Committee (DRUCC) in all zones and divisions;

(b) If so, the zone-wise status thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which they will be constituted; and

(d) the details about the members and meeting held so far specially in Delhi division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees (DRUCCs) have been reconstituted on all Zonal Railways except Northeast Frontier Railway for a two years' term from 01.10.2017 to 30.09.2019. The reconstitution of Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees (ZRUCCs) on all Zonal Railways and DRUCCs on Northeast Frontier Railway is under process.

(d) The composition of DRUCC is enclosed as Statement. A total of 48 meetings of DRUCCs were held after their reconstitution w.e.f. 01.10.2017. No meeting of DRUCC/Delhi Division could be held during this period.

#### **Statement**

##### *Composition of Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee (DRUCC)*

S. No	Description	Number of persons to be nominated
1	2	3
1)	One representative each of local Chambers of Commerce, Trade Associations & Industries and Agricultural Associations.	06
2)	Registered Passengers Association	02
3)	State Government Representatives - one each from the States served by the Division - To be recommended by the concerned State Government	Depends upon the States served by the Division
4)	One Member each from the State Legislature - To be recommended by the concerned State Governments.	-do-
5)	Representative of Consumer Protection Organisation.	01
6)	Representative of Handicapped Association	01
7)	One nominee each of Union Minister & Members of Parliament (MPs).	Depends upon the number of Union Ministers & MPs whose constituency falls within the jurisdiction of the Division.

1	2	3
8)	Special Interests: -	01
	i) Nomination by General Manager	Such other members as the Minister may appoint to represent interests which he considers are necessary to be represented on the Committee
	ii) Nomination by Minister for Railways	

### Hamari Dharohar

1254. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of MINORITYAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievement made under ambitious scheme of Central Government named "Hamari Dharohar" in last three years;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and utilised under this scheme, State-wise and various project-wise; and

(c) the number of projects completed till now with regard to the conservation of rich heritage of minority communities under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Minority Affairs implements a scheme- 'Hamari Dharohar-A scheme to Preserve Rich Heritage of Minority Communities of India under the Overall Concept of Indian Culture' since 2014-15. The scheme aims to curate rich heritage of minorities under overall concept of Indian Culture, curating exhibitions, preservation of literature/ documents etc., support and promotion of calligraphy, Research and Development. During the last three years, notable achievements are as under:

- (i) An iconic international exhibition of Parsis i.e. "The Everlasting Flame" to showcase the civilization and culture of the Parsis (Zoroastrians). This involved curating three travelling exhibitions on Parsi culture namely- "The Everlasting Flame", "Threads of Continuity" and "Across the Oceans and Flowing Silks", during March to May 2016 at the National

Museum, National Gallery of Modern Art and Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts at New Delhi. So far, an amount of ₹ 17.22 Crore has been spent for the above project against the sanctioned amount.

- (ii) Ministry also sanctioned project to Dairatul Maarifil Osmania (an institution established in 1888), Osmania University, Telangana for translation from Arabic language into English, digitization and reprinting of 240 valuable documents belonging to Medieval period on the subjects of Medicines, Mathematics, Literature, etc. So far, an amount of ₹ 2.77 Crore has been released to Dairatul Maarifil Osmania.
- (iii) A project namely- 'Protection of Parsi heritage- Navsari' has also been sanctioned in March 2018, at the cost of ₹ 9.98 Crore. So far, an amount of ₹ 5.00 Lakh has been released for the purpose.

### Signalling System

1255. SHRI G HARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has lined up mega investment to scale up its operations, including a revamp of the signaling system across its network and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Railways is considering electric locomotive unit and a station development plan for large cities such as Mumbai, etc. and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways is planning extensive consultations to work out a model that serves the twin goals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) A work for modernisation of complete Signaling system on Indian Railways has been included in the works programme 2018-19 for implementation on complete 60,000 Route Kilometres (RKMs) on Broad Gauge (BG) network of Indian Railways subject to expenditure on this project to be made only after following due processes/mandatory approvals and sanctions.

(b) As far as Electric locomotive unit is concerned, there is no plan for installation of Electric locomotive unit for large cities such as Mumbai.

As far as Station development is concerned, Indian Railways have planned for redevelopment of major railway stations by making Indian Railway Station Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and with longer lease tenures. These include Railway stations situated in Mumbai. The entire cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the station.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Passenger Facilities**

1256. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Koderma and Hazaribagh road railway stations in Jharkhand State under East-Central railway are deprived of passenger amenities;

b) if so, whether the Government proposes to modernise both the above mentioned stations;

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

(d) whether the Government has received any suggestions from the peoples' representatives/citizens regarding upgradation of the said stations; and

(e) if so, the details of the action taken on the suggestion received in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Koderma and Hazaribagh road railway stations in Jharkhand State under East-Central Railway are not deprived of passenger amenities. All facilities have been provided as per norms of Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) at Koderma and Hazaribagh road railway stations.

(b) and (c) Upgradation of stations has been undertaken under various modernisation schemes such as Model Station Scheme, Modern Station Scheme and the Adarsh Station Scheme. Koderma station has

already been developed under Model and Modern Station Scheme and Hazaribagh Road station has been developed under Modern Station Scheme.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. Representation has been received from Hon'ble Member of Parliament for modernisation of Koderma and Hazaribagh Road Stations. Upgradation of stations is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and inter-se priority of works, subject to availability of funds.

*[English]*

#### **Smart Railway Stations**

1257. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total budget allocated for the development of railway stations on the lines of smart cities in the country so far along with the facilities upgraded/being upgraded at these railway stations under the said project;

(b) the number of railway stations of Gujarat Identified under the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT); and

(c) whether any special financial provision has been made for the railway stations in border areas under the said Mission and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Railways have planned for redevelopment of major railway stations by making Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and with longer lease tenures. Redevelopment of stations is planned through leveraging of commercial development of vacant land/air space in and around stations. Therefore, no funds have been earmarked for the purpose. Such projects shall generally be cost neutral to Railways. A redeveloped station generally envisages provision of following amenities:

- Segregation of arrival/departure of passengers
- Essential facilities at concourse
- Integration of both sides of city



- Integration with other modes of transport
- No parcel movement across the length of platform
- User friendly international signages etc.

Also, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been entered into between Ministry of Railways (MOR) and Ministry of Urban Development (MOUD) for Integrated planning of redevelopment of railway stations in the cities included in the 'SMART Cities' and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme and 10 railway stations are planned to be redeveloped under the 'SMART Cities' scheme.

(b) There are 31 cities covered under AMRUT scheme in the State of Gujarat. Important railway stations in these cities are planned to be included in the station redevelopment programme, in a phased manner. Gandhinagar and Surat railway stations have already been entrusted to IRSDC for redevelopment. Work has commenced at Gandhinagar station. Bids for redevelopment of Surat station have been invited.

(c) No special financial provision has been separately made for the railway stations in border areas under the 'SMART Cities' or AMRUT schemes.

#### **Make in India Initiative**

1258. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to promote Defence and Aero manufacturing under Make in India initiative;

(b) whether there is any proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of Defence and Aero Manufacturing cluster in UP;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to plan such Defence and Aero manufacturing cluster in UP; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Since the launch of 'Make in India' in September 2014, several measures have been taken by the Government

to promote indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence & aerospace equipment in the country by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector. These measures inter alia include:

- (i) Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) has been revised in 2016 wherein specific provisions have been introduced for stimulating growth of the domestic defence industry.
- (ii) A new category of procurement 'Buy {Indian-IDD (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)}' has been introduced in DPP-2016 to promote indigenous design and development of defence equipment. It has been accorded top most priority for procurement of capital equipment. Besides this, preference has been accorded to 'Buy (Indian)' and 'Buy and Make (Indian)' categories of capital acquisition over 'Buy (Global)' & 'Buy & Make (Global)' categories.
- (iii) Government has notified the 'Strategic Partnership (SP)' Model which envisages establishment of long-term strategic partnerships with Indian entities through a transparent and competitive process, wherein they would tie up with global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to seek technology transfers to set up domestic manufacturing infrastructure and supply chains.
- (iv) The 'Make' Procedure has been simplified with provisions for funding of 90 % of development cost by the Government to Indian industry and reserving projects not exceeding development cost of ₹10 Crore (Government funded) and ₹3 Crore (Industry funded) for MSMEs.
- (v) Separate procedure for 'Make-II' sub-category has been notified wherein a number of industry friendly provisions such as relaxation of eligibility criterion, minimal documentation, provision for considering proposals suggested Suo-moto by industry/ individual etc., have been introduced.
- (vi) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy has been revised and under the revised policy, Foreign Investment up to 49% is allowed through automatic route and above 49% under

Government route wherever it is likely to result in access to modern technology or for other reasons to be recorded.

- (vii) Industrial licensing regime for Indian manufacturers under IDR {Industries (Development and Regulation)} Act, 1951 has been liberalised and most of the components/ parts/ sub-systems have been taken out from the list of defence products requiring Industrial Licence. This has reduced entry barriers for new entrants in this sector, particularly SMEs. The initial validity of Industrial Licence under IDR Act, has been increased from 3 years to 15 years with a provision to further extend it by 3 years on a case to case basis.
- (viii) Offset guidelines have been made flexible by allowing change of Indian Offset Partners (IOPs) and offset components, even in signed contracts. Foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are now not required to indicate the details of IOPs and products at the time of signing of contracts. 'Services' as an avenue of discharge of offset have been re-instated.
- (ix) The process for export clearance has been streamlined and made transparent & online.
- (x) Defence Investor Cell has been created in the Ministry to provide all necessary information including addressing queries related to investment opportunities, procedures and regulatory requirements for investment in the sector.
- (xi) In order to promote innovation in defence sector, iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) scheme has been launched by the Government in April 2018.

(b) to (d) In the Budget Speech of 2018-19, Government has announced setting up of two Defence Industrial Corridors for promoting defence manufacturing under 'Make in India' initiative of the Government. Subsequent to the announcement, Government has decided to set up two Defence Industrial Corridors, out of which one corridor is planned to be set up in State of Uttar Pradesh,

spanning across Aligarh, Agra, Jhansi, Chitrakoot, Kanpur and Lucknow.

#### **Environment-Friendly Toilets**

1259. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways plans to install environment-friendly toilets in railway coaches;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the status of implementation of the project and timeline for its completion; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Indian Railways have planned to install environment-friendly bio-toilets in railway coaches. For this, all new coaches, being turned out from coach Production Units of Indian Railways, are fitted with bio-toilets and all railway workshops have been instructed to retro-fit bio-toilets in all the existing in-service eligible coaches undergoing mid-life rehabilitation and periodical overhaul. Retro-fitting of bio-toilets is also being done in coaching depots.

(c) As of now, approximately 70% of the total passenger carrying coaches over Indian Railways have been installed with bio-toilets and it is proposed to complete the work of installation of bio-toilets in balance coaches by the year 2019.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Loan Agreement With Asian Development Bank**

1260. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently inked a huge loan agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for completion of projects to improve rail infrastructure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the loan amount will be used to complete the ongoing works commenced under earlier tranches;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of loan term and interest to be paid thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Government of India has signed a loan agreement with ADB in March 2018 for availing Tranche 3 of US\$ 120 Million from the ongoing loan.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. ADB's loan, a Multi Tranche Financing Facility of US\$ 500 Million is for development of following five projects:-

- (i) Daund-Gulbarga Doubling (224 Kms);
- (ii) Sambalpur-Titlagarh Doubling (182 Km);
- (iii) Raipur-Titlagarh Doubling (203 Km);
- (iv) Hospet-Tinaighat Doubling (201 Km); and
- (v) Pune-Wadi Guntakal Electrification (641 Km)

Government of India has availed the loan under three tranches and the last tranche has been signed in March 2018.

(e) The loan has a repayment period of 15 years with grace period of five years. The rate of interest on this loan is LIBOR + 0.5% and commitment charges of 0.15% on the undisbursed loan amount.

#### **Coal Supply to Power Stations**

1261. DR. K. GOPAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal supply to power stations from Coal India's mines has risen by 17% in September to 32 mt. from 27.4 mt. in the year ago period and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the coal shortage had returned to haunt power plants across the country after a gap of three years due to a combination of several factors involving coal India and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the unprecedented rains hit coal production in coal mines of CIL badly during the last one year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a).

Coal supply to Power Stations from CIL has been 35.46 Million Tonnes (MT) in September, 2017 which is growth of about 20% over supply of 29.54 MT in September, 2016.

(b) There is no shortage of coal for the Power Sector.

In the beginning of 2018-19, Coal India Limited (CIL) had a pithead stock of 55.55 MT and stock at power house end was 16.27 MT. In the 1st Quarter of 2018-19, CIL dispatched 122.2 MT coal to Power Sector, thereby achieving a growth of 15% over the dispatch in the corresponding period of last year. The growth in dispatch of coal to Power Sector has helped coal based generation to achieve positive growth of 5.3% and 101.3% of the programme in the 1st Quarter of 2018-19.

(c) and (d) The coal production of Open Cast (OC) mines of the subsidiary companies of CIL which was affected on account of unprecedented rainfall in monsoon is given below:

CIL Subsidiary	June, 2017-October, 2017	
	Raw coal production of OC mines (figures in MT)	
	Target	Actual
ECL	12.951	10.673
BCCL	14.084	11.173
SECL	48.858	47.408
MCL	56.285	51.433
NEC	0.135	0.127

[Translation]

#### **Aadhaar for Homeless**

1262. SHRI KIRTI AZAD:

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM:

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of homeless people/people without a residential address across the country could not be issued Aadhaar number so far;

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

(c) whether the Government plans to provide Aadhaar number to such people; and

(d) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (d) Enrolment for Aadhaar is done for all residents of the country including homeless people.

Section 5 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 inter-alia provides that the authority (UIDAI) shall take special measures to issue Aadhaar number to persons who do not have any permanent dwelling house. Accordingly, UIDAI has provided facility to enrol such persons who do not possess any of the required supporting documents through a pre-designated introducer, identified and notified by the UIDAI Registrar or the Regional offices of UIDAI. As on date, more than 12 lakh Aadhaar have been issued based on introducer system.

Schedule-II (list of acceptable supporting documents for enrolments), of the Aadhaar (Enrolment & Update) Regulations, 2016 includes certificate of address issued by MP/ MLA/Village Panchayat head etc. as one of the acceptable supporting documents for Aadhaar enrolment.

#### **Business in IT Sector**

1263. SHRI ALOK SANJAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business in IT sector has increased manifold;

(b) if so, the annual increase in IT business on an average in the country during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether employment opportunities in the said sector have also been generated as per the said increase; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b): Yes, Madam The IT-BPM sector has grown manifold, according to Industry body NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Services Companies), from revenue of about USD 1.0 Billion in 1980-1990 to about USD 78 Billion in 2000-2010 to about USD 167 Billion in FY 2017-18. The annual increase in IT business on an average in the country during the last three years and the current year is given below:

Year	USD in Billions	Growth
2017-18E	167	~8%
2016-17	154	7.8 %
2015-16	143	8.5 %
2014-15	132	8.3%

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam The industry has generated increased employment opportunity proportionately, NASSCOM estimates that from about 60,000 employees in 1980-1990 to about 3,40,000 in 2000-2010 to about 39,68,000 employees in FY 2017-18. Besides, the Government initiatives such as Common Service Centres (CSCs), BPO Promotion schemes, Electronic Manufacturing, Digital Payments, and Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan have generated over 16 lakh additional jobs over the last two years.

#### **Status in Scientific Research**

1264. SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of India in the field of scientific research and development;

(b) the number of applications for patents for new inventions submitted by the Indian scientists vis-a-vis scientists of other developed/developing countries during the last three years;

(c) whether any concrete action has been taken by the Government to deal with slow rate of progress in the field of research and development in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind not paying any heed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) The status of a country in the field of scientific research and development is measured in terms of indicators viz. publications and patents. As per the latest available statistics, India is ranked at 6th position in scientific publications and 10th in patents (resident applications) in the world.

(b) The number of application for patents for new inventions submitted by the Indian scientists and inventors vis-a-vis scientists of other developed/developing countries at Indian Patent Office (EPO) during the last three years is as given below:

Year	No. of applications filed		
	Residents	Non-Residents	Total filing
2015-16	13066	33838	46904
2016-17	13219	32225	45444
2017-18	15574	32280	47854

(c) and (d) The Government has been constantly engaged in the promotion and growth of scientific research in the country through various measures such as successive increase in plan allocations for scientific departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of Centres of Excellence and Facilities in emerging and frontline areas of S&T in academic and national institutions, launching of new fellowships and schemes namely, Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme for distinguished overseas scientists and academicians including Non-Resident Indians (NRJs)

and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs), Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship (OVDF), Teacher Associate-ship for Research Excellence (TARE) and Distinguished Investigator Award (DIA), substantial grant to potential scientists through extramural research funding, scaled up funding in the new areas such as Clean Energy and Water including Energy Efficiency, Clean Coal Technology, Smart Grids, Methanol, Desalination, Genome Engineering Technology etc., promotion of innovation, entrepreneurship and start-ups grant for young scientists and Funds for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST), encouraging public-private partnerships, fiscal incentives and support measures for enhancing the participation, of industry in R&D etc.

[English]

#### Decline of Coal Production in Private Sector

1265. PROF. CHINTAMANI MALVIYA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coal has declined in the private sector in the country;

(b) if so, the production of coal in each of the coal mine in private sector in the country during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the percentage of coal produced by private sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) No, Madam. Coal production by private sector has increased from 32.55 MT in 2015-16 to 34.75 MT in 2017-18. The details of coal produced by private sector (company-wise/mine-wise) during the last three years and current year is given below:

#### Company Wise Raw Coal Production During 2015-16 To 2017-18

Company	Name of Captive Block	2015-16	2016-17	[Quantity in Million Tonnes]	
				2017-18 (Provisional)	2018 19 [Up to May 2018] (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6
TISCO		6.228	6.316	6.256	1.022

1	2	3	4	5	6
Meghalaya		3.712	3.712	2.308	0.671
HIL Total	Gare Palma IV/4, IV/5 and Kathautia	0.069	2.000	2.499	0.317
JPVL	Amelia North	2.800	2.800	2.800	0.948
SIL	Belgaon	0.165	0.153	0.270	0.036
BALCO	Chotia	0.120	0.180	0.000	0.000
SPL	Moher & Moher Amlori Extn	17.022	16.997	18.003	2.714
CESC	Sarshatali	1.877	1.742	1.832	0.404
GMR	Talabira I	0.560	0.151	0.270	0.000
RCCPL	Sial Ghogri	0.000	0.025	0.063	0.012
TUML	Marki Mangli I	0.000	0.000	0.445	0.054
Total Private		32.553	34.076	34.746	6.178
All India		639.23	657.87	676.48	184.42
% Produced by Private Sector		5.1	5.2	5.1	3.3

### Shortage of IAS Officers

1266. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortfall in the number of officers in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and difficulties being faced due to this shortfall especially in left wing extremism affected States like Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sanctioned strength of IAS officers against the actual number in the cadre at present, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any strategy to make up the shortfall; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The details of the Total Authorized Strength(TAS), the number of officers- in- position, the shortage and the percentage shortage of officers in Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in various States/Joint cadres, including Chhattisgarh are given in the enclosed Statement-I. shortage in percentage terms in Chhattisgarh cadre is 16.58%, which is less than the national average of 22.11% and Chhattisgarh is placed at the 22nd position in the list of all the 26 cadres as per the percentage shortage.

(d) and (e) The occurrence of vacancies and its filling up is an ongoing process. The Government has increased annual intake of IAS officers in direct recruitment quota to 180 from CSE-2012. Further, in promotion quota prompt action has been taken for holding Selection Committee Meetings for appointment by promotion/selection of State Service officers in IAS due to which shortfall has reduced significantly. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement – I***Cadre Gap in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) as on 01.01.2018*

Sr. No.	Cadre	Total Authorized Strength	Total officers in Position as on 1.1.2018	Shortage (3-4)	Percentage Shortage [(5)*100/(3)]
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	137	86	51	37.23%
2.	Jharkhand	215	140	75	34.88%
3.	Andhra Pradesh	239	161	78	32.64%
4.	Kerala	231	156	75	32.47%
5.	Telangana	208	142	66	31.73%
6.	Bihar	342	235	107	31.29%
7.	Karnataka	314	220	94	29.94%
8.	Tripura	102	72	30	29.41%
9.	Haryana	205	148	57	27.80%
10.	Nagaland	94	68	26	27.66%
11.	West Bengal	378	280	98	25.93%
12.	Uttarakhand	120	91	29	24.17%
13.	Rajasthan	313	248	65	20.77%
14.	Sikkim	48	39	9	18.75%
15.	Himachal Pradesh	147	120	27	18.37%
16.	Manipur	115	94	21	18.26%
17.	Assam-Meghalaya	263	216	47	17.87%
18.	Madhya Pradesh	439	361	78	17.77%
19.	Uttar Pradesh	621	511	110	17.71%
20.	Gujarat	297	247	50	16.84%
21.	Tamil Nadu	376	313	63	16.76%
22.	Chhattisgarh	193	161	32	16.58%
23.	AGMUT	337	285	52	15.43%
24.	Odisha	237	201	36	15.19%
25.	Punjab	221	189	32	14.48%
26.	Maharashtra	361	320	41	11.36%
TOTAL		6553	5104	1449	22.11%

**Statement – II***Progress of Recruitment by Promotion to IAS over 5 years*

Year	Promotion Quota vacancies due to be filled in the year	Appointments made during the year	Percentage of recruitment made
2014	402	167	41.50%
2015	362	204	56.30%
2016	401	277	69%
2017	442	339	76.70%
2018*	345	177*	48.7%*

\* as on 23.07.2018

[Translation]

**Software Technology Parks**

1267. DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) have been set up in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose for setting up of STPI;

(c) the State-wise details of those software technology parks which have been registered and are functional at present;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up more STPI units in the country; and

(e) if so, the names of the States/Union Territories where the Government proposes to set up these new STPI

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A total of 58 STPI centres are operational across the country, as of now, out of which 50 centres are in Tier II and Tier III cities. The objectives of setting up of STPI centres are:

- To promote the region as one of the preferred IT destination and to attract IT/ ITeS/ BPO Units to the State;

- To promote the export of IT Software and Services from the region thus contributing to Gross National Exports;

- To provide Statutory Services under Software Technology Park (STP) and Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Schemes of the Government;

- To provide High-Speed Data Communication and other value added services; and

- Stimulate creation of direct and indirect employment opportunities.

(c) State-wise list of functional STPI centres is enclosed as Statement-I.

(d) Yes, Madam. The Government sets-up new STPI centres in the country based on the demand from the respective State Governments. Towards this, the State Government/ Centres of Excellence/ Higher Educational Institution are required to provide:

- minimum 2 acres of developed land free of cost on long term lease, or 50,000 sq. ft. built-up area free of cost on long term lease, and

- Feasibility study by STPI jointly with the State Government/ Centres of Excellence/ Higher Educational Institution to assess the potential of the location.

In case the State Government/ Centres of Excellence/ Higher Educational Institution provides a minimum 2 acres of land, STPI constructs a minimum 20,000 sq.ft. built-up space as per the approved policy



guidelines for "Infrastructure development at STPI centre and populating of incubation facilities".

(e) List of proposed new STPI centres is enclosed as Statement-II.

**Statement – I**

*List of Existing STPI Centres*

#	State	Centre Name
1.	Andhra	Kakinada
2.	Pradesh	Tirupati
3.		Vijayawada
4.		Vizag
5.	Assam	Guwahati
6.	Bihar	Patna
7.	Chhattisgarh	Bhilai
8.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
9.		Surat
10.	Goa	Goa
11.	Haryana	Gurgaon
	Himachal	Shimla
12.	Pradesh	
13.	Jammu and	Jammu
14.	Kashmir	Srinagar
15.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
16.	Karnataka	Bengaluru
17.		Hubli
18.		Mangalore
19.		Manipal
20.		Mysore
21.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
22.	Madhya	Gwalior
23.	Pradesh	Indore
24.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
25.		Kolhapur

#	State	Centre Name
26.		Nagpur
27.		Nasik
28.		Mumbai
29.		Pune
30.	Manipur	Imphal
31.	Meghalaya	Shillong
32.	Mizoram	Aizawl
33.	Odisha	Berhampur
34.		Bhubaneswar
35.		Rourkela
36.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
37.	Punjab	Mohali
38.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
39.		Jodhpur
40.	Sikkim	Gangtok
41.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
42.		Coimbatore
43.		Madurai
44.		Tirunelveli
45.		Trichy
46.	Telangana	Hyderabad
47.		Warangal
48.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad
49.		Kanpur
50.		Lucknow
51.		Noida
52.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
53.	West Bengal	Durgapur
54.		Haldia
55.		Kharagpur
56.		Kolkata
57.		Siliguri
58.	Tripura	Agartala

**Statement – II***List of Upcoming STPI Centres*

S. No.	State	Centre Name
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
2.	Bihar	Bhagalpur
3.		Darbhanga
4.	Jharkhand	Bokaro
5.		Deoghar
6.		Dhanbad
7.		Jamshedpur
8.	Madhya	Bhopal
9.	Pradesh	Chhindwada
10.		Jabalpur
11.	Nagaland	Kohima-Dimapur
12.	Odisha	Angul
13.		Balasore
14.		Jajpur
15.		Koraput (Jeypore)
16.		Sambalpur
17.	Punjab	Amritsar
18.	Karnataka	Davangere
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
20.		Gorakhpur
21.		Meerut
22.		Varanasi

S. No.	State	Centre Name
23.	Haryana	Panchkula
24.	Gujarat	Bhavnagar

*[English]***Electrification of Tracks**

1268. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electrification of the track between Masagram/Sehara Bazar to Bankura and Arom Bankura to Sehara Bazar has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal for doubling of the line between the above two stations or the stretch and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of projects being considered in this stretch; and

(e) the time by which the work between Bishnupur to Tarakeswar line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Masagram/Sehara Bazar to Bankura section is part of new work for electrification of un-electrified sections of 13675 route kilometers (108 sections) included in Budget 2018-19 which will be taken up for execution after-requisite sanctions. There is no railway line between Arom Bankura to Sehara Bazar.

(c) At present, there is no proposal for doubling of the section falling between Masagram/Sehara Bazar to Bankura section.

(d) At present, there is no proposal of railway project of new line, doubling and gauge conversion in this stretch.

(e) So far Bishnupur-Mayonapur (22 Km) and Tarakeswar-Arambagh-Goghat (34 Km) sections of Tarakeswar-Bishnupur (82Km) new line project have been commissioned. However, execution of remaining Kamarpukur - Mayonapur (20.35Km) and Goghat-Kamarpukur (5.5Km) sections are held up due to non-acquisition of requisite land from the State Government

of West Bengal. As such target date of completion of this project is not fixed.

#### **Telecommunication Facilities in Lakshadweep**

1269. MOHAMMED FAIZAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to improve Telecommunications and Broadband facilities in Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the result achieved thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) and (b) Yes, the details are as follows

(i) Augmentation of Satellite bandwidth from 102 Mbps to 318 Mbps

(ii) Augmentation of 2G Mobile Coverage with EDGE Technology by adding 10 towers.

(iii) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner for providing broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2,50,000) in the country including Lakshadweep.

(c) Action taken in this regard and the result achieved

(i) Augmentation of Satellite bandwidth from 102 Mbps to 318 Mbps - Bandwidth augmented to 358 Mbps.

(ii) Augmentation of 2G Mobile Coverage with EDGE Technology has been complete by installing and commissioning of 10 towers.

(iii) An MoU has been signed with Lakshadweep Administration for implementation of the BharatNet in the Union Territory in 10 GPs. BSNL is implementing the project.

#### **Purchase of Spares for AN-32**

1270. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Government tried to find out the movement of funds to the tune of US\$ 2.7 million

deposited in Noor Islamic Bank in Dubai in Global Marketing SP Ltd., account in connection with the alleged kickbacks given to Indian Defence officials in purchase of spares for military transport aircraft An-32; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The Question does not arise. In fact, the Embassy of Ukraine in India has forwarded a request to Government of India from National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine through Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine for legal assistance in investigation of a criminal case filed against officials of one of the State owned enterprise of Ukrainian Government. This is as per the International Treaty between India and Ukraine. This request contains a list of questions to be answered. There are no allegations against officials of this Ministry / Indian Air Force. Government of India has only been requested to render legal assistance.

#### **Restrictions On Development Works**

1271. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering the proposal received from the Services regarding imposition of restrictions on development works around the land of Navy and Air Force and finalising a list of properties in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the issue is hanging on fire since long and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether peoples representatives from Mumbai had several meetings with Defence Ministry for finalising the list of properties where development works could be done;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the list is likely to be finalised and released; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) A proposal on the subject has been received in the Ministry. The matter requires due diligence in order to ensure balancing the security imperatives of defence establishments with development works, necessitating

deliberations with all stakeholders, to finalize an approach.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. Public representatives from Mumbai have had meetings with Ministry of defence at various levels.

Revision of NoC guidelines is under deliberation in the Ministry of Defence in consultation with the Services and Coast Guard. The matter is being monitored at the highest level in the Ministry to ensure that the security of defence establishments does not get jeopardized while accommodating development needs.

#### **Rub at Sodepur Station**

1272. PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received request from various levels for construction of a 6 metre width RUB at Sodepur Railway Station of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway;

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

(c) the reasons for not constructing a 6 metre width RUB; and

(d) whether the Government will give priority to the requests of Members of Parliament and if so, the details thereof?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) No request has been received for construction of 6 metre wide Road Under Bridge (RUB) at Sodepur Railway Station of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway. However, request has been received for widening of Subway from 3 metre to 6 metre. The request for widening of Subway from 3 metre to 6 metre could not be considered due to acute crises of space and presence of obligatory structures at both ends of Sodepur Station Platforms.

*[Translation]*

#### **ROB/RUB in Maharashtra**

1273. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in Maharashtra the construction work of which is pending at present;

(b) the reasons therefor project-wise;

(c) the present status of construction work of the said pending ROBs, project-wise; and

(d) whether the Government has set any target for the completion of the said pending ROBs and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) As per Pink Book 2018-19, work for construction of 107 Road Over Bridges (ROBs) have been sanctioned in the State of Maharashtra on cost sharing basis. Out of these, 06 Road Over Bridges have been completed and the work on 20 ROBs work is in progress. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 19.12.2017 between Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and State Government of Maharashtra for construction of remaining Road Over Bridges on Single Entity basis by Government of Maharashtra including Railway portion. Therefore, further action will be taken by State Government of Maharashtra.

*[English]*

#### **Attacks on Indians**

1274. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any record of Indians who were attacked overseas during the last year and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any policy for this and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has contacted the country concerned about Indian people getting attacked there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD))]: (a) to (d) As per information available in the Ministry, 56 Indians were attacked overseas during 2017 in 13 countries and 31 Indians were attacked during 2018 (till 17.7.2018) in 17 countries. Details attached as Statement.

Whenever any attacks on Indian nationals are reported, the Indian Government through its Mission/Post abroad promptly takes up the matter with the local Foreign Office and other concerned authorities to ensure safety of Indian nationals so that such incidents of violence against Indian nationals do not recur. Follow up action including providing of consular assistance to the affected Indian nationals is also performed by the Mission/Post.

When approached, the host Government normally provides all necessary assistance and required security to the Indian nationals living in that country. Cases of violence are duly investigated by local police authorities in order to bring the culprits to justice. The Indian Mission/Post liaises with the concerned authorities during the investigation and trial of the culprits. The prompt investigation/sentencing of the accused in cases like that of Srinivas Kuchibotla and Sherin Mathews in the U.S. reflects the success of our efforts with local authorities.

**Statement**

*Countrywise Number of Indians Attacked in 2017 and 2018 (till 16.07.2018)*

S. No.	Country	Number of Indians attacked in 2017	Number of Indians attacked in 2018 (till 16.07.2018)
1	2	3	4
1.	Afghanistan	NIL	7
2.	Algeria	NIL	1
3.	Argentina	NIL	NIL
4.	Armenia	NIL	NIL
5.	Austria	NIL	NIL
6.	Australia	2	NIL
7.	Azerbaijan	NIL	NIL
8.	Bahrain	NIL	NIL
9.	Belarus	NIL	NIL
10.	Bangladesh	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4
11.	Belgium	NIL	NIL
12.	Bhutan	NIL	NIL
13.	Brazil	NIL	NIL
14.	Brunei	NIL	NIL
15.	Bulgaria	1	NIL
16.	Cambodia	NIL	NIL
17.	Canada	NIL	1
18.	Chile	NIL	1
19.	China	NIL	NIL
20.	Colombia	NIL	NIL
21.	Congo	NIL	NIL
22.	Cote D' Ivoire	NIL	NIL
23.	Croatia	NIL	NIL
24.	Cuba	NIL	NIL
25.	Ethiopia	2	2
26.	Fiji	NIL	NIL
27.	France	NIL	NIL
28.	Germany	NIL	1
29.	Ghana	NIL	NIL
30.	Greece	NIL	1
31.	Guatemala	NIL	NIL
32.	Guyana	NIL	NIL
33.	Hungary	NIL	NIL
34.	Iceland	NIL	NIL
35.	Indonesia	NIL	NIL
36.	Iran	NIL	NIL
37.	Iraq	NIL	NIL
38.	Ireland	4	NIL
39.	Israel	NIL	NIL
40.	Italy	2	NIL
41.	Jamaica	NIL	NIL
42.	Japan	NIL	NIL

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
43.	Jordan	NIL	NIL	74.	Papua New Guinea	NIL	NIL
44.	Kazakhstan	NIL	NIL	75.	Peru	NIL	NIL
45.	Kenya	NIL	NIL	76.	Philippines	10	NIL
46.	Korea (DPR)	NIL	NIL	77.	Poland, Lithuania	10	4
47.	Korea (Republic of)	NIL	NIL	78.	Portugal	NIL	NIL
48.	Kuwait	NIL	NIL	79.	Qatar	NIL	NIL
49.	Kyrgyzstan	NIL	NIL	80.	Romania	NIL	NIL
50.	Lao PDR	NIL	NIL	81.	Russian Federation	NIL	NIL
51.	Lebanon	NIL	NIL	82.	Saudi Arabia	NIL	NIL
52.	Libya	NIL	NIL	83.	Senegal	NIL	NIL
53.	Madagascar	NIL	NIL	84.	Seychelles	NIL	NIL
54.	Malawi	NIL	9	85.	Singapore	NIL	NIL
55.	Malaysia	NIL	NIL	86.	Slovak Republic	NIL	NIL
56.	Mali	NIL	1	87.	Slovenia Republic	NIL	NIL
57.	Malta	NIL	NIL	88.	South Africa	NIL	NIL
58.	Mauritius	NIL	NIL	89.	Sri Lanka	3	NIL
59.	Mexico	NIL	1	90.	Sudan	NIL	NIL
60.	Mongolia	NIL	NIL	91.	Suriname	NIL	NIL
61.	Mozambique	3	2	92.	Sweden	NIL	NIL
62.	Myanmar	NIL	NIL	93.	Switzerland	NIL	NIL
63.	Namibia	NIL	NIL	94.	Syria	NIL	NIL
64.	Nepal	NIL	1	95.	Tajikistan	NIL	NIL
65.	Netherlands	NIL	NIL	96.	Tanzania	5	NIL
66.	New Zealand	NIL	2	97.	Thailand	NIL	NIL
67.	Niger	NIL	NIL	98.	Trinidad & Tobago	NIL	NIL
68.	Nigeria	NIL	NIL	99.	Tunisia	NIL	NIL
69.	Norway	NIL	NIL	100.	Turkey	2	1
70.	Oman	NA.	NA.	101.	Turkmenistan	NIL	NIL
71.	Pakistan	NIL	NIL	102.	Uganda	1	NIL
72.	Palestine	NIL	NIL	103.	United Arab Emirates	NIL	NIL
73.	Panama	NIL	NIL	104.	United Kingdom	NIL	1

1	2	3	4
105.	Ukraine	NIL	NIL
106.	United States of America	11	3
107.	Uzbekistan	NIL	NIL
108.	Venezuela	NIL	NIL
109.	Vietnam	NIL	NIL
110.	Zambia	NIL	NIL
111.	Zimbabwe	NIL	NIL
Total		56	31

### Extension of Trains

1275. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI: KUNDARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representations for extension of onward, and return journey of (1) Train No. 19310 and 19309 Indore - Gandhinagar City - Indore, (2) Train No. 12656 and 12655 Navjeevan Express and (3) Train No. 19412 and 19411 Ajmer Intercity Exp. and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above trains on reaching their destinations are parked in the yard for more than 12-15 hrs, which clearly paves way for extension of its service upto Rajkot without any operational or resource constraints;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Representations, including from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, have been received for extension of 19309/19310 Indore-Gandhinagar City Shanti Express, 12655/12656 Ahmedabad-Chennai Navjeevan Express and 19411/19412 Ahmedabad-Ajmer Express upto Rajkot.

The existing lie-over period of these trains is being utilized for primary maintenance/secondary maintenance/ terminal attention etc. However, owing to

the line capacity constraints on sections enroute and terminal constraints at Rajkot, extension of these services upto Rajkot is not feasible, at present.

With the extension of 12267/12268 Mumbai-Ahmedabad Duronto Express upto Rajkot w.e.f. 25/05/2018, additional connectivity for Mumbai has become available to the passengers of Rajkot.

### Central Waqf Council

1276. SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Waqf Council (CWC) is providing training through NGOs to women in tailoring & knitting, food processing, embroidery and cloth printing for their empowerment and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the council is also providing coaching to the Muslim students for competitive examinations for jobs which are based at graduation level, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry for educational empowerment of centrally notified minorities, with separate earmarking of targets for women/girl;

(d) whether at least 30 percent of the target under the schemes are earmarked for girl students; and

(e) if so, the details of specific schemes being implemented by the Ministry which are exclusively for women and the results thereof during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) Yes Madam, the Central Waqf Council (CWC) has decided to provide training to women for their empowerment in the trades of i) Tailoring & Knitting ii) Food Processing iii) Embroidery and iv) Cloth Printing and accordingly, proposals have been invited. The CWC has also decided to provide financial support for coaching of muslim students for competitive examinations for jobs through the coaching centers of Jamia Millia Islamia for 50 students for Civil Services and Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh for 100 students i.e. 50 for Civil Services and 50 for SSC-CGL/Bank PO examinations.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) is implementing the following schemes for educational empowerment of notified minorities:-

**Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme-** The scholarship is provided to minority students studying in class I to X in recognized Government/Private schools. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls. To be eligible, student should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class.

**Post-matric Scholarship Scheme-** The scholarship is provided to minority students studying in class XI to Ph.D level in recognized Government/Private schools/Colleges/Institutes. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls. To be eligible, students should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class.

**Merit-cum-Mean based Scholarship Scheme -** The merit-cum-means scholarship scheme is awarded for pursuing professional and technical courses, at undergraduate and post-graduate levels, in institutions recognized by the appropriate authority.. Under the scheme, 30% scholarships are earmarked for girl students. 85 institutes for professional and technical courses have been listed in the scheme; for which full course fee is reimbursed. To be eligible, students should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class.

**Maulana Azad National Fellowship -** Under this scheme fellowships in the form of financial assistance is provided to students from minority communities to pursue their higher studies such as M.Phil. and Ph.D. 30% fellowships is earmarked for girl/women under the scheme.

**Free Coaching & Allied Scheme -** Under this scheme free coaching is provided to students belonging to the minority communities for qualifying in entrance examinations for admission in technical/ professional courses such as engineering, law, medical, management, information technology etc. and various Competitive examinations for recruitment to Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' services in Central and State Governments including public sector undertakings, banks, Railways etc. 30% seats is earmarked for girl/women under the scheme.

**Padho Pardes- Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for overseas studies -** The objective of the scheme is to award interest subsidy to meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections of notified minority communities so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education abroad and enhance their employability. There is 35% earmarking for girl/women students.

**Nai Udaan -** Support to minority candidates clearing Prelims conducted by UPSC/SSC, State Public Service Commission (PSC). - Scheme is to provide financial support to the minority candidates clearing prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission and State Public Service Commissions for preparation of their mains exams.

**Nai Manzil -** a comprehensive education and skill development scheme for youth belonging to notified Minority Communities aged between 17 to 35 years. The design of the scheme is to support productive employment among Minority youth who do not possess a formal education certification for Class VIII or X. The objective of the Nai Manzil scheme is to improve completion of secondary education and market-driven skills training for targeted youth from Minority communities. Under the Nai Manzil scheme, 30% of the beneficiary seats are earmarked for girl / women candidates.

The details of the various schemes of the Ministry are available on its website i.e. [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in).

(e) Ministry of Minority Affairs has been implementing a scheme called "Nai - Roshni- the scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women with an aim to empower and instill confidence in women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and intermediaries at all levels. The scheme is implemented through the selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) all over the country. State-wise number of women trained under the scheme during last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) is implementing Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship for girls belonging to minorities. Under this



scheme scholarship is provided to girls students for classes 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th. The eligible girls may apply online. The State-wise beneficiaries during the

last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-II. The details of the said scheme is available on the website for MAEF i.e. [www.maef.nic.in](http://www.maef.nic.in).

**Statement – I***No. of Trainees Covered Under Nai Roshni Scheme*

Sr. No.	States	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
		Trainees Covered	Trainees Covered	Trainees Covered
1.	Andhra Pradesh	725	750	• 850
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	125
3.	Assam	5250	3500	2775
4.	Bihar	1675	1000	1825
5.	Chattisgarh	575	375	175
6.	Delhi	0	750	1150
7.	Gujarat	575	0	175
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	550
9.	Jharkhand	1575	500	1225
10.	Karnataka	1850	1900	1225
11.	Kerala	2325	750	350
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5450	7375	4050
13.	Maharashtra	550	0	425
14.	Manipur	575	0	0
15.	Meghalaya			125
16.	Odisha	1650	1125	475
17.	Punjab	0	250	300
18.	Rajasthan	1725	1500	1350
19.	Sikkim	0	0	175
20.	Telangana	0	250	425
21.	Tamil Nadu	875	1000	650
22.	Uttar Pradesh	31225	45975	27825
23.	Uttarakhand	1175	1500	1075
24.	West Bengal	950	625	175

**Statement – II***No. of Beneficiaries of Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship implemented by MAEF*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Total for 3 Years (₹ In lakh)
		No. of Girls	No. of Girls	No. of Girls	No. of Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	2	9	0	11
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1388	601	2299	4288
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	15	1	18
4.	Assam	2332	1136	1850	5318
5.	Bihar	4514	1109	8280	13903
6.	Chandigarh	9	1	1	11
7.	Chattisgarh	18	10	12	40
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	1	0	1
9.	Delhi	552	434	188	1174
10.	Goa	10	3	1	14
11.	Gujarat	1570	318	3096	4984
12.	Haryana	32	16	44	92
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2	3	8	13
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	466	931	807	2204
15.	Jharkhand	1109	514	1247	2870
16.	Karnataka	2729	4367	25139	32235
17.	Kerala	6827	5944	20534	33305
18.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	1
19.	Madhya Pradesh	1062	372	3686	5120
20.	Maharashtra	4001	4090	8383	16474
21.	Manipur	62	100	248	410
22.	Meghalaya	170	8	0	178
23.	Mizoram	1	0	0	1
24.	Nagaland	2	26	2	30
25.	Odisha	301	171	691	1163
26.	Puduchery	16	39	5	60
27.	Punjab	250	129	44	423

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Rajasthan	1343	794	15	2152
29.	Tamil Nadu	4077	961	3153	8191
30.	Telangana	891	2385	5696	8972
31.	Tripura	1	3	19	23
32.	Uttar Pradesh	11181	7979	26045	45205
33.	Uttarakhand	433	319	530	1282
34.	West Bengal	2647	693	2070	5410
TOTAL		48000	33482	114094	195576

[Translation]

### Training to Officers

1277. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tradition of imparting training to the officers and staff is quite weak which impacts their working;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government plans to adopt quality training system for officers and employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In order to achieve the objective of developing a professional, impartial and efficient civil service, responsive to the needs of the citizens, the Government has already adopted quality training system for its officers & employees. The training is being imparted to Government employees not only at induction stage but at different intervals in the course of

their careers to equip them with the competencies for their current or future jobs. Government has also been funding the induction training programmes of State Governments for its employees and providing support for augmenting infrastructure of State Administrative Training Institutes.

[English]

### Extradition of Financial Defaulters

1278. PROF. K V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians living abroad who have been involved in financial irregularities with the banks as well as who are under criminal investigation; and

(b) the steps being taken for the extradition of these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN (VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD))]: (a) Ministry of External Affairs, not being the original repository of information requested in (a), and the same has been obtained from the primary investigating agencies namely CBI and Enforcement Directorate (ED).

According to the information provided by the CBI, the number of Indians involved in financial irregularities with the banks as well as who are under criminal investigation (who are living abroad/fled abroad) during the last three years i.e. 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 (up to 30 June 2018) are as follows: (i) Shri Pushpesh Baid (ii) Shri Ashish Jobanputra (iii) Shri Vijay Mallya (iv) Shri Sunny Kalra (v) Smt. Aarti Kalra (vi) Shri Sanjay

Kalra (vii) Smt. Varsha Kalra (viii) Shri Sudhir Kumar Kalra (ix) Shri Jatin Mehta (x) Shri Umesh Parekh (xi) Shri Kamlesh Parekh (xii) Shri Nillesh Parekh (xiii) Shri Vinay Mittal (xiv) Shri Eklavya Garg (xv) Shri Chetan Jayantilal Sandesara (xvi) Shri Nitin Jayantilal Sandesara (xvii) Smt. Diptiben Chetankumar Sandesara (xviii) Shri Nirav Modi (xix) Shri Neeshal Modi (xx) Shri Mehul Choksi (xxi) Shri Sabya Seth (xxii) Shri Rajiv Goyal (xxiii) Smt. Alka Goyal (Total 23)

Enforcement Directorate has provided a list of names of Indians living abroad who have been involved in financial irregularities with the banks as well as who are under criminal investigation, which are as follows: (i) Shri Vijay Mallya (ii) Shri Jatin Mehta (iii) Shri Lalit Modi (iv) Shri Nirav Modi (v) Shri Mehul Choksi (vi) Shri Ritesh Jain (vii) Shri Nitin Jayantilal Sandesara (viii) Shri Chetan Jayantilal Sandesara (ix) Smt. Dipti Chetan Sandesara (x) Shri Hitesh Narendrabhai Patel (xi) Smt. Mayuriben Patel (xii) Shri Ashish Suresh Bhai and (xiii) Mrs. Priti Ashish Jobanputra. (Total 13)

It may be noted that eight persons feature on both the list.

(b) Efforts are being made for securing presence of these accused in the country by way of issuance of LOC, RCN and Extradition requests.

The Government has decided to introduce the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018 in Parliament. However, since both the Houses were prorogued on 6th April, 2018, the Bill could not be considered and passed by the Parliament. As Parliament was not in session and an urgent legislation was required to be made, the President promulgated the Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No.1 of 2018) on 21 April, 2018. The Ordinance, inter-alia, provides for expeditious confiscation of proceeds of crime and properties or benami property owned by a fugitive economic offender in India or abroad with a view to make him submit to the jurisdiction of Courts in India.

The Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018 was passed by Lok Sabha on 10 July 2018.

#### **Assistance for Development Programme**

1279. SHRI BALBHADRA MAJHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to continue central assistance for the area Specific Development

Programmes like special plan for KBK, Backward Region Development Grant Fund and Integrated Action Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures taken for the development of such areas/regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Consequent upon the implementation of the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, the schemes under the special plan for KBK, Backward Region Development Grant Fund (BRGF) and Integrated Action Plan became a part of devolution to the States. Accordingly, no new scheme has been launched by the Central Government since 2015-16 for the States. As per the recommendation of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, share of States in the net proceeds of the Union taxes has been significantly enhanced to 42% from 32%. This would enhance the availability of funds with the States for undertaking areas specified development programmes. However, against the balance fund of erstwhile BRGF scheme, the Government of India has released funds for Special Assistance to Odisha for KBK districts, and to Bihar and West Bengal for State Component of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) from 2015-16 to 2017-18 which are as under:

State	Special Assistance to the States from the Balance Fund (₹ crore)		
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Odisha	132.07	367.93	0
Bihar	1887.53	1329.35	3414
West Bengal	836.77	0	0

#### **SSC Paper Leak**

1280. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of leakage of Staff Selection Commission (SSC) examination papers are increasing day-by-day in all over the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the examination paper with answers are found to be available on computer screen for some students and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that students who have cleared the examination criteria would not be given appointment letter by SSC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No Madam. During the conduct of Combined Graduate Level (Tier-II) Examination, 2017 in February-March, 2018, there were some allegations of cheating and leakage of Answer Keys of some Questions of Paper-I on 21.02.2018.

In order to maintain the sanctity of examination, SSC cancelled the examination and re-examination was conducted on March 09, 2018. Further, with the aim to reaffirm the faith of candidates in examination process of SSC, the Government on the recommendation of SSC has requested CBI to enquire into the allegations.

(c) to (e) The Staff Selection Commission (SSC) conducts examinations for various Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted), Group 'C' (Non- Technical) and Group 'B' (Gazetted) posts of Assistant Accounts Officer and Assistant Audit Officer in the Indian Audit & Accounts Department, for the Government of India.

Based on the merit-list(s) prepared by the SSC for various examinations conducted by it, the SSC recommends candidates for various posts to the concerned User Ministries/ Department(s) as per vacancies indicated by them. Thereafter, the User Ministries/ Department(s), exercise due diligence and after conducting the necessary verification, issue the Offers of Appointments to the bonafide recommended candidates.

*[Translation]*

### **Law University**

1281. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of Law Universities and Colleges located in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to establish more Law Universities in the country, location-wise;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which they are likely to be established; and

(e) whether the Government also proposes to establish them in Tonk and Sawai Madhopur district of Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

### **Jobless IT Graduates**

1282 SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that B.Tech graduates are not fit for hiring by the IT firms due to skill shortages;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any report regarding the issue;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaint regarding learnability and the skill development deficiency therein; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to tackle the problems of unemployment of the engineers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a), to (c) The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has indicated that shortage of skilled

talent in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) sector persists in India.

The Indian IT Industry is increasingly looking at new skill-sets and subject matter experts to continue on the evolution growth path. New job roles in areas such as Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, Data Science, Mobile App development, etc. are evolving, which is giving rise to a new breed of domain experts. New job roles requiring different skill-sets are appearing and earlier jobs based on older skill-sets are losing their relevance.

(d) Government has taken several measures to bridge the skill gaps required by IT sector which includes the following :-

- MeitY has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NASSCOM, to collaborate and strengthen their cooperation in the field of skill development particularly with respect to the re-skilling and up-skilling imperative in areas of new and emerging technologies, with Government acting as an enabler/facilitator. The content of collaboration includes enabling a Skill Development and Continuous Learning Framework whereby, NASSCOM shall endeavour to support MeitY by making available its skill development initiatives that focus on content, evangelism and industry connects, to enable the re-skilling and up-skilling imperative for the Information Technology - Business Process Management (IT-BPM) Industry and related stakeholders in India.
- NASSCOM has launched a future skills platform for Business to Business (B2B) skilling of company sponsored IT professionals (<http://mtureskills.nasscom.in/>).
- AICTE's SWAYAM and MHRD's NPTEL are made available to educate individuals across legacy and new-age technologies such as Cloud computing, Data Science/ Big Data and Analytics etc.
- In addition, various measures have been taken by the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC),

autonomous Scientific Societies of MeitY for enhancing the employability of engineering graduates which are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

#### 1. National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)

- NIELIT has signed an MoU with AICTE under their Employability Enhancement Training Programme (EETP), which aims to help produce engineering graduates adequately equipped with required skills to achieve the highest personal and professional standards by means of intensive hands-on training to enable the Indian technical expertise globally acceptable.
- NIELIT caters to provide the formal and non-formal education for the youths of the country through array of skill development programmes upto NSQF level 8 in IT-ITeS & Electronic Sector. To provide additional skills to the engineering graduates, NIELIT offers following specialised/skill development programmes in the field of IT & Electronics having eligibility criteria as B.Tech/ pursuing B.Tech.:
  - Certificate course in EMI and EMC for Electronic Product Design
  - PG Diploma in IOT
  - PG Diploma in VLSI & Embedded Hardware Design
  - PG Diploma in Industrial Automation System Design
  - Certificate programme on system Verilog and UVM
  - PG Diploma in Embedded Real Time Systems
  - PG Diploma in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing
  - Advanced Diploma in VLSI Physical Design Engineer
  - PG Diploma in Embedded System Design
  - Certificate Course in Cyber Forensic

- PG Diploma in Cloud Computing
- PG Diploma in IoT and AI for Industry 4.0
- Advanced Diploma in Big Data Analytics
- Advanced Diploma in Artificial Intelligence (AI)

2. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)

- CDAC offers IT skills enhancement courses curriculum programmes which are available to the B.Tech students to make them Industry ready. Every year over 10,000 students apply for the C-DAC PG Diploma courses oriented towards IT Industry requirements to enhance the programming and advanced technical skills.
- In the last four years CDAC provided training to over 21,423 students in eleven Post Graduate Diploma Courses (NSQF level 8) through a network of over 30 training centres located in pan India.
- C-DAC has taken the initiative to provide the finishing training to unemployed engineers to provide the advance technical training thorough its Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced ICTE areas such as:
  - PG Diploma in Advanced Computing (PG-DAC)
  - PG Diploma in Mobile Computing (PG-DMC)
  - PG Diploma in Embedded Systems Design (PG-DESD)
  - PG Diploma in IT Infrastructure, Systems & Security (PG-DITISS)
  - PG Diploma in System Software Development (PG-DSSD)
  - PG Diploma in Big Data Analytics (PG-DBDA)
  - PG Diploma in Internet of Things (PG-DIoT)
  - PG Diploma in VLSI Design (PG-DVLSI)
  - PG Diploma in HPC System Administration (PG-DHPCSA)

- PG Diploma in Biomedical Instrumentation & Health Informatics (PG-DBIHI)
- PG Diploma in Geoinformatics (PG-DGi)

**Power of She Initiative**

1283. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the "Power of She" initiative undertaken by the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT);

(b) whether the Ministry has set targets under the above mentioned initiative; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), an autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), undertook an initiative "Saksham - Power of She" which was aimed at encouraging entrepreneurship among women under 'Digital India'. Under this initiative, an event was organised on July 19, 2017, in which over 200 female students from NIELIT Centres at Chandigarh, Guwahati, Patna, Ajmer and Srinagar participated through the Smart Virtual Classrooms over Video Conference. These students were sensitized and encouraged to take up entrepreneurship development as a viable alternative to seeking job as a career by a panel of experts comprising mainly of women entrepreneurs.

(b) and (c) The above initiative was an independent activity taken up by NIELIT and no specific targets for the same were set by MeitY.

**Average Rainfall**

1284. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the average rainfall has decreased in the country;

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

(c) the strategies and means his Ministry is using to measure and predict the rainfall?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) No Madam. The average rainfall of the country has not shown any significant decrease, considering the rainfall data for the period from 1901 to 2017.

(b) By the analysis of past data of more than 100 years, it has been reported by several scientists including IMD scientists that All India rainfall has multi decadal/epochal variability and currently it is in dry epoch. Analyzing past 117 years (1901-2017) data, it has been found that the all India Southwest monsoon seasonal rainfall as well as annual rainfall has no significant increasing/decreasing trend. However, if the period 1951-2017 is considered, it has been found that all India SW monsoon as well as annual rainfall has significant decreasing trend. The reason behind is that the initial decade i.e. 1951-1960 was a wet epoch and there after dry epoch has started. Whereas, during the period 1901-2017, initial few decades were dry epochs, then wet epochs again followed by dry epoch and as a result there was no significant decreasing trend.

(c) The monsoon related forecasts are prepared by the Climate Prediction group and are issued from the office of Climate Research and Services, IMD Pune. The tentative schedule for issuing various operational forecasts for rainfall from this centre in tabular form is given in the enclosed Statement.

IMD uses State of the art statistical models developed through in house research and development work for monsoon related forecasting work. During the period from 1988 to 2002, operational forecast for monsoon seasonal rainfall over for the country as a whole was based on 16 parameter power regression and parametric models. During 2003 to 2006, the operational forecast was issued using the 8 and 10 parameter models based on power regression and probabilistic discriminant analysis techniques. From 2007 onwards, a new Statistical Ensemble Forecasting System (SEFS) based on the ensemble technique is being used for seasonal rainfall forecast for the country as a whole. The use of ensemble forecasting system has resulted in bringing down the average absolute forecast error to 5.95% of Long Period Average (LPA) as compared to its value of 8.56% of LPA prior to its implementation.

From 2017 onwards, IMD started using State of the art dynamical forecasting system along with statistical models for the generation of operational monsoon forecasts. This model was developed under the first phase of National Monsoon Mission (NMM) project of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) with the objective to have a State of the art dynamical prediction system for the monsoon rainfall in different time scales. The advanced dynamical prediction systems are now being used for Seasonal prediction (mainly for SW monsoon season of June to September); Extended range weather prediction (for next 20 days) and Short and Medium range weather prediction (up to 10 days).

#### **Statement**

##### *Tentative Schedule for Issuing Various Operational Forecasts for Rainfall*

Sr. No	Forecast for	Region for which forecast issued	Issued in
1.	SW Monsoon Season (June to September) Rainfall	Country as a whole	April
2.	SW Monsoon Season (June to September) Rainfall	Country as a whole	June
3.	South-West Monsoon Onset	Kerala	May
4.	SW Monsoon Season (June to September) Rainfall	Four broad geographical regions: Northwest India, Northeast India, Central India and South Peninsula	June



Sr. No	Forecast for	Region for which forecast issued	Issued in
5.	SW Monsoon Monthly Rainfall for July and August	Country as a whole	June
6.	SW Monsoon Second half of the Season (August-September) Rainfall	Country as a whole	July
7.	September Rainfall	Country as a whole	August
8.	NE Monsoon Season (October to December) Rainfall	South Peninsula	September

*Translation]*

#### **Opening of New Rake Points for Fertilizers**

1285. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open new rake points for fertilizers at Obedullaganj (distt. Raisen), Singrauli (distt. Singraulli) Bargava, Damon, Narsinghpur and Budni; and

(b) if so, the time by which these rake points are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam. Development of a full rake goods shed has already been sanctioned at Obaidullaganj station along with ongoing 3rd line work on Itarsi-Habibganj section over Bhopal division. Singraulli, Bargawan, Damoh and Narsinghpur stations are already open for fertilizer loading/unloading. A private freight terminal has already been commissioned near Budni.

(b) As mentioned above except Obaidullaganj, which at present is a part of another project, rest of the above mentioned stations have already been opened.

*[English]*

#### **Prevention of Corruption Act**

1286. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA) is slowing down decision making as it does not confine corruption to bribery or dishonest behaviour;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has set up a high level group to study the clauses of the aforesaid Act which are responsible for delaying the decision making and if so, the findings thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government is considering amendment in the PCA to ensure that bonafide decisions that subsequently turn wrong are not treated as acts of corruption; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) The provision of section 13(I)(d)(iii) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 as it presently exists is as follows:

"13. Criminal misconduct by a public servant.

(1) A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct,

.....

(d) if he,---

.....

(iii) while holding office as a public servant, obtains for any person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage without any public interest;....."

The aforesaid provision does not carry the element of mens rea and thus does not confine such type of corruption to bribing of a public servant or any dishonest behavior by him. This raises apprehensions and fears in the mind of public servant which prima facie have the potential of impeding and slowing down decision making.

The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013, for amending the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 19.08.2013. The Bill after having been considered by the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its 69th Report and the Law Commission of India in its 254th Report, was also examined by the Select Committee of Rajya Sabha, which submitted its report on the Bill to the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 2016.

Recommendations made by the Select Committee in its report on the Bill were considered by the Government and official amendments were moved on the Bill as reported by the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha.

The Bill was taken up for discussion and passed by the Rajya Sabha on 19th July, 2018 during its current 246th Session. Further, it was taken up for discussion and passed by the Lok Sabha on 24th July, 2018 during its current 15th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha.

*[Translation]*

**Construction of Railway Lines in  
Naxalite Affected Areas**

1287. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for the release of 50% of the total amount to be spent in

the construction work of railway lines in naxalite affected areas of the country particularly in Wadsa-Gadchiroli and Nagpur-Nagbhid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard till date;

(d) the reasons for delay in releasing 50% amount by the Government for the construction work of the said railway lines in naxalite affected areas; and

(e) the time by which this proposal is likely to be given a final shape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes Madam. State Government has agreed to share 50% cost of both the projects viz Wadsa-Gadchiroli and Nagpur-Nagbhid new rail line project.

Wadsa-Gadchiroli new line project (52.36Km) was sanctioned in 2011-12. Work of Wadsa yard remodeling part of Wadsa-Gadchiroli project has been commissioned in July 2017. Further, land acquisition has been taken up by State Government.

Nagpur-Nagbhir gauge conversion project (116.15 Km) was included in Budget 2013-14 subject to obtaining of requisite clearances of the Government. The project has been shortlisted in the Board of Directors' meeting of Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Ltd for taking up the study cum viability assessment.

(d) The funds to the project are allocated yearly on the basis of progress of work.

(e) Every Railway project requires a number of clearances from various Ministries and Departments of State/Central Governments. These, inter-alia, include clearances inherent to land acquisition, forestry clearance, permission for crossing and shifting of utilities etc. which are part of project execution. Process of seeking the approvals/clearances and land acquisition are some of the main factors that affect the pace of completion of the projects. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix time frame for completion of the project.

**C-Vigil App**

1288. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to bring C-vigil app to the knowledge of maximum number of people;

(b) whether any person can individually inform the Election Commission during election times about any illegal activities in the form of photos, videos and hate speeches; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Installation of CCTV at Stations**

1289. SHRIMATI BHAVANA GAWALI (PATIL):

SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CCTV cameras installed at the railway stations during the last three years and the current year, zone-wise;

(b) the number of CCTV cameras likely to be installed in the next financial year;

(c) whether crimes taking place in the trains and at the railway stations have gone up or declined in the last three years;

(d) if so, the details of such registered cases and the number of cases which have been solved or on which action has been taken during the said period, zone-wise; and

(e) the details of the steps taken by Railways for the safety of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Zone-wise position of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras installed during the last three years and the current year (upto June 2018) is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) CCTV cameras are proposed to be installed progressively at all stations except halt stations and passenger carrying coaches except General Coaches subject to availability of funds.

(c) As per data provided by Government Railway Police (GRP), registration of cases relating to crime in trains and at stations is on rising trend during the last three years.

(d) Zone-wise position of number of cases registered in trains and at the railway stations during the year 2015, 2016 and 2017 over Indian Railways is enclosed as Statement-II. It is pertinent to mention that registration of First Information Report (FIR) and their investigation relating to crime occurring in railway station premises as well as in running trains are the statutory responsibility of State Governments, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Once a case is registered under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and other relevant laws, follow up action is accordingly taken up by concerned GRP thana for investigation and detection of crime, arrest of accused persons and filing of chargesheet in the court of law. Accordingly, after registration of crime, cases remain under different stages of investigation and prosecution within the territorial jurisdiction of respective States.

(e) Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of GRPs of respective States to strengthen security across Indian Railways. Measures initiated by RPF to strengthen security include escorting of 2500 trains (on an average daily), in addition to escorting of 2200 such trains by GRP, access control at important stations, operationalisation of Security Help Line number 182, surveillance through CCTV cameras provided at 436 stations, prosecution of offenders under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989, security of women passengers and rescue of children, etc. Regular coordination is being maintained with the State Police/GRP authorities at all levels. In addition, State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/ Commissioner of States/ Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements for the Railways.

**Statement – I**

*Zone-Wise Details of the CCTV Cameras Installed During the Year 2015 to 2018 (up to June) are as Under:*

Zone/Year	Number of CCTV camera installed			
	2015	2016	2017	2018 (Up to June)
Central Railway	679	2076	72	Nil
Eastern Railway	Nil	Nil	325	261
East Central Railway	Nil	Nil	Nil	272
East Coast Railway	101	55	48	Nil
North Central Railway	58	100	237	50
North Eastern Railways	Nil	72	55	39
Northeast Frontier Railway	Nil	23	Nil	8
North Western Railway	Nil	Nil	22	24
Northern Railway	29	27	20	271
South Central Railway	Nil	2	1	Nil
South Eastern Railway	74	158	Nil	Nil
South East Central Railway	15	34	174	8
Southern Railway	Nil	93	116	Nil
South Western Railway	Nil	Nil	Nil	33
West Central Railway	Nil	Nil	Nil	75
Western Railway	1066	240	153	Nil
<b>Total Cameras</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2880</b>	<b>1223</b>	<b>1041</b>

**Statement – II**

*The Railway Zone-Wise Number of Cases Registered in Trains and at the Railway Stations During the Years 2015, 2016 and 2017:*

Zonal Railway	No. of cases of crime against passengers in trains registered			No. of cases of crime against passengers at stations registered		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Central	2863	2948	8721	2797	2906	13249
Eastern	663	611	831	285	317	359
East Central	907	1340	951	295	221	289
East Coast	470	574	569	125	126	161
Northern	3701	4011	3737	2767	2855	2758

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North Central		928	956	1291	82	88	82
North Eastern		457	532	499	73	59	97
Northeast Frontier		168	251	283	37	69	54
North Western		497	435	465	129	154	185
Southern		691	625	1472	244	227	671
South Central		1664	1728	2527	249	318	341
South Eastern		306	485	447	70	65	117
South East Central		517	568	879	117	191	537
South Western		382	492	546	38	61	62
Western		2012	1901	4373	1013	1135	7931
West Central		1449	1334	1517	475	583	732

[English]

### **Social Network Platforms**

1290. SHRI GOPALAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that many foreign based social network platforms are existing in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to regulate foreign based social network platforms;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government intends to make it mandatory for them to install main frame servers within the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) Yes, Madam

(b) and (c) Government is committed to freedom of speech and expression and privacy of its citizens as enshrined in the constitution of India. Government does not regulate content appearing on social network platform. These social network platforms, though, are required to follow due diligence as provided in section 79 of the Information Technology Act 2000 and the

Rules notified therein. They have also to follow Article 19(2) of the Constitution and ensure that platforms are not used to commit and provoke terrorisms, extremism and violence and crime.

(d) and (e) Presently there is no such proposal with the Government.

### **Bengaluru Cantonment-Whitefield Railway Line**

1291. SHRI P. C. MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has sanctioned any amount for quadrupling of the Bengaluru Cantonment-Whitefield railway line which is pending for over last 20 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned for the same;

(c) whether the required land has been acquired by the Railways and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Railways is considering additional trains on the Baiyappanahalli-Whitefield route due to the traffic snarls faced by the commuters due to metro-work; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Bangalore City - Krishnarajapuram - Whitefield

Quadrupling project (23.08 Km) was included in the Budget 1997-98, could not be taken forward as requisite clearances for the project could not be obtained. Priority of the project receded due to severe constraint in land availability expressed by the State Government and project section being covered under Commuter Rail System for Bangalore. However, in view of oversaturation of the project section and difficulty in getting land on Bangalore City-Bangalore Cantonment section, Bangalore Cantonment-Krishnarajapuram-Whitefield 3rd & 4th line has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 492.87 crore in March, 2018. An outlay of ₹ 6 crore has been provided during 2018-19.

(c) Total land requirement is 4270 sqm. However, no land is acquired.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. In order to facilitate passengers of Baiyappanahalli-Whitefield sector, two pairs of EMU special trains viz. 06593/06594 Baiyappanahalli-Whitefield MEMU and 06567/06568 Baiyappanahalli-Whitefield MEMU have been operated. These are in addition to already existing services on this sector.

*[Translation]*

#### **Hindi as Language of Higher Judiciary**

1292. SHRIMATI NEELAM SONKER:

SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH  
DWIVEDI

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has formulated any policy to authorise the lawyers to plead in Hindi in the Supreme Court and in Hindi and other regional languages in High Courts and to get justice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for English being the language of pleading for providing justice in the Supreme Court and High Courts in the country even after so many years of independence;

(d) the number of States where Hindi and other regional languages are the language for argument and judicial process; and

(e) the number of States where English is still the language of argument and justice in the High Courts despite regional language being more enriched than English?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and High Courts shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides. Parliament has not made any law in this regard. Therefore, English continues to be the language for all proceedings of the Supreme Court. However, the Government in accordance with the provisions of Article 348 (2), and in consultation with the Supreme Court, has authorized use of Hindi in the proceedings of four High Courts namely, Patna High Court, Allahabad High Court, Madhya Pradesh High Court and Rajasthan High Court.

The 18th Law Commission of India in its 216th Report on "Non-feasibility of introduction of Hindi as compulsory language in the Supreme Court of India" (2008) has, after detailed discussions with all stakeholders, inter-alia, recommended that at any rate no language should be thrust upon the Judges of the higher judiciary and they should be left free to deliver their judgment in the language they prefer.

In accordance with the decision of the Cabinet Committee dated 21.05.1965, the Chief Justice of India is consulted before obtaining the consent of the President on any proposal relating to introduction of regional languages in the Supreme Court/ High Courts. The Chief Justice of India, had informed on 18.01.2016 that the Full Court, after extensive deliberations, disapproved the proposals relating to introduction of regional languages in the Supreme Court/High Courts and reiterated the Resolution which was adopted on 7th May, 1997, and was reiterated on 15th December, 1999, and on 11th October, 2012.

Therefore, the matter of introduction of regional languages in the Supreme Court and High Courts is left to the judiciary as it is the best judge to decide if the time is ripe to take the step in that direction. Once the Government receives the consent of judiciary in this

regard, further action, as appropriate, at the level of the Central Government and State Governments can be taken.

[English]

#### **Eminent Persons Group**

1293. KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on Nepal-India relations have agreed to update all the bilateral treaties and agreements including the crucial Peace and Friendship Treaty signed in 1950 in line with the present reality of both the countries;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the Government of India thereon;

(c) whether the Government of India has since taken any other steps to strengthen its relations including bilateral treaties and agreements with Nepal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) The Eminent Persons Group for Nepal-India Relations (EPG) is yet to submit its report to the Governments of India and Nepal. As per its Terms of Reference, the EPG has to submit its recommendations to the two Governments at the end of its two year term. The EPG has met nine times since July 2016. The last meeting of the EPG was held in Kathmandu from 29-30 June 2018.

(c) and (d) Regular high-level exchanges and meetings of bilateral mechanisms at official level provide opportunities to regularly review bilateral cooperation across diverse sectors and to advance it further for mutual benefit. The reciprocal visits of Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. K.P. Sharma Oli to India in April 2018 and of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Nepal in May 2018 have further strengthened India-Nepal partnership by expanding bilateral ties in areas of mutual interest.

#### **Strategic Rail Lines**

1294. SHRI KAMAL NATH:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

SHRI ANOOP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has since started the process of building strategic railway lines along the international borders including China border;

(b) if so, the details of such strategic railway lines decided to be built by Railways along international borders;

(c) the estimated amount invested so far or likely to be invested in the next few years to build the strategic railway lines;

(d) the time by which the task of building strategic railway lines along China border is likely to be completed;

(e) whether the Railways has proposed to expand its network in the hilly and rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps the Ministry is taking to ensure safe usage of these lines, and monitor infiltration, weapon transport as well as other illegal activities prevalent on the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Defence has identified four strategic lines along India-China border viz. (i) Missamari - Tenga - Tawang (378 Km) (ii) Bilaspur - Manali - Leh (498 Km) (iii) Pasighat - Tezu - Rupai (227 Km) and (iv) North Lakhimpur - Bame (Along)-Silapathar (249 Km). Ministry of Defence has provided funds to Ministry of Railways for carrying out Final Location Survey (FLS) of these four identified strategic lines and Ministry of Railways has taken up these FLS.

(c) and (d) Do not arise as the projects of these lines are not yet sanctioned.

(e) Sanction of New Line Railway projects in hilly and rural areas is based on various factors including

assessment of traffic potential, sharing of cost by Stake holders including State Governments, financial viability, social consideration etc.

(f) Security of tracks and bridges is the responsibility of concerned District Police falling within the territorial jurisdictions of respective States. At the same time, detection of crime and their investigation in station premises and running trains are the statutory responsibility of Government Railway Police (GRP), a wing of State Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF), which functions under the Ministry of Railways, ensures protection and security of Railway property across Indian Railways. Besides, RPF is supplementing efforts of GRPs of concerned States to check illegal activities and to detect passenger related offences in station premises and trains and hand over accused persons to GRPs of respective States for further legal action.

State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/Commissioner of States/UTs for regular monitoring and review of security arrangement for the Railways.

RPF also forms part of 'Multi Agency Center' (MAC) at Central and 'State Multi Agency Center' (SMAC) at State level and based on the inputs shared at MAC/SMAC, necessary preventive measures are taken in coordination with State agencies to strengthen railway infrastructure and to check illegal activities.

#### **Aadhaar Enrolment at Banks and Post Offices**

1295. SHRI. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start Aadhaar enrolment at banks and post offices;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the infrastructure to enable them to collect biometric data;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the modalities finalised by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) Department of Posts has set up Aadhaar enrolment centres in 13,261 designated post offices across the country. Banks have also set up 12/436 Aadhaar enrolment centres as on date. The objective of these Centres is to provide the convenience of Aadhaar enrolment and updation facilities to the residents.

(c) Yes Madam.

(d) ₹ 176.28 Crore has been spent by Department of Posts in Financial Year 2017-18, for setting up the required infrastructure at its centres.

(e) All the identified post offices and one out of every ten bank branches have been mandated to have Aadhaar Enrolment cum Updation facilities. The modalities prescribed by UIDAI are:- capturing biometric details like facial image, finger prints and iris scan. For Aadhaar Updation, demographic updates like Name, Age, Address, Date of Birth, Email ID & Mobile number are also taken.

#### **Modification in Passport Rules**

1296. SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any modifications in the rules related to passport applications in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by the Government in view of recent incident in which an inter faith couple was asked to produce their marriage certificate; and

(d) whether the Government endorse such action and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) Yes. The Ministry has eased the passport issuing process and has made it an online procedure including getting appointments for submission of documents for passports. Effective technical infrastructure is in place to ensure that the Passport Seva system is available for access at all



times from any location. The Passport Portal ([www.passportindia.gov.in](http://www.passportindia.gov.in)) is accessible to anyone, anywhere and anytime. With a view to address the challenge of digital divide, especially in the rural hinterland, the Ministry in association with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (which is promoted by the Department of Electronics and IT), has facilitated online filing of passport applications, through the vast network of Common Service Centres (CSCs) across rural hinterland.

An applicant can now apply for a passport from anywhere in India. But Police verification would be conducted by the Police

Station in whose jurisdiction the address mentioned in the form falls and the passport will also be dispatched at the same address.

mPassport Seva mobile app launched on 26.06.2018 enables to apply, pay and schedule appointments for passport services. This App is available in Android and iOS platforms. It also provides passport related information including PSK and POPSK locator, applicable fees, mode of submission, and tracking of passport application status on smart phones. Citizens would not require access to a computer and printer to apply for passport services.

Securing online appointments for submission of passport applications at PSK/ POPSK has been simplified. The current provision is allowing applicants to choose any appointment date from the earliest five available dates (working days) for scheduling/rescheduling an appointment for passport related services. Earlier, the System used to offer only one available date to the applicant for seeking appointment for passport related services.

The Ministry has expanded the outreach by opening PSK and POPSK. At present, 93 PSKs and 215 POPSKs are operating across the country as extended arms of the 36 Passport Offices.

The passport rules have also been simplified to make it easier for the citizens to get passports. This is given in the enclosed Statement .

(c) Passports have been granted to the inter faith couple.

(d) The matter was examined in the Ministry and it was found that granting of passports to the inter faith couple in question was in order.

### **Statement**

#### *Simplification of Passport Rules*

In order to streamline, liberalize and ease the process of issue of passport, the Ministry of External Affairs has taken a number of steps in the realm of passport policy to ease the process of issue of passports. The details of these steps are given below:-

#### A. Documents in support of proof of Date of Birth

As per the extant statutory provisions of the Passport Rules, 1980, all the applicants born on or after 26/01/1989, in order to get a passport, had to, hitherto, mandatorily submit the Birth Certificate as the proof of Date of Birth (DOB). It has now been decided that all applicants of passports can submit any one of the following documents as the proof of DOB while submitting the passport application:

- (i) Birth Certificate (BC) issued by the Registrar of Births & Deaths or the Municipal Corporation or any other prescribed authority whosoever has been empowered under the Registration of Birth & Deaths Act, 1969 to register the birth of a child born in India;
- (ii) Transfer/School leaving/Matriculation Certificate issued by the school last attended/recognized educational board containing the DOB of the applicant;
- (iii) PAN Card issued by the Income Tax Department with the DOB of applicant;
- (iv) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar having the DOB of applicant;
- (v) Copy of the extract of the service record of the applicant (only in respect of Government servants) or the Pay Pension Order (in respect of retired Government Servants), duly attested/certified by the officer/in-charge of the Administration of the concerned Ministry/Department of the applicant, having his DOB;

- (vi) Driving license issued by the Transport Department of concerned State Government, having the DOB of applicant;
- (vii) Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India having the DOB of applicant;
- (viii) Policy Bond issued by the Public Life Insurance Corporations/Companies having the DOB of the holder of the insurance policy.

**B. Other Changes:**

- (i) The online passport application form now requires the applicant to provide the name of father or mother or legal guardian, i.e., only one parent and not both. This would enable single parents to apply for passports for their children and to also issue passports where the name of either the father or the mother is not required to be printed at the request of the applicant.
- (ii) The total number of Annexes prescribed in the Passport Rule, 1980, has been reduced to 9 from the present 15. Annexes A, C, D, E, J, and K have been removed and certain Annexes have been merged.
- (iii) All the annexes that are required to be given by the applicants would be in the form of a self declaration on a plain paper. No attestation/swearing by/ before any Notary/ Executive Magistrate/ First Class Judicial Magistrate would be henceforth necessary.
- (iv) Married applicants would not be required to provide the erstwhile Annexure K or any marriage certificate.
- (v) The passport application form does not require the applicant to provide the name of her/his spouse in case of separated or divorced persons. Such applicants for passports would not be required to provide even the Divorce Decree.
- (vi) In case of children not born out of wedlock, the applicant for the passport of such children should submit only extant Annexure C while submitting the passport application.
- (vii) In case of issue of passport to in-country domestically adopted children, submission of the registered adoption deed would no longer be required. In the absence of any deed to this effect, the passport applicant may give a declaration on a plain paper confirming the adoption.
- (viii) Government servants, who are not able to obtain the Identity Certificate (extant Annexure-A)/ No-Objection Certificate (extant Annexure-G) from their concerned employer and intend to get the passport on urgent basis can now get the passport by submitting a self-declaration in extant Annexure-'H' that he/she has given prior Intimation Letter to his/her employer informing that he/she was applying for an ordinary passport to a Passport Issuing Authority.
- (ix) Sadhus/ Sanyasis can apply for a passport with the name of their spiritual Guru mentioned in the passport application in lieu of their biological parent(s) name(s) subject to their providing of at least one public document such as Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India, PAN card, Aadhaar Card, etc. wherein the name of the Guru has been recorded against the column(s) for parent(s) name(s).
- (x) Orphaned children who do not have any proof of DOB such as Birth Certificate or the Matriculation Certificate or the declaratory Court order, may now submit a declaration given by the Head of the Orphanage/Child Care Home on their official letter head of the organization confirming the DOB of the applicant.
- (xi) An applicant for a passport has to submit any one of the documents as mentioned in (A) above as proof of Date of Birth (DOB) while submitting the passport application. The DOB mentioned in the document would be recorded in the passport. In case there is a discrepancy between the DOB previously recorded in the passport and the new proof of DOB submitted by the applicant, the Passport Issuing Authorities (PIA) have been authorized to consider the explanation of each applicant

seeking change in the DOB (irrespective of the period that would have lapsed after the issue of the passport) to find the genuineness of the claim and if the PIA is satisfied with the claim and with the document(s) submitted by the applicant in support of the claim, the PIA shall accept all such requests made by the applicant to issue the passport with revised DOB.

