

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Second Session**  
**(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# CONTENTS

*[Fifteenth Series, Vol. III, Second Session, 2009/1931 (Saka)]*

**No. 19, Tuesday, July 28, 2009/Sravana 6, 1931 (Saka)**

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
* Starred Question Nos. 341 to 343 .....	7—23
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
Starred Question Nos. 344 to 360 .....	23—74
Unstarred Question Nos. 3179 to 3383 .....	73—479
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE .....	479—488
MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA .....	488—490
STATEMENT BY MINISTER .....	491—492
Report of high-level Committee that enquired into the accident at the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Construction site on 12.07.2009	
Shri S. Jaipal Reddy .....	491—492
RUBBER (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009 .....	493
SUBMISSION BY MEMBER .....	493—495
Re: Visible cracks in 18 piers being constructed by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation	
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 .....	496—506
(i) Need to review and modify Section 115BBC of the Income Tax Act	
Shrimati Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi .....	496—497
(ii) Need to constitute a Monitoring Committee to oversee the progress of various schemes being implemented under Bharat Nirman Yojana	
Shri Datta Meghe .....	497
(iii) Need to extend Agricultural Debt Waiver Scheme to all the farmers of Uttarakhand who fulfil eligibility criteria	
Shri K.C. Singh 'Baba' .....	497—498
(iv) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Patan Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat	
Shri Jagdish Thakor .....	498

\*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(v) Need to construct railway line on Jhalawar-Ujjain and Dewas-Bhopal sectors Shri Sajjan Verma .....	498—499
(vi) Need to provide adequate supply of power to Korba Parliamentary Constituency of Chhattisgarh Dr. Charan Das Mahant .....	499
(vii) Need to set up Rubber Park in Pattanapuram Taluk, Kollam district, Kerala Shri Kodikunnil Suresh .....	499—500
(viii) Need to re-start the construction work on Jabalpur-Nagpur four-lane road under Golden Quadrilateral Project Shri K.D. Deshmukh .....	500
(ix) Need to construct a railway line linking Khajuraho, Panna and Satna in Madhya Pradesh Shri Jitendra Singh Bundela .....	500
(x) Need to set up a hospital at par with All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh Shri Rajendra Agrawal .....	501
(xi) Need to reconstruct dilapidated roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Bharuch Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava .....	501—502
(xii) Need to put in place flood control measures and provide adequate compensation to flood-affected people in Hardoi Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh Shrimati Usha Verma .....	502
(xiii) Need to check the soil erosion caused by river Ganga in Bhadohi Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh Shri Gorakhnath Pandey .....	502—503
(xiv) Need to provide safe drinking water to people in Jamui Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar Shri Bhudeo Choudhary .....	503
(xv) Need to provide safe drinking water to people in Dharampuri and Krishnagiri districts in Tamil Nadu Shri R. Thamaraiselvan .....	503—504
(xvi) Need to provide adequate financial assistance for all-round development of Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency in West Bengal Shri Pulin Bihari Baske .....	504
(xvii) Need to fillup the vacancies of judges to clear the huge backlog of courts cases Shrimati Paramjit Kaur Gulshan .....	504



SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(xviii) Need to augment rail services in Amroha Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh	
Shri Devendra Nagpal .....	505
(xix) Need to revise the time frame fixed for completion of Bharat Nirman Projects	
Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena .....	505—506
DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193 .....	506—662
Situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country	
Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh <i>Alias</i> Lalan Singh .....	506—513
Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey .....	514—516
Shri Rewati Raman Singh .....	517—521
Shri Gopinath Munde .....	521—527
Shri T.R. Baalu .....	527—532
Shri Basu Deb Acharia .....	532—536
Shri Dara Singh Chauhan .....	536—539
Shri Arjun Charan Sethi .....	539—542
Shri Anandrao Adsul .....	542—544
Dr. M. Thambidurai .....	544—550
Shri Nishikant Dubey .....	550—553
Dr. Charan Das Mahant .....	553—555
Shri Brijbhushan Sharan Singh .....	555—556
Shri Ramesh Rathod .....	556—558
Shri P. Lingam .....	558—560
Dr. Bhola Singh .....	560—562
Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar .....	562—565
Shri Maheshwar Hazari .....	565—566
Shri Jagadanand Singh .....	566—568
Yogi Aditya Nath .....	568—570
Shri Adhir Chowdhury .....	570—572
Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar .....	572—573
Shri Radha Mohan Singh .....	573—575
Shri Hukamdeo Narayan Yadav .....	575—577
Shri Narahari Mahato .....	577—578
Shri Dushyant Singh .....	578—581

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
Shri Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar .....	581—583
Shrimati Annu Tandon .....	583—586
Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar .....	586—588
Shrimati Jayaprada .....	588—589
Shri Madan Lal Sharma .....	589—590
Shri Ganesh Singh .....	591—595
Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel .....	595—596
Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal .....	596—600
Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar .....	600—601
Shri Narendra Singh Tomar .....	602
Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma .....	603—608
Dr. Thokchom Meinya .....	608—611
Shri R.K. Singh Patel .....	611—612
Shri Harish Choudhary .....	612—613
Dr. Ravindra Kumar Pandey .....	613—615
Shri Badruddin Ajmal .....	615—619
Shri P.K. Biju .....	619—621
Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani .....	621—623
Shri Sharad Pawar .....	623—653
ANNEXURE-I	
Member-wise Index to Starred Questions .....	663
Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions .....	664—668
ANNEXURE-II	
Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions .....	669—670
Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions .....	669—670

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009/Sravana 6, 1931 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Madam Speaker, we have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour to take up discussion on price rise immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No. 341, Shri Sanjoy Takam.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen to me.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Silence please I want to say something. Silence please

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, we have given notice for suspension of question hour. Please take up the notice immediately.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, Madam.  
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please give notice under rule 193. You may discuss the issue of price rise under rule 193.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government has no concern for the people of our country. The prices of almost all the essential commodities are rising.  
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You may discuss the issue of price rise under Rule 193.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No; we have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I am not allowing the notice for Adjournment Motion. Please allow the Question Hour to continue.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Government has no concern for the people of our country....*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: The hon. Minister wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, as you have observed, despite the fact that this matter has been the subject of discussion on various occasions, the Government is prepared for a structured discussion any time you fix for this....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We want it today under Adjournment Motion.

[Translation]

Discussion should be held today itself under adjournment motion. We cannot wait. This problem is related to the people of our country. Today the prices of all the commodities are rising. Prices are rising. We want that question hour should be suspended and adjournment notice given on price rise should be taken up immediately. We cannot wait.