(xii) Passports can be now obtained under the 'Tatkaal' Scheme without providing the Verification Certificate from a Gazetted Officer, which was required earlier. The documents to be submitted for getting a passport under this Scheme have been notified vide G.S.R. 39(E) dated 18 January, 2018 and O.M. No. VI/401/1/4/2013 dated 23 March 2018 read with O.M. of even number dated 17 April 2018. Applicants may submit minimum three out of the following documents for obtaining passport:

- (a) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar containing the 12 digit Aadhaar number/28-digit Aadhaar Enrolment ID printed on the Aadhaar Enrolment Slip issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- (b) Electors Photo Identify Card (EPIC)
- (c) Service Photo Identity Card issued by State or Central Government, Public Sector Undertaking, local bodies or Public Limited Companies;
- (d) Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Class Certificate;
- (e) Arms License;
- (f) Pension Document such as Ex-servicemen's Pension Book or Pension Payment order, ex-servicemen's widow or dependent Certificate, Old Age pension Order;
- (g) Self-Passport (unrevoked and undamaged);
- (h) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card;
- (i) Bank/Kisan/Post Office Passbook;
- (j) Student Photo Identity Card issued by an Educational Institution; (k) Driving

License (valid and within the jurisdiction of State of submission of applicant);

(l) Birth Certificate issued under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act; and

(m) Ration Card

(xiii) Now Passports can also be obtained under the Normal scheme on out-of-turn post-Police Verification basis without paying any additional fees on the submission of minimum three documents mentioned in para-xii.

### **Passport Simplification**

1297. SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the various measures taken by the Government to simplify the process of obtaining fresh passport; and

(b) the details of simplified process adopted by the Government to renew the passports which are kept pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) The Ministry has eased the passport issuing process and has made it an online procedure including getting appointments for submission of documents for passports. Effective technical infrastructure is in place to ensure that the Passport Seva system is available for access at all times from any location. The Passport Portal ([www.passportindia.gov.in](http://www.passportindia.gov.in)) is accessible to anyone, anywhere and anytime. With a view to address the challenge of digital divide, especially in the rural hinterland, the Ministry in association with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (which is promoted by the Department of Electronics and IT), has facilitated online filing of passport applications, through the vast network of Common Service Centres (CSCs) across rural hinterland.

An applicant can now apply for a passport from anywhere in India. But Police verification would be conducted by the Police Station in whose jurisdiction the address mentioned in the form falls and the passport will also be dispatched at the same address.

mPassport Seva mobile app launched on 26.06.2018 enables to apply, pay and schedule appointments for passport services. This App is available in Android and iOS platforms. It also provides passport related information including PSK and POPSK locator,' applicable fees, mode of submission, and tracking of passport application status on smart phones. Citizens would not require access to a computer and printer to apply for passport services.

Securing online appointments for submission of passport applications at PSK/ POPSK has been simplified. The current provision is allowing applicants to choose any appointment date from the earliest five available dates (working days) for scheduling/rescheduling an appointment for passport related services. Earlier, the System used to offer only one available date to the applicant for seeking appointment for passport related services.

The Ministry has expanded the outreach by opening PSK and POPSK. At present, 93 PSKs and 215 POPSKs are operating across the country as extended arms of the 36 Passport Offices.

The passport rules have also been simplified to make it easier for the citizens to get passports. This is given in the enclosed Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Simplification of Passport Rules*

In order to streamline, liberalize and ease the process of issue of passport, the Ministry of External Affairs has taken a number of steps in the realm of passport policy to ease the process of issue of passports. The details of these steps are given below: -

#### A. Documents in support of proof of Date of Birth

As per the extant statutory provisions of the Passport Rules, 1980, all the applicants born on or after 26/01/1989, in order to get a passport, had to, hitherto, mandatorily submit the Birth Certificate as the proof of Date of Birth (DOB). It has now been decided that all applicants of passports can submit any one of the following documents as the proof of DOB while submitting the passport application:

- (i) Birth Certificate (BC) issued by the Registrar of Births & Deaths or the Municipal Corporation or

any other prescribed authority whosoever has been empowered under the Registration of Birth & Deaths Act, 1969 to register the birth of a child born in India;

- (ii) Transfer/School leaving/Matriculation Certificate issued by the school last attended/recognized educational board containing the DOB of the applicant;
- (iii) PAN Card issued by the Income Tax Department with the DOB of applicant;
- (iv) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar having the DOB of applicant;
- (v) Copy of the extract of the service record of the applicant (only in respect of Government servants) or the Pay Pension Order (in respect of retired Government Servants), duly attested/certified by the officer/in-charge of the Administration of the concerned Ministry/Department of the applicant, having his DOB;
- (vi) Driving license issued by the Transport Department of concerned State Government, having the DOB of applicant;
- (vii) Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India having the DOB of applicant;
- (viii) Policy Bond issued by the Public Life Insurance Corporations/Companies having the DOB of the holder of the insurance policy.

#### B. Other Changes:

- (i) The online passport application form now requires the applicant to provide the name of father or mother or legal guardian, i.e., only one parent and not both. This would enable single parents to apply for passports for their children and to also issue passports where the name of either the father or the mother is not required to be printed at the request of the applicant.
- (ii) The total number of Annexes prescribed in the Passport Rule, 1980, has been reduced to 9 from the present 15. Annexes A, C, D, E, J, and K have been removed and certain Annexes have been merged.

- (iii) All the annexes that are required to be given by the applicants would be in the form of a self declaration on a plain paper. No attestation/swearing by/ before any Notary/ Executive Magistrate/ First Class Judicial Magistrate would be henceforth necessary.
- (iv) Married applicants would not be required to provide the erstwhile Annexure K or any marriage certificate.
- (v) The passport application form does not require the applicant to provide the name of her/his spouse in case of separated or divorced persons. Such applicants for passports would not be required to provide even the Divorce Decree.
- (vi) In case of children not born out of wedlock, the applicant for the passport of such children should submit only extant Annexure C while submitting the passport application.
- (vii) In case of issue of passport to in-country domestically adopted children, submission of the registered adoption deed would no longer be required. In the absence of any deed to this effect, the passport applicant may give a declaration on a plain paper confirming the adoption.
- (viii) Government servants, who are not able to obtain the Identity Certificate (extant Annexure-A)/ No-Objection Certificate (extant Annexure-G) from their concerned employer and intend to get the passport on urgent basis can now get the passport by submitting a self-declaration in extant Annexure-'H' that he/she has given prior Intimation Letter to his/her employer informing that he/she was applying for an ordinary passport to a Passport Issuing Authority.
- (ix) Sadhus/ Sanyasis can apply for a passport with the name of their spiritual Guru mentioned in the passport application in lieu of their biological parent(s) name(s) subject to their providing of at least one public document such as Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) issued by the Election Commission of India, PAN card, Aadhaar Card, etc. wherein the name of the Guru has been recorded against the column(s) for parent(s) name(s).
- (x) Orphaned children who do not have any proof of DOB such as Birth Certificate or the Matriculation Certificate or the declaratory Court order, may now submit a declaration given by the Head of the Orphanage/Child Care Home on their official letter head of the organization confirming the DOB of the applicant.
- (xi) An applicant for a passport has to submit any one of the documents as mentioned in (A) above as proof of Date of Birth (DOB) while submitting the passport application. The DOB mentioned in the document would be recorded in the passport. In case there is a discrepancy between the DOB previously recorded in the passport and the new proof of DOB submitted by the applicant, the Passport Issuing Authorities (PIA) have been authorized to consider the explanation of each applicant seeking change in the DOB (irrespective of the period that would have lapsed after the issue of the passport) to find the genuineness of the claim and if the PIA is satisfied with the claim and with the document(s) submitted by the applicant in support of the claim, the PIA shall accept all such requests made by the applicant to issue the passport with revised DOB.
- (xii) Passports can be now obtained under the 'Tatkaal' Scheme without providing the Verification Certificate from a Gazetted Officer, which was required earlier. The documents to be submitted for getting a passport under this Scheme have been notified vide G.S.R. 39(E) dated 18 January, 2018 and O.M. No. VI/401/1/4/2013 dated 23 March 2018 read with O.M. of even number dated 17 April 2018. Applicants may submit minimum three out of the following documents for obtaining passport:
- (a) Aadhaar Card/e-Aadhaar containing the 12 digit Aadhaar number/28-digit Aadhaar Enrolment ID printed on the Aadhaar Enrolment Slip issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- (b) Electors Photo Identify Card (EPIC)

- (c) Service Photo Identity Card issued by State or Central Government, Public Sector Undertaking, local bodies or Public Limited Companies;
- (d) Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Class Certificate;
- (e) Arms License;
- (f) Pension Document such as Ex-servicemen's Pension Book or Pension Payment order, ex-servicemen's widow or dependent Certificate, Old Age pension Order;
- (g) Self-Passport (unrevoked and undamaged);
- (h) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card;
- (i) Bank/Kisan/Post Office Passbook;
- (j) Student Photo Identity Card issued by an Educational Institution; (k) Driving License (valid and within the jurisdiction of State of submission of applicant);
- (l) Birth Certificate issued under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act; and
- (m) Ration Card
- (xiii) Now Passports can also be obtained under the Normal scheme on out-of-turn post-Police Verification basis without paying any additional fees on the submission of minimum three documents mentioned in para-xii.

[Translation]

### **Pending Railway Projects**

1298. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN:

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN:

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approximately 300 railway projects are pending at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken by the Ministry to expedite these pending railway projects;

(c) whether disappointment over the performance of Railways was expressed in the Urban Mobility India Conference and Expo 2015 mandated by the National Urban Transport Policy (NUTP) and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether as per the Urban Mobility India (UMI), ₹ 3 lakh crore and additional amount of ₹ 1 lakh crore are required for the completion of pending projects and doubling of railway tracks respectively; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to mobilise funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) At present, 500 Railway projects including 180 New Lines, 57 Gauge Conversion and 263 Doubling Projects are In different stage of execution. The completion of Railway projects requires clearances from various departments of State Government and Central Ministries like acquisition of land, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life, shifting of utilities etc. leading to delay in completion of projects. For timely completion of the projects, Railway is holding regular meetings with State Government and concerned Central Government officials on various issues involving alignment, land acquisition, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of utilities etc. For important projects, capacity enhancement projects, last mile connectivity etc., institutional financing has been done by arranging loan from M/s Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited for ₹ 1.5 lakh crore, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Urban Mobility India (UMI) is an annual conference organized under the aegis of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The main objective of the UMI is to share and disseminate knowledge to the participants and to help them remain up to date with best practices on urban transport. UMI is not concerned with the completion of pending railway projects.

(e) Does not arise.

*[English]***Inter-Ministerial Task Force**

1299. SHRIMATI KAVITHA KALVAKUNTLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) to undertake a comprehensive review of existing coal sources of Independent Power Producers (IPPs) having linkages and consider the feasibility for rationalisation of these sources with a view to optimize transportation cost;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the methodology for linkage rationalisation of power producers has been accepted by the Government recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. An Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) was constituted in July, 2017 to undertake a comprehensive review of existing coal sources of IPPs having linkages and consider the feasibility for rationalization of these sources with a view to optimize transportation cost given the various technical constraints. The underlying objective behind the exercise was to reduce the landed cost of coal due to reduction in transportation cost.

(c) and (d) The methodology for linkage rationalization for IPPs has been accepted by the Government and the same has been circulated on 15.05.2018 to the CIL/SCCL to implement the methodology.

*[Translation]***Jurisdiction over Courts**

1300. SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the jurisdiction of district courts in some States still comes under the sphere of the district administration;

(b) if so, the details of such courts where the administrative officers look after the work of district courts;

(c) the reasons for not segregating the district administration from district courts; and

(d) the time by which such district courts are likely to be separated from district administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the information obtained from the Registrars General of High Courts, in the following districts, judicial work is done by administrative officers:

(i) West Karbi Anglong district in Assam.

(ii) North Garo Hill District, Resubelpara; South Garo Hills District, Baghmara, East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat; and South West Khasi Hills District, Mawkyrwat, in Meghalaya.

(c) and (d) The court infrastructure in West Karbi Anglong district is being strengthened and decision has been taken, in accordance with the recommendation of Gauhati High Court to shift the posts of Additional District Judge and Munsif-cum-Magistrate, which were lying vacant in the District of Kamrup (Metro), to West Karbi Anglong district to enable handling of judicial work by judicial officers consequent upon establishment of court infrastructure.

In Meghalaya, the temporary court infrastructure has been arranged and the State Government is taking steps to finalise segregation of district administration from district court in the four districts mentioned above.

*[English]***NLCPR**

1301. SHRI NINONG ERING: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation and expenditure of the Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) fund during each of the last three financial years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the projects sanctioned for Arunachal Pradesh under the NLCPR scheme during each of the last three financial years and the allocations made and expenditure incurred thereon, location-wise; and

(c) the details of allocation and expenditure of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the North East during each of the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):  
(a) The details of funds allocated and expenditure under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) fund during each of the last three financial years is as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Financial Year	Funds Allocated	Expenditure
2015-16	605.10	605.10
2016-17	645.00	645.00
2017-18	700.07	700.07

(b) A total of 12 projects have been sanctioned for Arunachal Pradesh during the last three financial years i.e. 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18. Details are as under:-

(₹ in lakh)

Financial year: 2015-16			
S. No.	Name of the project	Approved cost	Release by GOI
1	2	3	4
1.	Construction of road from PMGSY Bongleng Road to Khet Village in Tawang District in Arunachal Pradesh.	1420.78	983.72
Financial Year: 2016-17			
2.	Construction of 6 nos. bridges to provide connectivity to	3249.16	1169.64

1	2	3	4
	Admn. CO HQ, Palling with District HQ in Upper Siang District in Arunachal Pradesh.		
3.	Augmentation and improvement of water supply at Miao Township (Phase-I) in Arunachal Pradesh.	1829.35	10.00
4.	Renovation, modernization and improvement of T & D system i/c Sub-station of Bhalukpong, Kalaktang & Dirang and their adjacent areas in West Kameng district in Arunachal Pradesh	2500.00	10.00
5.	Construction of 33kV S/C transmission line from Kimin to Dollungmukh & Construction of 2x5 MVA. 33/11 kV sub-station at Tanio village in Lower Subansari district in Arunachal Pradesh under NLCPR Scheme.	1200.00	395.92



1	2	3	4
6.	Construction of road from Nakhu to Sanchipan under Nafra circle, West Kameng district under NLCPR.	2221.79	10.00
7.	Construction of road from Parsi Parlo to Pipsorang Circle HQ in Kra Daadi district in Arunachal Pradesh under NLCPR.	1684.86	10.00
8.	Construction of RCC bridge over river Dirang to connect Dirang HQ to Dirang township i/c approach road in Arunachal Pradesh under NLCPR.	1869.26	10.00
9.	Construction of Road from Brte Road to Essi Yase Village under tirbin in West Siang District.	1705.11	610.49
Financial year: 2017-18			
10.	Construction of Road from Geku to Mariang in upper Siang District.	1900	679.68
11.	Providing water supply at Bameng administrative HQ	1349.94	10.00

1	2	3	4
	(Phase-I) in East Kameng district in Arunachal Pradesh under NLCPR.		
12.	Augmentation of Water Supply Pasighat Township from Sirpo Source Phase-1 in East Siang District.	1956.58	10.00

(c) The details of allocation and expenditure of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) the North East during each of the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18 is as under:-

Financial year	Total earmarked funds at RE Stage (₹ in crore)	Expenditure of earmarked fund (₹ in crore)
2016-17	31738.58	29634.42 <sup>#</sup>
2017-18	40971.69	Expenditure data is under finalization.

<sup>#</sup> Expenditure figures are provisional and subject to final vetting by Ministry of Finance and expenditure exclusive of Ministry of Railways outlay in North Eastern Region.

#### MoU Regarding Electoral Management

1302. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Suriname on cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the achievement and amount spent on it as on date;

(c) the details of the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of organizational and technical development of electoral process; and

(d) the details of bilateral cooperation and technical assistance extended in electoral management and administration till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Government has approved the proposal for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the Government of Suriname but the MoU has not been signed yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Commission has informed that so far no exchange of knowledge and experience between ECI and Government of Suriname has taken place on bilateral basis.

#### **Penalties Against Telecom Service Providers**

1303. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has imposed penalties on leading telecom operators for failing to meet various quality of service benchmarks recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of deficiencies of these telecom operators that have come to the notice of the TRAI;

(c) whether the telecom operators are functioning as per set guidelines and procedure laid down by TRAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by TRAI to ensure the compliance of the said guidelines by these telecom operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) against the benchmarks for various quality of service parameters laid down by TRAI in the Quality of Service (QoS) Regulations issued from time to time through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by TSPs for the service area as a whole.

From the monitoring of performance of TSPs it is observed that the TSPs are generally complying with the benchmarks for various QoS parameters. However, some of the service providers are not complying with the benchmarks for some of the parameters in some of the service areas. The details of non-compliance by the TSPs for the quarter ending March 2018 are given below:

S. No.	Services	No. of instances of Non-Compliance
1.	Cellular	84
2.	Basic	6
3.	Broadband	5

Wherever the benchmarks are not met by the TSPs, TRAI has been imposing financial disincentives. The details of financial disincentives. (Rupees in Lakhs) on various services levied during the last three years and current year are as follows:

S. No.	Financial Year	Cellular Services			Basic Services	Broadband Services
		2G	3G	Other Cellular Technologies		
1.	2015-16	257	101.50	Not Applicable	51.50	54
2.	2016-17	387	86	Not Applicable	19.50	35
3.	2017-18	171.50	73.50	Not Applicable	37	16
4.	2018-19	540.50	31.50	198	4	26

Financial disincentives are imposed for non-compliance with the benchmarks for both network related parameters and customer related parameters, such as fault repair, network accessibility, call drop, billing complaints, termination of service, refund of security deposit etc.

For addressing various issues including call drop issues and to ensure compliance with benchmarks, TRAI has taken the following steps:

- (i) Close monitoring of performance of TSPs, against the benchmarks for various QoS parameters laid down by TRAI, through periodic reports from service providers.
- (ii) Follow up is taken with TSPs for improving quality of service.
- (iii) Audit and Assessment of QoS are made through independent agencies. Operator assisted drive tests of mobile networks are also conducted throughout the country to assess coverage and quality.
- (iv) Publication of results of Audit and Assessment of QoS, including for Call Drop parameters on TRAI website namely [www.traigov.in](http://www.traigov.in) for information of stakeholders, forcing the service providers to improve its service.
- (v) Review of performance against the QoS benchmarks and imposition of financial disincentives for non-compliance with the benchmarks for QoS parameters.
- (vi) For addressing Call Drop, TRAI regularly undertakes the drive tests of mobile networks in select cities, highways and railway routes to assess the QoS and coverage around the areas covered in the drive test routes. The results of Drive tests are shared with the service providers for improving QoS and coverage in the areas identified in the Drive tests.

#### **Security In Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

1304. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress of various ongoing projects of the Central Government for better security in A&N Islands, district-wise;

(b) the reasons for inadequate pace of implementation of projects in certain districts of the UT;

(c) the estimate of livelihood opportunities made available through new defence projects implemented in A&N Islands after June, 2014; and

(d) the comparative figures of amount spent on rural defence-related projects implemented in A&N Islands between 2009-14 and 2014-18?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b): As per information received from Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has been implementing Coastal Security Scheme in phases since 2005, with a view to strengthen capacity and infrastructure of Coastal Police for patrolling and surveillance of Coastal areas, particularly in the shallow areas close to the coast. Under the Scheme, sanction was issued for provision of 20 Coastal Police Stations (CPS), 10 Jetties, 38 four wheelers, 40 two wheelers and 10 Marine Operation Centres (MOC) for Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As on date, the UT Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has operationalized all the sanctioned CPS, Jetties and MOCs and procured the entire fleet of four wheelers and two wheelers. Government of India has provided 12 numbers of 12 Ton boats to the UT Administration for patrolling and surveillance of coastal areas. In addition, 23 numbers of Rigid Inflatable Boats and 10 numbers of large vessels have been sanctioned under the Scheme.

A total of 128 major works amounting to ₹ 1856.44 crore pertaining to A&N Islands have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Defence after June 2014. Area-wise breakdown of number of works and amount sanctioned is as follows:-

Area	No. of works	Amount (₹ in Lakhs)
1	2	3
Port Blair	45	88556.46
Diglipur	05	10975.18
Campbell Bay	09	9691.33
Shibpur	03	5613.88

1	2	3
Kamrota	06	8616.02
Hut Bay	01	1662.00
Minnie Bay	08	2439.81
Neil Island	01	884.39
Buniyadabad	01	482.28
Doilygunj	01	34.88
Dweepika	01	269.90
Carnicobar	28	48843.56
Birchgunj Military Station	19	7574.67

(c) The details of livelihood opportunities made available through new defence projects are not maintained in the Ministry of Defence.

(d) Data on division between rural/urban projects is not maintained by this Ministry. However, comparative data of amount of works sanctioned is as given below:-

(i) Amount of works sanctioned between 2009-14.	₹1638.41 crore
(ii) Amount of works sanctioned between 2014-18.	₹1856.44 crore

#### **Security of Aadhaar Data**

1305. SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM:

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of incidents/cases where Aadhaar data was leaked/breached and used illegally all over the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any investigation has been conducted against the agencies which were responsible for breach/leakage of Aadhaar data;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against them;

(d) whether any FIR has been lodged by UIDAI in this regard during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which the Aadhaar database is secure along with the steps taken by the Government to ensure the privacy/security of Aadhaar data; and

(f) the mechanism put in place for usage of Aadhaar data by Government agencies and the accountability of officials in case of negligence on their part in handling of such data along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) In respect of so-called data breach reported in certain sections of media, it is informed that there has been no security breach of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)'s biometric database or Central Identity Data Repository (CIDR).

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(e) UIDAI has a well-designed, multi-layered robust security system in place and the same is being constantly upgraded to maintain the highest level of data security and integrity. UIDAI has adequate legal, organizational and technological measures in place for the security of the data stored with UIDAI. Data Protection measures have also been mandated for the requesting entities and ecosystem partners to ensure the security of data. Government is fully alive to the need to maintain highest level of data security, privacy and is deploying the necessary technology and infrastructure. The architecture of Aadhaar ecosystem has been designed to ensure non-duplication, data integrity and other related management aspects of security & privacy in Aadhaar database. Additionally, various policies and procedures have been defined clearly which are reviewed and updated periodically, thereby, appropriately controlling and monitoring security of data.

UIDAI data is fully secured/ encrypted at all the times i.e. at rest, in transit and in storage. UIDAI's existing security controls and protocols are robust and capable of countering any such attempts or malicious designs of data breach or hacking. For, further

strengthening of security and privacy of data, security audits are conducted on regular basis, and all possible steps are taken to make the data safer and protected. Further, there are multiple layers of security at physical level in UIDAI Data Centres and is being managed by armed CISF personnel round the clock. Strengthening of security of data is an ongoing process and all possible steps are being taken in this regard.

Legal status of UIDAI has further strengthened the security assurance of Aadhaar ecosystem, manifolds with enactment of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 passed by Indian Parliament which has stringent penalties/ punishments for offenders. In the *ibid* Act, Chapter VI on Protection of Information (Section 28 - Section 33) & Chapter VII on Offences and Penalties (Section 34 - Section 47), specifically relates to protection of information and related offences and penalties to offenders.

UIDAI has been declared ISO 27001:2013 certified by STQC with respect to Information Security which has added another layer of information security assurance. Further, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of Section 70 of the IT Act 2000, UIDAI data has also been declared as Protected System by National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre.

(f) The usage of Aadhaar data by any agency is governed by the Aadhaar Act 2016 and subsequent regulations framed thereunder, which has adequate safeguards. Sharing of information with the authorised agencies is governed as per the provisions of the Aadhaar Act, 2016.

- (i) Section 29 (1) of the Aadhaar Act 2016 read together with Regulation 3(1) of the Aadhaar (Sharing of information) Regulations, 2016 categorically states that no core biometric information, collected or created under the Aadhaar Act, shall be shared with anyone for any reason whatsoever; or used for any purpose other than generation of Aadhaar numbers and authentication under the Act.
- (ii) Regulation 4(1) of the Aadhaar (Sharing of information) Regulations, 2016 provides that core biometric information collected or captured by a requesting entity from Aadhaar number

holder at the time of authentication shall not be shared for any reason whatsoever.

- (iii) Regulation 4(2) of the Aadhaar (Sharing of information) Regulations, 2016 provides that identity information available with a requesting entity shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified to the Aadhaar number holder at the time of submitting identity information for authentication and shall not be disclosed further without the prior consent of the Aadhaar number holder.
- (iv) Regulation (5) of the Aadhaar (Sharing of information) Regulations, 2016 ensures the responsibility of any agency or entity other than requesting entity with respect to Aadhaar number and subsequent Regulation (7) states that any contravention of the above-mentioned regulations shall constitute a violation of sub-section (2) of Section 29 of the Act.
- (v) Section 30 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 applies the rigours of the IT Act, 2000 and the rules thereunder, whereby Biometric Information is deemed to be Sensitive personal information.
- (vi) Additionally, Chapter VII of the Act lays down monetary penalties and imprisonment for unauthorized sharing of residents' identity information. Any violation to the provisions of the Aadhaar Act is a criminal offence.

#### **Fly Ash**

1306. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any effort is made to make optimum utilization of fly ash as an environmentally sustainable and economically visible product;

(b) If so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) As informed by Ministry of Power, ash produced by thermal power plants is a proven resource material for many applications of construction industries and currently is being utilized in Manufacture of Portland Pozzolana Cement (PPC), fly ash bricks/blocks/tiles

manufacturing, road embankment construction & low lying area development, in agriculture as soil conditioner etc. Further, following efforts have been made to make optimum utilization of fly ash as an environmentally sustainable and economically viable product:

- (i) GST rates on fly ash and its products have been reduced to 5%.
- (ii) To facilitate 100% ash utilization by all coal based thermal power plants, a web portal for monitoring of fly ash generation and utilization data of Thermal Power Plants and a mobile based application titled "ASHTRACK" has been launched by the Government that will help to establish a link between fly ash users and power plants executives for obtaining fly ash for its use in various areas.
- (iii) A Workshop and Video Conferences to make use of the Web Page for data updation have been conducted by CEA and NTPC.
- (iv) Ash-park has been developed and awareness programme for utilisation of fly ash and its products have been conducted.

#### **Exemption from Aadhaar**

1307. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the cases where people suffering from leprosy have stopped receiving pension for the lack of Aadhaar card;

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

(c) whether the Government has clarified and notified any alternatives or exemptions for cases such as leprosy where it is not possible for the person to have his biometrics done, if so, the details of the exemptions and alternatives and if not, the reasons for having no such alternative or exemptions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) to (c) Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), deals with

policies relating to Central Civil employee/pensioners. As per information received from them, DoPPW is not aware of any case where people suffering from leprosy have stopped receiving pension for the lack of Aadhaar. To facilitate senior pensioners facing problems in submission of Digital Life Certificate due to non-acceptance of their biometric, suitable instructions have been issued by OM No. 1/20/2016-P&PW(E) dated 14.11.2017 (available at <http://doppw.gov.in/sites/default/files/LifeCertificate141117.pdf>) to all Pension Disbursing Banks. It has been advised that where the fingerprints of a pensioner are not accepted by the system, the alternate mechanism of biometric i.e. Iris scanning may be used. In case, however, it is not possible to have Digital Life Certificate either through finger prints or through Iris scanning, the physical life certificate submitted by the pensioner may be accepted to avoid any harassment to the pensioner. In any case, no pensioner should be returned without accepting his life certificate on account of non-acceptance of his biometric by the system.

#### **Promotion of Digital Transactions**

1308. SHRI A. T. NANA PATIL:

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government initiatives taken for encouraging digital transactions in the country; and

(b) the details of increase/decrease digital transactions in the country post demonetization, urban and rural area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S AHLUWALIA): (a) Government of India has been working with various stakeholders including Ministries/Departments/States/Banks to promote digital payment transactions to make it more convenient for the citizens. A dedicated DigiDhan mission was set up with an aim to promote digital transactions. Digital payment App 'BHIM-Bharat Interface for Money' was launched on 30th December, 2016. Government has taken following initiatives to encourage digital transactions in the country :

## (i) Expansion of payment acceptance infrastructure:

- > As per the budget announcement for FY 2017-18, Banks were allocated a target to deploy 10 Lakh additional Point of Sales (PoS) terminals. Against this target, Banks installed 12.33 Lakh new PoS terminal. Currently a total of 33.20 Lakh PoS (till May 2018) terminals have been deployed in the country. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has further allocated a target to deploy 20 Lakh additional PoS terminals by the Banks in FY 2018-19.
- > BHIM Aadhaar Pay enables citizens without smart phones to make digital payments by using biometric authentication. Around 5.56 Lakh BHIM Aadhaar PoS have been deployed by the Banks in till May 2018. Banks are in the process of deploying and activating 20 Lakh Aadhaar based BHIM Aadhaar PoS in FY 2018-19.
- > Bharat QR 4.0 with a provision of accepting QR based payment payments using UPI was launched on 10th August 2017. By 30th April 2018, 26 Banks have been made live on Bharat QR as acquirer and 38 Banks have been made live on BHIM UPI PSP App. Till May 2018, Bharat QR was installed at 11.08 Lakh merchant locations.

## (ii) Incentive Schemes

- > MeitY vide gazette notification No 6(19)/2017-DPD-1 dated 27th December 2017 has notified the reimbursement of Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges on Debit cards/BHIM-UPI/BHIM Aadhaar Pay transactions of value less than ₹ 2000 to the Banks for a period of two years starting from 1st Jan 2018. The reimbursement of MDR is aimed to improve the adoption of digital payments by merchants specially the small and micro merchants.

- > 'BHIM Cashback Scheme for Individuals' has been launched to popularize payments through BHIM APP. The scheme have been modified and is operational till March 2019. The customer on BHIM app can earn an incentive up-to ₹150 on 10 unique transactions over the BHIM app.
- > The BHIM Aadhaar merchant incentive scheme has been re-launched and the incentive has been increased from 0.25% to 0.5%. The scheme is operational 1st April 2018 till March 2019. In this scheme merchant can earn an incentive up-to ₹2000 per month.
- > To give stimulus to the deployment of BHIM Aadhaar PoS devices, Government through Department of Financial Services has launched a scheme to provide an incentive of up-to ₹1800 to the Banks on the procurement of each BHIM Aadhaar PoS.

## (iii) Coordination with Banks

- > Digital payment transaction targets have been allocated to the Public and Private Sector Banks for FY 2018-19. MeitY has set targets of 3013 Crore digital payment transactions.
- > The performance of the Banks is also monitored and evaluated by MeitY through a performance scorecard and a Bank ranking system.

## (iv) Advisories to Ministries/Departments

- > Government of India has issued advisories to Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs to improve payments acceptance infrastructure, enable the citizens to pay by a variety of modes such as Internet banking, mobile banking, and mobile applications etc. including use of BHIM, integrate on-line payment portals with BHIM/UPI/QR- code/Rupay Card, printing of QR code on bills, incentivisation of

digital payments and publicity and creation of awareness about digital payments among citizens.

(v) Publicity Campaign

> Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology have till date chosen the following mediums for the publicity campaign:

1. Radio(Wireless Media)
2. Newspaper(Print Media)
3. Website(Digital Media)

(vi) Monitoring, Analysis and Grievances

> In order to create a platform for accurate reporting, monitoring and analysis of all digital payment transactions being carried out across the country, GOI has developed a National Digital Payment Dashboard, which was launched by Hon'ble Minister of Electronics and IT on 13th February, 2018. The same could be accessed at <http://www.digipay.gov.in>.

> MeitY has integrated Digital Payment Grievances along with National Consumer Helpline (NCH) platform of Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) in addition to the existing Grievance Redressal Mechanism of digital payments of the respective banks and NPCI. The Platform is live and is handling Digital Payment related grievances.

(b) A significant growth has been observed in digital transactions the country post demonetization at an average percentage of monthly growth rate of 4.25% (refer Statement for monthly progress since Nov'16; Source: Banks, RBI, NPCI, respective closed loop players). The modes used for calculation of growth of digital transaction, shown in Annexure 1, are (1) National Automated Clearing House (NACH), (2) Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), (3) Unified Payments Interface (UPI), (4) Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), (5) Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD), (6) RuPay on POS, (7) RuPay on eCom,

(8) Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS), (9) Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS), (10) National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC), (11) Debit Card (excluding RuPay), (12) Credit Card, (13) National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), (14) Mobile Wallet, (15) Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS), (16) Pre-paid Card (PPC) and (17) Closed Loop. Urban and Rural area-wise data is not available. However, State-wise data for three modes, namely, BHIM, RuPay card and USSD, sourced from National Payment Corporation of India, is available on the dashboard having URL: <http://www.digipay.gov.in>.

**Statement**

*Growth of Digital Transactions*

Months	Volume	Value
Unit	In Crore	In Lakh Crore
1	2	3
Nov'16	91.83	112.27
Dec'16	132.93	124.57
Jan'17	125.61	113.94
Feb'17	111.37	107.98
Mar'17	130.64	172.61
Apr 17	159.74	148.43
May'17	156.89	151.45
June'17	153.02	154.43
July'17	156.71	145.76
Aug'17	158.37	151.15
Sep'17	158.62	169.20
Oct'17	169.10	156.44
Nov'17	174.64	165.07
Dec'17	194.03	169.44
Jan'18	199.01	182.04
Feb'18	191.23	152.16
Mar'18	199.74	216.86
Apr'18	208.26	163.67



1	2	3
May'18	214.31	179.83
Jun'18	125.68	31.89
JuL'18(19th)	77.06	14.72

\*July'18 data is available till 19th July, 2018

NOTE: For month of Jun'18 & Jul'18 RBI data not published, hence has not been included.

### Public Data Offices

1309. DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets under the BharatNet project have been revised and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the role of the Public Data Offices (PDO) to be setup under the BharatNet project along with the mechanism for operation, control and regulation of Public Data Office Aggregators; and

(c) the details of skill development initiatives, if any, for enhanced employability of youth in the upcoming digital communication revolution as envisaged under draft telecom policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) The design, strategy to implement and target of BharatNet has been modified in order to align it with the vision of Digital India, on July 19, 2017. The Cabinet approved a modified strategy for implementing BharatNet in three Phases:

- Phase I - Connecting 1,00,000 Gram Panchayats(GPs) with high speed Broadband which is already completed in December 2017 and executed by 3 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) viz. BSNL, RailTel and PGCIL.
- Phase II - The remaining 1,50,000 GPs (approx.) are targeted to be implemented by March 2019.
- Phase III - To upgrade the network to meet the future requirements.

Government has approved the project at a total estimated cost of ₹ 42,068 Crore (exclusive of GST, octroi and local taxes) which includes ₹ 11,148 Crore for Phase-I and ₹ 30,920 crore for Phase-II and other activities, to be funded from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

In Phase-II, the modified strategy includes laying of Fibre from Block to Gram Panchayats instead of laying fibre from Fibre Point of Interconnect (FPOI) to GPs. Thus, the use of new fibre from Block to GPs would make the network more stable and also enhance the quality of service. The implementation of the Phase-I) is being done through States and private sector, in addition to CPSEs. The connectivity is to be provided through an optimal mix of underground/ aerial OFC, radio and satellite media. Further, last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is to be provided to cover all the approx. 2,50,000 GPs in the country.

(b) At present, there is no provision to set up Public Data Offices (PDO) under the BharatNet project.

(c) One of the goals of the proposed National Digital Communications Policy-2018 is to train /re-skill 1 million manpower for building New Age Skills by building human resource capital to facilitate employment opportunities in Digital Communication Sector through the following strategies:

- Building national capacity and institutional capabilities in telecom security tools, standards and forensics including in manufacturing of critical telecom equipment.
- Creating educational resources relating to the communications sector and making them available in open and accessible format to promote self-directed and collaborative learning through interactive formats, including audio, video and text.

### VVPAT

1310. SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI): Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some political parties in the country, including those from Andhra Pradesh are insisting on

Electronic Voting Machines with Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a few political parties are preferring the old ballot system over the EVM's; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

### **CPGRM System**

1311. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether though the usage of Centralized Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRMS) has increased following the expansion of information technology and general awareness of public, the redressal of grievance mechanism is still weak;

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

(c) whether the Government has constituted any committee for the redressal of complaints during the last four years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken by the Government to make the grievance redressal system effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the data available on the online Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), the year-wise number of grievances received and disposed off

during the period from 1.1.2014 to 19.7.2018 in respect of Ministries/Departments of Government of India is as under :

Year	Received	Disposed
2014.	270413	263562
2015.	879230	769633
2016.	1194931	1187111
2017.	1417891	1493567
2018 (Till 19.7.2018)	627088	627239

There has been about fivefold increase in the number of grievances in CPGRAMS from 2014 to 2017. The rate of disposal has also kept pace with the number of grievances received during the period. High rate of disposal has been achieved as the Government has taken all possible steps to put in place a strong Grievance Redressal Mechanism.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Government has taken several steps to make the Grievance Redressal Mechanism effective which are :

(i) Review of Grievances of identified Ministry/Department is undertaken every month during meetings conducted on PRAGATI(Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation) platform.

(ii) For effective monitoring of grievances at Secretary level, an electronic Dashboard has been created showing the consolidated status of grievances disposed and pending, on CPGRAMS. Weekly reminders through SMS are also being sent for pending grievances.

(iii) A Grievance Analysis Study in respect of top 20 grievance receiving Ministries/ Departments/ Organizations listed on CPGRAMS for identifying grievance prone areas, their root cause analysis and suggested systemic reforms for reducing such grievances, has been carried out by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. Several reforms have been implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments. Some of these reforms are: automatic refunds on cancellation of

Railway Tickets, Single Window Pension through disbursing Banks, intensive mechanized cleaning of coaches, e-verification of Income Tax Returns, expeditious Income Tax Returns upto ₹50,000/-, etc.

- (iv) In continuation of the Grievance Analysis Study in respect of top 20 Ministries/ Departments receiving maximum grievances on CPGRAMS, another Grievance Analysis Study for next 20 Ministries/ Departments receiving bulk of the grievances was taken up on the same lines and has been concluded in the year 2017.
- (v) A Public Grievances Call Centre has been set up for reminding the concerned officials of top 40 Ministries/Departments/Organizations for expeditious disposal of grievances pending for more than 2 months.
- (vi) An Award Scheme has been launched for recognising outstanding performance on CPGRAMS on a quarterly basis through issue of Certificate of Appreciation.
- (vii) Review meetings are being taken on regular basis with the representatives of Central Ministries/ Departments for monitoring the pendency of public grievances.
- (viii) Training on CPGRAMS is conducted on regular basis.
- (ix) A new Mobile App which is more user-friendly for lodging of public grievances has been developed. The Action Status can also be viewed on the mobile itself. This has been integrated with Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG). This initiative also facilitates lodging of grievance anywhere anytime.

#### **Women Scientists**

1312. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to grant special relaxation to the women scientists working in all research and academic institutions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for construction of residential complexes for them and also to provide creche facility in such institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. In the pursuance of National Task Force recommendations, Government of India took necessary steps in order to ensure growth of women scientists in their professional career. In 2010, DST started exclusive Training Calendar for Women Scientists. DST also conducts exclusive training programmes for women scientists on leadership development to improve managerial skills. Department of Bio-technology (DBT) started BioCARE (Biotechnology Career Advancement and re-orientation) programme in year 2010 for working and unemployed women scientists to support them in Biotechnology domain. During 2013, a new scheme 'Women Technology Parks' was started to establish WTPs in different geographic and agro-climatic zones of the country for improving socio-economic status of women through capacity building. In the year 2014, DST revamped all the women specific programmes under one umbrella programme known as KIRAN (Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing). The upper age limit to apply in Women Scientists Scheme was increased up to 57 years in 2014. In 2016, DST started Mobility Scheme to address relocation issue of Women Scientists working in Government sector.

(c) to (e) Autonomous Institutions under the Ministry have established creche and residential facility on their respective campuses wherever women are present in significant number.

#### **Survey for New Rail Lines**

1313. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for new rail line from Jabalpur to Mandla-Rajnandgaon had been conducted by the Government in the recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether survey had been conducted for Jabalpur to Mandla, Dindori Pendra in Madhya Pradesh too and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Reconnaissance Engineering Cum Traffic (RECT) Survey was completed for Jabalpur-Rajnandgaon via Bemetra, Kawardha, Mandla (430 Km) in year 2016 at a cost of ₹ 4930.82 Crore and ROR (+) 1.73%. The proposal was shelved for the present due to poor Rate of Return (ROR), poor traffic projection and severe fund constraint. Further, RECT Survey for new line BG line between Pendra - Amarkantak - Dindori - Mandla - Ghansour (200 Km) was sanctioned by Railway Board in the year 2017-18 vide Blue Book Item No.35 of 2018-19. Survey work has been taken up.

#### **Interview at Lower Level in Government Jobs**

1314. SHRI GOPAL SHETTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has discontinued holding interview for lower grades in Government jobs and make recruitment on the basis of written examinations/eligibility;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government of India has decided to dispense with the interview for recruitment to all Group 'C; Group 'D' (which are now reclassified as Group 'C'), Group 'B' (non-gazetted) and all equivalent posts from 1st January, 2016 in its Ministries/ Departments/ Attached offices/ Subordinate Office/ Autonomous Bodies/ Public Sector Undertakings. All the advertisement after 01.01.2016 for future vacancies are required to be without interview as part of the recruitment process for such posts.

Further, it has been made clear that since the skill test or physical test is different from interview, such tests may continue. However, these tests are only qualifying in nature.

It has further been decided that in case of specific posts for which any particular Central Ministry/ Department considers interview absolutely essential, clearance of Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) would be obtained.

Staff Selection Commission, a major central recruitment agency, has discontinued interview for all Competitive Recruitment Examinations w.e.f. 1.1.2016.

State Governments and Union Territories have also come forward and initiated steps for discontinuation of interviews in junior level posts. As per information available so far, 21 States and 7 Union Territories have adopted the policy of discontinuation of interview in lower level posts.

#### **Transfer Policy**

1315. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:

SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy for the transfer of employees of Central Government;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate single transfer policy for the Government employees in the country;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to constitute any commission for single transfer policy for both Central and State employees; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) In terms of instructions issued by Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) on transfer/posting of Government employees, all Ministries/Departments of Government of India are required to have their own guidelines for transfer/posting of their employees providing for the following -

- (i) minimum tenure;
- (ii) have a mechanism akin to Civil Services Board for recommending transfer; and

Respective Ministries/Departments are also required to place the transfer policy in public domain.

(c) to (f) There is no proposal to formulate single transfer policy for the Government employees as guidelines for transfer/posting of employees depend on the specific requirement of individual Ministries/Departments. Moreover, the State Public Services are under State List for which the State Governments are competent to make rules and policies. Accordingly, there is no proposal to constitute any commission for single transfer policy for both Central & State employees.

#### **Uranium Production**

1316. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme to increase the production of Uranium in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of uranium in metric tonnes produced in the country and its annual requirement for production of atomic energy;

(c) the progress made so far with regard to the possibility of finding uranium deposits in the country, State/UT-wise especially in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

(d) the quantum of requirement of uranium being met through the uranium produced in the country;

(e) the quantum of uranium imported from foreign countries along with the names of those countries from which import of uranium is made;

(f) the names of the various sectors and areas in which uranium is being produced/utilized in the country; and

(g) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to become self-reliant in the case of uranium and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam. Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under this Department has made a detailed plan in line with Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)'s vision to achieve self sufficiency in uranium production with nearly ten-fold rise in next 15 years (by 2031-32). The outlined plan includes maintaining sustained production from existing facilities through debottlenecking projects, capacity expansion of some existing units and construction of new production centers (mines and plants) in different parts of the country. Considering the resources already identified in different geological basins by Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration-and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of this Department, UCIL's major production centers are envisaged in Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Rajasthan and Meghalaya. Capacity expansion and debottlenecking activities in existing Singhbhum and Tummalapalle operations have already been taken up. UCIL has signed agreements with AMD for exploratory mining at Rohil in Rajasthan, Singridungri-Banadungri in Jharkhand and Peddagattu in Telangana. Exploratory mining at Rohil has started.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantity of production of uranium. The approximate requirements of uranium for Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) are given below:

Unit Capacity (MW)	Annual requirement at 85% Capacity Factor (tons UO <sub>2</sub> )
220	45
540	100
700	125

The approximate requirements of uranium for Light Water Reactors (LWRs) are as given below:

Unit Capacity (MW)	Annual requirement at 85%/90% Capacity Factor (tons low enriched uranium)
160	6(at 85% CF)
1000	25 (at 90% CF)

(c) AMD has carried out exploration and prospecting for uranium deposits in a number of prospective geological domains of the country. AMD has so far established 3,00,034 tonne (t) in situ U308 (2,54,429 t U) as on May, 2018 in forty four (44) low-grade uranium deposits in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra.

In Uttar Pradesh, a low-grade and small tonnage metamorphite-type uranium deposit (785 tonne uranium oxide) has been identified at Naktu in Sonbhadra district.

In Madhya Pradesh, detailed exploration including drilling are in the preliminary stage in Dharangmau - Kachhar and Khapa - Jhapri - Kalapani areas in Betul district to identify sandstone-type uranium mineralisation in Satpura Gondwana Basin.

(d) It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantity of production of uranium.

(e) Quantum of uranium imported from foreign countries is as given below:

Sr. No.	Agency Source/ Country	Description	Quantity received till date in MTU
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. JSC TVEL, Russia	Fuel Pellets of Natural Uranium Di-oxide	2005.92

1	2	3	4
2.	M/s. JSC TVEL, Russia	Enriched Uranium Fuel Pellets	100.451
3.	M/s. JSC NAC Kazatomprom, Kazakhstan	Uranium Ore Concentrate	2095.919
4.	M/s. Areva, France	Uranium Ore Concentrate	299.891

(f) It is not in the public interest to disclose the indigenous production of uranium.

(g) Yes, Madam. The Government has taken measures to augment domestic uranium supply by state-of-the-art, integrated, multi-disciplinary exploration in several prospective and potential geological domains in various parts of the country and opening of new mines and processing facilities.

#### Employment in IT Sector

1317. SHRI RAM KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether new avenues of employment have been explored in the country under the Information Technology industry during the last three years;

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

(c) the details of the growth in quantum of revenue due to increase in employment in IT sector in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam The new and emerging technologies such as Data Science, Internet of Things (IoT), and Artificial Intelligence (AI) including Robotic Process Automation and Machine Learning have opened new avenues of employment for the past few years. These are also leading to major re-skilling/ up-skilling of IT professionals by the industry.

The Indian IT-ITeS industry remains net hirer. According to Industry body NASSCOM, the number of total employees in FY2015-16 were nearly 36,90,000. The number of employees have nearly become

39,68,000 in FY 2017-18, an addition of 1,05,000, from 38,63,000 in FY 2016-17. Besides, the Government initiatives such as Common Service Centres (CSCs), BPO Promotion schemes, Electronic Manufacturing, Digital Payments, and Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan have generated over 15 lakh additional jobs over the last two years.

(c) The corresponding growth in quantum of revenue in IT sector in the last three years is as under:

Year	USD in Billion	Growth rate
2017-18E	167	~8%
2016-17	154	7.8 %
2015-16	143	8.5 %
2014-15	132	8.3%

#### Mobile Facility in Jharkhand

1318. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether measures are being taken by the Government to provide mobile phone facility in Palamu,

#### The District Wise Details of Mobile Phone Connections Provided:

District	No. of Towers	Year-wise Mobile Connections			Mobile Connection District wise
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	
Latehar	59	6025	8952	7093	22070
Garhwa	5	715	917	927	2559
Palamu	71	7251	10772	9542	27565
Gumla	53	5412	8041	7509	20963
Total	188	19403	28682	25071	73156

2. Subsequently the LWE Phase-II project for providing mobile connectivity in inhabited and uncovered villages in 4072 MHA identified tower locations of Left Wing Extremism affected areas at an estimated cost of ₹ 7,330/- crores plus

Garhwa, Latehar and Gumla districts of Jharkhand under universal service obligation fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such mobile phone connections provided during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) USOF/DoT is implementing a project to provide mobile connectivity in the uncovered and inhabited villages of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas. The mobile tower locations for this project are identified and provided by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

1. In LWE Phase-I Project, total 816 towers were installed in Jharkhand Circle. Out of 816 towers, 188 towers are in Palamu, Latehar, Garhwa and Gumla Districts of Jharkhand.

applicable taxes has been approved by the Cabinet on 23-05-2018. The number of tower locations planned in this project for Palamu, Garhwa and Gumla districts of Jharkhand is as below.

LWE Phase-II	Palamu	Garhwa	Latehar	Gumla
Mobile towers locations planned	35	97	17	52

(c) Not Applicable.

### Illegal Agencies

1319. SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision to take action against those agencies which illegally send Indians to foreign countries particularly West Asian countries for employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has asked to recruit people through the agencies set up by the State Governments to work as domestic help in these countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) Complaints are received from time

to time by the Ministry of External Affairs from Indian emigrants who have been sent for overseas employment by illegal agents, on tourist visas.

On receipt of details of such illegal agents involved in unauthorized recruitment for overseas employment, the same are forwarded to the concerned State/UT Government and Police authorities urging them to apprehend illegal agents and prosecute them on the basis of complaints. This is necessary as 'Law & Order\*' is a State subject. On receiving requests from these Governments/Police authorities, the necessary Prosecution Sanctions are issued expeditiously by the Ministry enabling them to proceed for prosecuting the accused illegal agents.

As per the available records, number of cases forwarded to the State Governments against illegal agents, and number of Prosecution Sanctions issued during 2017-18 (upto 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018) are as under:

Year	Total Number of cases referred to State/UT Governments for initiating investigation	Names of State/UT Governments for initiating investigation	Number of cases in which request received for issue of Prosecution Sanction	Number of Prosecution Sanction issued
2017	446	Delhi	1	1
		Goa	1	1
		Kerala	5	5
		Punjab	3	3
		Rajasthan	5	5
		Tamil Nadu	5	5
		Telangana	10	10
		Total	30	30
2018	231 (up to June)	Delhi	1	1
		Goa	1	1
		Telangana	1	1
		Total	03	03

In May 2016, Government had also issued Standard Operating Procedure to be followed by States on receipt of complaints. Visual and print media campaigns are also launched from time to time for promoting legal and safe migration and encouraging

emigrants to use the services of registered Recruiting Agents to avoid being trapped by Illegal/fake agents.

(c) and (d) In view of the complaints of exploitation and harassment by unscrupulous agents and employers



in the Gulf countries, the Government has taken additional measures to safeguard the interests of female workers migrating to Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries. As per extant guidelines, the minimum age of Emigration Check Required (ECR) category female workers proceeding for overseas employment to Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries is 30 years.

Their emigration for overseas employment is permitted only through following six designated State-run recruitment agencies:

- (i) Non- Resident Keralites' Affairs Roots (NORKA), Kerala;
- (ii) Overseas Development and Employment Promotion Consultant (ODEPC), Kerala;
- (iii) Overseas Manpower Corporation Ltd. (OMCL), Tamil Nadu; (iv) Uttar Pradesh Financial Corporation (UPFC), Uttar Pradesh;
- (v) Overseas Manpower Company A. P. Ltd. (OMCAP), Andhra Pradesh; and
- (vi) Telangana Overseas Manpower Company Limited (TOMCOM), Telangana.

In addition, Foreign employers who recruit directly have to deposit US\$2500 in the form of a Bank Guarantee with the Indian Mission in case of female workers holding ECR passports, which is returned when the emigrant returns safely.

[English]

#### **New Railway Zones**

1320. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to sanction more railway zones considering the demands of various States and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of existing criteria for formation of new railway zones;
- (c) whether It has come to the notice of the Government that the railways development activities In Kerala are lagging due to the lack of railway zone and If so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether any proposal is pending to detach a portion of railway line from Thiruvananthapuram Railway Division and attach It to the Madurai Railway Division and If so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Union Government has considered the request of State of Kerala for formation of new railway zone exclusively for Kerala and if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) New zones on Indian Railways are set up keeping In view factors like size, workload, accessibilities, traffic pattern and other operating / administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency. The Zones on Indian Railways are not based on the State / District boundaries or on regional consideration.

(c) Railway development activities in Kerala are well taken care of by Southern Railway Zone.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Requests for formation of new railway zone in Kerala have been received from time to time from various fora, Including State Government of Kerala. This request was examined and was not found feasible.

#### **Increase In Cyber Crime**

1321. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of cyber crime are increasing every passing year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise for the last three years;
- (c) whether the present IT laws are adequate to deal with the growing cyber crimes/attacks; and
- (d) if not, the measures to be taken by the Government to ensure safety and security of software programmes and cyber network in the country

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) As per the data

maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, a total of 9622, 11592 and 12317 cyber crime cases were registered during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively. This includes cases registered under the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 and related sections of Indian Penal Code and Special & Local Laws involving computer as medium/ target. Data for year 2017 is still under compilation by NCRB.

(c) and (d) The Information Technology Act 2000 has provisions to deal with prevalent cyber crimes. Government has taken a number of legal, technical and administrative measures to prevent cyber crimes. These inter alia, include:

- (i) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) as per the provisions of Section 70A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country.
- (ii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis. CERT-In has published guidelines for securing IT infrastructure, which is available on its website ([www.cert-in.org.in](http://www.cert-in.org.in))
- (iii) Government has set up National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities.
- (iv) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same for banks as well as common users.
- (v) National Information Centre (NIC), which provides IT / E-Governance related services to Government departments, protects the cyber resources from possible compromises through a layered security approach in the form of practices, procedures and technologies that are

put in place. NIC has deployed state-of-the-art security solutions including firewalls, intrusion prevention systems, anti-virus solution. Additionally, periodic security audits of resources are performed followed by subsequent hardenings. These are complemented by round-the-clock monitoring of security events and remedial measures are carried out for solving the problems subsequently.

- (vi) Government has established security and safety test labs under Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate. Three major labs are functioning at Delhi, Kolkata and Bengaluru for security assessment of software (including computer programmes).

*[Translation]*

#### **Rate Chart for Coolies**

1322. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether coolies charge higher rate from the rail passengers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard, zone-wise;
- (c) the details of the action taken by the Government on these complaints, zone-wise; and
- (d) the outcome of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) It is not a fact that the Sahayaks (Coolies) normally charge higher rate from rail passengers. However, there have been few instances of Sahayaks(Coolies) charging higher than prescribed rates from passengers.

(b) 15 cases have been reported over Indian Railways during last one year. The details are as under:

Zonal Railway	No. of complaints
Northern	10
Western	03
Southern	01

Zonal Railway	No. of complaints
South Central	01
Total	15

No case has been reported from remaining Zonal Railways.

(c) and (d) Depending on the gravity of the complaint, action viz suspension/termination of the badge given to Sahayaks for carrying the luggage of the passenger, stoppage of privilege passes for free travel in trains etc. have been taken against the defaulting Sahayaks. In some cases, the charges could not be substantiated. In addition to this, surprise checks conducted from time to time, announcement through public address systems on prescribed portorage charges during arrival/departure of the trains and display of portorage charges at conspicuous places on the stations has resulted in decreasing trend of complaints from passengers.

[English]

#### **Appointment of Lokpal**

1323. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to appoint Lokpal and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has constituted a selection panel for the same;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken towards appointing a Lokpal, which has been delayed for five years;

(d) whether the post of the eminent jurist in the selection panel for Lokpal had been vacant and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time-frame fixed to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR.

JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) After coming into force of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, the Government initiated the process for appointment by convening the Selection Committee meeting on 03.02.2014. After its recommendation Hon'ble President nominated Shri P.P. Rao as eminent jurist member of the Selection Committee. Under section 4(1) of the Act, the Selection Committee also constituted an eight Member Search Committee on 21.02.2014 in terms of section 4(3) of the Act. Looking into infirmities in the law and to remove certain difficulties in the operationalisation of the Act including issues relating to appointment of Chairperson and Members of Lokpal, etc. in the absence of a Leader of Opposition recognized as such in the Lok Sabha, the Government introduced the Lokpal and Lokayuktas and other related law (Amendment) Bill, 2014 in Lok Sabha on 18.12.2014. The Bill has been reported upon by the Department -related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. In the meantime, Shri P.P. Rao, eminent jurist, member of the committee passed away. Subsequently, three meetings of the Selection Committee under section 4(1) of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 were held on 1st March, 2018, 10th April, 2018 and 19th July, 2018. Upon the recommendations of the Selection Committee in its meeting held on 10th April, 2018 Hon'ble President has nominated Shri Mukul Rohatgi, former Attorney General of India as "Eminent Jurist" Member of the Selection Committee against the vacancy arisen due to passing away of Shri P.P. Rao. The selection Committee has proposed to consider names of eminent persons who qualify as per the statutory provisions to be appointed as members of the Search Committee in its next meeting.

[Translation]

#### **Indians in Foreign Jails**

1324. SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians are languishing in various jails of foreign countries;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard along with the number of Indians being kept as captive in these jails and the names of the respective countries where they have been lodged;

(c) whether the Government has made efforts during the past years to get such prisoners freed from jails; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent for the purpose from March 2015 to March 2018?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) As per information available with the Ministry, as of 20.07.2018, 7737 Indians are in various, jails of foreign countries. Country-wise details are enclosed as Statement. Due to the strict provisions of privacy laws, some countries do not readily share information about Indian nationals in their jails.

(c) and (d) In those cases where Indian nationals complete their sentences and are waiting for completion of deportation formalities, Indian Missions/Posts in those countries take up with the respective foreign governments for speeding up the process including issue of final Exit Visas, waiver of penalties Imposed on Indian workers, etc. from the concerned authorities and for the early return of the Indian nationals to India. Where required, the Indian Missions and Posts abroad also provide airfare for facilitating the return of the Indian prisoners who have completed their sentence. An amount of ₹2,72,24,969 was spent as assistance during the period from March 2015 to March 2018 in this regard.

**Statement**

*Countrywise Details of Number of Indian Held as Captive in Foreign Jail as on 25.07--2018*

S. No.	Country	Number of Indian held as Captive in Jails	Amount spent by the Government to freed prisoners from Jails.(INR)
1	2	3	4
1.	Afghanistan	1	•N.A.
2.	Algeria	NIL	N.A.
3.	Argentina	NIL	N.A.
4.	Armenia	5	N.A.

1	2	3	4
5.	Australia	68	N.A.
6.	Azerbaijan	7	NIL
7.	Bahrain	95	5069143
8.	Belarus	1	NIL
9.	Bangladesh	24	28605
10.	Belgium	19	N.A.
11.	Bhutan	69	N.A.
12.	Botswana	NIL	N.A. .
13.	Brazil	2	NIL
14.	Brunei	1	NIL
15.	Bulgaria	NIL	N.A.
16.	Cambodia	3	NIL
17.	Canada	70	N.A.
18.	Chile	NIL	N.A.
19.	China	226	149056
20.	Colombia	1	N.A.
21.	Congo	NIL	N.A.
22.	Cote D' Ivoire	3	N.A.
23.	Croatia	NIL	NIL
24.	Cuba	1	N.A.
25.	Cyprus	6	NIL
26.	Czech Republic	NIL	N.A.
27.	Denmark	5	N.A.
28.	Egypt	1	N.A.
29.	Ethiopia	2	10799
30.	Fiji	1	524240
31.	Finland	1	NIL
32.	France	41	NIL
33.	Germany	51	NIL
34.	Ghana	NIL	NIL
35.	Greece	27	1031698
36.	Guatemala	3	NIL

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
37.	Guyana	NIL	31000	68.	Namibia	NIL	N.A.
38.	Hungary	NIL	N.A.	69.	Nepal	548	N.A.
39.	Iceland	NIL	NIL	70.	Netherlands		
40.	Indonesia	19	NIL	71.	New Zealand	13	N.A.
41.	Iran	6	1783751	72.	Niger	NIL	N.A.
42.	Iraq	2	340053	73.	Norway	NIL	NIL
43.	Ireland	NIL	NIL	74.	Oman	71	152497
44.	Israel	4	N.A.	75.	Pakistan	471	N.A.
45.	Italy	225	N.A.	76.	Palestine	NIL	N.A.
46.	Jamaica	NIL	NA.	77.	Panama	1	NIL
47.	Japan	7	NIL	78.	Papua New Guinea	NIL	NA.
48.	Jordan	23	391469	79.	Philippines	19	NIL
49.	Kazakhstan	NIL	NIL	80.	Poland, Lithuania	1	NA.
50.	Kenya	3	180392	81.	Portugal	9	N.A.
51.	Korea (DPR)	NIL	NA.	82.	Qatar	166	N.A.
52.	Korea (Republic of)	2	689950	83.	Romania	2	N.A.
53.	Kuwait	484	NIL	84.	Russian Federation	3	30983
54.	Kyrgyzstan	1	NIL	85.	Saudi Arabia	1575	
55.	Lao PDR	2	N.A.	86.	Senegal	2	83483
56.	Lebanon	1	N.A.	87.	Seychelles	NIL	N.A.
57.	Libya	NIL	159579	88.	Singapore	132	N.A.
58.	Malawi	NIL	N.A.	89.	Slovak Republic	1	N.A.
59.	Malaysia	298	NIL	90.	Slovenia Republic	NIL	N.A.
60.	Mali	NIL	N.A.	91.	South Africa	3	N.A.
61.	Malta	NIL	N.A.	92.	Spain	34	N.A.
62.	Mauritius	5	N.A.	93.	Sri Lanka	43	2118
63.	Mexico	2	N.A.	94.	Sudan	3	N.A.
64.	Morocco	NIL	NA.	95.	Suriname	NIL	N.A.
65.	Mongolia	NIL	N.A.	96.	Sweden	NIL	N.A.
66.	Mozambique	5	NIL				
67.	Myanmar	45	N.A.				

1	2	3	4
97.	Switzerland	1	N.A.
98.	Syria	4	74103
99.	Tajikistan	NIL	N.A.
100.	Tanzania	1	NIL
101.	Thailand	44	583674
102.	Trinidad and Tobago	NIL	N.A.
103.	Tunisia	NIL	NIL
104.	Turkey	2	NIL
105.	Turkmenistan	NIL	N.A.
106.	Uganda	1	N.A.
107.	United Arab Emirates	1690	15793808
108.	United Kingdom	378	N.A.
109.	Ukraine	1	N.A.
110.	U.S.A	647	14568
111.	Uzbekistan	1	N.A.
112.	Venezuela	NIL	N.A.
113.	Vietnam	1	N.A.
114.	Zambia	NIL	NIL
115.	Zimbabwe	1	NIL
TOTAL		7737	27124969

### Categorization of Minority Community

1325. SHRI RAJU SHETTY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the Government categorises minority communities;

(b) the State-wise population of Muslim community in various States of the country and the ratio of the population of Muslims in comparison to the total population of those States; and

(c) the steps being taken to give proportional representation to the Muslims in various commissions set up by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) The Central Government notifies minority communities under Section 2(c) of National Commission for Minorities (NCM) Act, 1992 in consultation with various stakeholders.

(b) State-wise population of the Muslims and the ratio population in the country (as per Census 2011) is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Adequate representation to Muslim community has been given in the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) which is under administrative control of the Ministry of Minority Affairs. In other Commissions set up by the Government, eligible and qualified persons are appointed as per the rules of the respective Commissions.

### Statement

#### *Statewise Population of the Muslims and the Ratio of Population in the Country (as per Census 2011)*

State	Total Population	Muslim Population	% of Total
Lakshadweep	64,473	62,268	96.58 %
Jammu and Kashmir	12,541,302	8,567,485	68.31 %
Assam	31,205,576	10,679,345	34.22 %
West Bengal	91,276,115	24,654,825	27.01 %
Kerala	33,406,061	8,873,472	26.56 %
Uttar Pradesh	199,812,341	38,483,967	19.26%
Bihar	104,099,452	17,557,809	16.87%

State	Total Population	Muslim Population	% of Total
Jharkhand	32,988,134	4,793,994	14.53 %
Uttarakhand	10,086,292	1,406,825	13.95%
Karnataka	61,095,297	7,893,065	12.92%
Delhi	16,787,941	2,158,684	12.86%
Maharashtra	112,374,333	12,971,152	11.54%
Gujarat	60,439,692	5,846,761	9.67 %
Andhra Pradesh	84,580,777	8,082,412	9.56 %
Rajasthan	68,548,437	6,215,377	9.07 %
Tripura	3,673,917	316,042	8.60 %
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	380,581	32,413	8.52 %
Manipur	2,855,794	239,836	8.40 %
Goa	1,458,545	121,564	8.33 %
Daman and Diu	243,247	19,277	7.92 %
Haryana	25,351,462	1,781,342	7.03 %
Madhya Pradesh	72,626,809	4,774,695	6.57 %
Puducherry	1,247,953	75,556	6.05%
Tamil Nadu	72,147,030	4,229,479	5.86 %
Chandigarh	1,055,450	51,447	4.87 %
Meghalaya	2,966,889	130,399	4.40 %
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	343,709	12,922	3.76 %
Nagaland	1,978,502	48,963	2.47 %
Himachal Pradesh	6,864,602	149,881	2.18%
Odisha	41,974,218	911,670	2.17 %
Chhattisgarh	25,545,198	514,998	2.02 %
Arunachal Pradesh	1,383,727	27,045	1.95%
Punjab	27,743,338	535,489	1.93 %
Sikkim	610,577	9,867	1.62%
Mizoram	1,097,206	14,832	1.35%

**Special Uniform**

1326. SHRI LALLU SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the requirements of special uniforms for the security of soldiers posted at borders / field areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision regarding the time-bound procurement of bullet proof jackets and security equipment / uniforms for the soldiers;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said procurement is likely to be completed;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate any policy for periodic review and necessary upgradation regarding the uniform of soldiers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Requirement for special uniforms for safety of soldiers deployed on borders / field areas in the country is assessed regularly and provision for introduction of new items / improved version of existing items is made as per prescribed procedure.

(c) and (d) The Government undertakes procurement of Bullet Proof Jackets (BPJs) and other necessary protective equipment / clothing for soldiers from time to time as per authorization. During 2016-17, 50,000 BPJs had been procured for Indian Army through Revenue route. The Contract for procurement of 1,86,138 BPJs through Capital route, under Buy (Indian) category, has been concluded in April 2018. Further, a contract for procurement of 1,58,279 Ballistic Helmet through Capital route had been concluded in December 2016.

(e) and (f) Upgradation and provision of improved version of special uniforms is a continuous process for which necessary steps are taken regularly.

**LHB Coaches**

1327. SHRI NIHAL CHAND:

SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of LHB coaches being manufactured by using new technique;

(b) the manner in which they are different from old and conventional coaches;

(c) whether the railway is contemplating to attach LHB coaches in all the express trains keeping in view the safety of passengers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the various steps being taken by the railways to check the accidents and to ensure passenger safety and whether any scheme is being worked out for this purpose and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) design coaches are lighter in weight, have higher carrying capacity, higher speed potential, increased codal life and better safety features as compared to Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches.

(c) and (d) The passenger coaches plying over Indian Railways (IR) have been designed with the necessary safety features considering the operating conditions over IR. However, with a view to providing safer and more comfortable journey to passengers, it has been decided to replace conventional ICF design coaches of Mail/Express trains with LHB design coaches in a phased manner. It has also been decided that only LHB coaches would be manufactured by Production Units of IR from April 2018 onwards.

(e) Safety is accorded the highest priority by IR and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and safety inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices.



As announced by Hon'ble Minister of Finance in his Budget Speech for 2017-18, a Fund namely 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK)' has been created with a corpus of ₹1 lakh crore to be utilized over a period of five years for replacement, renewal and upgradation of critical safety assets. A provision of ₹20,000 crore has been made in 2018-19 out of 'RRSK' to fund essential works for ensuring safety.

#### PSK In Seoni

1328. SHRI BODH SINGH BHAGAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) has been approved for setting up in Seoni district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether service has been started in this PSK and if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Seoni postal department has interrupted the setting up of PSK by giving wrong information regarding unavailability of adequate space to their Ministry; and

(e) if so, the necessary efforts being made by the Government for setting up of PSK?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) The Ministry in association with the Department of Posts has announced opening of 289 Passport Seva Kendras at the Head Post Offices

(HPO)/ Post Offices (PO) in the country called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendra' (POPSK). In Madhya Pradesh, 19 POPSK have been sanctioned which includes POPSK at Shivni. Out of these 19 POPSK, nine POPSK have been made operational.

(c) to (e) The Ministry intends to complete the requisite formalities for the operationalization of the remaining ten POPSK in Madhya Pradesh, including Shivni, at the earliest.

[English]

#### Sanctioned Railway Projects

1329. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the railway projects sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current year, zone-wise;

(b) whether a large number of railway projects are pending due to financial constraints;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/spent thereon so far, zone-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways to expedite completion of these projects in a stipulated time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The Zone-wise list of works of New Line, Doubling and Gauge Conversion included in Budget, subject to requisite approvals during last 3 years and current year is as under:-

Zonal Railway	Years			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5
Central Railway	8	7	3	1
Eastern Railway	1	2	0	0
East Central Railway	11	7	1	2
East Coast Railway	8	2	1	0
Northern Railway	6	6	7	3
North Central Railway	5	9	5	10

	1	2	3	4	5
North Eastern Railway		3	9	5	0
Northeast Frontier Railway		2	2	5	0
North Western Railway		2	0	2	1
Southern Railway		4	2	1	1
South Central Railway		8	1	1	0
South Eastern Railway		5	3	2	5
South East Central Railway		6	2	0	1
South Western Railway		3	1	1	3
Western Railway		4	3	20	3
West Central Railway		6	3	0	0

(b) and (c) The completion of railway projects requires clearance from various departments of State Government and Central Ministries like acquisitions of land, statutory clearance like forestry and wild life, shifting of utilities etc., which affect the pace and timely execution of projects. The details of all works in progress and new works including, funds spent on each project, allotment of funds and expenditure are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) and are also available in Pink Books presented before the House alongwith Budget every year.

(d) For timely completion of the projects, Railway is holding regular meetings with State Government and concerned Central Government officials on various issues involving alignment, land acquisition, forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of utilities etc.

[Translation]

#### Technical Agreement with UAE

1330. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has taken place between India and the United Arab Emirates in the field of technical cooperation recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether along with technical agreement with the UAE, discussions have also taken place regarding investment in the Railways;

(d) If so, whether a consensus has been reached regarding investment in some projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Railways and the Federal Transport Authority-Land & Maritime of the United Arab Emirates on technical cooperation in Rail Sector on 10.02.2018 for cooperation in the following areas :

- Regulation, safety and technical investigation of accidents;
- Station redevelopment;
- Locomotives, coaches and wagons; and
- Any other area jointly identified by the Participants.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. Discussion was also held with the Federal Transport Authority and Ethihad Rail regarding the ongoing infrastructure and rolling stock projects of United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the possibility of association of Indian companies in these projects.

*[English]***Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Seva**

1331. SHRI P.K. KUNHALIKUTTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to provide additional Jan Sadharan Ticket Booking Seva (JTBS) counters on MPs recommendations and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to allocate one more JTBS in Malappuram District on account of population and distance from the Railway Stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) an Sadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS) are engaged by Zonal Railways, based on traffic pattern.

(b) and (c) In view of six (06) JTBS already functioning in Malappuram District, at present there is no proposal to invite fresh applications for engaging JTBS.

**Allocation Of Backhaul Spectrum**

1332. SHRI BALKA SUMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is likely to avoid the auction route for allocating backhaul spectrum, or airwaves, in the E and V bands to help enhance mobile phone signal carrying capacity between two towers, reduce call drops and improve voice and data quality and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether TRAI has recommended that E band spectrum be charges at ₹ 10,000 a year per slot of 250 MHz each With an initial promotional discount of 50% for three years from the date of allocation of the first carrier in this band and for spectrum in V band, and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(c) Whether the working group on backhaul spectrum has proposed to allot such airwaves through auction instead of "fixed fee" as suggested by TRAI and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) The response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Government has received Telecom Regulatory Authority of India ( TRAI) recommendation dated 29.08.2014 on "Allocation and Pricing of Microwave Access (MWA) and Microwave Backbone (MWB) RF Carriers" which also includes recommendations on E and V bands.

Among others, TRAI has recommended that E band and V band should be opened with "light touch regulation" and allotment should be on a "link to link basis". It has also been recommended by TRAI that E band carrier should be charged at ₹ 10,000/- (₹ Ten Thousand) per annum per carrier of 250 MHz each. More than one channel can be allocated and allowed for aggregation. There should be initial promotional discount of 50% for three years from the date of allocation of first carrier in this band.

In case of charging of V band carriers, TRAI has recommended that it should charged ₹ 1000 (₹ One Thousand) per annum per carrier of 50 MHz each. More than one channel can be allocated and allowed for aggregation. There should be initial promotional discount of 50% for three years from the date of allocation of first carrier in this band.

Government sought certain clarifications which were provided by the TRAI vide their response dated 17th November, 2015. TRAI has clarified in its response dated 17.11.2015, among others, that E band carrier should be charged at ₹ 10,000/- (₹ Ten Thousand) per annum per link per carrier of 2 X 250 MHz and V band should be delicensed for indoor and outdoor based access applications like WiFi hotspots etc. TRAI has further stated that for V band in backhaul applications, since it is important to maintain records in WPC about details of location of antennas, spot frequency uses, antenna gain etc. so as to avoid any interference from the adjacent channels, it may continue to be on light-licensing and at the price recommended in the recommendations dated 29th August, 2014.

The above recommendations of TRAI are under consideration of the Department of Telecommunications.

**MOU for Mineral Exploration**

1333. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed any Memorandum of Understanding with any department/organisation for using satellite data for mineral exploration in the country during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the further action taken by the Government in this regard, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the following Departments/Organisations for using satellite data for mineral exploration in the country during the last three years and the current year:

- (i) With National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), Ministry of Steel, in February 2017, towards using Satellite data, for identifying potential areas for exploration of Iron and Diamond, in Madhya Pradesh. ISRO has also trained NMDC officials and established a remote sensing lab at NMDC, Hyderabad, for internalising remote sensing technology within NMDC.
- (ii) With Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL), Ministry of Steel, in September 2017, for mineral exploration studies to identify prospective areas of Manganese mineralisation in parts of Madhya Pradesh, using satellite data.
- (iii) Jointly with Department of Fertilizers (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Atomic Minerals Directorate

(AMD), in August 2017, for rock phosphate exploration in the Country.

**Wage Structure of GDS**

1334. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review the date of effect of the revised TRCA, admissible DA and other allowances of the Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) from 01/01/2016;

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

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to govern the Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) under GDS Employees Conduct & Engagement Rules, 2011 as statutory Rules within Art. 309 of the Constitution of India to safeguard the livelihood of the GDS Employees and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of other alternatives, if any, proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) No, Madam. No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

(b) The revised Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) as per the new TRCA matrix have been brought into effect with effect from 01.07.2018 after combining of different TRCA slabs viz 3 (three) hours, 3 (three and half) hours and 3 hours and 45 minutes (three hours and forty five minutes) to four hours, while four and a half hours has been merged with five hours. Since the revised TRCA is based on increased minimum working hours, which takes prospective effect, hence retrospective revision of enhanced working hours is not possible.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. The Gramin Dak Sevaks are holders of civil post, though such posts are outside the regular civil services. GDS are not required to perform duty beyond a maximum period of 5 hours in a day. One of the conditions for engagement as GDS is that they ought to have other sources of income, besides allowances paid by the Government, for

adequate means of livelihood for themselves and their family. The livelihood of the GDS is safeguarded under Article 311 (2) of the Constitution of India.

#### Allocation of Budget

1335. SHRI RAMESWAR TELI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation of budget and actual expenditure incurred on modernisation of armed forces during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to allow the private sector to play a major role in the production of weapons for the armed forces;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the modernisation of armed forces in view of constant military threats by our neighbours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Budget Allocation and Expenditure incurred under modernization (Capital Acquisition) Head under Defence Services Estimates (DSE) for the last three years and the current year is tabulated below:-

(₹ in crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Modified Appropriation	Expenditure
2015-16	77,406.69	65400.00	61,699.39	62,635.54
2016-17#	69,898.51	62,619.36	64,853.86	69,280.16
2017-18*	69,473.41	68,965.24	68,980.89	72,732.28\$
2018-19	74,115.99	—	—	—

(# figure excludes MF, ECHS, DGQA, NCC, RR, DGOF and R&D)

(\* figure excludes MF and ECHS)

(\$ provisional figures)

(b) and (c) Since the opening up of Defence industry sector in May 2001 for 100% manufacturing by Indian private sector including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to admissible cap both subject to licensing, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) has issued 379 licenses to 230 Indian Companies till June, 2018. Further, 70 license companies covering 114 licenses have reported commencement of production in the same period.

During the last three financial years and current year (upto June, 2018), 168 contracts have been signed (106 with Indian vendors and 62 with Foreign vendors) for capital procurement of Defence equipment for Armed Forces such as Tanks, Rifles, Rockets, Ships, Frigates, Aircraft, Radars, Missiles, Artillery Guns, Ballistic Helmets, Helicopters, Electronic Fuzes, Simulators, Bullet Proof Jackets and Ammunition.

(d) Government is taking measures for modernization of the Armed Forces, through

procurement of new equipment and upgrading of existing equipment and systems. The modernization projects are being progressed as per the approved Capital Acquisition Plans and in terms of the extant Defence Procurement Procedure.

[Translation]

#### FOBs in Patna City

1336. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders for two Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) in Patna City and Rajendra Nagar and six FOBs in Gulzarbagh, Danapur and Neura under Danapur zone were issued in 2016 itself;

(b) if so, the time by which work on these FOBs is likely to be started;

(c) whether these FOBs have been sanctioned keeping in view the inconvenience being faced by the people while moving across the railway line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam. Tenders for 06 Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) (1) Patna City -Bakhtiyarpur, (2) Rajendra Nagar - Gulzarbagh (3) Patna Jn.- Rajendra Nagar, (4) Patna Jn. Sachivalaya (5) Danapur - Neaora and (6) Neaora - Bihta were issued in the year 2016.

(b) Work has already started and FOBs at Didarganj (Patna City - Bakhtiyarpur), Rajendra Nagar (Rajendra Nagar - Gulzarbagh) and Rajendra Nagar (Patna Jn.-Rajendra Nagar) have already been completed and commissioned.

Work for construction of FOB at R-Block (Patna Jn.- Sachivalaya) is in progress. Work for construction of FOBs at Danapur - Neaora and Neaora -Bihta is yet to be started.

(c) These FOBs have been sanctioned keeping in view the inconvenience being faced by the people while moving across the Railway line. From April, 2018 FOBs are included in minimum essential amenities for all category of stations on broad gauge.

(d) Approval of drawing is awaited from State Government.

[English]

### Seats of Haj

1337. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of seats for Haj have been reserved under discretionary quota which are recommended by Hon'ble President of India, Hon'ble Vice-President, Hon'ble Prime Minister, various Ministries including Members of Parliament and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Jammu and Kashmir being a Muslim majority State has less number of seats resulting in a long wait period for pilgrims intending to perform Haj and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the Haj quota to private tour operators of the State and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) As per the guidelines approved by the Supreme Court of India in its order dated .23.07.2012, the number of seats allocated on the recommendations of the dignitaries are limited to the following:

The President of India	-	100 seats
The Vice-President	-	75 seats
The Prime Minister	-	75 seats
Ministry of External Affairs	-	50 seats
Haj Committee of India	-	200 seats.

With the transfer of Haj Affairs from Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) from 1st October, 2016, the seats reserved for MEA are being allocated on the recommendation of MoMA.

(b) The Haj quota allotted to Haj Committee of India (HCoI) are allocated to all States/ Union Territories in proportion of their Muslim population as per Census 2011. Further, as per the new Haj Policy for HCoI pilgrims for Haj 2018-22, in accordance with the new formula of allocation of surplus seats generated by under-utilized quota of States for Haj 2018, 2000 additional seats have been allocated to the State of Jammu and Kashmir as a special quota. Thus, for Haj 2018, a total of 10062 seats have been allocated to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. A total of 7960 seats were allocated during Haj 2017

(c) As regards the Haj quota allotted to private tour operators (PTOs), for Haj 2018, a total of 46,323 seats have been allocated to 609 PTOs from across the country. The selection of PTOs is done from among the applicant PTOs located in different parts of the country provided they fulfil the laid down eligibility conditions. For the State of Jammu and Kashmir, out of 11 PTO applicants, 7 PTOs have been selected and allocated quota for Haj 2018.

### Nyaya Mitra Scheme

1338. KUNWAR BHARATENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state?

(a) the details of the numbers and particulars of cases disposed off under the Nyaya Mitra Scheme;

(b) the names of the States in which the programme has been implemented;

(c) whether any measures are being taken to extend the Scheme to other States; and

(d) If so, provide a timeline for the expansion of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Disposal of cases is within the domain of judiciary. Nyaya Mitra initiative, besides assisting the district judiciary in reduction of pendency of ten year old cases, also aims at providing legal advice to the marginalized people, liaising with government departments and state legal services authority to fast track the disposal of cases, and referring cases to Lok Adalats. Nyaya Mitras have assisted the district judiciary in dealing with 236 cases which include civil cases such as matrimonial cases, accident claim cases and criminal cases.

(b) Nyaya Mitra initiative covers 16 States namely, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Tripura, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Mizoram.

(c) There is no proposal presently under consideration to extend the Nyaya Mitra initiative to other States.

(d) Does not arise.

### Aadhaar for Direct Benefit Transfer

1339. SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN:

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Aadhaar was intended for direct benefit transfers of subsidies and other benefits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the Government's rationale behind linking PAN, birth certificates, death certificates, voter ID, bank accounts, mobile phone numbers to Aadhaar number;

(d) whether instances of money laundering and black money have shown any decline post Aadhaar linkage; and

(e) if so, the details of the methodology of calculation used to assume at such figures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 stipulates the following:

*"The Central Government or, as the case may be, the State Government may, for the purpose of establishing identity of an individual as a condition for receipt of a subsidy, benefit or service for which the expenditure is incurred from, or the receipt therefrom forms part of the Consolidated Fund of India, require that such individual undergo authentication, or furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar number or in the case of an individual to whom no Aadhaar number has been assigned, such individual makes an application for enrolment:*

*Provided that if an Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual, the individual shall be offered alternate and viable means of identification for delivery of the subsidy, benefit or service "*

(c) The objective of Aadhaar seeding with various services is to prevent identity fraud, weed out fake and fictitious accounts/ PANs/ mobile numbers etc., used for money laundering, terror activities or avoiding taxes, and to ensure reduction in leakages of Government spending. For the beneficiaries, Aadhaar has emerged as powerful instrument to establish their identity anywhere at any time, receive entitlements and exercise their rights.

(d) and (e) Department of Revenue has informed that no such study has been conducted so far.

[Translation]

### Fire Incidents

1340. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fire incidents in the Railways reported in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during the last three years and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(b) the details of loss of lives and property and subsequent inquiry report in a recent major fire incident at Itarsi railway station and also in a major incident happened on 17th June, 2015;

(c) whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to stop recurrence of fire incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) One consequential train incident of 'fire in train' took place on the Jhansi Division (Morena/Madhya Pradesh) of North Central Railway on 25.01.2017. In addition, few other minor incidences of fire were also reported from Railways, within the jurisdiction of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh states, during last three years. In case of any fire incident, enquiry is conducted as per due procedure to ascertain the causes, fix responsibility and to take remedial measures.

No loss of life was reported in the fire incidents which occurred at Itarsi on 17.06.2015 and recently on 08.05.2018. However, loss of railway property to the tune of ₹ 19.5 lakh (approximately) and ₹ 50.50 lakh (approximately) was suffered by different Departments of Railways in the above fire incidents respectively. In the fire incident dated 17.06.2015, departmental action was initiated against delinquent railway staff under Discipline and Appeal Rules. A joint circular for safety check was also issued by concerned Directorates of Ministry of Railways in consultation with RDSO. In the recent fire incident dated 08.05.2018, action has been initiated against the firm held responsible for the fire.

Several steps are being taken to reduce incidents of fire in train coaches. It is a continual endeavour of Indian Railways to improve fire retardancy in coaches by providing fire retardant furnishing materials in

coaches. A parameter called Heat Release Rate has been added in the material specification of all major interior furnishing materials as per latest European norms, in order to improve fire safety in coaches. Instructions have been issued to Production Units for provision of following in all newly manufactured coaches:

- Fire detection and suppression system in all newly manufactured Power Cars and Pantry Cars;
- Fire and Smoke detection system in all newly manufactured Air Conditioned (AC) coaches;
- Fire extinguishers in all newly manufactured non-AC coaches ( in addition to AC coaches)

Steps have been taken to improve fire safety features in existing coaches also. In this direction, sanction under Rolling Stock Programme has been taken for provision of fire extinguisher in non-AC coaches, fire suppression and detection system in power cars and pantry car and fire & smoke detection system in AC coaches.

Besides, offenders carrying inflammable items are being prosecuted under relevant provisions of the Railways Act. Action is also being taken against persons found smoking in Railway premises.

### Manufacturing of Defence Products

1341. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the defence products manufactured in 41 ordnance factories of the country;

(b) whether the Government has provided adequate work to the said ordnance factories and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has issued licence to private industries for defence production and if so, the number of industries to which licences have been issued;

(d) the number of such private industries which have set up factories for defence production so far along with the number of factories which have started production and the details thereof;



(e) whether ordnance factories and public sector undertakings were taken into confidence before issuing licence to private industries for defence production and if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether they had expressed their inability in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(g) the total production from such private factories so far; and

(h) whether such production have been found successful in army trials and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Ordnance Factories manufacture various products like Artillery Guns, Small Arms, Mortars, Naval Guns, Tanks and Variants, Infantry Combat

Vehicles and Variants, Mine Protected Vehicles, Logistic & Special Purpose Vehicles, Ammunition, Explosives, Parachutes, Troop Comfort Equipment and Day / Night Vision Devices for Armed Forces and internal security. Ordnance Factories manufacture approximately 600 Principal Items. A list containing Major Principal Products is enclosed as Statement.

(b) Yes, Madam. In the year 2016-17, total value of issue to Army was ₹11,867 Crore and in 2017-18 the

value of issue was ₹11,413 Crore. For 2018-19, the Budget Estimate (BE) allocation to Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) by Army is ₹11,742.42 Crore.

(c) Yes, Madam. Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) has issued 379 licenses to 230 Indian companies till June, 2018.

(d) 70 licensee companies covering 114 licenses have reported commencement of production in the same period.

(e) and (f) Industrial license applications are forwarded by licensing authority i.e. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) to Department of Defence Production for its views. These are examined by the Standing Committee on Private Sector Participation which comprise representatives from Ordnance Factory Board and Public Sector Undertakings.

(g) and (h) As per Annual Production data furnished by 48 companies in financial year 2017-18, the value of their production as furnished by the Companies is ₹3,486.03 Crore. The information of trials of production by such licensee companies are not compiled.

### **Statement**

#### *Ordnance Factory-Wise Details of Major Products*

S. No.	FACTORIES	MAJOR PRODUCTS
1.	Ammunition Factory Khadki(AKF), Pune, Maharashtra	5.56 mm Ammunition, Bombs, Grenades, Cartridges for others Small Arms, Medium Caliber Ammunitions
2.	High Explosives Factory (HEF).Khadki, Pune, Maharashtra	TNT, HNS , Tetryl (CE), IPN, RFNA, 'G' Fuel, 'O' Fuel, Initiatory Explosives, Acids and Chemicals etc.
3.	Ordnance Factory Chanda (OFCH), Maharashtra	Tank Gun Ammunition, Mortar Ammunition., Anti-Tank and Anti-Personnel Mines, Rockets, Missiles War-Heads etc.
4.	Ordnance Factory Varangaon (OFV), Maharashtra	Cartridges viz. 7.62 mm Nato Ball M-80 Tracer M-62, 5.56 mm Ammunition
5.	Ordnance Factory Bhandara (OFBa), Maharashtra	Various types of Propellants and Explosives
6.	Ordnance Factory Dehu Road (OFDR), Maharashtra	Various Pyrotechnic compositions & Ammunition

S. No.	FACTORIES	MAJOR PRODUCTS
7.	Ordnance Factory Khamaria (OFK), Jabalpur, M.P.	Small Arms Ammunition, Anti-Aircraft Ammunition, Anti-Tank Ammunition, Ammunition For Air Force and Navy
8.	Ordnance Factory Itarsi (OFI), M.P.	Various types of Propellants and Chemicals
9.	Cordite Factory Aruvankadu (CFA), Tamil Nadu	Various types of Propellants and Chemicals
10.	Ordnance Factory Badmal (OFBL), Odisha	Tank and Artillery Ammunition, 30 mm Ammunition
11.	Ordnance Factory Project Nalanda (OFPN), Bihar	Bi-modular Charge System (Planned)
12.	Metal & Steel Factory (MSF), Ishapore, West Bengal	Various Ferrous and Non-ferrous castings & extrusion, component & other stores including Cartridge Cases and shell forgings, Light/Medium/Heavy Steel Forgings including Gun Barrel Forgings
13.	Ordnance Factory Ambajhari (OFAJ), Nagpur, Maharashtra	Ammunition Hardware (Shells, Fuzes and Cartridge Cases), Light Metal Floating Bridge, Extruded Aluminium Rods/ Sections, Pressure and Die-Cast Components, Pinaka Rocket etc.
14.	Ordnance Factory Ambarnath (OFA), Maharashtra	Cartridge Case, Brass Cup of various sizes, Brass Coils, Low and High Tensile Aluminium Alloy, Extruded sections
15.	Machine Tool Prototype Factory(MPF), Ambarnath, Maharashtra	Design, Developments and Manufacture of special purpose machine tools and equipment, components and sub-assemblies for Armoured and Transport vehicles and weapon spares, Electronic Fuze, Kavach Chaff Launcher for Navy
16.	Ordnance Factory Bhusawal (OFBH), Maharashtra	Drums, Barrels, Ammunition Boxes, Cylinders & Tin Containers, Fuel Tanks
17.	Ordnance Factory Muradnagar (OFM), U.P.	Plain carbon and alloy steel castings for Tanks, Empty Bodies of various ammunition, Hot Die Tool, Steel forgings. Track Link for Tanks
18.	Ordnance Factory Katni (OFKAT), M.P.	Non-Ferrous Rolled & Extruded sections, Cups for Small Arms Ammunition, Die-cast components, Heavy Caliber Cartridge Cases
19.	Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project (HAPP), Trichy, Tamil Nadu	Empty Shots for Kinetic Energy Ammunition of various calibers (120 mm, 125 mm), Anti-Submarine Rocket hardware, Tungsten Spheres for Pinaka Rocket
20.	Gun Carriage Factory (GCF), Jabalpur, M.P.	Light Field Gun, T-72 Tank Gun Recoil System, Carriages for Artillery Guns, Anti-Aircraft Gun, various Types of Mortars, 12 Bore Pump Action Gun & various Ammunition Packages

S. No.	FACTORIES	MAJOR PRODUCTS
21.	Vehicle Factory Jabalpur (VFJ), Jabalpur, M.P.	Army Transport & Logistic Vehicles and variants, Mine Protected Vehicles
22.	Grey Iron Foundry(GIF), Jabalpur, M.P.	Automobile Casting of Grey & Malleable Iron for Vehicles & other applications
23.	Ordnance Factory Kanpur (OFC), U.P.	Medium & High Calibre Guns, Mortar Bomb bodies, Ammunition hardware
24.	Small Arms Factory (SAF), Kanpur, U.P.	5.56 mm LMG, LMG 7.62 mm, MAG 7.62 mm, .50" Rifle Sporting, .32" Revolver, 9mm Carbine
25.	Field Gun Factory (FGK), Kanpur, U.P.	High Calibre Ordnance & Spare Barrels, .32" Revolver
26.	Rifle Factory Ishapore (RFI), West Bengal	5.56mm INSAS Rifle, Pistol 9mm Auto, .315' Sporting Rifle, .22" Sporting Rifle
27.	Gun & Shell Factory (GSF), Cossipore, West Bengal	Medium Calibre Guns, Ammunition hardware, .32" Pistol, 84mm Rocket Launcher
28.	Ordnance Factory Dum Dum (OFDC), Dum Dum, West Bengal	Ammunition hardware / components
29.	Ordnance Factory Trichy (OFT), Tamil Nadu	7.62mm Rifle, 12.7 AD Gun & Spares, 30mm Cannon for BMP II, 14.5 mm Sub-Calibre Device for T-72 Tank, 23 mm Ghasha Twin Barrel Gun for MIG
30.	Ordnance Factory Project Korwa (OFPK), U.P.	Carbine (Planned)
31.	Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Tamil Nadu	Battle Tanks viz. T-90 and MBT Arjun, Combat Improved Ajeya Variants, Tank Spares & Overhaul of T-72
32.	Engine Factory Avadi (EFA), Tamil Nadu	Engines for Battle Tanks and Infantry Combat Vehicles, overhaul of Engines
33.	Ordnance Factory Medak (OFMK), A.P.	Infantry Combat Vehicle Sarath, Variants, Bullet Proofing of Cars & Spares for ICV
34.	Ordnance Factory Dehradun (OFDUN), Uttarakhand	Sighting & Fire control instruments for Tanks, Fire control instruments for Guns & Mortars, Range finder, Binoculars, Compasses, Air field Lighting Equipment, Night Vision Instruments
35.	Opto Electronics Factory (OLF), Dehradun, Uttarakhand	Precision Opto Mechanical/ Electronic instruments for sighting and fire control of T-72 & Infantry Combat Vehicles, Laser Range Finder
36.	Ordnance Cable Factory Chandigarh (OCFC)	Field Telephone cable, Carrier Quad cable, 20 Conductor cable, 3KV Air Field Lighting cable, Beta light devices, optoelectronic sight

S. No.	FACTORIES	MAJOR PRODUCTS
37.	Ordnance Equipment Factory Kanpur (OEFC), U.P.	Leather Items, Textile Items, Engineering Equipment including Mountaineering Items
38.	Ordnance Parachute Factory (OPF), Kanpur, U.P.	All types of Parachutes viz. Brake Parachute, Supply Dropping & Man Dropping Parachutes, Tent, Clothing & Rubberised Items like Floats for Bridges & Inflatable Boats
39.	Ordnance Equipment Factory Hazratpur (OEFHz), U.P.	Tents, Mosquito Nets & other Clothing Items
40.	Ordnance Clothing Factory Shahjahanpur (OCFS), U.P.	All Combat Clothing, Mountaineering Extreme Cold Clothing, Textile & Tentage Items
41.	Ordnance Clothing Factory Avadi (OCFAV), Tamil Nadu	All Combat Clothing & Parade Garments, Parachutes, Tents, DLD covers, Vest etc.

### **Solar Panel on Trains**

1342. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Railways has installed rooftop solar panels on some trains on experimental basis;

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

(c) whether the Railways proposes to install such rooftop solar panels on other trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (e) Details of fitment and outcome are as below:

- (i) Solar Panels on trial basis have been retrofitted on the rooftop of 06 Nos. Trailer Coaches of Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) in July 2017.
- (ii) Solar Panels have been installed on 10 Nos Exhibition Coaches of Swachhata Express in March 2018.
- (iii) In addition to above flexible solar panels have also been retrofitted on 11 coaches of Sitapur-

Rewari passenger in the month of July 2018 to augment the battery charging.

- (iv) 50 no. of Guard vans have been retrofitted with solar panel in 2017-18.

Outcome:

- (i) Retrofitment of Solar Panel on roof of DEMU Trailing Coaches exhibition coaches and passenger coaches produces 10 Kwh (units) of electricity per clear day which is sufficient to run fans and lights.
- (ii) Solar Panel in guard van produces 1.2 KWH (Kilo Watt Hours) of electricity per clear day.

(c) and (d) There are further sanctions available for provision of Solar Panels on 530 Nos. Trailing Cars of DEMUs and in 750 nos Guard Brake vans and the work of retrofitment of Solar Panels in coaches will be done in different workshops and DEMU Sheds of Indian Railways.

*[English]*

### **Centre of Excellence**

1343. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any plans to devise a system within the NITI Aayog to involve ideas and inputs of Indian students studying in premier institutions across the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry also plans to promote the idea of establishing Centers of Excellence in top universities across the world to attract ideas for India's development;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no plan to devise a system with in the NITI Aayog to involve ideas and inputs of Indian students studying in premier institutions across the world.

(c) to (e) There is no plan for establishing Centres of Excellence in top universities across the world.

#### **Mobile Connectivity in North East Region**

1344. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that there is no proper mobile connectivity along the border in the North East and the rest of India and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether a joint survey was conducted by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Border Security Force (BSF) in the North East area of the country and if so, the details, the objectives and the outcomes thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the Indian forces posted at India Bangladesh border are using Bangladeshi SIM cards to connect with their family and friends and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the number of mobile towers installed and proposed to be installed on the International border areas of North East Region along with the time frame set in this regard, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) In most of border areas in the North Eastern Region, there is no proper mobile connectivity as these areas are remote and inaccessible. Out of 5,98,004 inhabited

villages in the country, 52,685 inhabited villages are uncovered with mobile services.

(b) A joint survey was carried out by representatives of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Border Security Force (BSF) to deploy mobile services in border outposts for Central Armed Police Forces. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the same was prepared by BSNL and was forwarded to Ministry of Home Affairs.

(c) There is no such report regarding using of Bangladeshi SIM Cards by the Indian forces deployed on Indo-Bangladesh border.

(d) There are 262 numbers of towers installed by BSNL along International border areas of North Eastern Region. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Further, the Government has approved a proposal to implement a 'Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region'. The Project envisages to provide mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages in the North Eastern Region which includes border area villages too. The estimated cost of implementation is ₹ 8120.81 crores and would be funded -from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement – I**

##### *State-Wise Number of Mobile Towers Installed by BSNL Along International Border Areas of North Eastern Region*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Mobile Towers
1.	Meghalaya	36
2.	Mizoram	06
3.	Tripura	188
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
5.	Manipur	3
6.	Nagaland	0
7.	Sikkim	11
8.	Assam	18
Total		262

**Statement – II***Schemewise Number of Villages to be Covered and Number of Towers Alongwith Cost Thereof*

S. No.	Scheme	Number of villages to be covered	Number of towers	Cost (₹ Crore)
1.	Mobile connectivity in Arunachal Pradesh and 02 districts of Assam (Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao)	4119	2817	2258.18
2.	Mobile connectivity in other States of North East (except Meghalaya) and along National Highways (Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim)	2128	2004	1655.66
3.	Mobile connectivity in Meghalaya on 2G+4G Technology and along National Highway on 2G Technology	2374	2173	3911
4.	Augmentation of optical fibre connectivity between State Capitals and District Headquarters			295.97
Total Cost				8120.81

*[Translation]***Delay in Construction of Solapur-Osmanabad Rail Line**

1345. PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in construction work of Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad rail line;

(b) whether the survey work for said rail line has been completed and if so, the estimated cost of construction thereof; and

(c) whether any time frame has been stipulated for the completion of Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad rail line and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Solapur-Osmanabad via Tuljapur (80 km) new line project has been included in the Umbrella work of new lines in Pink Book 2018-19 at a cost of ₹ 953 crore subject to requisite Government approvals. The Detailed Project

Report of this line shall be prepared which will be appraised by NITI Aayog.

*[English]***Light Touch Licensing**

1346. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce the light touch licensing for those that register to provide public Wi-Fi services and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes to allow unlicensed entities to provide the aforesaid services and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said unlicensed entities may not have to share revenues with the Government and only need to follow rules on security, monitoring and lawful interception and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether establishing public Wi-Fi networks without licence will be illegal in view of violation of the

Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering ways to make the said programme attractive for all stakeholders in a bid to rapidly roll out hotspots across the country by the end of 2018; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (f) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its suo motu recommendations dated 09.03.2017 to Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on the subject "Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks". These recommendations, inter-alia, state as under:

- (i) A new framework should be put in place for setting up of Public Data Offices (PDOs). Under this framework, PDOs in agreement with Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOAs), should be allowed to provide public Wi-Fi services.
- (ii) PDOAs may be allowed to provide public Wi-Fi services without obtaining any specific license for the purpose. However, they would be subject to specific registration requirements (prescribed by the DoT) which will include obligations to ensure that e-KYC, authentication and recordkeeping requirements (for customers, devices and PDOs enlisted with the PDOAs) are fulfilled by the PDOAs.
- (iii) Entities registered as PDOA need not pay any fees on a revenue share basis.

This matter is under consideration and decision, as appropriate, will be taken in due course.

[Translation]

#### **Increase in Fare**

1347. SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fares of trains are higher as compared to air fare;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the number of train passengers has decreased due to higher train fare;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to connect the passengers with train services by providing more new railway lines so that more people use train as a measure of transportation and travelling; and

(e) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Passenger fare of trains may or may not be higher than Air fares. Railways and Airlines are different modes of transport system and it is the choice of the passengers to opt either Railway or Airlines for travelling. Further, the fares on airlines between same origin-destination differ in different airlines as well as in different services during the day in the same airlines. The fares also vary during weekdays/weekends and peak/lean seasons based on demand pattern. Hence, fares of Indian Railways are not comparable with airlines.

(c) No, Madam. During 2016-17, the number of originating passengers travelled on Indian Railways was 8116 millions vis-a-vis 8107 millions in 2015-16, registering an increase of 0.11%.

(d) and (e) Providing more new lines is an ongoing continuous process over Indian Railways based on operational requirement, commercial viability, technical feasibility and resource availability.

(English]

#### **Nuclear Power Station**

1348. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a strong opposition to the installation of Nuclear Power Stations at Jaitapur and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the present status of the said project;

(c) whether some of the European countries have closed down the nuclear power projects in their countries and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the installation of the said project in view of the closure

of the nuclear projects in European countries and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) There have been sporadic protests by a section of the locals against setting up of the nuclear power plant at Jaitapur. Groups ideologically opposed to nuclear power have also protested against the project. The protests have mainly been on account of issues related to Rehabilitation, apprehensions about safety of the plant and loss of traditional means of livelihood.

(b) The current status of Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project (JNPP) is as follows:

- (i) Land for the project and residential township has been acquired.
- (ii) Agreement for Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) package has been signed between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) and the State Government, and is being implemented.
- (iii) Statutory Environmental and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances have been obtained from MoEF&CC.
- (iv) Site infrastructure and technology independent site investigation works are in progress at various stages.
- (v) Discussions of NPCIL with EDF on Techno-Commercial Proposal (TCP) for setting up 6 EPR units to arrive at a project proposal, in line with the Industrial Way Forward Agreement (IWFA) are in progress.
- (vi) Neighbourhood welfare and Public Awareness activities are in progress.

(c) In the aftermath of the Fukushima accident in 2011, Germany had shutdown 8 nuclear power reactors that had completed their economic life and announced

a plan for gradual phase out of the remaining 9 by 2022. Switzerland had also announced a gradual phase out of nuclear power. These decisions are country specific and depend on factors like the country's nuclear and energy policies, requirements, availability of various energy options, market conditions etc. However, most countries with nuclear power programmes are continuing with their programmes. At present there are 453 reactors in operation (including 7 in Germany) and 57 reactors under construction in the world. Several new entrants like Bangladesh, UAE, Belarus, Turkey have embarked on nuclear power. It may be also mentioned that Japan has also started operating eight reactors which were shutdown following the accident.

(d) No, Madam. Nuclear power is clean and carbon free energy with huge potential that can provide the country long term energy security in a sustainable manner. Considering the huge and growing electricity demand of the country, nuclear power projects including Jaitapur will therefore be pursued.

*[Translation]*

#### **Sainik Schools**

1349. DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:

SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sainik schools in the country at present, location and State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to open new sainik schools in various places including in Alwar district;

(c) if so, the details thereof location and State-wise along with the time by which the said schools are likely to start functioning;

(d) the approximate percentage of students selected for employment in Army from these sainik schools;

(e) whether admission of girl students in Mizoram sainik school has been approved and if so, the details thereof; and



(f) whether the Government proposes to approve the admission of girl students in all the sainik schools and if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) 27 Sainik Schools are presently functioning in the country. State wise list of the Sainik Schools is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) 20 proposals for establishing Sainik Schools from various States / UTs including Sainik School at Alwar District of Rajasthan as per details in the enclosed Statement-II are with Government. After signing of Memorandum of Agreement, the onus of providing necessary infrastructure like land, buildings etc. are that of the concerned State Government.

(d) Year wise percentage of cadets in National Defence Academy (NDA) from Sainik Schools for last three years is as follows:-

Year	Percentage
2015	23.92
2016	29.33
2017	26.15

(e) and (f) Girl students have been admitted in Sainik School, Chhingchhip, Mizoram from the academic session 2018-19 as a Pilot Project. The admission of girl students in Sainik Schools across the Country is to be considered after reviewing the outcome of the Pilot Project.

**Statement – I**

*State-Wise List of Sainik Schools in the Country*

S. No.	Name of School	State
1.	Sainik School Korukonda	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Sainik School Kalikiri	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Sainik School Goalpara	Assam
4.	Sainik School Nalanda	Bihar
5.	Sainik School Gopalganj	Bihar

S. No.	Name of School	State
6.	Sainik School Ambikapur	Chhattisgarh
7.	Sainik School Balachadi	Gujarat
8.	Sainik School Kunjpura	Haryana
9.	Sainik School Rewari	Haryana
10.	Sainik School Sujanpur Tira	Himachal Pradesh
11.	Sainik School Nagrota	Jammu & Kashmir
12.	Sainik School Tilaiya	Jharkhand
13.	Sainik School Bijapur	Karnataka
14.	Sainik School Kodagu	Karnataka
15.	Sainik School Kazhakootam	Kerala
16.	Sainik School Rewa	Madhya Pradesh
17.	Sainik School Satara	Maharashtra
18.	Sainik School Imphal	Manipur
19.	Sainik School Chhingchhip	Mizoram
20.	Sainik School Punglwa	Nagaland
21.	Sainik School Bhubaneswar	Odisha
22.	Sainik School Kapurthala	Punjab
23.	Sainik School Chittorgarh	Rajasthan
24.	Sainik School Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan
25.	Sainik School Amaravathi Nagar	Tamil Nadu
26.	Sainik School Ghorakhal	Uttarakhand
27.	Sainik School Purulia	West Bengal

**Statement – II***Status of Pending Proposals for Opening of New Sainik Schools*

S. No.	State	District	Remarks
1.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
2.	Rajasthan	Alwar	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Mainpuri	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Amethi	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
6.	Uttarakhand	Rudraprayag	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
7.	Odisha	Sambalpur	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
8.	Telangana	Warangal	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	Niglok Village District East Siang	Memorandum of Agreement signed.
10.	West Bengal	Darjeeling	"In-principle" approval accorded.
11.	Assam	Golaghat	"In-principle" approval accorded.
12.	Punjab	Gurdaspur	Site Survey completed.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar	Site survey completed.
14.	Andaman and Islands	Escobar Diglipur, North Andaman	Site survey completed. UT Administration has been requested to obtain Environment/Forest clearance as most of the site earmarked for Sainik School has been classified as deemed forest.
15.	Haryana	Jhajjar	State Govt, to indicate date for site inspection.
16.	Sikkim	West Sikkim	State Govt. to indicate date for site inspection.
17.	Jharkhand	Godda	"In-principle" approval accorded.
18.	Tripura	West Tripura	State Govt to indicate date for site inspection.
19.	Madhya Pradesh	Muraina	Proposal Stage
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Bagpat	Formal proposal is awaited from State Govt.

*[English]***Railway Safety Fund**

1350. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH

CHANDEL:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has created a corpus of ₹ 1 lakh crore to give a major boost to safety-related works connected with tracks, rolling stock and proliferation of other safety technologies and training of staff and if so, the facts in this regard;

(b) whether this corpus has started funding safety related works and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all safety related measures have been compromised as over one lakh posts related to the railways' safety mechanism are vacant;

(d) if so, the response of the Union Government thereon;

(e) the manner in which the Government will use the corpus fund in the absence of workforce; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for proper utilization of corpus funds and to speed up safety-related works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As announced by Hon'ble Minister of Finance in his Budget Speech 2017-18, a Fund namely 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh' has been introduced in 2017-18 for works relating to renewal, replacement, upgradation of critical safety assets under Capital segment of Budget. The Fund has a corpus of ₹ 1 lakh crore over a period of five years, with an annual outlay of ₹ 20,000 crore. The Fund is utilized to finance identified works under plan heads Track Renewals, Bridge Works, Signalling and Telecommunication Works, Road Safety Works of Level Crossings and Road Over/Under Bridges, Rolling Stock, Traffic Facilities, Electrical Works, Machinery and Plant, Workshops, Passenger Amenities and Training. The Fund has been introduced in 2017-18 and in the first year of its inception, an expenditure of ₹ 16091 crore has been incurred. An outlay of ₹ 20,000 crore has been allocated in Budget Estimates 2018-19 also.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. All safety related measures are taken in full earnestness and all maintenance and other activities are carried out with the help of existing manpower, mechanized means and need based outsourcing.

(e) and (f) Guidelines for operating of 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK)' have been issued by Ministry of Finance. These guidelines include sources of financing RRSK, definition of safety works, summary of RRSK works identified, process of identifying/preparation of action plan on safety, approval framework and monitoring framework of RRSK safety plan.

Planning Directorate of Railway Board has been assigned the task of regularly monitoring physical and financial progress of works funded through 'RRSK'. In addition, an independent 'RRSK Monitoring Committee' has been created headed by CEO, NITI Aayog to regularly examine the RRSK performance. The RRSK progress/performance shall also be reviewed annually by the 'Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

#### **Electrification of Railway Network**

1351. DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH  
CHANDEL:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has launched grand drive of 100 per cent electrification of the country's railway network and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the present status of the electrification of railways network in the country;

(c) whether the decision to electrify 100 per cent of the network was taken without adequate multi-

disciplinary high level consultations and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is a need for 100% electrification especially when massive working infrastructure is already in place for diesel traction and if so, the response of the Union Government thereon;

(e) whether the US multinational General Electric had signed an agreement with the Government in 2015 to build the modern diesel locomotive factory in a joint venture with the Railways to supply 1,000 high horsepower diesel engines exclusively to the Indian Railways over 10 years; and

(f) if so, the fate of the aforesaid agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Ministry of Railways has planned to optimally electrify balance Broad Gauge (BG) routes of Indian Railways. Balance unsanctioned work of non-electrified routes of 13675 route kilometer has been included in Budget 2018-19 and will be taken up for execution for optimal length after requisite sanctions.

(b) As on 01.04.2018 status of Railway Electrification on various gauges on Indian Railways is as under:-

	Broad Gauge	Meter Gauge	Narrow Gauge	TOTAL
Route Kilometers	61680	3479	2209	67368
Electrified	30212	-	—	30212
Un-electrified	31468	3479	2209	37156

(c) No, Madam. Decision for requirement of electrification of balance un-electrified Broad Gauge (BG) routes, has been taken after multi-disciplinary high level consultation with NITI Aayog & Ministry of Finance.

(d) Yes, Madam. It is an operational necessity to electrify the balance Broad Gauge routes for seamless train operation on electric traction by eliminating detention of trains due to change of traction from diesel to electric and vice versa. Existing infrastructure of diesel sheds will be used for maintenance of electrical

locomotives. Electrification of Balance BG network will entail following advantages:-

- (i) Haulage of heavier freight trains and longer passenger trains with high haulage capacity of Electric Locomotives
- (ii) Increased sectional capacity by eliminating detention on account of traction change.
- (iii) Reduced Operating and maintenance Cost of Electric Loco.
- (iv) Environmental friendly mode of transport.
- (v) Reduced dependence on imported diesel fuel.

(e) Yes, Madam. This agreement is for procurement of diesel locomotives which would be better than conventionally used diesel locomotives in terms of impact on environment, fuel efficiency and higher reliability. Further, these diesel locomotives shall be deployed for strategic operational and emergency need even after electrification.

(f) The Agreement is in force and under execution.

#### NECTAR

1352. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:

SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE:

DR. HEENA VIJAY KUMAR GAVIT:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken adequate initiative for the implementation of the North East Centre for Technology Application and Research (NECTAR) since its inception;

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

(c) the financial allocation made to NECTAR during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the target set by NECTAR in different areas;

(e) the details of ongoing projects under the above centre; and

(f) the targets set and the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The full form of NECTAR is "North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach". Subsequent to the Cabinet decision in June, 2012, (NECTAR) has been registered as a Society under the Society Registration Act, 1860 on 30.11.2012 with its registered office at Shillong, Meghalaya. However, due to lack of accommodation in Shillong, the organization is presently functioning from Delhi. Recently, NECTAR has taken some vacant space on lease from Survey of India at Shillong and requested the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) to carry out necessary fittings and furnishings to enable shifting of NECTAR to Shillong. The Govt. of Meghalaya has also allocated land for setting up the office of NECTAR. Necessary action for construction of office at the allocated site will commence after shifting of office to the temporary site in Survey of India premises at Shillong.

The Memorandum of Association, Rules & Regulations and Bye-laws of NECTAR have been approved. Further necessary actions to strengthen NECTAR are underway. NECTAR is doing projects for all North Eastern States and is in constant touch with State Governments for formulating new projects.

(c) The financial allocation made to NECTAR during the last three years and current year is as follows:

Financial Allocation		
Year	Amount (in crore)	Remarks
2015-16	2.0	NECTAR did not need financial support from the Government from the year 2016-17 onwards as the expenditure was met out of repayments received from units assisted under Technology Developments Assistance, earnings from projects sponsored by Central/State Governments and other organizations, especially from projects related to geospatial applications.
2016-17	NIL	
2017-18	NIL	
2018-19	NIL	

(d) NECTAR's mandate is to find and demonstrate technologies in the North East region as per technology gaps identified in consultation with State governments and, therefore, setting of specific targets is not feasible.

(e) and (f) The details of ongoing projects, targets set by NECTAR, and their achievements are as follows:

S. No.	Project	Target	Achievements/Status
1.	Tura Extension CCTV Project	12 Locations of Tura City have been proposed for CCTV extension project at a cost of ₹20 lakhs	Under feasibility survey stage
2.	Arunachal Pradesh Police Defined Radio (SDR) Project	The project was taken up for installing 82 new SDR sets at various locations including 12 vehicle mounted radios. It provides uninterrupted communication network connecting Zimithang to Vijayanagar Border.	Partially completed
3.	High Resolution Multispectral data for Ministry of Agriculture	Acquisition of High Resolution Multispectral data for Karnal, Ahmadnagar and Raichur for Ministry of Agriculture at a total cost of ₹7.12 lakhs	Field work completed, data under processing

S. No.	Project	Target	Achievements/Status
4.	Survey and Study of Submergence area of proposed Barmul dam on Mahanadi River and 20 km Link Canal Alignment	400 sq. km of area for Feasibility Survey of the proposed Dam at Badmul Village and 20 km Canal Alignment survey through UAV /Drone Flying at a total cost of ₹15.00 lakhs for Ministry of Water Resources.	Field work completed. Report in final stage.
5.	Setting up / construction of around 1174 numbers of pre-fabricated Kitchen-cum-Store under Mid day Meal at various locations in Manipur	Supported setting up/construction of around 1174 numbers of pre-fabricated Kitchen-cum-Store under Mid-day Meal at various locations in Manipur, funded to the extent of 75% by Education Department, Manipur Government.	Ongoing. 462 numbers have been constructed and delivered.

### NMDFC

1353. DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE:

SHRI MOHITEPATIL VIJAYSINH

SHANKARRAO:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) along with the details of utilization of allocated funds by NMDFC for the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of the schemes of NMDFC and the procedure to avail concessional loans under these schemes;

(c) whether most of the beneficiaries are not in a position to avail concessional loans provided under these schemes due to complicated procedures;

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to make NMDFC more effective?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC)

utilizes fund allocated by the Central Government in its equity alongwith the repayments received from State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) for disbursement to respective SCAs. The details of fund allocated by the Central Government in equity of NMDFC and fund disbursed by NMDFC to SCAs during the last three financial years and current financial year 2018-19 is given as under:

Year	Funds allocated by Ministry (₹ in crore)	Funds Disbursed by NMDFC to SCAs/States (₹ in crore)
2015-16	120.00	473.29
2016-17	140.00	503.32
2017-18	170.00	570.83
2018-19	165.00	112.00

(as on 30.06.2018)

State/SCA-wise details of fund drawn/utilized by respective SCAs during last 3 years and current financial year 2018-19 is available on the website of the corporation i.e. [www.nmdfc.gov.org](http://www.nmdfc.gov.org). and also available on the website of Ministry i.e. [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in).

(b) The schemes of NMDFC are being implemented for the socio-economic development of the 'backward sections' amongst the notified minorities through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) nominated by the respective State Governments/UT Administration.

Following schemes are being implemented by NMDFC:

A. Concessional Credit Schemes

1. Term Loan
2. Micro Finance
3. Education Loan.
4. Mahila Samridhi Yojana

B. Promotional Schemes:-

1. Vocational Training Scheme
2. Marketing Assistance Scheme.

Details of the schemes and procedure for availing the concessional loan are available on the website of the corporation i.e. [www.nmdfc.gov.org](http://www.nmdfc.gov.org). and also available on the website of Ministry i.e. [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in).

(c) to (e) In order to cut down on waiting time for sanction of loan for the applicant, NMDFC has given full authority to the SCAs, for sanction & disbursement of loan. Further, the SCAs have also been advised from time to time to reduce the lead time, between submission of application form by the applicant to sanction of loan by the SCA and release of loan immediately after completion of disbursement formalities by the identified beneficiary.

Further, following steps have also been taken for effective implementation of NMDFC schemes:-

- (i) Ministry of Minority Affairs provide grants-in-aid through NMDFC for strengthening the infrastructure & operational capability of State Channelising Agencies (SCAs).
- (ii) Enhancement of Annual Family Income eligibility criterion up to ₹6.00 lac per annum for greater coverage of persons from the targeted minority communities.
- (iii) Quantum of loan under Term Loan scheme has been increased from ₹ 10.00 lac to ₹30.00 lac while under Micro Finance scheme, it has been increased from ₹50,000/- to ₹1.50 lac per Self Help Group (SHG). member. Under Education Loan scheme, the quantum of loan has been increased from ₹5.00 lac to ₹20.00 lac for domestic courses and from ₹10.00 lac to ₹30.00 lac for courses abroad.

- (iv) Introduction of Self Declaration/Self Certification/Self Attestation of documents in case of Religion Certificate, Family Income, Residence Proof, Mark Sheet, etc.
- (v) Transfer of loan directly in Bank. Account of Beneficiary through NEFT/RTGS.
- (vi) Insurance of beneficiary and their assets to safeguard against any untoward incident.

**Coal Mafia**

1354. SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:

DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention is drawn to coal mafia interfering in the management of Government owned coal mines in several States;

(b) if so, the details of such coal mines, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any measures to get rid of such illegal and unauthorized interference of coal mafia and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any complaints have been received from the owners of private coal mines regarding such interference of coal mafia during the last three years and the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No Madam. There are no such reports of any coal mafia's interfering in the management of Government owned coal mines of Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

(d) Any interference from any organized criminal elements in the working of private mines is an issue related to law and order in the State which is under the

jurisdiction of the State Government. No such incident has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(e) Does not arise in view of above.

[Translation]

#### **Ceasefire Violations**

1355. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

DR. BHARATIBEN D. SHYAL:

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

SHRI KIRTI AZAD:

SHRI ALOK SANJAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Army has lost a soldier every third day in the line of duty during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of cases of ceasefire violation reported during the last three years and the current

year at India-Pakistan Border particularly in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) the number of personnel of Army, Border Security Force, Jammu and Kashmir Police and civilians killed and injured in the ceasefire violation during the said period, year-wise;

(d) the retaliatory action taken by the Government in this regard and the terrorists killed during the said period, year-wise;

(e) whether the Government has taken up the matter in UNO and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the UNO thereto; and

(f) whether defence experts / military officers have apprehended that Pakistan is unlikely to relent on ceasefire violation and if so, the details and the Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Details of Army, BSF personnel and civilians killed/injured in the CFVs during the said period:

Period	Army personnel (CFV)		BSF personnel (CBF)		Civilians	
	Fatal	Injured	Fatal	Injured	Fatal	Injured
2015.	06	17	04	09	16	71
2016.	08	74	05	25	13	83
2017.	15	58	04	14	12	79
2018.	15	12	12	47	28	140

No personnel of J&K Police got killed in the incidents of ceasefire violations / cross border firing during last three years and current year (upto June).

(d) Appropriate retaliation to these ceasefire violations has been carried out wherever necessary. During ceasefire violations, the inhabitants of border villages which are vulnerable to shelling / firing are shifted to safer locations to prevent any loss of life. All arrangements are made for free boarding, lodging, medicare, water, electricity, food, sanitation and transport to safer places in such cases. The defences

along the border are adequately fortified to withstand fire. Continuous improvements, including the usage of modern technology, in the defences are made to make them more robust and resilient.

The details of terrorists killed along the LoC / India-Pakistan Border in Jammu and Kashmir Border, in the last three years including current year (up to January, 2018) are as under :



Sl. No.	Year	Number of Terrorist killed
(i)	2015	108
(ii)	2016	150
(iii)	2017	213
(iv)	2018	110 (upto 22 July)

(e) and (f) Government's consistent position is that United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has outlived its relevance with the signing of the Simla Agreement in July 1972. India has lodged strong protests with Pakistan side at the continued unprovoked firing and ceasefire violations across the Line of Control and the International Boundary. Pakistan was asked to put an end to all kinds of support being given to cross border infiltration of terrorists, including through covering fire and adhere to the Ceasefire Understanding of 2003.

[English]

#### **Pending Commercial Disputes**

1356. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

SHRI D.K. SURESH:

SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the commercial disputes are not disposed off in a time bound manner resulting in negative impact on Ease of Doing Business and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total number of commercial disputes pending in the country in various courts, the details for the last three years, year wise; and

(c) whether the Government has taken any measures to ensure that commercial disputes are disposed off in a time bound manner to promote Ease of Doing Business and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (c) In order to facilitate speedy disposal of commercial disputes of specified value of Rupees one crore and above, the Government had enacted the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015. By the said Act, certain amendments have been made in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 with a view to fast track and reduce delays in disposal of commercial cases. Furthermore, the Government endeavors to provide for speedy resolution of commercial disputes of reasonable value which will further improve India's Rank in the World Bank Report on Doing Business. In this regard, a Bill replacing the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 promulgated on 3rd May, 2018, has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 23rd July, 2018. As per the Ordinance, the specified value of a commercial dispute has been reduced to Rupees three lakhs from the present one crore and a mechanism for Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement has also been provided as a measure to encourage Alternative Dispute Resolution process for settlement of commercial disputes.

(b) The details of the commercial disputes pending in the country, as collected from various High courts for the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of the Commercial Disputes Pending in the Country for the Last Three Years*

S. No.	Name of the State	Total number of pending Commercial disputes during each of the last three years		
		2015	2016	2017
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jharkhand	3	16	69
2.	Assam	15	11	10
		(as on 31.12.2016)	(as on 31.12.2017)	(as on 28.02.2018)

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Sikkim	0	0	2
4.	Karnataka	104	108	408
5.	Gujarat	922 (as on 31.12.2016)	1118 (as on 31.12.2017)	1130 (as on 28.02.2018)
6.	Tripura	30		
7.	Bihar	—	0	4
8.	Delhi	6452	11987	16267
9.	Uttar Pradesh	5501	7808	11793
10.	Chattisgarh	2282		
11.	Punjab	—	109	191
12.	Haryana	—	150	236
13.	Chandigarh	—	147	139
14.	High Court of Odisha	365	428	384
Besides, 46 numbers of commercial disputes are pending before the commercial courts established in the District of Khurda at Bhubaneswar, Ganjam at Berhampur and Sambalpur.				
15.	Maharashtra (excluding Mumbai)	562 (as on 31.12.2016)	393 (as on 31.12.2017)	447 (as on 31.03.2018)
16.	Goa	119 (as on 31.12.2016)	116 (as on 31.12.2017)	121 (as on 31.03.2018)
17.	Daman and Diu	28 (as on 24.04.2017)	Nil (as on 31.12.2017)	Nil (as on 31.03.2018)
18.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	Nil (as on 18.05.2017)	Nil (as on 31.12.2017)	23 (as on 31.03.2018)
19.	Rajasthan	109	162	223
20.	Kerala	Nil		
21.	Meghalaya	—	—	01
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	3833	4171	6234
23.	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	88	107	1459

[Translation]

**Dedicated Freight Corridors**

1357. SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:  
 SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:  
 SHRI BHARAT SINGH:  
 SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI  
 VASAVA:  
 SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

PROF. RICHARD HAY:

SHRI GEORGE BAKER:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Dedicated Freight Corridor Project (DFCP);

(b) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under the scheme till date, State-wise including Gujarat;

(c) the States and corridors selected under the scheme till date alongwith the current status thereof;

(d) whether the Government is facing any type of difficulties in certain States for its construction; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the reasons therefor and the measures taken by the Government to deal with these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Some of the salient features of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Project are as:-

- Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) is from Ludhiana to Dankuni (1318 Kms Ludhiana to Sonnagar and 538 Kms Sonnagar to Dankuni) and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) is from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) to Dadri (1504 Kms);
- Designed for a maximum speed of 100 Km/h;
- Substructure designed for an axle load of 32.5 tons and superstructure with axle load of 25 tons; and
- Capacity to run long haul train of 1500 meter length.

(b) The project is not State-specific and no State-wise position for funds allocated/utilised is kept. However, total estimated cost and expenditure incurred on both EDFC and WDFC is as under:

Corridor	Estimated Cost (in Crore)	Expenditure incurred till May 2018 (In ₹ Crore)
EDFC	30,358	16,308.55
WDFC	51,101	22,156.43
Total	81,459	38,464.98

(c) Western DFC passes through States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra and Eastern DFC through States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. 98.7% of land required for both the corridors has been acquired. Overall 97.2% of total contracts have been awarded. The financial and physical progress on both corridors is 47.2% and 49.6% respectively.

Both EDFC and WDFCs are targeted for commissioning in phases by year 2020.

(d) and (e) The project faced some difficulties usually faced in execution of any Railway project such as delay in land acquisition, resistance by Project-affected Persons (PAP) and environmental/forest clearance. These are resolved by constant interaction with and assistance from concerned agencies and the State Governments.

[English]

#### MoU of RFI

1358. SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN:

SHRI R.R. SENTHIL'NATHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from MPs to probe into the issue of approval of MoU of RFI with a Technological Partner as decided by the Board Meeting of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) held on 28 February 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of vacancy position;

(c) whether the OFB has written any specific reply on 24 October 2017 to the Department of Defence Production with regard to this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (d) A letter was received from Hon'ble MP (LS) in October 2017 with a request to expedite the proposal under 'Make in India' program, Public-Private Partnership program [DCD Grand Power & Grand Power-OFB] for co-production of latest technology small arms.

Another letter was received in March 2018 from the same Hon'ble M.P. stating that even after the due process, the Department of Defence Production (DDP) had sent back the proposal to Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) citing incorrect procedure followed and also lack of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) with OFB. The reply, clarifying the status of the case, was sent to the

Hon'ble M.P. in May 2018, based on the grounds enumerated below.

The proposal for signing of MoU was forwarded by OFB to the DDP in March 2017. The MoU was returned to OFB in July 2017 as it was found deficient in terms of procedure followed. Earlier in September 2016, OFB had been asked to formulate a SOP for selection of the technology partners. In October 2017, OFB stated that the criterion adopted for the selection of a prospective partner has been clearly defined in the Expression of Interest (Eoi) issued by them. Pending approval of the SOP for the selection of technological partner, the proposal for MoU between M/s Grand Power and OFB was returned to OFB in January 2018 intimating that the same would be progressed based on the approved SoP for the selection of technological partner. The revised SOP for the selection of technological partner, incorporating the suggestions of the Ministry, was submitted by the OFB in February 2018 which after examination was approved by the Ministry in March 2018. Copy of the approved SOP by the Ministry is enclosed as Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Guidelines for Selection of Technology Partner*

*(As Approved by DDP vide MoD ID No. 2(4)/2016/  
Empowering OFB/DP (Pig-III) Dated 12/03/2018)*

1. OFB is engaged in production of items for Indian Defence Forces and Security Forces. To keep pace with technological developments and enter into new business areas to align with core strength, OFB needs to acquire new and advanced technologies through Transfer of Technology (ToT), co-production or collaboration agreements with suitable technology partners.
2. Selection of technology partner may be necessitated by the need for the following:
  - a) Joint Research & Development activity
  - b) Manufacturing ToT
  - c) Co-production activity
  - d) Maintenance ToT
  - e) Short-term partnerships for specific projects/tenders

- f) Separate Joint Venture company to be set-up jointly
  - g) To become Indian Offset Partner of foreign OEMs for areas relating to OFB
  - h) Up-gradation of existing products
3. Selection of technology partner has to be done after careful analysis and consideration of several factors. Therefore, there is a need to formalise the process for selection of technology partners. The procedure, as outlined in succeeding paras, shall be followed for selection of technology partner.

3.1 The need for technology partner, in terms of technological requirement, can be divided in 2 categories:

- Where defence equipment is required against an available PSQR/GSQR of Indian Armed Forces: In such cases, it is essential that the technical/operational requirement of the equipment as mentioned in the QRs is fully met. If a respondent is not able to offer the equipment as per the stated QR, it becomes ineligible to be a technology partner.
  - Where OFB is looking for a technology partner for a particular product segment or technology pro-actively, which could have the potential to be supplied to Indian Armed Forces, non-defence market and export: In such cases, the requirement of performance parameters of the product or technology can be divided into 2 parts -one part which would be essentially required for the respondent to be eligible to be a probable technology partner and the other part may become part of evaluation criteria.
4. The selection of technology partner will be through Global Expression of Interest (Eoi).

4.1 Member of the concerned division of OFB will decide to issue Global Eol on case to case basis in consultation with Member/Finance.

#### 5. Issue of Eol

5.1 Eol will be issued by OFBHQ.

5.2 Member of the concerned division of OFB will constitute an Eol Committee for preparation of Eol document to be issued for selection of technology partner. The Committee will have a member from Finance. Further, if considered necessary, an officer from concerned lab of DRDO may be co-opted as a member of the Eol committee. In case representative from concerned lab of DRDO in the Eol committee is not considered necessary, the reasons of the same may be recorded while constituting the Committee.

5.3 The Eol Committee will specify all the essential technical and financial parameters in the Eol document. These parameters will determine the eligibility of the respondents. Only those respondents, who satisfy these parameters, will be considered for further evaluation for ranking amongst themselves as stated in the succeeding paras.

5.4 Besides the essential parameters/criteria, the Eol document will invariably specify the criteria for comparative evaluation of the eligible responses. Comparative evaluation of eligible responses will be done only in those cases where more than one response is found eligible based on the essential parameters/criteria. If there is only one eligible response, comparative evaluation will not be required.

5.5 The criteria for comparative evaluation of eligible responses may include the following parameters:

a. Range and depth of technology being offered: To evaluate range of

technology being offered, the respondents will be asked to provide a list of all the assemblies and their value in terms of percentage of the total system. Against each system, the respondents will have to indicate whether technology for the assemblies would be provided or not. This will also include details of propriety content. In order to assess the depth of technology, all the assemblies/sub-assemblies for which technology is being offered, will be divided into following categories:

- Category A: Complete technology is provided i.e. product documents/specifications as well as production process documents. For such assemblies, full weightage for the value of the assembly in percentage terms will be given.
- Category B: Only product document is provided and no production/process documents are provided. Only 50% weightage for such assemblies/sub-assemblies will be given.

The respondents will have to provide information in Table as Annexure - A. There could be certain assemblies/sub-assemblies which may fall in the area of core-competency-of OFB, and for which OFB may have greater preference for ToT as compared to other assemblies/sub-assemblies. Such assemblies/sub-assemblies should be specified in the Eol document. Further, the Eol Committee may assign higher weightage for such assemblies/sub-assemblies over and above the weightage specified for Categories 'A' & 'B' above.

b. Proposed Indigenisation Content: In some cases, it is possible that the respondent, which may be foreign OEM, may already

- have tie-up with some Indian company for supply of a particular sub-assembly and would like to continue supplying that sub-assembly through their Indian partner. Considering 'Make in India' policy of Government of India, weightage may be given to this parameter.
- c. Status of the respondent: The respondents against the Eol issued by OFB may have the status of being either OEMs or their authorized licensees or Design Agency or Government sponsored Export Agencies. However, considering the relative ease and advantage of partnership depending upon the status of the respondent, as mentioned above, suitable weightage may be given for this parameter.
- d. Status of System offered: Suitable weightage may be given against this parameter considering whether the system offered by the respondent is in-service or proven or under evaluation. In case the Eol Committee decides that the system has to be in-service/proven, this parameter may be removed from here and included in the eligibility criteria suitably.
- e. Technologies and performance parameters offered: As brought out at para 3.1 above, suitable weightage may be given for various technologies sought and performance parameters desired from the product.
- f. Exclusivity of collaboration/ToT in India: The respondents who would enter into an exclusive collaboration/ToT arrangement with OFB need to be given preference over others who intend to have collaboration/ToT arrangement with other companies in India also. This is to ensure that the respondent has full commitment towards OFB, which is essentially required to safeguard the interest of OFB.
- g. Possibility of addressing exports from India: The companies which do not put any restrictive clause in the collaboration agreement for export of defence equipment developed in collaboration to foreign countries will be given preference over others, who put conditions such that the equipment developed can be supplied to Indian Armed Forces only.
- h. The provision for support on upgrades: Suitable weightage may be given to this parameter considering that upgrades are a very important aspect of any defence industry.
- i. Addressing of obsolescence: Generally, defence equipment have a life cycle varying from 25-40 years and therefore addressing of obsolescence of spares/sub-assemblies of the defence equipment is a very important activity for sustaining the weapon for its full life.
- j. The provision of product support: Sometimes OFB may need product support to complement the capability and capacity at Ordnance Factories. Therefore, if necessary, suitable weightage may be assigned to this aspect.
- k. Delivery period required for proprietary items: Timely availability of proprietary items will have a bearing on production and supply of defence equipment by OFB. Higher weightage may be given for faster delivery.
- l. Financial Parameters: The Eol Committee may lay down suitable financial parameters to assess the financial health of the respondent. The Eol Committee may also like to refer to DPP or relevant guidelines/policies of Govt. of India for defining these parameters.
- 5.6 The above parameters are broad guidelines. The Eol Committee may choose to include any or all of the above

parameters based on the specific requirement of Eol. Further, the Eol Committee may include additional technical parameters that may be considered necessary for the Eol.

5.7 The Eol Committee will assign weightages to the parameters chosen for evaluation, as well as specify the method/principle for assigning unweighted score against each parameter. The weightages and the method/principle for assigning unweighted scores should be mentioned in the Eol document. Table at Annexure-'B' indicates the procedure to be followed for calculation of points for evaluation.

5.8 The Eol committee may also consider holding Pre-Bid meeting for any clarification required by the vendors.

#### 6. Evaluation of Eol

6.1 An evaluation committee will be constituted by Member of the concerned division of OFB for evaluation of Eol. The committee will have a member from Finance. Further, if considered necessary, an officer from concerned lab of DRDO may be co-opted as a member of the evaluation committee. In case

representative from concerned lab of DRDO in the evaluation committee is not considered necessary, the reasons of the same may be recorded while constituting the Committee. The Eol committee and Evaluation committee can have common members.

6.1.1 The Evaluation Committee will prepare a matrix of various parameters as mentioned at para 5.5 above. The matrix will be prepared in the format given in the Annexure - B. Based on the matrix, the committee will rank the eligible technology holders as Rank I, Rank II, etc.

6.2 The Evaluation Committee shall recommend suitable technology partner with highest ranking for Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) / Collaboration Agreement.

6.3 The evaluation report will be examined by the concerned division and approved by the concerned Member/OFB.

7. After the approval as above, a Board Paper will be processed for signing of MoU with the selected technology partner.

#### **Annexure – A**

##### *Technology Transfer*

Name of the Sub-Assembly	Value of Sub-Assembly as a percentage of total system	ToT offer (Yes/No)	Category (A/B)	Weightage (1/0.5)	Final percentage after considering weightage
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(B×E)
Sub-Assy. (I)					
Sub-Assy. (II)					
Sub-Assy. (III)					
Sub-Assy. (IV)					
Total Technology offered					$\Sigma(B \times E)$

**Annexure – B***Evaluation Matrix*

Performance Parameter	Weightage	Score		
		Respondent A	Respondent B	Respondent C
P1	W1	A1	B1	C1
P2	W2	A2	B2	C2
P3	W3	A3	B3	C3
Pn	Wn	An	Bn	Cn
Total Points earned by the respondent		$\Sigma (W_i \times A_i)$	$\Sigma (W_i \times B_i)$	$\Sigma (W_i \times C_i)$

**Passport Offices in the Country**

1359. SHRI GEORGE BAKER:

SHRI ANIL SHIROLE:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI PARBHUBHAI NAGARBHAI  
VASAVA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of passport offices and Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) currently operational across the country, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra, Gujarat and West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government has prepared/preparing a list off the areas where new passport offices and PSKs may be opened and existing one's to be modernised in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for maximum coverage area under these centres; and

(e) whether the Government is planning to introduce any new scheme in this regard across the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) At present, 93 Passport Seva Kendras

(PSK) and 215 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) are operating across the country as extended arms of the 36 Passport Offices, thus providing extended reach to passport applicants.

(b) to (e) The Ministry in association with the Department of Posts has announced opening of 289 Passport Seva Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/ Post Offices (PO) in the country called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendra' (POPSK). Out of the 289 POPSK announced, 215 POPSK are functional as on 19th July, 2018.

The Government intends to open one POPSK in all the Lok Sabha Parliamentary Constituencies.

The Passport Offices, the PSK and the POPSK in the country are fully modernised. After the nation-wide roll-out of the Passport Seva Project, the Passport Offices, the PSK and POPSK are supported by state-of-the-art technology infrastructure which enables end-to-end passport services to be delivered with enhanced security.

**Absolute Poverty Line**

1360. SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the findings of NSSO Consumer Expenditure Survey 2017-18, which form the basis of



calculations of absolute poverty, have been released by the Government;

(b) if so, the main findings thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which such findings are likely to be released;

(c) whether the Government has taken/ proposed to take care of the World Bank's suggestions of poverty line for 'the poor', 'lower middle income' and 'upper middle income' in the process of defining an absolute poverty line in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) As per the information received from National Sample Survey Office of M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation the data collection work of Consumer Expenditure Survey 2017-18 has been completed in the month of June, 2018. After completing the activities of data processing, verification and validation, generation of results etc. the final results are expected to be released within a year i.e. by the end of June, 2019.

#### **Collapse Of ROB In Andheri**

1361. KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:  
SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR:  
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:  
SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made an estimation of the loss of property in the collapse of a Road Over Bridge (ROB) in Andheri, Mumbai in the recent past;

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

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry to fix accountability of such collapse of ROB;

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

(e) the number of such incidents along with loss of property and lives reported therein across the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Estimated loss of property in the collapse of Road Over Bridge in .Andheri, Mumbai is approximately is 7.88.54 lakh.

(c) and (d) Commissioner of Railway Safety/Western Circle has been nominated for conducting enquiry. Enquiry is in progress.

(e) One such incidence has taken place previously in Gujarat State (Ahmedabad) on 03.10.2015 where loss of property was 7.8.50 lakh and no life was lost.

#### **Crew Escape System**

1362. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR:  
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the name of Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) clients along with the revenue generated during each of the last three years;

(b) the total amount allocated, disbursed and spent by ISRO for its projects during the said period;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make ISRO a profitable organization;

(d) whether the ISRO has carried out a series of tests to qualify a Crew Escape System recently; and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the aims/objectives thereto and expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The clients using ISRO's commercial products and services include strategic customers, Government of India/PSUs, private users and international customers. The Client list is enclosed as Statement. The revenue generated during the last three years is as follows:

2015-2016	:	INR 1794.93Crores
2016-2017	:	INR 1872.93Crores
2017-2018	:	INR 1932.27Crores

(b) The total amount allocated, disbursed and spent by ISRO for its projects/ programmes in the areas of Space Transportation Systems, Earth Observation, Satellite Communication & Navigation, Space Science and Planetary Exploration during last three years i.e. 2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18 are given below:

(Rupees in Crore)

Financial Year	Amount Allocated (BE)	Amount Disbursed (RE)	Spent
2015-16	2477.79	2183.95	2207.67
2016-17	2208.10	2557.32	2613.27
2017-18	1762.96	2253.52	2388.24

(c) (i) Antrix Corporation Limited (ANTRIX), the commercial arm of Indian Space research Organisation, is marketing the Satellite Capacity on the Indian Communication Satellites bringing revenue to the Department of Space.

(ii) ANTRIX is marketing products and services from Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) program and also offers TTC services to international customers.

(iii) Launch Services is also an important business earning valuable Foreign Exchange. We have launched 237 satellites from 29 countries till date.

(iv) ANTRIX takes part in the major International and National Exhibition and portrays the products and services emanating from Indian Space Programme. It includes building and launching of satellites for customers, establishment of Ground Segment, provisioning of wide variety of data from Indian Remote Sensing Satellites, capacity building and consultancy application projects.

(d) Yes Madam, ISRO has carried out Pad Abort Test successfully to qualify Crew Escape System required for Human Spaceflight, on 5th July 2018 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

(e) As part of the activities for development of critical technologies for future Human Spaceflight, Pad Abort Test was carried out to demonstrate the Crew Escape System during any exigency at launch pad. The Crew Escape System is configured using specially designed quick acting solid motors that deliver a relatively large thrust to take the crew module to a safe distance. Experimental data from this mission will serve as a useful input to undertake human spaceflight programme. An amount of ₹173.00 crores is approved for development of critical technologies including Crew Escape System

#### **Statement**

##### *Clients of ISRO/ Antrix Corp. Ltd.*

Sl. No	Name of Customers/ Users
1.	Airport Authority of India
2.	All India Radio, Prasar Bharti
3.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
4.	Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geo - Informatics (BISAG)

Sl. No	Name of Customers/ Users	Sl. No	Name of Customers/ Users
5.	Directorate of Police Wireless, POLNET	33.	Calcutta TV Network Ltd.
6.	Doordarshan, Prasar Bharti	34.	Dish TV India Limited
7.	Directorate General (Radio & Television) Afghanistan through Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)	35.	Eastern Media Limited
8.	Dte of Police & Director of Police Wireless, Pune	36.	Eenadu Television Pvt. Ltd.
9.	Electronics Corporation of India (ECIL)	37.	HCL Comnet Systems & Services
10.	ERNET India	38.	Hughes Communications India Ltd.
11.	GyanDarshan, IGNOU	39.	Independent News Service Pvt. Ltd
12.	Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)	40.	Independent TV Limited (Reliance Big TV)
13.	Indian Institute of Astrophysics	41.	Indiasign Private Limited
14.	Indian Railways Project Management Unit (IRPMU)	42.	Indira Television Limited
15.	Integrated Test Range, Chandipur	43.	Information TV Private Limited
16.	Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited	44.	Infotel Satcom Pvt. Ltd.
17.	Ministry of Human Resource Development	45.	Kalaingar TV Pvt. Ltd.
18.	National Center of Seismology (NCS), MoES	46.	Kalinga Media & Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.
19.	National Informatics Centre (NIC)	47.	Kasthuri Medias Private Ltd.
20.	National Remote Sensing Centre	48.	Lamhas Satellite Services Limited
21.	ONGC Limited	49.	Malayalam Communications Limited
22.	AM Television Pvt. Ltd.	50.	Metronation Chennai TV Pvt. Ltd.
23.	ABP News Network Pvt. Ltd.	51.	MH One TV Network Limited
24.	Asianet News Network Pvt. Ltd.	52.	MM TV Pvt. Ltd.
25.	Associated Broadcasting Co. Ltd. (TV9)	53.	New Delhi Television Ltd. (NDTV)
26.	Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd.	54.	News Nation Network Pvt. Ltd.
27.	Bharti Airtel Limited	55.	Ortel Communication Limited
28.	Bharti Telemedia Ltd.	56.	Planetcast Media Services Limited
29.	Bhutan Broadcasting Corp. Ltd.	57.	Pride East Entertainments Ltd.
30.	Brahmaputra Tele-productions	58.	Rachana Television Pvt. Ltd
31.	Broadcast Equipment India Pvt. Ltd.	59.	Reliance Jiointocomm Ltd.
32.	Business Broadcast News Pvt. Ltd.	60.	S.B. Multimedia Limited
		61.	Shreya Broadcasting Pvt. Ltd.
		62.	Skyline Telemedia Services Pvt. Ltd.
		63.	Sri Venkateswara Bhakti Channel
		64.	Sun Direct TV Pvt. Ltd.

Sl. No	Name of Customers/ Users
65.	Sun TV Network Limited
66.	Surya Processing Food Pvt. Ltd.
67.	Sri Venkateswara Bhakti Channel Pvt. Ltd.
68.	Tata Sky Limited
69.	Tatanet Services Limited
70.	TV 18 Broadcast Limited
71.	TV Today Network Limited
72.	Writemen Media Pvt. Ltd.
73.	Zee Media Corporation Limited
74.	India Meteorological Department, New Delhi
75.	Intelsat, USA
76.	KSAT, Norway
77.	CNES, France
78.	Centum Electronics Private Limited, Bangalore
79.	Data Patterns Private Limited, Bangalore
80.	DRDL, Hyderabad
81.	PES University, Bangalore
82.	GAF AG, Germany
83.	CRIES, Algeria
84.	University of Dundee, UK

#### **Pilferage of Coal**

1363. DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:

SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:

SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:

SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT:

SHRI R. DHROVANARAYANA:

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of illegal coal mining and coal pilferage are increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents reported during the last six months, State- wise;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out quantum of revenue losses due to coal pilferage every year and if so, the details of the survey;

(d) whether alleged involvement of some of the security personnel and officers of various companies have come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Union Government has launched the Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) and mobile application 'Khan Prahari' to monitor unauthorised activities and if so, the details along with the features and the objectives thereof;

(f) whether there is a need for spreading greater awareness about the App among the workers of coal India subsidiaries and the common man so that illegal mining activities could be stopped;

(g) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard and

(h) the other steps taken by the Union Government to curb the illegal coal mining?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF COAL, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Law & Order is a State subject, hence primarily; it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal. As informed by Coal India Ltd., it is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and losses incurred on account of theft / pilferage and illegal mining of coal, however, as per raid conducted by security personnel of CIL as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered and its approximate value during the last three years are as under:

*Theft/Pilferage of Coal- Subsidiarywise and State-Wise*

Co.	State	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (Provisional)	
		Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)	Qty. Recovered (te)	Approx. Value (Rs. Lakh)
ECL	West Benal	4993.27	249.670	7804.76	390.230	8667.24	433.362
	Jharkhand	2645.78	132.320	3500.66	175.030	2346.53	117.327
		7639.05	381.990	11305.42	565.260	11013.77	550.689
BCCL	Jharkhand	12071.40	529.670	12718.85	549.604	5093.34	199.113
	West Bengal	445.84	20.544	810.44	33.601	537.35	20.198
		12517.24	550.214	13529.29	583.206	5630.69	219.311
CCL	Jharkhand	99.00	1.050	147.00	1.470	539.97	15.791
NCL	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.000	3.00	0.042	0.00	0.000
		0.00	0.000	3.00	0.042	0.00	0.000
WCL	Maharashtra	53.00	1.120	225.15	5.420	261.96	7.634
	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.000	3.00	0.180	0.00	0.000
		53.00	1.120	228.15	5.600	261.96	7.634
SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.000	3.50	0.140	26.00	0.570
	Chhattisgarh	57.50	2.105	25.00	1.500	38.00	0.770
		57.50	2.105	28.50	1.640	64.00	1.340
MCL	Odisha	63.10	0.631	57.80	0.380	92.53	0.925
NEC	Assam	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.000
Coal India		20428.89	937.110	25296.16	1157.556	17602.92	795.690

The numbers of such incidents reported during the last six months are 05 (01 in SECL & 04 in CCL). The details of involvement of some of the security personnel and officers of various companies are as under: -

**SECL:** In the incident of coal pilferage at Chirimiri OCP during the last six months i.e. from 01/01/2018 to 30/06/2018, investigation has been conducted by the Vigilance department and gross violation of Standard Operating Procedure resulting in coal pilferage has been observed. Accordingly Regular Disciplinary Action under major penalty against one executive and Disciplinary proceeding against one Wage Board employee has been taken up.

**CCL:** In case no. RDS-04/2016 Dt. 19.01.16, charge sheet has been issued to the then Head Security Guard/Security Incharge, Jharkhand Colliery, HB Area by the Disciplinary Authority on 31.01.2016. After completion of Departmental Inquiry, the official has been dismissed from the services of the company on 19.06.2017.

(e) to (g) Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) and 'Khan Prahari' App have been launched on 4th July 2018 to monitor unauthorized coal mining activities. The Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS) is a web based

application which can be used to detect, monitor and take action on any kind of illegal coal mining activities being carried on within the leasehold boundaries in the coalfield areas. During the launching on 04.07.2018, the print & electronic media were invited to spread greater awareness about the App.

**Salient features of CMSMS:** It uses the platform of National Centre of Geo-Informatics (NCoG), which is a Platform of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeiTY). On this platform, Village level GIS map of India is already available which are being used for e-governance applications of various government departments. Coal mining related information has been provided in the form of layers. Presently the layers available on this system are-Coalfield Boundaries, Boundaries of geological Coal blocks (CIL and SCCL), Leasehold Boundaries and Information/report of land reclamation.

Illegal coal mining activity can be detected in 2 ways:

- Through scanning of satellite data - This will be done at CMPDI wherein satellite data will be scanned to detect any coal mining activity which is extending outside the authorised leasehold area.
- Through report by citizens by 'Khan Prahari' Mobile application - Any citizen can report any illegal coal mining activity through the mobile app in the form of textual or geo-tagged photographs.

Reports generated through the above sources will be automatically forwarded to Nodal Officers who have been nominated by CIL/SCCL as well as various State Governments. The Nodal Officers will verify the reported activity and take action like filing a police report for taking action as per law or informing the law enforcing agencies. The action taken will also be fed into the system so that any person can see the status of his complaint through the complaint tracking system in the CMSMS. The identity of the complainant shall not be revealed.

(h) Law & Order is a State subject, hence primarily; it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining of coal. However, following

suitable steps are being taken by the coal companies to check such incidents :

- a. Rat holes created by illegal mining are regularly dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.
- b. Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- c. Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- d. Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place."
- e. Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones.
- f. Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- g. Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points.
- h. Training of existing security/CISF personnel, refresher training and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup;
- i. Close liaison with the State authorities.
- j. Committee/task force has been constituted at different level (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, state level) in some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

#### **DNA Technology Regulation Bill**

1364. SHRI TEJ PRATAP SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI ANJU BALA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the DNA Technology Regulation Bill, 2018;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government decided to expand the application of DNA-based forensic technologies to

support and strengthen the justice delivery system of the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up DNA data banks across India to store profiles and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government for the development and application of DNA technologies;

(f) whether the Government has included provision of jail term to those who leak the information stored in DNA data banks and if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a to (g) Yes Madam, the Government has approved tabling of the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018 in Parliament. This will facilitate establishment of identity of certain category of persons including the victims, offenders, suspects, under trials, missing persons and unknown deceased persons. The Bill has provisions to establish a DNA Regulatory Board and setting-up National and Regional DNA Data Banks. This also has provisions for development of uniform code of practices in all laboratories involved in DNA testing; education & training of the personnel involved in justice delivery system; and creating societal awareness. This Bill also has provisions for penalties including imprisonment for unauthorized disclosure of information stored in DNA Data Banks.

[Translation]

#### **Encroachment on Railway Land**

1365. SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:

SHRIMATI BHAVANA GAWALI (PATIL):

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any Action Plan for removal of encroachment from railway land across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of times demolition drive was conducted by the Railways under different zones during the year 2014 and 2017 along with the area of land

cleared from encroachers as a result thereof, zone-wise;

(d) the total area still under encroachment along with the steps taken to clear encroachment; and

(e) the action being taken by the Railways on priority basis for construction of boundary wall at railway stations located in densely populated areas with a purpose to check encroachments and proper maintenance of railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) As on 31.03.2018, out of 4.77 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, approximately 844.38 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment. For these encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters, the same area got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPE Act, 1971), as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and police. The removal of encroachments by launching demolition drive is a continuous process, as a result of which in the years 2014-15 and 2017-18, 45.062 hectares of encroached land has been retrieved. During 2014 and 2017, 1797 demolition drives were conducted by the Zonal Railways to get Railway land freed from encroachments. The details of encroachment existing as on 31.03.2018 and the land retrieved from encroachments in 2014-15 and 2017-18 are as under:-

Figures in Hectares)

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment as on 31.03.2018	Land retrieved during the years 2014 & 2017
1	2	3
Central	58.05	1.310
Eastern	20.52	0.507

1	2	3
East Central	1.99	1.000
East Coast	14.21	3.306
Northern	202.93	3.632
North Central	40.94	0.010
North Eastern	25.63	0.210
Northeast Frontier	98.50	24.957
North Western	18.53	0.324
Southern	58.69	1.620
South Central	16.98	0.145
South Eastern	147.82	3.130
Southeast Central	43.57	2.491
South Western	16.26	0.000
Western	39.27	2.150
West Central	34.75	0.270
Production Units	5.74	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>844.38</b>	<b>45.062</b>

Railways take regular measures to protect Railway land from encroachment which includes licensing of land to Railway employees for Grow More Food (GMF) scheme, provision of boundary wall, fencing, tree plantation at vulnerable locations.

The construction of boundary wall is a priority item at such locations to check encroachment around vulnerable locations like densely populated areas around Railway stations which also help in proper maintenance of stations. During the years 2015-18, 563 kilometers of boundary wall have been constructed.

[English]

#### **People Living Below Poverty Line**

1366. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of people are living below poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and as on date, State/UT wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that India has been able to reduce the number of people living below the poverty line considerably during the last few years;

(d) if so, the details of the number of people living in poverty according to various studies by national as well as international agencies and the basis of measuring poverty rate in each study; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to uplift the BPL people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The official poverty estimates are based on Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The latest data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th round conducted in 2011-12. Based on this data, the erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the extant Tendulkar Committee methodology and released through a Press Note issued on 22nd July 2013. According to this press note the number of persons living below poverty line in India has been estimated as 2697.83 Lakh in 2011-12. The number of persons living below poverty in 2011-12 State/UT-wise are given in the enclosed Statement. According to the Press Note issued on 22nd July 2013 the poverty line has been defined on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. According to the Press Note, the number of persons living below poverty line in the country has come down from 4076.1 Lakh (37.2%) in 2004-05 to 2697.83 Lakh (21.9%) in 2011-12. In rural areas, it has reduced from 41.8 percent during 2004-05 to 25.7 percent in 2011-12 whereas in urban areas the poverty ratio has declined from 25.7 percent to 13.7 percent during the same period.

(e) The primary policy objective of the Government is development of all segments of the population. The Government is implementing a number of targeted



programmes in this regard, like Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana -National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY),

Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Stand Up India Scheme etc. These interventions are expected to yield better results over time towards overall balanced development in the country.

**Statement**

*Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 2011-12 (Tendulkar Methodology)*

S. No.	States	Rural		Urban		Total	
		%age of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.96	61.80	5.81	16.98	9.20	78.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38.93	4.25	20.33	0.66	34.67	4.91
3.	Assam	33.89	92.06	20.49	9.21	31.98	101.27
4.	Bihar	34.06	320.40	31.23	37.75	33.74	358.15
5.	Chhattisgarh	44.61	88.90	24.75	15.22	39.93	104.11
6.	Delhi	12.92	0.50	9.84	16.46	9.91	16.96
7.	Goa	6.81	0.37	4.09	0.38	5.09	0.75
8.	Gujarat	21.54	75.35	10.14	26.88	16.63	102.23
9.	Haryana	11.64	19.42	10.28	9.41	11.16	28.83
10.	Himachal Pradesh	8.48	5.29	4.33	0.30	8.06	5.59
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	11.54	10.73	7.20	2.53	10.35	13.27
12.	Jharkhand	40.84	104.09	24.83	20.24	36.96	124.33
13.	Karnataka	24.53	92.80	15.25	36.96	20.91	129.76
14.	Kerala	9.14	15.48	4.97	8.46	7.05	23.95
15.	Madhya Pradesh	35.74	190.95	21.00	43.10	31.65	234.06
16.	Maharashtra	24.22	150.56	9.12	47.36	17.35	197.92
17.	Manipur	38.80	7.45	32.59	2.78	36.89	10.22
18.	Meghalaya	12.53	3.04	9.26	0.57	11.87	3.61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Mizoram	35.43	1.91	6.36	0.37	20.40	2.27
20.	Nagaland	19.93	2.76	16.48	1.00	18.88	3.76
21.	Odisha	35.69	126.14	17.29	12.39	32.59	138.53
22.	Punjab	7.66	13.35	9.24	9.82	8.26	23.18
23.	Rajasthan	16.05	84.19	10.69	18.73	14.71	102.92
24.	Sikkim	9.85	0.45	3.66	0.06	8.19	0.51
25.	Tamil Nadu	15.83	59.23	6.54	23.40	11.28	82.63
26.	Tripura	16.53	4.49	7.42	0.75	14.05	5.24
27.	Uttarakhand	11.62	8.25	10.48	3.35	11.26	11.60
28.	Uttar Pradesh	30.40	479.35	26.06	118.84	29.43	598.19
29.	West Bengal	22.52	141.14	14.66	43.83	19.98	184.98
30.	Puducherry	17.06	0.69	6.30	0.55	9.69	1.24
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.57	0.04	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.04
32.	Chandigarh	1.64	0.004	22.31	2.34	21.81	2.35
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	62.59	1.15	15.38	0.28	39.31	1.43
34.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	12.62	0.26	9.86	0.26
35.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	3.44	0.02	2.77	0.02
	All India	25.70	2166.58	13.70	531.25	21.92	2697.83

Notes: 1. Population as on 1st March 2012 has been used for estimating number of persons below poverty line. (2011 Census population extrapolated)

2. Poverty line of Tamil Nadu has been used for Andaman and Nicobar Island.

3. Urban Poverty Line of Punjab has been used for both rural and urban areas of Chandigarh.

4. Poverty Line of Maharashtra has been used for Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

[Translation]

**Contract for Bullet Proof Jackets**

1367. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract for providing bullet proof jackets of international standard for the Army has been signed under Make in India initiative and if so, the

details of number of jackets likely to be procured under the said contracts;

(b) the norms adopted by the Government for the said contract; and

(c) the number of institutes who participated in the bidding along with the number of institutions selected out of them and the details thereof, institution, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) A

contract for procurement of 1,86,138 Bullet Proof Jackets (BPJs) has been signed on 9th April, 2018 under Buy (Indian) category.

(b) The contract has been signed after following the due procedure as laid down in Defence Procurement Procedure.

(c) Five vendors namely M/s Tata Advance Materials Ltd.; M/s MKU Ltd.; M/s Star Wire (India) Ltd.; M/s SMPP Pvt. Ltd.; and M/s AR Polymers Limited participated in the bidding, out of which, three vendors namely M/s MKU Ltd.; M/s SMPP Pvt. Ltd.; and M/s AR Polymers Limited cleared the trials whose commercial bids were opened and contract was awarded to L1 vendor M/s SMPP Pvt. Ltd.

[English]

#### **Digital India Initiative**

1368. SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the challenges faced by the Government in the effective implementation of Digital India initiative and the measures taken by the Government to tide over the said challenges;

(b) the number of internet subscribers in the country separately in rural and hilly areas, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the estimated fund required and allocated for the said purpose, State/ UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) The implementation of the Digital India programme is being monitored by a Monitoring Committee on Digital India headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, a Digital India Advisory Group chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of Electronics and Information Technology and an Apex Committee on Digital India chaired by the Cabinet Secretary. The issues and challenges, like funding, coordination and permission etc., coming in the way of effective implementation of the Digital India programme are being addressed through the above mentioned monitoring mechanism;

(b) Information in respect of the internet subscribers in the country is maintained License Service Area (LSA) wise. LSA wise details of the internet subscribers in the country, as on 31st March, 2018, are placed as Statement and

(c) The Digital India programme covers multiple projects of various Central Ministries/Departments and States/Union Territories (UTs). Funds under Digital India Programme are not allocated State/Union Territory (UT)-wise. The total fund allocated to the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) under Digital India Programme for the Financial Year 2018-19 is ₹ 3,073 crore. BharatNet, which is a project to connect approx 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) by Broadband, has an approval of ₹ 42,068 crore by the Cabinet in July, 2017.