**11.02 hrs.**

*(At this stage, Shri A. Sampath and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling on it. You have the Speaker's ruling on it. I have not allowed it. I am requesting you to give a notice for discussion under Rule 193. If you do that, we will take

up your discussion. Please allow the Question Hour to run.

Q. No. 341, Shri Sanjoy Takam.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Please take up our Adjournment Motion notice and allow the discussion on price rise. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, we can take it up even tomorrow if you fix it. If they do not want the House to run, that is a different matter...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

Madam, three meetings of Business Advisory Committee have been held during the last few days but they have not discussed this issue in any of them. Have the prices increased suddenly?

MADAM SPEAKER: You all please go back to your seats.

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats; I have to say something.

*...(Interruptions)*

**11.05 hrs.**

*(At this stage, Shri A. Sampath and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)*

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia ji, I am not denying the discussion on it. As soon as you give notice for discussion under Rule 193,...

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We have given a notice for an Adjournment Motion. We want a discussion on this today itself. We cannot wait.

*[Translation]*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Madam, I have been giving notice under rule 193 for nearly 15 days. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: The Speaker's ruling has already come on your Adjournment Motion notice. No further discussion is required on that. But I have said that I will

allow a discussion on it under Rule 193 at the earliest possible.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, Madam. We want a discussion today itself. We have given a notice for an Adjournment Motion. *...(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, they wanted a discussion on the drought situation, and that will be taken up today. Now, they are wanting a discussion on price rise today. Madam, you kindly see the motive behind it. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We have given a notice for an Adjournment Motion to suspend the Question Hour for immediate discussion on price rise. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They are raising another issue. The hon. Speaker has already given a ruling on this. Why are they disturbing the House? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, we cannot wait. You please take up our Adjournment Motion notice immediately. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: The Speaker's ruling has already come on that.

Now, Shri Takam Sanjoy, please put your first supplementary.

*...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Only what Shri Sanjoy Takam is saying will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, it is on their asking the discussion on drought has been fixed for today; it is on their asking that the discussion on the visit of the Prime Minister has been fixed for tomorrow. We are prepared to have a discussion on price rise any time they want. If they do want to take up that discussion tomorrow, then we can take up the discussion on price rise tomorrow. *...(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

Madam, there have been three meetings of the Business Advisory Committee, and we do not refer to them. But they did not raise this matter even there. Suddenly they are raising it here today. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)...\*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 11.30 a.m.

11.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Eleven of the Clock.*

11.30 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes past Eleven of the Clock.*

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, we have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is to make a statement now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to make a statement when the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies is present here? The Minister of Food and Civil Supplies should respond.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is about the price rise issue and the concerned Minister is here...(*Interruptions*) When the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies is present here, he should respond...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, the Government appreciates and shares the concern of the hon. Members...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, we want to hear from the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies and not the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on this issue. It is a price rise issue...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please allow the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, when the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies is present here, he should respond.

MADAM SPEAKER: When the matter was discussed in the meeting, it was decided.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, I want to submit that the Government appreciates and shares the concern of the hon. Members. As I said earlier, we are prepared for a structured discussion on this issue any time. Let it be tomorrow at 12 noon immediately after the Question Hour.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No. We want a response from the concerned Minister.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: He will. He would participate in the discussion and he would reply to the points raised by you...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When the concerned Minister is present here, he should respond.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, what is this?...(*Interruptions*) The concerned Minister would participate in the debate and reply to the debate. As I have said, it would be taken up tomorrow immediately after the Question Hour. We had fixed the other business, and that was fixed according to their desire. Let that be postponed and let this issue be taken up tomorrow immediately after the Question Hour.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, we will take it up tomorrow after the Question Hour.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But Madam, when the concerned Minister is present, he should respond to it...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, let the Question Hour continue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When we have raised the issue, the Minister should tell the House as to what is the contingency plan of the Government...(*Interruptions*) Nothing has been said.

MADAM SPEAKER: This had been decided in consultation with you. Now, let us stick to that. The hon. Minister has already made the statement that it would be taken up tomorrow immediately after the Question Hour. We would have a structured discussion on this issue under Rule 193 and the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies would reply to the debate.

Now, let the Question Hour continue.

...(*Interruptions*)

11.34 hrs.

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS***[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No. 341, Shri Sanjoy Takam:

**Insurgency in North East**

\*341. SHRI SANJOY TAKAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several insurgent groups are active in the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof including in Arunachal Pradesh;

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

(d) whether the Government has offered peace talks/dialogue with such groups; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) Major militant outfits active in the North Eastern Region (NER) are:— United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB), United Peoples Democratic Solidarity (UPDS), its splinter group Karbi Longri NC Hills Liberation Front (KLNLf), Dima Halam Daogah (DHD) and its splinter group DHD-J in Assam; 23 groups divided on ethnic lines viz. Meiteis, Kukis, Nagas etc. including People Liberation Army (PLA), Revolutionary Peoples' Front (RPF), United National Liberation Front (UNLF), Peoples Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK), Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP), Kanglei Yaol Kanna Lup (KYKL) and Manipur Peoples' Liberation Front (MPLF) in Manipur; Achik National Volunteer Council (ANVC) and Hynniewtre National Liberation Council (HNLC) in Meghalaya; National Socialist Council of Nagaland (I/M) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland (K) in Nagaland; and National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) in Tripura.

The major insurgent groups active in the State of Arunachal Pradesh are National Socialist Council of Nagaland (I/M) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland (K), particularly in the Tirap and Changlang districts. United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) is also active in the State.

(c) Efforts of the State Governments, who are primarily responsible for ensuring public order and security in their areas, are being supplemented by the Central Government through various measures such as deployment of additional Central Security Forces to aid the State authorities with the objective of carrying out intensive counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable institutions and installations based on threat assessments; vigilance and surveillance on the border, including construction of border fencing; sharing of intelligence; financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police Modernization Scheme; provision of assistance for strengthening various aspects of security apparatus and other aspects of anti-militancy operations by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure; assistance to the States for raising of additional Forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions; etc. The Central Government is maintaining close and continuous coordination with the State Governments in the region with a view to periodically review the situation and taking further steps as may be necessary on a continuing basis.

(d) and (e) While supplementing the efforts of the State Government in undertaking sustained Counter Insurgency operations against elements who indulge in violence and anti-national activities, the Government has always been willing to talk to any outfit provided it abjures violence and comes forward for discussions within the framework of the Indian Constitution.

The Government has entered into Cease Fire arrangement in Nagaland with National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isac/Muivah) (NSCN/IM) and National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) (NSCN/K). In Nagaland, the peace talks are being conducted only with the NSCN/IM faction.