#### **Statement**

##### *Licence Service Area (LSA) Wise Number of Internet Subscribers in India*

Sr. No.	License Service Area (LSA)	Number of Internet Subscribers as on 31.03.2018 (in million)		
		Rural	Urban	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12.83	24.78	37.61
2.	Assam	5.04	4.77	9.81
3.	Bihar	13.51	14.90	28.41
4.	Delhi	0.72	30.42	31.14
5.	Gujarat	8.26	23.16	31.42

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Haryana	3.80	5.25	9.05
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.04	4.90	6.94
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.92	3.89	5.81
9.	Karnataka	6.69	25.45	32.14
10.	Kerala	7.49	12.31	19.80
11.	Kolkata	1.00	12.35	13.35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6.94	18.94	25.88
13.	Maharashtra	12.79	26.66	39.45
14.	Mumbai	0.75	21.72	22.47
15.	North East	2.38	3.56	5.94
16.	Odisha	5.67	6.54	12.21
17.	Punjab	4.58	14.05	18.63
18.	Rajasthan	9.47	16.99	26.46
19.	Tamil Nadu	9.31	30.26	39.57
20.	UP (East)	14.46	20.29	34.75
21.	UP (West)	7.03	16.75	23.78
22.	West Bengal	9.14	10.17	19.31
Total		145.82	348.11	493.93

### Violation of Promotion Rules

1369. SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of violations of promotion rules by the States in case of All India Service officers creating anomaly in overall cadre of same batch have come to the notice of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such cases which have come to notice during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has established or proposes to monitor such type of violations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the guidelines and instructions issued in this regard from time to time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) During the last three years and the current year, three cases of promotion without completing the mandatory length of service i.e. 25 years for Higher Administrative Grade in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan and one case of promotion without completing the mandatory length of service of 16 years for Super Time Scale in Punjab Cadre have come to the notice of the Department of Personnel and Training. No cases of violation of promotion Rules have been reported by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Environment, Forest and

Climate Change in respect of IPS and IFS officers respectively.

(c) and (d) Government of India issues instructions to the State Governments as well as inform the respective Accountant General to adhere to the respective Promotion Guidelines. Copies of IAS and IPS Promotion Guidelines are enclosed

### **Statement**

#### *Principles Regarding Promotion of Members of the Indian Administrative Service and Composition of Departmental Promotion Committees*

##### I. APPOINTMENT TO SENIOR TIME SCALE

An officer is eligible for appointment to the Senior Time Scale on completion of 4 years' service, subject to the provisions of rule 6A of the IAS (Rectt.) Rules, 1954<sup>1</sup>. A Committee consisting of the Chief Secretary and two officers of atleast Supertime Scale level of the State Government concerned shall evaluate the performance of the eligible officers for deciding their suitability for promotion to posts in the Senior Time Scale<sup>2</sup>. Subject to availability of posts, this scale can be allowed from or after 1st January during the relevant year in which officers become eligible for this scale<sup>3</sup>.

##### II. APPOINTMENT TO THE JUNIOR ADMINISTRATIVE GRADE

An officer is eligible for appointment in the Junior Administrative Grade on completing 9 years of service<sup>1</sup>. This grade is non-functional and shall be admissible without any screening, as a matter of course, to all the officers of the Senior Time Scale from 1st January of the relevant year<sup>2</sup>, except in cases where any disciplinary/criminal proceedings are pending against the officer.

##### III. APPOINTMENT TO THE SELECTION GRADE

An officer of the Junior Administrative Grade shall be eligible for appointment to the Selection Grade on completion of 13 years of service as per the proviso to rule 3(2A) of the IAS (Pay) Rules, 1954. A Committee consisting of the Chief Secretary and two officers of the concerned State Government, in the Supertime Scale

or above, shall screen the eligible members of the Service for promotion in this grade<sup>3</sup>. This grade will be available from or after 1st January of the relevant year subject to availability of vacancies in this grade<sup>4</sup>.

##### IV, PROMOTION IN THE SUPERTIME SCALE

The members of the Service who are working in the Selection Grade and have completed 16 years of service<sup>2</sup> shall be eligible for appointment in the Supertime Scale at any time during the year of their eligibility, subject to availability of vacancies in this grade. The Screening Committee to consider officers for promotion in this scale would consist of the Chief Secretary as Chairman and 2 officers working in the grade of Principal Secretary within the State Government concerned, as members.

If, however, there is only one officer working in the grade of Principal Secretary to the Government available in the cadre, the senior-most Supertime Scale officer available in the cadre may be included in the in the Committee.

##### V. PROMOTION IN THE FIRST ABOVE SUPERTIME SCALE i.e. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

The zone of consideration for promotion in this grade may consist of the Supertime Scale level officers who have completed 25 years' service. Promotion of officers thus cleared could be made at any time during the relevant year, provided vacancies in this grade are available. The Screening Committee to consider officers for promotion in this scale will consist of the Chief Secretary as Chairman and one senior-most officer each working in the grades of Chief Secretary to the Government and Principal Secretary to the Govt. respectively in the cadre, as members. If an officer of the grade of Principal Secretary to the Government is not available in the cadre, the senior-most officer of the same level of the cadre working in the government of India may be taken as a member.

##### VI. PROMOTION IN THE GRADE OF CHIEF SECRETARY

The zone of consideration for promotion in this grade would consist of all the members of the Service

<sup>1</sup> Rule 3, IAS (Pay) Rules, 1975.

<sup>2</sup> DP&T's Letter No. 11030/22/91-AIS(II),dt. 16.3.93

<sup>3</sup> DP&T's Letter No. 11030/20/75-AIS(II),dt. 27.12.75

<sup>4</sup> DP&T's Letter No. 11030/15/97-AIS(H),dt. 15.10.97

who have completed 30 years of service. Appointment in this grade would be made from amongst the officers thus cleared, at any time during the relevant year and subject to the provisions of rule 9(7) of the I.A.S. (Pay) Rules, 1954. The Screening Committee for this purpose shall consist of the Chief Secretary concerned, one officer working in this grade in the cadre and another officer of the cadre serving in Government of India in the same grade.

*No. 45020/II/97- IPS - II*

*Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya*

*Government of India/Bharat Sarkar*

New Delhi, Dated 15th January, 1999.

To,

The Chief Secretaries of all States

Subject: Indian Police Service-Promotion to Senior Scale, Junior Administrative Grade, Selection Grade, Super Time Scale and above Super Time Scales -Guidelines regarding.

SIR,

I am writing this to invite your attention is guidelines on the above subject circulated vide this Ministry's letter No. 16011/39/89- IPS -II, dated 28.04.1988, 15011/1/89- IPS -II, dated 04.09.1989 and 16011/61/90- IPS -ii, dated 28.12.1990. Taking into consideration of certain difficulties brought to the notice of this Ministry from different quarters from time to time and the encadrement of post of Additional Director General of Police in the police hierarchy, Government have decided to modify the existing guidelines and have consolidate them in one place for the sake of reference Further, in order to ensure: uniformity of procedure in the matter of promotion, formation of DPC and their functioning etc., general principles of promotion are also being suggested for guidance.

2. In order to ensure uniformity of procedure in the matter of appointment and promotion to various grades in the Indian Police Service in all the State Cadres in the country. it would be desirable, to adhere to the revised guidelines and follow and impose stricter standards of selection as envisages in the revised guidelines.

3. A copy of the revised guidelines is sent herewith which may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(O. P. ARYA)

Joint Secretary (Police)

Copy to:

1. Department of Personnel & Training (Ali India Service Division) with reference to their letter No. 20011/4/ 92 - AIS (II), dated 12.01.1999.

2. Joint Secretary (UT)

3. Guard file.

#### **PRINCIPLES REGARDING PROMOTION OF MEMBER OF IPS IN THE STATE CADRE**

##### **1. PROMOTION TO SENIOR TIME SCALE**

Director General and Inspector General of police and where no cadre post of DG exists, the Addl. DG of Police may evaluate the performance of those members of the service who have completed 4 years of service, for deciding their suitability for promotion to Senior Time Scale posts keeping in view the provisions of rule 6A of the I.P.S. (Recruitment) Rules, 1954 and make suitable recommendations to the State Government This Scale shall be available from or after the 1st January of the relevant year and subject to availability of vacancies in this grade.

##### **II. PROMOTION TO THE JUNIOR ADMINISTRATIVE GRADE**

This grade is nonfunctional and shall be admissible without any screening to all the officers working in the Senior Time Scale who have completed 9 years of service, from 1st January of the relevant years.

##### **III. PROMOTION TO THE SELECTION GRADE**

A Committee consisting of the Chief Secretary, The Secretary-in-charge of the Police Department and the Director General of Police (Addl. Director General of Police where there is no cadre post of DG) may-screen the cases of those officers in the Junior Administrative

Grade, Who have completed.' 13 years of service, for promotion to the Selection Grade as per the provisions of the IPS (Pay) Rules, 1954. On the basis of merit with due regard to seniority. Selection grade will be available from or after 1st January of the relevant year subject to the availability of vacancies in the said grade.

#### IV. PROMOTION TO SUPER-TIME SCALE AND THE ABOVE SUPER TIME SCALE POSTS

##### (A) Composition of the screening Committees

###### (i) for Super Time Scale posts :-

The Screening Committee for this purpose (for promotion to the grades DIG and IG) would be the same, as the one constituted for Screening of officers for promotion in the Selection Grade. Committee for the Union Territories Cadre would comprise the Union Home Secretary as Chairman, with Additional Secretary or the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs who is Incharge of UT Police Cadre and Commissioner of Police, Delhi as members.

###### (ii) for the Above Super Time Scale posts -

The Screening Committee for promotion of an officer to the grade of Director General as well as Addl. Director General of Police and / or equivalent post, would consist of (I) Chief Secretary, (ii) one non-IPS officer of the rank of Chief Secretary and working in the State Government, (III) Director General of Police and (iv) an additional member in case there is a senior officer available who is holding independent charge of Home Secretary and is in the rank of Addl. Chief Secretary or Chief Secretary (with rank not less than that of Additional Secretary to Government of India).

##### (B) Zone of Consideration

The zone of consideration of officers for promotion to various grades, would be as follows, depending upon the availability of posts:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. For promotion to, the Grade of.              | Officers who have completed 14 years of service |
| 2. For promotion to the Grade of IGP            | Officers who have put in 18 years of service    |
| 3. For promotion to the Grade of Additional DGP | Officers who have put in 25 years of service    |
| For promotion to the Grade of DGP               | Officers who have put in 30 years of service    |

##### (C) Method of Selection

- (i) Selections hold be based on merit with due regard to seniority as provided in sub-rule 2A of Rule (3) of the Indian Police Service (Pay) Rules, 1954.
- (ii) Suitability of officers to hold posts of and above the Selection Grade may be adjudged by evaluating their character roil record as a whole and general assessment of their work.
- (iii) An officer who has not been included in the panel other than DG in the first instance should be eligible for reconsideration after earning two more annual confidential reports. For DG level, reconsideration could be after earning at least one more ACR.
- (iv) Special review may be done in cases where adverse remarks in an officer's annual confidential reports are expunged subsequently as a result of his representation / memorial.

##### (D) Period of validity of the panel

- (i) A fresh panel should be prepared as soon as all the officers in the earlier pane! have been provided for. Empanelment of officers shall be considered batch-wise. Care shall be taken to ensure that officers are suggested / considered for appointment to various grades in the order of their interest position in the panel. The record of the officers who

have been impaneled for promotion but are yet to be promoted despite a lapse of 2 years, may be screened to see if in the last two years, there had been any deterioration in their standard as would warrant their delisting from the panel.

- (ii) If a vigilance officer on the panel after a preliminary inquiry establishing charges

prima facie, the said officer shall not be promoted, pending the result of inquiry

General Principles for promotion would be as given in Annexure.

Sd/-

(JAGBIR SINGH)

Section Officer

**General Principle Regarding Mode of Selection etc. for Promotion and Functions of Screening Committees etc.**

1. FUNCTIONS OF SCREENING COMMITTEES
  - 1.1 It should be ensured while making promotions that suitability of candidates for promotion is considered in an objective and impartial manner. For this purpose Screening Committees (hereafter referred to as Committees) should be formed for different grades whenever an occasion arises for making promotions / confirmations etc. the committees so constituted shall adjudge the suitability of officers for :
    - (a) Promotions of officers in various grades;
    - (b) Confirmation; and
    - (c) Assessment of the work and conduct of probationers for the purpose of determining the suitability for retention in Service OR THEIR discharge from Service or extending their probation.
2. FREQUENCY AT WHICH COMMITTEES SHOULD MEET
  - 2.1 Meeting of the Committees should be convened at regular intervals to draw panels for filling up the vacancies arising during the course of a year. For this purpose, it is essential for the concerned appointing authorities to initiate action to fill up the existing as well as anticipated vacancies well in advance of the expiry of the previous panel by collecting relevant documents like ACRs, Integrity Certificates, Seniority List etc. for placing before the Committees. Meetings of the Committees could be convened every year and if necessary, on a fixed date, e.g. 1st of May or June. All the cadres should lay down a time schedule for holding the Committee meetings and the same should be monitored by making one of their officers responsible for keeping a watch to ensure that they are held regularly. Holding of these meetings need not be delayed or postponed on one or the other administrative ground or on the ground that the necessary material for placement before the Committees is not ready the requirement of convening regular meetings of the Committee should be dispensed with only after a certificate has been issued by the appointing authority that there are no vacancies to be filled by promotion or no officers are due for promotion/confirmation during the year in question.
3. DETERMINATION OF VACANCIES
  - 3.1 it is essential that the number of vacancies in respect of which a panel is to be prepared should be estimated as accurately as possible for



this purpose,' the vacancies to be taken into account should be the clear vacancies arising in a grade due to death, retirement, resignation promotion and deputation. As regard's, vacancies arising out of deputation only those cases of deputation for periods exceeding 3 years should be taken into account taking due note of the number of deputation likely to return to the cadre Purely Short term ## indicated year-wise separately.

4. PAPERS TO BE PUT UP FOR CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEES
- 4.1 The proposals should be completed and submitted, to the Committee well in time. No proposal for holding a Committee should be sent until and unless at least 90% of the ACRs (up-to date and complete) are available, Every effort should be made to keep the-ACR dossiers, up-to-date lest this aspect is advanced as the reason for not holding the Committee meetings in time the officer referred in para 2 should also be responsible for monitoring the completion of the ACR dossiers.
- 4.2 The ACR folder should be checked to verify whether the ACRs for individual years are available. If the ACR for a particular year is not available and for valid/justifiable reasons, it cannot be made available, a certificate should be recorded to that effect and placed in the folder.
- 4.3 The integrity certificate on the lines indicated below should be furnished to the Committees constituted to consider cases for promotion or confirmation.
- "The records of service of the following, officers who are to be considered for promotion/ confirmation in the grade have been carefully scrutinized and it is certified that there is no doubt about their integrity."
- If there are names of persons in the list of eligible, candidates. Whose has been held in doubt at one stage on the other last shall carefully be recorded by the officer in-charge of the Personnel Department and brought to the notice of the Committee. It should be ensured that the information thus furnished is factually correct and complete in all respects. Cases where incorrect information has been furnished should be investigated and suitable action taken against the person responsible for it.
5. CONSIDERATION OF OFFICERS ON DEPUTATION
- 5.1 The names of officers who are on deputation should also be included in the list submitted to the Committee for consideration in they come within the zone of consideration and fulfill the prescribed eligibility conditions. Similarly, the names of the officers on deputation should also be included In the list of names to be considered for confirmation in case they are eligible and come within the range of seniority. In cases where a certain number of years of service to be put in the lower grade is prescribed as a condition for becoming eligible for consideration for promotion to the higher grade and/or for confirmation, the period of service rendered by an officer on deputation should be treated as comparable service in his cadre for the purposes of

promotion as well as confirmation, this is subject to the condition that the deputation is with the approval of competent authority and it is certified that but for deputation, the officer would have continued to be in the relevant grade in his cadre. The same would apply in cases of officers who are on study leave or training under the various training schemes which are treated as duty for all purposes.

6. PROCEDURE TO BE OBSERVED BY COMMITTEES
- 6.1 Each Committee should decide its own method and procedure for objective assessment of the suitability of the candidates. While merit has to be recognized and rewarded, advancement in an officer's career should not be regarded as a matter of course but should be earned by dint of hard work, good conduct and result-oriented performance as reflected in the annual confidential report, and based on strict and rigorous selection process. The misconception about "Average" performance also requires to be cleared. While "Average" may not be taken as an adverse remark in respect of an officer, it cannot also be regarded as complimentary to the officer as such performance should be regarded as routine and undistinguished. It is only the performance that is above average and performance that is really noteworthy which should entitle an officer to recognition and suitable rewards.
7. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS
- 7.1 The annual Confidential Reports are the basic inputs on the basis of which assessment is to be made by each Committee. The evaluation of ACRs should be fair, just and non-discriminatory. The Committee should consider ACRs for an equal number of years in respect of all officers falling within the zone of consideration for assessing their suitability for promotion, where one or more ACRs have not been written for any reason, the Committee should consider the available ACRs. While making the assessment, the Committee should not be guided merely by the overall grading that may be recorded in the ACRs but should make its own assessment on the basis of the overall entries made in the ACRs. If the Reviewing Authority or the Accepting Authority, as the case may be, has overruled the Reporting officer or the Reviewing Authority respectively, the remarks of the latter authority should be taken as the final remarks for the purposes of assessment provided it is apparent from the relevant entries that the higher authority has come to a different assessment consciously after due application of mind. If the remarks of all these authorities are complementary to each other, then the remarks should be read together and the final assessment made on that basis.
- 7.2 In the case of each officer an overall grading should be given which will be either "Fit" or "Unfit". There will be no benchmark for assessing suitability of officers for promotions.
- 7.3 Before making the overall grading, the Committee should take into account whether the officer has been awarded any major or minor penalty or whether any displeasure of any higher authority has been conveyed to him. Similarly, the Committee would also take note of the

commendations received by the officer during his service career. The Committee would also give due regard to the remarks indicated against the column of integrity.

The list of candidates considered by the Committee and the overall grading thus assigned to each candidate would form the basis for preparation of the panel for promotion.

8. PREPARATION OF YEAR-WISE PANELS WHERE THE COMMITTEE HAVE NOT MET FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS
- 8.1 Where for any reasons beyond control the Committee has not met in a year(s) even though vacancies arose during that year(s) the first Committee that meets thereafter should follow the procedures indicated below.
- (a) Determine the actual number of vacancies that arose in each of the previous year(s) immediately preceding and the actual number of vacancies proposed to be filled in the current year separately.
  - (b) Consider in respect of each of the years those offices only which would be within the zone of consideration with reference to the vacancies of each year starting with the earliest year onwards.
  - (c) Prepare a panel by placing the panel of the earlier year above the one for the next year and so on.
- 8.2 Where a Committee has already met in a year and further vacancies arise during the same year, the following procedure should be followed.
- (a) For vacancies due to death, voluntary retirement, new creations etc. belonging to the category which could not be foreseen at the time of placing the facts and - the matter before the Committee, another meeting of the Committee should be held for drawing up a panel for the vacancies thus arising, if for any reason, the Committee cannot meet for the second time, the procedure of drawing up of year-wise panel may be followed when it meets next for preparing panels in respect of vacancies that arise in the subsequent year.
  - (b) In cases of non reporting of vacancies due to error or omission, since the wrong whereby such an error artificially restricted the zone of consideration cannot be undone, a Review DPC should be held keeping in mind the total vacancies in the year.
  - (c) For the purpose of evaluating the merit of the officers while preparing year-wise panels, the scrutiny of the record of the service of the officer should be limited to the records that would have been available had the Committee met at the appropriate time. However, if on the date of such meeting, departmental proceedings against an officer are in progress and the sealed cover procedure is to be followed, such procedure should be observed even if departmental proceedings were not in

existence in the year to which the vacancy related The officers name should be kept in the sealed cover till the proceedings are finalized.

- (d) While promotions will be made in the order of the consolidated panel, such promotions will have only prospective effect even in cases where the vacancies relate to earlier years.

9. CONFIRMATION 9.1 In the case of conformation, the committee should not determine the relative merit of officers but it should assess the officers as Fit or "Not for confirmation in their turn on the basis of their performance as assessed with reference to their records of service.
10. PROBATION 10.1 In the case of probation; the Committee should not determine the relative grading of officers but only decide whether they should be declared to have completed the probation satisfactorily. If the performance of any probationer is not satisfactory, the Committee may advise whether the period of probation should be extended or whether he should be discharged from service.
- 11 PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN RESPECT OF OFFICERS UNDER CLOUD 11.1 At the time of consideration or the cases of officers for promotion of such officers in the zone of consideration failing under the following categories should be specifically brought to the notice of the concerned Screening Committees:-
- (a) Officers under suspension;
  - (b) Officers in respect of whom a Charge sheet has been issued and disciplinary proceedings are pending;
  - (c) Officers in respect of whom prosecution for criminal charge is pending
- 11.2 The Screening Committee shall assess the suitability of the officers coming within the purview of the circumstances mentioned above, along with other eligible candidates, without taking into consideration the disciplinary case/criminal prosecution which is pending This assessment of the Committee including "Unfit for Promotion" and the grading awarded by it will be kept in a sealed cover. The cover will be super scribed FINDINGS REGARDING THE SUITABILITY FOR PROMOTION TO THE SCALE OF..... IN RESPECT OF SHRI ..... NOT TO BE OPENED TILL THE TERMINATION OF THE DISCIPLINARY CASE/CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AGAINST SHRI..... The proceedings of the Committee need only contain the note "THE FINDINGS ARE CONTAINED IN THE ATTACHED SEALED COVER". The same procedure will be adopted by the subsequent Screening committees till the disciplinary case / criminal prosecution against the officer concerned is concluded.
12. ADVERSE REMARKS 12.1 Where adverse remarks in the Confidential Report of the officer concerned have not been communicated to him, this fact should be taken note of by the Committee while assessing the suitability of the

officer for promotion / confirmation. In a case where a decision on the representation of an officer against adverse remarks has not been taken or the time allowed for submission of representation is not over, the Committee may defer the consideration of the case until a decision on the representation is arrived at.

- 12.2 An officer whose increments have been withheld or who has been reduce to a lower stage in the time scale, cannot be considered on that account to be ineligible for promotion as the specific penalty of withholding promotion has not been imposed on him. The suitability of the officer for promotion should be assessed by the Committee as and when occasions arise. They will take into account the circumstances leading to the imposition of the penalty and decide whether in the light of overall service records of, the officer and the fact of the Imposition of the penalty, he should be considered Suitable for promotion. Even where the Committee considers that despite the penalty the officer is suitable for promotion, the officer should not actually be promoted during the -current year of the penalty.
13. VALIDITY OF THE COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS WHEN ONE MEMEBERS IS ABSENT 13.1 In such cases and provided that the Chairman was not absent the proceedings of the Committee shall be legally followed and can be acted upon. It should however be ensured that the member was duly invited but absented himself for one reasons or the other and there was no deliberate attempt to exclude him from the Committee's deliberations and provided further that the majority of the members constituting the Committee are present in the meeting.
14. PROCESSING OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEES 14.1 The recommendations of the Committee are advisory in nature and should be duly placed before, the appointing authority, for approval. There may, however, be occasions when the appointing authority may find it necessary to disagree with the recommendations. In any case, however, the decision to agree or disagree with The recommendations should be taken within a period of 3 months from the date of the meeting of the Committee.
- 14.2 Where the appointing authority proposes to disagree with the recommendations of the committee, It may refer the matter again to the Committee for reconsideration of their earlier recommendations. If the Committee reiterates its earlier recommendations giving also the reasons in support thereof, the appointing authority will take a decision either to accept or to vary.
15. VIGILANCE CLEARANCE WHILE IMPLEMENTING THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS 15.1 A clearance from vigilance angle should be available before making actual promotion or confirmation of officers approved by the committee to ensure that no disciplinary proceedings are pending against the officers concerned.
16. ORDER IN WHICH PROMOTIONS TO BE MADE 16.1 The officers placed in the approved panels for promotion are to be considered for appointment to higher grades in the order of their interest position In the respective panels except in cases Where

disciplinary Court proceedings are pending against an officer. The procedure to be adopted in cases of officers against whom disciplinary court proceedings are pending "has been laid down in the succeeding paragraphs.

17. PROMOTION OF OFFICERS ON DEPUTATION 17.1 If a panel contains the name of an officer who is away from the cadre and is on deputation in public interest, including an officer who has gone on study leave training, provisions should be made for his regaining the temporarily lost promotion in the higher grade on his return to the cadre. It has to be borne in mind the seniority of members of all India services which is fixed at the time of their completion of probation period, is not to undergo any change throughout their career and early or late promotion of an officer *vis-à-vis* other officer(s) is to have no impact on their seniority. Therefore, such an officer need not be reconsidered by a fresh committee, if subsequently held, while he continues to be on deputation / study leave / training. This would be irrespective of the fact whether or not he has got the benefit of *pro forma* promotion under NBR.
- 17.2 In case an officer is away on deputation on his own volition by applying in response to some advertisement he should be required to revert to his parent cadre immediately when due for promotion, failing which his name shall be removed from the panel. On his reverting to the parent cadre after a period of 2 years, he will have no claim for promotion to the higher grade on the basis of that panel. In that case, he should be considered in the normal course along with other eligible officers when the next panel is prepared and he should be promoted to the higher grade according to his position in the fresh panel.
18. SEALED COVER CASES ACTION AFTER COMPLETION OF DISCIPLINARY / CRIMINAL PROSECUTION 18.1 If the proceedings of the Committee for promotion contain findings in a sealed cover, on conclusion of the disciplinary case / criminal prosecution, the sealed cover or covers shall be opened. In case the officer is completely exonerated, the due date of his promotion will be determined with reference to the findings of the screening Committee kept in sealed cover / covers and with reference to the date of promotion of his next junior on the basis of such findings. The officer may be promoted, if necessary, by reverting the junior most officiating person. Such promotion would be with reference to the date of promotion of his junior and in these cases, the officer will be paid arrears of salary and allowances.
- 18.2 If any penalty is imposed on the officer as a result of the disciplinary proceedings or if he is found guilty in the criminal prosecution against him, the findings of the sealed cover / covers shall not be acted upon. His case for promotion may be considered by the next Screening Committee in the normal course and having regard to the penalty imposed on him. In such cases, the question of arrears will be decided by the Central Government by taking into account all the facts and circumstances of the disciplinary / criminal proceedings. Where the

Government denies arrears of salary or a part of it, the reasons for doing so shall be recorded.

19. SIX MONTHLY REVIEW OF 19.1  
SEALED COVER CASES
- It is necessary to ensure that the disciplinary case / criminal prosecution instituted against an officer is not unduly prolonged and all efforts to expeditiously finalise for proceedings are taken so that the need for Keeping the cases of officers in sealed cover / covers is limited to the barest minimum. the appointing authorities concerned should comprehensively review such cases on the expiry of six months from the date of convening of the first screening committee which had adjudged his suitability and kept its findings in the sealed cover. Such a review should be done subsequently also after every six months. The review should, inter alia cover the progress made in the disciplinary proceedings criminal prosecution and further measures required to be taken to expedite their completion. The same procedure is to. be followed for considering the cases of confirmation.
20. AD HOC PROMOTIONS IN 20.1  
CASES WHERE DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS / CRIMINAL  
PROSECUTIONS ARE  
PROLONGED
- As appointment of the members of the All India Services to various grades is made on regular basis and the concept of one time confirmation exists in their cases, the concept of grant of ad hoc promotion is alien to them. Unlike Central Government Servants, ad hoc promotions are not be allowed in their cases even if the disciplinary cases / criminal prosecutions instituted against them are found to have been prolonged. In their cases, only six monthly review of their disciplinary / criminal cases is to be undertaken and efforts are to be made to expedite their completion.
21. SEALED COVER PROCEDURE 21.1  
APPLICABLE TO OFFICERS  
COMING UNDER CLOUD  
BEFORE PROMOTION
- In the case of an officer recommended for promotion by the Screening Committee where any of the circumstances mentioned in Para II above arise before actual promotion, sealed cover procedure would have to be followed. The subsequent Committee shall assess the suitability of such offices along with other eligible candidates and place their assessment in sealed cover. The sealed cover / covers will be opened on conclusion of the disciplinary case / criminal prosecution, in case the officer is completely exonerated, he would be promoted as per the procedure outlined in Para 18 above and the question of grant of arrears would also be decided accordingly. If any penalty is imposed upon him as a result of the disciplinary proceedings of if he is found guilty in the criminal prosecution against him the findings: Of the sealed cover shall not be acted upon, a outlined in Para 18.2 above.
22. VALIDITY OF THE PANEL 22.1
- A panel for promotion recommended by the Committee and approved by the appointing authority shall be valid till all the officers placed in the panel have been promoted. This will of course, exclude officers who are away on deputation or are on study leave or are on training.
23. REVIEW COMMITTEE 23.1  
MEETING
- The proceedings of any Committee may be reviewed only if the Committee had not taken all the material facts into consideration if

material facts were not brought to their notice or if there were grave errors in the procedure followed by them. Special review may also be done in cases where adverse remarks in the officers ACRs are expunged as a result of their reports. The Review Committee should consider only those offices who were eligible as on the date of meeting of the Original Committee. They should also restrict their scrutiny to the ACRs for the period relevant to the first Committee. If any adverse remarks relating to the relevant period were toned down or expunged, the modified ACRs should be considered as if the original adverse remarks did not exist at all. Before doing so, the appointing authority would scrutinize the relevant cases with a view to decide whether or not a review by the Committee is justified, taking in mind the nature of the adverse remarks toned down or expunged while considering a deferred case or review of the case of a superseded officer, if the Committee finds the officer fit for promotion / confirmation, it would place him at the appropriate place in the relevant panel after taking into account the toned down remarks or expunged remarks.

- 23.2 If the officers placed junior to the officer concerned have been promoted, the latter should be promoted immediately and if there is no vacancy, the junior most person officiating in the higher grade should be reported to accommodate him. On promotion, his pay should be fixed at the stage it would have reached had he been promoted from the date the officer immediately below him was so promoted, but no arrears for the past periods would be admissible.. In the case of confirmation, if the officer concerned is recommended for confirmation on the basis of review, he should be confirmed from the due date.

Sd/.

(JAGBIR SINGH)

Section Officer

No. 15020/11/97-IPS-II

Ministry of Home Affairs

Government of India

New Delhi, 12 May 2000

To

The Chief Secretaries of

State Governments

SUB: Guidelines - Promotion of I.P.S. officers to Senior Scale, JAG, Selection grade. Supertime scale and above Supertimescales Clarification etc.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number, dated 25.1.99 forwarding therewith a

copy of the revised guidelines in the matter of promotion, DPC etc. of IPS officers and to say that these guidelines have further been examined and reviewed, and it has been decided to modify and make additional provisions keeping in view the functional need for the purpose of promotion etc. and administrative convenience.

2. A copy of the addition revision to the existing guidelines is sent herewith for information and compliance. In case, further clarification is required that may be referred to this Ministry.

3. The letter may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully.

(ATANU PURKAYASTHA)



Para

(ii) Sub-head: PROMOTION TO THE JUNIOR ADMINISTRATIVE GRADE

JAG GRADE (Indicated in para II of guidelines).

The existing provisions shall be substituted namely.

“This grade is non-functional and shall be admissible without any screening to all the officers working in the Senior Time Scale who have completed 9 years of service from 1st January of the relevant years except in case where any disciplinary criminal proceedings are pending against any individual person.”

(IV) Sub-head Promotion to Super time scale

At the end of existing Sub-para (D) following shall be added namely:

(E) "Promotion to these grades may be made at any time during the year of their eligibility

Para-3 to Annexure

Sub head : Determination of vacancies (Mentioned para 3 of Annexure)

Every vacancy arising out of deputation for period exceeding one year (instead of three years) may be taken into account for preparing the panel and other provisions will remain unchanged.

Para 19

Sub Para: SIX MONTHLY REVIEW OF SEALED COVER CASES

Review of sealed cover cases (mentioned at para 19 of the Annexure):

Where-ever the word “six monthly review” appeared in this sub-para it shall be read as “Three monthly review”. Henceforth review of sealed cover cases may be undertaken on the expiry of every three months from the date of convening the first meeting of S.C.

Para - 8 (After part (C) of sub para 8.1 following shall be added (d)

In case there is delay in holding the committee meetings for a year or more while considering the names year wise. The names of those officers who have since retired but will under the Zone of consideration for the relevant year may also be considered alongwith the other officers against the vacancy of that relevant year provide that they are eligible and would have been available had the meeting been held in time for promotion of the grade.

No. 45020/5/2010-IPS-II

Ministry of Home Affairs

Government of India

North Block, New Delhi-1,

Dated the 19th July,

To

The Chief Secretaries of

all State Governments/UTs.

Subject: Indian Police Service - Promotion to various grades - Amendment in the IPS Promotion Guidelines Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry letter No. 45020/11/97-1PS-II dated 15.1.1999 forwarding therewith a copy of the promotion guidelines of Indian Police Service. Subsequently, certain amendments have been made in the said guidelines, which were communicated to the State Governments vide this Ministry's letter No. 45020/11/97-IPS-II dated 12.5.2000.

2. In order to ensure uniformity of procedure in the matter of appointments and promotion to various grades in the IPS., the eligibility criteria for promotion to- Additional Director general of Police has; been revised at par with Indian Administrative Service and Indian Forest Service, as approved by the Competent Authority. Suitable amendments have been made in the existing Promotion Guidelines of IPS, a copy (Annexure) of which is sent herewith for information and compliance. The amendments shall take effect from the date of issue of this letter.

3. The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,  
(Inderjeet Kaur)  
Director (Police)

Copy to:

1. Department of Personnel & Training (AIS-II),  
North Block, New Delhi.

2. Additional Secretary (UT), MHA, New Delhi.

3. Guard File.

Annexure to Ministry of Home Affairs letter No. 45020/5/2010-IPS-II dated 19th July 2010.

The eligibility criterion prescribed in Para JV (B) (3) of the existing Promotion Guidelines of Indian Police Service dated 15.1.1999. for consideration of officers for promotion to the grade of Additional Director General Of Police is amended as under:

"Officers who have put in 25 years of Service"

(Inderjeet Kaur)  
Director (Police)

### **Security and Safety of Passengers**

1370. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Railways to improve the security and safety of passengers;

(b) whether the Railways is contemplating establishment of a separate authority for this purpose in the name of "Railway Safety Authority"; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Prevention and detection of crime, registration of First Information Report (FIR), their investigation and maintenance of law & order in railway station premises as well as in running trains are the statutory responsibility of State Governments, which they discharge through the GRP. Railways, through the Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing efforts of respective States to strengthen security of passengers across Indian

Railways. Measures initiated by the RPF to strengthen security of passengers include escorting of 2500 trains (on an average daily), in addition to escorting of 2200 such trains by GRP, access control at important stations, operationalisation of Security Help Line number 182, surveillance through Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Cameras provided at about 436 stations, prosecution of offenders under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989, etc. The year 2018 has been declared by the Ministry of Railways as the year of women security for implementation of an Action Plan to strengthen women security. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), on care and protection of children on railways, has been jointly prepared with the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD). Under the SOP, Child Help Desks/Kiosks (CHD) have been set up at 35 railway stations and 53 railway stations have been further identified for extension of this scheme. State Level Security Committee for Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories (UTs) under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/ Commissioner of States/ Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements for the Railways.

Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and safety inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Preventive and predictive maintenance of the Railway assets is undertaken to ensure safe train operation. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include Electronic Interlocking, track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters, Colour Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signals, Train Protection and Warning System, Vigilance Control Device, Fog Pass Device, usage of 52 kg/60 kg, 90 or higher UTS rails and pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, use of Ultrasonic Flaw Detection of rails and welds at predefined periodicity to detect internal flaws in rails/welds. Electronic monitoring of track geometry is carried out to

detect defects and plan maintenance. Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges are being used while carrying out primary track renewals. Further, it has been decided to lay Thick webs switches, Weldable Cast Maganese Steel crossings on identified routes. Progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch Coaches, use of Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory Coaches, etc. Railway tracks are replaced on age-cum-condition basis through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Other measures include training of loco pilots and other safety category staff, improvement of their working conditions including proper rest and periodic medical examination etc. Besides, patrolling of tracks, footplate inspections and safety reviews at various levels, etc. are regularly conducted to continuously monitor and improve safety aspects of the Indian Railways.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Shoreline Mapping

1371. SHRIMATI PRATYUSHA RAJESHWARI SINGH: Will the Minister of Earth Sciences be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has completed the shoreline mapping programme for the coastal region of the country particularly in Odisha;

(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to Odisha coast;

(c) the details regarding vulnerable regions in Odisha coast for sea erosion during high tide period;

(d) whether any research activity has been undertaken by the Ministry to find out development of effective means to check sea erosion and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which the Government furnishes and shares information and data regarding shoreline and seabed with the concerned State/District authorities for better coordination and common benefit of the country specially in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) an attached office of MoES is monitoring the Shoreline Changes along Indian Coast. The shoreline mapping of the entire main land of India has been completed and shoreline is mapped in 1:25,000 scale. Under this programme, about 6632 km long coastline distributed among nine coastal States and two Union Territories was analyzed using 26 years of satellite data for the period 1990-2016 and field verifications to estimate the shoreline change i.e. erosion, accretion and stable. From the analysis, it is found that 33% of coast was eroding, 29% was accreting and 38% was in stable state. The details for Odisha coast are summarized below

Sl No	States	Coast Length (in km)	Status of the coast						
			Erosion		Stable		Accretion		
			km	%	km	%	Km	%	
1.	East Coast	Odisha	549.50	153.80	28	113.52	21	282.18	51

(c) About 550 kms along shoreline of Odisha coast spreading across six coastal districts is also mapped. The result of shoreline changes analysis for the period of 1990-2016 indicates that 28% of Odisha coast comes in erosion category, 21% stable and 51% of accreting nature. Erosion is mainly noticed in Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara districts. Pocket erosion was also noticed

at north of Gopalpur port, Devi River, Wheeler Island, Rushikulya River Island, Pentha, Gahirmatha, Satbhaya etc.

(d) Yes, the Ministry of Water Resources in collaboration with the Space Application Centre (SAC) Ahmedabad has prepared an Atlas on shoreline changes which provides the extent of coastal sea

erosion. Further, the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) provides advice for mitigation options, monitoring measures to prevent and reduce significant adverse environmental and social impacts on the coast for sustainable development.

(e) The NCCR has developed a web based application to provide the information on shoreline changes for the entire country including Odisha. Similarly, MoEF&CC through its National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), provides input and advice on all the components of Coastal environment impact assessment.

#### **Asylum Seekers**

1372. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether over thousands of asylum seekers from India have been branded as illegal migrants and are in jails of different countries;

(b) if so, the country-wise Indians incarcerated in different countries as illegal migrants; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to bring them back to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) and (b) As per information available in the Ministry, as of 16.07.2018, approximately 8363 Indian nationals who are illegal and have sought asylum in foreign countries (approx. 8000 in Germany but not in jail, 359 in USA in detention, 2 in Denmark in jail, 2 in Brazil in jail and 1 in Finland but not in jail). However, accurate data regarding the number of asylum applications and the actual number of people granted asylum as well as Indians in their jails are not available, as some foreign governments cite inability to share such data due to privacy and data protection laws.

(c) The Government of India believes that asylum seekers, while applying for asylum to a foreign government, denigrate the system in India to obtain personal gains despite the fact that India, being a democratic country, provides avenues for everyone to redress their grievances lawfully. Our Missions and Posts abroad regularly liaise with the local authorities and upon verification of their identity and nationality extend possible consular assistance and issues necessary travel document to facilitate their return to India.

#### **Social Security Agreements**

1373. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any Social Security Agreements with various countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of Indian expatriates, benefited through such agreements during the last three years, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH (RETD)]: (a) Yes.

(b) As on date, India has signed Social Security Agreements (SSAs) with 18 countries - Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, South Korea; and with the Quebec Province of Canada.

Employees covered under the various SSAs are issued a Certificate of Coverage (CoC) by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) which exempts them from making social security contribution in the foreign country concerned. The number of CoCs issued by EPFO in the last three years (country-wise) is as below:

Sl. No.	Country	COCs Issued during 2015-16	COCs issued during 2016-17	COCs issued from 01.04.2017 to 11.07.2018 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Belgium	2293	3193	3152
2.	Denmark	865	1149	1248

1	2	3	4	5
3.	France	1251	1339	945
4.	Germany	7371	7250	8563
5.	Hungary	314	291	411
6.	Luxemburg	167	110	227
7.	Netherland	3644	4534	5058
8.	Republic of Korea	276	249	126
9.	Switzerland	2824	2757	2004
10.	Finland	842	776	824
11.	Sweden	2681	2954	2894
12.	Czech Republic	121	165	149
13.	Norway	1105	893	1429
14.	Austria	0	0	104
15.	Canada	0	0	4507
16.	Australia	0	0	8667
17.	Japan	0	0	2194
18.	Portugal	0	0	19
Total		23754	25660	42521

#### **Committee for Data Protection**

1374. SHRI V. ELUMALAI: Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that a 10 member committee meant to suggest a framework to ensure protection of digital data including a draft law on data privacy has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that the committee held many rounds of public consultations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Four Public consultation meetings were held by the Committee of Experts on

Data Protection on 05.01.2018 at Delhi, on 12.01.2018 at Hyderabad, on 13.01.2018 at Bangalore and on 23.01.2018 at Mumbai.

[Translation]

#### **Urban Infrastructure Development Projects**

1375. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of urban and infrastructure development plans operational/ proposed in small and medium cities of Rajasthan;

(b) the city-wise details of the proposals sanctioned under these plans during each of last three years and the current status of work in these cities; and

(c) the number of proposals lying pending and the time by when these pending proposals are likely to be sanctioned along with current status of the said

proposals in Rajgarh and Taranagar tehsils of Churu district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) Urban Development is a State subject. These matters are therefore dealt with by the States. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) through special interventions assists the States through Missions like ATAL Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna - Urban (PMAY-U), Smart Cities Mission and others. The Missions being implemented by MoHUA do not cover Rajgarh and Taranagar tehsils in Churu district. Further under Swachh Bharat Mission -Urban(SBM-U) funds are released by MoHUA to the States which further distribute the same to the cities / Urban Local Bodies for admissible projects under this Mission.

[English]

#### **Shekatkar Committee**

1376. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government appointed Shekatkar Committee on defence reforms and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the said committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee;

(d) whether the Government has accepted 65 recommendations of the committee and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which remaining recommendations are likely to be/accepted and implemented keeping in view the rising threat perception from neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. A Committee of Experts (CoE) was constituted by Ministry of Defence under the

chairmanship of Lt Gen (Retd) DB Shekatkar to recommend measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the armed forces. The Committee submitted its report in December 2016.

The Report was taken up by the Ministry of Defence to frame key action points and roadmap for implementation. Measures as recommended by the Committee and taken up for implementation include:

- (i) Optimization of Signals Establishments to include Radio Monitoring Companies, Corps Air Support Signal Regiments, Air Formation Signal Regiments, Composite Signal Regiments and merger of Corps Operating and Engineering Signal Regiments.
- (ii) Restructuring of repair echelons in the Army to include Base Workshops, Advance Base Workshops and Static / Station Workshops in the field Army.
- (iii) Redeployment of Ordnance echelons to include Vehicle Depots, Ordnance Depots and Central Ordnance Depots apart from streamlining inventory control mechanisms.
- (iv) Better utilization of Supply and Transportation echelons and Animal Transport Units.
- (v) Closure of Military Farms and Army Postal Establishments in peace locations.
- (vi) Enhancement in standards for recruitment of clerical staff and drivers in the Army.
- (vii) Improving the efficiency of the National Cadet Corps.

A total of 99 recommendations, including the 65 recommendations pertaining to Indian Army were forwarded for implementation to concerned agencies / stakeholders. Full details of the Report and its recommendations are not being placed in the public domain as operational aspects of the armed forces have also been covered, disclosure of which is not in the interest of national security.

#### **e-Ticketing System**

1377. SHRI C. MAHENDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched new user interface of its Next Generation e-Ticketing (NGeT) System recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it provides user-friendly, easy and fast way of booking rail tickets by automating journey planning and purchase of tickets;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it will provide enhanced class, train, destination, departure and arrival time and quota-wise filters for facilitating customers while planning their journeys; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (f) Yes, Madam. A new Next Generation e-Ticketing System has been launched on 14.6.2018 with the following salient features:

- (i) In the new user-interface, the user can enquire/search trains and check availability of seat without login.
- (ii) User can also change font size throughout the website.
- (iii) User can predict the chance of waitlist or RAC (Reservation Against Cancellation) ticket getting confirmed on the basis of historical booking trends.
- (iv) Enhanced 'Vikalp' feature provides user the option of choosing alternate accommodation in case of waitlist tickets in different trains including specials.
- (v) The user can manage the payment option by marking six banks as preferred banks.
- (vi) On completion of payment, the details of booking shall be displayed in user friendly manner.
- (vii) Different filters as per departure/arrival time, class, train and quota have been provided for facilitating journey planning.
- (viii) It can be used on multiple mobile platforms without any problem.

(ix) New user interface also facilitates seamless navigation in mobiles, desktops, laptops and tablets.

(x) There are number of additional features such as filters on 'My Transactions' where user can view booked tickets based on journey date, booking date, upcoming journey and completed journey.

(xi) Single screen information about the train including the train number, train name, originating and destination station and distances between them, arrival and departure time and journey time has now been arranged.

*[Translation]*

#### **Backward/Aspirational Districts**

1378. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the name of districts of Bihar declared as backward/aspirational districts;

(b) whether the Government proposes to include more districts in the list;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to remove the backwardness of these districts and extent to which the success has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) For Aspirational Districts Programme, 13 districts from Bihar have been selected. List of these districts is placed as Statement.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to include any additional district in Bihar under this Programme.

(d) Under this program Central Prabhari Officer have been assigned at the Centre level to monitor the implementation of the programme. The Central Prabhari Officers are to assist the State Government and the district administration to improve their performance by acting as a bridge between the State Government, District and the Government of India. Key Performance Indicators have been identified and district has been requested to create a vision document and an action

program. A dynamic dashboard is facilitating the district to ascertain its position among the Aspirational Districts in India on the basis of incremental change. This in turn is expected to enthuse the District Magistrates to become competitive and with the assistance of their own State Government to improve their position. In

addition, key Central Ministries have prioritized these districts in their programme. This has resulted in improving the focus of the district administration towards the activities which are critical for improving the quality of life of people in these districts and their economic productivity.

**Statement**

*NITI Aayog*

*List of Aspirational Districts in Bihar*

State	NITI Aayog Districts	Ministries pool of districts	MHA LWE Districts	Total
Bihar	1. Katihar	1. Khagaria	1. Aurangabad	
Bihar	2. Begusarai	2. Purnia	2. Banka	
Bihar	3. Sheikhpura		3. Gaya	
Bihar	4. Araria		4. Jamui	13
Bihar	5. Sitamarhi		5. Muzaffarpur	
Bihar			6. Nawada	

**Revision in Wage Structure of GDS**

1379. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

SHRIMATI KAVITHA KALVAKUNTLA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the revision in the wage structure and allowances of Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDS) recently and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Union Government is considering to constitute new pay revision committee for GDS engaged in postal service as per the recommendation made by Kamlesh Chandra Committee; and

(c) the provision being made by the Union Government with regard to revision of salary of GDS as per the recommendation of Finance Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA):

(a) Yes, Madam. A summary of recommendations approved by the Government is enclosed as Statement.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) The system of Gramin Dak Sevaks is unique to Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication. Department of Posts vide it's resolution number 17-13/2013-GDS dated 19.11.2015 had constituted a One Man Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Kamlesh Chandra, retired Member, Postal Services Board, to look into the conditions of service, emoluments and other facilities available to Gramin Dak Sevaks. The Committee had submitted it's report on 24.11.2016. The recommendations of the Committee were examined by the Government and approved to be implemented vide orders dated 25.06.2018 and 27.06.2018. Therefore, there is no such proposal for revision of salary of GDS as per recommendation of Finance Commission.

**Statement**

*Summary of the Implementation of Wage Structure of Gramin Dak Sevaks of Department of Posts*

1. One-man committee constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Kamlesh Chandra, Retd. Member, Postal Services Board submitted report on 24.11.2016. The Department has



increased the minimum working hours of GDS Post Offices and GDSs to 4 hours from 3. The minimum Time Related Continuity allowance (TRCA) is increased to ₹ 10,000 and Maximum ₹ 35,480/- in a span of 31 stages\* with 3% annual increase. The existing 8 categories of GDS are replaced with 2 (two) categories i.e. Branch Postmasters (BPM) and Assistant Branch Postmasters (ABPM). The existing 11 Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) slabs are replaced with two slabs in each category (with 4 hours and 5 hours' workload) as below:-

Category	Revised TRCA*
BPMS (4 hours)	₹ 12,000-29,380
(5 Hours)	₹ 14,500-35,480
ABPMS (4 Hours)	₹ 10,000-24,470
(5 Hours)	₹ 12,000-29,380

2. The Annual increase at the rate of 3% of TRCA once in a year has been implemented (as applicable to serving Central Government servants) against annual increase paid earlier @₹ 45, 50, 60, 65, 75, 85 for different TRCA slabs.
3. The New TRCA structure and allowances is effected from 01.07.2018. The payment for the period from 01.01.2016 to date of implementation is as following: -
  - (i) TRCA for the period mentioned above will be multiplied by a factor of 2.57.
  - (ii) The difference between the figure thus arrived at and the wages already drawn, to be paid as arrears in one installment.
4. Other Allowances: the following allowances are implemented from 01.07.2018:-

Item	Pre-revised	Revised
Allowances Office maintenance allowance (For BPMs only)	₹ 100/- pm	BPMs providing Branch Post Office accommodation which meets the prescribed standards - ₹ 500/- BPMs having BOs at non-standard/rent free accommodation - ₹ 250/-
Fixed Stationary Charge (FSC)	₹ 25/- pm for BPMs RS. 10/- pm for other than BPMs	₹ 25/- ABPMS and Dak Sevaks. FSC subsumed in composite allowance for BPMs.
Boat Allowance	₹ 50/- pm	Boat allowance may be retained @ ₹ 115/-.
Cash Conveyance Allowance	₹ 50/- pm	Payment of ₹ 30/- and ₹ 50/- per occasion plus actual conveyance charges for cash conveyance of an amount less than ₹ 1 Lakh and more than ₹ 1 lakh respectively subject to maximum of charges incurred for transport by public bus.
Cycle Maintenance Allowance	₹ 90/- pm	@ 180/- pm
Combined Allowance	Duty 1. GDS Branch Postmasters performing delivery or conveyance duties or both will be paid ₹ 500 P.M. for each item of work separately.	BPM for delivery OR Mail conveyance work - ₹ 45/- per day subject to maximum of ₹ 1170/- per month BPM for delivery PLUS mail conveyance -₹ 90/- per day subject to maximum of ₹. 2340/- per month ABPM for BPM work - ₹ 75/- per day subject to a maximum of ₹ 1950/- per month.

Item	Pre-revised	Revised
	2. If the Branch Postmaster is performing delivery at the BO village only, it will be restricted to ₹ 250 P.M	ABPM/Dak Sevak for additional work of another ABPM/Dak Sevak- ₹ 45/- per day subject to a maximum of ₹ 1170/- These rates will be for combination of duties of two or more posts borne on the establishment of the office.
	3. BPM exchanging Mails at Bus stand or at Railway Stations will be compensated at the rate of ₹ 250 P.M.	
Risk and Hardship Allowance	Nil	Risk and Hardship allowance @ of ₹ 500/- per month to the GDS working in areas which are identified for this allowance.

5. Other social welfare benefits:

- Contribution to Service Discharge Benefit Scheme (SDBS) - based on NPS lite - increased from ₹ 200/- to ₹ 300/- (for both GDS and Department)
- Ex-gratia gratuity - enhanced from ₹ 60,000/- to ₹ 1.5 lakhs.
- Severance Amount - enhanced from ₹ 60,000/- to ₹ 1.5 lakhs.
- Maternity Leave - 180 days and wages for the period paid from salary head.

**Power Transmission Lines**

1380. SHRI BHARAT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for the disinvestment of power transmission lines of the railways;

(b) if so, the amount of revenue likely to be earned by the Railways from the said disinvestment; and

(c) the items on which the said revenue is likely to be spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Madam. Presently Ministry of Railways has no plan for disinvestment of power transmission lines of railways.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, I have received notices of adjournment motion on various subjects from

some members. Though these matters are important, it is not necessary to interrupt today's proceeding for them. These can be raised on other occasions. Therefore, I have not allowed ant notice of adjournment motion.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Yes Kharge ji...(Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (Gulbarga): Under Rule 220 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I hereby give notice to move Privilege Motion against Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi...(Interruptions) for making misleading statement in his speech on the debate of No-Confidence Motion in Lok Sabha on 20th July, 2018....(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: It is under my consideration. I will see to it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Madam, they are not doing the right thing...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): Madam, we have also given a notice...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA (Guna): Madam, we are moving a Privilege Motion against the Minister of Defence under Rule 222. She has tried to mislead the whole House and the entire country. She is trying to hide the name in Rafael deal on the basis of false statements. ...*(Interruptions)* Has the Government committed corruption?...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I have received all the Privilege Motions. It is under my consideration. That's all.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Minister of Chemical and Fertilizer and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam, you have given the opportunity to speak on Privilege motion to Kharge ji, Jyotiraditya ji and Shri K.C. Venugopal ji.

HON. SPEAKER: Privilege motion of both of them are different. There are two different notices. Some persons have given notices against the Prime Minister and some have given against the Defence Minister.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Madam, the notices of these four persons are also different. Please give them an opportunity to mention a sentence each...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: By different I mean that they have given privilege motion against different persons. Yours Privilege motion is against the single person. Therefore, I have given permission to two persons to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Just a minute. Please sit down.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Madam, our notices are different...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Jyotiraditya ji, please sit down. I am talking to you. Please sit down. I will look into it. I am telling you. Please sit down.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Madam, subjects are different...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Ananth Kumarji, please understand one thing. Whatever I am doing, it is being done with proper understanding. Five persons of opposition have given separate notices. Five persons have given separate Privilege notices against Prime Minister and five persons have given against the Raksha Mantri. On behalf of the five persons I have permitted one person each to speak. I have permitted an hon'ble Member to speak about the Prime Minister and another hon'ble Member to speak about the Defence Minister. There are four notices from your side, but that was against one person only.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: If I will give permission to all of you to speak, I will have to give permission to five persons from this side also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Madam, subject of Anurag Thakurji is different.

HON. SPEAKER: Yesterday, I gave an opportunity to Anurag Thakurji to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Hon'ble Speaker, yesterday I was not able to put across the subject. I didn't get an opportunity yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Madam ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down. If I am talking please don't do this. I am sorry.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: It cannot be changed, now...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please, don't direct me. Firstly, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA: Madam  
...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: No, I will not listen.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)...\*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I have seen and I have put across your point.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Anurag Thakur ji. I am allowing only you to speak. You can also put your view in only one sentence like him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Madam, he has spoken yesterday...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Yesterday, I did not allow him to speak the complete sentence.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Madam Speaker, I would like to bring the very fact to your notice that when a discussion was taking place on No Confidence Motion, on that day Rahul Gandhi ji tried to mislead the House and levelled baseless allegations...(Interruptions) The Minister of Defence replied to the same and even the President of France answered that there was an agreement between two countries...(Interruptions) Therefore, action should be taken against him.  
...(Interruptions)

12.07 hrs

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): On

behalf of Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 2016- 2017, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Aeronautical Development Agency, Bangalore, for the year 2016-2017.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9347/16/18]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSINS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Hon'ble Speaker, Madam, I lay a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) on the Table of the House:

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Uranium Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9348/16/18]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Electronics Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9349/16/18]

- (3) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Rare Earths Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9350/16/18]

\* Not recorded.

- (4) Memorandum of Understanding between the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9351/16/18]

- (5) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9352/16/18]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Hon'ble Speaker, Madam, I lay the following papers on the table of the House:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2016-2017.
- (ii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited, New Delhi for the year 2016-2017 and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9353/16/18]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Broadband Network Limited and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, for the year 2018-2019.
- [Placed in Library, See No. LT 9354/16/18]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9355/16/18]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House on behalf of Shri S.S. Ahluwalia.

- (1) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 2016-17.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9356/16/18]

- (3) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 2016-17, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 2016-17.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9357/16/18]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and

English versions) of Notification No. 2268(E) published in Gazette of India dated 4th June 2018, relating to approval of mining plan relating to coal, lignite and sand for storing reconstituted in MoC by extending the tenure of Shri K.K. Singh as the Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee for three years under sub section I of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9358/16/18]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the IRCON International Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9359/16/18]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9360/16/18]

- (3) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9361/16/18]

- (4) Memorandum of Understanding between the Braithwaite and Company Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9362/16/18]

- (5) Memorandum of Understanding between the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9363/16/18]

- (6) Memorandum of Understanding between the Railtel Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9364/16/18]

- (7) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9365/16/18]

- (8) Memorandum of Understanding between the RITES Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9366/16/18]

- (9) Memorandum of Understanding between the Container Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9367/16/18]

- (10) Memorandum of Understanding between the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9368/16/18]

- (11) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9369/16/18]

- (12) Memorandum of Understanding between the Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9370/16/18]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on Table a copy of Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation and the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9371/16/18]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions)

under sub-section (3) of Section 21A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 inserted by the Commercial Court, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018:-

- (1) The Commercial Courts (Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement) Rules, 2018 published in Notification No. G.S.R.606(E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd July, 2018.
- (2) The Commercial Courts (Statistical Data) Rules, 2018 published in Notification No. G.S.R.607(E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd July, 2018.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9372/16/18]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Goa Shipyard Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9373/16/18]

- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9374/16/18]

- (3) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Shipyard Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9375/16/18]

- (4) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9376/16/18]

- (5) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9377/16/18]

- (6) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the BEL Optronics Devices Limited for the year 2018- 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9378/16/18]

- (7) Memorandum of Understanding between the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9379/16/18]

- (8) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Dynamics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9380/16/18]

- (9) Memorandum of Understanding between the BEML Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2018-2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9381/16/18]

**12.08 hrs**

#### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

*[English]*

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I have to report the following 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 23rd July, 2018 agreed without any amendment to the Specific Relief (Amendment) Bill, 2018 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 2018.”

**12.09 hrs**

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS  
AND RESOLUTIONS

**42nd Report**

*[English]*

SHRI THANGSO BAITE (Outer Manipur): I beg to present the Forty-second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

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**12.09 ½ hrs**

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES

**29th Report**

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Kanpur): Madam, I beg to lay the 29th Report (Hindi and English versions) of Committee on Estimates (2018-19) on the subject 'Preparedness of Armed Forces - Defence Production and Procurement' pertaining to the Ministry of Defence.

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**12.10 hrs**

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

**29th Action Report**

*[Translation]*

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI (Ahmadnagar): I beg to lay on the Table the Twenty-ninth Action Taken Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation on the observations/recommendations contained in Twenty-first Report of the Committee (Sixteenth Lok Sabha).

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**12.10 ¼ hrs**

COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF SCHEDULED  
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

**22nd and 23rd Reports**

*[Translation]*

DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (Ahmedabad): I beg to lay on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and

English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (2018-19):-

- (1) Twenty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject 'Role of Educational Institutions including Universities, Technical, Medical and Engineering in socio-economic development of SCs and STs - Implementation of reservation policy in University of Delhi' pertaining to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education).
  - (2) Twenty-third Report on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-first Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject 'Reservation for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)' pertaining to the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence Production).
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**12 10 ½ hrs**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

**52nd and 53rd Reports**

*[Translation]*

SHRI HUKMDE NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): I beg to lay on Table the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of Standing Committee on Agriculture:-

- (1) 52nd Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the 45th Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the Subject 'Implementation of Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure' of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
  - (2) 53rd Report on the Subject 'Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture-An Analysis' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).
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12.11 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM  
AND NATURAL GAS

24th Report

[Translation]

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad): I beg to lay on the Table the Twenty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) on the subject 'Safety, Security and Environmental Aspects in Petroleum Sector' of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas.

12.11 ½ hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL

Action Taken Statements

[Translation]

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): I beg to lay on the Table the following Action Taken Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel:-

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the 31st Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in 22nd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Science & Technology/Research & Development in Mining Sector' relating to the Ministry of Mines.
- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the 33rd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in 29th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2017-18)' of the Ministry of Steel.
- (3) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government in the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the 34th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in 28th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2017-18)' of the Ministry of Mines.
- (4) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained

in Chapters I and V of the 35th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee in 27th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2017-18)' of the Ministry of Coal.

- (5) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government in the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the 41st Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the recommendations of the Committee contained in 32th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Skill Development in Mining Sector' of the Ministry of Mines.

12.12 hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) (a) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 302nd Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on action taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 294th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2017-18) pertaining to the Ministry of Earth Sciences\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 302nd Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on action taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 294th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2017-18) pertaining to the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

- (b) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 310th Report of the Standing Committee on Science**

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9386/16/18

**and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology\***

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 310th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology.

**(c) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 315th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Ministry of Earth Sciences\***

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 315th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

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**12.12 ¼ hrs**

**(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 60th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2018-19), pertaining to the Ministry of Planning\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): Hon.

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\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See Nos. LT 9383/16/18 and 9384/16/18 respectively

\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9385/16/18

Speaker Madam, on behalf of Shri Rao Indrajit Singh, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 60th Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2018-19), pertaining to the Ministry of Planning.

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**12.12 ½ hrs**

**(iii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 18th Report of the Standing Committee on Railways on 'Tourism Promotion and Pilgrimage Circuit' pertaining to the Ministry of Railways\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 18th Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways, Sixteenth Lok Sabha.

The 18th Report of the Committee on Tourism on 'Tourism Promotion and Pilgrimage Circuit' presented to the Lok Sabha on 4th January, 2018, contains 12 recommendations and action taken notes thereon were furnished to the Committee on 19th June, 2018 in English and Hindi.

A statement showing details of all the recommendations contained in the Report and implementation status thereon is enclosed. Since the statement is voluminous, I request that the same may be taken as read.

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**12.13 hrs**

**(iv) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee on Defence on Demands for Grants (2016-17) (Miscellaneous, Demand No. 20), pertaining to the Ministry of Defence\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): I beg to

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\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9387/16/18

lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee on Defence on Demands for Grants (2016-17) (Miscellaneous, Demand No. 20), pertaining to the Ministry of Defence.

12.15 hrs

### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

#### Tea Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): I beg to move the following:-

“That in pursuance of clause (f) of sub-section (3) of the section (4) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder.”

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That in pursuance of clause (f) of sub-section (3) of the section (4) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder.”

*The motion was adopted.*

12.16 hrs

### MOTION RE: 55TH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam, I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the Fifty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th July, 2018.”

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That this House do agree with the Fifty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th July, 2018.”

*The motion was adopted.*

...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Hon. Speaker, Madam, in West Bengal...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I will give an opportunity to you. Please have patience.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Madam, I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the massive breach of candidate data who appeared for the NEET examination this year. As per the reports, the data is available in certain websites for a price. It has been pointed out that the data of around two lakh students have been leaked. This is a serious issue of theft of personal data that has compromised the privacy of candidates across the country. This also highlights the serious lack of safeguard to prevent data breach.

This also questions the ability of the CBSE to ensure the sanctity of the examination process. The PTI reported that the names, phone numbers, and email addresses, besides NEET scores and rankings, of over two lakh candidates were available online for a price. The buyers were willing to pay up to Rs. 2 lakh for this personal data of students. More than 1.3 million candidates appeared for the exam this year out of which data for 2,50,000 students is available for anyone willing to pay lakhs of rupees for access to this data. This is a serious issue of theft of privacy.

At a time when the debate on privacy and data protection is on full stream in the country with a panel headed by Justice Srikrishna set to draft a privacy Bill,

the website's use of people's private information comes as a major threat to privacy.

Last year also, CBSE examination paper leaked. With this type of leaking, people are losing credibility of the examinations. Therefore, this is one of the serious issues. The Government should come forward and put up an enquiry on that. These types of things should not be repeated.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. P.K. Biju, Shri M. B. Rajesh and Adv. Joice George are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Madam Speaker, in West Bengal, women are disgraced. Four women in Jalpaiguri district were mob lynched. Two of them were disrobed. This was not the end. Allegations were made on those women by the police...(Interruptions) Those four women were arrested, out of which two were disrobed. ...(Interruptions) Such incidents are taking place in the state where the Chief Minister itself is a woman. ...(Interruptions)

Similarly, a thirty two years old youth in Kerala named Manik Roy was killed by calling him a chicken thief...(Interruptions) 27 years old Asif and 62 years old Shashidhara Kurup...(Interruptions) I would like to tell you something more about Kerala. On 28th January, a pregnant woman was lynched...(Interruptions)

Similarly, on 30 January, an intellectual disabled woman was alleged to be creating nuisance...(Interruptions) she was called mentally ill, was harassed and molested...(Interruptions) What is this happening?...(Interruptions) Two women among four in West Bengal were molested. It is a matter of shame. Women are being disgraced in this manner. Two Dalits in Kerala were...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Kirit Somaiya ji, it is enough. Now, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Nishikant Dubey, Shri Uday Pratap Singh, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Naran Bhai Kachcharia, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Kumari Shobha Karandalaje are permitted to associate with the subject raised by Dr. Kirit.

[English]

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (Kannur): Madam Speaker, the House is not in order. ...(Interruptions) It is a very important subject. How can I speak?...(Interruptions)

12.21 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Idris Ali and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: This is a very important subject.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down, Kirit Somaiya ji, what is this happening?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: What is he doing?...(Interruptions) He is a Member from Ruling Party. He is creating...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Nobody will move from his seat. What is this going on?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12.30 p.m.

12.22 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

12.30 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

(HON. SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now this is very bad. I am sorry.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You all please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs should give a reply  
...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: There is nobody here, he can, if he wants. [English] I cannot say anything.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Hon. Speaker, hon. Minister of Home Affairs should give a reply on this matter  
...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: No, I cannot say. Please sit down.

Now, Shreemathi Teacher.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I would request all the Members that if all of them come to me and speak together, I would be in a difficulty. It is but natural for all to be angry. Allegations are being made against one another. [English] That is what I am saying. Yes, I am not saying anything but please do not cross the limit. That is my only request, please. That is the thing. Otherwise, I am not saying anything.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (Kannur): Madam, Speaker, it is a very important subject.  
...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: He also should not do that. It is not you alone but I mean both of you. [Translation] I am

not asking a particular person. I am asking all. All of you should be careful to some extent.

Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Hon. Madam Speaker, thank you so much for giving me an opportunity to speak about an important subject, that is, on the Women's Reservation Bill.

Madam Speaker, it is with a sense of deep disappointment and sorrow that I bring to your attention yet again the easy-going attitude of the Government towards bringing the Women's Reservation Bill which provides 33.3 per cent reservation for women, in the agenda of our Lok Sabha. I would like to point out that the present Government had made promise to the women of our country in their election manifesto, expressing their commitment to the passage of this Bill.

Madam, promise is a promise. Promise should be fulfilled. It is not to be broken. It is now four years since it came to power with two-thirds majority. Though public statements of noble intentions for empowerment of women and girls have been made by the Ministers and the Party leadership quite frequently over the years, this has not reflected into action with regard to the Women's Reservation Bill, as a result, presence of women in the Lok Sabha, Parliament, remains at 11.7 per cent, and at the State Legislative Assemblies also, it shows a similar gender imbalance.

Women's rights, as per our Constitution, mainly include dignity and freedom from discrimination. Article 4 of the Constitution guarantees to all the Indian women equality. Article assures no discrimination. Article assures equality for opportunity. Where do we, the Indian women, get equal opportunities? Nowhere. Why? The Government has the responsibility to assure equal opportunities to the women. Do not deny the minimum rights of Indian women.

Madam, as the Speaker of the Sixteenth Lok Sabha, you have often spoken out in defence of women's rights, including their right to minimum representation in the highest decision-making bodies. Hence, I make an appeal for your intervention on this issue that has been

pending, as you know, for over 20 years. I request you, hon. Madam, to interfere with the ruling Government and ensure that 33 per cent reservation giving Women's Reservation Bill, which has already gone through a long process of consultation at all levels, is brought to this Parliament and passed without any further delay before 8th March, 2019. Thank you.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, you all will support it.

Shrimati Arpita Ghosh, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, Shri Rajeev Satav, Shrimati Supriya Sule, Shri Dhananjay Mahadik, Dr. P.K. Biju, Shri M.B. Rajesh, Adv. Joice George, Dr. A. Sampath, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, Shri Sankar Prasad Datta, Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena, Shri N.K. Premachandran, Shrimati V. Sathyabama, Dr. J. Jayavardhan, Shri P. Karunakaran and Dr. Kulamani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (South Delhi): Madam, through you, I would like to submit that about one lakh people belonging to scheduled castes have been living in Delhi for the last 50-60 years. They started to work as labourers. They have concrete (pakka) houses, they have everything. However, there is a colony in Bhati mines names Sanjay Colony. Similarly there are other places like Lalkuan, Bhim Basti, Shambhu Basti and Neb Sarai. All these areas are inhabited by scheduled castes people. During the last four decades the Government and the Chief Minister have been showing their favour for the scheduled castes. However, in the year 1998, after the introduction of NGT, the land where the scheduled castes people have been residing has been categorised as ridge and forest area land. The area being covered in the ridge area, the basic amenities like water supply, providing sewer lines, road maintenance, etc. are not being done. They are leading a pitiable life there. The Governments which have been pretending to be the supporters of scheduled castes have done nothing for them during the last 50 years. Even today, the Chief Minister is the chairperson of RMB.

Madam, this is a question of one lakh people. There are repeated proposals to displace them from there and they are not provided any facilities. They are not allowed even to carry out repair works or extension in their

houses. If their son got married and they want to add just another room in their existing house, they can't do it so. Through you, I would like my message to be conveyed to the Minister of Urban Affairs and the Chief Minister of Delhi that the chairman of RMB and who looks after the work in this regard should get the area surveyed, decategorized it from the ridge area and some other land of Gram Sabha should be declared as ridge area. Justice should be done to one lakh people of scheduled castes. This Government believes in the cooperation and development of all (Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas). This Government does not believe in false assurance and politics of appeasement.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Dr. Kulmani Saural and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Ramesh Bidhuri.

SHRI MADHUKAR RAO YASHWANTRAO KUKADE (Bhandara-Gondia): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

I come from Bhandara district. A project from Trivandi to Katangi in our areas was approved in 1998. Twenty years have passed but the project has not been completed yet. If the project is completed, Vidarbha would get justice. The Central Government and State Government of Bharatiya Janta Party are not ready to give a separate state Vidarbha. If this is done Balaghat and Mandala district would be connected and our important matters would be solved. It took 20 years to complete only a 12 km long project. Hon'ble Mamata Bannerjee had approved the project in 1998, when she was the Minister of Railways. However, Gondia to Jabalpur narrow-gauge and broad gauge lines have not been completed. If these two projects are completed, people of Vidarbha region would get justice and development would be started. There is a district headquarter in Bhandara. There was a goods shed earlier which was closed by the Government. If that goods shed starts working again, it would be useful for storing paddy. If the Government takes initiative in this regard people of Vidarbha would get justice.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati Supriya Sule and Shri Dhananjay Mahadik are permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Madhukar Rao Yashwantrao Kukade.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK (Rajmahal): Madam, I rise to speak on a special subject. Adivasis have been demanding for a separate religion code i.e. Sarna Religion Code for a long time. Having no religion code, they are covered in Hindu religion in some states despite the fact that they are not so. Sarna and Sanatan Dharma are two different religions. We mention our caste as Adivasi. Some confusion is being tried to be created among the people in the name of caste and creed and they are trying to manipulate the census data. I want that Adivasis should be known by their caste. I would like to submit to the House that even court has admitted to the fact that Adivasis are the first individuals of this country. Various laws meant to protect Adivasis in various states like Fifth Schedule, Sixth Schedule, PESA, CNT and SPT Acts are being tried to be changed to make these laws weak. They need to be protected.

Adivasis have a very rich history. If we in our own country are unable to realise their contribution in the first battle of independence in the year 1857, how would others accept it. The battle of 1957 is considered to be the first battle for Independence, but actually 'Hul Kranti' of Sidhu-Kanhu against the Britishers was the first war of Independence. Through this August House, I would like to submit that this historical fact should be covered in the history books all over the country. With this demand, I conclude.

HON. SPEAKER: The permission is granted to Shri Jitendra Chaudhary, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Sankar Prasad Datta, Shri Md. Badaruddoza, Dr. Kulmani Samal, Shri Nishikant Dubey and Shri P.R. Sundaram to associate themselves with the matter raised by Sh. Vijay Kumar Hansdak.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (Supaul): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, almost 156 districts in the entire country are in the grip of drought. This time, Bihar has been hit by drought severely. There almost 36 districts are in the grip of drought, out of which 13 districts did not receive even 60 to 80% of rain. The paddy saplings were not planted and they are getting dry. On the one hand, the prices of diesel are sky rocketing, the difficulties are being faced in getting subsidy on the other all districts from Supaul to Madhepura, Purnea, Gopalganj, Sheohar, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Begusarai Araria, Katihar, Buscar, Bhabua, Rohtas, Nawada, Nalanda, Jamui, Lakhisarai and

Darbhanga are in the grip of severe drought. I would like to make a request to the Government that since above all districts are in the grip of drought, the entire Bihar should be declared as drought affected and a special package should be declared for Bihar to provide special compensation to the farmers. Thank You.

HON. SPEAKER: The permission is granted to Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Dr. Kulmani Samal and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan.

12.41 hrs

#### SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

##### (i) Re: Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh

[English]

\*SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (Kakinada): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I will speak in my mother tongue, Telugu.

Madam Speaker, the issue of special category status and other provisions of Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, pertaining to Andhra Pradesh, were discussed in a day long debate of Motion of No Confidence and also in short duration discussion on this subject in Rajya Sabha.

Our MPs from Andhra Pradesh are questioning Central Government over injustice meted out to our state, but we are not getting proper reply from the Government. People of Andhra Pradesh are raising their voice against injustice meted out by Central Government to our state. There are protests and agitations throughout the state. We passed Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill in 2014.

It is the responsibility of the present Government to implement provisions of the Act. At the time of passage of that bill, present Government was sitting in opposition. Yesterday Dr. Manmohan Singh stated that Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh was discussed with opposition parties before giving assurance. But till date, there is no reference to that assurance by the present Government. We pass bills in the Parliament with the spirit of our constitution framed by Dr. BR Ambedkar. It is

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu.

the responsibility of all members to implement laws passed by the Parliament.

But the Central Government is insensitive to Andhra Pradesh and it is not referring to problems due to bifurcation, faced by people of Andhra Pradesh. Shri Narendra Modi, while replying to Motion of No Confidence spoke for one & half hour and made a political speech, but not mentioned about the assistance that the Government would offer to AP.

Yesterday also while replying to debate in Rajya Sabha, there was similar approach. As Mr. Modi represent Varanasi which is also known as Kasi, we have a tradition of give up our favourite thing in holy river Ganga. It seems Shri Narendra Modi sacrificed assurances & promises given to Andhra Pradesh in river Ganga. They are referring to 14th Finance Commission and citing other reasons. I demand this Government to show, where it is mentioned by 14th Finance Commission that Andhra Pradesh should not be accorded with special category status. We don't get any answers. They come out with new argument every day. They referred to 14th Finance Commission, they promised special package. Now they are talking about SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle). For that also there is no action.

Central Government is cheating people of Andhra Pradesh by spreading lies; we on behalf of TDP highlight this attitude of the Government through Motion of No Confidence and Short duration discussion. The demands of people of Andhra Pradesh should be met in all circumstances. We are reflecting the sentiments and emotions of Andhra Pradesh but Central Government is ignoring concerns of Andhra Pradesh. There are many issues throughout the country that are being discussed here, and I demand reply for issues pertaining to Andhra Pradesh.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Shri Thota Narasimham has expressed his anguish and pain over the division of Andhra Pradesh. At the same time, the hon. Prime Minister, while replying to No Confidence Motion often said what we have done for Andhra Pradesh and refuted the politically motivated allegations. Not only that, he also said that the Government of India is for the welfare of Andhra Pradesh.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (Tripura West): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

The people of Tripura are passing through hard days in the last four months of BJP-IPFT alliance Government. Most of the workers do not have any work to do. Agricultural workers have nothing to do in the agricultural field. The petty shopkeepers have to wait the whole day to sell a little portion of their stock. Even the *chaiwala* is selling only a few cups of tea. Earlier, workers used to have work and were earning minimum of Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 per day. As there were plenty of job opportunities in the State, workers from other States were interested to come and engage themselves in Tripura to earn their proper livelihood. Now-a-days they are leaving Tripura and the workers of Tripura are getting only Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 only.

Why, in these four months, are people not in a position either to do work or to sell their commodities for their daily earning? Earlier, at the time of the Left Front Government in the State of Tripura, people used to get 80 to 90 days of MGNREGA work. Not only that, Forest, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments used to engage people to do development work. Maximum number of tribal, dalit, OBC and poor people of other sections used to earn plenty of money to maintain their daily food and lodging requirements. Enough money was in circulation throughout the State which made their lives proper.

As there is no money in the hands of hilly and village people, today in the Fair Price Shops also dealers are waiting for selling rice and flour for so many days. Rotten food is being distributed in the Fair Price Shops of the State. I am having some sample of rotten flour collected from a hilly Fair Price Shop of Khamting ADC village of Sinaicampara. Now, I am having this sample with me. This is rotten flour. Insects are loitering hither and thither. If you want I can give you the sample.

HON. SPEAKER: This is not proper.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Please see whether this can be eaten by people or not. Even animals are not eating this type of rotten flour and rice.

I strongly urge upon the Central Government that the Centre should allocate adequate money to the State



of Tripura for MGNREGA and other Department works and supply good quality food to the State of Tripura. Otherwise, starvation will ruin the people and the State of Tripura. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Kulmani Samal, Shri Jitendra Chaudhury, and Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shri Sankar Prasad Datta.

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (Murshidabad): Hon. Speaker Madam, I would like to raise an important issue regarding the construction of border road along with barbed wire fencing in Madhugari Gram Panchayat area under Karimpur – I Development Block in the district of Nadia, West Bengal which comes under my parliamentary constituency.

Madam, the River Padma was flowing inside the Indian territory before 1996, but suddenly, it has changed its course between the years 1996 and 2003 and started flowing through Bangladesh territory engulfing the river Mathabhanga. As a result, there was erosion and re-alignment of Indo-Bangladesh demarcation line.

Nearly, 3,500 acres of Indian cultivable land -- falling within the limits of Madhugari Gram Panchayat -- have been found to have emerged as the 'Fertile Charland' to the north of River Padma within India. The Indian cultivators, belonging to this sector, had so far been earning their livelihood by cultivating this huge area. But now, through reliable sources, I have come to know that the Government is going to undertake re-construction work of the Border Road along the southern side of the present course of the River Padma far from the Indo- Bangladesh demarcation line.

I would like to request the hon. Minister, through you, Madam that the construction work should take place at a distance of 150 metres from the Indo- Bangladesh Radcliffe Line of demarcation. I am saying this because if the Border Road and barbed wire fencing are constructed far from the demarcation line, then 3,500 acres of the Indian cultivable land will go to the Bangladesh goons and the Indian cultivators will face huge difficulty in accessing their land for cultivation.

So, I would request the Government to look into the matter on humanitarian grounds, and construct the

Border Road and barbed wire fencing within 150 metres from the Indo-Bangladesh Radcliffe Line.

*[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Sankar Prasad Datta and Shri Jitendra Chaudhary to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Md. Badaruddoza.

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, but the 'Zero Hour' submissions should always be short.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (Banda): Hon'ble Speaker, there is a very important Manikpur station in my Parliamentary Constituency. Hundreds of rural people commute daily from here. The Chitrakut Express train runs from Jabalpur to Lucknow. The route of this train is being diverted from 25th and it would be run through bye-pass railway route. Earlier also, the route of Mahakoshal Express train running from Jabalpur to Delhi was diverted resulting in a lot of inconvenience to the people. Similarly, the route of Garib Rath train running from Durg to Lucknow was also diverted from Manikpur. In the same way, the route of Durg-Kanpur train was also diverted. Due to this, there is resentment among the people. The diversion of route of Chitrakut train is causing a lot of difficulty to the people. I had given a suggestion to the Ministry of Railways as a temporary solution of this problem that if the trains get delayed in running via Manikpur through bye-pass railway route, a halt station should be provided there for which survey has already been conducted. But, the work has not yet started.

Madam, through you, I would like to make a request to the hon'ble Minister and the Government that the route of Chitrakut train should not be diverted until halt station is provided there. The trains, which were earlier running through bye-pass railway route, should be run via Manikpur. The routes of these trains should be diverted only after providing halt station there.

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Sharad Tripathi and Kunwar Pushpendra Chandel to associate themselves with the matter raised by Bhairon Prasad Mishra.

SHRI NABA KUMAR SARNIA (Kokrajhar): Madam, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important subject. The Adivasis of Assam, particularly Munda, Gaura, Santhal, Oraon, Kharia and farmers are already seeking their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes. During election, hon'ble Prime Minister had visited our area and he said the 'Rajbangsi' will be accorded the status of Scheduled Tribes. It was a major issue during the Assam election, which has not been settled so far.

The 'Rajbangsi' caste was proposed to be accorded the status of Scheduled Tribe in 1996 through an ordinance but that was not included in the constitution. The Moran, Motak, Sutia and Aham are also seeking their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes and three districts of my parliamentary constituency i.e. Buksa, Siran and Kokrajhar fall under sixth schedule. If they are not included in the Scheduled Tribes, they will not get right to land political rights. The financial assistance was also not given to them. They are not getting benefits of houses being given under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana. The Kalita and Najuki are also making their demand. If they are not included in the Scheduled Tribes, they will also get no rights. The promise made by the Prime Minister and the Government of Assam should be fulfilled. I demand that this issue should be resolved as early as possible.

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Jitendra Chaudhury, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan and Shri Sankar Prasad Datta to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Naba Kumar Sarnia.

SHRI HARISH MEENA (Dausa): Hon. Speaker, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on an important issue which relates to the future of youths of the country.

The Government services are being privatized under the policy of the Government causing a huge loss to the youths. The contractors pay less salary to the youths working under them in commensurate with their work due to privatization. Thus, they exploit the youths.

The reservation for poors and Dalits in government services has almost come to an end. The Marathas in Maharashtra, the Patidars in Gujarat and Jats in Haryana are agitating due to these policies only.

There is no arable land, no industry in my parliamentary constituency, Dausa. Where will the local youths go for employment? Therefore, through you, I request the Government of India that reduction should not be made in government jobs and privatization should be stopped so that our youths can get government jobs.

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Bahiron Prasad Mishra, Shri Rahul Shewale, Shri Shrirang Appa Barne, Shri Arvind Sawant, Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut, Dr. Heena Vijay Kumar Gavit and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Harish Meena.

*[English]*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Madam, I would like to urge upon the Government to sanction financial assistance to Endosulfan victims of the Kasargod district of Kerala, and also to the victims in some places of Karnataka.

Endosulfan is a highly toxic pesticide. It has been used for a long time in the cashew plantations by companies. As a result about 600 people have lost their lives. Madam, 10,000 people are taking treatment. I have been raising this issue in the House many times in the past. The Government of Kerala has taken a number of measures. Pension scheme is implemented; free ration is given; medical facilities are given.

In the recent times, the Supreme Court has given a verdict to the effect that compensation should be paid to these victims. It is also stated that the Central Government also has to give its share. The State Government has requested for Rs.483 crore to meet the expenses in this regard. But the Central Government has not yet extended any assistance. This issue should be taken as a humanitarian grounds as it is considered as a very big issue affecting women, children and others. Hence, I would request the Government to sanction financial assistance of Rs.483 crore to Kerala.

*[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Dr. P.K. Biju, Shri M.B. Rajesh, adv. Joice George, Dr. A. Sampath and Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri P. Karunakaran.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg): I, through you, demand from the Government of India that Late Dada Saheb Phalkeji who hails from Triyambakeshwar Nagar of Nasik District in Maharashtra and who is called as father of Indian Film Industry should be honoured with 'Bharat Ratna'.

You know that he has placed the Indian Film Industry at a reputed place in the country and the world. Today, the Indian Film Industry is making a business of crores of rupees. Lakhs of people are earning their livelihood through them. The great actor like Shri Amitabh Bachan ji is the product of Indian Film Industry. Late Dada Saheb Falke had started it 105 years ago i.e. in 1913. Facing with problems in adverse circumstances, he had produced film 'Raja Harishchandra' in Indian Film Industry. Thereafter, he produced 125 films like 'Bhasmasur Mohini' and opened new vista for career in the field of art in film industry.

He passed away at the age of 74 years after producing 125 films. The Central Government is required to honour him properly in view of the work undertaken by him.

Therefore, I, through you, demand that Late Dada Falke should be honoured with 'Bharat Ratna' so that entire Film Industry could get its due honour.

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Sh. Arvind Sawant, Sh. Rahul Shewale, Shri Shrirang Barne and Dr. Heena Vijay Kumar Gavit to associate themselves to the matter raised by Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut.

**13.00 hrs**

*[English]*

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (Mumbai South Central): Thank you Madam Speaker for allowing me to raise an important issue on fee hike for non-DAE students at BARC schools of my parliamentary constituency of South Central Mumbai. I have received several representations from many non-DAE parents whose children are studying in AEES school in BARC, Mumbai. Previously, the fee for boys was Rs.20,000 and Rs.2000 for girl students. Now the fee is instantly increased to Rs.40,000 for boys as well as for girl students.

It is learnt that recently the Union Minister of Finance had told the Department of Atomic Energy that

the fees charged in AEES school were very low. So, the fees were hiked just double to the previous fee structure.

The Union Government is promoting education to all under the Right to Education Scheme. But, due to instant fee hike, how is it possible for poor students to afford the present fee structures at AEES schools? I would like to highlight some of the points raised by the parents of such students. The parents were not given any prior information about the fee hike. There is a Central Government scheme for girls' education which was operational till last year. Now, they have been charged the same fees as is being charged for boys from this year. Those parents who have two children will have to pay twice or thrice the fees. The management is putting pressure on the students to pay their fees in the class room itself. Due to this, it is affecting the students mentally. Like the DAE staff, non-DAE people do not get any special grants for the education of their children. It is the responsibility of the BARC to provide education to the people staying in the nearby areas also.

I would request, through you, the hon. Minister of Atomic Energy to stop this fee hike immediately.

*[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra to associate himself with the matter raised by Sh. Rahul Shewale.

SHRI SHAILESH KUMAR (Bhagalpur): Madam Speaker, the condition of two lanes N.H. 80 passing through my parliamentary constituency, Bhagalpur is in a bad condition for last many years. The bad condition of N.H. 80 is required to be taken cognizance immediately.

Madam, this is a major problem of Bhagalpur. The problem of jam in Bhagalpur due to the bad condition of this road has become a menace. Particularly, the entire road from city to Kahalgaon is in the grip of jam. The trucks have become a menace on roads. About 5000 trucks carry stone chips daily which has ruined life of the people. The road gets jammed on this count. Today, Bhagalpur is in the grip of complete jam.

Madam, this issue was telecast in Prime Time show of NDTV. Various organisations had also staged demonstrations in this regard. In spite of the demonstrations, when no improvement was noticed, I walked 24 kilometers on foot and tried to attract the

attention of the Government and the Administration. But despite this, the entire city is in a state of jams even today. The traffic remains jammed on this road even for four days. Shri Nishikant Dubey is present here. When his mother fell ill, they reached the doctor at Bhagalpur after lapse of four hours.

Madam, I, through you, would like to make a request about the bad condition of N.H. 80 personally. I would like to submit that first of all this road of two lanes should be made free from jam and it should be converted into four lanes from Munghya to Mirza Chauki. The condition of this road is very bad. It has become a menace.

Madam, there is also a problem of length of 36 kilometers an N.H. 106. I would like to attract your attraction towards it. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Permission is granted to Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Nishikant Dubey, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Sharad Tripathi and Dr. Kulmani Samal to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Shailesh Kumar.

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (Chennai Central): Thank you hon. Speaker Madam. The proposed draft Dam Safety Bill contains clauses which violate the rights of Tamil Nadu especially with respect to the dams constructed and owned by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the neighbouring States. It would cause various problems in its maintenance and operation.

Tamil Nadu Assembly adopted a special Resolution demanding that the Centre keep the Dam Safety Bill in abeyance. The Resolution mentioned that the Bill contains clauses that violate the rights of Tamil Nadu with respect to the dams and would cause problems in the operation and maintenance of the dams which are owned by Tamil Nadu but built in other States. The Central Government must act to resolve the issues before it passes the Bill.

When the Centre had sought inputs from the States in 2016, our beloved Leader, Puratchi Thalaivi, Amma, raised some questions about the clause allowing the National Dams Safety Authority to inspect dams situated across intra- state rivers. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Edappadi Palaniswami, had written to the hon. Prime Minister on 15th June, 2018 saying that the Bill was against the interests of the State.

Tamil owns dams in Mullaperiyar, Parambikulam, Thunakadavu and Peruvuripallam in Kerala. The two States have engaged in dispute over the Mullaperiyar Dam. When Tamil Nadu wanted to increase the storage of the Dam, Kerala opposed it citing safety threats. Eventually, a Supreme Court team inspected the Dam and confirmed in November 2014 that the Dam was safe.

The latest move by the Centre has made Tamil Nadu cautious about its authority and assets. Most dams in India are owned and operated by the State Governments. Maintenance is mostly done by the State Public Works Departments except in bigger dams that are managed by autonomous bodies. The Government of Tamil Nadu has demanded consultation with States before finalising the Bill.

Therefore, I urge the Central Government to take up the legislation on Dam Safety only after consulting the States and after arriving at a consensus and till then, keep in abeyance the process of legislation on Dam Safety.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri K. Ashok Kumar, Shrimati V. Sathyabama and Dr. J. Jayavardhan are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri S. R. Vijaya Kumar.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KAMAL BHAN SINGH MARABI (Sarguja): Hon'ble Speaker, Madam, I thank you for giving me time to raise my issue in the House. Sarguja is a most backward and Adivasi dominated parliamentary constituency, where mineral reserves are in abundance. A lot of work is being undertaken by the government for extraction of minerals. If the quantity of coal is taken into consideration, the contribution of our state in respect of coal is 18% in India. The number of rail passengers is increasing every year continuously in my constituency. I have made a request many times to introduce direct rail service from Ambikapur to New Delhi for the residents of my constituency. I have been apprising hon'ble Minister of Railways and hon'ble Prime Minister about it through letters for the last two years. I would like to make a request to the Minister of Railways to apprise me of the reasons for not introducing the rail service from Ambikapur to New Delhi.

The work relating to Chirmiri-Barwadih rail line has not started despite the funds sanctioned for the said line in the Budget 2015-16. I request the Government that I may be apprised of the time by which the said work is likely to be started.

I would like to submit that there is no means of transport for coming to Delhi from there. If the train service is introduced from here, three states i.e. U.P., Bihar and Jharkhand will be benefitted particularly. Therefore, it is requested to get the above work alone. Thank you.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Kumar Singh is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Kamal Bhan Singh Marabi.

SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL (Zaheerabad): Madam, today, I would like to raise an issue regarding Eklavya Model Residential School in my Parliamentary Constituency, Zaheerabad in the State of Telangana.

The basic criteria, as per the guidelines of Tribal Affairs Ministry, Government of India, is: 50 per cent population or minimum 20,000 population in a block. In the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, the blocks in the year 1982 were divided in two *Mandals* for administrative convenience. Almost seven to eight *Mandals* both in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh constitute a block but proposals are still being rejected barely on the ground that the tribal population is below 20,000 in the *Mandals* in Telangana State.

I would also like to mention here that as per Census 2011, ST population in Narayankhed Block is 40,483, in Yellareddy it is 33,863, and in Banswada it is 27,599. All the above-mentioned blocks have more than 20,000 ST population. I request the hon. Minister for Tribal Affairs to change the word Block to Assembly segment, especially in the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh; and consider the proposals regarding opening up of Ekalavya Model Residential Schools.

\*SHRI DHARAM VIRA GANDHI (Patiala): Thank you, Hon. Madam Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak on an important subject pertaining to Punjab.

I want to draw the attention of the House towards NH64 that passes from Amritsar to Bathinda and from Chandigarh to Bathinda. No uniformity in technical parameters has been followed as far as construction of this road is concerned. One side of this road has been constructed by using cement, iron and concrete. However, the other side of the road has been constructed by using only coaltar.

Why both sides of this road were not constructed using the same materials is a million-dollar question. Whether it was the safety standard or the cost of construction that was responsible for it, same parameters should have been followed in the construction of the road.

Hon. Madam Speaker, this dubious decision has led to a compromise in the quality of the road. It also raises a question-mark as far as safety of travellers on this road is concerned. The people of Punjab have to pay toll-tax for utilizing the services of this road. So, they are entitled to standard and safe roads. However, in this case, safety has become a casualty. This is sheer injustice that has been meted out to the people of Punjab. When Punjabis are paying taxes to the Central Government, they are entitled to the best roads.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to rectify the error and do away with this anomaly in the road construction of NH 64. Safety of travellers must be kept in mind while constructing roads. It is the responsibility of the Central Government. The burden of toll-taxes should also be done away with.

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (Chennai South): Madam Speaker, Chennai is already recognised as India's leading audio, video production centre with several postproduction processing activities like digital recording, mastering, dubbing and animation being undertaken for several films produced in our country. It is understood that the Central Government in collaboration with FICCI has sought to set up a National Centre for Visual Effects, Animation and Graphics in our country. Madam Speaker, in keeping with the developed countries where they have invested so much in regard to visual effects, animation and graphics, it is necessary that our country raises capital in this field, creates adequate workforce in this field, and also provide job opportunities for youngsters in this field. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

to make sure that a National Centre for Visual Effects, Animation and Graphics is established in our great city Chennai. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati V. Sathyabama, Shri P.R. Sundaram, and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. J. Jayavardhan.

Now I will allow a few persons for one minute each.

Shri K. Suresh, we have a Discussion under 193 and you can speak then.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): I will be very brief, Madam.

Madam Speaker, living conditions of Dalit Christians are very poor in India. They live in large numbers in Southern States but they are not getting the benefit of reservation in government employment, educational institutions and in other government schemes. They are demanding reservation for SCs and STs but unfortunately they are not getting it. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to create a National Welfare Corporation for Dalit Christians. It is a very urgent matter because their living conditions are bad. Hon. Minister is sitting here. He may kindly respond because it is a very genuine matter.

SHRI K. N. RAMACHANDRAN (Sriperumbudur): A pathetic railway accident happened yesterday in my Constituency at St. Thomas Mount station. The accident was caused purely because of the mistake of railway technicians and officials. Poor people died in that accident, six people were injured, and two of them are in serious condition. The train going towards Tambaram was to come on Platform 2 of St. Thomas Mount Station in the normal course. All of a sudden, without intimation the train was diverted to Platform 4. If the train had come on to Platform 2 as it usually does, this accident would not have happened.

Human loss cannot be compensated. However, I request you to kindly make an inquiry into the matter and give a compensation of Rs. 30 lakh for lost lives and Rs. 5 lakh for injured persons.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (Baramati): Madam, there is a law and order problem in Maharashtra

for the last two days. The Maratha agitation started in Maharashtra two years before and they held many agitations, but those agitations were held peacefully. The issue was discussed with Government also and the Government also made a commitment to provide reservation to Maratha community as early as possible. Just two days before, Kaka Sahib Shinde took 'Jal Sanadhi' and thereafter, there is a law and order problem in every district of Maharashtra. The police personnel and children are confronting against each other.

Madam, I, through you, request that the Government should talk with the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in this regard. The both Maratha and Dhangar have been included in the manifesto of BJP that they would provide reservation to them. Dialogue was being held in an appropriate manner but law and other situation has become a big issue for the last two-three days. Today, 'Bandh' has been called in Maharashtra. A Bandh has been called in Nasik, Pune, Raigarh etc. and it is peaceful. They have said that schools, colleges, Ambulances and Hospitals should be run uninterruptedly. 'Maratha Morcha' is trying for some negotiation. Some responsible person should talk to them to find out the issues. All know the issue. Some wrong things are appearing in the media through the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and other Ministers and such things are contributing to misinformation campaign. There is a law and order crisis in Maharashtra at a large scale. I request you with folded hands that justice should be done with Maratha and Dhangar community and you should do justice to them.

**13.16 hrs**

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS....Contd.

**(ii) Re: Mob lynching incident at Barmer, Rajasthan**

SHRI OM BIRLA (Kota): Madam, a tribal young man named Khetram was beaten to death by some people belonging to a certain community in Barmer district. The Government is taking action. The Government has also conducted an enquiry by constituting an enquiry commission. The Congress party wants to divide the country on the basis of caste and religion. I wish to tell you that one person is killed in Barmer and one in Alwar also, but the insensitiveness of the Congress party is not in national interest.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Sumedhanand Saraswati, Shri Hari Om Singh Rathore, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Dr. Manoj Rajoria and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are allowed to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Om Birla.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Madam, I will bring all these issues of lynching and massacre and mass murders in all these places like Bengal, Kerala and Rajasthan to the notice of the Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh ji... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (Dum Dum): It is absolutely bogus, Mr. Minister. The Minister is actually misleading the House. Hon. Speaker Madam, don't look to him; look to our side. *[Translation]* He should not speak like this. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: He has not said anything. He will tell it to the Minister of Home Affairs; that is all.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Hon. Speaker Madam, in June this year, the Kerala Government found formaldehyde-contaminated fish being transported into the State. Soon after, a study revealed presence of around 5 to 20 times of the chemical in freshwater and marine fish in two of the cities of Chennai. Goa also reported similar findings and presence of around 5 to 20 ppm of chemical in freshwater and marine fish. However, Food and Drugs Administration of Goa later said that the level in Goan samples were on par with naturally occurring formaldehyde in marine fish. This triggered suspicion among consumers who accused the Government of playing down the health risk as the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has already banned formaldehyde in fresh fish. While the International Agency for Research on Cancer labelled the chemical a carcinogen in 2004, in Odisha also adequate steps have been taken because most of the coastal States are fish-eating States. But the fish that are being imported from Europe and other parts contain this

chemical which is hazardous for health and leads to cancer.

There is an urgent need to address the concerns of consumers scientifically over formaldehyde contamination of fish. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to draw a line between safe and unsafe consumption in a transparent manner with the help of experts.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. P.K. Biju, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher, Shri Shrirang Appa Barne, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Sharad Tripathi are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.

*[Translation]*

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Madam, the crops of cotton and lady finger have been completely destroyed in about three dozen villages of Behrod Tehsil of Alwar Lok Sabha constituency. Actually, some factories in Sotanala and Keshwana industrial areas near Behrod produce 2-4-D chemical which is used to destroy weeds. These factories emit very polluted air which is responsible for the destruction of cotton and lady finger crops completely in almost three dozen villages including nearby villages of Gunti, Kankarchhaza, Nalota, Sherpur, Khedki, Gokulpur, Talwad, Mohammad, Jaguwas, Behrod. Tehsildar of Behrod has also reported the destruction of more than 70 percent of these crops. The farmers of these areas have sown bajra by uprooting cotton and lady finger crops. These farmers have suffered huge losses.

I am requesting the Minister of Environment and Forest to close down these factories. I am also requesting the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture to please provide adequate compensation to these farmers after conducting proper investigation in this regard. The farmers of that area have ruined. They have suffered huge losses.

Thank You for giving me time to speak.

SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK (Kolhapur): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak here.

Madam, there is All India Transport strike across the country. All commercial transport vehicles are standing

idle. They have declared a Bandh. Almost 90 lakh transport vehicles are standing idle. Transportation has totally come to a standstill. Only school buses are plying.

Madam, the transport industry is suffering a huge loss of Rs. 4000 crores daily. The apex body of this industry has declared that they are facing a loss of Rs. 33,000 crore on daily basis.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister praised the transport industry in his speech during No Confidence Motion. He praised the growth of this industry. This is the sixth day of this strike. There are only 2-3 demands of these people. The prices of Diesel and Diesel should only be increased once in three months, whereas now it have been increased 12 times during a period of six months only. Tolls should be made barren free. They are ready to pay the money but the traffic often get jammed there. Third Party Insurance which is increased by 30 percent after every year should be cancelled. Income tax has been averaged yearly. It should be fixed as per the business actually done. The harassment by police and RTO should be stopped. Penalty to the tune of lakhs of ruppees is imposed due to mere clerical errors in E-way bills. This practice should also be stopped.

Madam Speaker, it is a very serious matter. The Government should immediately intervene in this matter.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Shrirang Appa Barne and Shrimati Supriya Sule are allowed to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Dhanjay Mahadik.

*The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.25 p.m.*

**13.23 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twenty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

**14.25 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twenty-Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): I would request the

hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that instead of taking up the Bills, as agreed to by all Parties in the House, the House may take up Discussion under Rule 193 on recent flood and drought situation in the country listed at Item No.33.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the House agrees, we can take up Discussion under Rule 193.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Sir, it was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee and actually I moved a notice on this. My constituency, Alappuzha is badly affected....(Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are taking up the discussion.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: I would, therefore, say that I should be given a chance to initiate the discussion....(Interruptions) I have requested the hon. Minister, Shri Ananthkumar also as my constituency is badly affected.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can understand that. I will give more time to discuss that matter. Let me go as per the list of the speakers. In whosoever name the discussion has been admitted may be allowed to initiate the discussion. I will give you sufficient time to speak.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Actually, the whole of the district has been devastated....(Interruptions)

**14.27 hrs**

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\***

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them may personally hand over the text of the matter at the Table of the House within 20 minutes. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which the text of the matter has been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

\* Treated as laid on the Table.



**(i) Need to start helicopter service from Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh to various tourist places in the State**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): A better connectivity service plays a very important role in the development of any city. Under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi ji, our Government has implemented Air services to connect important cities of the country. Fifty six airports have been provided with air services alongwith air connectivity has been provided through 31 helipads in a very short period of 15 months only.

Air services are available from my parliamentary constituency, Jabalpur for Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kolkata due to my sincere efforts and with the help of Central Government. Kanha Tiger Reserve, Pench Tiger Reserve, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Amarkantak, Panchmadhi, Khajuraho, etc. are famous tourists spots situated within a 15 kilometer radius of Jabalpur. If I count the tourists visiting these places each year, then, as per the records available with Madhya Pradesh state tourism corporation, about 11,80,229 domestic tourists and 1,21,196 foreign tourists visited these places during the year 2016. And just because of proper connectivity, all these tourists going to visit these places go there via Jabalpur.

There are 5 helipads available at Jabalpur airport at present. I request the hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation to provide helicopter services from Jabalpur to these places of tourism.

**(ii) Need to withdraw draft notification declaring Palamu Tiger Reserve in Jharkhand as a Eco-Sensitive Zone**

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (Chatra): The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has issued a draft notification on 21 February, 2018 to declare Palamu Tiger Reserve which includes Betla National Park, Palamu Wildlife Sanctuary and Mahuadaar Wolf Sanctuary as an eco-sensitive zone. The department has invited suggestions/objections on this draft notification. But this notification has not been publicised at public places, government buildings, panchayat buildings, block offices and anywhere in newspapers. I have not received any official information in this regard despite being a

representative of this Parliamentary constituency. Public opinion must be sought on this draft.

This notification should not be implemented in public interest. The total area of this E.S.Z. is 1572.45 square kilometers in the state of Jharkhand as per this draft notification. The limit of E.S.Z. is zero to five kilometers. 398 villages are there in this E.S.Z. The limitation of E.S.Z. should be reduced from 5 kilometers to 2 kilometers so that, the villagers could get some relief directly.

Palamu Tiger Reserve was set up in 1974, about 44 years ago to protect tigers. What is the need to declare this area as a E.S.Z? In the draft notification, it has been said that "the State Government would prepare a zonal master plan in consultation with local population and in accordance with the bye-laws of this notification." How is it going to be possible for the State Government to prepare a zonal master plan in consultation with all stakeholders in just a period of 2 years? According to the draft notification, the existing land use, infrastructure and activities approved under the zonal master plan would not be banned unless specified in this notification. But the government machinery is banning all activities in the name of this draft notification. The Forest Department has confiscated more than 100 goats and other animals on 22nd June, 2018 and took them to range office and released these animals after taking written undertaking from all owners. It will increase corruption. It is already being misused.

There are 17 points mentioned in this notification which are adopted by the State Government. A clear timeline is given in this notification. State Government should just implement these schemes. There is a ban on setting up of big thermal and hydro power projects, saw mills, wood based industries and brick kilns. This is not fair. The development works should be stopped and people would get unemployed. The North Koel reservoir project work could hamper as a result of this step. The construction of Hotel and Resorts outside the boundary of this E.S.Z. and upto one kilometer are would not be allowed, it means there would not be any construction activity in 398 villages coming under the E.S.Z. If the Hotels are not allowed, then how the tourism would be developed. The residents of these 398 villages would not be allowed to construct houses. The villagers would be

badly affected by this step. In view of all these points, the area of E.S.Z. should be reduced and construction work should be allowed at private land. Cutting of trees- The draft notification provides that tree cutting would not be allowed, whether it is on revenue land or on private land. It is a very objectionable clause. The people have to take permission from officers to cut trees on their own land, the corruption would increase as a result thereof. Construction of wells or bore-wells for agricultural use or for other purposes would required to be regulated by the competent officer. The human-animal conflict and animosity would increase due to such restrictive measures. Whether we would be able to protect the environment on the basis of conflicts between human life, forests and wildlife.

I would like to know as to whether such restrictions are also imposed in Jim Corbett, Kanha Bandhavgarh, Panna, Bondipur, Periyar, etc. forest reserves. Whether there are restrictions on the construction of essential infrastructure for social life in E.S.Z. of developed countries? How will we protect the environment by depriving the forest dwellers of electricity, water, roads, education, health, farming and employment?

Whether there is a possibility that the present form of the draft notification will provide an opportunity to the left wing extremism to further flourish. Whether the development of aspirational districts initiated by the Prime Minister would not get disrupted?

The draft notification mentions setting up of a monitoring committee comprising of seven members. No representative representing the Panchayat to the parliament has been included in this committee. Then, how the concerns of the local people will get reflected in the committee? Therefore, changes in the composition of the Monitoring Committee are necessary.

I urge the Ministry of Environment, Forest and climate change to withdraw the said draft notification and implement the measures to be taken under the Zonal Master plan and by the State Government before the final notification is implemented.

**(iii) Need to address water-shortage problem in Bundelkhand region**

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (Hamirpur): Many districts in Bundelkhand have not had good rains so far. This year also, there can be drought

situation in Bundelkhand. As per data, the average rainfall in Bundelkhand for the last several decades has been 50-60 centimeters, which is much below the national average rainfall of 117 centimeters. This year also, Mahoba under my parliamentary constituency received 40 per cent less rains. This may adversely affect agriculture due to drought in the entire Bundelkhand, including my parliamentary constituency, Hamirpur, and this situation is arising in condition when Bundelkhand has been facing continuous drought for the last several decades. In Mahoba, where there is no river, this area is entirely dependent on rain water and its harvesting.

The Bundelkhand region being a very dry area, is on priority of the Government, and to ensure that the farmers may not face problems, so many relief measures have been taken by the Government, including financial measures like debt waiving apart from water management measures. But, alongwith water harvesting for drinking water and irrigation water availability is also very essential.

However, in Bundelkhand, there are about 7000 ponds, big ponds like Kirat Sagar, Madan Sagar and dams like Salarpur and Majhgawan, etc., and Ken-Betwa River Linking project is also proposed. But, even after the presence of this massive water harvesting structure, drinking water and irrigation water management is a serious problem. This is mainly due to lack of proper maintenance of these water harvesting structures and continuous deficient rainfall due to global warming over the last few decades.

In order to address various complex social problems of the country, the e-print scheme was launched by the Government of India under the leadership of Modi Ji under which IIT, Kanpur has developed an indigenous and highly affordable artificial rainfall technique to overcome the problem of drought in Bundelkhand, which will immensely benefit the entire Bundelkhand.

Therefore, I request the Government to provide relief to the farmers of Bundelkhand by making arrangements for artificial rain and be desilting the ponds and dams to overcome the drought situation.

**(iv) Need to set up a head post office in Sheohar district, Bihar**

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (Sheohar): My parliamentary constituency, Sheohar District, is still very backward in several aspects since its inception. In the

name of public conveniences, even the basic amenities are not available properly. Due to absence of head post office in Sheohar district, common people and government servants are facing a lot of difficulties. Because of not having the head post office, people are deprived of even speed post facility in today's time and the accounts of the account holders here are not updated in other districts. So, the common people have to be harassed again and again for the same job. It may be known that Sheohar has been declared as a digital district by the Government of India and the government plans to establish a head office in each district of the country. The demand of the people here is to establish a head post office which is full of modern facilities. The area around Sheohar district is backward, due to which the people in the area are mostly dependent on the post office. Therefore, the Government is requested to establish a head post office in Shivhar district in public interest so that the people of the district may avail all the modern facilities of India Post conveniently.

**(v) Need to open branches of nationalized banks in rural areas**

SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV (Sagar): The present Government is making serious efforts to ensure that financial transaction are done through banks in the country. The branches of nationalised banks need to be opened in the rural areas for this purpose, so that villagers do not have to travel far. Otherwise, they suffer financial loss in the form of fare and time is wasted in transacting with far flung banks. Due to this reason, they find cash transactions more convenient in place of banking transactions. But it has been observed that many nationalised banks are ready to open new bank branches to make their reach in the rural areas, but in the absence of license from the Reserve Bank of India, this is not happening. As per my information, bank branches do not exist even in many Agriculture Market committees.

Therefore, I would like to demand that the Government should take up the matter with the Reserve Bank so that the Reserve Bank of India could adopt liberal attitude towards granting licences for new bank branches.

**(vi) Need to provide stoppage of Shakti Punj Express and Triveni Express at Meral Railway station, Garhwa district, Jharkhand**

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM (Palamu): Meral is a prominent railway station of East Central Railways in

Garhwa district of mu parliamentary constituency, Palamu, but unfortunately neither any Mail nor any express train stops there. As a result, people from all villages of Meral Block has to either travel to Nagar Untari or Garhwa road station. It is worth mentioning that Nagar Untari is 25 kilometers away from Meral Block headquarters and Garhwa road station is located at a distance of 15 kilometers. The railway passengers face many difficulties in covering such a large distance, particularly during night. The shortage of means of transport during night is very obvious and the passengers from far flung villages of Meral Block are not able to travel to Nagar Untari station and Garhwa station and remain deprived of railway facility.

Therefore, in the said circumstances, I demand from the hon'ble Minister that Shakti Punj Express and Triveni Express should be provided stoppage at Meral station so that the residents of Meral Block may be able to avail railway facility to travel upto Jabalpur, etc.

**(vii) Need to establish Agriculture College in Rajgarh district, Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI RODMAL NAGAR (Rajgarh): Almost all kinds of crops are grown in my parliamentary constituency, Rajgarh and its neighbouring districts Shajapur, Agar, Guna and Ashok Nagar etc. The livelihood of 80-90 percent population of this area is dependent on agriculture. Many medium and large irrigation projects are in Rajgarh district and work on many is going on. There is dire need to open an Agriculture University to conduct new researches for increasing agriculture density of the area and setting up youth entrepreneurship farmer group for making agriculture a profitable occupation. Rajgarh parliamentary constituency is considered very backward from industrial point of view. Therefore cultivation processing of medicinal plants may be promoted in this area so as to make agriculture based economy of this area more employment oriented.

Therefore, please accord the sanction to open Agriculture University in Rajgarh district as per aspirations of the people living in this area and in the interest of farmers.

**(viii) Need to roll-back the increase in school fee for students of non- employee category in Kendriya Vidyalaya run by Atomic Energy Education Society in Jadugoda, Jharkhand**

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (Jamshedpur): A Kendriya Vidyalaya is run by Atomic Energy Education

Society, UCIL Mines company in Jaduguda under my parliamentary constituency. Jaduguda is a tribal dominated area, which is very backward from educational point of view. Most of the people residing here are poor and it is the only school where quality education is imparted and the children belonging to economically weaker sections from far flung areas come to this Kendriya Vidyalaya to get quality education.

I have to say it with great regret that due to manifold hike in fee for students of non-employee category in Kendriya Vidyalaya run by Atomic Energy Education Society in Judugoda, the guardians are not able to pay the fees. Earlier, one student used to pay Rs. 11000 as fees which has been increased to Rs. 22000 and the girl student fee was Rs. 1800 which is also been increased to Rs. 22000. Due to this unprecedented hike, the guardians are not able to pay fees for the last three months. It is causing adverse affect on scheme like 'Beti Bachao- Beti Pado'.  
'Beti Bachao- Beti Pado'.

Revolutionary changes are taking place in educational sector in the leadership of hon'ble Prime Minister and the Minister of Education. Today, girls are achieving great heights due to schemes like 'Beti Bachao- Beti Pado'.

So, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister to roll back the manifold increase in school fee for students of non-employee category in Kendriya Vidyalaya run by Atomic Energy Education Society in Judugoda, my parliamentary constituency, so that the poor guardians living in far flung area may be able to give good education to their children.

**(ix) Need to upgrade the post office in Maharajganj district headquarters, Uttar Pradesh as Head Post Office and also set up a Post Office Passport Seva Kendra there**

SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY (Maharajganj): The people of the districts of Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh of my parliamentary constituency are requesting to upgrade the Post office as head post office and opening a Passport Seva Kendra there for a very long time. I have also made request in this regard to the Union Government many a times. The Union Government had taken a decision to upgrade the post office in Maharajganj district headquarters, Uttar Pradesh as Head Post Office and also to open a Post Office Passport

Seva Kendra in the same premises. The locals will be facilitated by setting up of Head Post Office and Passport Seva Kendra there. The setting up of Head Post Office and Passport Seva Kendra in Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh is necessary in larger public interest.

The Government is requested to grant permission to grant permission to upgrade the post office Maharajganj district office and open Post Office Seva Kendra there at the earliest.

**(x) Need to declare Rohtashgarh Fort in Bihar as a tourist place of national importance**

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Rohtashgarh Fort holds an important place in ancient and big hilly Forts in India. Rohtashgarh Fort is located on Vindlaya mountain in South-West, 45 kilometers away from Gaya-Mughalsarai railway stretch and Shershah Suri path Dhri on-sane. It is 55 kilometers away from Rohtash Headquarters. It is situated at about 1800 feet above sea level on Kaimur hills. Sarai Mahal, Rang Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Panchmahal, Phoolmahal, Aaina Mahal, Rani ka Jharokha, Mansingh ki Kachahari, Singhasan Kaksh, Hathia Pol, Vivah Mandap Chaurasan, Pohitashav, Ganesh Mandir, Fansi ghar, etc. are places of interest which still exists in the Fort which is spread in an area of 28 miles approximately. It has around 950 big rooms and 9000 small rooms. They were constructed in a very scientific way, so that sunrays may enter in all these rooms. At the same time, it is also a pilgrimage site of Adivasis where very big fair of Adivasi community is organised every year. Therefore, rohtashgarh Fort should be declared as tourist place of national importance.

**(xi) Need to set up an agriculture based industry in Bhupalsagar, Chittorgarh district in Rajasthan**

SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI (Chittorgarh): Mewar Sugar Mill located in Bhupalsagar in Chittorgarh, which was once based on agriculture of Mewar and was a fame of Rajasthan, which once used to provide employment to thousands of persons and was famous for its sweetness of sugar has been shut down and that place has become desolated and it has snatched employment from thousands of persons.

Bhupalsagar area was directly or indirectly dependent on this mill for development. The development

rate of the said area has lowed down suddenly. Sugar mill has been closed down, but no other mill or any other industry has been set up in the said area. The sugar mill was set up in Bhupalsagar having water in abundance in the year 1932, 85 years ago. But this sugar mill was shut down in the year 1999-2000, sugarcane shortage was cited as the reason for it's closure. Today, there is no agriculture based industry in this area due to which despite it farmer dominated area, farmers are forced to migrate in search of other employment opportunities. This area is not only linked to road, but to rail route also, water is available in abundance here. Due to all these favourable conditions, this area is suitable for setting up of an industry.

**(xii) Need to run a local train from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Railway station to Bhiwandi Road Railway Station in Mumbai**

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL (Bhiwandi): The development is taking at very fast face in my parliamentary constituency Bhiwandi (Maharashtra). Textile is the biggest trade in Bhiwandi. Due to it, a large number of vehicles come to this place. In the absence of local train facility, road transport is the only mean of transport and on the other side, a large number of godowns of all big and small companies of the country have been constructed in Bhiwandi and Parisam, due to employment opportunities, traffic from Kalyan, Thane, Navi Mumbai and Mumbai is increasing day by day. In the absence of local train upto Bhiwandi, all these passengers have no alternative route other than road transport, which is not economically viable and causing practical problems for passengers. The only means of carrying goods for import-export is private road transport in this area and no other alternate facility for transportation is available. As only one means of transport is available, traffic congestion remains here for four days of the week. If a local train is started from Bhiwandi, all these problems can be solved. Due to fast development in Bhiwandi and its suburbs the people living in Mumbai are selling their small houses and are purchasing affordable houses available in these areas and are inhabiting there. However, they travel to Kalyan, Thane, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Panvel for jobs. All these cities are located on Central Railway track and from Bhiwandi Road Terminal, and shuttle trains run from Basai to Diva and Diva to Basai only. The citizens,

students and passengers face huge inconvenience while travelling to Bhiwandi. As a large number of people have shifted to suburbs, they are facing many problems in reaching their work places. I would like to request the Ministry of Railways to run a local train from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus to Bhiwandi Road Railway station, so that people could get some facility. I have repeatedly written letters to the Ministry of Railways in this regard, but till today no satisfactory reply has been given.

Therefore, I would like to request humbly to sanction local trains from C.S.T terminus, Mumbai to Bhiwandi Road of Central Railways and try to resolve the problem of citizens, students, passengers and traders of this area.

**(xiii) Regarding including villages under Municipal body to ensure their better management**

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Hingoli): The Government needs to pay attention towards inclusion of villages having large population near Daman Municipality area under this Municipal body. There are 29 states and seven union territories in the country. Setting up of Municipal body has become essential due to rise in population and urbanisation. It is done to provide assistance in matters like community services such as health centres, educational institutes and housing, property tax, etc. Inclusion of villages having large population in the form of Municipal ward is essential for effective implementation of various schemes and programmes and construction of a better and planned cities.

I would like to request the Government to include villages of Daman having large population to be included in Municipality so that planned development of these villages could take place and the basic facilities to those citizens could be provided which is their right.

**(xiv) Regarding Peace talk with NSCN-IM**

*[English]*

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Even after almost three years of Government of India and NSCN-IM signing a Framework Agreement nobody knows its content. Hon'ble Prime Minister declared in an election meeting at Langjing that the territory of Manipur is not at all mentioned in this agreement Muivah says that the agreement contains the integration of the Naga inhabited areas of Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Now Interlocutor RN Ravi talks of Autonomous Naga Territorial

Councils in Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh and also of a Pan Naga Cultural Body. These are absolutely unacceptable to the people of Manipur. Prime Minister's Version about the Agreement is contradictory to those of Muivah and Ravi. People are very anxious about the contents of the agreement. I demand and urge upon Hon. Prime Minister to make a statement on the status of Government of India and peace talk in order to clarify the position in the ongoing Lok Sabha Monsoon Session.

**(xv) Regarding crash in Cocoon prices**

SHRI D.K. SURESH (Bangalore Rural): Sericulture is a main source of income for lakhs of farmers in the state of Karnataka. Sericulture farmers have been facing problems due to the crash in Cocoon prices triggered by the Centre slashing import duty on raw silk. Large number of farmers committed suicide in recent months. The Govt had earned sufficient revenue by exporting silk goods particularly from Karnataka in recent years. The cross breed (CB) cocoon, which was selling at Rs 400 per kg till April, is finding no takers even at Rs 210 per kg. The prices of bivoltine cocoon too has dipped from Rs 600 to Rs 320 per kg over a couple of months.

It is the duty of the Government to help farmers in the times of distress. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to declare a suitable MSP for Cocoon at the earliest to help the farmers.

**(xvi) Need to resolve problematic provisions in the proposed National Medical Commission Bill**

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (Tiruvannamalai): Medical education is at the core of the access to quality healthcare in any country. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment dated 2nd May, 2016 had directed the Government to consider and take appropriate action on the recommendations of the Rai Choudhary Committee. Accordingly, it is proposed to introduce the National Medical Commission Bill with certain amendments to the draft bill.

Government doctors in the country, Tamil Nadu in particular are opposing certain clauses in the proposed bill and showed their opposition through protest against the National Medical Commission Bill.

The Government has incorporated the spirit of the Standing Committee report on Medical Council of India,

but there are far too "many problematic" provisions in the proposed bill which "go against" the committee report.

The Indian Medical Association is against the provision that allows alternative medicine practitioners take up modern medicine after attending a short course and feels that the Bridge course provision in National Medical Commission Bill will 'sanction quackery'. This provision is totally unacceptable as it will lead to an army of half-baked doctors in the country. Almost 2.7 lakh Indian doctors had protested across the country and are against this provision of the proposed bill.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to desist from including such problematic provisions in the proposed National Medical Commission Bill.

**(xvii) Regarding curtailment of frequency of Rajdhani Express from Bhubaneswar to Delhi**

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (Balasore): From 10th February 2018, the frequency of Rajdhani Express from Bhubaneswar to Delhi via my constituency Balasore has been reduced due to introduction of a new service of Rajdhani Express via Sambalpur City. The frequency of Rajdhani to Delhi running via Bhadrak and Adra, has been brought down to twice in a week, from the earlier 3 times. Although it is commendable that the railways is heeding to long standing demands of a Sambalpur line, this move has deprived thousands of passengers of my constituency from accessing railway services. With 3 days a week service, there was intense scramble for tickets, and it was difficult for the common man to get a reserved seat. Now with reduced operations, it will further deteriorate the situation. I urge the minister to consider genuine demands of Odisha regarding connectivity to main metro cities of India.

**(xviii) Regarding acquisition of land under the Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975**

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (Kalyan): Around 2,58,797 hectares of land has been acquired under the 'The Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975'. As per section 22(A) of the Act, the whole or part of the land can be restored to the original owner, if due to the acquisition under the Act, his land holding has become less than 12 hectares, 87,006.74 ha. land have thus been restored. In the Bombay Govt. Notification (29.03.1956),

notices under sec 35 (3) and/or notification under sec 35(1) of Indian Forest Act, 1927 were issued by Maharashtra government almost 60 years ago but the land was never taken over. Now, these areas have been recorded as forest and all activities stopped. Lakhs of residents are living under constant fear. Therefore, I request to resolve the matter expeditiously, considering the future of lakhs of residents from Mumbai, Thane, Raigad and Pune.

**(xix) Regarding spreading of fake news/messages on social media**

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (Baramati): Owing to false rumours on social media about child-lifters and thieves, persons were lynched by mob in Maharashtra in June-July, 2018. In a recent incident in Dhule district of Maharashtra, five persons from nomadic community who had gone to ask for food, were beaten to death on suspicion of being child-lifters. Such incidents of mob lynching are rampant across the country. In such cases of fake news proliferation, I request the Government to respond immediately and clarify the truth to its citizens. As a preventive measure, I also urge the Government to immediately undertake measures to curb rapid spread of fake news/ messages on social media.

**(xx) Need to include 'Thathera' caste of Bihar in the list of most backward Classes**

*[Translation]*

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): There is around 7 lakh population of 'Thathera' community in Bihar state. Even after lapse of 72 years of Independence, 'Thathera' community is suppressed. The main occupation of 'Thathera' community is to sell utensils by walking around in lanes, but in this era of commercialisation their utensil trade is on the verge of extinction. The people of 'Thathera' community are regressing day by day. The economic and social condition of these people is becoming pitiable, as these people are not only landless but in minority also. The lack of education is also pushing this community downwards. Keeping in view the circumstances of 'Thathera' community, the State Government of Bihar is taking many steps for the upliftment of this community. I also agree with the demand of 'Bihar Pradesh Thathera Sangh' that if reservation facility is provided to this community, it will get an opportunity to move forward and this community

will also be able to make progress like other communities of the society from economic and social point of view.

Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government to take necessary action to include 'Thathera' community of Bihar in the list of most backward classes.

**(xxi) Need to provide special incentives and package to Punjab**

*[English]*

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Anandpur Sahib): Sometime ago, Government of India had announced special incentives for investment in Hilly States and Backward States. Such a decision badly affected Punjab due to neighbouring Hilly State. Punjab faces same problems due to border area and many parts of Punjab specially my constituency, a semi-hilly area called Kandi area faces same problems as that of hilly area.

I would urge upon the Government of India to provide same incentives to such areas of Punjab State and Punjab being border state special package should be announced for it. Plain parts of hilly areas face the menace of damaging standing crops. Hence, there should be subsidy for fencing the fields. Such subsidy can be shared by the Centre, State and the farmers in a proportionate manner.

**(xxii) Regarding the safety of Mullaperiyar Dam in Kerala**

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (Idukki): The Mullaperiyar dam is situated in a seismic prone area as pointed out by various agencies including IIT Roorkee. The Government should consider the agonies of the people living downstream of the dam due to the socio economic and psychological trauma arising out of unsafe the Darn being unsafe due to its age and the century back technology used for constructing the same. Now due to heavy rain in the catchmncnt area of the dam, the water level is increasing day by day and the people living in the downstream of the dam are in trouble, if any disaster happens it will be one of the biggest calamities in the world. So I urge for urgent intervention by the Government in this regard.

**(xxiii) Need to provide reservation to Maratha community of Maharashtra**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJU SHETTY (Hatkanangle): Maratha in Maharashtra, Patidar (Paveli) in Gujarat, Gurjars in Rajasthan and Jats in Western Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab are staging agitation and demanding reservation for the last many days. Violent incident had taken place during agitation for reservation at some times or other in all states except Maharashtra and one cannot rule out recurrence of this kind of incidents in the future. Maratha community has organised many large rallies drawing lakhs of people to press for their main demand of reservation in Maharashtra during the last several months, and in the last week many young men and women including old persons came on roads in Beed and Parli. The main feature of these rallies organised in the state was that these rallies were organised in a very disciplined and civilised way, as it happens in Army. But there is disquiet in the country due to these kind of incidents. The demand of agitation is justified. If the Government ignores their demand, the law and order situation in the country will get disturbed. It is important that all persons demanding reservation are associated with agriculture occupation and farmers had made a very big contribution in making country self-reliant and their number is very high. Today agriculture is proving loss making proposition for farmers due to deteriorating condition of Indian agriculture. Due to which they have become economically very weak. As a result, they are not able to afford education of their children and take care of health needs of their respective families. Getting higher education is like a dream for them. Therefore, it has become very important to bail out these persons from the said problem as they are financially backward. For all this, their utmost need is to find out permanent solution to agriculture loan burden and recommendations of Swaminathan commission should also be accepted alongwith fee waiver or grant should be given for imparting education to economically weaker sections. Alongwith it reservation in jobs should be given to them. The Government should implement all these things at the earliest. The Government has given approval to the Seventh Pay Commission and it is going to cause additional burden of at least one lakh crore rupees on the Government's exchequer permanently. The corporate

companies have not repaid around Rs. 9 lakh crore loans. In comparison to all this, the Government has to make provision of very less amount for reservation and provide full loan waiver to the farmers. But the farmer, who is bread grower of the country and comprises more than half of the total population of the country, will get big relief from this decision. Therefore, there is an urgent need to take an historic decision of reservation by the Government.

14.28 hrs

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Flood and drought situation in various parts of the country**

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No.33

Hon. Members, discussion on the recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country has been admitted in the names of Shri Jitendra Chaudhury and Shri Kalikesh .Narayan Singh Deo. Shri Chaudhury has since requested the hon. Speaker to allow Shri P. Karunakaran to raise the discussion on his behalf. Hon. Speaker has acceded to his request.

Now, Shri P. Karunakaran.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir. With deep sorrow and pain, I would like to participate in a discussion under Rule 193, that is, 'Flood Situation in Various Parts of the Country'.

Sir, at the very outset, I would pay my homage to the innocent people who have lost their lives due to flood and heavy rainfall throughout the country. The flood has affected mainly Kerala. Other States including Maharashtra, Assam and some parts of Tamil Nadu are also affected by flood. But, I would like to confine to my State only because other Members may raise issues pertaining to their States. I would like to thank our hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijju. He has visited the place; has witnessed the issues being faced by the State and by the people; and has also taken up the issue.... (Interruptions)



HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No comments please. Please continue.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, we have witnessed an immense calamity. Maybe this is a rare occasion in Kerala. This time, the monsoon season started off with an unimaginable and uncountable loss to the various sections. Though there is a widespread effect on the State, we have witnessed severe damage in two districts namely, Alleppey and Kottayam. Other districts are also severely affected. I would like to thank Shri Venugopal and others who had visited the place. I think that he may narrate other issues.

Sir, the monsoon forecast stated that the rainfall is likely to be 97 per cent for the long period. The forecast also suggests that the maximum probability of the normal monsoon rainfall would be from 96 per cent to 104 per cent, that is, a long period average. Sir, since Alleppey and Kottayam have peculiar geographical features and are surrounded by sea and rivers, the land level is really below the water level in many places. So, any change in the monsoon may adversely affect these two districts. It is the peculiarity or the speciality.

Sir, the intense rainfall has caused a significant damage to life and property. The State Government has given a detailed report with regard to the loss caused by flood to various sections.

Sir, a large area of the district has been flooded due to heavy rainfall. In Alleppey district, around 21,799 acres of the land is under flood; around 12,301 acres of the land is under flood in Kottayam district; around 13,688 acres of the land is under flood in Thrissur; around 2,056 acres of the land is under flood in Ernakulam; around 2,322 acres of the land is under flood in Pathanamthitta; around 1,338 acres of the land is under flood Malappuram; and around 1,503 acres of the land is under flood in Vallam. A total of 55,700 acres of the land is under flood in the district. Imagine, if such a huge land is under flood and rain, what would be the damage that the State has to face?

Sir, eight districts of the total 37 locations were affected by landslides. 14 lives were lost in landslides. That has happened especially in the hilly areas of Idukki district. Sir, out of 1033 villages, 965 villages have been affected, either by flood, landslides, rainfall or by wind. The heavy rains and the floods have been causing a very

serious impact from 29.05.2018 to 24.07.2018. The data of 24.07.2018 shows that about 119 persons have lost their lives.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the total crop loss is around 21,197.76 (in hectares). A large number of houses were damaged. Over 413 houses have been fully damaged and around 11,403 houses have been partially damaged. There are about 323 relief camps set up by the Government. Sir, in Alappuzha and Kuttanad, about 50,000 animals are in various relief camps. The total estimated damage caused is about Rs. 1,384 crore. According to the report that we have got, though it is stated that 119 people have lost their lives, the number may be increased because of the rainfall, which is still continuing.

As regards houses, a large number of houses were completely and severely damaged. There are about 389 houses which are fully damaged and 1040 houses were partially damaged. The total loss comes to about Rs.5511.771 lakhs.

With regard to fisheries sector, as far as Alappuzha and Kottayam are concerned, there are a large number of fish workers who live there. Due to the cyclonic storms, wind and rainfall have caused huge damage to the fisheries sector of the State. There are about 50 boats which are fully damaged; 47 boats partially damaged; 83 nets are fully damaged; and 61 nets are partially damaged. The total loss comes to about Rs.14.146 lakh. About 2600 acres of fish farms have been fully lost.

Sir, as you know, agriculture is the main source of income and especially the people of Kerala depend on agriculture. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the State, in general, and especially for these two districts.

Heavy rainfall, floods and cyclonic thunderstorms have caused severe damage to the crops in the affected areas of the State. Around 33 per cent crop loss is there over an area of 21704.78 hectares. You can think about the magnitude of loss. The cost of this loss, as per the norms, comes to about Rs.22073.67 lakh. We have to spend a lot of amount for bund and sand protection.

With regard to animal husbandry, intense rainfall and wind have caused severe damage to the animal husbandry and dairy development sector of the State.

There are 173.3 lakh animal and poultry casualties. The total damaged cattle sheds are 16.87 lakh. The cost of provision for feed and concentrate comes to about Rs.30.63 lakh and for water supply, it comes to about Rs.0.022 lakh. In this sector alone, the total comes to about Rs.22.07 lakh.

As regards infrastructure facilities, they are completely damaged in both the districts as also in many other parts of Idukki, Mallapuram, Kozhikode, and Thrissur. Due to heavy rains, the infrastructure facilities like roads, irrigation canals, water supply channels, open wells, electrical posts, telephone posts, etc. are totally damaged. There is a big financial burden for repairing and reconstruction of these infrastructural facilities in the affected areas of the State.

There are about 2000 major irrigation sectors which are in danger and the repairing cost would be Rs.2487.30 crore. Water supply infrastructure has also been widely affected. The repairing and construction cost would be around Rs.4834.99 lakhs. With regard to the power sector, it is widely affected. The repairing and construction cost would be Rs.2573.88 lakhs.

People are unable to use the roads because they are damaged fully. It is not possible for the people to go from one place to another. The Minister is well aware of that. He has visited the Kuttanad and Alleppey. He has seen all these things. So, without our explanation, the hon. Minister can give full details to the Government with regard to the damage. Around 196.689 kilometres of road have been lost in PWD section alone. The loss comes to about Rs.19668.96 lakh for the PWD roads which we have lost. The same is the case in almost all the sectors like infrastructure facilities, roads, canals, electrical polls and hospitals.

I do not want to go into other details. Fourteen Anganwadi buildings are fully damaged; 27 Primary Health Centres – fully damaged; 69 panchayat buildings – fully damaged; and about 4017 kilometres of panchayat roads have been lost. It is estimated that Rs.24.10 crore would be total cost on this sector alone.

Sir, I would now turn to the issues of my State. Our State is facing some of the most serious issues. It is true that the State and the Central Government have to come together to deal with these issues. The State Government of Kerala has implemented the highest rate of relief

assistance in India. But the Government of India is not ready to go beyond the laid down norms under the NDRF. So, the State is not getting the actual amount of compensation when it is faced with natural disasters of such magnitude. The State Government has to bear a huge financial burden for providing relief to disaster victims. The Government has to set up a National Disaster Mitigation Fund, but I think, the Government of India has not taken any initiative in this regard so far. I do not know whether such a Fund at the Central level exists or not. But the State Government of Kerala has already set up such a Fund and is utilising it effectively. I would like to request the Central Government to take the initiative to set up such a Fund.

The Government of Kerala has requested for a comprehensive special package of Rs. 7340. 40 crore for the victims of the Ockhi cyclone. This request was made four months ago keeping in view the magnitude of the Ockhi disaster but the State got a very meagre amount and the State had to bear the maximum financial burden.

There was a suggestion from Shri Swaminathan for a special package to Kuttanad. This district falls under the Parliamentary constituency of Shri Suresh and he will speak about it. We have been talking about the Swaminathan Commission since the first session of this Lok Sabha. There was a mention of a special package for Alleppey, particularly Kuttanad district in the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission. That recommendation has only partially been implemented.

At times of such natural calamities, the Army and the Air Force has a vital role to play. But in the State of Kerala the Army unit does not possess sufficient number of boats for rescue of the affected persons during flood situation. This is a very serious issue. It is not an isolated case of this time alone because monsoon in Kerala may come at any time. So, the role of the Army and other agencies are very important. Though there is an Army unit, yet they do not have sufficient number of boats and no proper mechanism in place to provide effective relief to the flood affected people. This has become a major issue. Indian Air Force does not have heavy lifting aircrafts. How is it possible then for the Air Force to carry out effective relief work if they are not equipped with modern equipment for relief operations?

The functioning of the Indian Meteorological Department is not at all satisfactory. It is this Department

which is entrusted with the task of giving warning of an impending calamity. But on a closer scrutiny of its functioning it was found to be totally unsatisfactory. The Government has to take note of this issue also. The Cyclone Warning Dissemination System is not functioning in the State. Even at the time of Ockhi it was not functioning properly. This is not the time to blame the Central Government or the Opposition, but at the same time we have to take stock of the things and find out as to what are our deficiencies, what more we have to do to tackle such a situation when it comes in the future.

Sir, the State Government has made some demands from the Central Government. It has already given representation to the Centre. An all-Party delegation met the hon. Prime Minister to discuss various issues of the State in connection with this. Concrete proposals to deal with natural calamities were submitted to the hon. Prime Minister for implementation.

Sir, when we met the hon. Prime Minister we submitted seven demands. Myself, Shri E.T. Mohammad Bashir and Shri N. K. Premachandran were members of that delegation. Though we placed our demand before the hon. Prime Minister, I am sorry to say that we did not get any positive reply from him. Not only that, when the Chief Minister of the State and others had come at a time when the State faced another disaster, we reiterated those demands also but hon. Prime Minister did not give any response. We told him that a special team has to be sent to visit the State.

But when we went there, we got a reply from the other Minister. I am glad that you have given a reply. At the same time, the Chief Minister of the State, other Ministers, Members from all Parties including Shri Radhakrishnan who is the State BJP President came together considering the seriousness of the issue but I am sorry to say that the approach of the Prime Minister was not at all satisfactory and it was a negative approach....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, it is not fair to say like this about the hon. Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Karunakaran, you may continue your speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): Sir, since he has taken the name of hon. Prime Minister, I would like to say that after the all-Party delegation met the hon. Prime Minister, he had instructed me to visit the affected areas in Kerala. We, including the PWD Minister, the Minister for Agriculture, the Chief Secretary and the Additional Chief Secretary of the Government of Kerala and some Members of Parliament, had a combined visit. So, the hon. Prime Minister has taken up the issue so seriously and had instructed me clearly to do whatever is possible from the Central Government side. What else do you want?

Regarding the rest of your points, I will reply later on ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I appreciate your visit there. What I say is that, when the all-Party delegation had come there and when we explained the seven points— I do not want to go into those details as a copy is with you – my impression and the impression of the BJP leader was that there was no positive reply. That is only what I said. I appreciate that you have visited the area and the initiative which you have taken.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): We went there only on the instruction of the hon. Prime Minister....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: You saw that the Chief Minister and other Ministers were there. At the same time, we requested you to please send a team there ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, if he is yielding, we met the hon. Prime Minister....*(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may speak when your turn comes. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*...\*

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, if he may yield for half a minute, I would say that here is a Prime Minister who means action. He sends the team. Do they want action or assurance? I fail to understand this point. If the PM takes action, they have a problem with it. This is not fair....*(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may speak during your turn. The hon. Minister can intervene at any time. Shri Karunakaran, you may continue now.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): Sir, he himself is admitting and appreciating the fact that the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs went there in the instructions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Then, you are also appreciating the Minister of State for Home Affairs. You should appreciate the Hon'ble Prime Minister since he sent the Minister there after you met him. The Minister of State for Home Affairs went there on the directions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are many hon. Members who are yet to speak on the subject. So, try to wind up up now, Shri Karunakaran.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: I can respond to the points which you have raised but I do not want to take the time of the House for this purpose.

At present, the State Government has already given a representation to the Centre and all-Party delegation has met the Prime Minister. In connection with the natural calamities, we are placing some of the most important demands before you.

I hope the Government would take it very seriously. First of all, our demand is that this situation should be declared as a calamity of severe nature and the Government of India should consider the Memorandum submitted by the Government of Kerala. If the Government is going to treat it as a routine matter, we are not going to get enough fund for relief. So, this has to be declared as a natural calamity of severe nature.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, this is a very important matter. Ministers and others have taken my time. So, kindly give me some more time. I will conclude quickly.

Sir, considering the fact that it is the second consecutive disaster in continuous seasons - first Ockhi cyclone and now floods during the Monsoon - the Government of India should permit Kerala to exercise the provision of second consecutive disaster where the relief assistance can be increased. This is because within six months, we faced two natural disasters namely, Ockhi cyclone and now flood during the Monsoon. There is a provision that the Government can increase the amount of compensation. So, that should be done.

Thirdly, the Government of India should take immediate action for effective use of the National Mitigation Fund. As far as Ockhi cyclone relief is concerned, we gave a representation asking for the Central assistance of Rs. 7,340 crore, but we got only Rs. 400 crore. So, how is it possible for the State Government to meet all the expenditure relating to relief? I am not blaming the Government. But I would request that the norms have to be changed. Otherwise, it is not possible to meet this expenditure. On the one side, Ockhi cyclone have devastated our State and on the other side, floods have occurred during this year's Monsoon. In the morning, I raised the issue regarding Endosulphan. Then, in Kozhikode, we are facing the NIPHA virus issue. We are facing all these problems. So, the Government of India has to take all these things very seriously.

Fourthly, the Defence Service Corps in Kannur, the Army in Thiruvananthapuram and the ITBP in Alappuzha are to be provided with at least six Motor Boats each and other equipment, because of lack of enough Motor Boats is a major issue that they have to face when they go for rescue operations. Then, Indian Air Force may be directed to be stationed permanently at any of the districts which I have mentioned earlier. There is no such arrangement now. As a result, they have to approach Air Headquarters at Delhi and then only they can take up rescue operations.

There is no Flood Warning Centre in Kerala now. The Government of India should take immediate steps to set up a Flood Warning Centre in Kerala. The Government of Kerala has taken a number of steps.

When the Government of Kerala got the warning, they have immediately alerted all the District Collectors and also, all the political representatives were engaged and consultations were held with them. I appreciate the Minister for visiting the affected areas. When he came, the Agriculture Minister of Kerala and other Ministers were there. Now, one of the Cabinet Ministers of Kerala Shri V. Sudhakaran is staying in Kuttanad itself and supervising the relief operations. Though the flood situation has improved now, the aftermath of the situation is very severe. Even though the flood waters have receded, there are a number of issues which we have to face like issues of infrastructure, health problems, rehabilitation of houses etc. As I have already mentioned, a large number of houses have to be repaired.

Sir, I am not blaming anyone. But as far as Kerala is concerned, this is a very big burden that we have to bear. With very limited resources at our disposal, we are taking up relief measures on a massive scale. But it is not possible for our State to meet all these expenses. So, I request the Minister and also the Government of India to take it very seriously. They should not treat it as giving some assistance. What we need is, long-term measures especially in Kuttanad, Alleppey and Kottayam areas. In Idukki also, people are suffering because of landslides. Already 14 persons have lost their lives due to landslide there. Considering the geographical features of these places, long-term measures should be taken up. In Kuttanad area, the land level is below the water level. So, any change that may happen during the Monsoon period, it may affect this area. Therefore, I think the Government should send a Special Team and discuss with the Government of Kerala. We are fully cooperating with the Government of India. This is not a question of politics. This is a question of the saving the life and property of the people of Alleppey and Kottayam. This is also a question of giving due importance to the State of Kerala.

With regard to Centre-State relations, I think the Government of India must take up this matter seriously and not mix up with other issues. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANJAY JAISWAL (West Champaran): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to discuss this important issue. I am grateful

to all our colleagues and those from BAC that they have taken this important issue for discussion. India is a country full of diversities. It does not just appear in a cultural form but it also has its geographical identity. Just now Mr. Karunakaran was talking about the severity of flood. I have been elected from Bihar. Presently, my state is facing acute drought condition. The geographical condition of India is such that at the same time some places of the country face flood situation, whereas the other places face drought condition. I still remember that in our childhood we used to hear from the farmers that it would rain next week. I used to be surprised to hear this and think that these people are not literate, yet how they could forecast rain. When they used to say that in Hathiya or Hasta Nakshatra it would rain for this number of days, it happened to rain for the same number of days. Earlier, without any accuweather or any satellite, the farmers knew when to sow the seeds, when the sapling would get ready and when to transplant the saplings in the field. Now, the whole equation has changed. For this, somewhere we all are guilty. We need to take care of the changes occurring in the environment. Today, when we talk about monsoon in India, it is normal but its distribution is so unusual that places like Rajasthan faces flood situation. In low land regions of Himalayas, even today we can get groundwater after digging ten feet deep ditch, but now even at those places we are facing drought condition.

For the last four years, I am observing that everytime only during monsoon session we discuss the issue of flood and drought. This is what we say to dig a well when house catches fire. During winter session there should be a serious debate on the issue that what are our preparations for tackling flood-drought situation in the ensuing year. Our work is to make laws and policies. Presently, there is flood and drought situation, that's why we are discussing these issues. But we can not make any policy at this time.

I am thankful to Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari that they have made a very important plan to make roads by using the silt of the rivers. This can be a water shed point. In the low lying areas of Himalaya such as in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Uttarakhand, on account of shallowness of the rivers we have to face dreadful flood situation every year. There is

an example for this. In Maharashtra, a river is lying dead that means it has got dried up. The Government of Maharashtra and the department of Gadkari ji have made the river alive and the sail for the construction of roads got available free of cost. We will have to make such provisions in our policies.

There is also an unfortunate thing - Green Tribunal and our bureaucrats who have not visited the areas and do not have the knowledge of the areas are the core decision making components. Such decisions are made by NGT, which we are unable to understand as to how these decisions were made. I shall give two examples of it. I have been elected from West Champaran. There is Valmiki Tiger Reserves in my constituency. It is a very beautiful forest. The rivers originated from Himalayas flow through our region. The stones flowing down with river streams were loaded in trucks by lifting them manually from the rivers and the stone chips got supplied in the entire are. There was no quarry and no JCB machine was used there. Tharis Adivasis manually lifted the stones flowed down from Himalayas with river streams and put them in trucks. Later on, the stones were transformed into stone chips. Suddenly in the year 2001, a rule was made to the effect that nothing will be picked up from any Tiger Reserve.

#### 15.00 hrs

Every year million of tonnes of stone flows from the Himalayas and NGT put a ban on picking these stones. This resulted in shallow rivers getting filled with stones and during the flood, entire Valmiki Nagar got flooded alongwith the tiger reserve and thousands of areas of forest got destroyed. The areas where there was low depth got submerged in water and NGT did not take cognizance of the same.

Sir, everybody knows that India is a country of diversity, NGT, set up in Delhi, takes decision as to what should be done in Nagaland, Himachal and Kerala without knowing the ground realities of the respective places and their genuine requirements.

#### 15.02 hrs

(SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV *in the Chair*)

Sir, I would like to raise a matter from Bihar. Last year, we faced dreaded flood in Bihar. Freedom fighter Shri Shivnath Tiwari hailed from my region. Now he has

left this world at the age of 95. Last year, during the time of flood, we were sitting in his house. He was saying that he had never seen such a severe flood and one of the major reasons behind it is the silting of river. Last time, Nitish Kumar ji raised this issue in Delhi and met the Prime Minister pointing out that these rivers are full of silts. He also talked about Farakka Dam. NGT has said that not a single particle of soil can be taken away from the rivers from 1st July to 1st October. If ten thousand trucks of river sand were extracted from there everyday, it proved to be beneficial as it created space for water. Uttarakhand flood is the result of silting of rivers there. Our area gets rain during returning monsoon. As a result, the condition here is more vulnerable.

I want to ssay to Karunakaran ji that our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji is a very sensitive person. I have personally observed it. Last year, I was in flood affected areas continuously for a month. I have been observing floods since 1993. As a doctor, I used to visit flood affected areas. I saw for the first time that NDRF team reaches everywhere within 24 hours. Who is stuck t which place, where are the boats needed, how to supply food to the needy. I have seen all these things being performed meticulously last time and I am grateful to Modi ji. You were talking about funds. Remember that this not Rajiv Gandhi era wherein out of a rupee only 16 paise could reach to the people. This is the era of Narendra Modi ji. For my region, rupees six thousand per person were sent from Delhi and rupees six thousand reached the bank account of each of about 1.25 lakh people. This is an era of Narendra Modi. On part of the Union Government, assistance is provided very effectively. As far as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojana is concerned, in my region the persons who have opted for Fasal Bima Yojana, received 48 thousand ruppess per hectare as a compensation during flood. This is such a huge amount that the farmers forgot the pangs of flood. For those farmers who have not insured their crops were also given rupees 18000 each by the Prime Minister directly in their accounts. This is what Modiji is known for. I saw for the first time in my life that all the roads under Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana became motarable within 24 hours. Being a responsible Member of Parliament, I am telling this fact and the people of my constituency also would be hearing my speech. This is the proof of the fact that the way of working of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, is quite decent. Earlier, the

roads remained damaged for up to six months, but at present, damaged roads have been made motarable within 24 hours. I would like to assure you that even in your region, like Kerala, Odisha, etc. which are facing flood situations may also be facilitated with fast solutions to their problems.

Presently, we are facing the severe flood situation. In our region, the ground water level is set at 10 feet depth. The major cause for drought remains in the fact that we do not look at the various parts of India keeping in view their geographical position. The Government of Bihar has done a very good work and has provided a grant-in-aid of Rs. 50 per litre on diesel. Shri Nitish Kumarji has reduced the rate of power tariff from 96 paise to 75 paise. But these are only instant and temporary measures.

When we talk about co-operative federalism, we should think as one country. Chairperson Sir, for example, let's talk about solar pumps. If it is installed in your region or in my region, the ground water is available at 40 feet depth. No doubt, the efficiency of the solar pump in our area will be better than that of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, where the ground water level is available at a depth of 2,000 feet. Therefore, the Government should make area-wise policies.

In my region, same amount of subsidy is given for solar pumps and for micro-irrigation. There is no shortage of water in our region, therefore, micro-irrigation is not needed there. Micro-irrigation is needed in states like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, etc. But, the rule for subsidy allotment is such that every district gets subsidy. Why should any person in my region set up micro-irrigation system?

The Minister of Agriculture is present here. I would like to request the Government that whatever policy is made, region-wise allotment should be done therein. The various regions of India should be divided while considering the facts like where there is much need of solar pumps, where canals are much needed, where micro-irrigation is required and where minor-irrigation is needed. Broadly, it is state-wise divided that every state will get a particular percent of central assistance for a particular purpose. I feel that there is a need to have a serious consideration on co-operative federalism.

Summarising my point, I would like to request the NGT through the House that it should not interfere in the

matters regarding the preparations we have made to increase the depth of the rivers.

The only way to make the rivers of Bihar free from the problem of silt is the extraction of sand from the river beds. At present, the cost of sand is more than that of stone chips. Stone chips are being brought from South Bihar. In South Bihar, there are dead mountains. The stone quality of these mountains is degrading. Millions of tons of stone is being carried down by various rivers of the country from Himalayan regions. Due to NGT law, we cannot utilise these stones. Therefore, I would like to request the Government that they should ask NGT to address this problem.

There will be many benefits of desilting the rivers. In my region, fertile soil gets digged and is used for other purposes which causes problems to the farmers. Keeping all these facts into consideration, a National policy should be formulated. We should discuss the problems of flood and drought in the month of December also and should devise ways as to how to stop them. Preparations for this should also be made.

I am very grateful to the Hon'ble Prime minister, Hon'ble Kiren Rijju and the whole team of NDRF. We have continuously faced the severity of flood for thirty-five days. Last year, we used to visit the flood affected areas of our region from 9 o'clock in the morning till 9 o'clock in the morning till 9 o'clock in the night. The extent of help we have received from Kiren Rijjuji and NDRF team, perhaps the ten percent of it had not been received earlier. Therefore, Shri Karunakaran ji, you get assured, this is the Government of Bharatiya Janata Party, you will get complete justice.

You were talking about fisheries. Till now, there was no provision of insurance in the field of fisheries. It is our Government which has asked the Banks to extend the facility of insurance to the fishery sector on the pattern of agriculture sector. Any government which has done this work for the persons involved in the field of fisheries in your area is Shri Narendra Modi's Government.

*[English]*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Thank you, Chairman Sir, for giving me an opportunity to participate in a very important discussion on recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country.

Last Thursday and day before yesterday, on both days, I raised the same issue before the House. I would like to sincerely thank the hon. MoS who visited Kerala. He has, I think, first-hand information about the entire calamity. First of all, I would like to pay homage to the 120 people who have lost their lives during this calamity.

Earlier also, four months back, we lost around 100 people. Some of them are still missing. They are alive or not is still a question. Within these four months, we have lost more than 250 people because of these calamities.

Chairman Sir, I would like to tell specifically about two people who are from Matrubhoomi news channel. Their names are Saji and Bipin. Those two people went to that area to report the calamity. Actually, they have gone there for adventurous reporting. While going to that area, they lost their valuable lives. I want to place on record about their adventurous journalism. One of them was a journalist and the other person was a driver. The Government should take care of these persons' families also along with others.

Chairman Sir, here Karunakaran Ji mentioned about the calamity. It is in my constituency – Alappuzha. I am representing the Parliamentary constituency. My colleague Shri Kodikunnil Suresh is representing the Kuttanad constituency. Day before yesterday and yesterday, we visited the maximum number of camps and flooded areas. Day before yesterday, I was hospitalized because of food poisoning. But I got voluntarily discharged from the hospital. I came here to participate in this discussion. In my constituency, we cannot imagine their sorrows, we cannot imagine their agonies. When I visited the Kuttanad area, I saw many people residing on bund without any protection. How can they live there? I cannot describe it. That is the pathetic condition. The entire paddy fields have been damaged. There is no livelihood income. Even the fishermen are not in a position to go for fishing. They are all in a very difficult position. That is why, we are asking for a discussion. Something has to be given to them. I am not blaming any Government. The Government should promise something to them but nothing is going to happen. Only a meagre amount is given to them.

Shri Karunakaran Ji told about the Ockhi cyclone. In my constituency, four people went for fishing. They have lost their boats and everything which are needed for

fishing. Finally, they have come back by losing their boats and entire machinery meant for fishing. So far, nothing has been given to them. So many promises were made to Ockhi victims but so far there is no foolproof fulfilment. That is why, we are asking this. The Parliament should consider this very seriously and the Government should also consider this seriously. Kuttanad is the rice bowl of Kerala. This is a low level land. Whenever floods come, those people will be in the flood only. This is the unprecedented thing which has happened.

So, I am urging upon the Government to intervene in it in a faster way. Hon. MoS has come there. I appreciate him for that. But you have to send an official team now. By the time, the official team visits the flooded region, there will be no flood. They report that nothing has happened. That is why, I am asking the Government to constitute an official team immediately and send them to Kerala so as to have an estimate. Hectares of paddy fields and cash crops were damaged due to the devastating floods and rains. The economic loss is yet to be estimated. There is a serious lack of proper medical facilities. Temporary arranged camps are unable to provide proper care, shelter and drinking water for the suffering people. I had visited some of the camps in my constituency and also in Kuttanad. The condition of the people is very pathetic. They are living in a temporary arranged high mounted places in the flooded area and not in shelters. They do not have safe drinking water. The schools are also in water. The students who are studying in the school are staying as refugees in the same school. That is what is happening there. The living condition of the people is beyond imagination. The flood and heavy rains have brought venomous snakes to the camps. That is very dangerous. All the dangerous snakes are coming into the camps.

The children and the senior citizens are suffering the worst. The people above 70 years of age are in a very, very difficult situation. The houses are under water. As you know, after a period of time, the flooded water will create a serious safety issue to the houses. All the houses are broken. Their walls are breaking.

The farmers are not only suffering from mental agony but also from financial losses. They have lost their crops. They are already suffering with heavy burden of debt and crop loss. The Government should consider it.



In addition to this, the poor fishermen are the worst affected. They have not recovered from the loss caused by Ockhi cyclone so far. The sea water has entered into their inhabitation and their inhabitations were lost. They are the people belonging to the socially and economically marginalised section. You know about the state of affairs of the fishermen community. Therefore, the fishermen also need special care and protection.

Then regarding CRZ norms, several times we asked the Government to change the CRZ norms. They are not in a position to alter their houses. The hon. Minister is there. I know he is taking interest in that. But it has to be decided early.

As you know, any kind of natural calamities will have a serious impact on a State like Kerala. Kerala is the third most densely populated in the country. It has got the third largest population. So, it has a high degree of vulnerability. Sir, 14.5 per cent of the State is flood-prone; 14.4 per cent of the State is landslide-prone; and 55.5 per cent of coastline is prone to coastal hazards. This is the geographical condition of our State.

This year the monsoon season started off with immense calamities. The Indian Meteorological Department declared the start of monsoon over Kerala on 29th May, 2018. Quantitatively, the monsoon seasonal rainfall is likely to be 97 per cent of the Long Period Average.

The National Remote Sensing Centre of ISRO has informed that 50,007 hectares of land area of Kerala has been affected by flood.

There is a district-wise data. In Alappuzha, the flood affected area is 21799 hectares; Ernakulam—2056 hectares; Kottayam—12301 hectares; Pathanamthitta—2322 hectares; Malappuram—1338 hectares; Kollam—1503 hectares; Thrissur—13688 hectares; and the total area affected badly has been 55007 hectares.

Sir, 14 lives were lost in landslides one month before. Over 965 villages out of 1033 villages have been affected by floods, landslides, extremely heavy rainfall or strong winds. Thus, Kerala is facing a historic calamity due to monsoon rainfall of 2018.

As I told you, 21,197 hectares of crop has been lost. Totally, 11,304 houses were damaged. Around 88,000 people are in the camps. The statistics are unable to

express the sufferings and the sad plight of the common people living in the camps. I have already told you that along with Kodikunnil Suresh, MP, I had visited some flood-affected areas. Both in his constituency and also in my constituency, the people are lacking basic amenities in the camps. Due to the water logging situation there, they are even facing problems to cremate the dead bodies also. That is also a very important point.

The flooding has raised the groundwater level of the low-lying parts of Alappuzha and Kottayam making most of the toilets in the area non-usable. That is one dangerous issue. When flood will be over, the epidemic will come fast because the situation is like that.

Coming to the Central Government's approach, however, even after this very severe flood, and human casualties, the Central Government is unwilling to go beyond the laid down NDRF norms. You have given Rs.80 crore. That is under NDRF norms. Every State has the right to have funds under the NDRF norms. You have given Rs.80 crore. I am not criticizing that. But it should be beyond the NDRF norms. Then only, Kerala will be benefitted. Otherwise, it will not benefit Kerala.

As per Section 47 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, it is the obligation of the Central Government to create a National Disaster Mitigation Fund. While Kerala notified the Mitigation Fund and is utilizing it effectively, the Central Government is yet to notify the NDMF and provide funds to the Government of Kerala for undertaking long-term disaster mitigation works.

I would also like to point out that after the Ockhi cyclone happened in Kerala, the Government of Kerala requested for a comprehensive package of Rs.7340 crore. This is what Shri P. Karunakaran has also mentioned. But what you have given is almost nothing. Fishermen are not getting anything. That needs to be taken care of by the Union Government.

Sir, the fund available in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) is Rs.203 crore, which is very insufficient to meet the requirement of current crisis. I would also like to point out the details of funds demanded by the State Government and the total amount released by the Central Government so far. The State of Kerala has received an amount of Rs. 203 crore from State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) and a meagre amount of Rs.80 crore from National Disaster Response Fund

(NDRF), whereas the Government of Kerala has itself spent more than that. Therefore, there is an immediate need of a relief package from the Central Government. I hope that while replying the hon. Minister would give some clarification in this regard.

In Alappuzha and Kottayam districts, the severe flood has badly affected the life of the people of Kuttanad region. The Kuttanad region is situated below sea line and is highly vulnerable to floods. However, the well-known report of MS Swaminathan, which led to creation of Kuttanad Package received only partial assistance from the Government of India. The Government has stopped that assistance package. This is at a standstill now due to lack of assistance from the Central Government. Therefore, I request the Government to revamp this assistance package as early as possible.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I fully support the view expressed by Shri P. Karunakaran that for disaster management and rescue missions our Army, Navy and Coast Guard should be equipped because we want to save the lives of common people. Therefore, these Forces should be well-equipped to deal with such situations.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, I had pointed out the problems and failures of weather forecasting in the context of Ockhi cyclone when it hit the State of Kerala last year. I raised this very issue in this august House. The accuracy of district-wise rainfall prediction of India Meteorological Department (IMD) is nowhere near to reality. The IMD operates with just 56 rain gauges. It hardly has about seven temperature measurement stations and only one solar radiation measurement station. No real time rainfall data is made available to the disaster management authorities.

The Cyclone Warning Dissemination System of IMD in the State is not operational even after Cyclone Ockhi tragedy. The Central Water Commission has not yet created even one flood warning centre in the State even though the State is prone to floods and rain-related calamities.

Therefore, hon. Chairman, Sir, I would request the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to declare the prevailing flood situation in Kerala as 'a calamity of severe nature'. I am totally supporting this point. I also request the hon. Minister of State for Home

Affairs to consider the memorandum dated 21.5.2018 submitted by the Government of Kerala for an amount of Rs.831.1 crore favourably.

Considering the fact that it is the second consecutive disaster in consecutive seasons, Ockhi in November-December and monsoon calamity starting May 2018, the Government should permit Kerala to exercise the provisions of second consecutive disaster and to provide relief assistance accordingly. It can be raised at least marginally within the NDRF norms.