Among other North Eastern States, the Government has entered into Suspension of Operations (SoC)/Cease Fire arrangement with United People's Democratic Solidarity (UPDS), Dima Halam Daogah (DHD), and National Deomocratic Front of Boroland (NDFB) in Assam; Kuki National Organization and United People's Front and its constituents in Manipur; and Achik National Volunteer Council (ANVC) in Meghalaya.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Sanjoy Takam, put your first Supplementary.

SHRI SANJOY TAKAM: Madam Speaker, almost all the underground elements working in the North-East are operating in those States in the North-East except Arunachal Pradesh making an exception to a few pockets

in Arunachal Districts of Tirap and Changlang. Intimidations; extortion notices; and kidnappings are the order of the day in Arunachal Pradesh, where localized underground elements have also not yet come up. But all those organizations operating in Arunachal Pradesh are from the neighbouring States of the North-East.

My first Supplementary is this. Will the Government of India initiate effective steps and measures to ensure that the ground rules are adhered to according to the ceasefire agreement?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam Speaker, we are concerned about the situation in Tirap and Changlang. The ULFA uses the State of Arunachal Pradesh as a transit route and both NSCN/IM and NSCN/K continue to have pockets of influence in Tirap and Changlang districts

The Home Secretary reviewed the situation with the State Government in March and April, 2009. We have strengthened the border security on the India-Myanmar border. Adequate security forces have been positioned on the border. It is true that NSCN/IM and NSCN/K, with whom there are ceasefire agreements, violate these agreements quite regularly. We have taken a very stern view of these violations. We have asked the Ceasefire Monitoring Committee to ensure that these violations do not take place and in a couple of cases when serious violations took place, we had forced them to retract or to take corrective action. But I concede that despite the ceasefire agreements, violations do take place regularly and we take a very grave view of these violations.

SHRI SANJOY TAKAM: Madam Speaker, in the "island of peace", that is, Arunachal Pradesh, political and underground killings had taken place on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2007. One ex-Member of Parliament from Lok Sabha, Mr. Wangcha Rajkumar, was assassinated in his home town. The State Government had on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008 recommended that this is first of such political killings involving certain elements who are not akin to the culture of Arunachal Pradesh. The State Government had recommended for CBI probe on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008. Madam Speaker, on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2008, the CBI had taken up this particular sensational case. In my second supplementary, I would like to know from the Union Home Minister whether the results are pouring in about the investigations. Who are responsible for the killing of the ex-Member of Parliament? What is the status of CBI investigation?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam, to the best of my knowledge, the case has not yet been solved. The specific question should be put to the Ministry of Personnel to whom the CBI administratively reports.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: There are about 13 insurgent groups which are operating in the North-

Eastern Region. Many of the insurgent groups are operating with the support of the neighbouring countries. I can name many of the countries. It is reported that they are having camps. They come on their sweet will and they do all sorts of things and go back. I want to know whether the Government of India has taken up with these neighbouring countries to stop using their land to create insurgency activity in our country.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Madam Speaker, successive Governments have taken up this matter with the neighbouring countries. We continue to take it up with the neighbouring countries but there has been limited success. We will continue to take up these issues with the neighbouring countries. There is a new Government in Bangladesh and our assessment is that the new Government in Bangladesh is more responsive to our concerns than the previous Government.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Will the hon. Home Minister enlighten this august House whether these major militant outfits, as my friend told the House, are getting active support from the neighbouring countries which are known to the Government?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Well, many of the leaders of these insurgent groups take shelter in neighbouring countries. There are safe havens there. They use the neighbouring countries to bring arms into India. So, in that sense, many of them do operate from neighbouring countries.

#### **Increase in Import of Edible Oil**

<sup>+</sup>  
\*342. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

(a) whether the import of edible oil has been rising during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, edible oil-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to create a reserve stock of imported edible oil to meet any emergency as well as take measures to increase the indigenous production of oilseeds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid not the Table of the House.



**Statement**

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The details of import of edible oil during the last three years and the current year are as follows:

	(Qty. in lakh tons)
Year (April-March)	Import of edible oil
2005-06	42.88
2006-07	42.69
2007-08	49.03
2008-09 (upto February, 2009)	62.03

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkatta.

A statement showing oil-wise details of import of edible oil during the last three years and the current year is enclosed as Annexure. Import of edible oil is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL) except coconut oil. Since the domestic production of edible oil is insufficient to meet the domestic demand, edible oil is imported on commercial consideration by private operators.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under consideration to create a reserve stock of imported edible oil. The Government has taken various steps to increase the indigenous production of edible oils in the country which includes:—

- (i) A centrally sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major oilseeds growing States for increasing production. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, gypsum/pyrite/lime/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training, publicity etc. to encourage farmers to grow these crops.
- (ii) Enhanced incentives to farmers through fixation of higher Minimum Support Price of major oilseeds.
- (iii) Research for development of higher yielding improved varieties and production and protection technologies in oilseeds.

**Annexure***Details of Oilwise Import of Edible Oils during the Last Three Years and Current Year*

Item Description	Quantity in MTs			
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Apr, 2008-Feb, 2009
1	2	3	4	5
Soya Bean Crude Oil W/N Degummed	1619594	1198264	1120218	638903
Soya Bean Oil of Edible Grade	13757	9169	7911	540
Soya Bean Oil other than Edible Grade	17781	8917	10763	118
Deodorized (Salad Oil)	31	9	0	0
Refined Groundnut Oil of Edible Grade	0	0	0	0
Others	3	0	1	0
Other Groundnut Oil	0	0	0	8
Crude Palm Oil & Its Fractions	1959920	2541629	3276662	4032291
Refined Bleached Deodrsed Palm Oil	97	15318	14074	11090
Refined Bleached Deodrsed Palmolein	269797	68751	160468	1119309

1	2	3	4	5
Other Refined Palm Oil	219370	140684	63696	9236
Sunflower Seed Oil Crude	67834	108867	87086	217260
Sunflower Seed Oil (Kardi Seed Crude Oil)	0	0	0	2506
Sunflower Oil Edible Grade	3045	32582	154	7294
Edible Grade Saffola Oil	0	0	3	0
Coconut (Copra) Crude Oil & Fractions	1106	46	8119	2998
Coconut (Copra) Refined Oil & Fractions	2963	14050	0	11911
Crude Palm Kernel Oil	108768	126478	147030	134158
Refined Palm Kernel Oil & Its Fractions	899	973	292	763
Refined Babasu Oil and Its Fractions Edible Grade	0	0	0	0
Refined Babasu Oil and Fractions, Other Than Edible Grade	0	0	0	0
Crude Rape Oil	0	21	0	8970
Refined Rapeseedoil of Edible Grade	1	1	1	0
Other Crude Low Eruc Acid Rape Colza Oil	0	0	0	1164
Other Low Eruc Acid Rape Colza Oil Other Than Crude	0	3	0	0
Crude Colza Oil	0	2	0	0
Crude Mustard Oil	0	0	0	39
Refined Mustard Oil Edible Grade	31	6	0	0
Other Rape Colza Mustard Oils Excl. Cruteness	73	7	45	0
Sesame Oil & Its Fractions other Than Crude of Edible Grade	25	43	38	59
Fixed Veg Oil of Edible Grade viz. Mango Kernel, Mahua, Rice Bran Oil	3013	3555	6826	3785
Groundnut Oil of Edible Grade	0	0	0	182
Grand Total	4288109	4269375	4903388	6202584