There is an immediate need to consider Rs.7340 crore Ockhi Package requested by the Government of Kerala and provide assistance under the major heads of assistance requested therein.

I would also demand to provide continued assistance to complete the implementation of the Swaminathan Commission Report in terms of Kuttanad Package as I have already mentioned that Kuttanad is the rice bowl of Kerala and if Kuttanad is in crisis, the entire State of Kerala will be in a very difficult situation.

As I have already requested that our Army, Navy and Coast Guard should be well equipped, I would also insist that Para Military Forces should also be equipped to deal with such situations. I also request the Government to provide a heavy lift helicopter in Thiruvananthapuram for emergency use in the State.

Regarding strengthening of IMD and make the organization provide real time rainfall data and accurate predictions to the State, the organisation should ideally have at least 300 rain gauges in the State at the rate of one rain gauge per square kilometre.

I also request that IMD should post at least one meteorologist in each district of Kerala. Only then the services of the Department could be fruitful. I would also request the Government to immediately set up at least one automated weather station in each taluk for monitoring and issuing of accurate localised weather predictions.

Chairman, Sir, there is an urgency for immediately setting up of five Digital Cyclone Warning Dissemination Systems each in Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Kozhikode and Kasaragod districts of Kerala.

Sir, I would also request the Central Government to order immediately the Central Water Commission to set

up flood warning centres in Karamana, Killiyar, Manimala, Meenachil, Pamba, Bharathapuzha and Periyar rivers of the State.

In addition to this, the flooded regions are highly vulnerable to infection and other seasonal epidemics. The spread of Nipah virus, as Shri Karunakaranji told, also created a very alarming situation in Kerala. Therefore, there is a need to upgrade the virology institute. In my constituency, there is National Institute of Virology, Alappuzha. It should be equipped in a larger way. When Nipah virus broke out in the State, we found that there was lack of sufficient equipment in the laboratory to establish the disease. Therefore, there is a need to strengthen this virology institute. I would request the hon. Health Minister to take measures to improve facilities at the Virology Institute in Alappuzha Medical College.

In this context, I would request the Prime Minister to declare the flood and casualties caused by rain as a 'natural calamity' and take measures to declare an inclusive financial package beyond the norms. We need an inclusive financial package beyond the norms in this time of grief and agony.

I would also request the Government to adopt a comprehensive mechanism to estimate the financial loss in order to ensure adequate compensation to the State as early as possible because the people there are in a very critical and vulnerable condition. Therefore, through this august House, I am requesting the hon. Minister and the Government to come forward with some concrete assistance proposals. Otherwise, if it is treated like Ockhi Cyclone, then there is no meaning for us of discussing this in the House.

With great pain and with folded hands, Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I am requesting the Minister and the Government to immediately provide some relief to Kerala and to take immediate steps to address such calamities in future.

Thank you.

\*SHRI C. MAHENDRAN (Pollachi): Hon. Chairman Sir, Vanakkam. I extend my respects and heartfelt regards to our beloved leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma

who have given me an identity and an address. I thank you for allowing me to take part in the discussion under Rule 193 on recent flood and drought situation in several parts of the country.

Farmers are the backbone of our country leading to its development. They have to be encouraged and their income has to be increased. There was an assurance in the current Budget about doubling the income of farmers. I wish that this assurance should be implemented by the Union Government in true spirit. The Union Government has decided that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of a produce will be fixed at least 1.5 times of its production cost. It should be assured that this decision of the Union Government should be benefitting the farmers of the country. Tamil Nadu faces different climatic conditions. On one side, it is affected by severe drought and on the other hand it faces devastating floods. Be it any type of natural disaster, farmers are the affected lot. Union Government should devise better schemes for protecting and uplifting the lives of our farmers. During December 2015, Tamil Nadu faced unprecedented rains and floods, which was followed by hard hitting Cyclones like Vardah and Ockhi. The State of Tamil Nadu was completely devastated by these natural calamities. The State Government of Tamil Nadu sought a relief from the Union Government after these disasters had struck the State in a severe manner. Union Government had not only delayed the release of funds but only a meager amount was released to the State of Tamil Nadu as flood relief. The farmers of Tamil Nadu faced untold miseries and remained very much affected. Due to severe drought conditions that prevailed during the last two years in Tamil Nadu, all the 32 districts had been declared as drought affected. Out of the 16,682 revenue villages, 13,305 villages have been declared as drought-affected in the State.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu had sought Rs. 39,565 Crore from the Union Government as drought relief. But as on date, not even a single rupee has been released as drought relief to the State. I therefore urge upon the Union Government to immediately release the drought relief to Tamil Nadu on war-footing basis. I urge upon the Hon. Union Minister for Agriculture and Hon. Union Minister for Finance to immediately release all the pending dues including the flood relief, drought relief etc., to the State of Tamil Nadu. In order to benefit the farmers

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

of Tamil Nadu, this relief is very much needed. The farmers of Tamil Nadu remain continuously affected. They are unable to repay the loans that they have taken from banks.

The loans taken by farmers should be waived off by the Union Government. Moreover, the children of farmers have also taken education loans from banks for continuing their studies. Such educational loans should also be waived off. It is apt to mention that some of the students coming from families of farmers also reside in urban areas. I urge upon the Union Government through Hon Chairman that all such loans should be waived off. I want to stress and explain that what are all the measures that are to be undertaken by the Union Government to mitigate the sorrows faced by the farming community, especially of Tamil Nadu. In the Kongu region of Tamil Nadu especially in my Pollachi parliamentary constituency, coconut farming is the primary occupation and source of income for farmers. Farmers are very much dependent on coconut farming for their livelihood. It should be ensured that coconut farmers get proper Minimum Support Price for their produce. MSP should be fixed at the maximum and that is the long pending demand of the farmers of our Kongu region. Compared to Palmolein, Coconut oil is good for health. But there is a rumour and misconception that coconut oil is not good for health. The amount spent by the Union Government for importing Palmolein should be utilize in the promotion of coconut farming in the country. So that coconut production can be increased. Union Government should engage coconut farmers in increasing the coconut production. This can also lead to the well-being and prosperity of our coconut growing farmers. We can produce quality coconut oil in the country. Tamil Nadu remains the pioneering State in the production of coconut and milling copra. On behalf of the coconut growing farmers, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Union Government for increasing the MSP per kilo of the Milling Copra from Rs 52.50 to Rs.75. My demand to the Union Government is that the MSP for Milling Copra should be increased to Rs.140 per kilo. Another long pending demand of my Pollachi parliamentary constituency is regarding the early completion of construction of Aanaimalaiar- Nallar dams. Kongu region of Tamil Nadu has been very much affected by severe drought continuously for several years. A permanent solution to this pertinent issue is the early completion of construction

of Aanaimalaiar and Nallar dams. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri Edappadi K. Palaniswami has set up an expert committee in this regard.

Sir, please allow me to speak for a minute, I have an important issue to be raised. An expert committee consisting of Officers has been constituted. This Committee will look into the ways and means of ensuring the early construction of Aanamalaiar and Nallar dams. I sincerely thank Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri Edappadi K. Palaniswami for this thoughtful decision. An amount of Rs.1500 Crore is required for implementation of this Scheme. I therefore urge upon the Union Government to immediately release an amount of Rs.1500 Crore without any further delay for early execution of construction of Aanamalaiar and Nallar dams. Since Tamil Nadu is severely affected by drought, linking of rivers has become the need of the hour. Union Government should give importance to linking of rivers in the first instance. I thank you for this wonderful opportunity, Thank you.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (Sreerampur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak on this subject.

Sir, according to the Government data, India accounts for one-fifth of global deaths due to floods that lends perspective to a new World Bank study that says : "Climate change will lower the standards of living of nearly half of India's population by 2050."

According to the Central Water Commission's data presented to the Rajya Sabha, as many as 1,07,487 people died due to heavy rains and floods across India over 64 years between 1953 and 2017. Floods have caused considerable damage across India in this season. Nearly, 91 districts in the Indian States have been affected since the beginning of this monsoon, and a total of 511 people have lost their lives. Many States have been affected like Assam, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc., and their figures are there. As regards Kerala, their issues have already been mentioned here. We all have sympathy for all the States where people have been affected, and all cooperation should be extended by the Central Government to all these States.

As far as West Bengal is concerned, 19 districts have been affected; lives lost is 72; five people have been injured; houses damaged partially and fully are

6,910; animals affected are 12; and crop area affected is 47,679 hectares. Other States have also been affected, and those figures are also with me. As far as Maharashtra is concerned, 123 persons have died, and 128 persons have died in Karnataka. So, those figures are there.

Now, I want to point out that the State of West Bengal, being the lower- most riparian State, received most of the storm water generated in the catchments of inter-State and trans-boundary rivers like Damodar, Kangsabati, Subarnarekha, Mayurakhi, etc. in the Southern parts, and Ganga, Padma, Mahananda, Atreye, Tangon, Teesta, Torsa, Jaldhaka and Sankosh in the Northern parts. Apart from passing of heavy flood discharge, a huge amount of silt is also carried by these rivers, which gets deposited in the river beds leading to decrease of water carrying capacity in the rivers and drainage channels. This accounts for perpetual river erosion and inundation in almost 43 per cent of the State.

The flood situation is aggravated when they release water from the dams of neighbouring State of Jharkhand coupled with unfavourable outfall condition due to the high tidal congestion. As a result of the release of water by the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) from Durgapur Dam, three Districts, namely, Hoogly, Howrah, and West Midnapore are affected every year. DVC, in a high-handed manner, takes the decision to release water and people of Bengal are affected due to it, and every time the Control Room is being opened by the State Government. This year, the hon. Chief Minister, Madam Mamata Banerjee, has taken charge of the Control Room, and she is looking after everything. She is sitting in the Control Room to look after the steps being taken to extend help to all the affected people.

The State faced an unprecedented flood during the monsoon of 2017 in different spells. The Southern part was seriously affected during the heavy downpour during 18 July 2017 to 28 July 2017 coupled with a maximum release of 2,50,000 cusecs of water from DVC Dams. The seven Districts of Northern part of the State were also affected due to heavy river discharge coming from Sikkim, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Bihar, and around 87.23 lakh people were affected. The estimated cost of damages was to the tune of Rs. 18,193 crore. However, the Central Government only granted an assistance of

Rs. 838.95 crore under the National Disaster Relief Fund, which is barely 4.6 per cent of the estimated cost of flood damages.

In order to have an understanding about the position of West Bengal in regard to getting assistance under NDRF vis-à-vis Gujarat, it is stated that as per media reports published during the end of July 2017, 3.50 lakh people were affected in Gujarat during 15th to 26th July of 2017, which prompted the hon. Prime Minister to make a quick aerial visit and to announce ex gratia as well as interim grant of Rs.500 crore. Subsequently, the High-Level Committee, headed by the hon. Finance Minister granted Rs.1055.06 crore for Gujarat and Rs.1711.66 crore for Bihar and even Rs.836.09 crore for Madhya Pradesh under NDRF, whereas the share of West Bengal was only restricted to Rs.838.85 crore.

Construction of new embankments, resuscitation of drainage channels and rivers, rehabilitation of dams and barrages etc., are not possible with the State's own resources only. The State Government has formulated and is implementing three comprehensive flood management projects with Central assistance under FMP. Pursuant to the accordance of techno-economic clearance to the first phase, work of Ghatal Master Plan at an estimated cost of Rs.1214.92 crore by the Advisory Committee of MoWR, RD&GR, Government of India on 25th May, 2015, specific proposal for obtaining investment clearance on the said project was submitted. But, in this regard, the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal also wrote several letters. But the issue of accordance of investment clearance is still lying pending with MoWR, RD&GR of the Government of India. The hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal also wrote to the hon. Prime Minister on 19th June, 2015 and to the hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Shipping on 22nd September, 2017 for accordance of investment clearance and inclusion under FMP to avail the Central grant. The revised estimated cost of the project is now Rs.12,38.95 crore and it has also been approved by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India during its 136th meeting. But, the money has not reached West Bengal at all.

Fund release proposals for two ongoing projects under FMP namely, Kaliaghai-Kapaleswari-Baghai Basin Drainage Scheme were submitted on 31st August, 2017

for release of Rs.80 crore. But, it has not yet been released. More importantly, the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India vide letter dated 19th January, 2005 agreed to take up anti-erosion works on the banks of the Ganga for a total stretch of 120 kilometres. The Farakka Barrage Project Authority did not address the erosion problem in their defined jurisdiction. The State Government raised the urgency for taking up such works on several occasions through Farakka Barrage Project Authority. The hon. Minister, in-charge of Irrigation and Waterways Department highlight the issue vide his letter dated 3rd February, 2015. The hon. Chief Minister of the State wrote to the hon. Prime Minister on 10th August, 2017 to take up immediate restoration of eroded vulnerable zones of length 28.80 kilometres consequent to the decision of the MoWR, RD&GR to retrieve to its original jurisdiction communicated through the letter dated 11th July, 2017. A preliminary project report was prepared. That preliminary project report identified 28.80 kilometres at an estimated cost of Rs.1000 crore in the districts of Malda, Murshidabad and Nadia to take up anti-erosion works on those vulnerable stretches of the bank of the River Ganga which are thickly populated. Almost 2,800 hectares of fertile land has been engulfed by the river and damages to the public and private properties is to the tune of Rs.1000 crore during the last 12 years. The Central Government should immediately provide adequate funds.

Sir, erosion of the banks of the Bhagirathi River is due to movement of coal carrying barges. We are repeatedly writing letters to the MoS (Home Affairs), Mr. Rijju. He is aware of all these facts but no response has come from him yet. The last letter was written on 29th March, 2017 but no response came from him.

The anti-erosion work was taken up by the Department in 2013-14 at the international border with Bangladesh to protect the border outposts of BSF and adjacent roads, pursuant to the decision taken in technical level meeting between India and Bangladesh. The schemes were in place and 100 per cent funding from Central Government of Rs. 96.56 crore under River Management Activities and Works Related to Border Areas was approved. Only Rs. 25.34 crore had been released by the Central Government in 2015-16. Now, the State Government submitted the proposal for the release of due funds of Rs. 71.21 crore in 2016-17 but nothing has come.

Today, we are all sympathetic to all the States which are affected. I have given the figures of affected States also. Our West Bengal is also seriously affected but why you are treating us as a step-brother! When there is flood in Gujarat, you raise funds. When there is flood in Bihar, you have joined with JD(U), you raise funds. You are raising funds for Maharashtra also. Where there is BJP, you raise funds. But why not in West Bengal! Why are you treating us as a step-brother? Why are you not releasing funds for West Bengal? After all, we are also the people of this country. The Prime Minister and your leaders are expecting that, in 2019, they will get 20 seats. You have got 22 seats. When the Prime Minister addressed the meeting at Midnapore, the tent collapsed and 26 persons got admitted into the Midnapore hospital itself.

Sir, it is a national calamity, a national problem, all the people of the nation have to be addressed. They should take care of every State and release funds, which you had promised in the meetings.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO (Bolangir): Sir, I just came back yesterday from my Constituency. I saw the devastating effects of simultaneous drought over the last two or three years. Also, due to heavy rainfall in the last week a flood situation has surfaced.

Sir, natural calamities are not new, they have been continuously occurring. What is new in this entire situation is the apathy and the negligence of the Central Government towards the State of Odisha and the situation.

Last year, in 2017, as per the IMD Report, India received 59 per cent deficit rainfall. The livelihood of over 33 crore people was adversely affected by drought in 2017 and 2016. Yet, our Prime Minister says that he wishes to double the income of farmers. For that, he has raised the MSP on rice by a mere Rs. 80 and further by another Rs. 200, with the idea of giving 50 per cent profit to farmers. I can tell you with authority that this particular hike in the price of MSP does not give 50 per cent profit to the farmers of Odisha or that of eastern India.

I am sure the hon. Agriculture Minister will explain this process. It has already been discussed in the Parliament. When you talk of doubling farmers' income, when you talk of giving 50 per cent profits to the farmers of India, it is to the farmers of the whole of India. Why

leave Eastern India out of it; why leave the States of Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh? These are all States which will be affected. The reason is, in the 1960s when the first Green Revolution happened, it happened in Northern India, it happened in Western India. Regional imbalance of Eastern India can be demonstrated purely by the hardships that the farmers of this region face.

The Prime Minister has repeatedly talked about the second Green Revolution. But where is the second Green Revolution? It remains just another empty rhetoric of the current Government at the Centre.

Sir, Odisha has had 30 per cent deficit rainfall till today; 27 per cent deficit rainfall for the month of June. The problem is not the total quantity of annual rainfall but the erratic nature of it, the non-predictability that we have in the country as a result of climate change. Yet, the Government of India and especially the Agriculture Ministry have been unable to devise a concrete plan to tackle the adverse impact of climate change on agriculture.

It is a well-known fact that the largest impact of this will be on the States of central and coastal India. However, I have not seen a single statement which talks about the adverse impact of climate change on agriculture, especially on the livelihoods of more than 60 per cent of people who live in this area, and the steps that will be taken by the Ministry of Agriculture in this case.

Sir, we have seen the apathy of the Central Government not only in the major allocations towards this sector but even in the release of funds. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana has a fund sharing of 60 per cent by the Centre and 40 per cent by the State, yet it is called Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana. We have no objection. Call it what you like but out of the Rs.2,340 crore budget for irrigation in Odisha, a mere Rs.47 crore has been released so far. We are already three or four months into the budget year. *[Translation]* If you do not release money, when will we spend it and if we will not spend the money, how the farmers will get benefit? *[English]* Is this another example of doubling farmers income? Is this another example of the second Green Revolution that we talk of?

Sir, simultaneously we have got the flood situation. While in the last seven days we have had heavy rainfall,

the illegal dam built by Chhattisgarh Government on Mahanadi which dries out the river in summer season and when the floodgates are opened during heavy rainfall, it inundates parts of coastal Odisha. To date the Central Government has not taken a single step against the illegal dam. In fact, the Central Government, by choosing to remain a mute spectator, has actually aggravated the amount of difficulty on the people of Odisha.

Sir, the Central Government is now constructing National Highways in the cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack. For the last 20 years they have been constructing. However, it is the lack of drainage facilities on these highways which is now causing a flood like situation in urban areas of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): Poor planning of the UPA.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Yes, it is poor planning of the UPA and poor implementation of the NDA. I am glad my friend Anurag Thakur agrees that both the UPA and the NDA have been poor in their outlook towards Odisha.

The hon. Finance Minister says, "we will double the income of farmers." Yet, the average growth rate of agriculture remains below 1.5 per cent. The share of agriculture in aggregate GDP is likely to decline to less than 10 per cent by 2019-20. This is a sector on which 60 per cent of India's population depends. They will only contribute 10 per cent or even less to the GDP. Can you imagine the per capita income of farmers or those who depend on agriculture? Yet the Government chooses to remain a mute spectator. This, coupled with demonetisation, which effectively removed liquidity from farming community or rural community, has crippled the farmers and landless labourers of Odisha. I am sure the same impact is there across the country. Yet the Government has refused to increase credit to the amount required to the farming community. I am sure the hon. Minister will explain in his statement as to how much credit has been actually deployed in the agriculture sector.

With due respect Sir, I was the mover of the Motion. ...\* removed me from no. 1 position to no. 2. I would request you to give me some time.

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\* Not recorded.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: We have a fixed time period. We have to finish our discussion within that time.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Sir, it's alright. Since 2014, there has been increase in prices; the prices of diesel and petrol have been increased. At first, you increase the price of paddy by 10 percent but at the same time, you increase the prices of input by 50 percent. How can you double the income of farmers in this way? You do not react on drought and flood situation. If you do not react the way you should react, then I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to have a look towards Odisha. [English] We had cyclone Phailin when 10 lakh people were evacuated over three days. That is a record attempt and the hon. Minister and the hon. Prime Minister complimented the State of Odisha when that happened. We are happy to extend whatever support the NDRF requires to teach them how these matters are dealt with. The fact is that instead of increasing allocation for farmers of Odisha keeping in view the drought and flood situation which have occurred in Odisha, the Government is blocking the rightful waters of Odisha, constructing the Polavaram dam next to the State of Odisha where thousands of acres of tribal land will get inundated in an area which is naxal-prone and Maoist-prone, thereby creating landless labourers of thousands of tribal people.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now you please conclude. You have spoken 2 minutes more than the allotted time.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Sir, It's alright. I am going to conclude. I would like to put across two points. [English] There are some low-hanging fruits; very easy tasks. There are 30 railway stations in Odisha where you have to announce rake points to help the farmers of Odisha. It has been languishing in the Ministry of Railways for years but not one step has been taken towards that. Lastly, [Translation] As far as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is covered, 50 percent money is contributed by the Union Government and [English] 50 per cent is contributed by the State Government. It is called Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. [Translation] We do not have any objection. You do take the name of Prime Minister but at least release the money. The payment of the amount of crop insurance of this year has

got delayed 4-6 months. State of Odisha has yet not received the money. [English] The rains have started; farmers don't have access to it.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now you please conclude.

Mr. Pratap Rao Jadhav, please start your speech.

[English]

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: The Government of India must impress upon those insurance companies to ensure that this money is released in a timely manner. I am not saying that you should double the farmers' income, but at least there should be a semblance of giving some benefit to the farmers of India, especially to those of my State of Odisha.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon'ble Members, I have a long list of members who want to speak on this subject. The members, who wish to lay their speeches are allowed to lay their written speech on the Table of the House. Mr. Pratap Rao Jadhav ji, now you speak.

**16.00 hrs**

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV (Buldhana): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, we are discussing the situation of flood and drought in the House under Rule 193. It has been discussed in the House several times. When we look for the reasons for this, one reason that come to the fore is that due to changes in the environment there is drought in some areas and flood in other areas.

**16.01 hrs**

(SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL *in the Chair*)

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the Minister of Agriculture and the minister concerned that we are planting trees for the betterment of environment in near future. The Union Government, State Government, Social Institutions and individuals have planted trees for many years. If we count those trees and calculate the area of land on which trees have been planted, we have planted more trees in our state as never been accounted how many trees we have planted and out of them, how many trees are alive. What are the reasons for such conditions at present?



Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, if we start any scheme it should be monitored also. Those who don't work properly according to the scheme should also be punished. During the last three-four years in Maharashtra, districts like Marathwada and Buldhana remained drought affected. The small crops were destroyed due to drought but as far as horticulture farming was concerned, trees of fruits like orange, mousami and mango were planted by the farmers and they worked hard for 10-15 years to nourish them. They also got dried due to drought conditions. The Government provides assistance of 4-5 thousand rupees per hectare. Fructification of a tree takes up to five years of time but there also the Government provides less funds to the farmers as assistance.

Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, Our Government has started a good scheme like Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana but I would like to bring to the cognizance of the Minister of Agriculture that its effect on the farmers of the villages is not seen to the extent as it should have been. During the last year there was drought in some districts of the Maharashtra and Marathwada. People had got their crops insured there and have also paid installments to the insurance company. At least 500 farmers in Beed district were given one rupee by the insurance companies. It is also a matter of shame to the insurance company. The Government should also take cognizance of the fact that when the farmers and the Government together pay installment of crores of rupees to the insurance companies but what they are getting in return?

Through this discussion I would like to request the Minister of Agriculture to tell in his reply about the total amount of installment which includes 50 percent installment paid by the Government, given to the insurance companies every year. How much amount an insurance company pays to the farmer as a compensation for losses every year. If we see the calculations Fasal Bima Yojana is being run more for the benefit of the insurance companies rather than that of the farmers. This is what all the people there doubt.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, in our country there is drought at one place while there is flood at another place. It causes more damage to the farmers. Ours is an agricultural country. Our country is known as the country of the farmers in the whole world but the farmers here have to face all kind of hardships and losses. They look to the Government with the hope that it will provide help

to them. The Government provides them with less assistance. I would like to submit the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture that crops are destroyed due to flood and drought. The farmers grow the crops taking loans from the banks and toiling in the field and if their crops are damaged due to flood or drought there, bank loans should be waived off immediately. If there will be no crop how will the farmer be able to repay his bank loan. From where will he get money to buy seeds for sowing and manure for the next year? In such condition the Government should a law or frame such a policy providing for waiving off the loans of the farmers having losses due to drought or flood.

Sir, survey is conducted to assess the damage of crops on account of flood and the farmers don't get the benefit of the laws made in this regard. The state governments say that they have sent proposals to the Union Government for help but the help from the Union Government comes so late that the farmers loose the time for sowing the next crop. There is a good rainfall in our district. Sowing has been done but as far as Buldhana is concerned I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture that the farm loan given to the farmers by the nationalised banks does not cover even 18 percent of the total farmers. Till date only around 18 percent farmers have got the loan. No nationalized bank is ready to give loan to the farmers. The farmers are going to the banks for months. The amount of assistance given to the farmers by the Government is deposited directly in their account online. Just now our Minister of Communications has also accepted during the zero hour that there are so many areas in the country which don't have access to good internet or broadband facilities. Branches of banks in rural areas don't have better internet facilities. The money given online is not timely deposited in the accounts of the farmers. The farmers are also required to submit the application online. Since the internet is not available sometimes for 2 days to 4 days much time is wasted in submission of application online. Before implementing the Digital India or online system in the rural areas there should be better internet facilities available for each and every farmer. There are some places in Buldhana district which are drought affected and there are also some places where crops are being damaged due to heavy rains. Under such conditions the survey carried out by the officers of the department of agriculture also differs hugely since two Tehsils in the

same district have different conditions, In Buldhana district Tehsils like Sindkhed Raja, Deulgaon Raja, Lonar have got less rainfall whereas due to heavy rains in Jalgaon, Sangrampur, Motala and Mehkar Tehsils the crops are going to be damaged. In such condition we should have a policy like Fasal Bima Yojana is there for individual farmer wherein compensation is given for the individual's loss. Similarly if the farmers of an area face loss due to flood or heavy rain, they should get the timely assistance from the government despite being less in the number.

Sir, during the drought there is severe scarcity of drinking water. Water is supplied through the tankers there and there is no rule regarding water supply. Only one tanker of the capacity of ten thousand litres filled with water is sent for the villages having population of 4-5 thousand. When the water tanker reaches there people burst into fighting and in several villages even riots also break out over water. There should also be a law regarding water supply. If there is shortage of drinking water in any village the government should decide as to how many litres of water should be supplied there according to the population of the village. Many a times the government acquire the borewells of the farmers but they are not given money sometimes even after the lapse of two years or more due to which the farmers don't allow for this also. It should be ensured that whatever announcement we make its benefit should reach to the farmer in a proper manner. Flood and drought can't be prevented by us. These adversities used to occur earlier and will keep occurring in future also. But in order to take concerned measures a policy should be made in this regard.

[English]

\*SHRI D.K. SURESH (Bangalore Rural): I would like to place my views on recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country under rule 193.

Floods have caused considerable damage across India this season. So much that 91 districts in 12 Indian states have been affected by floods since the beginning of this monsoon. A total of 511 people have lost their lives and 176 people have been injured. Floods have damaged around 55,000 houses with the greatest

number being Manipur's (17,846). People have also lost their means to livelihood as 1,37,008 animals have been affected and crops in an area of 81,147 hectare all over the country have been damaged by flood waters.

According to data from the Central Water Commission (CWC), one fifth of global flood related deaths take place in India. In the 64 year from 1953 to 2017, more than one lakh people have died due to floods and damage to crops. Also, infrastructure and housing have been pegged at Rs. 3,65,860 crore, which is 3 percent of the country's current Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

After very heavy rains in the catchment area due to active Southwest monsoon during last one month, causing severe floods in South and North Karnataka. The flood levels in Cauvery and Krishna Delta were beyond the control till last week. Out of the 30 districts in Karnataka, 29 of them received rainfall which is above normal level. The worst affected state in terms of loss of lives has been Karnataka with 128 deaths.

The various dams along the Tungabhadra and Hemavathi rivers have been receiving massive inflow and that the water levels are above the danger mark. The water levels at Linganamakki dam rose to 1785.90 feet, close to the full reservoir level of 1819 feet. While the levels at Bhadra dam was similarly high at 162.1 feet against its maximum level of 186 feet, the water level at Thunga dam has reached its maximum capacity of 588.24 feet.

As per the Dam Safety Protocol issued by the Central Water Commission, when the quantum of outflow from a dam is equal to the inflow, it would be considered a natural flood. However, when the quantum of outflow from a dam exceed the inflow, it is classified as a manmade flood.

After farmers suffered crop loss from drought over the past three years, they are now worried that they may face more losses from floods. Despite the good news of filled reservoirs, heavy downpour has caught farmers by surprise resulting in damage to crops in both Malnad region and in a few districts in the plains of Karnataka.

Except paddy, almost all other crops have been affected as farmers were not prepared for such heavy rainfall. Plantation crops have been worst hit in Kodagu,

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga districts. Coffee beans will fall off the plants if rainfall continues at this pace, from a condition called 'Wet Foot'. Pepper and other cash crops have also been affected.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to consider the largely affected areas of Karnataka as a special case and announce a special package of 1000 crore to help the flood affected farmers in the State.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT (Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg): Today on 25.07.2018 during discussion under Rule 193, I am giving my views in writing. Kindly accept it.

There was heavy flood in several settlements of Konkan region (Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts) of Maharashtra during the rainy season this year. Due to heavy rainfall this year there was flood in coastal areas and villages situated at the banks of the rivers. Due to this the settlements situated at the river banks and in the coastal areas were flooded with water resulting in huge damage. Several villages remained cut off from the main cities for 10-15 days. Patients and the students were badly affected by this.

The settlements situated near the sea coast and rivers in my constituency i.e. Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts in Maharashtra have to face this problem every year. We the representative of the people and the locals of the area are making a demand for several years to construct a protective wall and embankment near the coastal settlements. There are several river in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg districts in Konkan region which are completely filled with soil and stones. Desilting of rivers should be done and stones, mud and soil be removed from the river beds so that the rain water should remain in it completely. Regular removal of sand will prevent the flood.

I demand from the Government to make a scheme to protect the coastal villages in my constituency of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts in Maharashtra at the earliest and to provide relief to the people there.

\*SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (Maval): During the discussion under Rule 193 I am putting my views on the condition of the farmers due to drought across the country.

Due to drought and heavy rainfall in several states of the country for the last four years, the farmers have to face huge losses. Due to this, most of the farmers are committing suicides. Farmers in the country are committing suicides and particularly in Maharashtra their number is the highest. Vidarbha and Marathwada regions of Maharashtra are severely affected by drought. Sometimes hailstorm damages the crops of the farmers. State Governments provide assistance for giving relief to the farmers but they don't get this assistance in time. The Union Government should make arrangements to give maximum compensation (fixed amount) to the farmers so that their damage could be compensated.

I demand from the Government to provide timely assistance to the farmers. Besides, I also demand to timely compensate the farmers for the damage occurred due to drought, heavy rain and hailstorm and also to help the families of farmers who have committed suicides.

*[English]*

\*SHRIMATI PRATYUSHA RAJESHWARI SINGH (Kandhamal): Thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate on this crucial topic of floods in Odisha.

Floods have devastating consequences and the entire Odisha is flooded due to the continuous rains in these past few days. It's fortunate to see how the people are suffering due to this mishap. The National Highway 59, connecting Gopalpur to Raipur and National Highway 26, connecting South India via Kalahandi also covers a major part of my Parliamentary Constituency, Kandhamal. The roads have been adversely affected. It has been four long years since the work on the highway commenced but it is still incomplete, conveyance on these roads due to floods and heavy rain have been next to impossible. The interior Naxal affected areas of Kandhamal like Landagaon, Baaliguda, Barakhama, Sindhiguda roads which are connected to nearby districts like Boudh, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Sonpur are submerged. The rain has washed away more than 1,22,791 people, taken 9 lives and has affected around 734 houses

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

causing further menace. I urge to know, what is causing this delay in completion of the highway and also seek immediate remedies for solace.

\*DR. P.K. BIJU (Alathur): Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to bring your attention in to the ongoing catastrophic calamity faced by Kerala.

Flood is one of the biggest recurring and frequent natural calamity faced by India. It has catastrophic and spiraling effect on our economy. Compared to the urban, rural people are the worst victims. Due to recurrent prevalence, the economic loss and life damage caused by the flood has put more burdens on economy than any other natural disaster. India also has continuously suffered by many flood events which claimed huge loss of life and economy. Poor people and farmers are at the receiving end of each and every disaster. It has been found that the incidences of the flood are increasing very rapidly. Causes can be climate change, cloud bursting, tsunami or poor river management, silting etc. but devastation is increasing both in terms of lives and economies. Disaster management in India has very organized and structured programmes and policies but administration and implementation of these programs demand more efficiency.

Kerala is facing the worst flood in three decades. Heavy rain lashed several parts of Kerala for the last three weeks, caused severe flooding in many districts. People are struggling for drinking water, food, medicine, shelter etc. Around more than 100 people have died and more than 10000 houses have been damaged either fully or partially. Houses are submerged under water. People have left their homes and shifted to relief camps. More than one lakh flood-affected people continue to stay in make-shift relief camps in Kerala. Education of the students have come to a halt. Schools are shut and turned into relief camps. They have lost their books and other schooling aids. Holidays for several days are declared for all educational institutions including professional colleges. Farmers are the worst hit category. Crops are under water domesticated animals are either died or left for their own. Heavy losses have incurred in the agricultural sector. There are recorded reports of damage to standing crops in more than 10000 hectare.

Normal life has been disrupted completely. People are unable to step out of their homes to purchase essentials due to water logging. Roads are closed and under water. Shops are shut. Power is disconnected will take time to get restored. Diseases are spreading across the states. The functioning of the public offices is disturbed. The tourism sector, which is one of the major money minting sectors of the economy of Kerala has crashed completely. Train services were disrupted for some time as the railway tracks between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam came under threat from rising water. The continuous, incessant raining has affected all facets of life in Kerala.

The most affected districts are Kottayam and Alappuzha. In Alappuzha alone, a total of 84,618 people were in 271 relief camps. Worst affected is the low lying Kuttanad region where flooding has made life miserable and thousands of people are stranded. People are unable to step out of their homes to purchase essentials due to water logging. Most roads have been completely submerged in Alappuzha and traffic is continued to be disrupted due to inundation. In kottayam, 1/3rd of the district remains inundated. About 17,034 people are in 110 camps. The whole of Pala town in Kottayam was under the waters for almost the whole day as the Meenachil river breached its banks. At many places, the water rose nearly five feet in living areas, making mobility next to impossible. Idukki, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Malappuram and Wayanadu are the worst hit districts. Villages located near the Sea came under relentless battering from waves. Several coconut trees were uprooted as tidal waves wreaked havoc in the coastal belt of districts. Seawalls have been damaged in many places. Most houses along the coast were damaged as waves swept across the beaches. Several landslides have been reported from hilly districts and power supply has been disrupted in many districts. Even though the rain has subsided, flood water is yet to recede in low-lying areas which cause a very serious threat of outbreak of epidemics. Preventive measures should be strengthened to ensure that infectious diseases do not break out. We need a more efficient national policies and organized strategies to face the floods.

In December 2017, the severe cyclonic storm, Ockhi, lashed out in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep spelled havoc in these regions. Around

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

250 people, majority of them are fishermen lost their lives due to it. The ongoing heavy downpour is the second mishap Kerala is facing within 7 months of the Ockhi cyclone. Kerala is yet to recover from the casualties caused by the storm. We have requested for 7000 cr for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected families but the centre was allotted a meager amount of 431 cr only now the state is facing another calamity. Besides Kerala, states such as Tamil Nadu and Andhra from the Southern region and poor states from the North India such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are frequent victims of recurrent floods.

I conclude with a request for the intervention and assistance of the Central Government at the earliest. The Centre should depute a team to assess the damages as early as possible. Kerala has requested for Rs 832 crores to face the challenges caused by the ongoing southwest monsoon. Releasing of the funds at the earliest is important to bring normalcy to people's life.

\*SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SADANAND SULE (Baramati): The per capita live storage in India is about 209 m<sup>3</sup> based on population of 2011 – for Russia 6103 cubic meters, for Brazil 3145 cubic meters. a per capita water availability of less than 1700 cubic meters (m<sup>3</sup>), is termed as a water-stressed condition whereas if per capita availability falls below 1000 m<sup>3</sup>, it is termed as a water scarcity condition. in India, the per capita availability is reducing progressively owing to increasing population from 2209 cu.m. (cubic meter) per year in 1991 to about 1545 cu.m. per year in 2011. To increase the live per capita water storage as well as per capita water availability in the country, the Committee recommended creation of storage-based water resources projects on appropriate sites can result in increased per capita live storage capacity.

As agriculture statistics released by the Ministry of Agriculture, only 5.6% of the net sown area is under micro irrigation.

Committee recommended undertaking a study on the efficacy, merits, viability or sustainability of traditional water recharge/harvesting techniques in India.

In Drip irrigation, water is delivered at the root zone of the crops through emitters like drippers, micro sprinklers. This method has less water requirement resulting in water saving, higher fertilizer application efficiency, energy conservation, higher water use efficiency, and is feasible in different terrains and suitable for problematic soils and prevention of water logging. The Committee also note that through 'fertigation' process in sprinkler/drip irrigation systems, more efficiency is achieved by combining fertiliser as well as water soluble fertilizers, thereby increasing fertilizer use efficiency from 80 to 90 per cent. Committee recommended that the Ministry should also come up with novel initiatives to incentivise the State/UTs to adopt Sprinkler and Drip irrigation systems and also take steps to promote 'fertigation' across the country.

In a research study on flood and drought management practices in India, transfer of surplus monsoon water to storage structure include creation of ground- and surface-water storages, integration of small reservoirs with major reservoirs, integration basin planning; inter-basin transfer of water, etc. Long term adaption involves the development of community-based natural resources management plans, developed and implemented through a participatory approach and making full use of traditional knowledge. These practices are being implemented in Maharashtra and the Standing Committee on Water resources has acknowledged these achievements. It also recommended their replication in other States.

The Committee are fully convinced that there is an imperative need to remove the encroachment and for repairing, renovating and restoring the water bodies not only to improve the health of Water Bodies but also to ensure a positive impact on the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

Taking cognizance of the significance of the Remote Sensing Technique in monitoring the Irrigation projects, the Committee recommended the Ministry to set up and maintain well-established infrastructure/arrangements for obtaining better resolution imageries within this financial year, which would cost effective as well – in the long run.

The Committee note that under the National Aquifer Management (NAQUIM) programme initiated since 2012, only an area of 5.5 lakh sq. km. has so far been mapped

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

and 23 lakh sq km remain to be trapped for which Rs. 3000 crore is needed. Committee noted that although a total outlay of Rs. 3319 crore has been made for 12th Plan (2012-2017) for the scheme of Ground Water Management and Regulation with Aquifer Mapping as one of the components, a total expenditure of only Rs. 146.48 crore has been made on Aquifer Mapping upto June, 2016. Committee opined that the monitoring and implementation works under NAQUIM be intensified by the Government.

'Water budgeting' is an accounting of all the water utilized by the system that flows into and out of a project area. Proper water budgeting is helpful to conserve water from rainfall and surface run off to the extent possible. Since 'Water Budgeting' is an efficacious technique for judicious and efficient use of water in the country, the Committee strongly recommended that appropriate guidelines be issued by the Government to all State/UTs, Central Institutions/bodies and local bodies to promote and popularize the concept of 'Water Budgeting' all through the country.

Committee recommend that the Ministry/Government institute a study on viability of introducing piped-water supply to the field – which will definitely reduce losses in water conveyance losses in canals and ensure water availability to tail- end farmers as well on a large-scale.

For the 'Per Drop More Crop' component of the Prime Minister's Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMSY), the Committee recommended performance evaluation of the project.

What are the physical and financial achievements under PMKSY, so far?

Standing Committee recommended study of the impact of climate change on water resources conservation in the country, so that a pragmatic solution could be found to meet the adverse effects of climate change on water resources conservation.

The inter-linking of rivers has the potential for addressing the twin problems of water scarcity and flooding in the country.

The Committee recommended the Ministry to take fresh initiatives for technology transfer from other countries, for emulating the successful models of other countries/states suited to the needs of the country.

The Committee have also been informed about the Israel Model of Irrigation, which has led to an increase in water use efficiency, and their innovation for efficient and sustainable water use that has made them international leader in developing water-saving technology in agriculture.

Salient feature include:

Treatment and reuse of almost all of the nation's domestic waste water for irrigation in the agricultural sector. The importance of treated effluent was recognised by the Israel Government and the concept of considering effluent as resource instead of nuisance was adopted. With governmental support, sewage infrastructures were developed and upgraded nationwide, which enabled them to turn the environmental hazard to valuable resources. The use of treated water in the country was about 0.450 BCM per year in 2014. It may be noted that the Israel is using 86% of the effluent produced in the country as on date and planning for using 90% of the effluent produced.

In view of scarcity of water, the brackish water was progressively being used for irrigation and industry. The use of brackish in the year 2010 was about 0.175 BCM per year.

The total capacity created for destination of sea water and brackish water by the end of 2015 was about 0.537 BCM per year. Another 0.150 BCM capacity was under planning/construction.

Development of new crop strains that provide 10 times higher yield with the same amount of water;

Pioneering work in drilling exceptionally deep wells. Reaching 1,500 metres and pump settings as high as 500 metres;

Controls of algae blooms in reservoirs for reused water

Innovative, multi-tiered water safety methods, early warning systems and other technologies.

The aim is to minimize costs and to charge water tariffs that are as reasonable as possible. Efforts should be made to minimize cross-subsidization between the various sectors when fixing water tariffs. This is in contrast to the practice followed in India, where the power to agriculture is highly subsidised. Since power is a main component of the cost of ground water extraction, the

availability of cheap/subsidised power in many states has resulted in greater extraction of this resource.

In the light of declining levels of groundwater in the country, the Standing Committee on Water Resources has recommended that the practice of free supply of electricity to farmers for extraction of ground water be regulated. The village community in the three (3) districts. The aquifer-based participatory ground water management pilot projects in the three districts of Satara, Jalna and Beed in Maharashtra was undertaken under Maharashtra Water Sector Improvement Project (MWSIP), aided by World Bank.

The local community in each village was organised into Gram Panchayat Level Committee (GPLCS), having their own by-laws, whose Executive Committees were elected through democratic elections;

The GPLCs deliberated on current ground water situation and adopted appropriate intervention to improve ground water efficiency, reduce ground water extraction and arrest declining of water levels;

The community manages aquifer with the help of NGO as per the Ground Water Management Action Plan (GWMAP);

Based on the capacity of the aquifer and availability of surplus runoff, the artificial recharge structures were finalized.

The same aquifer based participatory ground water management is being replicated in 'Jal-swarjya' project (of Maharashtra Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department) - which is being implemented in 7 districts of the State.

The Committee have also been apprised of the successful implementation of ground water management by Gram Panchayat in Hiware Bazar, Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra. This which was achieved through water budgeting leading to change in cropping pattern; use of Drip/Sprinkler irrigation on the demand side, construction of rain water harvesting structure, e.g. earthen bunds, percolation tanks, stone bunds, check dams, trenches etc.; and revival of water bodies on the supply side. This successful ground water conservation model to be replicated in all states.

Under the project of Reuse of treated wastewater at Naval Civilian Housing Colony, Mumbai treated

wastewater used for irrigation of green landscape, parks/gardens and plantations. Approach: A decentralized system installed in the residential housing colony treats domestic wastewater (both black and grey) using soil biotechnology (SBT).

Outcome: Treated wastewater is used locally to maintain an estimated green area of 2.2 acres (0.89 hectares). It is also used for meeting 180 days of horticultural water requirements. The decentralized system has reduced the colony's dependence on water tankers.

'Shirpur Pattern and Angioplasty in 'Water Conservation' utilises low cost technology for water conservation. Mr. Suresh Khanapurkar a retired geologist has designed and developed a low cost technology driven solution to conserve ground water resources. Shirpur taluka, Dhule district of Maharashtra – only 12.94% of its land under cultivation is irrigated.

The main idea was to arrest the rainwater locally and strictly not allow it run away to the river.

The objectives of Shirpur pattern are as follows:

- To increase the water table of the region so that water would be available round the year;
- To increase irrigation facilities from 10 to 12% to 80% in all the villages;
- To enable farmers to have access to water and thereby increase their agricultural productivity by facilitating them to grown two to three crops a year;
- To ensure safe drinking water supply to the villagers;
- To ensure water availability to rural artisans and rural entrepreneurs.

To achieve this he thought of incorporating the following components

- (a) Recharging of wells from nearby canals and dams;
- (b) Constructing cement structures (bunds) on streams;
- (c) Widening and deepening of streams; and
- (d) Removal of the impervious layers in the stream (Angioplasty technique)

Firstly a stream is considered as a unit. The stream on which check dams are to be constructed is studied with great details with the help of topography sheets/maps.

Secondly, to increase the storage capacity of the shallow streams and trap each drop of water falling in that area it is dug from its source, making it 40 ft deep or little more and upto 80 ft wide and embankments are built so that the rain water would be harvested in maximum quantity. After each 100-300 m, concrete bunds (without gates) are constructed in it, so as to create large reservoirs from where water can be continuously percolated vertically and laterally.

Thirdly removal of the impervious layers in the stream is a critical step in the process. Excavation upto 15-40 ft is necessary to reach the porous layers – PROCESS TERMED AS angioplasty in water conservation.

The major outputs of the watershed work measured in terms of increasing the water level and storage is as follows:

- (a) In basalt area the water level rose from 500 feet to 15 feet in summer and in the alluvial areas of Tapi the water level has come up from 280 feet to 80 feet.
- (b) A minimum of 5 crores liters (50,000 m<sup>3</sup>) and a maximum of 15 crores litres (150,000 m<sup>3</sup>) of water has been stored because of widening and deepening of the stream. Total water conserved due to these dams is 400 million cubic feet (mcft). Consequentially the water level in the bore wells on either side of the bank of the stream up to two km distance has risen by 150 feet.
- (c) In terms of increase in irrigated area it is observed that 1952 hectares (4880 acres) has been irrigated. The average return on investment is 70% (varies between 114% to 73%)
- (d) As of 2016, farmers in the 55 villages have benefitted from this and earn minimum Rs. 4 to 5 lakh in just 4 acres of plantation. Despite scanty rainfall, water is available round the year in 60 villages of Shirpur.
- (e) The water revolution has drastically changed the lives of the farmer in the talukla. Their average per

capita income has increased by Rs. 2 lakh per hectare annually.

Bhungroo system of irrigation which is an innovative water harvesting technique for irrigation introduced by Indian women farmers. It frees excess water from flood prone and waterlogged farmland by drawing all the excess water underground and making land accessible for farming.

Bhungroo is a water harvesting technique that uses an injection module to store excess rain water underground. Farmers can then use the same water for irrigation during summer and winter. The high level of salinity in many regions of Gujarat and other states of India often creates an impermeable white on brown layer that prevents water from penetrating the soil, leaving the surface waterlogged. The Bhungroo allows this excess water to flow directly into the underground aquifer.

Salient features of Bhungroo Irrigation:

Bhungroo is a Gujarati word meaning "straw" – a pipe between 10-15 cm (4-6 inch) diameter is inserted into the soil at places where water logging is a problem. So during monsoons, the excess water drains down the pipe, gets filtered, and then flows down to natural aquifers deep below the soil where it can stay until it is needed during the dry seasons.

It means that in the monsoon season farmers can grow crops because their land is not too wet. In the dry seasons of winter or summer they can use pumps to draw up the stored water and irrigate their land.

I urge the Government to undertake measures to implement the above proven water conservation models across the country.

\*SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Vadakara): Kerala is always prone to natural calamities like flood and sea erosion. the northern part of Kerala, like Calicut, Wyanad and Kannur are experiencing landslide and flash floods during every monsoon. It has become a recurring phenomenon causing irreparable loss of life and property. Due to heavy landslide of Kattipara in Calicut District about 15 persons have lost their lives this monsoon.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



This year the worst affected parts of Kerala are the districts of Alappuzha, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta etc. as per the latest reports the monsoon fury has claimed around 50 precious lives. This year's monsoon havoc is the most crippling in the last 25 years. More than one lakh people, mostly from weak and vulnerable section of society, continue to stay in makeshift relief camps. Six hundred odd relief camps are set up in Alappuzha, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam and Thrissur Districts. Two days back a boat carrying media crew capsized and two persons perished in the gushing waters.

The State Disaster Management Authority has made an assessment that a total of 55,007 hectares of agricultural land has been submerged. This monsoon saw 20% excess rain and because of the monsoon fury more than 965 villages have been badly affected.

India accounts for 1/5th of global deaths due to floods as per the Government of India data. World Bank study says that climate change will lower the standards of living of nearly half of India's population by 2050. It is also reported that as many as 107,487 people died due to heavy rains and floods across India over 64 years, between 1953 and 2017. This startling data is prepared by the Central Water Commission of India.

Damage to crops, houses and public utilities was reported to be Rs. 365,860 crore or as much as 3% of India's current GDP. The main reasons for the floods have been assessed as excessive rainfall in short span, inadequate and poor drainage capacity, unplanned reservoir regulation and failure of food control structures.

According to National Disaster Management Authority India is highly vulnerable to floods. Out of total geographic area of 329 million hectares, more than 40 million hectares are flood prone.

India is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate change which has increased the frequency of downpours. West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, UP, Haryana and Punjab are flood prone States.

In a country like India which has a high vulnerability profile what is required is scientific management of floods. Denudation of forests, rapidly increasing mining, unscrupulous constructions, filling of large stretches of

agricultural lands for commercial purposes, gross violation of environmental laws etc. is leading to global warming. Climate change to be checked on war footing.

India is having more than 7500 kilometers of coastal line and this long coastline is prone to sea erosion during every monsoon. Startling reports are there that the sea level is increasing as a result of global warming.

Mangroves are known to be protectors of environment and ecology. Unfortunately large extents of mangroves are being wantonly destroyed every year. Urgent necessary steps are to be taken to stem this.

As of now, seawalls are being constructed to prevent sea erosion. Opinions differ on the question of seawall construction as a permanent protection against sea erosion. It is unfortunate to note that during each monsoon our coastal areas continue to be badly hit by sea erosion.

Kerala has got 580 kms of coastal line and large stretches are open to sea erosion. The Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to allocate more funds for protection of the coast. I request that this matter should receive the urgent attention of the Government.

On the request of the Kerala Government and Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Kerala a Central team visited some of the flood affected areas in Kerala on July 21st. The Centre has sanctioned Rs. 80 crores as initial assistance to the State as Center's share SDRF against a request to the tune of over 800 crores by the State Government.

I fervently appeal to the Union Government to extend adequate amount to meet the exigencies of the flood havoc and sea erosion.

Keeping in view the vulnerability profile of Northern Kerala due to frequent landslide and flash floods the Government of India has approved to set up National Disaster Response Regional Centre in Calicut District. In the past, one team of NDRF was deployed at Calicut from 09.07.2010 to 20.11.2011 when I was Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The personnel of NDRF has rendered commendable service during those days.

It is distressing to note that in a written reply to my unstarred question on 24th July 2018, it was informed

that due to non-availability of land the Centre has been shifted to Cochin. This is a great injustice done towards the Malabar Region of Kerala which is often prone to natural disasters like landslide and floods.

The condition of the people affected by floods in Kerala is deplorably bad. When they return to their homes from the makeshift camps they will be facing a much worst situation as there is every likelihood of epidemics breaking out. Drinking water and sanitation and healthcare require urgent attention. I once again request the Union Government to take a holistic view in the matter and a special package may be extended to the State.

\*SHRI ARKA KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): I place my views on flood and drought situation due to heavy rains in different parts of the country during the last couple of weeks, in the month of June and July.

I represent Kalahandi Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Odisha. Heavy rain in the last week causes flash flood in Kalampur, Junagarh, Jaipatna, Thuamul Rampur, Lanjigarh and Madanpur Rampur Blocks of my constituency. The river Hati overflowed and cut off the connectivity to thousands of villages of six blocks. Half of the Kalahandi district remained without electricity and power supply for four days. Many bridges have been collapsed, roads submerged and washed away, the standing kharif crop in the above said six blocks have been damaged. The people, cattle, sheep, goats and other domestic animals have suffered a lot. This flash flood brought heavy damage to houses, roads, crops, buildings of my constituency. This flood has been compared as the worst one in the current decade.

I urge the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture through you to send a Central team immediately to Odisha to assess the damages caused by this flood. Sir, farmers may kindly be given special assistance for the flood affected villages. Likewise, the Rural Development Department also after taking the damage assessment of different rural development roads may kindly release funds for the repair of the damaged road of the flood affected villages. As you know, my constituency is located in the western region of the State of Odisha and

comparatively less developed than the coastal districts of the State.

Thank for allowing me to place my views on the flood and drought situation in the country.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (Avanthi) (Anakapalli): Hon.Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate under Rule 193 on 'Natural Calamities in the Country'.

*[Translation]*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude within five minutes.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (Avanthi): Sir there are so many issues.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Time is allotted as per the numbers.

*[English]*

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (Avanthi): Hon.Chairperson, Sir, regular occurrence of disasters, both natural and man-made, in coastal Andhra Pradesh in India has had a series of repercussions on the State's and country's economy, its developmental policies and political equilibrium and the daily life of millions of Indians. I just want to say that Andhra Pradesh is not only battered by every kind of natural disasters, that is, cyclones, floods, earthquakes and drought, but also by the A.P. Reorganisation Act. The coastal region suffers repeated cyclones and floods. Rivers caused havoc in the East and West Godavari and Krishna districts. Further, in 2014-15, Andhra Pradesh was hit by 'Hudhud' cyclone, which had destroyed the infrastructure, trees, telecommunication, houses and the scene was just like a war-torn area. At that time, the State had made a demand of Rs. 1000 crore to carry out relief and rehabilitation works. The hon. Prime Minister had also promised Rs.1000 crore relief for the same. But, I am sorry to say that the Central Government had given just Rs.650 crore.

Consequent upon the acceptance of the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission, a Calamity Relief Fund was constituted for each State with certain amount allocated to each State. Now, we have 15th Finance Commission. I do not know as to what the quantum of CRF is. It should be increased substantially to help the States affected by natural calamities.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

We have to develop our capabilities in Seismology to be able to forecast such natural calamities so that we can take preventive measures to avert loss of lives.

Finally, I want to say a few things about the A.P. Reorganisation Act. If a cyclone or Hudhud cyclone occurs within six months, the State would become normal. But, with the bifurcation of the State, even after four years, the State is reeling under the financial crisis. As promised by the then hon. Prime Minister, Special Category Status has not been given. The Centre gave a plea that the 14th Finance Commission has recommended Special Assistance Measure instead of SCS. Nowhere it has been mentioned that do not give SCS.

For constructing the capital city of Amravati, a lot of funds is required. But, the Centre is going back on its promises. Our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu is doing his best to construct a model capital city with whatever available resources. Even the creation of Railway Zone at Visakhapatnam is hanging in balance. The hon. Minister has given some hope in Rajya Sabha yesterday that they are going to do it very early. But, I am putting my fingers crossed. The youths of the State are eagerly waiting for the Railway Zone so that they can get employment opportunities.

Regarding Polavaram Project, 53 per cent of the work has been completed. Out of around Rs. 8660 crore, up till now Rs. 6,727 crore has been released to A.P. I request the Government to release the balance amount of Rs.1935 crore forthwith. Our hon. Chief Minister is making strenuous efforts to complete the project by 2019.

Sir, every year, Rayalaseema region is facing an extreme drought situation. But, with the efforts of our hon. Chief Minister, after the linking of rivers – Godavari and Krishna, we are able to release water to Rayalaseema region. But, to ensure continuous water supply to this region in the future, the completion of Polavaram Project is important. Not only it is important for Andhra Pradesh, but also for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, as they are fighting for Kaveri waters. If the Polavaram Project is completed, you can even release water to Tamil Nadu.

Our State is very peculiar. On the one hand, we have a series of cyclones every year. There are two to three cyclones every year. On the other side, we have Rayalaseema region which is the most drought affected

area in the country. That is why, I would request the Union Government to consider our 18-19 requests which are there under AP Re-Organisation Act. For the last four years, we are eagerly waiting. It is not the request of my Party or of the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. It is the request of the five and a half crore people of Andhra Pradesh. They are eagerly waiting for the Polavaram Project. It is a lifeline project of the nation. It is the pride of the nation. I would request the Government to complete the Polavaram Project without playing any politics.

Secondly, we had asked for Rs.40,000 crore to construct the capital city of Amravati. But they have given only Rs.1500 crore which is a very meagre amount.

We have seven backward districts in Andhra Pradesh. They have released only Rs.1050 crore but they have taken back Rs.350 crore. It is very unfortunate. Politics is not permanent. The State is permanent. The Centre is permanent. The people are permanent. The sentiments of the people are permanent. I would request the Union Government to release Rs.350 crore immediately.

Thirdly, Visakhapatnam Railway Zone has been a sentiment for three decades of North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. Every year, our students have to go to Bhubaneswar for examinations. They are facing a lot of problems. Eastern Zone is in Bhubaneswar. The other divisions are Vijayawada and Secunderabad. We have four divisions but we do not have zones.

When we ask for Special Category Status, the Union Government says that if we give Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh, Bihar will also ask for that. If we give the Railway Zone to Andhra Pradesh, Odisha will object. So, is Andhra Pradesh not a part of this country? Andhra Pradesh has contributed substantially to the development of this country. Hence I would request the Union Government to look towards Andhra Pradesh as a special case. It is the request of five and a half crore people of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY (Mahabubnagar):  
Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

Every year at the same time when we have Monsoon Session, we always have a discussion under Rule 193 where we speak about floods and drought. We

got Independence 70 years ago. We can assume the climatic changes which are happening, the amount of water which comes, rainfall which comes, etc. But even then we are still not able to train the rivers properly and give sufficient water to places where there is a severe drought.

Sir, Telangana does not have a coastal area and we are not facing a lot of floods every time. However, in 2015-16, 231 Mandals of Telangana were declared as drought affected areas. We had claimed Rs.2000 crore as damages for the crops but the Government has sanctioned only Rs.702.71 crore. But this year, we still have got time and by October we will assess where the water has come and where the drought situation is there. However, we have to use flood water for irrigation purposes. If we use it in a proper way and give it to farmers, that would be the ultimate remedy.

Before the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana was often helpless due to drought-like situations in certain areas and flooding in other areas. Therefore, after achieving statehood of Telangana, as a result of continuous struggle and people's movement, our leader KCR identified development of irrigation sectors as one of the primary components for mitigating the adverse effects of frequent drought/floods and rescue the farming sector from constant distress.

Sir, this distress has primarily been caused by inefficient usage of available water resources in the country. Only 35 to 40 per cent of water is currently being used from the total available water which is roughly about 26,000 to 27,000 TMC of water. If we see the records, we will find out that we receive a total of 70,000 TMC of water in our country. Of this 65,500 TMC of water is in the form of rivers and rainfall and around 3,000 TMC of water is from rivers originating in Nepal and Bhutan and remaining water we receive from snowfall, the snow that melts and flows from the Himalayas. The problem here is that in a country with a population of around 130 crores where agriculture is the primary activity, I want to ask as to why water is not used effectively.

Sir, from the records available we understand that there are 40 crore acres of land under cultivation. The thumb rule is that one TMC of water irrigates 10,000 acres of land. For 40 crore acres of cultivable land available in the country, 40 TMC of water will be sufficient

for irrigation. When we receive 70,000 TMC of water every year, why can we not give proper water to each and every State? Why can we not train the rivers? Why can we not have a proper irrigation system in the country? On one side of the Himalayas we have China and India is on the other side of it. In China, from the South to the North, up to 1,000 kilometres, they are taking water by laying a pipeline. But here we have fights between States for getting water. Some areas are flooded and some areas suffer from drought.

The Central Government should ensure judicious allocation of surplus water to the needy States. There should be no water wars between States, such as Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; Telangana and Andhra Pradesh; Haryana and Punjab and Odisha and Chhattisgarh. Our State also was deprived of water and rights to access water. Our part of the share was given away to Andhra Pradesh from Krishna and Godavari. Therefore, we decided to launch multiple major and minor irrigation projects of which most have been completed in the last four years. I would be talking about these projects in detail.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Your time is over. We have to conclude the discussion by 5.30 p.m.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Sir, I have taken only two minutes. Anyway, I will try and finish within a couple of minutes.

Sir, first I would like to talk about the amount of rainfall that we receive in the State of Telangana. As of 24th July, the State had received a normal rainfall of 310.01 mm with a deviation of only negative of 1 mm this monsoon. 21 districts have received normal rainfall, while four districts have received excess rainfall and six districts have received deficit rainfall. Hence the vision of our leader and the hon. Chief Minister of Telangana has to be commended. In English it is often said that 'Mend the roof when the Sun is shining and prevention is better than cure. Following this saying, the Government of Telangana has undertaken irrigation projects in massive scale in order to protect the interest of the people of the State in the event of drought or unforeseen climatic changes. Our efforts have already shown results as in the last two to three years the State has not witnessed any major floods in the region. Irrigation projects are basic requirements for preventing occurrence of floods.

Historically speaking, the region of Telangana has a rich heritage of irrigation projects, right from the time of the Kakatiya dynasty of the early 10th century until the Nizam rule. Many ponds were constructed across the region. Nizam and Quli Qutub Shah implemented similar water conservation projects. Sadly enough, during the united Governance, around 75,000 ponds were destroyed. To construct a bright future, we have to nurture our culture. Under the able leadership of KCR, the Telangana State Government has been working on implementing irrigation projects throughout the State. Through our Mission Kakatiya, we are reviving 46,000 ponds and lakes in all the villages of Telangana. The enthusiasm is so much that the farmers themselves are digging up ponds and cleaning lakes....(Interruptions)

Mission Kakatiya has now been converted into a people's movement. Since 2014, 17,860 tanks have been restored and repaired at a cost of Rs. 9000 crore approximately.

Let me put forth that before the bifurcation of the State, we had 27 lakh acres under cultivation which produced 1.2 crore tonnes of food grains and commercial crops. Due to our continuous efforts, we have brought 59 lakh acres under cultivation in Telangana producing 1.87 crore tonnes of foodgrains and commercial crops.

Sir, I will mention one last point which will be useful to you also....(Interruptions) Sir, I may be allowed to speak for some more time....(Interruptions)

Our commitment to farmers have not only been restricted to paper. The Rythu Bandhu (Kisaan ka Dost) Scheme takes farmers' welfare one step further. We are providing an input grant to our farmers of Rs. 8000 per acre per year. It will be Rs. 4000 during the kharif season and Rs. 4000 during the rabi season. This Direct Transfer Benefit will be provided to 58 lakh farmers in the State. With Rs. 12,000 crore allocated to this scheme in the Budget, The Economist magazine said that it will end inefficient subsidies.

Sir, Shri Kalikesh Singh Deo was complaining about insurance amount not being paid. [Translation] We are not accusing the Central Government. [English] We have taken a two-way approach towards the issues which farmers face in our State. While the activities mentioned earlier addresses the causes of farmers distress, we have also launched a Life Insurance Scheme for all the

farmers. The scheme provides for life cover up to 5 lakhs to all the farmers between 18 and 59 years of age. The insurance amount will be paid in a time bound manner within ten days of death. It is the State Government that will pay the premium of more than 50 lakh farmers to LIC. [Translation] It means that the premium of LIC will be paid by the Government only and every farmer will get an insurance of five lakh rupees....(Interruptions)

[English]

In conclusion, the people of the State of Telangana have shown a way forward in the irrigation sector of India and there are several aspects where we need the support of the Central Government....(Interruptions) We are here together to support our farmers all along and we understand the importance of agriculture. Without agriculture, there is no culture and without culture, there is no future....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (Araku): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to present my views on this very important discussion under Rule 193 regarding the flood and drought situation in our country.

Today, drought and flood are common features and their co-existence poses a potential threat which cannot be eradicated but has to be managed.

Floods are recurrent phenomena in India. Due to different climatic and rainfall patterns in different regions, it has been our experience that in some parts of the country, people are suffering due to devastating floods and at the same time, in some other parts of the country, people are suffering from severe drought. Extreme weather events had been long predicted to be a fallout of climate change.

The impact of flood is quite huge. It accounts to loss of lives, livelihood of the people and destruction of basic infrastructural capacities such as sanitation and transportation leading to isolation and risk of spread of diseases. There is also risk of violence against vulnerable sections especially women. These floods also cause destruction of ecology and biodiversity of an area that may take years and even decades to recuperate.

Sir, Andhra Pradesh has a long coast line and is often devastated with floods. Many of the districts are also drought hit and water management is a major issue

affecting the lives of the people, mostly belonging to vulnerable sections of society.

Talking about the drought situation in Andhra Pradesh, our economy is mainly dependent on agriculture. Out of 76.2 lakh farmers, 86.29 per cent are small and marginal farmers. Uttar Andhra and Rayalaseema areas are drought hit. In the entire country the district which receives the lowest rainfall is Anantapur. This year they have categorised 121 mandals across the State as drought mandals and 3.94 lakh acres are declared as famine struck. The State Government has requested for a Central Assistance of Rs. 679.21 crore for the drought hit mandals, but the funds have not yet been released. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the status of this request and whether the Union Government will release this money within the stipulated time frame to support the affected mandals.

It is also not out of place to raise the issue of the Polavaram Project, which is a national project. It is a dream of every citizen of Andhra Pradesh. I wish and request the Union Government to ensure that the project is completed within the stipulated time duly addressing all the related issues of resettlement and rehabilitation.

Today, this drought situation has led to an acute crisis with farmer suicides and loan build-ups. Also, the people in rural areas are migrating to the nearby towns and cities for their livelihood. Even a farmer having 20 acres of land is not able to cultivate his land and, in this context, I wish to state that as many as four lakh farmers have migrated from Rayalaseema for their livelihood to nearby areas. Even in Uttar Andhra, the situation is no different. On the one side, there is severe drought and on the other side, there is fluoride issue, which is endangering the lives of millions of people. Drinking water is yet another major problem which is causing a threat to many lives. Many people are losing their lives due to consumption of contaminated water. Then, people are not able to make use of the Government schemes and they are migrating from their native places.

Drought mitigation involves a comprehensive plan that not only covers water availability, but its judicious use and reuse along with an overhaul of agricultural systems. I wish to state that adoption of micro irrigation techniques by farmers is the need of the day. However, such systems will need to be subsidised to be made

competitive for the majority of farmers who are small and marginal farmers. Stringent application of water harvesting measures not only at the individual level, but at the community and village level too are required to be implemented. Watershed programme should be taken up on a war footing. Thirdly, waste water recycling facilities in urban and industrial centres should be allowed for non-drinking uses. Agricultural practices should focus on 'more crop per drop'. The Government should support this through Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Soil Health Card scheme and this scheme should be extended to all the Gram Panchayats across the country. In addition to this, agro-climatic condition should be made the basis for crop selection and it should be promoted. This can also be done by adjusting MSP by the Government.

Sir, I would like to conclude by saying that today the country faces the twin challenges of floods and droughts that recur every year. Even when our country is poised to turn into a major power in the world, it has yet to shed its most basic problems. If we are not able to provide drinking water for the citizens of this country, we are not entitled to talk about big things because we are not able to address minor issues being faced by the people. This not only requires a policy based top-down approach, but a local government-based push. There is an urgent need to intensify efforts to support economic and social development of drought-prone areas. We need a multi-tiered strategy, combining economy-wide and sectoral policies with well targeted efforts at the micro level. Drought is a complex and a challenging natural phenomenon.

Hence, I request the Union Government, through you, Sir, to support the drought-prone areas in the country, support the State of Andhra Pradesh and thereby render justice to the citizens living in this country. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI (Munger): Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, thanks for giving me an opportunity to speak. The condition of Bihar is such that there is no rain till date. The intensity of drought is such that cracks have developed in the land. Paddy farmers are the worst hit. The soil has become so hard that you can't even remove it with your hands. Farmers are crying for help. Several times, we have written letters to the Hon'ble Minister and

the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Farmers are taking loans for agriculture at present. Since there is no rain, we would like you to pay attention towards this.

Sir, through you I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister to pay attention to the distressed farmers who are repeatedly asking for help. Our Minister is also from Bihar and we 40 members of parliament are also from Bihar. We all are concerned about this. We all the MPs met Hon'ble Shri Nitin Gadkariji also. Our Minister from Bihar Shri Ram Kripal Yadav ji also accompanied us. We have met the Hon'ble Prime Minister also. We have discussed it several times that Bihar should be declared drought hit.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, 11 crore population of the entire Bihar is affected with this. There are seven districts in our Taal region. Taal region is also known as 'the bowl of pulses'. All the seven districts of the region have become drought affected. Our hon'ble Minister is also from Bihar, so he should pay attention to this. The poor farmers who are farming by taking loans and by selling their lands are in distress. What will happen to them now? Our Government will have to decide at the earliest in this regard and will have to declare the Bihar as drought affected area. Thank You.

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (Ahmedabad): Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on the recent condition of flood and drought in various parts of the country including Gujarat, under Rule 193.

Sir, India is an agrarian country and its soul lies in the villages. But, the condition of farmers and agriculture is not good. Economy of India largely depends on agriculture. Farmers depend on the God for agriculture. The quantum of rainfall in the ensuing monsoon this year is important. If it rains heavily h suffers and if there is a drought he again id in trouble. This is our condition as of now.

Sir, it has rained heavily in some of the states causing flood there. Due to this maximum damage has been occurred to the crops, farms, the farmer and the poor man whose house has been submerged in water. I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak in this discussion.

Sir, I sincerely thank our Government running under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi ji and the Hon'ble

Minister of Agriculture. With the commencement of House on 18, our Government declared in this House the largest Panchayat of the country that it will make every possible effort to resolve this problem. Our several colleagues just now said that some regions are not getting proper justice. I would like to tell you that under the set up of cooperative federalism, if any Government has imparted the maximum justices it is our Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji. We don't discriminate among the states. Just now a colleague of ours was saying that Gujarat and Maharashtra get more benefit but I would like to tell them that it is not so.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, whether it is Saurashtra or the area of South Gujarat, due to heavy rainfall many people are facing difficulties. But I want to congratulate the Government of Gujarat, since the work that Gujarat Government should do in this regard has been started immediately. In 11 districts of Gujarat, 789 villages have been damaged. Around one lakh hectares of land, especially agriculture land and crops have got damaged. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister immediately went there and took stock of the situation. The meeting was held with the authorities. Twenty NDRF teams have been sent there and efforts have been made to send cash van there. Where water was not available, water was provided through the tankers. Efforts have been made to provide health facilities there. For this, I want to congratulate the Gujarat government.

Today, everyone present here was talking about one point i.e. climate change. This situation has been created due to climate change, so we should also try to come forward and find solutions to overcome it. I want to give you an example of the Gujarat government. I want to share an experience, through you, with all the members and the people of the whole country. Before the rainy season, the Gujarat government launched Sujalam Sufalam Jal Sanchay Abhiyan. Under this campaign, the Gujarat government carried out the work of deepening of 13 thousand ponds. The Gujarat government made various arrangements for storage of 11 thousand cubic feet of water. Also, 5,500 km long canal network in Gujarat has been cleaned.

I am from Ahmedabad. There is about 25-26 km long Kharicut Canal in Ahmedabad. It was full of filth and dirt. Thousand tonnes of garbage was removed from

there in order to clean it. The work of reviving about 32 rivers has been done, All of these work were done before the rainy season. When it rain in Gujarat, task of increasing the water level of the earth will be carried out. I want to share the work of the Gujarat government so that all the people can know how a state can function, how a state can work with the preventive perception. I am saying this thing to make it known.

I read a technical/scientific report. I also saw the video. Our hon'ble minister is present in the House. I want to say that I read a report which says that at a place where cloud bursts, it leads to heavy rain and at other place drought takes place. In such scenario, there is a technology through which these clouds can be taken thousands of kilometers away to the drought affected area to have rain there. I have also seen the video. It rained in Dubai with its help. Heavy rain occurred there. I have seen it in the video. I want to say to the Hon'ble minister that if such scientific technology is available, I urge the minister to have such technology which can be used to fetch clouds to the areas of scanty rains from the areas of plenty of clouds.

I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

\*PROF. SUGATA BOSE (Jadavpur): The rivers of India have nurtured great cultures and polities for several millennia. I come from the delta of the Ganga in Bengal. My paternal grandfather grew up along the banks of the Mahanadi in Odisha. Here in Delhi I live in a building that has been named Kaveri flanked by two others called Narmada and Brahmaputra. As I survey the sad state today of my country shamed by shocking incidents of human bestiality, I am reminded daily of the famous lines of our poet Kazi Nazrul Islam; "Ganga, Sindhu, Narmada, Kaberi, Jamuna oi, bahia cholechhe ager mato koi se ager manush koi". The rivers flow on as before. Where are human beings or the humanity of yesteryears?

The rivers of India are generally life-giving, not life-taking. Nature is essentially bountiful even though it can have a ferocious aspect. Every monsoon session we have a discussion in Parliament about the flood situation in our country. There is no doubt that floods wreak havoc

every year in some regions causing enormous human distress. My heart goes out this year to the suffering people of Kerala and Karnataka in the south, Maharashtra and Gujarat in the west, Jammu and Kashmir in north, and Odisha, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, and Bengal in the east where rising waters have swept away precious lives. In the east and north-east floods have occurred despite having received less total rainfall than normal. Bihar is facing a drought overall and yet there has been flooding in some areas. Many flood victims have lost their homes and are still living in relief camps. In Kerala more than one lakh people are sheltering in camps and are in desperate need of central aid. In my own state of Bengal reports suggest that 19 districts have been affected between 1st June and 16th July, 72 lives have been lost, 6,910 homes have been damaged and 47,679 hectares of agricultural land have suffered damage.

If we are to do anything about the floods or their obverse drought, our first task is to recognize these not as problems of nature but as problems of political economy. We must humbly acknowledge that ill-considered human interference often triggers and certainly aggravates natural calamities. Our agriculture in most riverine tracts relies not just on the rains but also the flooding action of the rivers. We must think of intelligent flood control in our rural areas rather than foolish flood prevention. It would be counter-productive to build embankments in any futile attempt to send our rivers hurtling towards the seas without their beneficial contribution to the enrichment of our soil.

As I mentioned at the outset, I come from the delta of the Ganga. James Rennell, a renowned late eighteenth-century imperial cartographer, found the Ganga and Brahmaputra (or the "Ganges" and "Burramooter" as he called them) intersecting "the country of Bengla" in such a way as to form "the most complete and easy inland navigation that can be conceived". In most parts of the country a navigable stream could be found within a maximum range of twenty-five miles. Rennell regarded the Ganga and the Brahmaputra as "twin sisters, from the contiguity of their springs" in the Himalayas, one moving west and the other east. They resembled each other not just in length and volume but also "the smoothness and colors of their waters", "the appearance of their borders and island",

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



and the height to which their floods rise with the periodic rains". The Ganga traversed mountainous paths for 750 miles to Hardwar where gushing "through an opening in the mountains" it flowed with "a smooth navigable stream through delightful plains" to the sea some 1,350 miles away. From a military perspective, Rennell thought it "infinitely surpassed the celebrated inland navigation of North America". In its journey through the plains it received eleven rivers, some of which were "equal to the Rhine and none smaller than the Thames". The delta bordering on the sea was "a labyrinth of rivers and creeks", the Sunderbans. It was "enveloped in woods and infested with Tygers".

The river and the sea were bound in an intimate relationship. The water of the Ganga taken at its height contained a quarter portion of mud. "No wonder then," Rennell commented, "that the subsiding waters should quickly form a stratum of earth; or that the Delta should encroach upon the sea." The ocean in its turn exercised its dominion in the winter and the monsoon in two every different ways: "in the one by the ebbing and flowing of tides; and in the other by depressing the periodic flood, till the surface of it coincides as nearly with its own, as the descent of the channel of the river will admit".

The Ganga was well known to European travellers for centuries. However, the Brahmaputra was unknown in Europe as late as 1765, the year the East India Company obtained the *diwani* or the right to collect the revenue of Bengal. The twin sisters, separated at birth in westerly and easterly directions, startlingly subverted the saying that the twain shall never meet. Some 200 miles from Yunnan, the Brahmaputra hesitated. "Here it appears," Rennell wrote in 1780, "as if undetermined whether to attempt a passage to the sea by the Gulf of Siam, or by that of Bengal; but seemingly determining on the latter, it turns suddenly to the west through Assam, and enters Bengal on the north-east." Throughout its course of 400 miles through Bengal, the Brahmaputra bore an intimate resemblance to the Ganga, "except in one particular". The exception was this: for the last sixty miles before it met the Ganga, "forms a stream which is regularly from four to five miles wide, and but for its freshness might pass for an arm of the sea".

Contrary to the claims of Braudel and the Annales school of historians, geographic structures are not

constants. The transience of the physical environment is nowhere more evident than in the deltas of great rivers. "Next to earthquakes," Rennell correctly noted, "perhaps the floods of the tropical rivers produce the quickest alterations in the face of our globe." What Rennell's 1780 snapshot could not capture was the steady swing of the active delta towards the east over three centuries. The Bhagirathi in the west had given way to the Padma in the east as the main channel of the Ganga as it wove its way towards the sea. Nor could Rennell anticipate catalytic events that would change the identity of rivers. The great flood of 1787 resulted in the Tista, formerly a tributary of the Ganga, to link up with the Brahmaputra, which shifted westward to meet the Ganga near Goalundo in Dhaka district via the Jamuna. The waters of the twin sisters merged to flow into the Meghna near Chandpur in Tippera district. East Bengal's agrarian identity would henceforth be inextricably linked to the strains of the boatmen's music that wafted across the Padma and Meghna.

If that is the history of our rivers, what is the situation at present and what are the prospects for the future? In the post-independence period, data for the 64 years from 1953 to 2017 show a death toll of 107, 487 people from heavy rains and floods and in estimated damage to crops, homes and public infrastructure to the tune of Rs. 365,860 crore or nearly 3% of India's current GDP. India today accounts for 20% of global deaths caused by floods.

The adverse effects of climate change pose severe challenges for the future. Global warming caused by irresponsible human behavior - despite equally irresponsible denial of the science of climate change by Donald Trump and his likes - will accentuate volatility in weather patterns for decades to come. Rising temperature will result in an increased frequency of torrential downpours and greater risks of floods in the South Asian region as a whole. The rapid pace of urbanization in recent decades has meant that our cities are not equipped with adequate drainage capacities to cope with high intensity rain fall within short durations. We have witnessed what has happened in Mumbai in recent weeks. All the major cities of South Asia -- Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Dhaka and Karachi - will have to grapple with the threat of flooding in the foreseeable future. A World Bank study released at the end of last

month raises the alarming prospect of climate change lowering the living standards of nearly half of India's population by 2050.

Our first task is to accept the science of climate change and join global efforts to arrest global warming. Since the deleterious effects of climate change cannot be reversed in the immediate future, we must mitigate its bad consequences through better flood forecasting in rural areas, careful ground and surface water management, energetic and rapid relief efforts, and smarter urban design and planning. It is time for human ingenuity and mutual empathy to come into play to push back the rising tide of disaster brought on by human folly and greed. If we recognize that there is nothing purely natural about natural calamities, we would have taken the first step towards victory over the ruinous dual effects of floods and droughts.

\*SHRI PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar): What is the reason and cause of Flood, ever happened to my State of Odisha. It is not the flood of by nature, this is the flood of human nature and it is error of the Government of India manmade disaster. The upper part of river Mahanadi, named on the 2nd Maa Ganga of India & the both sides of the river with full of paddy, flower and fruits. The human habitants are in stake. Traditionally, Mahanadi grails for the trading from Odisha to far beyond. Presently the upper part of Mahanadi has been blocked by Government of Chhattisgarh with unlawful constructions. It is estimated that more than 8 big barrages constructed without prior permission from Government of India or the nodal agencies. They have sold the entire water to industrial houses with upholding nexus. The interest of Odisha has been completely lost. By that, they are damaging the livelihood of fisherman, marginal farmers and labourers of Mahanadi Basin in the state. We are facing drought in the non monsoon and high flood in the rainy season. The natural system of the river has been completely dead during non monsoon season. It is like killing of river and lifeline of Odisha.

I urge that the Government of Chhattisgarh should demolish unlawful construction over Mahanadi as per order of National Green Tribunal on dated 26th July 2017

and allow Mahanadi River to flow. For the first time the Smart City of the world has seen high flood due to 3 days of continuous rain. This happened only due to wrong planning and construction of NHAI within the city. The drainage system overpowered cause the flood and damaged the car festival of ISKON. The Lord Jagannath devotees have been debarred from car festival in Bhubaneswar, the temple city of World. You people are propagating the Hindutwa and at the same time you are ignoring the greatest festival of Rathayatra at Bhubaneswar. So the problem of drainage system should be permanently solved, so that this misery could not happen again in my Parliamentary Constituency.

Water logged in Bhubaneswar Parliamentary Constituency affected area with Blocks.

1. Balipatana Block] ----- Jayadev A/c
2. Baliana Block]
3. Bhubaneswar Block -- Ekamra & Bhubaneswar
4. Jatni Block -- Jatni A/c
5. Khordha Block] ----- Khordha A/c
6. Tangi Block]
7. Begunia Block ---- Begunia A/c
8. Bolagarh Block

Solution for Water logging in Bhubaneswar

- (i) Renovation of River Gangua, Bhubaneswar for discharge of water.
- (ii) 10 drainages of Bhubaneswar to be revived.
- (iii) River Daya, Bharjovi, Kushabhadva and Kyakhai to be renovated for solution of water logging in Bhubaneswar.
- (iv) Renovation of Dhanua & Prachi for discharge of water from Rivers.

\*SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (Balasore): Nearly 700 million of India's over 1 billion population are said to

\* Speech was laid on the Table.

\* Speech was laid on the Table.

be living in rural areas directly depending on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and fisheries for their subsistence and livelihoods, as well as in areas at high-risk of disaster, including coasts, mangroves and grasslands.

In the domain of agriculture and its sustainability, the Economic Survey dwelled on Climate change as a factor which could lead to fall of farm incomes by up to 25% in un-irrigated areas in the medium term. It also noted that farm revenues have stagnated in the past four years due to repeated monsoon failures and irregularity of monsoon. 2/3rd of country's arable land is dry land or rain-fed agriculture. With this daunting dependence on rain, which is increasingly becoming unpredictable due to climate change, no special focus on irrigation or special allocation for disaster management funds was seen in the budget.

About two-thirds in India's population depends on agriculture and allied activities, hence drought events are likely to threaten the overall economy of the country. The agriculture in India is primarily dependent on Southwest monsoon rainfall (i.e. on average 80% of annual rainfall occurs between June and September). Due to the temporal and spatial uncertainties of monsoon rainfall, Indian agriculture is at risk. According to National Rainfed Area Authority of India, about 60% of the total cultivated area in India still relies on natural rainfall (rainfed agriculture) and hence changes to rainfall patterns are a significant threat to India's agrarian economy. The direct impact of drought on Indian agriculture is decrease in crop (food grains, cereals, oilseeds etc.) vegetable and fruit production. This creates drastic reductions in farmer's income.

The country has already lost 1,567 lives, 8874 cattle and 96,207 houses to natural disasters. We have also lost 0.87 lakh hectares of crop area of the country. Apart from the flood disaster impact, weather variation has significantly reduced crop yields in India due to absence of long-run and significantly increases non-agricultural labour supply and agricultural wages in India.

People affected by disasters don't just lose their homes and livelihood, but also their right to live with dignity and security. Communities face severe economic losses, such as cultural heritage and community, further aggravate the mental trauma. Climate-sensitive sectors,

such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry, have been hit the hardest.

Densely populated coastal areas are considered to be particularly vulnerable and my state Odisha, located on India's eastern coast on the Bay of Bengal, has a coastline of 480 km. Hence, this matter of floods raised by my fellow MP during rule 193 discussions is of immense importance to my state Odisha. For more than a decade now, Odisha has experienced contrasting extreme weather conditions from heat waves to cyclones, from droughts to floods, all of which have claimed many lives as well as left lasting impact on the state's economy.

This year's monsoon has claimed at least 12 lives in Odisha in rain-related incidents as the state received heavy rainfall due to depression in the Bay of Bengal and more than four lakh people across 62 blocks in 14 districts have been affected. The state Government has issued flood alert situation in 6 districts after the meteorological department forecasted heavy rainfall. Jaleswar and Gobindpur areas in my constituency recorded about 9 cm rainfall each during the period. The Hirakud Dam has a storage capacity of 630 feet and the water level has already touched 616.4 feet and the season's first flood water was released to the Mahanadi, worsened the flood situation. The Bhubaneswar-Jagdalpur Hirakhand Express got stuck on 21st July after rail tracks were submerged near a station in Odisha's Rayagada district, following heavy rains there.

Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF), Fire Services, and India's National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed for relief and rescue operation. However, the Union Government continues to neglect Odisha and its reasonable demands especially in times of disasters. Data reveals a neglecting trend not only in this NDA but UPA also. Though the state sought central assistance of Rs. 26,207.70 crore between 2000 and 2014, Odisha received only Rs. 2442.02 crore.

This recent floods and lightning raises a bigger issue which needs immediate attention and more importantly action. The issue of lightning deaths which kills many each year in my constituency Balasore, Odisha needs to be discussed in this House and addressed by the Central Government.

Last year when the worst lightning struck Odisha, 47 people had died on a single day. This year too, we have seen 11 unfortunate deaths due to this calamity, inviting no response from the centre. I have also written several times to the Minister in charge. Yet, no great progress is visible on any of the fronts till date.

On an average, at least 2000 deaths take place per year in our country due to lightning which accounts for over 25% of the accidental deaths caused by nature. The worst affected are the eastern states, which includes our state of Odisha. Over 1600 people have lost their lives to lightning strikes in Odisha in the last five years alone.

In spite of this increasing fatality rate, lightning in India is not categorized as a natural calamity by the Centre, thereby depriving those who lose their lives of any compensation. Additionally, India has not seen any pioneering research in field of lightning prediction, which could potentially save hundreds of lives.

Several developed and developing nations across the globe have progressed by considerable extent in drastically reducing loss of lives due to lightning. The US developed a lightning protection standard to make buildings and structured lighting proof. This standard even covers many specially constructions from hazardous materials storage to boats and ships to open picnic structures. Lightning detection sensors is another technology we can explore as it registers high-frequency electromagnetic signals from lightning discharges. There is no dearth of emerging technologies on lightning protection and prediction which can be applied in India.

Awareness about lightning safety is another area where we are sorely lacking. In India, we see farmers choosing to take shelter under trees when lightning strikes, an act which is world over considered an unsafe thing to do. Small steps like including lightning safety in school syllabuses can go long way in reducing avoidable fatalities due to misinformation. My constituency and state desperately needs the Centre to acknowledge this calamity with the seriousness it deserves.

At this juncture, I would like to bring the attention of the Government towards installation of Doppler radars in Balasore and Sambalpur. In 2006, at the instance of Government of Odisha, the Government in India decided to install 4 Doppler Weather Radar stations at 3 of these locations out of its own funds, and the one at Paradeep

has been built by CPWD. In spite of there being no typical hurdles, Doppler weather radars have not been procured by the Government for the radar station at Balasore and Samalpur. The Government had given no timeline for operationalising these weather radar stations either.

Weather radar system would not only aid us getting timely information about the weather, but actually save lives and prevent damage to property. I urge the Government to look into this matter and set an accelerated timeline for operation of the Doppler weather system at Balasore, for crucial and time sensitive information regarding natural disasters to be made available and save countless lives in the process.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (Shimla): Presently, rain has ravaged the country in some places. However, there is still a situation of drought in other places despite being rainy season. Today most of the states including Kerala, Odisha, Karnataka, Bihar and Maharashtra are troubled due to the flood. Life has become stagnant. Although the State government have been trying to resolve this, many lives have been lost due to this natural calamity. Even in the hilly states, the situation is not well. Due to drought, this time in Himachal Pradesh, there is considerable damage. There farmers could not work in their fields in time. Fruit growers, especially apple growers have suffered a lot due to low rainfall because apple crop has a direct impact on the state's economy. This time, low yielding of apples is being pegged. Similarly, in the last 10-12 days, due to excessive rainfall in some districts, entire mountains of the hilly areas are being eroded due to which the movement on the roads has been blocked and valuable lives have also been lost in many places.

Every year, due to cloud bursts the hill states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Kashmir and North-East have suffered more due to landslide incidents. I request the government to chalk out a concrete policy for tackling the situation of drought and flood and at the same time similar arrangements should be made for hilly areas in such a manner that the loss due to excessive rainfall is reduced.

To deal with the situation of drought, rivers can be linked together for which connecting of rivers should

start. We must take a firm decision on the proper water policy for our country. It is fine that we have limited resources, but we have to start from somewhere. If we strengthen the small projects, floods can be stopped and the stored water can be used in the fields of farmers in a state of drought. The Government has recently introduced the Prime Minister Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. It is a welcome step. We must pay more attention towards this scheme in the interest of farmers.

In the last few days, Himachal Pradesh has suffered severe drought during summer months. Out of the total 9590 drinking water and irrigation projects, 1459 have been closed due to which 5048 villages have suffered losses. Due to this, approximately 716390 people got affected. In the same way, nowadays more rain has affected 536 schemes of drinking water and irrigation. Thus, in a way the entire State got badly affected due to rain.

I would like to request the government that unlike other states there should be a provision of special package for the hill states affected by such natural calamities and the amount of compensation given to the affected people may be increased.

[English]

\*SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (Dakshina Kannada): I am thankful for giving me the opportunity to put my view on the discussion on flood and drought situation in the country under rule 193.

During this monsoon, particularly since 5th July 2018 Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka was confronted with unexpected torrential rains which caused mass devastating in the area. The average rainfall in this Monsoon in my Dakshina Kannada district is 138%. The heavy rains, continued till weeklong in many parts of the State. The long rainfall caused much havoc on the roads and streets, including heavy inundation and tree falls. Low-lying areas and roads in many areas have been flooded thus disrupting commutation and transportation. Many residential areas were inundated with almost knee level water on the streets. The situation left most of the residents stranded in their homes.

In Mangaluru, boats had to be used to ferry stranded people and school as many areas were almost

submerged. Schools were closed and the academic progress of students is affected badly. A total of Nine (09) people killed in the flood. Around 882 Pukka houses were collapsed and condition of the large number of houses deteriorated during this monsoon.

I would like to mention that our leader Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji prayed for the safety and well being of all those affected by heavy rains in various parts of Karnataka. He assured all possible assistance in the affected areas. Union Government has taken all possible steps to help affected people. I want to thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Union Government for this.

According an official estimation of the losses incurred in the district is about Rs. 3000 crores. Loss of human lives, standing crops, live stocks etc are really a matter of great concern.

I urge the Union Government to take immediate measures to release compensation to rescue the affected families from the huge loss.

\*SHRI RAMESHWAR TELI (Dibrugarh): I am thankful for giving me an opportunity to put my views on flood problem. Assam has been suffering from the problems of flood for the past several decades. Lakhs of people are seriously affected by flood and erosion every year. The mighty river Brahmaputra and its tributaries create havoc. Apart from the houses and business establishments a number of roads, embankments and other infrastructures are severely damaged and crops and cattle worth several crores are destroyed in flood. Recurring floods over the years have damaged our agrarian economy putting a stumbling block in the development of our state. Annihilation of thousands of villages and cultivable land have brought untold miseries to our people. Erosion and flood have seriously affected the world famous river island Majuli.

I, therefore, would like to request the Central Government to take appropriate measures to address the problem of flood and erosion in Assam. Only the effort of the Central Government would provide much needed succour to this flood ravaged state.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Anandpur Sahib): Sir, today flood is being discussed under Rule 193. I think every year there is rain in the monsoon. We go away by telling our stories and the result remains the same. It is true that there is flood at one place and drought at other place. Many members laced their view point in this regard. Our sisters and women member from Bihar was talking about drought. I recall a story. In our Punjab, there is a story that someone had two daughters. One was married to the son of a farmer, she had sown corn. The second was married to the son of a potter, she had made pottery. A wrestler like person asked, 'How are you Baba?' He said that today one of the daughter is going to suffer. Somewhere in the country there is flood, whereas at other place there is drought. I would request the Honorable Minister that this serious topic should be discussed because it is directly related to agriculture. Natural calamity either affects the agriculture or water management crisis. It should be discussed specifically. The biggest concern is that water is getting reduced in our reservoirs.

The water level is going down in the Bhakra Dam and Pong Dam. The water level of our earth is going down. Sixty percent of rain water is getting wasted, the glaciers are melting. It's a matter of concern for everyone. Discuss this seriously, and think about the solution. Today, we are discussing about the difficulties which we are facing. I request the Honorable Minister that the amount of compensation of Rs. 3500 per acre is very less, whereas, during the sowing seasons then thousand rupees per acre is spent. So, at least ten thousand rupees per acre should be given as compensation. The fifteen hundred rupees were increased by the Government of the Badal Saheb but it is very low. There are such norms, which are not easy to fulfill. They seek report in fifteen days. When floods have occurred, reports are not provided. They say that the report did not come on time and they do not get help. Norms should also be revised. The states situated below the Hill States, should be given special packages. My Constituency Anandpur Sahib and Punjab is situated below the hill state. Himachal Pradesh channelised the Swan river and the work was till the outskirts of Punjab. Then, the government changed. It was channelized when Dhumal Sahab's Government was there. Later on,

Virbhadra Singh's government came and they stopped it. The water released from Himachal Pradesh comes down in to Punjab and caused floods. There is a lot of damage due to this. There are many such Inter-State Issues. There is Ghaghar river in the Sangrur District in Punjab. There, the first phase was channelised at a cost of Rs. 137 crores but when the second phase was about to be started, CWC stopped it. Punjab did not get water supply because it was not allowed to be channelized in Haryana. There are issues of inter-state disputes such as channelisation of Swan river or the Ghagghar river. I want to tell about the solution in this regard. . Check dam is very important. Hon'ble Railway Minister told that for Metro Goods Train one lakh ten thousand crore rupees can be taken from Japan at 0.1% interest rate. When you can get so much money without much interest, then take it for the check dam. This can only end the difficulties of our country. Raavi rivers water is going to Pakistan. There is a dispute between Punjab and Haryana regarding water sharing and our water is going to Pakistan. There is no way for decentering the check dams or dams. It is being stopped by mining and forest people. Therefore, mining and forest should be included in the agriculture. At least, Water Resources Ministry should be kept free in this regard. Mining people should not stop decentring.

I want to congratulate the Honorable Prime Minister for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. Earlier one block was considered an entity, now they have made the village a unit. It's fine, but a village cannot be made an entity. You also hail from the village. Crop damage occurs in one portion of the village and there is no loss in the other part. But they say that the percentage of the whole villages is to be taken. A farmer should be made a unit in the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, otherwise it will not be of any use. We have seen the record till today; you know about Maharashtra also. In Punjab, this scheme was not implemented but we have seen this in Haryana also. Companies are making money. A corporation should be formed for the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. The profit made by the Corporation and the profit earned by the revised scheme which they are going to introduce can be used to cover MSP gap and actual price gap. It can be used for construction of rural roads. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana needs to be implemented effectively so that farmers could be

protected from natural disaster. Today, the Government must give priority to handling and solving the water crisis.

SHRI MADHUKARRAO YASHWANTRAO KUKADE (Bhandara-Gondiya): Sir, I stand to participate in the discussion under Rule 193. The Gosikhurd project also known as Indira Sagar Project in Bhandara Gondia district was started in 1986. I have won the election from there. The midterm elections took place on 28th May. Our misfortune is that people of 22 villages here boycotted the election. People for the first time boycotted the government because of non completion of the project. They did not get the facility, the farmers did not get the package of irrigation in those villages and the plots were not allocated. The facilities which the people of 22 villages wanted were not given by the government due to which for the first time after independence they have boycotted the election. This is regrettable.

Sir, 70 years have passed since Independence, but the people here never boycotted the election. Gosikhurd scheme which is named after Indira Gandhi, was started in 1986, but it has not yet been completed. This is causing loss to the farming, but the government is not paying attention to it. I request the government to complete this scheme as soon as possible. We are getting old, but the government is not paying attention towards this. This time, people of this place, the farmers have boycotted the election. The crop is destroyed and the farmers do not have any farming worth the name here. These people have no means of employment. For the people and particularly for the youth of these 22 villages, the government should create job opportunities so that they do not boycott the elections in the future.

Sir, this year due to the Bawanthadi project, people of 12 villages had boycotted the election. They also want water for farming. Due to lack of water in the Bawanthadi tribal populated area, the crops are drying. This is the reason why people boycotted the election there. If this is happening after independence, then it is not in the country's interest. Their only demand is that under the Bawanthadi project, water should be released through canal from Chandpur district. This will save electricity and farmers will get water in these villages. The government has not paid attention to this, so my request is that the Government should work in the interests of the farmers of these 12 villages.

**16.52 hrs**

(HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

The water of the river Wainganga is pure here. But due to the discharge of polluted water from Nagpur in this river is gets polluted and people here do not get drinking water. Many diseased are spreading here. Due to discharge of dirty water of Nagpur district in the river Wainganga Bhandara district headquarters and 32 villages are not getting safe drinking water. This water cannot be drunk even by the animals. There is no scarcity of water, but this water is not suitable for drinking. Moreover water borne diseases like ulcer, appendix, jaundice etc are spreading. If this water could be treated and the people of Bhandara can get drinking water. The government is not paying attention to this side. If even after 70 years of independence, one can't get pure water to drink then it is a sign of slavery in the country.

The sand is excavated from the river Wainganga throughout the night but no officer stops it. The sand is excavated from the Bawanthadi in Bhandara district due to which the water level of Borewell has gone down and the farmers are facing problems in getting water. Tiroda and some other talukas are being affected in Bhandara district. It is drought here. Despite having abundant water there is shortage of water in Bhandara district due to paucity of planning on the part of the government. The union government should pay attention to this.

Due to the Forest Department rules, many projects in Bhandara district are halted and they cannot complete it. If this area is jungle dominated, then this is not the fault of the people of Bhandara-Gondia district. 13 ponds were constructed under the project, but the canal was not constructed. These ponds were completed in 1984. Due to non construction of the canal in consonance with the rules of the forest department, farmers have not been getting water.

The government should give attention to the matter that paddy is cultivated in all over Bhandara-Gondia district and water is necessary for the cultivation of paddy. It will seriously affect the farmers if there isn't any system for irrigation or the construction of dam do not take place. The government should construct a barrage near the Venganga river, Roha and Mundari village by which water will be available for the people living in

Tumsar Taluk, Moadi Taluk and Balaghat district Wainganga river is the life-line for Balaghat district and Bhandara district. The farmers of both the districts benefit from this river and because of that Government should take step to complete all the projects associated with Bhandara-Gondia district.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, the tribal people like the people in Rongha village do not have the facility of irrigation. The land of tribal people has been acquired at low price is that the farmers of this region are against the government and no development is being undertaken in that region. When the Bavatadi Scheme was being formulated, it was demanded that employment will be given to those people and the government will work for their upliftment but the government is not doing anything. So, the people are dissatisfied and the representatives have stopped going there what was the demand of those village people who have boycotted? They just demanded compensation which was promised by the government. Promise was made to give 80 thousand rupees to each family which has been provided till now. Land should be given to each family to build houses. Family means husband, wife and children. Separate land should be given for those children who are married. Those people got low price for their land. The price was very low before 2014 and the price has increased after 2014. Through you, it is my request to the government to provide appropriate price for those lands. Today, one acre land cannot be bought with two lakh rupees. Today, the farmers have become landless. If the condition goes on like this Bhandara-Gondia district which is a naxalite region. More naxalites will take path of naxalism and it will hinder the development of this region.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are many schemes in our area and we are facing grave difficulties in the absence of planning. I request you to give more attention to planning and undertake planning as local level. The Central Government may take necessary step to provide financial aid to Bhandara district.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Saran): Sir, it is his maiden speech.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Maiden speech means how long will he speak? Is one hour all right?

[Translation]

SHR MADHUKARRAO YASHWANTRAO KUKADE: Through you, I want to inform the Central Government that work has been started in Dhampevada-I but due to the lack of financial aid and financial crisis, we have not been able to start the Dhampevada project. If the Dhampevada project is started, all the farmers belonging to Bhandara-Gondia district will get water and the farmers of that region will not commit suicide. The main reason for the suicide in our region is not getting the right price for crops and scarcity of water. I request the government to give financial and TAPPA-II Scheme and Dhampevada Scheme and step may be taken to complete the Gudri Scheme which is going on from the year 1984.

While expressing my thanks for giving me an opportunity to speak, I conclude my speech.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has finished his maiden speech now.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: We all have to appreciate the maiden speech.

\*SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM (Jamnagar): I am thankful for giving me this opportunity to put my views.

Natural disasters have always been a fact of life in human history. Floods droughts, earthquakes and cyclones are features that cannot always be predicted. From the Hurricane to Tsunami to Bhuj earthquake nature has always made us feel powerless and also reflected on us the impacts of global warming and climate change.

Today we have all acknowledged here in the Parliament, the terrible toll of these natural disasters and expressed our condolences to the families and friends who have lost their loved ones in the recent catastrophe faced by many Indian States. With this, I would like to bring the attention of the House to the situation in my State Gujarat and reflect on the preparedness/ assistance provided by the Central and the State Government. Heavy rains and floodwaters have wrecked

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



havoc in many parts of Gujarat, resulting in deaths, injuries and evacuation.

Even though the State Chief Minister has personally had meetings with the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) and took stock of the flood-situation, over 34,000 people have been shifted to safe locations by the State administration. I request the Government to intervene and provide more help on terms of heavy deployment Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Indian Army. There are still people who are stranded in different parts of Saurashtra. The heavy downpour has till now cost 28 lives of the people in the State of Gujarat. As on July 17 morning data, overall rainfall for the State was recorded at 338.49mm, which is about 41 per cent of the season's normal rainfall of 831mm.

Major roads including national highways were closed and damaged due to heavy rains and electricity supply to most villages was cut off. Traffic on State and national highways remains affected. Train services have also been severely disrupted. Further, railway track was washed away in my constituency in Jamnagar in the incessant rain which prompted in arrangement of buses to commute travelers from Khambaliya to Jamnagar. However, this was also not an easy task as connectivity to more than 30 villages was lost following water logging on roads with more than 100 state highways blocked due to flooding. Normal life is thrown out of gear with schools and colleges remaining closed. Heavy incessant rain over the past few days in most parts of Saurashtra has resulted into a calamity as swelling of rivers and water logging in fields has caused massive damage to property and cattle in the rural areas.

A recent report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) confirmed what millions of Indians-and many more in South Asian countries- have been experiencing the region has the highest exposure to floods. A whopping 130 million people in coastal zones of Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan are at risk of being displaced by the end of the century and we all know how Gujarat and Mumbai were crippled by floods in 2005, the cities got back to its feet, however, this is repeated almost every year. This year also cities and States suffered heavy rains and tremendous flooding that killed people but the administration/Government needs to do more in addressing such glaring issues.

Under these circumstances, I request the Government to keep monitoring the situation in Saurashtra closely and also provide all possible help to the State Government to cope up with the heavy rains and flood. There is also need to push the distribution of food and medicines to the affected areas. The state authorities have deployed around a dozen teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) to deal with emergency situation in case water level rises in local rivers and other water bodies I further request the Union Government to step up financial and physical assistance in the State especially in coastal areas so that rescue operations, evacuation and relief management is carried out efficiently and effectively. Further our Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi ji has already assured flood affected States and the CMs that the Centre would provide all assistance to them to help deal with the situation.

While some parts of the country witnessed flood and heavy rains, other parts have been undergoing drought like situations. India's tryst with food sustainability began a good 60 years ago when we had to import food grains from other countries to support our 30 crore odd population. And maybe Gujarat is a State which witnesses double calamity; droughts due to extreme temperature followed by heavy rains and flood. Even though the economy has progressed considerably since then, and now agriculture is not only a self-reliant sector, and but contributes dominantly to our economic growth by exporting food grains to other nations. The present Government is undoubtedly invested in development, agriculture and growth especially the recent increase in MSP of crops will benefit farmers immensely. That said, there are unmistakable signs that more needs to be done in the agriculture sector-a crisis that became a brewing problem in the agricultural sector decades ago, which forms the backbone of our nation.

Let us acknowledge that farmers in several parts of India have been protesting. They are demanding higher prices for agricultural produce and that billions of dollars worth of loans is waived. Sometime ago, a farmers' protest in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh turned violent. Drought is the result of short-sighted policies implemented by successive governments over several decades. More than half of India's population of 1.3 billion is engaged in agriculture and allied sectors, but

their contribution to national income has been dwindling rapidly. Over the past two decades, thousands of indebted farmers have committed suicide. However, let us do a quick reality check. Unfortunately, the monsoon behaviour has been very erratic the last couple of years and farmers have been facing the problems of severe drought for the past few years. The Government has intervened at all levels and schemes like Krishi Sinchai Yojana will go a long way in solving agricultural crisis.

Further, loan waivers though temporarily necessary for the revival of farming, do not provide conditions for a secure credit system in the long term. The waiver of loans implies that banks will have to be compensated by the Government for the amount involved. This means that large sums of money, which could have otherwise gone to strengthen the agricultural infrastructure and research such as seed production, soil health enhancement and plant protection, will not be available. The present Government does not believe in such eye wash, rather they are trying to make farmers self-sufficient and empowered.

The present Government, which is now three years old, has implemented several of the recommendations such as providing improved seeds, soil health cards, and agricultural credit reform, improved insurance, increasing the area under irrigation and the addition of Farmer's Welfare to the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture. The National Commission on Farmers recommended a major non-farm initiative, on the model of the rural township programme of China. This would involve agriculture-based enterprises such as mushroom cultivation, use of bio-pesticides and fertilizers, apiculture, inland and coastal aquaculture and the biological software essential for sustainable agriculture, which is the second goal of the Sustainable Development Goals. This along with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme can provide social protection to landless farmers. Special efforts are also being made to promote market-driven skills for rural women who contribute to about 50 per cent of the agricultural work, through the involvement of the agricultural universities and the private sector.

With this I would like to share some of my suggestions with the Government. My constant interactions with the farming community have helped

highlight not just their problems, but also possible solutions which require a rethink of some of our existing policies. Even though we have moved from no preparedness to floods and droughts towards preparedness, India needs a permanent disaster management and mitigation plan. This kind of planning will not only save people facing problems, but would also prevent damage to human beings and public and private properties. This can be done as these days with advancement of technology; weather prediction is much more accurate and reliable unlike before. To better prepare for droughts and floods, India needs an integrated system to map water, air and climate.

Information about water flow in rivers is now available through a water resources information system, but that has severe limitations due to regulatory issues—there is no information available to the public about real time water flow; thanks to an outdated law. This means there is no real time water flow information available in the public domain from the three largest river basins in the country. This clearly affects preparations to face floods. When it comes to drought preparedness, the situation is similar— the information available is better than before but not good enough. The Central Water Commission now puts out in the public domain the water storage status of the 91 largest reservoirs in India and updates this information every week. This list still leaves out far too many water bodies that are crucial in determining if a region will face drought.

The other crucial information needed to anticipate a drought is the status of groundwater, but the latest status available on the website of India's Central Ground Water Board is dated March 31, 2011. India is a country where over half the irrigation is from groundwater. It is the world's largest groundwater user. This can be done as all pieces are in place even though it might seem daunting in the beginning and Niti Aayog can be entrusted with this task to build an integrated system. Tracking food, energy and water consumption is also an essential part. Building this capability is a necessary requirement to safeguard the nation's future.

I, like all Indians, have been encouraged and moved by the way people pull together in times of crisis, and felt proud of the work of our emergency and social services. Hardships have been faced by all of us together through

natural disasters. The Prime Minister has been providing all help and assistance to the State Governments to stand shoulder to shoulder with them in this hour of crises. It is our responsibility to listen to the people now who have lost their lives and livelihoods and not do the politics of blame game over death and disaster. Natural calamities and preparedness is a national responsibility and opposition should refrain from doing politics over this. It is the time that we stand together and strengthen the working hands of the country that will actually benefit the people at the grassroots.

\*SHRI R. DHARUVANARAYANA (Chamarajanagar): I am thankful for giving me the opportunity to put my views on this very important topic. Large parts of the country today are affected by floods and many face drought like conditions. According to recent reports, nearly 50 people have lost their lives in the floods in Kerala and 1.47 lakh have been forced to move into relief camps. In Gujarat, more than 30 people have lost their lives due to the floods and many more have been displaced and moved to safer places.

12 people have lost their lives in the State of Odisha due to the floods and the State Government has put six districts on high alert.

Karnataka too, is facing severe issues due to the flooding of the rivers. Heavy rains in the catchment area due to an active southwest monsoon have led to flooding in south and north Karnataka during the past one month. Areas like Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Kodagu have been deeply affected. In Sakleshpur taluk of Hassan, landslides due to the rain were reported and large tracts of paddy fields, coffee plantations and roads were severely inundated.

However, this rainfall has been uneven, with areas like my constituency of Chamarajanagar, and Chikkaballapura, and the northern districts of Ballari, Haveri, Vijayapura and Yadgir receiving a shortage of rainfall.

Northern States like Bihar today face drought like conditions. 35 out of the 38 districts of Bihar face drought like conditions due to a rain deficit of 48%. Rain deficiency in eastern and western Uttar Pradesh,

Jharkhand, Gangetic West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya is 20-46% less than normal as of July 17.

Keeping these conditions in mind, I would like to urge the Government to provide these States with some form of financial assistance and release this money as soon as possible to the States that are suffering from this very severe issue.

\*SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (Tiruppur): I am expressing my views on the discussion under Rule 193 on recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country.

Recently, Chennai was affected by serious floods that had damaged many parts of Chennai. Both people and property were affected a great deal. Many poor people lost their lives. The most affected community was the fishermen community. The flood water had inundated many places in Chennai and people had to climb their terraces and had to spend many days on their terraces. The Tamil Nadu Government had done a wonderful job by reaching the flood affected people and provided food, shelter and medical facilities, although only minimum relief was provided by the Centre.

The Tamil Nadu Government did take all possible precautionary measures but still the situation could not be controlled. It is high time that the Centre should help and take pre-emptive steps so that at the time of floods and other natural calamities, the possible damage to the lives and properties of the people can be saved.

The Central Government should provide more funds so that the affected people who lost their homes, livelihood, properties etc. are compensated. I am sure, by taking into consideration, the problems of the flood affected people of Tamil Nadu, and more particularly to the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, namely Chennai, Cuddalore, Nagapatinam, etc. the Centre should allocate more funds.

Similarly, many parts of the Tamil Nadu are also suffering from droughts due to scarcity of rains. At least in future, the Central Government should try its best to interlink rivers so that every State is saved from natural calamities, like floods and droughts. It should be the topmost agenda of the Central Government. Hon. Amma

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

was the first Chief Minister to implement rain water harvesting throughout the State of Tamil Nadu. It should be made mandatory that all the States should come forward and implement rain water harvesting. All the States should be encouraged to plant more and more trees so that these climatic changes can be controlled.

Further, wherever such natural calamities have caused havoc and where the farmers have lost their produce, they should be adequately compensated by waiving off their loans. With these few words, I urge upon the Government to allocate more funds to the State of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA (Mysore): Thank you Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on a very important subject.

When the entire South Karnataka is reeling under flood and heavy rains, I am grateful to you because I wanted you to be on the Chair when I speak about this subject.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Very good.

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: It is because the people of Tamil Nadu and the actors of Tamil Nadu should be grateful to the people of my constituency, Coorg where Cauvery takes her birth. The main tributaries of Cauvery are Harangi, Kabini, Hemavati and Lakshmana Tirtha. This time because of heavy rains, all the four dams are full. Sir, you are getting more than 50,000 cusecs of water every day.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Otherwise, you would not release a single drop. If it is not full, you would not release even a single drop.

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Even the Mettur dam is full. The people of Tamil Nadu should be grateful to my people.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not to them but it is to the Heaven, God, Varuna Bhagavan. Varuna Bhagavan is coming with you now.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Saran): It is all because of the BJP Government that the God is also happy today.

**17.00 hrs**

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is because of Ananthkumar that God Varuna has given a lot of water to your State.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Sir, I am also grateful to Shri Ananthkumar ji. He has given me an opportunity to participate in this important debate.

Sir, I have a little daughter who goes to first standard. Every day when she comes back in the evening, she hums the rhyme – “Rain, rain, go away, come again another day. Rain, rain, go away, little Jony wants to play.” It is because of her syllabus that she hums these rhymes in her school also. But the people of Coorg never hum these rhymes because there are no rains. When it rains in Coorg, it rains heavily. When it rains in Coorg, it washes away the roads. When it rains in Coorg, it takes away the important crops of coffee and pepper. Sir, almost 30 per cent of the total coffee produced in Karnataka is produced in Coorg. Similarly, 15 per cent of the total pepper produced in Karnataka is produced only in Coorg. This time because of heavy rains, the entire road network is damaged. Even the national highways are not motorable.

Sir, we were expecting a good relief package from the State Government. But we did not get it. I am really hopeful that Modi ji's Government will certainly pay heed to our demands and help us because Modi ji's Government has a track record of helping all the States when it is necessary.

Sir, I will read out some of the headlines, which appeared in the newspapers in the last two months, just to apprise the House with the situation prevailing in Coorg in Karnataka. ‘Catchment Areas of Cauvery Receiving Good Rains’ published on May, 28. On 29 May, the entire Mangalore city was flooded because of heavy rains. On May 30, the headline of a newspaper was ‘3 Dead, 100 Rescued after Record Rainfall in Karnataka’. Then, ‘Rain Causes Heavy Damages to Paddy and Seedling in Kodagu’ appeared in one newspaper. ‘Flood Alert in Catchment Areas’ and ‘More Rain Likely in Cauvery Area’ are some other headlines. Moreover, Sir, power supply is completely cut off in Coorg and in other parts of Karnataka.

Sir, a few hon. Members like Shri Venugopal, Shri Karunakaran and Shri Kalyan Banerjee were pointing fingers at the Central Government. Hon. Member, Shri Venugopal was folding his hands before the Government requesting them to give a special package to his State

Kerala. Sir, Venugopal ji is in charge, the General Secretary of All India Congress Committee of Karnataka for last two years. His party is in rule in Karnataka for the last five years. Now, even after getting rejected by the people of Karnataka, they have come back to power. ...*(Interruptions)*...\*

What did they do in the last five years? ...*(Interruptions)* What did they do for my constituency, Kodagu?...*(Interruptions)* Did they ever give even a small package to Coorg?...*(Interruptions)* When the BJP Government was in power in Karnataka, they sanctioned about Rs.1800 crore work projects to Coorg. ...*(Interruptions)* But under the five years of Congress rule, we got only Rs.300 crore and that too only 50 per cent of the money was released. It is only because of a non-functional Congress Government in the State that Coorg is suffering....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, it is not a political speech. The entire Coorg, South Kanara, North Kanara, Chikmagalur, Sakleshpur and other districts are reeling under heavy rains. It is only in Belgaum district that 978 houses have got damaged, 22 cattles have died and 11 human beings have lost their lives. In Bidar also, 168 houses have been damaged and 8 persons have died. The numbers that I am reading are only of a few districts.

In Chamarajanagar, which is being represented by Shri Dhruvanarayana, 157 houses have been damaged and two deaths have taken place. In Dakshin Kannada, 957 houses have been damaged and nine deaths have taken place. In Dharwad, 737 houses have been damaged and six deaths have taken place. In Gadag, 505 houses have been damaged and six deaths have taken place. In Madikeri, 200 houses have been damaged and one death has taken place. In Koppal, 1,239 houses have been damaged and three deaths have taken place. In Mysuru, 313 houses have been damaged and three deaths have taken place. A total of 9,163 houses have been damaged and 130 deaths have taken place. The total number of cattle deaths is 727. Yet an amount of Rs. 187 crore has been lying with respective District Commissioner Offices. It is because of the non-functional Government in Karnataka which is being supported, and actively involved in, by Congress.

The ...\* is saying 'Everyday, I am ...\* ...*(Interruptions)* He is ...\* only to stay in power and the ...\* him to extract more power and more Cabinet berths. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the actual state of Karnataka. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER : ...\* and that kind of words will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Sir, now I come to the assistance given by the Central Government under Modiji....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I will come to that point....*(Interruptions)* When 3,000 farmers committed suicide under ...\*, where was Shri Venugopal hiding?...*(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not put the names on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Why did he not go to the Chief Minister and apprise him? Here, he comes and shouts at the Central Government....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I tell you the exact figures. Under the ten years of UPA Government from 2004 to 2014, they gave Rs. 3,579.86 crore under NDRC and Rs. 1,063.47 crore under SDRF. The total money given in four years was Rs. 4,822 crore. Under four years of Modiji's rule, the Central Government gave Rs. 5,122 crore under NDRF and Rs. 799.99 crore under SDRF. The total amount given is Rs. 5,922 crore, which is almost Rs. 6,000 crore, in four years. They had given Rs. 4,500 crore in ten years of rule, and these people are coming and preaching us.

The person, who spoke a lot about the Central Government and the discrimination, Shri Venugopal, is not in the House. In his absence, or in his presence in the Parliament's Central Hall, I am telling this.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Sir, he speaks rarely. He is a young Member and speaking very well. Our Party

\* Not recorded.

\* Not recorded.

has time. Please give him time from our Party's time.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRATAP SIMHA: Sir, I had encountered all these representatives during the all-party meeting on Cauvery River. Every time, they would come and demand that they want this much of water from the Cauvery.

When Coorg is reeling under heavy rains, they do not raise their voices. This is the saddest part of Members of Parliament and some of the representatives. For the last four years, I have been demanding a special package for Coorg from the Karnataka State Government. I requested the Chief Minister to include the special package in the annual Budget, but he did not pay heed to it.

I also requested the Chief Minister to visit Coorg during Cauvery Tula Sankramana. Due to heavy rains, we have suffered the losses. We have suffered the damages. We suffered crop losses of coffee, pepper, cardamom and areca nut. Yet, we go and offer puja to Cauvery Mata and Lord Igguthappa, but the Chief Minister of Karnataka did not come. This time, I also request the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to come for Cauvery Tula Sankramana. I also request the Members of the Congress Party, at least, this time – I had requested the previous Chief Minister – to visit. This time, I am again requesting you, through this House, to visit and pay respect to Cauvery Mata, who gives everything to Karnataka.

Half of Karnataka's total population is fed by river Cauvery. Should we not be grateful to river Cauvery? Instead of pointing fingers at the Central Government, I request the Members of the Congress to ask their Chief Minister to come with a delegation to the Centre. Our Ananth Kumar ji is here. He has taken care of the needs and concerns of the Karnataka State. When the coal block was cancelled by the Supreme Court, it was Shri Ananth Kumar who was instrumental in getting the coal block which is situated in Maharashtra. When we came to power at the Centre, the total length of national highways in Karnataka was 6,000 kms. Under four years of Shri Narendra Modi's rule, now the total length of national highways is 13,500 kms. This shows the love and affection that Modi ji has got for the people of Karnataka.

I request the Karnataka Chief Minister, through our Congress Members, to come with a delegation. We are

there to help you. We will certainly help you. We will stand by the people of Karnataka.

Finally, I would request the Minister to bring some changes in the NDRF guidelines. If a house is completely damaged or gets collapsed because of heavy rains, the maximum amount one can give for a family is Rs. 1 lakh only. With Rs. 1 lakh you cannot build a house or reconstruct a house. You will have to bring changes in the NDRF norms and Calamity Relief Fund norms. That is the small request I have. It will help the people at large across the nation.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak in this House. This is the second time I got the opportunity to speak in the last four years. I am also thankful to our leader Shri Ananth Kumar. Thank you Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (Madhepura): Sir, as far as Sardar Sarovar and Narmada river in Saurashtra for Kutch in Gujarat is concerned, 22 thousand crores rupees have been spent on the project and the government is aware of its outcome. I have spoken a line about Gujarat. 22 thousand crores rupees have been spent to improve the condition of Kutch. I would like to talk about the condition of Haridwar and Rishikesh. Till now, 22 sadhus have committed suicide and if one sees the condition of river there, one will understand its condition. What is the status of linking the rivers and linking ponds? I would like to say to the Minister of Home Affairs that this is the right direction and right time to fix the duties and priority. Today, the first priority and duty is water, but the whole world has reached a situation of world war for water and atom. 71 percent of water is left all over the world, out of which one percent of water is fit for farming, washing and drinking purposes. Why there is no concern for water conservation? The Minister of Agriculture is from Bihar and it has been five years since he became the Minister. This year, he has become 72 years old, we don't know whether he will fight the next election at the age of 75 or not...(Interruptions) I would like to submit that Bihar has the maximum number of rivers in the world. Ganga, Kosi, Gandak, Kamla, Mahananda, Balan, etc. but till now, steps haven't been taken to link 17 rivers. I was present when Shri Nitish Kumar talked about decommissioning of Farakka Barrage. He said that until Farakka Barrage was

decommissioned, there won't be any change in flood situation in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Please recall that Shri Nitish Kumar had also said another thing that expansion of the Kosi barrage should be undertaken, otherwise, it will lead to bad conditions. Kosi is a large river. Because of this river, three fourth of the North Bihar is affected by flood. The condition of Nepal is worst. In 70 years, contractors, mafia people and politicians have spent only 25 to 30 percent of the money there. All the companies which went there embezzled 80 percent of funds. I demand an investigation in this regard. Investigate Ministers who were in office at that time.

I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Hon. Minister of Home Affairs towards the Mahanada Basin. This basin mainly causes flood and drought and it affects Kishanganj, Arariya, Supaut and Katihar. Even after all the long talks, we have been able to do nothing for Mahananda Basun till today.

Almost half of the Bihar regions fall under Tal and Diara land. Shri Nitish Kumar has made a request to the Hon. Prime Minister that the condition of the farmers and labourers of the Tal and Diara regions of Bihar is pitiable. We have discussed it with you several times. It is shocking that in 1987-88, forest cover was 19.5 percent but today, only eight percent of forests are left.

Because of the connivance of capitalists, mafia people and industrialists, the condition of forest areas has been is very bad in the entire country. Tribal like was water and jungle alongwith protected and conserved. If water and jungle was taken away from them, how will they survive? The endangered tribes are in the verge of extinction. In the coming 25 years, only 10 percent of the Adivasis will be left on the banks of river. Their population is around 17-18 thousand in various countries all over the world.

Every year, we hold discussion on flood and drought in this House. 18 districts of Bihar are affected by drought. You were talking about grant and farmer insurance scheme, but these schemes are giving more benefit to the private companies. How does the farmers get benefitted from this? How many farmers are left in India?

My request is based on three-four issues. Firstly, Agriculture should be given the status industry. When our Prime Minister takes revolutionary decisions, then one decision may also be taken to give agriculture the status of industry. Secondly, daily wages should be included in the farmers category, otherwise daily wages labourers will not be able to survive. Thirdly, along with linking of rivers, there is a need to send more on canals and boring. Boring is negligible in Bihar. Because of this, the condition of irrigation is very poor.

Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are two states which are adjacent to Nepal. The rivers flowing from Nepal have made our lives miserable. Earlier, it was considered as a blessing. I request the Prime Minister that the farmers should get benefit on the priority basis of revolutionary schemes. Along with this, a special package may be given to Bihar. I will not talk in regard to according special status to the state. But, the funds may be allocated as special package for the regions of Kosi, Simanchal and Magadha. Shri Nitish Kumar has constituted a committee to help the region of Bhojpur which is adjacent to Uttar Pradesh and in this regard, letter has been sent to the Central Government.

It is necessary to remove silt from all rivers. Politicians, mafias and criminals have embezzled the money sanctioned for this purpose for the last 70 years. Due to lack of any effort in this direction, the level of rivers bed has increased and the village remained at low level. This is the main reason for flood. I request immediately to declare Bihar as a drought prone area.

*[English]*

\*SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (Tumkur): I would like to place my views on the drought and flood situation in various parts of the country.

Today, the farmer of the country is reeling under crisis. Our farmers are suffering losses due to hailstorm and drought during the last four years and price rise and wrong policies of the Government have had a telling effect on our farmers. The agriculture growth rate has come down drastically during the last four years. There has also been a decline in the wages and agriculture export. The allocation under the MNREGA has also been slashed. The UPA Government had made a substantial

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

increase in the minimum support price of various crops but the present government has made only a nominal increase in their prices. I request the Union Government to release the compensation amount and insurance amount at the earliest. This government has imposed new conditions on releasing compensation even in the cases of natural calamities, it is a blot on us. The Government talks of 'Make in India' but the Union Government should strengthen the hands of farmers to make the "Make in India" feasible.

So far as the drought is concerned, last three consecutive crops have been damaged badly due to excessive rains and drought and the farmers have suffered a lot. This change in climate has not occurred overnight rather it is the result of indiscriminate felling of forest and exploitation of natural resources for a long period. Farmers are committing suicide because their other resources have vanished and they are dependent on cash crops and grains only. The Government should approach the State Governments to ensure that the farmers get adequate power supply for irrigation in the states where it is not adequate.

The farmers are not even getting appropriate compensation for crop losses. Out of eight states, six have sought the Central assistance of Rs. 20,000 crore. What is the status of release of Central assistance? In spite of galloping prices of pulses, the farmers are getting meager MSP. I urge upon the Government to implement Swaminathan Commission's recommendations of providing credit to farmers at four per cent interest rate.

In view of the continued severe drought prevailing in the entire country in general and Karnataka State in particular, there is a complete depletion of underground water. The bore-wells dug are yielding no results. This is also causing burden to the exchequer to the State. I urge upon the Union Government to look into the issue and provide necessary financial and other assistance to the Karnataka State to overcome the drought situation in the State.

Regarding flood situation in the country, particularly, in Karnataka, the Karnataka State has suffered a lot due to heavy rains and floods during the last three years. Heavy downpour lashed the twin coastal districts of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi in the month of May 2018, inundating low-lying areas and flooding roads, disrupting

traffic and throwing life out of gear. Mangaluru city also witnessed 'unforeseen' rainfall, flooding roads, damaging shops and houses. About 130 buildings, including houses were partially or fully damaged in the rains in the Udupi district and the total loss was estimated at Rs. 51.37 lakh in the District.

The Karnataka Government has sought help and assistance from the Central Government, which the Centre did very little to meet the flood situation in the State.

I urge upon the Central Government, to provide necessary assistance to the Karnataka Government to meet the drought and flood situation in the State.

\*SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): First of all, I pray to God for peace on people who lost their lives in floods and landslides. I also wish for the early recovery and prosperity of those who lost their property or were hurt by the Mother Nature's fury.

Himachal Pradesh has 2.31 lac hectares of flood prone area. But, the Flood Protection Works of the government departments responsible for it (Not naming the Irrigation and the Public Health (IPH) Dept. directly!) has only been able to protect 25116.21 hectares of that area. It means only around 10% of the flood prone area has been covered.

According to news sources, heavy rains on 23rd July, triggered landslides in the State causing road blocks, disruption of supply. Parts of the Sirmour district experienced heavy rains that resulted in a major landslide resulting in a car being washed away.

In Solan district, five vehicles were buried in the landslide at Dharampur. There's massive impact on tourism.

Flash floods from Swan River (The river of Sorrow) affects around 10,000 hectares of agricultural land near it. 2000 hectares in and around it is not being cultivated due to fear of floods in Una district.

The major causes that are responsible for flash floods landslides in the State of Himachal Pradesh are :

- (1) Cloud burst in upper catchments of the river.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



- (2) Excessive rainfall in the catchments.
- (3) Melting and bursting of glaciers due to global warming.
- (4) Temporary blockade of river channels.

The worst floods in HP in last few years was in 2012. A 2012 India Disaster Report pegged total losses to public, private properties at Rs. 961 crores in HP. Crop losses that year was more than 50%.

17,287 Km roads, 5 bridges and 784 culverts were also damaged that year. Are we prepared for such a disaster now?

#### **Solutions-**

One of Himachal Pradesh's long standing demand has been stationing a National Disaster Response (NDRF) Battalion in Himachal Pradesh.

In cases of flash floods and landslides, quick response can save hundreds of lives. Stationing an NDRF battalion in Himachal Pradesh will improve response time and lives saved.

I request the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to set up an Integrated Flood Project Monitoring Centre. This can coordinate in real time with State Governments to pursue and complete flood protection schemes and projects on time.

**\*SHRIMATI KAVITHA KALVAKUNTLA (Nizamabad):**  
In the last four years of my tenure as a Member of Parliament, I have seen this very same discussion happening in every Session of Parliament.

Unfortunately, not many steps have been taken by the Union Government to arrest recurring floods in various states, nor any major steps to prevent drought prone conditions and save people from distress.

I believe if we can look at India as a single unit instead of looking at various states & boundaries and limitations, we can win over both flood & drought.

To prevent recurring floods in various states, I would like to make a suggestion. In our country, we are blessed with great rivers like Brahamaputra, Ganga, Godavari,

Krishna, Cauvery etc. If we add all the water available to be utilised, a sad reality comes to our notice.

Out of the total available water, 75,000 TMC of water is going waste into the oceans and seas. If we can calculate and design a Water Network of India, understand which rivers have excess water, then we can plan to redirect this excess water to the drought prone areas.

If this simple technique, can be adopted to distribute the water across the country in a uniform manner, we can make sure, we give water to the last acre in our country.

Regarding drought condition, I would like to put forward a suggestion. Drought prone areas basically are a result of inaccessible geography sometimes due to very low rainfall.

When inaccessible geography leads to drought I am proud to state that our state of Telangana stood victorious over drought by adopting two methods. Reviving the aquifers, however small they are in a systematic manner will change the drought scenario to a great extent.

This we have successfully achieved in Telangana under a flagship program called "Mission Kakatiya". For their programme, in the last 4 years Telangana Government has invested 10,000 crores and revived 43,000 tanks. Bringing surface water from the nearest river, by means of well designed major and minor irrigation projects.

In Telangana in the last 4 years we have allocated and spent 25,000 crores for major and minor irrigation projects.

This gave a great result and many villages of Telangana which never saw water for irrigation in the last 60 years are today rejoicing. We are very proud and happy of our Telangana Government's achievement.

In case of low rainfall, drought can be conquered by taking up long term measures.

In Telangana, our Government has taken up a huge program called "Haritha Haram". Under this programme we designed to plant 230 crore sapplings in 5 years, starting from 2014-2019. We have given dedicated budget for this programme of 1000 crores, and have synergised with NREGS programme. This, Sir, I would

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

proudly like to state, is the "third largest human effort" in the world to face drought.

I am confident, Telangana one day will get good quality rainfall every year and our farmers will benefit from the efforts of our Government of Telangana.

Lastly, I would like to state that with a systematic approach, dedicated resources, synergy between centre and states, India can win over both flood and drought and lead the world in the field of Agriculture.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (Sant Kabir Nagar): Both flood and drought are the biggest problems faced by the farmer. It not only destroys the crops cultivated by the farmer but also causes the loss of life and property.

The solution to this problem is that the Government in collaboration with the State Government should construct small dams in various places so that water could be stored in these dams during the rainy season and the water could be used for irrigation during the drought.

The second solution is that inter linking of rivers should be undertaken so that the water from flood affected area may be transported to drought affected area.

If the government seriously considers these two suggestions, it will provide relief to the farmers from the problem of flood and drought to a large extent.

With these suggestions, I thank you.

*[English]*

\*SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Jharkhand State falls under the agro- climatic zone VII (Eastern Plateau and Hilly region), which has been further divided into three subzones. The State receives annual rainfall of 1200-1600 mm and the climate ranges from dry semi humid to humid semi arid types. Undulating toposequences of the State and rain fed agriculture have led to massive degradation of soil, diverse agricultural practices and low productivity. About 82% of annual rainfall occurs within the monsoon season, which lasts from mid June to September. Available moisture over the

entire monsoon period determines the opportunity for the various cropping system practiced by the farmers. In general, the soils of Jharkhand are low to very low in available phosphorous and sulphur, medium in available nitrogen and potassium status and deficient in available boron. About 1.6 million ha (19% of total geographical area) is acidic. The region has a major problem of slight to moderate soil erosion as 74% of the areas are located on very gentle to gentle slopes. Despite good rainfall, the cropped area and cropping intensity are low. The level of technology adaptation is also poor leading to lower productivity. The cultivable area is estimated around 3.8 million ha but the net sown area is 2.56 million ha and only 12% of cropped area is under irrigation. The total cultivable land in the State is 52% as compared with 55% of the country, but only 43% area of this is under net sown area compared to national average of 76%. The State as a whole suffers from several critical gaps in agriculture and allied sectors though a number of opportunities exist to make the State self-sufficient in agricultural production.

The concerted efforts are required for 1. Rain water harvesting, conservation and enhancing water use efficiency. The State receives average annual rainfall of 1300 mm which gives opportunity for efficient water use through water conservation and water use efficiency technologies like (a) construction of small to medium check dams, tanks, ponds and small ditches with farmers participation to develop additional irrigation facilities in 50000 ha annually (b) Soil conditioning to increase soil water holding capacity (c) Adopting water conserving irrigation methods i.e. Drip, sprinkler etc. 2. Bringing 1.0 million ha of additional land under net sown area there is scope to increase net sown area from current 2.56 million ha to 3.56 million ha by adopting soil conservation and land scaping measures in current Fallow and other Fallow areas in the next 3 years.

Enhancement of Water use efficiency regarding water development. The lands of Jharkhand State is undulating and in irregular slope in nature. Rainfall precipitation is approximately 1400mm inside the State, out of which 70per cent rainfall of total rainfall flowing intensively through stippy slopes useless with arresting valuable and fertile soil (Silt) particles and finally accumulates in Broad Rivers. The above percentage of Rain water may be efficiently used by some technical

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

management with soil and water treatment programmes, which ensure water use efficiency and cause achievements of satisfactorily and sustainable result in Agriculture production and productivity in future. The Rain Water use efficiency may be enhanced through some management Parameters and certain programmes as follows:-

Construction of Small Pucca Check Dam upon perennial drainage basis to arrest surface flowing rain water which would be used as extra irrigation facility and enhance the underground water through leaching down .

- Construction of Small Dova, Pond and Silt Detention Dam in between middle to low reaches land which will arrest the soil particles (Silt) flowing though rain water and leached down to underground. In time of above phenomena excess accumulated rain water in structure would be used as extra irrigation facility.
- Renovation of Big Tank enhance the rain water reservoir. The accumulated water may be used in irrigation and maintain the underground water though leaching which caused water development process.
- Implementation of watershed management programme with efficient managerial efforts with work plan in throughout the State by implementing the treatment of Soil and Conservation with eco-system aspects.
- Rain water may be harvested largely in artificial manner which would be used as to generate power and to promote the irrigation potential regarding sustainable Agriculture production and productivity.
- Water use efficiency may be enhanced through increasingly emphasized. Which would be achieved by efficient use of available water, rain water harvesting, Micro- irrigation and Integrated watershed management.
- Subsequent and managerial use of rain water would avoid further depletion of groundwater resources.
- The rain water use efficiency needs to be increased to harness most of the potential.

- The concerning department should work out a comprehensive programme on participatory groundwater management and drought proofing. Such efforts would be a framework of extensive supportive irrigation with conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water bodies.

[Translation]

DR. ARUN KUMAR (Jahanabad): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, every year discussion is held on a very serious topic- floods and drought. We continue to face these disasters. A lot of damage to the life and property is also caused. As I don't have time, I would like to give only two-three suggestions to the hon. Minister in brief.

Firstly, the use of polythene in any form should be stopped in the country. Today, it is destroying the village soil. The poison of the cities has also reached the villages. The plastic material like plastic plate, plastic glass are being extensively used in the villages. There are two adverse effects. First, we are disturbing the water percolation system. Secondly, the people had interest in trees and plants and the people used to make plates from leaves. Today, that industry has completely disappeared.

The tribal people were engaged in the conservation of forests and lakhs of people were employed, but today, a huge problem has arised from the starting of plastic industry. The manufacturing of plates made from leaves has almost stopped. If an initiative is taken in this direction, the villages and farmers will prosper. I would also like to talk about the other side of this topic. I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Minister towards this. Nowadays, concretization has been made on a large scale. The result of this bed concretization is that the 25-30 feet water level in the town area has gone down to 200 feet. I don't know on what basis the concretization of the towns is being done today. The money being spent for this is also useless. Water percolation system is getting disturbed. The government should reflect on this.

On one side, we are spending crores of rupees for rain water harvesting and on the other we are concretising the embankments in an unscientific way. By this, the water level and water percolation system is getting affected. Here, discussion has been done on Kerala and Bihar that these states are affected by the floods. Particularly, 18 districts of Bihar like Jahanabad, Gaya, Navada, Aurangabad, etc. are affected by drought.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Sir, there are 36 districts.

DR. ARJUN KUMAR: 36 districts are affected. Lakhisarai, Munger and all the areas of Banka are in the grip of drought. Today, what to say about cultivation, even paddy saplings have dried out.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, please conclude.

DR. ARUN KUMAR: I would like to make a request to you. Today, the problem of drinking water is in front of us. A situation of a serious disaster is before us. In hilly areas, water is not available even under 200-250 feet and in some place even at 400 feet. Therefore, I would like to say that today, there is a need to secure the farmers and their farms. Hon. Prime Minister has implemented M.S.P. Farmers are getting relief but it is not giving complete solution to their problem. The villages, farmers cannot get relief until the price of wheat and paddy is fixed for around three thousand rupees in accordance with the C-2 Formula of Swaminathan. Therefore, please secure the villages and farms by implementing the C-2 formula.

Corruption is going on in other areas too. Corruption is going on in MGNREGA. Therefore, the government has made several arrangements but even after all this, the system is getting tampered. Middlemen are taking advantage. The shops set for procurement opens only after the farmer has sold his crops. Like this, the whole system is getting tampered. So it has to be planned as to how we bring the farmers directly in its purview. Talangana is a newly formed state. The welfare works for the farmers have been executed very nicely. This should be taken as a model. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Gopal Shetty.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (Mumbai North): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to present my views on the discussion under Rule 193, being held on finding solutions of the flood situation. Sir, I would present my point briefly. People from many states of the country are affected by the recurring floods every year. Some districts of Maharashtra are severely affected by floods and 123 people died due to this. I express my sympathy for them. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Hon. Devendra Fadnavis has tried to help the people to save water by digging ponds at many places which will help the farmers on a large scale in the future. I agree that the more water we save here, the less will go into the oceans and will relieve people in same wages.

Sir, if I directly speak of the Mumbai city, it is an unplanned city. First the city was set up and then the development plan came. The first plan came in 1967, then in 1991, then in 2013 and now in 2018 final DP is being prepared. But the roads in 1967, which were stated to be 49 feet, 60 feet and 90 feet of width haven't been fully developed yet and due to non availability of full width of the roads. We are not able to construct storm water drains and it causes trouble to the people of Mumbai every year.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, a severe flood occurred in Mumbai in 2005, Chittle Committee was constituted, crores of rupees were spent on constructing the walls of the canal i.e. Retaining wall. It is a good work and I support it. But our bureaucrats, IAS officers, Commissioners, Mayor of Mumbai city have never thought about the deepening of the drains. Due to this, the scale at which the water should flow does not happen and causes trouble to the people of Mumbai. Sir, for the last 100 years, no scheme for widening the drains or rivers has been implemented in the country, so Mumbai and Maharashtra are no exceptions and therefore, Mumbai too has met the same fate. But I think dredging too is not done. It is not done in the rivers-drains, but there is no dredging done in the big sea beaches like Goraikhadi or Varsova beach either. The provision for dredging is made there in the budget every year but no work is done. Due to this too, the amount of water which should go into the ocean does not take place. Every year crores of rupees are spent on the cleaning of drains, but it is mere formality or eyewash. Every year the work starts two months before the monsoon season. People of all political parties visit, it is reported in the newspaper, it starts from 80% and stops at 90%. The canals are cleaned 100% is never mentioned by the commissioner because as they are IAS officers, they work cleverly. This is the situation of Mumbai city.

Sir, if we want to solve these problem, then I think we will have to bring all the people together like the Prime Minister of the country who brought the people together by giving the slogan of "Swachh Bharat Mission". We will have to work manually. We will have to stop the contract system. Sir, a lot of time is consumed in planning the contract system, the understanding that takes place in Tender and the things that take place in standing committee cause major problems. So contract

system should be done away with in the coming five years and instead, we should work manually. It will save a lot of money and the quality will be good too.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the last two issues. Regarding the widening of roads in Mumbai, I have written to Shri Nitin Gadkari, though it doesn't come under the purview of his ministry because he deals with the National Highways. However, he is very attached to Mumbai. When he was a Minister in Govt. of Maharashtra he had earned accolades for constructing 67 flyovers and bridges. He has become famous not only within the country but abroad too and he is working on the same line nowadays. As a citizen of Mumbai, I have worked with him for a long time. I want that the people of Mumbai should get benefits of the experience and contacts of Nitin Gadkari Ji. I have written letter to him saying that he should call a meeting of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, the Mayor and the Commissioner of Mumbai and find a solution of this problem. Because Mumbai is a world famous city, any activity that takes place there spreads a message to the world. So Mumbai should be maintained at the earliest. If needed the Central and State Govt. should provide money to Mumbai municipality. In the coming five years, if we concretize the 14 feet roads then it will benefit Mumbai and this work of widening should be done on war footing. The rules have been changed in this regard. Now we are providing the builders with four lines FSI. If the builders are not doing then govt. should find some other way and widen the roads to 40, 60 and 90 feet. Also, if we plan for storm water drain then around 50% people will get relief.

Sir, through you, I request to Shri Nitin Gadkari that if he calls for a joint meeting then I can guarantee that people of Mumbai will get huge relief in the coming five years. I am saying this because I have worked in the Mumbai Municipal Corporation for 15 years.

Sir, you gave me the opportunity to speak on this occasion, I thank you for this and end my speech.

\*SHRI RAM KUMAR SHARMA (Sitamarhi): Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on the flood and drought situation under Rule 193. India has 16 percent of the world's population, 1% of world's water resources and 2.45 percent of the world's land area. At the same time, there is variation in the distribution of the available fresh water resources in the country according to region and

time (among different areas of the country and different time in a year).

Sir, I belong to Sitamarhi in Bihar and it is that part of North Bihar which faces severe floods every year. This year, the floods proved very destructive. For some days, everyone did pay attention to it. Helicopter surveys were done and then it was forgotten till the next floods. Only those who loose everything cannot forget this. They have to start everything from the scratch.

This flood left North Bihar like a cursed place. Mismanagement in dealing with the flood was discussed everywhere. Many reason were cited for this mismanagement, like the helpless poor there, etc. But, few people must be knowing that North Bihar has been a very prosperous area. Who can forget the lichis of Muzaffarpur, Sugarcane of Pusa Dholi, Shahbarant rice of Darbhanga, Sweet potato, Mango, Chinia Kela (Banana); but the recurring floods every year have caused harm to them.

We blame Nepal is the first place for the floods. Nepal is a small country. How long will we keep blaming them for the floods. It is said that because Nepal released water, North Bihar got flooded. But the need of the hour is that we must take safety measures which include infrastructural measures like construction of reservoir dams to absorb and regulate the flood water and construction of embankment to stop the flooding of water etc. Moreover, whenever construction of embankments is not possible due to complex water drainage system, the schemes to raise the village up to a higher ground and to connect them to the nearby roads should be implemented actively.

*[English]*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me opportunity to participate in the discussion under Rule 193 on recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country.

Sir, first of all, I convey my sincere thanks to hon. Home Minister, Shri Raj Nath Singh-ji, for acceding to our request and sending his MoS Shri Kiren Rijju-ji to Kerala to visit the flood-affected areas. Shri Kiren Rijju-ji came to my District Alleppey and also to Kuttanad in my Constituency. He was eye witness to the situation prevailing in Kuttanad, Alleppey and other areas. I

convey my sincere thanks to Shri Kiren Rijju-ji who visited the flood-affected areas and interacted with the affected families and saw for himself the situation throughout Kerala and specifically in Kuttanad.

Sir, the present monsoon is unprecedented and such a monsoon never occurred in the past in Kerala, especially in Kuttanad in Alleppey District. More than 500 relief camps are working in Kuttanad now. About 1,50,800 inmates are living in those relief camps. There are more than 25,000 inmates in relief camps in Upper Kuttanad also. The relief camps are facing severe shortages. There is no sufficient food, water, medicines, gas for preparation of food, vegetables, coconut oil, etc. The State Government is providing maximum support but we need more. In the past, there used to be about 25 or 50 relief camps. This time the number of relief camps in Kuttanad itself is about 500 and there are relief camps in Upper Kuttanad also.

Electricity, water supply, ration shops, everything is affected by the heavy floods in Kuttanad. Temples and churches there have not opened over the last one week because there is water inside and outside the temples and churches. This is the pathetic situation there in Kuttanad.

I do not need to explain the speciality of Kuttanad. Everybody knows that Kuttanad is a backwaters area lying below the sea level. The entire water from the rains falling on Western Ghats flows into Kuttanad. Even if there is no rain in Kuttanad, if it rains in Western Ghats, that water comes into Kuttanad and it adversely affects the lives in Kuttanad area.

Sir, 90 per cent of the Houses in the area are fully damaged. Ninety per cent of the houses remained under water for periods between one week to two weeks. Therefore, even after water receded from the houses, the homeowners cannot go back because the houses are rendered unfit for living as they stayed under water for such long periods. The situation is that these houses can collapse any time. This is a very dangerous situation.

School buildings, anganwadis, libraries, Government offices and everything else is affected in Kuttanad. Supply of milk and newspaper and telephone connectivity are totally cut off in Kuttanad for last one week. Mobile connectivity is also not available there. Cars, bikes, scooters and cycles have been all washed

away. Cattle don't have shelters. There are thousands of cattle in Kuttanad. Every house has some cattle.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Tell me what is the relief you want for your area?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: My constituency is severely affected. Hon. Member, why are you interfering? There are 10 dead bodies in the mortuary because they could not bury or cremate them. Hindus wanted to cremate their dead bodies and Christians wanted to bury theirs but the condition is not workable for that. This is the situation we are facing in Kuttanad. I am not going into the details. Schoolchildren lost their school uniforms, textbooks etc. Schools and colleges are closed for last two weeks because of heavy rains. The road connectivity is also broken. The Kuttanad-Alleppey-Changanassery Road that is the main road connecting Kuttanad and Alleppey to other areas has also collapsed and transportation is suspended. Majority of the people are in isolated areas; they are in different islands. The outer bund of 90 per cent of the padasegaran or paddy fields was broken; paddy fields were washed out and crores and crores of rupees invested by farmers in paddy fields have also been washed out.

The UPA-I Government announced the Kuttanad package for solving the problem of farmers of Kuttanad. The UPA-I Government appointed Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, who is a well-known agriculture scientist and who himself was born in Kuttanad, to study the case and he submitted a report to the UPA-I Government. The UPA-I Government approved and accepted the Kuttanad package without any correction. The UPA-II Government gave permission for implementation of the Kuttanad package. The Government of Kerala is the implementing agency. Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Agriculture are giving funds from the Government of India. The first phase of the Kuttanad package is already over. But the second phase has not been taken up because of shortage of fund. My dear colleague Shri N.K. Premachandran was the Minister of Water Resources in Kerala at that time. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan prepared a detailed report on the problem of farmers of Kuttanad and submitted it to the Government of India. Based on that report, the second phase of the Kuttanad package needs to be implemented immediately. Hon. Minister of

Agriculture is here. The hon. Minister of Water Resources is not here, but he must be aware of the Kuttanad package. The second phase of the Kuttanad package is for protection of farmers' interest because the outer bunds of the padasegaran is very weak and poor.

Whenever there is a heavy rain in Kuttanad, the entire outer bund will be broken. So, we want to strengthen the outer bunds of the paddy fields. The Alappuzha-Changanacherry canal's second phase, the Thanneermukham barrage, and the Thottapalli spillway are the components related to the Kuttanad area. These three components should be completed immediately. The Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources should come forward and take up this work immediately. The Agriculture Ministry under the RKVY and the Water Resources Ministry under the Flood Management Scheme should give sufficient funds. They can sanction the funds.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken ten minutes. Please wind up now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Wherever the outer bunds are strengthened, wherever the kayal pedasegaran was strengthened, flood has not affected; but wherever the pedasegaran has not been strengthened and wherever the outer bund is not strengthened, they are badly affected. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Agriculture Ministry and also like to request the hon. Water Resources Minister to have a meeting with the stakeholders concerned and sort out this problem and allot Rs. 1,000 crore for restoring the pedasegaran outer bund....(Interruptions)

I am concluding. I will not take much time. I am always completing my speeches within the time but this is about my constituency which has been very badly affected. Everybody knows Kuttanad is a backwater area. ....(Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already taken 12 minutes. Many hon. Members are there to speak.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (Gulbarga): Let him complete, Sir....(Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already given him 12 minutes. How can I give more time?

You please wind up quickly.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: There is another report on the Programme for Preventing Flood Situation in Kuttanad. Unfortunately, that plan was also pending with the Ministry....(Interruptions) The Government allotted funds for an initial expenditure of only Rs. 80 crore. That is a very small amount....(Interruptions) At least Rs. 250 crore has to be sanctioned for initial relief work. I also request that Kuttanad may be declared as a Special Agricultural Zone....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (Hisar): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on the drought and flood situation in the country, under Rule 193.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I want to bring this the fact to the notice of the House that the Central Government had prepared a report on 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana'. The report has brought a serious situation to light in which the central government admits that the ground water for irrigation purpose is almost not likely to be available in Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan by 2025. With a heavy heart, it is to inform that Hon. Finance Minister had allocated 10 thousand crore rupees for the "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana" in the budget presented by him for the year 2016-17. Everybody had applauded this move with a view that the govt. is fulfilling the vision of Atal Bihari Vajpayi ji, including interlinking of rivers. It seemed that the govt. is taking steps in this regard. But, when the budget was revised, then only 5,182 crore rupees was allocated to the Fasal Sinchayi Yojana in the year 2016-17. This means that deduction in the budget was made upto 48%.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the need of the hour is that we should declare water as the National property. A few days back, we had witnessed that there was a dispute between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka that they are not being given adequate water. In this session the matter looks different and the dispute is that more water is being given.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the situation in Haryana too. About 1.5 years ago, Hon. Supreme Court had given a judgement on a 40 year old case of Satluj-

Yamuna link canal and directed the central government that if deployment of Paramilitary forces was required then that should be done, but the Satluj-Yamuna link should be constructed. However, the Union Govt., the Govt. of Haryana and the Govt. of Punjab have not yet taken any steps till date with regard to our rights of water.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the requirement of water for Haryana is about 36 million acre feet but only 14 million acre feet water is being provided to it. Despite this, on the orders of Central Government and Supreme Court, Haryana supplies additional water to Delhi. I want to ask the government about the steps they are going to take in the future for the farmers and people of Haryana to meet the scarcity of water. Whether the Govt. will complete the construction of Satluj-Yamuna link. Hon. Supreme Court has given the verdict that the issue of sharing of water will be dealt with later, but the construction of the said canal should start immediately. According to the data provided in the House, the monsoon rain in Haryana declined 37% in 2015, 27% in 2016 and the north-east monsoon has declined around 26%. The decline in monsoon day by day is affecting the agricultural growth.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Barwada link is a part of Bhakra dam and the water share from it should be 1,750 cusec. It was raised and we received 1,400 cusec water only. The 325 cusec of additional water was to be supplied to us. The raising work was stopped by the Rajasthan government by writing a letter to the Punjab government when the dispute was solved. The Punjab govt. has not allowed the dispute to be completed. I would request the hon. Prime Minister and the Central government to sort out the dispute of BML, Barwada link. Only our four districts get the water from Bhakhra and I request to take immediate initiative to make us available the said 32 cusec water.

The Central Government had allocated 1500 crore rupees for the Renuka dam. Everybody had appreciated that water storage capacity in Yamuna would be built, but even after one and a half years, the central government has not taken any step for construction of Renuka dam. If the government wants to save water and stop the wastage of monsoon water and also store it in the laps of the hills, then it is important that the Renuka, Kasav and Lakhwad dams must be constructed immediately on the

hill tops of Yamuna. When these three dams are constructed, then it will help in the making Haryana a water surplus state from water deficient state.

We talk about the situation of the farmers today. Due to water shortage the situation is such that the farmers of around 40 villages are paying 1500-1800 rupees per tank to fetch water from Rajasthan for drinking purpose. The Central Government is talking of drought, but it should also make arrangements for drinking water to the common people.

Sir, if this situation persists, then there are 40 villages in Adampur-Nalwa only, 12 in Narnaund and 7 in Uchana as well which are facing scarcity of water. There are around 80 such villages in my constituency where water level has increased so much that it has become saline. Today, the government needs to find some alternative, whether by setting up of pumping sets or by making drains. This facility should be made to reach them through the irrigation scheme so that the farmers could increase their agricultural growth. I would like to repeat it that if we want to save our future generation and get rid of the scarcity of water, the central government should take strong steps to declare water as a national property. The states can go into disputes. Whether it is Singapore or Australia or the USA, water is the national property there. The Central Government there decides the share of the states...*(Interruptions)* Our area faces the scarcity of water and many areas are facing floods ...*(Interruptions)* If water is made a national property then it will be very beneficial...*(Interruptions)*. Thank you for giving me an opportunity.

*[English]*

\*DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (Bargarh): I may kindly be allowed to lay a few lines on the discussion under rule 193 on the recent flood and drought situation in the country.

I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister for Ganga Rejuvenation and Water Resources to intervene in the Mahanadi Water Dispute between Odisha and Chhattisgarh due to multiple construction of dams in the upper Mahanadi valley in Chhattisgarh and inappropriate water control by the water station, flood situation is created in the downstream of Mahanadi in

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



Odisha. Recently, due to heavy rain in Odisha, a large number of area including paddy field is inundated resulting in crop damage. Therefore, adequate compensation should be given to the farmers of Odisha. Construction of the dam should be stopped.

I would like to request the Minister to provide adequate funds to correct the damage by flood and drought in Odisha as demanded by Government of Odisha.

I support Shri Kalikesh Kumar Singh Deo who spoke from our party.

Thanking you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (Banda): The serious discussion which is going on in the House today under Rule 193 is about floods and drought and it is a very important topic. We discuss this subject so many times in the House, but action plan on this subject doesn't get implemented effectively. I hope that the work of implementing the important suggestions on the subject received in the House today will be done at the earliest. Due to less rainfall, a large part of the country is facing a situation of drought whereas in some parts damage is being caused due to excessive rainfall. There is a need to find a permanent solution to such natural adversities with the help of scientists. Around 30 districts of Uttar Pradesh including my region i.e. Bundelkhand, are facing a condition of drought due to less rainfall. The condition is worse in my parliamentary constituency, Chitrakut and Banda and neighbouring district of Mahoba. Most of the farms are lying uncultivated. The sowing of the Kharif crops have not been done. People who have sown their fields, either their crops did not germinate or the crops which got germinated has dried. The condition of drought occurs in Bundelkhand frequently. The Union Govt. and the State Government has paid attention to it, but those action plans have yet not been implemented up to the lower level. Earlier, 'Anna-Pratha' tradition was a serious problem but now with the shortage of fodder for the animals, it will become more dreadful.

Therefore, I request to the Union Government as well as the State Government to take corrective

measures to provide adequate relief in all if the districts including my parliamentary constituency, Chitrakut and Banda and Mahoba district. Arrangements should be made to induce artificial rain in this region and grant-in aid should be provided to the farmers at the earliest.

SHRI HARISHCHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI (Basti): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Thank you so much for giving me an opportunity to speak on an important topic like flood and drought. Today, in our country, some parts are affected by flood or some are facing situation of drought. I am a member of parliament from Basti district of Poorvanchal in Uttar Pradesh. Every year water is released from hills of Nepal which comes into the river Ghaghra in Basti passing through Gomda and Faizabad. Due to this, every year hundreds of villages get affected and loss of lines and goods take place. Damage occurs to the arable land and to the fields with crops. This year also, there are hundreds of villages where damage was caused to the crops. People are forced to live on the embankments. Uttar Pradesh has received 46% less rainfall than the normal. All the districts of Poorvanchal including Basti are facing conditions of drought due to which till not the transplanting of rice saplings is not as much as it should have been. Farmers are also helpless. He is thinking that if there is no rain transplanting rice saplings will also cause damage.

Today, in Lok Sabha, this important issue is being discussed. There should be a definite solution to this problem. Former Prime Minister of India, Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee had formulated a scheme to deal with the problem of floods and drought. Rivers should be interconnected so that the water from the areas where it is in plenty, could be made available to the areas where there is a shortage of water and to the areas which are affected from drought. I think this scheme is in the interest of country and the farmers, hence it should be promoted. Earlier, the states have demanded from the Central Government to increase the state disaster fund. I have got a database according to which during the last five years, the Congress government has allocated 33,850 crores rupees to the states in State Disaster Fund, but our government thinks that the funds are not enough. After Modi Government came to power the demand of states the funds have been increased to 61,219 crores of rupees. So many schemes were formulated in the interest of farmers and labourers. Just now, Chautala ji, was

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

saying that the Pradhan Mantri Sinchai Yojana has been started by our Prime Minister. The Government has allocated a budget of thousand crores of rupees in it. Likewise, earlier when there was a loss of 50% to the crops, compensation used to be given to the farmers. But after our Government came to the power, Hon. Prime Minister made provisions to give compensation even if there is a crop damage of 33% and one and half times compensation will be given. To make the lives of the farmers prosperous as well as to increase their income, the Government has made efforts to see that the farmers don't have to face any losses. I think that there should be a permanent system to deal with floods in future. Hundred crores of rupees are provided by the Government of India and the State Government every year for repairing the dam on Ghaghra river and also to deal with the floods.

I have also suggested earlier that if a permanent dam is built the money won't get wasted and we will also get rid of the problem of flood. Government of India has started UP 28 scheme in the district of Basti for which it provides 25 to 50 crores of rupees every year. If that money is collected and is used in construction of a permanent dam, people of Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar and Ambedkar Nagar will get relief from the floods. The Government should work in this direction. With this request I conclude while extending my gratitude to all of you.

**17.54 hrs**

(HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[*English*]

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (Kollam): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to intervene in this debate.

Madam Speaker, the recent floods have adversely affected 91 districts in 12 Indian States. Around 511 people have died and around 176 people are injured due to the floods. The worst affected State by this flood in this country is Kerala. Comrade Shri P. Karunakaran, Shri K.C. Venugopal and Shri Kodikunnil Suresh have already narrated the incidents of the devastating effects which have been caused due to the floods in the State of Kerala.

I fully support the observations and recommendations made by my learned friends from the State of Kerala. I fully support their demands also.

Madam, you may kindly see that more than one lakh people have been flood affected. Alappuzha, Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam, Thrissur and my district, Kollam are the worst affected districts during the recent floods. The death toll comes to more than 1.18 lakh people. There are 606 relief camps in the State of Kerala. I would not go into the details. Just now, my learned friend, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh has narrated the incidents of devastating effect in Kuttanad, the rice bowl of the State of Kerala. Ninety per cent of kharif crop in Kuttanad has also been totally adversely affected. Only Rs.80 crore have been granted as central assistance.

Madam, I would like to make one more suggestion regarding sea erosion. Shri K.C. Venugopal has also cited that. The entire coastal State of Kerala is adversely affected and the sea wall is totally dismantled. So my suggestion to the hon. Minister and the Government is that sea wall construction should also be incorporated as a mitigating measure under the National Disaster Management. That should also be incorporated for giving relief.

Madam, other than flood, I would like to say that some concrete political decision has to come out of this discussion. Otherwise, there is no meaning in having this discussion. I would like to state some suggestions and some reports also. Kindly spare me some time so that I can enlighten the Government as well as this House regarding the latest figures.

According to the National Disaster Management Authority report, India is highly vulnerable to floods. Out of the total geographical area of 329 million hectares, more than 40 million hectares are found to be flood-prone.

Madam, you may kindly see over 1600 people die every year due to floods and it affects 32 million people. More than 92000 cattles are lost every year. Seven million hectares of land is affected every year. Average damage cost per year is Rs.5600 crore.

The flood-prone States include Assam, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. You may kindly see

another very important point which I would like to make. India accounts for one-fifth of the global deaths due to floods. A very interesting study has been done by the World Bank which says that climate change will lower the standard of living of nearly half of Indian population by 2050. The worst affected States would be Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to another very important figure. In between 1953 to 2017, i.e., 64 years 1,07,487 people died due to floods. This is the report of the Central Water Commission. Damage to houses, crops and public utilities was reported to be worth Rs. 3,65,860 crore during these 64 years because of floods. It means three per cent of India's current GDP has been lost during these 64 years. This is the scenario of flood situation in India.