Source: DGCIS, Kolkatta

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, again it is a question on price rise. It is involving the hon. Minister of Agriculture. Again, it is a question of price rise. The statement is alarming. It has not been circulated to all. According to this statement, Madam, it is said that the import of edible oil was 42.88 lakh tonnes in 2005-2006

and it has come to 62.03 lakh tonnes in 2008-2009, up to February, 2009. According to my estimate and the information available, there has been 86 per cent increase in the import of edible oil. Therefore, the question that arises is this. Why is this reckless, abnormal increase in the import of edible oil? It may be because of shortage

or whatever it might be. But what is the impact on price? Despite this abnormal increase in the import of edible oil by the Government, there has been no impact on the price level. The edible oil is being sold almost at Rs. 90 to Rs. 100 per kilogram in Delhi and everywhere.

The question is being raised by the industry, not by the Left like us, but by the industry. The industry is saying that this abnormal import is not related to shortage but it is because Government has reduced the import duty to zero and because of that there has been a serious and reckless import of edible oil.

Therefore, my question to the hon. Minister is this. By importing in the way that the Government is doing, whom are they helping? Has it any impact on price? Has it any impact on the industry? It is being told that this import of edible oil has rudely affected our indigenous industry like palm oil and coconut. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how it is helpful and whether it has proved to be absolutely fruitless and whether it has affected the indigenous industry in the country.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, the Government also is not very happy to import these types of items. But, mainly, day by day, there is more demand. In fact, if we study the total production, production of the oilseeds is also improving. But the demand is more than the total production. If we see the production of the oilseeds in 2004-2005, it was 243.54 lakh tonnes. Next year, it was 279 lakh tonnes. From 243.54 lakh tonnes we have gone to 279 lakh tonnes. In 2006-2007 it has come down to 242 lakh tonnes. Last year, again, from 242 lakh tonnes, it has gone to 297 lakh tonnes. So, there is an improvement. But there is too much demand in this country. Our total approach of the public is definitely changing. Their eating habits have been changing. That is why there is more demand.

If the availability is less than the demand, the prices will definitely go up. In such a situation, whatever the gap is there between demand and availability, we have to fill that gap. Either we have to work here and improve our production – that is one way – and secondly for the time being, allow import at a reasonable rate. For domestic production, we have taken many schemes. One particular scheme has been taken for 14 States where essentially oilseeds are produced. In these 14 States, the Government of India, through the State Government, is supplying different types of seeds and giving subsidy for the seeds and a number of other agricultural

equipment and a number of other facilities. That is the reason why we are improving our production. That is one thing.

But still, if the demand is more, we had to see how we will be able to fulfil the gap and for that reason, we had taken a decision to reduce the duty to zero per cent on crude. We reduced duty on crude because crude can be imported and processed here where by one can utilise the domestic industry's capacity also. So, we have not put any duty on crude and we are encouraging import to make it available in the country.

Also, the Government of India has taken one scheme where the Government of India is providing Rs. 15 per litre subsidy. Some of the States had taken that scheme. Andhra Pradesh has implemented that scheme. There are some States who have taken the initiative.

If we study the overall price situation of the edible oil, particularly soyabean and others, practically, for the last one month or little more than that, prices are coming down. But still, I am not happy. Ultimately, we have to see how we will be able to improve our own production, how we will be able to fulfil our own requirement and how we will be able to reduce the import. There is no alternative, but this is not the issue. One cannot get success practically within no time. One has to work for many years.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, Hon. Minister is speaking economics – it is good – demand-supply problem. The demand-supply problem is continuing in India for the last six or seven years.

Madam Speaker, please look into the statistics. For five to six years, this demand-supply problem is going on. Therefore, it is not only to say that there is a demand-supply problem, but it is also important to know what steps the Government is taking to improve the production in the country and to ensure that we do not become dependent on import. Dependence on import means drainage of our foreign exchange and dependence on import means our home industry is affected.

Shri Sharad Pawar has held the portfolio of Agriculture Ministry for more than six years. Therefore, as an Agriculture Minister, he owes an explanation as to why the domestic production did not increase during this period. Therefore, my pointed question to him is what the Government is doing to increase the domestic production and to create a situation where the country is

not dependent on import and while considering that, whether the Government will consider revival of Technology Mission on Oilseeds without delay and whether that Mission will be funded by the Government, and what else he is trying to do, without remaining a silent spectator to demand-supply problem.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Madam, the Government is not a silent spectator. As I said, we have introduced a Centrally-sponsored Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds which has been implemented in 14 States where we are giving financial assistance for the purchase of breeder seed. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, there is one more point. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: But this is the most important point. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him reply. You have asked a very elaborate question.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, there is a strong suspicion of hoarding in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him reply.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Basically, financial assistance is provided for the purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of the certified seeds, distribution of seed mini-kits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, gypsum and a number of other things. This is the scheme which the Government is implementing today.

There is an impact also. Let us look at the total production of oilseeds. The total oilseeds production in the country in the year 2002-03 was 148 lakh tonnes. It has gone to 243 lakh tonnes in the year 2004-05. In the year 2005-06, it was 279 lakh tonnes. In the year 2006-07, it was 242 lakh tonnes. In the year 2007-08, it was 297 lakh tonnes. This year, it is estimated to be about 288 lakh tonnes. For one year, there was definitely a drop, but if we see the five years, for at least four years, the production has definitely improved and simultaneously, the consumption and demand has also improved like anything.

For instance, in the year 2004-2005, the consumption in our country was 117.89 lakh tonnes; next year it was 126 lakh tonnes; in 2007-2008, it was 142 lakh tonnes; and in 2008-2009, it was 151 lakh tonnes. Therefore, there is more demand and consumption every year and there is an improvement in production of whatever we are producing. But still, there is a gap between production and consumption. There are two solutions for this. Firstly, we have to improve our own production. Secondly, to import for the time being — just to protect the interest of the consumers — and if we are to import, then we have to see that there is no duty. Ultimately, it will be helpful for farmers, citizens, and the common consumers.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Chandrakant Khaire — not present.