Now what are the main reasons for flood? They are— high intensity of rainfall in short duration, poor and inadequate drainage capacity in our country, unplanned reservoir regulation, failure of flood control structures, and loss of wetlands, lakes, reservoirs and other water bodies.

The basic and the scientific reason for the flood is nothing but climate change. As regards climate change, India is one of the world's most vulnerable regions. It has increased the frequency of downpours as well as the gaps between rainy days during the monsoon season. The temperatures have been rising across South Asia region and are projected to continue increasing for the next several decades. This temperature increase will result in increased frequency of downpour resulting in frequent flooding. That is what is happening in our country also.

Madam, the question is as to how to address this question. My first suggestion is that we should have a long term approach. What is the long term approach? Uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources, ignoring the ecology and environment in the name of development are the main reasons for the climate change.

#### **18.00 hrs**

Madam Speaker, everybody is concerned about the GDP and economic growth. Ignoring the ecological and environmental aspects we are mainly concentrating on the GDP and economic growth and that is the reason why

this climate change is happening. So, the issue of climate change has to be addressed effectively. This House had, on an earlier occasion, discussed the subject of Sustainable Development Goals and I would like to suggest to you to allow a separate discussion on the subject 'Climate Change' so that we can discuss this in detail.

*[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: You just wait for a minute please.

The time is 6'o clock now. If you agree, we can extend the time of the House for an hour and if it happens, please keep it in mind that it would be better if you take 2 to 3 minutes so that the Minister could give the reply.

*[English]*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Is it including the reply?

HON. SPEAKER: Yes. But we will see that later.

You all please take care of time since a very long discussion has already been held.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: I would like to suggest a few other measures.

First is conservation of wetland and paddy conservation. Since we have Acts on Forest Conservation, Wildlife Protection, Environment Protection that is the reason these ecological components are protected to an extent. My suggestion is a National Wetland Conservation Act should be enacted by this Parliament to protect the wetlands.

My second point is about desilting of dams. If one examines this issue, one would find that capacity of most of the water reservoirs has come down. On an average, 20 per cent of the capacity of the reservoirs have declined because of siltation. Let there be a national programme on de-silting of reservoirs so the sand for construction can be used; capacity of reservoirs will be augmented and we can declare a moratorium on sand mining of rivers for a period of ten years so that the rivers can be protected. The rivers are dying because of sand mining and waste dumping.

Madam, the next question is how to mitigate the damage. In order to mitigate the damage my suggestion

is that we have to equip the National Disaster Management Authority and also the State Disaster Management Authority to handle the situation. I would like to suggest that a long-term contingency national plan has to be drafted so as to address the flood situation. That has to be formulated at the earliest by the National Disaster Management Authority.

The compensation given is very meagre. The Government may consider all these suggestions and I would like to request the Central Government to give a special financial package to the State of Kerala to meet the present crisis.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

\*KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (Hamirpur): I would like to speak about the issue related to drought. Many districts of Bundelkhand haven't received good rainfall yet. This year also, Bundelkhand may have to face the problems of drought. According to the data, the average rainfall in Bundelkhand is 50-60 cm for the last several decades which is very less in comparison to the national average rainfall of 117 cm. This year also, my parliamentary constituency, Hamirpur Mahoba received 40% less rainfall. In whole of Bundelkhand including my parliamentary constituency, Hamirpur, agriculture is being badly affected due to drought. Such a situation is the resultant of the condition of drought in Bundelkhand region for the last several decades. Mahoba, where there is no river, is totally dependent on rain water and rain water harvesting.

The main source of irrigation in Bundelkhand is the ground water and the ground water level has decreased due to continuous tapping of ground water. Due to no rainfall, around 70% of reservoirs have dried and the water level has decreased due to non-recharging of the sources.

There is a huge shortfall in the average level of the rain due to deforestation and indiscriminate illegal mining.

According to a data, there were 30% forests in Bundelkhand (UP) in the beginning of this century, but now it is even less than 7%. Due to less forest cover, soil erosion occurs, soil quality decreases and it gets

deposited in the ponds and dams in the form of silt. Due to silt, the water collection capacity of reservoirs decreases.

The agricultural production in this area has been affected due to less rainfall and poor quality of the land. Since a very few options are available for employment in other fields besides agriculture, 40% of people have migrated from this region since 2003.

Long-term measures are needed along with the short term and mid-term measures to get rid of the problem of drought in Bundelkhand. So many measures are being taken to get rid of the problem of drought in Bundelkhand under the leadership of Modi Ji and Yogi Ji. The budget of MNREGA has also been increased and preference is being given to the construction of water harvesting plants under MNREGA. In addition to this, subsidy is being given on diesel to the farmers by the Uttar Pradesh Government for fodder, horticulture development and irrigation of crops. Several measures have been taken to increase the Minimum Support Price by 1.5 times of the cost.

The big decision to increase the MSP on the production of Kharif crops from 50% to 62% was taken on 4th July, 2018 which is in favour of the farmers, who provide food to the people of the country.

Further, there is a need to take technical measures also to get rid of the problem of drought. Technology should be used in forecasting drought and relevant information should be shared with the concerned states so that the time taken in assessment of drought and declaring a particular region as drought affected region can be reduced. In addition to this, to solve the problem of drought in the country under the leadership of Modiji, the Government of India have initiated special efforts in technological institutes under which an indigenous and cost effective artificial rainfall technique has been developed by IIT, Kanpur to get rid of the drought problem in Bundelkhand. Bundelkhand will definitely get benefitted with this technique. Artificial rainfall will be beneficial to Mahoba particularly as there is no river and agriculture is mainly dependent on the rain.

Alongwith this, there are some measures like rejuvenating 7500 ancient ponds, taking special measures for recharging of the underground reservoirs, reducing the dependency on underground water for

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

irrigation and promoting irrigation through water of canals, using drip and sprinkler irrigation techniques in agriculture, encouraging production of crops like pulses that can provide high yield in less water, providing foodgrains in affected areas at less rates, etc. which can be helpful in reducing the problem of drought in Bundelkhand. People and the farmers facing drought condition in Bundelkhand will definitely get relief with the said measures.

Drought is frightening for everywhere but the area of my parliamentary constituency Hamirpur and Mahoba, Tindavani, Rath, Charkhari, Mool Pahaad Sareela and Maudha and Palani are constantly being hit by drought for many years. Due to increasing debt the farmer is forced to do the labour work, when there is no work left in the farm. Due to the drought, migrations are happening to other provinces and children are not able to receive education. Even if the farmers are willing, they can't educate their children. The main reason for being debt ridden is drought which means lack of water and no water means no yield, no money increasing interest in loan, barren farms, migration from village, separation from culture, empty villages, burden on cities, house n cities, children's illiteracy, disease, malnutrition, crime, etc. Therefore, I request the Government to monitor drought relief schemes at the level of the Centre so as to prevent the misuse of money in these schemes. Fir the forecast of drought advanced technology should be used and the information sharing mechanism with states should be made more efficient and measures like use of technology for drought assessment, construction of water storage structure, encourage production of pulses and crops grown in less water and artificial rainfall in Bundelkhand can be taken. All these efforts will help to achieve success in reducing the problem of drought to a great extent.

Thanks for giving me an opportunity to put across my views on the topic of drought.

*[English]*

SHRI C. N. JAYADEVAN (Thrissur): Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to participate on the discussion on the recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country under Rule 193.

Madam, my State Kerala has been experiencing heavy rains because of the current South-West monsoon leading to heavy losses and damages to life and property in about 965 villages. My district Thrissur is having a long coastal line and heavy coastal sea erosion has left hundreds of people homeless. Massive damages have been caused to the standing crops, particularly banana plantations and vegetables which were to be cropped during the coming Onam season at the end of August.

About 90 people are reported to have lost their lives in the State. Standing crops in about 10,000 hectares and about 350 houses have been fully damaged. Over 9000 houses have been partially damaged and 30,000 people had to be re- located to relief camps all over the State.

An all-Party delegation had met the hon. Prime Minister and apprised him about the serious situation in Kerala and made a demand for sending a Central team to assess the damages caused by the on-going South-West monsoon in the State. Accordingly, the Union Minister, Shri Kiren Rijiju had visited the area and I hope that they have realised the severity of the situation there. The people of Kerala are thankful to Shri Kiren Rijiju for coming in time and assessing the damage that has been caused by rains to the State of Kerala.

I think that was the first time when a Minister had visited the area to see the damages caused. I would request the Government to sanction substantial help to the State to compensate the losses faced by the affected people and farmers.

HON. SPEAKER: Every Member has to follow Shri Jeyadevan. He has concluded his speech in a short time in a very nice manner.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Jorhat): Hon'ble Speaker Madam, I am very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Madam, 31 out of 33 districts of Assam are totally affected by the flood and you know that the districts like Golpada, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Vishwananth, Sonitpur, Darang, Jorhat, Sirang, Barpeta, Nalbari, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia etc. are badly affected. You are probably aware that this time 26 people have died from floods. This important topic is being discussed in the House under rule 193, for which I am grateful to the Government.

As far as the situation of Assam is concerned, the water from entire Arunachal and Nagaland comes in the state through Brahmaputra and its tributaries and floods the entire area. It creates many problems for people. Now, the Central Government has given us some relief, on the directions of the Honorable Prime Minister 340 crore rupees have been given to us wherein Rs. 239 crores is the installment of SDRF and Rs. 1010 crore is from the ministry. The central government and Hon'ble Nitin Gadkari has also talked about the dredging of Brahmaputra. But this work has not progressed yet. I request that this work should also progress. Flood causes loss of money and lives. Our state is very small. Out of the 3 crore 20 lakh people, one crore people fall into the grip of flood. So we hope that the government will pay attention to this, as our Honorable Prime Minister says. There are so many problems in our state. The state government has taken some measures. I request the Government that money that has been fixed for flood affected areas may be released soon. Also the government should release the funds of NDRF at the earliest so as to provide relief to the people. Thank you.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (Banka): Hon. Speaker Madam, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to put across my views in the discussion going on in House about floods and drought.

In many parts of the country, especially in Bihar there is widespread drought. It is a tragedy that on one hand flood comes in North Bihar while on the other hand, drought takes place in south Bihar. Bihar has always been suffering from floods and droughts and due to low rainfall in 30 districts of Bihar state, paddy saplings have been dried. Crop of maize has dried up. 10,000 state tubewells are not functioning. Because of hike in the prices of petrol and diesel level there is a disappointment in the farmers. Farmers are not able to irrigate their fields. Ground water level has gone down. There is a acute crisis of drinking water. Boring has failed. The farmers are disappointed and distressed. No help is being given by the government in Bihar. We demand that Bihar including Banka, Munger, Jamui, Lakhisarai, Bihar should be declared as drought affected. The Govt. says that if there will be no rainfall between 21st July to 15th August, they will think about it. This is grave injustice to the farmers of Bihar.

Hon. Speaker Madam, I want to tell, through you that since there is no monsoon in Bihar, there is a lot of frustration in the farmers. The Government data with them is making the farmers more distressed. As a result, farmers are committing suicides. We used to say Jai Jawan and Jai Kisan but our 'Annadata' i.e. farmers are in trouble today. It was said that Bihar will be given the status of special state but it didn't happen. They also said to provide special package to Bihar. At least it should be given. Today condition of power in Bihar is worse. Irrigation management at dams whether it is Chaudan, Odni, Vilasi, Aanjan or Badua, is very poor. There is acute shortage of drinking water. Many difficulties are being faced in regard to middlemen in Power Tiller and the tiller of China.

There was a scheme of linking of rivers. The rivers of Bihar may be linked, the rivers of the country should be linked. This work could not be successful. It would have benefitted the people. The loan of Bihar farmers should be waived. They should get loan from banks. There should be arrangement for drinking water. There is shortage of employment everywhere.

Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to say that 60-65 lac ton wheat is being produced in Bihar. Last year, Bihar Government had set a target of producing 5 lac tonne wheat, but it could not procure even a kilogram. In the year 2018-19, the target for procuring wheat was reduced to 2 lac tons. In two-three districts, only 23 thousand tonnes of wheat could be procured. The farmers have sold wheat to the middleman at the rate of rupees 1300 to 1500 per quintal whereas the Minimum Support Price of wheat is Rs. 1735. What could be more injustice with farmers than this? It is cheating with the farmer. So, Chaudhary Charan Singh used to say ...*(Interruptions)* If the country is to become prosperous, the farmers need to be made prosperous. Today, Bihar's condition is very bad....*(Interruptions)*

\*SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT (Vadodara): I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views about flood and drought situation in my constituency.

There has been rain at many places in my constituency Vadodara. A student was drowned in floods.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

The flood affected people should be provided assistance by the Government. There is a cave in that area. Gujarat Government should provide a good package to the farmers of drought affected areas. The Government should provide people assistance to Gujarat so that our Government could provide assistance to the affected people. I request for providing a special package to Gujarat Government.

\*SHRIMATI ANJU BALA (Misrikh): Today, about ten states in the country are drought affected. We are expressing concern in the House as how to deal with it. Everywhere people are staging 'dharna'. They are also taking political advantage of it. But, we all should work unitedly in this regard. We should not take political advantage of it. No politics should be done as was done in Bundelkhand in U.P. We should think as to how to work with the Central Government and help the affected persons.

I have a suggestion in this regard. Our Prime Minister has asked to construct five lac new ponds. It is a welcome step. I congratulate him for it. I want to know whether any norms have been fixed for the depth of these ponds as the existing ponds are three feet deep and four feet above the ground. As a result, water does not go in to these ponds.

I request the hon. Minister to fix the norm for the depth of the ponds which should be at least ten feet so that water could be stored in it. Rule should be made in this regard. It would check corruption also.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards more point. Natural ponds exist today also. People use the silt of these ponds for their houses. As a result, these ponds get desilted and their depth remain intact. There are ponds in my constituency which do not go dry. But, the ponds which have been constructed in recent times, do not have a single drop of water.

If a common person requires a trolley of soil, he has to give an application for it to a committee for mining constituted under the chairmanship of District Magistrate as per the rules framed by National Green Tribunal (NGT).

But they do not get success there even after continuous efforts. Then ultimately they give money to the local police and get the soil. The rate for soil dug by

J.C.B machine for a day is rupees two thousand which have to be given to Uttar Pradesh Police. Then, no rule of National Green Tribunal would be applicable there. But if the amount is not given to the police, the rule would be applicable. No rules are made for mining mafia. I have a suggestion. The rivers and ponds where there are no minerals, where there is only ordinary soil should have been identified at the time when rules were made by the National Green Tribunal and locals residing should have been allowed to take ordinary soil from there to use for their construction works. It would have saved the leveled land from digging and the rivers and ponds could have been saved from silting where drinking water could have been stored.

That is why, we are facing a severe drought situation. In that case, drought would not have been so severe and our river and ponds would have also remained in their natural form and ten states in our country would not have faced drought.

Now, we are racing against time. The water level is decreasing rapidly. It is an indication of the problem. This is an indication that something needs to be done in this regard. Rain water harvesting is very much needed. For it, social awareness may be created, social movement may be launched or laws may be made. The water of a house should be stored in the same house, water of a village should be stored in the same village and water of a town should be stored in that town itself. For it, concrete scheme are required to be formulated and its monitoring, ground verification, etc. are essential otherwise the future generations would face an acute shortage of water.

With a view to solve the problem of drought and flood in flood prone areas, the great leader, visionary who was popular among the masses, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji had launched a scheme to interlink rivers but due to some unknown reasons that scheme has not been implemented. I also want to draw the attention of the government towards it. If that happens, it would be a great initiative in the direction of solving the problem of drought.

The funds allocated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme should be utilised for setting up water conservation infrastructure and for their revival. In every village, at least one pond,

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

culvert, canal or river should be there. The recharge percentage of underground water should be at least doubled. The rain water can be used to recharging underground water both in natural and artificial way easily. After some time, ground water and underground water would have a balance. As a result there of, rivers would become perennial. There would also be water in underground water bed.

Only those schemes should be cleared which are good for the available water resources and other water requirements are not affected. For example, a lot of water is required for rice and sugarcane crops. These crops should be cultivated only in such areas where there is adequate water. Local varieties of crops should be encouraged and minimum support price for these produces should be announced. Regular meetings should be held with industrial sector which may give information about the use of water and may express commitment for less use of water through various means.

[English]

\*SHRI B.V. NAIK (Raichur): Discussion on floods or drought or any other form of natural calamity has become an annual ritual. Every year we discuss about either floods or drought in one form or the other. Every year, after the discussion, a reply is given from the Government side. The sad fact is that we have not been able to treat the disease but we are just taking some ad hoc measures to come out of the situation. It is a common feature that floods affect mostly the coastal regions of the country.

What preventive steps have we taken to meet the situation of floods? As per the "2018 Asia Summer" forecast, it was mentioned that dry weather may lead to insufficient rain and areas of drought in North-Western and South-Eastern India. It was also mentioned that monsoon-based storms and rainfall may frequent through the summer. While isolated flooding can occur anywhere during the monsoon, these North-Eastern and North Central States have the best chance for episodes of flooding. This was predicted much before. In spite of such fore-warning, no steps have been taken by the Government to counter the floods which have affected various parts of the country.

According to the data from the Central Water Commission, one-fifth of global flood related deaths take place in India. In the 64 years from 1953 to 2017, more than one lakh people have died due to floods and damage to crops. As per the reply given in Rajya Sabha, the main reasons behind floods have been due to high intensity rainfall in short duration, poor and inadequate drainage capacity of river, unplanned growth and failure of flood control structures.

One of the important steps that should be taken is, to change the norms for the National Disaster Relief Fund as also for the Calamity Relief Fund. It will help the people at large across the nation in meeting the calamity situation.

Another thing is that due to floods and heavy rains, the first casualty is the roads. I would like to suggest that Ministry of Road Transport and Highways should chalk out a plan to repair and renovate the roads in the country. A study should be made on strengthening the roads especially during rainy season.

\*SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA (Chitradurga): I want to start by saying that discussion on floods or drought or any other form of natural calamity has become an annual ritual. Every year we discuss about either floods or drought in one form or the other. Every year, after the discussion, a reply is given from the Government side. The sad fact is that we have not been able to treat the disease but we are just taking some ad hoc measures to come out of the situation. It is a common feature that floods affect mostly the coastal regions of the country.

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*[Translation]*

\*SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): I would like to express my views on the situation of floods and drought arising in various part of the country under Rule 193.

There is flood like situation in six states of the country. Normal life has got disturbed. Three districts in Rajasthan, six districts in Gujarat, 12 districts in Odisha, whole of Uttarakhand, 8 districts along with Mumbai in Maharashtra, Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala are flood affected where more than 13 persons have been killed. I many districts in Madhya Pradesh, the flood like situation has arisen due to heavy rains. Normal life has been affected. Six devouts have been killed due to land-slide on the way to Vaishno Devi. The situation has worsened due to land slide at various places in Uttarakhand and Jammu-Kashmir. Nine persons have died due to landslide in Manipur as a result of heavy rains. The bridge linking Nachani and Bageshwar has been washed away due to rain.

On the one hand, excessive rain has been causing suffering to the people and on the other hand, farmers

are facing the drought situation in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and in some districts of other states. There has not been rainfall in Bihar. The month of 'Aashad' has passed but there is no rain. Even 20 percent of paddy plantation has not been done so far. Paddy plantation should have been done by 10th July, and 'Shravana' month is going to begin. There is no signs of rain. It is a matter of concern. The production of Kharif crop will get affected due to lack of rain. About 19 districts of Bihar have been badly affected due to drought.

In South Bihar, in some areas even the seeds of paddy have not been sown. The saplings of paddy have dried. There was a forecast that there will be less than 50 percent rain in Bihar, particularly in 19 districts. However, rain is normal in some districts in North Bihar.

The State Government is getting ready to face both the situation of flood and drought. The flood assistance amount of the last year has not been paid fully due to which State Government is facing a lot of problems in providing assistance. Still Hon. Chief Minister, Shri Nitish Kumar had issued directions to provide subsidy for irrigation in accordance with the increased prices of Diesel. But, Bihar is a very backward state. The state has limited resources of revenue. The per capita income in Bihar is 57 percent less in comparison to the income of the country. Keeping it in view, I urge the Government to provide financial assistance to the State Government so that the farmers could be provided proper assistance. Last year, 76 hundred crore was demanded as flood relief, out of which only 940 crore have been received. The remaining amount should be provided at the earliest. Subsidy should be provided on diesel. 90 percent financial assistance should be provided to farmers for deep boring. Solar pumps may be provided free of cost to the farmers. Recovery of agricultural loans given to the farmers may be waived and more agriculture loans should be provided to the farmers. There is an urgent need for providing assistance to the farmers in a planned manner by taking the State Government in confidence. Hon'ble Prime Minister is well wisher of farmers and I hope that the Government provide adequate assistance to the farmers of Bihar at this time of natural calamity.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

[English]

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (Idukki): Madam Speaker, I thank you for permitting me to participate in this discussion on the flood situation in the country.

Madam, all my friends from Kerala have narrated the flood situation in Kerala and I have got a very different narrative of the flood situation because I am representing a constituency which is in high ranges of Kerala from where flood starts. In my constituency, landslide takes place. I am representing a constituency in the Western Ghats. When the Southwest Monsoon starts in Madagascar, our heart starts to beat because of the coming disaster as it is happening every year.

Due to this flood, people living in low-lying areas are suffering a lot. But most of the damage happens to the people living in high ranges also. Due to landslide, a lot of people have lost their houses, many people have lost their crops and many people have lost all their savings which they have made in their life. Unfortunately, in our disaster management system, especially in SDRF, landslide has not been classified as a disaster under the National Disaster Management Fund and as a result of that, people who have lost their property due to landslide are not in a position to get any kind of relief from the Central Government either under SDRF or NDRF.

There is yet another issue here. Due to this incessant and heavy rain, all infrastructure in the area have been lost. In Munnar, which is one of the most sought-after tourist destinations in South India, the entire road to that area has been washed out and that is in an isolated situation now. We will have to reconstruct the entire National Highway starting from Kochi to Munnar and for this purpose, we need help from the Central Government. All State Highways are also in a very bad shape and all rural roads have been washed away. We will have to rebuild all these roads and we will have to re-establish all the basic infrastructure in that area. For this, we need more help from the Central Government. So, I urge upon the Government to announce a special package for the high ranges and hilly areas in Kerala for re-establishing the entire infrastructure there.

Lastly, there are 17 dams in Idukki District of Kerala. The Mullaperiyar Dam is one of the controversial dams in the country. I am not on the controversial issue. But due to this incessant rain, water level in that dam is raising

day-by-day and people living in downstream areas, including me, are in a precarious condition and our people are living with a kind of insecurity in their mind. So, I urge upon the Government to immediately intervene and abate this kind of feeling of insecurity in the minds of the people. If something happens, that will be the greatest disaster in the history of India. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to intervene in the matter and at least provide certain kinds of disaster management facilities there to mitigate the sufferings of the people, if at all anything happens there.

Finally, my demand is only to have a special package for Idukki. Earlier, there was a package. So, I request the Minister to announce a special package for Idukki. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

\*SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA (Amreli): I would like to tell the hon. Minister that in Gujarat, particularly in South-North Gujarat and Amreli, Jauana and Junagarh in Saurashtra, several people have been affected by rain and floods. The seeds sown by the farmers have been destroyed due to heavy rain and half foot soil has got eroded. The villages facing severe rain should be given compensation by the Government. The Government of Gujarat has done good job in the direction of sowing paddy this year. The work of harvesting of 13 thousand lakh cubic litre water has been undertaken through Sujalam Sufalam Yojna. The work of linkage of more than 24 thousand small ponds and check dams has been undertaken. The work of harvesting has been executed from 1st May 2018 to 31st May 2018 with the help of the Ministers of the Government of Gujarat, MPs, MLAs, officers and villagers in Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat has taken help from NGOs, religious institutions and social institutions in the said work. Many parts of Gujarat are still having rain and the Government is monitoring the entire situation. I request the Government to immediately provide the required facilities to Gujarat.

\*SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mahesana): I would like to express my views on floods and drought situation under Rule 193.

The entire country is facing flood and drought situation today. Central assistance should be provided

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

immediately in the affected areas through National Disaster Management Fund. Many acres of land has been destroyed. There is heavy rains in Saurashtra and south zone in Gujarat and in my parliamentary constituency, Mehsana there is drought. Here, the rainfall was less. The arrangements for fodder for cattle and water should be made immediately in my area. Check dams should be constructed, ponds be constructed and wells should be recharged under the Chief Minister Sujlam Suflam water conservation scheme for irrigation in Gujarat so that these could help in coming years. This will help both areas where rainfall is in excess or where it is less. The provision of cash deals should be made in Gujarat where rainfall is less and central assistance should be provided to Gujarat.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad): Hon. Speaker, many of our hon. Members have expressed their views on the discussion being held under Rule 193. It seems that this discussion is focused on flood. But alongwith my constituency all districts of South Bihar are affected by drought. Leave aside the issue of water for agricultural irrigation, even the drinking water crisis has arisen. We always take short term measures, announce some relief and some assistance is also provided, but no long term plan has been formulated for this purpose so far. We make short term announcements to give relief to the farmers as the Bihar Government has given subsidy on diesel and announced to provide 50 rupees subsidy on per litre diesel and has reduced electricity rate for agriculture. The condition of the districts adjacent to Aurangabad, 98 percent in Gaya, 99 per cent in Jahanabad and 100 per cent in Arwal district. The rainfall has been normal in only 4 districts in Bihar and remaining 34 districts are affected by drought in which most parts of South Bihar are affected a lot. I would like to say that the meteorological department of the Government has divided the whole country in 26 sub-divisions in which 7 sub divisions have received more than average rainfall, 10 divisions have received less than average rainfall. Our area comes in this division. Eastern India is facing lack of rain today. I would like to extend my gratitude towards the Prime Minister for sanctioning 1622.27 lakh rupees in August, 2017 for Koel Irrigation Project which is expected to facilitate irrigation for 5-7 districts of Jharkhand and Bihar, I would like to say through the House that this work should be completed at the earliest. The work of North

Koel Irrigation Project has been pending for 45 years. I demand from the Government to expedite the work, the approval for which had been accorded by the Government.

Madam, there is one more scheme in my area namely 'Batane Jalashay' scheme under which 12 thousand hectares land is proposed to be irrigated. This scheme has also been pending for 40 years. Likewise, Tilaiya Dhadhar Scheme for Gaya-Navada district has been pending for 40 years. Similarly, the irrigation projects which are lying pending for the last 40-50 years in the country should be taken into cognizance and completed in a fixed time limit so as to provide relief to the farmers. The water conservation through dams not only provide water for irrigation but also brings greenery and helps in ground water recharge. The problem of drinking water is also resolved through it. Under "Ultimately created and achieved irrigation potential of the State", in Bihar, only in 63 lakh hectares land out of 117 lakh hectares land, this potential is created and only 45 lakh hectares land out of that is utilized. The condition of irrigation is not good in Bihar and NITI Ayog has also said so.

I would like to conclude by giving some suggestions. I want to say that the forests should be protected but it should not be done at the cost of people. Afforestation should be done on a large scale. Along with it, the pending irrigation projects should be completed at the earliest.

A team of Union Government should visit Chatra, Palamu and Letehar districts of Jharkhand and assistance should be provided to the farmers on the basis of survey taken by them.

Madam, thank you so much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Prem Das Rai.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (Sikkim): Madam, I have got four pages here with me, and four minutes.

HON. SPEAKER: What? Four pages and four minutes. Okay.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI: So, your bell should not go ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: If you remain within your time limit, I will not ring the bell.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI: Madam, I am thankful to you for allowing me to participate in the discussion under Rule 193 regarding recent flood and drought situation in various parts of the country.

Madam, I have just got a tweet from 'Yale Environment 360'. This is what it says:

"A growing body of evidence indicates that the destruction of tropical forests is disrupting the movement of water in the atmosphere, which could lead to drought in key agricultural areas in China, India, and the U.S. Midwest."

Now, today, the evidence of this happening across the country has come from this august House from right across – whether it is Kerala, across to Assam and into the mountains and into the areas.

Also, if you look at my Local Area Development Fund (MPLAD), the demand for protection of homes from landslides is growing like nothing else. A number of people come to me and say that their homes are about to be washed away by a landslide. It is something, which just goes to prove that there is this kind of climate change. There is a lot of water in the air. The water comes especially, in the mountain areas as cloudburst.

So, I would request the hon. Minister that we need, firstly, to have a Ministry for Climate Change so that there is an overarching Ministry, which looks after this entire thing. Otherwise, every year, we would be just discussing this with greater intensity and everybody would be arguing. This is my point number one.

My point number two is that there has to be some form of an insurance related scheme, which goes down to the level of Gram Panchayat so that there is an immediate release of funds whenever it is required. This kind of an insurance scheme, I am sure, the hon. Minister, Kiren Rijiju-ji can work it through his own Ministry and through the Disaster Risk Reduction Situation.

Madam, the other thing is that the North-East monsoon has also weakened. We know that every year, this weakening is happening. So, overall, the monsoon in the North-East and in the mountain areas have actually

weakened. It will get shifted by about a month. So, in that situation, we need to look at the Disaster Risk Reduction through a Sendai Framework, which is already there; and this is something, which should be the bedrock of the planning process within our country.

Madam, finally, I would just like to say that the disaster in the mountain areas emanates from four things. That is why, it requires a different way to look at the compensation packages that might flow through. First is the GLUF, that is, Glacier Lake Outburst Flooding. The glacier lakes get flooded. Second is the cloudburst due to heavy rains, which is now being carried off because the temperatures have risen. Third is the landslide as a consequence of the cloudburst. Fourth is the earthquakes. The seismic zone in the mountain areas is always shaking and it leads to this kind of a problem.

With these words, the change in the outlook of the way we address this particular disaster across the country might be a very good idea which I want to submit to this august House.

Thank you, Madam.

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (Kannur): Thank you, hon. Madam Speaker. My leader, Shri P. Karunakaran and other colleagues from Kerala have already spoken in detail about the pathetic condition and serious situation, especially, in Kuttanad, Alappuzha, Kollam, Kochi, Idukki and Kottayam district in Kerala. But, I would like to speak in brief about the situation in my constituency.

Besides the flood situation, five major landslides happened in Kerala, that is, Kattipara landslide in Kozhikode, landslide in Idukki, landslide in Wayanad and landslide in my constituency in Ayyankunnu Irrity taluk in Kannur, very near to South Karnataka. Different parts of my constituency suffered large-scale destruction of crops and property due to heavy rains and winds that swept the district since the onset of the monsoon season. As many as 16 people lost their lives in monsoon-related mishaps in the district. Since May 29, when monsoon showers started, 30 houses were completely damaged and 1,269 houses were partially damaged. The loss is estimated at more than Rs. 3.5 crore in respect of damage to houses only. Irrity and nearby areas bore the brunt of property damage, the release said, adding that 23 houses in the area were completely damaged in monsoon calamity.

The heavy showers and winds had also destroyed crops in large scale. As many as 3,749 farmers had suffered a total loss of over Rs. 14.24 crore. A total area of 215 hectares under crops including rice, plantain, arecanut, coconut and rubber had been damaged in rain.

The heavy showers and winds also damaged electricity distribution networks. The total loss caused by two circles of the KSEB in the district was estimated at Rs. 4.85 crore. Over 1.8 lakh consumers were affected by the damage caused to KSEB lines.

An estimated amount of Rs. 26 crore is needed for repairing damaged roads including the inter-State Highway to Mysore. A very important bridge also collapsed. Thousands of buses and other vehicles go through that bridge to Madikeri, Mysore and Bangalore. That also collapsed.

So, my request is this. As everybody requested, a special financial assistance is required for Kerala and my constituency also. Thank you, Madam.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI DADDAN MISHRA (Shrawasti): I would like to express my views on the important issue of flood and drought situation under Rule 193.

A detailed discussion was held on flood and drought in this House last year also. We had also participated in the said discussion. At that time, there was drought situation in our area. But, it is regretful that during Monsoon Session last year, it was informed on mobile phones that water was flowing from Nepal in full speed and thousands of villages submerged in the water. All the belongings of the poor farmers and villagers were washed away.

My entire Parliamentary Constituency is situated at Nepal border. 62 kilometers border of Nepal is adjacent to Shrawasti district and 72 kilometer border is adjacent to Balrampur district.

Nepal is a hilly area. Due to continuous heavy rainfall and cloud burst in Nepal, catastrophic water flow reached Jamunaha development block of Shrawasti district with high speed and washed away property, livestock and crops in no time. It was so fast that people

could not get time to be alert. Houses were submerged in water upto the level of 10 feet. Foodgrains stored in the houses, edible items, articles of daily use and even money kept in cash to fulfill daily needs were washed away in the flood. The shocked people saved their lives by climbing on the roofs of the houses and trees.

People kept on appealing us on phone in such a grim situation to save them and take them to safe place.

We kept on contacting the Administration constantly to save the people from the devastation of the flood, the people in the Administration continued to assure us to send boats and motorboats but no arrangement could be made because the Administration was not ready to deal with this situation. The Administration left desperate and troubled people on their own fate. We made our possible individual efforts with the help of our workers. The lives of people were saved but all the necessary items needed were got damaged.

The water came from Shrawasti and reached Balrampur after 36 hours. We informed Balrampur district administration that the speed in which water was flowing it would surely affect adversely Balrampur by the next day.

I talked to Commissioner Deviputana that water is flowing from Shrawasti speedily and will reach Balrampur and inform the district administration of Balrampur. They should prepare to deal with this calamity. The Commissioner has intimated us that an alert message has flashed in Balrampur also, they are making preparation for that.

The devastating flood has caused a huge loss in my Parliamentary Constituency Shrawasti and district Balrampur.

Thousands of acres of crops has been destroyed and washed away in the floods. Thousands of houses got damaged. Many families are compelled to live by using tarpaulin along the road even today.

I would like to demand a special package for this area in view of backwardness in this tarai region so that the basic infrastructure facilities could be restored in this area. An Early Disaster Warning System, enhancement in efforts and capacity for prevention and safety, scheme for advance preparation and to create awareness among all stakeholders and means of sensitization can be set up to reduce adverse effects there.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI (Kheri): Hon. Speaker, I would like to thank you heartily for giving me an opportunity to speak. Flood is a natural disaster and it becomes national disaster. It greatly affects the lives of people and economy of the country. As a lot has been said about the country and the time is limited, through you, I would like to make some demands regarding mu Lok Sabha constituency to the Minister directly.

My Lok Sabha constituency Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh is located near Nepal where seven big rivers flow. Out of these, five rivers originates from Nepal and two rivers Gomti and Saryer flow in our country. The water level in our district is 20-25 feet because of these rivers. The entire area is rich in natural resources and surrounded by forests. Earlier the area was good for agriculture but recurrence of floods has affected agriculture here.

I tried to solve this problem on permanent basis and we went to Nepal with a delegation for solution of floods. We got some relief as Nepal stated releasing limited quantity of water from Mohana, Kauriyala, Saryu, Karnati and Sharda rivers coming from Nepal.

But a strange fact came to our notice that flood in Sharda river affected our area adversely but around 45 years ago no flood was occurring in Lakhimpur and Sharda dam was constructed on Sharda river and Sharda canal was created from it and its water was diverted to Raibareli. Not a single drop of water of that canal is used in our district, but it causes flood in our area which affects thousands of acres of land and seepage occurs there. Our district gets affected by floods continuously which results in decline in income of farmers. When we conducted geographical tests, than we came to know that the dam at Sharda Nagar has checked the flow of Sharda river and the water goes into earth which has caused erosion. The main reason of flood and erosion was that dam which was constructed at Sharda river, was not beneficial for our district, but even then it was constructed which caused floods in our area.

Madam Speaker, I would like to make a demand, through you, to the hon. Minister that following things are required to be done for permanent solution to the problem of floods in my area.

Firstly, construction of Pancheshwar project on Sharda river should be completed at the earliest. An

agreement has been signed with Nepal in this regard and this dam has to be constructed in Nepal. So, it should be completed at the earliest.

Secondly, as I mentioned just now, the flow of water should be increased by putting channels there so that erosion can be checked and we could get relief from flood.

Thirdly, a decision should be taken at the earliest to connect Sharda river to Yamuna river.

Foyrth, we have checked the flow of Muhana, Karnali and Kaudiyala rivers of Nepal. A permanent agreement should be signed with Nepal Government which would be beneficial for us.

Saryu, Gomti and Suheli rivers should be desilted. Some people are forced to live on road due to erosion in villages and in their fields. I would like to request the Government to make arrangements for their rehabilitation.

\*DR. BHARTIBEN D. SHYAL (Bhavnagar): The floods and drought affect our country every year. It has become a perennial problem. But, our Government has taken steps in this regard and people have got some relief.

This year too, there is a problem of flood in various districts of Gujarat. About 45 persons have died due to floods till date. 3 persons have died in my parliamentary constituency, 25 cattle have also died in this flood. Thousands of acres of land has also got affected. The people, particularly farmers are affected by heavy rains in Mahua and Jaser Tehsil. Our Government has saved lives of several people through rescue operation. Food and other material have been supplied to the affected people. Compensation of Rs. 4 lakh has been provided immediately to the family of the deceased. The State Government of Gujarat has provided relief to affected persons.

The entire Gujarat has suffered loss due to floods. I would like to request the Union Government to give a special package to Gujarat so that affected persons could be rehabilitated at the earliest.

\*SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR CHAUDHARY (Jhanjharpur): I belong to Jhanjharpur parliamentary

constituency. Every year, Bihar faces floods and drought. My parliamentary constituency is situated near Nepal border. Last year, there was floods and this year we are facing drought. In my parliamentary constituency, water flows in dozens of rivers throughout the year, but it is not being used for irrigation as sluice gate not there. If sluice gate is installed on all of these rivers then lakhs of acres of land can be irrigated and the farmers will become prosperous. The farmers have not received compensation for the damaged crops.

I would like to make a demand to the Government that compensation should be given to the farmers for damage of the crops. The normal like in the country has been affected by heavy rains.

[English]

\*SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Hingoli): As per the available government data, India accounts for one-fifth of global deaths due to floods. World Bank study has stated that climate change will lower the standards of living of nearly half of India's population by 2050.

According to the data by Central Water Commission in Rajya Sabha on 19th March 2018, 107,487 people died due to heavy rains and floods across India over 64 years between 1953 and 2017. Damage to crops, houses and public utilities was reported to be Rs. 365,860 crore-or as much as 3% of India's current gross domestic product. Reasons for floods have been assessed as high-intensity rainfall in short duration, poor or inadequate drainage capacity, unplanned reservoir regulation and failure of flood control structures.

Recently, heavy rains have lashed many parts of the country and cities such as Mangaluru, Mumbai and Junagarh have flooded during the 2018 monsoon season. Over 30 people died in floods that inundated 58 villages. "Temperatures have been rising across the South Asian region, and are projected to continue increasing for the next several decades under all plausible climate scenarios," the World Bank study, published on June 28, 2018, said.

These changes will result in more frequent flooding, greater water demand and increased heat-related medical issues. South Asian cities such as Kolkata,

Mumbai, Dhaka and Karachi- that are home to over 50 million people-face a substantial risk of flood-related damage over the next century, the report said. India is one of the World's most vulnerable regions to climate change. It has increased the frequency of downpours as well as the gaps between rainy days during the monsoon, as India Spend reported in January 2018 and February 2018. As India's climate warms, extreme weather, such as intense rain and floods, is predicted to worsen.

The new World Bank study mentioned above said the worst affected states by 2050 would be Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Seven of the 10 most affected districts will belong to Vidarbha, Maharashtra. India could see a six-fold increase in population exposed to the risk of severe floods by 2040-to 25 million people from 3.7 million facing this risk between 1971 and 2004, India Spend reported in February 2018, based on a study published in *Science Advances*, a peer-reviewed journal.

Over 1,600 people die every year due to floods, affecting nearly 32 million people. More than 92,000 cattles are lost every year, seven million hectares of land is affected, and damage is over Rs. 5600 crore. States that are flood-prone include West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. Intense rains during the monsoon season cause rivers like Brahmaputra, Ganga and Yamuna to swell their banks, which in turn floods the adjacent areas. There are 226 flood forecasting stations across 20 states, two union territories and 19 river basins to monitor floods in the country. The Government plans to expand the network to 325 stations by March 2020.

According to a reply in the Lok Sabha (Unstarred Question No. 2894) on 13th March 2018, 2231 lives were lost in the year 2017. The Central Government has failed to provide the required assistance to States for flood relief. As per the data furnished in Lok Sabha, the Central Government is not even providing 50% of the relief that has been asked by various states.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

State	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved
Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	2057.79(K) 1888.35(R)	1304.51(K) 622.76(R)	-	-	678.98(R)	Under Consideration
Karnataka	3830.84(K) 1417.14(R)	1540.20(K) 723.23(R)	4702.54(K) 3310.83(R)	1782.44(K) 795.54(R)	-	-
Maharashtra	6020.36(K) 2251.66(R)	3638.83(K) 679.54(R)	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	2000.56(K)	433.77(K)	2513.67(K)	518.93(K)	679.19(R)	113.14(R)
Rajasthan	10537.02(K)	1193.41(K)	3660.97(K)	588.34(K)	3078.26(K)	526.14(K)
Telangana	2601.17	791.21	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	6093.79	1276.25	-	-	4401.00(K)	395.91(K)
Madhya Pradesh	5114.53	2032.68	-	-	3705.95(K)	836.09(K)
Odisha	2344.99	815.00	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	2142.78	336.94	-	-	-	-
Uttarakhand	91.97(R)	70.22(R)	-	-	-	-
Kerala	-	-	1019.90	112.05	-	-
Tamil Nadu	-	-	39565.00	1748.28	-	-

There has been heavy rainfall in the entire State of Gujarat wherein all districts of Saurashtra and South Gujarat region have suffered heavy losses. Lives of people have been disrupted. Transportation has been heavily disturbed since roads have been clogged and rendered useless. Entire fields have submerged in water. Any agricultural activity, which forms the very basis of these farmers' lives has been halted, totally. There has been excessive loss in other assets as well, these farmers have lost their houses, household articles like furniture and other basic items which has furthermore crippled them financially. More than 32 human lives and more than 150 cattle have lost their lives.

It is therefore, urgent, important and necessary for the Central and respective State Government to take up following action in all affected districts:

Agricultural lands have been washed out and recent cultivation, sowing and seeds-fertilizer have failed; semi-

constructed/constructed houses have collapsed and the household articles have been damaged. Therefore, a comprehensive survey be conducted immediately and action be initiated for compensation as per rules; Payment of compensation in cash be started in affected areas immediately;

For the crops that failed, action be taken for sanction of crop insurance immediately and the crop loans advanced to the farmers be waived and fresh crop loans be paid immediately; Damaged roads should be repaired on urgent basis and transportation be restored; Electricity supply be restored in the villages where power supply has been interrupted; Agricultural lands of talukas of Mangrol, Sutrapada, Talala, Kodinar, Gir Gadhada, Una, Jafarabad, Savarkundla, Mahuva, Palitana, Talaja etc. have been eroded due to heavy rainfall hence farmers will not be able to cultivate and raise crops on their lands for next five years. Therefore, at present, machineries like loader, JCB etc. be allocated through



GLDC for land reforms and farmers be allowed to excavate soil from Government waste lands and farmers be paid assistance for land erosion immediately and debts of farmers be waived.

Further, with a view to prevent any future loss of lives in such floods and protection of cattle, land, valuables, thereby averting economic losses, it is suggested to the Government does the following under the purview of general disaster management :

River be desilted and deepened every year; Flood protection and wall be constructed in the villages on river banks; Remove encroachments on rivers, canals and culverts; Regular surveys of water levels be conducted for every village and the latest satellite surveillance devices be implemented so that quantum of damage to flood affected villages could be gauged. Thereby, speeding up arrangements for disbursement of compensation of various damages; For protection of life and properties in frequently flooded areas, various Government schemes be launched including training programs for skilled volunteers; In every district of State, skilled employees be appointed on permanent basis for immediate rescue operations in frequently flooding areas and they should be equipped with life jackets, life saving rings, lifeboats, ropes, small boats, waterproof lights, mobile generators etc. together with advanced rescue kits; The District Disaster Management administrations must prepare and maintain lists of swimmers village-wise and taluka wise with phone number of volunteers and under pre-monsoon planning, take action to keep such swimmers and volunteers alert and trained; Establish expeditious coordination and modern communication system for coordination between different departments of the Government for flood relief operations in areas affected by floods frequently; Work out district-wise back up plan for power supply management i.e. deploy mobile generators sets and Taluka and village level for making temporary domestic floor mill, water- motor, TV, communication equipment etc. operative.; Mobile Treatment Centers be set up at village and Taluka levels for immediate medical care of people during floods and such centers should be of permanent nature and made operational before monsoon; Shelters for people migrating from areas affected by floods should be established and concrete arrangements should be made for supply of nutritious food; Rates of compensations for

damages caused to people by floods such as loss of human lives, loss of cattle, household articles, agricultural equipment, crop loss etc. should be revised and policy be framed by the Government for 100% compensation of losses to the people.

Around 59% of India has received substantially less rainfall as compared to previous years, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) data shows, raising apprehension that poor agricultural output could adversely impact the economy.

The latest economy growth, measured by the gross domestic product, grew by 5.7% in the first quarter of 2017-18 as compared to 7.9% in the same quarter a year ago – slowest since the National Democratic Alliance Government came to power in May 2014.

The Government had predicted in April that it expects the farm output growth to remain stable at 4% while setting a foodgrain production target of 273 million tonnes in 2017-18 crop year (July-June) amid expectation of a normal rainfall in June-September. That did not happen as once again IMD's prediction of a normal monsoon went wrong.

In my home state of Maharashtra, private water sellers are doing sound business in the midst of severe economic downturn in the water parched region; the toothless laws, lack of enforcement and ineffective irrigation network which has led to the exploitation and depletion of water levels in the dams; crop failures triggering farmer suicides; the region's sugarcane addiction, and climate change manipulation affecting the agricultural produce, provides a vantage point on agrarian crises of Marathwada. The next step, however, should damage control. Environmentalists, water conservationists and agricultural scientists have long been suggesting ways like – watershed management, changing cropping pattern, focussing on agro-forestry, tree-farming and allied sectors like poultry and dairy – to mitigate drought.

Although the overall deficit is 6%, India's food bowl states of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh received up to 36% less rainfall than the long-term average rainfall. These states account for almost half of the country's food production. In addition, large parts of agriculturally significant Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka and

Kerala received less rainfall than previous years. And face drought for the third year in a row.

The rainfall distress is also visible on the crop sowing data from these states even through the agriculture ministry is hopeful the impact on overall production will not be high. Production of crops like soybean, cotton, oilseeds and vegetables would be less in October-November season.

Chandigarh-based economist Devendra Sharma said scanty rainfall may reduce the farm growth this year by half as the area of impact is vast. "The impact on production will be huge," he said, and added that country's agriculture sector was going through its "worst phase" and nobody was talking about it. As the crisis looms large, the State Governments are only just getting ready to tackle that what may be another year of distress and misery for the poor farmers.

The Government on 20th March 2018 to UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4111 has stated that the NCRB doesn't maintain data on farmers suicide since 2016. This is a big failure of Modi Government which claims to be Pro-farmer and works towards their development. Without any data on farmers suicide and its reason, it will be difficult to have efficient policies for the farmers, who are biggest victim of flood and droughts. I would conclude by stating that we need to have proper research and technology in place to ensure proper flood management and drought management to ensure that such natural calamity doesn't take place again. There needs to be a strong emphasis on Climate Change and adopting eco-friendly practices.

Modi Government is failed to provide relief to Indian farmers especially Gujarat.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): A discussion under Rule 193 on recent floods and drought situation in the country is going in the House.

There is shortage of rainfall in this monsoon season in Jharkhand, particularly in Giridih district, which has resulted in damage to seeds of paddy and the condition of farmers is very pitiable in these areas due to non sowing of paddy. The farmers and agriculture labourers

are on the verge of starvation in Gomia, Petarwat, Kasmat, Jaridih, Chanderpura, Berma, the agriculture dominated districts of Bakaro, Poorvi, Hundi Topchachi, Baghmara of Dhanbad district, Peertad of Giridih district and Dunsil Giridih Myfsil. Such a situation would not have arisen if check dams had been cleaned at proper time or work at pending irrigation schemes had been started on proper implementation of Pradhan Mantri Agriculture Irrigation Scheme had been ensured.

Our popular Government has started several schemes for irrigation but farmers and agriculture labourers are not getting its benefits and ground water level has fallen resulting in drinking water crisis in various districts of the state.

I would like to request the Government to adopt short term and long term measures to deal with situation of drought. Adequate assistance and compensation should be provided to the affected farmers and agriculture labourers to save them from starvation whose paddy crops are not sown.

\*SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dhubri): Madam, Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this issue. We are discussing a issue which affects a large part of our country every year. This year also, various states in the country are affected by rain and there is a situation of floods. Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Odisha, Gujarat, Mumbai and Assam are affected by floods.

This is a big problem of our country that floods cause damage every year. I remember the floods occurred at Shumai in Bihar in 2017, in Tamil Nadu in 2015, in 2014 in Kashmir, in 2013 in Uttrakhand, in 2008 in Bihar in Kosi river and in 2005 in Mumbai.

The question is what steps the Government has taken to control flood.

I belong to Assam where floods causes damage every year. Lakhs of people are affected by it. All of you are aware about the damage caused by floods in Brahmaputra river every year. Lakhs of people becomes homeless, hundreds of them die, roads, times, schools get submerged in floods. The crops also get damaged by floods.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

Assam as witnessed floods in 1988, 1984, 1977, 1972, 1962, 1954, 2004, 2002, 2001, 2014. This year also, Barpeta, Hojai, Silchar, Hirakhundi, Karimganj, Nagaon districts of Assam are facing floods. 3 persons have lost their lives.

Flood and erosion have adversely affected the economy of Assam. I belong to Dhubri which is affected by floods and erosion badly. Erosion is dangerous for Indo-Bangladesh border.

1. About 1,27,00,000 hectares of land is affected by erosion.
2. About 40 lakh people are displaced as per a survey report.
3. Assam suffers loss of around Rs. 200 crore every year.
4. Several habitated places in Assam have become part of river now.
5. Crops worth of crores of rupees get damaged by floods every year.

We have been making these demands since long and I would like to repeat them.

1. Flood and erosion situation in Assam should be declared as national calamity.
2. A special package should be provided to Assam.
3. A research should be conducted for protection from floods and erosion.
4. Compensation should be provided to the affected persons in Assam.
5. A Fund should be created for rehabilitation of the affected persons.
6. Compensation should be provided to the farmers whose crops get damaged due to floods and their loans should be waived off.
7. The Government should immediately give land elsewhere to those whose lands get washed out due to river erosion.

I appeal to the government to talk to China and Bhutan as the flood in Brahmaputra originates from there.

\*SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT (Jhunjhunu): The efforts of the government to deal with drought and floods

as well as to increase the prosperity of the farmers can only be done by a sensitive government like ours. I express my gratitude to the Hon. Prime Minister.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): Madam Speaker, first of all, I thank you for giving chances to so many hon. Members to speak on this very important discussion on the situation of floods and droughts in the country.

Let me assure this august House that the Government is taking extremely important steps to mitigate all those points that were raised by the hon. Members today in this House.

Madam, about 70 to 90 per cent of the rainfall in India happens within the span of four months that is from June to September. We are in the month of July. This is the time where the maximum rainfall takes place in this country and this year, the monsoon had arrived three days in advance and hit Kerala on 29th May, 2018, thereby causing unprecedented rain in the State of Kerala and many other parts of the country. I have visited Kerala and seen the problem in Kerala. The delegation from Kerala led by the hon. Chief Minister had made a representation to the hon. Prime Minister and the Prime Minister had instructed me to visit Kerala. I had gone there along with the hon. Minister of the State Government of Kerala and Hon. Member Shri Suresh Ji was also there. The other Member from Rajya Sabha was also there. Many officials were also there.

A number of hon. Members from Kerala State had also spoken in detail. I will not go into the details of the affected areas about which you have already explained. Besides that, the hon. Members from various other States have also made points which the Government has taken note of. I may not be able to respond to each point but we have taken serious note of all the suggestions and the demands whichever have been made.

Let me clarify very, very emphatically that no State has been discriminated against in terms of release of fund or in terms of cognizance taken by the Government of India. Some of the hon. Members have alleged that the Government has not released any amount, which is not true. I have all the details of State-wise amounts being released. Everything is here but I will not go into the details State-wise.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Please do that. That is the important point....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: If the hon. Speaker Madam allows me, regarding the misunderstanding about the amount of Rs.80 crore which we had released a day before I went to Kerala, you have termed that as a small amount. That is not to be termed as a small or big amount. Immediate relief is different from long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction. When Rs.203 crore is available with the SDRF of Kerala State, we have additionally released Rs.80 crore. That is to meet the immediate requirement of the State.

As I promised that day, within 10 days we will send the Inter-Ministerial Team, and I am happy to inform the hon. Members from Kerala that the team has been constituted. It is headed by a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs. It will have officers from the NITI Aayog, Finance Ministry, Agriculture Ministry, Ministry of Road Transport and Ministry of Health. Likewise, it will have officers from all the relevant Ministries....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: No, do not say anything like that while sitting, please.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Officers from all the relevant Ministries will be there. They will visit the State of Kerala very soon, within a few days, and they will assess the exact quantum of the total damage. They will finalise the quantum and report to the Ministry, and then the High-Level Committee will decide. You know, the Home Minister chairs the High-Level Committee. The Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister are members in the Committee. On top of the SDRF amount, the amount from NDRF has already been released. When I reached Kerala, the State Government had handed over to me a memorandum. On the basis of which, we are going to send the team. So, besides that, you yourself have mentioned clearly the kind of losses in detail, the losses of lives, cattle, agricultural crops, houses, buildings and other infrastructure. I have seen them, particularly in some of the places. I had visited the relief camp. At some places, I made an aerial survey and I had discussed with the State Government. They made a detailed on the spot presentation also.

I had personally met the victims, those people who are in the camps, with my senior officials. In some of the

places, we had immediately directed the State Chief Secretary to provide portable toilets and other required things which are required immediately. These are being done.

I must appreciate that in most of the districts, the District Administration is doing a very good job. There are certain areas where they need more assistance which we will be providing. As regards the Forces which you have demanded, right now we have deployed four NDRF teams in Kerala. The Army is put on standby. All our Central Armed Forces are put on standby. The Navy has been put on standby. The boats, which you require, have already been asked to be there on the spot wherever it is required. So, all necessary assistance from the Government of India has already been given there. So, on the ground, there is no such crisis with regard to the assistance required from the Government of India. We, the State Government of Kerala and the Government of India, are working together. At the time of disaster, we have to work together. That is exactly what we are doing.

The other hon. Members have raised various issues. Madam, as I have already said, I will not be able to respond to each point. But let me tell you that one of the important points mentioned was about the weather forecast. The Meteorological Department has installed various units even in Kerala. The hon. Members may not have that much knowledge. But there the installations of various units in Kerala are working.

The weather forecasts are being carried out from time to time, particularly in cases where it has been raining heavily for last three days. Even a warning is issued for the fisherman and also the people, who are prone to any kind of a disaster. We do all kinds of forecasts and provide on time information to the local authorities also.

Madam, as I said, relief is an immediate step and funds have already been allocated from the State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF) fund, which has been created for this purpose.

Then, Madam, there are certain items which the hon. Members have asked for. As the House is aware, I myself cannot change the relief items because these are already prescribed by 14th Finance Commission. Earlier, an amount of Rs.1.5 lakh was given as compensation in

the event of a person's death. But now we are giving an amount of Rs.4 lakh as compensation in such event.

In case of agriculture also, we provide an assistance that is minimum 33 per cent of the losses done to crops. In the same manner, item-wise compensation amount has already been prescribed. If some more items are to be included, we can do that only at the time of the next Finance Commission. But for the time being, compensation on all the items has been increased substantially. With regard to damage to roads, telecommunication, school and anganwadi buildings and other infrastructure, which the hon. Members have demanded rightly, we will clearly go as per the guidelines.

Madam, we have 21 States and Union Territories which have reported damage caused by heavy rains. I assure all these States and Union Territories that they will all get due assistance from the Government of India. The relief fund under SDRF has already been provided to the States. Like, in case of Kerala, first instalment of relief fund has already been released. Now, they will get the second instalment.

Madam, I would like to inform the hon. House through you that there are inter-Ministerial teams, which visit the flood affected States. They provide relief through the State Disaster Relief Fund. On top of SDRF, there is a National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) and funds are provided to the States as per assessment carried out by these inter-Ministerial teams after the approval by the High-Level Committee. So, the Government of India has always been very generous in providing relief to the affected States....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Hon. Minister, I appreciate you for your concerns for our State. But, Sir, I want to mention two things. One is with regard to Ockhi Cyclone. As you have just mentioned that on top of the State Disaster Relief Fund, there is a National Disaster Relief Fund and the States are issued funds after the report is received from the inter-Ministerial teams. But I would like to mention that the same teams visited Kerala after the destruction done by Ockhi cyclone and submitted their report to the Central Government. But no relief has yet been given by the Central Government.

The other thing that I would like to mention is about the guidelines, which the hon. Minister has just

mentioned. There are many things which do not come under the purview of the said guidelines. Take, for example, the sea erosion. There has been a massive sea erosion in my State. Entire houses of fishermen have been damaged. But that does not come under the purview of the guidelines. I want to know if the hon. Minister is going to include sea erosion in the said guidelines...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Madam, I just want to mention something about Kuttanad. On the one side there are paddy fields and on the other side there are houses. Everything has been damaged due to heavy rains and flood. The hon. Minister himself is an eye-witness. I request the hon. Minister to consider Kuttanad as a special case because the number of casualties is very huge.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Hon. Madam, there was a Hudhud cyclone and then there was Ockhi. We have faced many cyclones in this country. The quantum of the damage is always high. But then there are line Ministries in the Government of India, which deal these issues accordingly. Suppose, a highway is damaged. The Home Ministry looks immediately at the relief work for the affected people. But so far as repair and restoration work of that highway is concerned, the Home Ministry recommends it to the line Ministry, which in this case is the Ministry of Highways and Road Transport. If the issue pertains to water resources, the Home Ministry recommends it to the other line Ministry, that is, the Ministry of Water Resources. Subsequently, they will take up the matter with the State Governments concerned.

I would also like to mention that damage to other infrastructure should not be counted as immediate relief. What I am saying is that in the Ministry of Home Affairs we are dealing with immediate relief work to be provided to the people, who need it.

Madam, we have a concept and from day one we have been saying that disaster management is the top priority for this Government. The hon. Prime Minister has given a 10-Point agenda while the ASEAN Ministers' Conference was taking place in Delhi. The hon. Prime Minister has made it very clear. We have already suggested to all the Ministries to incorporate disaster resilient aspect into their developmental programmes.

So, we have to be sensitised about the disaster resilience. I have been very closely dealing with this matter. I have been representing our country in all the international conferences. They are also appreciating the efforts which our Government has been making in last four years.

I do not want to appreciate myself, but I have also been designated as a Disaster Champion for the Asia Region by the United Nations because of the efforts we have made. I have just come ten days back from Mongolia where India's case has been appreciated and cited by many international agencies. So, our efforts are very clear that we will not take easy to any kind of disaster and we have been suggesting to the State Governments also.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Madam, I appreciate the reply of the hon. Minister.

In Kerala, within six months, we are faced with two major calamities – Okchi Cyclone and monsoon calamities. According to the norms of NDRF, if there are two calamities within a short period of time, you can waive the norms and increase the compensation. I would like to ask whether the Minister would take this issue, especially as far as Kerala is concerned because within five months, we are facing such very big situations. The Minister is well aware of the fact. So, will it be taken as a very important issue?

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: I can assure the hon. Member from Kerala that we will give complete support through whatever is required, but as I said, it has to be through a proper mechanism. For that, an inter-ministerial team has been constituted. As I promised earlier, it will be sent within this week. I hope, hon. Members from Kerala will be satisfied with the effort. As I said earlier, it is a joint effort. The State Government of Kerala and the Government of India have to work together. Hon. Members of Parliament are seriously concerned about the issue because they represent the State. Naturally, we have to take into account their concern. That is why, the hon. Prime Minister had asked me to go immediately and the high-level team, with a member of NDMA, my Joint Secretary and the Minister from Kerala, Mr. K.J. Alphons, accompanied me. Then, we have met many of the hon. Members there. That is why, Madam, I can assure this august House.

As I said, I could have gone with the figures, but we have had a quantum jump in terms of Central assistance. So, when you are reading the figures of SDRF, which are there and provided to you, they have already been identified, which I cannot change. What can be done by the Government on the top of that is the NDRF. We provide this after the calculation is made by the inter-ministerial team and then, fund is approved by the high-level committee chaired by the hon. Home Minister.

Thereafter, I can also inform this august House about the issue of issue of crops. There is a large number of hon. Members from other States where they are not affected by the flood, but they are affected by the drought. Hon. Agriculture Minister is also sitting here. The total agriculture assistance has been increased by 50 per cent and the State can use 10 per cent of their annual allocated fund for local disaster, which may not be covered by the items which are being prescribed. This kind of liberty has been already given to the State Government. So, they can use 10 per cent of the total amount as per the need of the local situation.

SHRI R. DHARUVANARAYANA (Chamarajanagar): Crop compensation is not scientific. That is very low.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: As I said, the items and the rates are prescribed. I cannot make a statement here in the House by my own calculations because these are calculated after due process, after the recommendations of the Expert Committee and various assessments made. Then, the policy is adopted and the rates are fixed.

What I am saying is that under the NDRF provisions, we have been very kind to all the State Governments.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Madam I would like to seek a clarification. The Calamity Relief Fund for agriculture is Rs. 6,800 crore for many years. You are saying that you have been kind and generous. I think you need to revise it. I am not blaming you.

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): Hon. Speaker Madam, I would like to tell the House that in the State Calamity Fund, the State contributes 25 percent and the Centre contributes 75 percent funds. This fund is for immediate relief. When our Government

came to power, ten equal allocations were made for five years. Before Government came to power, the total allocation was Rs. 33,000 crores. When our Government came to power, the Ministry of Home Affairs increased the allocation amount for next five years. The decision is taken by the Ministry of Finance, but the Ministry of Home Affairs got the amount increased to Rs. 61,000 crores.

I would like to tell you that just now an hon. Member from Odisha was saying that for his state the amount for five years has been hiked. The amount for Odisha this year is Rs. 865 crores. The first installment of Rs. 324 has been released. As soon as the utilization certificate comes, that amount would immediately reach the state. You will also get your share. The amount spent would be released as second installment...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Kalikeshji, such discussions cannot be held.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: The second point is that out of this, you can give ten percent amount for local calamities. Apart from twelve national calamities, there are some local calamities such as landslides, etc. After our Government came to power, the states have been given freedom in that too. The states can spend ten percent of this amount for local calamities, treating it as national calamity. Everything is absolutely clear and the allocation has also been increased hugely. In case of national calamity fund demand being raised, the team will go there and make an assessment. I would like to put forth the data in this regard also. In response to the national calamity fund demand raised by states between 2010-11 to 2013-14, Rs. 14000 crore were give in four years. During 2014-15 to 2017-18, Rs. 30,000 crores were given. This is because norms have been widened and the corpus has also been hiked by 1.5 times. In case of death, the amount has been raised to rupees four lakh from Rs. 1.5 lakh. The damage has been reduced to 30 per cent from 50 per cent. All these pro victims changes have been made during the last four years.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Hon. Speaker Madam, keeping this reply absolutely short, I would like to submit that some states have said that funds have not been released by us. I will name some states. I said about Kerala. Our colleagues from West Bengal have left. The state has already been released Rs. 224 crores this year. And they

say here that not a single rupee has been given. Already Rs. 294.75 crores have been released to Tamil Nadu this year. Their members too were saying that funds have not been released. Regarding Karnataka, what our member Shri Pratap Sinha has said is right. Last time, the biggest NDRF recipient was Karnataka, when congress was in power there. No discrimination has been done. This time also, Rs. 120 crore has already been released to Karnataka. There is no question of any discrimination against any state. There is no such intention on the part of our Prime Minister. We are helping all equally. I appeal to all the Members to cooperate with the government and appreciate the good work done by us. I would like to assure on behalf of the government that all the suggestions, improvements would be incorporated to help the states much more. With this, I conclude. I thank you all.

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Agriculture to speak. He will give full reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: It will not go like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Venugopal, he has completed his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)...*\*

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): Hon. Speaker, I want to thank you...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please sit down. Otherwise, it will go on like this only.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\* Not recorded

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Madam, we have not got any reply from the hon. Minister....*(Interruptions)* How can this be so?...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has completed his reply, and the other concerned Minister has also started his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Let the two hon. Ministers complete their replies on the issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: It is not done like this. The concerned hon. Minister is giving his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Madam, there is an extraordinary situation in Kerala....*(Interruptions)* We have not got any reply on the issues raised by us....*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you should understand the things. He has answered all your questions.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: What is the purpose of this discussion under Rule 193 if we are not getting any replies?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Madam, I want to ask a supplementary from the hon. Minister....*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker, I want to thank you...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: He is the Minister, and he is replying to the discussion. If anything remains, then after his reply you can do it.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You can ask after his reply, but not like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: It is not a question-answer session going on here.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Another hon. Minister is giving reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker, I want to thank you for allowing a serious discussion on an important issue of floods and droughts. I would also like to thank hon. Shri Jitender ji, hon. Shri. Kalikesh N. Singh Deo through you for the discussion on this national issue which gave a chance to all members to participate. I also thank all members including hon. Karunakaran Saheb, hon. Ajay Mishra for participating in this important discussion.

Hon. Speaker, the discussion was regarding the long term solution to both these problems, encompassing climate change, regarding which the entire world is concerned and international water disputes, etc. crop insurance, agriculture loans, crop preservation and the plight of farmers was also dealt in detail.

Hon. Speaker, although this issue of national calamity is directly related to the Home Ministry, but both the issues of floods and drought ultimately affect the farmers. I thank you for allowing the Ministry of Agriculture also to participate.

The long term assessment of the Meteorological Department regarding this year's monsoon is that there will be normal monsoon. This is the Meteorological Department's forecast issued. As per their forecast, monsoon would be 96 per cent to 104 per cent average all over the country. As per the data given by the Meteorological department during 1 June 2018 to 24 July 2018 the country received on an average 377 mm rainfall. The long term average forecast for this period is 386 mm rainfall. There is only two percent shortfall in rainfall taking the country as a whole. My colleague Shri Kiren Rijju discussed in detail regarding the help to the floods affected areas by the government help to various states. I would confine myself to drought.

Hon. Speaker Madam, there is only two per cent deficit rainfall. Regarding various regions, 30 per cent of the country received slightly more than average rainfall.



**19.00 hrs**

The normal rainfall in other parts of the country is about 47 per cent. 26 per cent of the country received less than average rainfall.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The time of the House is extended up to the Minister's reply. He has to complete his reply.

Hon. Minister may continue.

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Hon. Speaker, the parts of the country that received 26 per cent less rainfall are expected to receive rainfall between 25 July to 30 July 2018 as per meteorological department. The meteorological department has forecast good rains in the East India and North-East India from today till the next seven days. In this August House, I pray to God that the regions with less rainfall get good rains as predicted so that this year the country does not face drought.

Four years ago, this August House discussed in detail the drought situation in my state, when two-third of the country was reeling under drought, At that time, I had said that my state constantly faced famine and drought. Giving the data, I had said then that about 60 years out of the 70 years state faced at various times drought to the extent of 25 percent, 50 percent and at times 75 percent and even 100 percent. Members spoke about farmers suicide in various parts of the country. I had said with pride that no such case was registered in West Rajasthan. It is a role model. It should be studied. Four years later, in this August House, I would like to say that under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Narandra Modi ji the manner in which the Government is working for the security of the farmers, with long term planning, results would come and he results have already started to come. Through you, I have placed before the House a rough estimate regarding rainfall. As per the data sent by the states to the Ministry of Agriculture, till 20 July normal sowing should have been over 67 lakh hectares. But, sowing was done only in 631 lakh hectares, a shortfall of 25 lakh hectares. Sowing deficit is about 3.91 per cent. Several hon. Members expressed their concerns regarding paddy transplantation. Compares to 180 lakh hectares, paddy transplantation was done in 156 lakh

hectares, which is about 22 per cent less. Paddy transplantation season will continue till 30 August. Rainfall prediction has been made. I am sure that with rainfall in the coming season, sowing deficit will come down. In case of pulses, I can proudly say that in comparison to the situation prevailing at the time of formation of Modiji's Government, today the country has achieved self-sufficiency which is more than the annual requirement and many states have emerged as net surplus states in pulses production. As against the normal sowing on 74-75 lakh hectares, sowing on 82.41 lakh hectares has been done which is 10.5% more than the normal sowing. It will provide security to the country in the fields of pulses. While thanking the Almighty for this achievement, I would like to congratulate all the hon'ble members also.

Sowing of coarse grain has taken place on 5.49 lakh hectares which is 4.42% less than the normal sowing. However, its sowing continues till 31st August in Western Rajasthan and other coarse grain producing states.

The monsoon arrived in this area late though it reached Kerala three days earlier. The sowing has come down due to slow monsoon and rainfall being below normal. I hope the sowing data will reach the near normal level by the month of August.

I will talk about crop insurance after explaining this issue. Sowing is going on in north-eastern and northern States like Assam, Bihar, Odisha, eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal which are major paddy producing States. As I have states, Met Department has forecast rains from 25 to 29 August which will compensate the shortfall in sowing.

Madam Speaker, some hon'ble members have seriously discussed about the changes in weather pattern and weather cycle. Crop cycle is facing pressure due to these changes e.g. some parts are receiving excess rains, changes in pattern of rainfall, increased gap between the two spells of rains, etc. It is ultimately affecting the farmers.

Through you, I would like to tell the House that barring 26 urban districts out of the total districts in the country, a scheme called "KRIDA" has been formulated for the remaining 626 districts in the country by a National Research Centre. A contingency plan has been formulated for each district in respect of agriculture.

Under this plan, suggestions are given to each district in the basis of weather forecast to deal with the challenges of deficit or excess of rainfall in the concerned district. We are working to ensure that the farmers work according to the contingency schemes and plan.

Through you, I would like to tell the House that Crop Weather Watching Drought Management body takes weekly meeting with the States in which States are advised to take steps on the basis of the suggestions given by 'Krida' as per the need of the concerned district.

We have revised the drought management manual also. We have changed the long term average, gap in the spells of rainfall and standardized precipitation index on the basis of global standards.

Members from Andhra Pradesh had stated that Central Government was not helping the State Government. I have a copy of the press statement given by the State Government in which it is stated that as a result of the cooperation extended by the Government of India through RKVY and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Sinchai Yojna, rain guns have been installed for artificial rain in most drought affected districts in Rayalseema. More than 5400 rain guns have been installed in one district with the help of the funds granted by the Central Government.

The member from Bihar Shri Jai Prakash Ji also stated that the State should be declared drought affected immediately. We all are aware that there is a set procedure to declare a state drought affected. The Government of the concerned State declares it as drought affected on the basis of long term average assessment and standards. When a State is declared as drought affected, funds are made available to the State Government in the form of SDRF as immediate relief. Hon'ble Minister had mentioned that 75% share is contributed by the Central Government and 25% is contributed by the State Government so that steps could be initiated to mitigate the effects. Regarding the long term effects, the hon'ble State Minister of Home Affairs had explained the manner in which assistance is provided through NDRF. We have now increased the allocation of funds under it in comparison to the last five years. My friend Shri Kalikesh N. Singh Deo has mentioned that 50% of the districts i.e. 12-13 districts in his constituency were affected with drought and insect outbreak. I am mentioning this because some Hon'ble

members and my friend Shri Kalikesh N. Singh have raised the issue of regional imbalance and discrimination. Some members have commented on federal structure also...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Madam, through you I would like to mention that when I went to Odisha...*(Interruptions)* Madam, at that time I was in Gujarat...*(Interruptions)* I was in Gujarat when Hon'ble Prime Minister called me and directed to go to Odisha to take stock of the situation there.

Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to tell the House that at that time I was very new as a Minister. Hon'ble Prime Minister had assigned me the portfolio of a minister just a month ago. When I landed at the airport in Odisha, I saw in a television installed in the lounge when Agriculture Minister of the State was making a statement. I do not understand Oriya language. Therefore, I took help from the local activist to know what he was saying. I felt very sorry when I heard that the Agriculture Minister of State was saying that they have not invited the Agriculture Minister of the Union Government. Why he had come here and there was no need for him to come here, we ourselves would handle the situation ...*(Interruptions)* I called a meeting with the officers there ...*(Interruptions)* I met the local officers and the officers of my department also. During the discussion, I came to know that Rice Research Institute of Government of India had timely issued the advisory about the outbreak of Brown Plant Hooper and drought in Hindi, English and Oriya language. I discussed and reviewed the matter with the officers of the State, but when I saw the reality at the ground level, I observed that the reality was very painful. There was no sign of the tall claims made by the State Government about the well being of the farmers. It is definitely a matter of concern for all of us...*(Interruptions)*

Madam Speaker, some Hon'ble members have expressed concern about Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. Hon'ble Kalikesh N. Singh Deo has mentioned about non-payment of insurance claims to the farmers. Some other hon'ble members have also expressed concern about this issue. Through you, I would like to tell the House with pride that approx. 10 crore farmers across the country have been paid crop insurance claims since

the launch of this scheme in 2016...*(Interruptions)* I myself is a farmer, I have got the opportunity to do farming for a long time...*(Interruptions)* The Hon'ble Prime Minister has provided an umbrella coverage through crop insurance scheme under which crop protection has been provided to the farmers from prior to sowing till 15 days after the harvesting of crop. 10 crore farmers have benefitted from it. I would like to place data before the House that as against the premium of 7359 crore rupees paid to the farmers during the last three crop seasons, 26,300 crores rupees have been paid to the farmers as insurance amount through Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana.

Madam Speaker, hon'ble Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo has mentioned that...*(Interruptions)* insurance claims have not been paid to the farmers in his area. I would like to tell for his information that the payment for the claim of Rs. 431 crore for the farmers in Odisha during the year 2016-17 has been made. The claims for the current year could not be paid due to some issues...*(Interruptions)*

Agriculture is a state subject, therefore, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to accept the draft policy of the Government of India and then sign a M.O.U with insurance companies on the basis of this policy...*(Interruptions)* on the basis of the State Governments which have entered into M.O.U with the insurance companies, which have followed the provisions of draft policy of the Government of India in letter and spirit, which have followed the recommendations of the Government of India...*(Interruptions)* I am saying this for all the States. The State Governments which have followed the draft policy accurately, timely furnished the data regarding farmers and deposited the share of Centre and State, the States which have sent the information on time after compiling it through big satellite data and other data by utilizing the technology have not faced any difficulty in the payment of insurance claims. However, some States which failed to do so are facing problems in payment of claims. It is the biggest and very effective scheme in the history of agriculture. It is the second year of this scheme. We have decided to bring some changes in it on the basis of our experiences during the last two years. We have improved the scheme on the basis of these decisions to ensure the timely payment of compensation to the farmers. We have taken very important and effective decisions to ensure it. I will

apprise the House about those decisions in detail if you allow me.

While concluding my speech, through you, I would like to say that my friend Shri Rajesh Ranjan ji just talked about Bihar. He put forth his points strongly with the support of concrete data. I am very much surprised with the way he put forth the data because I was not expecting from Shri Pappu Yadav ji that he will talk about data. But while talking about the data, he discussed about the age of Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and said that the Hon. Minister has crossed the age of 75 years, then, I realized the reality of data. When he is not aware of the actual age of such a senior leader who comes from his own State, then what will be the hard reality of his data? I would not like to make any comment on the data which has been put forth by him, but I would like to place the matter before the House seriously that we have talked about long term measures in view of current situation of rainfall in the country at present. We have started agricultural research to mitigate the long term effect of climate change. We have started to develop the varieties of climate resilient crops in the country through National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA). We have developed such climate resilient crops of wheat, rice, pulses and oil seeds. We are continuously working in that direction so that the farmers could grow crops by sowing these varieties of crops in the situation of heavy rainfall or less rainfall and drought in future.

Hon. Speaker Madam, we have developed climate resilient villages and considering those villages as role model, the Government of Maharashtra has started the work for developing 5000 villages as climate resilient villages.

Through you, I would like to assure the House, that our country is one of the ten big foodgrains exporter countries in the world despite normal monsoon and the requirement of foodgrains of the country...*(Interruptions)* We are working in this direction. The way in which we are progressing under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister, we will achieve this target this year also ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please listen to me for a minute. I will allow you. All of us are worried

about Kerala, particularly about Kuttanad. It does not mean that we should not discuss about the rest of India. I will allow one query each from Shri K.C. Venugopal, Shri K. Suresh and Shri P. Karunakaran; after that the Minister will reply.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Actually, I have spoken earlier about the situation prevailing in Kerala, especially Kuttanad, being the people's representative from that area. The people are suffering a lot....*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I told you to ask one query only.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The entire State of Kerala is anxiously looking forward to this discussion. All the victims are looking forward to this discussion. I am asking only one question about the funds which are being given to the State of Kerala. There should be a clear-cut reply. I said that the entire sea coast has been eroded. I would like to know whether the Government is going to include that also. The farmers' houses have been destroyed. What is the Government going to do to provide them relief?...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Suresh, I am allowing you one question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: I am very thankful to you for mentioning Kuttanad from the Chair. You are very much aware of what will happen to Kuttanad, which is below the sea level....*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Radha Mohan Singh, let the queries come up and then you can answer. Let all the three of them put their questions.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Every time there are floods, the Kuttanad farmers are in a serious problem. The Government of India has not given any specific scheme for the Kuttanad farmers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the farmers' relief and the loss of houses are being separately considered by the Government of India....*(Interruptions)* Many farmers have taken loans but they are not in a position to repay. I would like to know what relief the Government can give in respect of repayment of loans. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: I have only one question. On 21.5.2018, the Government of Kerala has submitted a memorandum to the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs and sought Rs. 831.1 crore but not even a single paisa has been released though we have experienced two major calamities: the Okhi cyclone and also the monsoon, as stated by Shri K.C. Venugopal. What is the stand going to be taken by the Government? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Madam Speaker, I had said earlier also that money was always available in the State Disaster Fund and in case of any calamity, the State Government can spend that money. The States have revolving fund also. They spend money from that fund and then submit a memorandum to the Union Government. Thereafter, a team visits there and submits its report based on the assessment. I would like to cite an example that during the year 2015-16, the State Governments of Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh first spent the money available in the State Disaster Fund and then from revolving fund. The cabinet of the State Government spends money from the revolving fund. It is true that this is our 2nd installment. The second installment of STRF would also be released at the earliest. The Government will certainly release it. I am not aware whether the 2nd installment should be released or not. We will ensure the release of 2nd installment after consulting the Ministry of Home Affairs.

*[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Radha Mohan ji, let him reply. He is giving the reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You will not say a single word now.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Madam, the moot question which the hon. Members from Kerala have asked for is to declare this disaster as the disaster of severe nature. There is nothing called the National disaster. The classification that we have is that of the disaster of severe nature. We have already constituted our inter-Ministerial team. Today only I have told the Joint Secretary to send the relief early. We are almost ready and will be sending the relief soon. Based on our

calculation we have put it into the bracket of a disaster of severe nature. Relief and other assistance will follow.

I would like to make it very clear that the allegations to the effect that even now the demands made during Ockhi cyclone are still pending and not a single pie has been released, are not correct. In reply to one of the questions also I had said that a meeting was held on 26th February, 2018 and also on 14th May, 2018 and Rs.169.63 crore has already been released to the State of Kerala.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Not from NDRF.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Whether it is released from SDRF or NDRF, the money is going to be spent for the people only. We are not going to spend it for any other purpose....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: It is a very meagre amount....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Kiran ji, you should address the Chair. Do not reply to them.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: The doubt that the hon. Members are having is only because they are calculating the long-term measures also into the relief. I have stated very clearly in the beginning that relief is an immediate thing and long-term reconstruction is another. Please do not mix it up. The immediate relief we and all other Ministries are giving.

I can assure once again that our inter-Ministerial team will go there within this week and do justice to the State of Kerala.

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again on Thursday, the 26th July, 2018 at 1100 a.m.

**19.28 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, July 26, 2018/Shravana 4, 1940 (Saka)*

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