Shri P.T. Thomas

SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Agriculture Minister to the important issue of import of edible oil such as palm oil, which is badly affecting Kerala's coconut oil industry in a big way. Now, the proposed ASEAN Agreement is also seriously discussing the apprehension of the Kerala farmers, which is very serious.

I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Are there any protective measures to be taken to protect the interest of coconut cultivators and farmers in Kerala? This is my question.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As I said, we are importing, and there is no duty on palm oil crude import, but there is a substantial duty on coconut oil. Therefore, we do not encourage coconut oil import. Not only that, we import soya oil, but we do not allow the import of palm oil in any port that is located in Kerala. It is because we want to protect the interest of the coconut growers. This is the reason that there is a differential tariff rate for coconut oil, which is not very friendly to import. Secondly, we do not allow it in that particular area.

As regards the question of ASEAN, I will not be able to reply because ultimately one has to take a little wider approach as to how much we are going to export to ASEAN countries and how much we are going to import from ASEAN countries. If our export is more in ASEAN countries, then, probably, we have to face some music also in certain areas. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, palm oil is imported through ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Thank you very much. At least you have given me the chance to speak after four days.

Madam Speaker, I agree with the figures furnished by the Hon'ble Minister. On one hand production is increasing but on the other population is also growing in the same proportion, may be a little less.

The Second serious issue is that 3% of the fertile land in the country is reducing every year because hospitals, factories, houses are being constructed on a large scale and cities are also expanding. At least 3 to 4% of land is reducing every year but our population is increasing constantly. Production has increased, but, what efforts have been made in the longterm interests of the country because in such a situation production will fall down. Therefore, what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle that situation.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The question raised by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is a larger question ranging from population growth to availability of land.

[Translation]

It is true that population pressure is increasing day by day on our land. 82% of our farmers do not have more than 2 hectare of land. Land is reducing day by day and load is increasing on it.

In such a situation we will have to find out other alternatives. There is a need to change the concept that all family members of a farmer should do farming only. This system has to be changed. We should find other options for them. We have to reduce pressure on land. We will have to think how farming would be viable but it cannot be done in a day. The manner in which efforts are being made to increase the growth rate, the industrial production and exports, I hope it would reduce the pressure on our land. I would like to give an example. At the time of our Independence, 80% people were doing farming and now this percentage has come down to 61%. The process of diverting the people from agriculture to other sectors have started. Some people are against it, but, I feel that we cannot increase the production and solve the problem till we reduce the pressure on the land and make agriculture profitable for the farmers.

Therefore, we should ponder over it collectively and find out the solution.

[English]

### **Facilities to Freedom Fighters**

+  
\*343. DR. M. JAGANNATH:  
SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides any facilities to the freedom fighters in the country apart from pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the freedom fighters are paid differential rates of pension in the States;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to bring uniformity in the rates of freedom fighter pensions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

(a) and (b) Apart from pension paid to freedom fighters eligible under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, the following facilities are also provided:

- Free railway pass (1st Class/AC Sleeper) for freedom fighter and widow, along with a companion, for life;
- Free medical facilities in all Central Government hospitals and in hospitals run by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the control of the Bureau of Public Enterprises. C.G.H.S facilities have also been extended to freedom fighters and their dependents;
- Telephone connection without installation charges on payment of only half the rental subject to feasibility;
- General Pool residential accommodation (within the overall 5% discretionary quota) to freedom

fighters in Delhi. Widow/widower of the freedom fighter is also permitted to retain the accommodation for a period of six months after the death of the freedom fighter; and

- Accommodation in the Freedom Fighters' Home set up at New Delhi for freedom fighters who have no one to look after them.

In addition to the above facilities, ex-Andaman freedom fighters are also entitled to the following facilities:

- Free voyage facility for freedom fighter and widow to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands once a year along with a companion; and
- Free air travel facility for freedom fighter to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands once a year along with a companion.

(c) and (d) The rates of State pension for freedom fighters vary from State to State. The details are not centrally maintained.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise in view of the reply to (e) above.

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. 343:

Shrimati Bijoya Chakravarty—Not present;

Dr. Manda Jagannath.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. K.S. RAO: Madam, the question concerning import of edible oil is a very important one. Please allow me to ask one supplementary.

MADAM SPEAKER: No, I have already called Dr. Manda Jagannath to ask a supplementary on Q. 343.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Madam Speaker, it is due to the untiring efforts and selfless struggle of the freedom fighters that we are now living in this free and independent country. Even after 60 years of freedom, Madam, the freedom fighters of Hyderabad Liberation Movement are struggling for years together to get the freedom fighters' pension and other facilities sanctioned. Though 60 years have passed after Independence, in Andhra Pradesh, the process of providing pension to the real freedom fighters has not been completed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many such types of cases from Andhra

Pradesh are pending and the steps which the Government of India have taken in this regard to help the freedom fighters to get their pension and other facilities sanctioned, especially of those who have not yet been sanctioned.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As far as the Hyderabad Liberation Movement is concerned, as the House is aware, we appointed one Committee, another Committee, and now a third Committee. Based on the report of the first two Committees, about 10,500 people have been given pension. I am told that perhaps another 4,000 cases are pending. I met with the Committee only last week. I have requested them, they are very elderly people, despite their age, to please pay serious attention and quickly give us their recommendations on the 4,000 cases. They have promised to do their best. I believe in the last meeting, they were able to deal with about 400 cases. I have requested them to complete the exercise as early as possible.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Madam, in 1997-98, Ch. Rajeshwara Rao Committee had recommended 13,500 cases. In turn, the Government agreed to give pension to 15,000 persons. Since 1997-98, you can assess, Madam, how much time lapsed. In between, yesterday, one hon. Member was saying that the person whose case he recommended died yesterday. It is a very long pending issue and it has to be decided quickly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has fixed any cut-off date to sanction pension to them.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I would like to say the cut-off date is tomorrow, but I cannot do that. The Committee has been appointed which consists of very elderly, eminent, acknowledged freedom fighters. They came all the way to Delhi; they held a meeting here; they met with me, and I have requested this Committee to please dispose of the pending about 4,000 cases and give us their recommendations. About 10,500 persons have already been given pension.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Madam Speaker, it has been asked in the main question as to whether the Government provides any facilities other than pension to the freedom fighters. I have been making efforts for four-five years.

[*English*]

Twenty-three applications for pensions are pending with the Ministry.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be brief. The Question Hour is coming to an end.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: What steps the Government purposes to take to provide them pension soon? ...*((Interruptions))*

Madam Speaker: Please maintain silence.

*[English]*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It is very unlikely that a fresh case of pension of a freedom fighter will be filed for the first time in the year 2008 or 2009. It is very unlikely. I am not saying that there can be no case at all. Most of these cases are cases where the applications were filed many years ago. It could have either been accepted or rejected. With rejected ones, it would have been reviewed. There are very few cases where people apply for the first time in the year 2009 because freedom came in 1947. Today, we have no fresh cases. But any application that comes to me or one of my colleagues, we immediately ask that application to be disposed of and the file put up back to the Minister within a few days. If he tells me which these 23 cases are, I will be very happy to send him a reply.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

### Quality of Foodgrains under PDS

\*344. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foodgrains distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) is subjected to quality control checks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints regarding the poor quality of foodgrains being distributed through PDS have been received by the Government during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The details are as follows:

- (i) During procurement and at regular intervals during storage, the foodgrains are subjected to quality control checks as per laid down procedure and specifications.
- (ii) At the time of issue of stocks to the State Governments, adequate opportunities are provided to the State Government to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns. The samples of foodgrains issued for PDS are jointly drawn and sealed by the officials of the State Governments and the FCI for display at the Fair Price Shops (FPSs).
- (iii) The officials of the Central and State Governments do surprise checks to the FPSs to check the quality of foodgrains being distributed through PDS.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

### Statement

*Complaints received during last three years and current year:*

- (i) A complaint was received in December, 2006 from Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Hon'ble Member of Parliament about supply of poor quality of imported wheat in PDS in Madhya Pradesh. The sample drawn from Fair Price Shop at Indore was got tested in the Municipal Corporation's Food Laboratory, Indore and was found to be conforming to PFA standards.
- (ii) A complaint was received in December, 2006 from a consumers organization, District Ajmer, Rajasthan about quality of imported red wheat. The imported red wheat issued after verification by State Government officials was conforming to Government of India's specifications.
- (iii) Two Complaints were received from the State Government of Maharashtra in October, 2006 and April, 2007 about quality of imported wheat being distributed through PDS. It was informed by the State Government that some of the imported wheat samples drawn by them from Fair Price Shops in Mumbai and Pune were found unfit for human consumption. Two complaints were also made by Dr. Kirit Somaiya,

ex-MP about distribution of bad quality of red wheat issued in Maharashtra. The samples of imported wheat were jointly drawn by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government officials from FCI's Food Storage Depots, GM, Borivali and Bhiwandi and analysed in Government of Maharashtra, State Public Health Laboratory, Pune. These samples were found conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) standards and fit for human consumption.

- (iv) In July, 2007, Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. informed Department of Food & Public Distribution that Fair Price Shop Dealers and some of the people's representatives had complained about the quality of wheat released to them. On investigation, it was found that wheat stocks issued were found conforming to laid down specifications. The complaint was related to the preference for Indian wheat over imported wheat.
- (v) Two complaints were received in November, 2008 and January, 2009 from Shri Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble M.P. about poor quality of foodgrains being issued by FCI in Gujarat without specifying any location. Instructions were issued to Food Corporation of India to ensure the supply of good quality foodgrains to BPL families in Gujarat State.
- (vi) A copy of complaint made to Commissioner, Food and Civil Supplies, West Bengal was received in May, 2009 from All Bengal Fair Price Shop Dealers' Welfare Association that poor quality stocks of wheat were issued in PDS. FCI was directed to ensure the supply of good quality wheat under PDS in West Bengal.
- (vii) A complaint was received in June, 2009 from Shri Jai Kishan, Hon'ble M.L.A., Delhi about supply of poor quality wheat from FCI Depot at Delhi. The matter was investigated. Based on the findings of the investigation, FCI was asked to take immediate remedial measures and take appropriate action against officials responsible.

#### **Action Plan on Internal Security**

\*345. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has drawn up an Action Plan in the recent past for implementing various ongoing schemes/projects relating to internal security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main features of the Action Plan; and

(d) the manner in which the Action Plan is likely to help in enhancing the internal security in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The Action Plan of the Ministry of Home Affairs Includes, Inter-alia, initiatives gearing up Intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and operational co-ordination between different agencies of the Central and the State Governments; establishment of online, dedicated and secure connectivity between designated Members of Multi-Agency Centre (MAC), MAC and the Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centres (SMACs) in 30 important identified locations and between the SMACs and the State Special Branches to enhance the level of preparedness and upgrade the security infrastructure; modernizing, strengthening and up-gradation of the State Police and security forces; operationalisation of NSG hubs in 4 locations; activation of the National Investigation Agency; setting up of National Counter Terrorism Centre; strengthening of Narcotic Control Bureau; creation of Special Tactical Wing at Natinoal Police Academy (NPA) in Hyderabad; setting up of Counter Insurgency and Anti Terrorism Schools; expediting procurement of equipment and weaponry; etc.

(d) The Action Plan of the Ministry aims to strengthen Police and Intelligence machinery in the country, so as to meet threats to the internal security of the country more effectively.

#### **Youth Hostels**

\*346. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:  
SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the criteria to set up a youth hostel differs from State to State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of youth hostels set up in the country and the amount of funds earmarked during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the location, State-wise;

- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to set up at least one youth hostel in every district of the country including Karnataka;



(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard alongwith the time by which the said proposal is likely to be implemented;

(f) whether proposals for setting up of youth hostels in various States are pending; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for speedy completion of such hostels?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the last three years and the current year, six (06) youth hostels have been constructed in the different parts of the Country. The detailed information of these Youth Hostels is as follows:

Sl.No.	Year	No.of Youth Hostels constructed	State	Place of the Youth Hostel	Total released amount
1.	2006-07	1	Haryana	Rewari	1,04,00,000/-
2.	2007-08	2	Karnataka	Sogalu	64,20,000/-
			Madhya Pradesh	Khajuraho	92,40,000/-
3.	2008-09	3	Andhra Pradesh	Vizianagaram	1,46,42,000/-
			Tamil Nadu	Ooty	1,05,00,000/-
			Uttarakhand	Badrinath	1,79,00,000/-
4.	2009-10 (Till date)	Nil	—	—	—

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Madam.

(g) Does not arise.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress of the four laning including that of NH-24 from Delhi to Lucknow via Rampur, Moradabad, Bareilly etc; and

(d) the time by which the proposes work is likely to be completed?

#### **Progress in Four Laning of National Highways**

\*347. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken initiatives for four laning of about 27,000 km. stretch of National Highways;

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam.

The details of the programmes for 4-laning, their progress including the progress of 4-laning of NH-24 from Delhi to Lucknow and its likely date of completion are given in the enclosed Statement, which is laid on the table of the house.

#### **Statement**

##### *1. The details of the programmes for 4-laning and their progress*

Project	Total Length (km)	Length Copleted (km)	Length under Implementation (km)	Likely date of Completion
1	2	3	4	5
National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-I	7,498	7226	166	December-2010

1	2	3	4	5
NHDP Phase-II	6,647	3192	2703	December-2010
NHDP Phase-III	12,109	890	2038	December-2013
4-laning of NHs under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North—Eastern Region (SARDP-NE)	924	—	—	December-2015
Total	27,178	11,308	4,907	

*II. The details of the progress of 4-laning of NH-24 from Delhi to Lucknow*

Section	Present Progress (upto June, 2009)	Likely date of completion
Delhi to Hapur	Already 4-Laned	
Hapur to Garhmukteshwar	39.03%	December, 2010
Garhmukteshwar to Moradabad	91.24%	August, 2009
Moradabad-Bareilly-Sitapur	There are two projects for four laning of existing stretch namely Moradabad to Bareilly (Length=112 km) and Bareilly to Sitapur (Length=152 km) under NHDP Phase III on BOT (Toll). The Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the projects have been finalized. Bids have already been floated on Build-Operate-Transfer. (BOT) (Toll) to be received on 17.08.2009	Since the award for the project has not yet been finalized, it is too early to indicate the proposed date of completion at this stage.
Sitapur to Lucknow	30%	June, 2010

**Distribution of Foodgrains at Cheap Rate**

\*348. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

(a) whether the Government has sought suggestions from various stake holders including the State Governments and the Union Ministries with regard to the proposed Food Security Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the stake holders thereto;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to

converge all the existing food based welfare schemes being currently implemented by various Ministries into a single scheme under the Food Security Act;

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

(e) whether any provision has been made for funding the said scheme;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the manner in which the scheme is proposed to be funded?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (g) To

firm up different aspects of the proposed National Food Security law including required funds for implementation, consultation with various stakeholders is presently in progress. First consultation with State/UT Governments was held on 10th June, 2009. Based on it, so far comments from 17 State/UT Governments have been received. Consultation with concerned Central Ministries was held on 11th June and 1st July, 2009. Their views are yet to be received.

The on-going examination of framework of the proposed law also includes aspects of convergence of existing food based schemes implemented by various Ministries.

[Translation]

### **Statutory Minimum Price for Sugarcane**

\*349. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI RAJU SHETTI:

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

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) has recommended the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has accepted the recommendation of CACP;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of SMP of sugarcane fixed during each of the last three years and the current year as against the SMP recommended by the CACP;

(f) whether representations have been received for raising the SMP/MSP of sugarcane; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) had, in its report submitted in August, 2008, recommended for fixation of Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for sugarcane for producers of sugar for 2009-10 sugar season at Rs. 125 per quintal linked to a basic

recovery of 9% subject to a premium of Rs.1.39 for every 0.1% point increase in recovery above 9%.

(c) and (d) The Government, after careful consideration have fixed the SMP of sugarcane for 2009-10 sugar season for producers of sugar at Rs. 107.76 per. quintal linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 1.13 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. This decision was based on:

- (i) the cost of production;
- (ii) need for ensuring availability of sugar to consumers at a fair price; and
- (iii) to obviate any disproportionate diversion of area from foodgrains to sugarcane that may affect the food security of the country.

This is the minimum price that any farmer would get for the sugarcane supplied by him to a sugar factory. The sugar factory may, if it so desires, pay any price higher than the above SMP including the premium for any recovery above 9.5 per cent.

(e) The details of the SMP recommended by the CACP and as fixed by the Government during the last three sugar seasons and the current sugar season are indicated below:

(In Rs. per quintal)		
Sugar season	SMP recommended by the CACP linked to basic recovery rate of 9%	SMP fixed by the Government linked to basic recovery rate of 9%
2005-2006	79.50	79.50
2006-2007	80.25	80.25
2007-2008	81.18	81.18
2008-2009	81.18 (as per CACP report submitted in August, 2007)	81.18
2008-2009	125 + 30 as bonus to be paid by the Central Government, in Supplementary Report submitted by CACP on 27.3.2008	Not accepted

(f) and (g) No representation has been received for raising the SMP for sugarcane after it was announced for 2009-10 sugar season on 25.6.09.

[English]

### **Antyodaya Anna Yojana**

\*350. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:  
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government is implementing the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) Scheme to provide cheap foodgrains to the poorest among the poor families in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of beneficiaries covered under the said scheme alongwith their monthly entitlement and the price at which foodgrains are being provided to them, State-wise;

(c) the quantum of foodgrains allocated and lifted under the said scheme, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has recently carried out any evaluation of the said scheme; and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) In order to focus Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) on the poorest of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) has been under implementation since December, 2000. Foodgrains are allocated to State & UTs @ 35 kg per AAY family per month at highly subsidized issue prices of Rs. 2 per kg wheat and Rs. 3 per kg rice. Presently about 2.43 crore AAY families are covered under this scheme. Their statewise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Statewise details of allocations and offtake of foodgrains under AAY during 2008-09 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Government had commissioned the National Council of Applied Economic Research to conduct a concurrent evaluation of TPDS in 12 States. As per the evaluation, in 9 States, AAY households were receiving foodgrains close to their entitlement of 35 kg per family per month, while in three other States these were reported to be lower. These evaluation reports have been sent to concerned State Governments for taking necessary action to streamline the functioning of TPDS, including AAY.

### **Statement I**

#### *Status of identification of Households under AAY*

As on 30.6.2009

(Fig. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of BPL families as on 1.3.2000	Estimated No. of AAY families				Total	AAY families identified & RC issued				Total
			Initial	1st exp.	2nd exp.	3rd exp.		Initial	1st exp.	2nd exp.	3rd exp.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578	6.228	3.117	2.991	3.242	15.578
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380	0.151	0.077	0.073	0.079	0.380
3.	Assam	18.36	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040	2.815	1.408	1.352	1.465	7.040
4.	Bihar	65.23	10.000	5.003	4.802	5.206	25.010	10.000	5.003	4.802	4.480	24.285
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189	2.874	1.439	1.380	1.496	7.189
6.	Delhi	4.09	0.626	0.315	0.301	0.326	1.568	0.626	0.315	0.301	0.26	1.502

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7.	Goa	0.48	0.073	0.037	0.035	0.039	0.184	0.073	0.037	0.035		0.145
8.	Gujarat	21.20	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.691	8.128	3.250	1.626	1.561	1.661	8.098
9.	Haryana	7.89	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.629	3.025	1.209	0.606	0.581	0.528	2.924
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971	0.787	0.395	0.378	0.411	1.971
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.587	2.822	1.129	0.564	0.542	0.322	2.557
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179	3.665	1.841	1.762	1.911	9.179
13.	Karnataka	31.29	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997	4.797	2.400	2.303	2.497	11.997
14.	Kerala	15.54	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958	2.382	1.192	1.144	1.240	5.958
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816	6.324	3.164	3.037	3.291	15.816
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	10.017	5.011	4.810	5.215	25.053	10.017	5.011	4.810	4.801	24.639
17.	Manipur	1.66	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636	0.255	0.127	0.122	0.132	0.636
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702	0.281	0.140	0.135	0.146	0.702
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261	0.105	0.051	0.050	0.055	0.261
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475	0.189	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.475
21.	Orissa	32.98	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645	5.055	2.530	2.428	2.632	12.645
22.	Punjab	4.68	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794	0.717	0.359	0.345	0.373	1.794
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321	3.726	1.865	1.790	1.940	9.321
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165	0.067	0.032	0.032	0.034	0.165
25.	Tamil Nadu	48.63	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646	7.455	3.730	3.580	3.881	18.646
26.	Tripura	2.95	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131	0.452	0.227	0.217	0.235	1.131
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945	16.371	8.191	7.861	8.522	40.945
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	0.763	0.382	0.367	0.397	1.909	0.763	0.382	0.367		1.512
29.	West Bengal	51.79	7.939	3.973	3.813	4.132	19.857	7.939	3.973	2.887		14.799
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.28	0.043	0.021	0.021	0.022	0.107	0.043				0.043
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.035	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.088	0.015				0.015
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.028	0.013	0.013	0.015	0.069	0.028	0.013	0.011		0.052
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015	0.006	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.015
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.012
35.	Puducherry	0.84	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322	0.128	0.065	0.062	0.067	0.322
Total		652.03	99.946	50.021	48.001	52.030	249.998	99.926	49.982	47.035	45.806	242.749

**Statement II***Allocation and Offtake of Rice & Wheat under  
AAY for 2008-09*

(In '000 TONS)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	654.288	644.569
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.972	15.860
3.	Assam	295.692	295.009
4.	Bihar	1,019.988	772.495
5.	Chhattisgarh	301.944	301.944
6.	Delhi	63.084	53.161
7.	Goa	6.108	5.356
8.	Gujarat	340.080	340.753
9.	Haryana	122.820	112.235
10.	Himachal Pradesh	82.740	83.703
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	107.388	111.223
12.	Jharkhand	385.536	367.101
13.	Karnataka	503.892	503.729
14.	Kerala	250.260	250.585
15.	Madhya Pradesh	664.260	655.125
16.	Maharashtra	1,034.880	902.623
17.	Manipur	26.724	22.905
18.	Meghalaya	29.484	29.739
19.	Mizoram	10.920	10.070
20.	Nagaland	19.968	21.246
21.	Orissa	531.120	531.950
22.	Punjab	75.360	46.533
23.	Rajasthan	391.488	377.563
24.	Sikkim	6.936	6.936
25.	Tamil Nadu	783.144	827.174
26.	Tripura	47.520	48.879

1	2	3	4
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1,719.480	1,608.775
28.	Uttarakhand	63.516	55.065
29.	West Bengal	621.684	512.809
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.800	1.449
31.	Chandigarh	0.822	0.526
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.196	2.196
33.	Daman and Diu	0.636	0.100
34.	Lakshadweep	0.492	0.492
35.	Puducherry	13.548	4.759
Total		10,195.770	9,524.637

*[Translation]***Ban on Misleading and Surrogate Advertisements**

\*351. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

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

(a) Whether the Government has received complaints regarding misleading and surrogate advertisements being depicted in the electronic/print media;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to ban such advertisements by amending the relevant laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Some instances of misleading and surrogate advertisements have been brought to the notice of the Govt. in the electronic media (private TV channels). So far as print media is concerned, complaints including those relating to misleading and surrogate advertisements are handled by Press Council of India (PCI), which is

an autonomous institution under the Press Council of India Act, 1978.

The details indicating the action taken thereon during last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) As per the existing Cable TV Rules, no direct or indirect advertisement of alcoholic and tobacco products is permitted on Cable & Satellite TV Channels. Further, the Cable Rules also prohibit advertisements that are likely to lead the public to infer that the product advertised has some special property or quality, which is difficult to prove. Moreover, as per the said Rules no advertisement which violates the code of self regulation in advertising, as adopted by Advertising Standards

Council of India shall be carried in the cable service which in turn provides that advertisement shall neither distort facts nor mislead the consumer.

So far as Print media is concerned, Government does not exercise any control on the content of the Print media. However, the Press Council of India monitors and takes cognizance, suo motu or on complaints, of advertisements, which is prima facie satisfied, are violative of the ethics of journalistic practice. Accordingly Press Council of India, in order to prevail upon the Press to practice self-regulation, has been issuing directions/ appeals to newspapers/magazines to guide them in publication of advertisements etc. The Press Council of India have formed Norms of Journalistic Conduct under Article 13(2)/(b) of the Press Council Act, 1978.

### **Statement**

*Status of Showing Complaint received against Misleading and Surrogate Advertisements and action taken thereon during last three year and current year. Cause Notices issued to TV Channels (as on 09.07.2009)*

Sl.No.	Name of the Channel	Reasons for issue of SCN	Action Taken
1	2	3	4
<b>Year 2006-2007</b>			
1.	Sanskar Channel	For telecast of advertisements of 'D. Care Plus (Ayurvedic)' on 18.11.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
2.	Aastha	For telecast of advertisements of 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device' on 1.1.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
3.	iTV	For telecast of advertisements of 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device' on 30.9.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
4.	AXN	For telecast of advertisements of 'Yoko Height Increase Device' on 8.11.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
5.	Zee Punjabi	For telecast of advertisements of 'Herbal Slim Tea' on 2.11.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
6.	Sony TV	For telecast of advertisements of 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device' on 30.9.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.

1	2	3	4
7.	Aaj Tak	For telecast of advertisements of 'OKA Good Height Device' on 1.10.2005 and 'OSS Luribo Height Increase Device' on 1.10.2005	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel. MATTER CLOSED.
8.	Aaj Tak Channel	For Advt. of product 'Ppunch Mukhi' Rudraksh Mala	Advisory dt. 12.11.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter Closed.
9.	Rashtriya Sahara Channel.	For Advt. of product 'Panch Mukhi Rudraksh Mala'	Advisory dated 12.11.2008 issued to the Channel MATTER CLOSED.
10.	ETV Bangla	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' telecast on 30th March to 8th April, 2006.	
11.	ETV Kannada	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 30th March to 8th April, 2006.	
12.	ETV Marathi	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 30th March to 8th April, 2006.	Prior to issuance of Notification dated 09.08.2006 amending the Cable TV Rules vide which advertisement of brand extension of alcoholic and tobacco products were permitted subject of fulfilment of certain conditions, most of the broadcasters were found to have aired advertisement in the nature of the broadcasters were found to have aired advertisement in the nature of surrogate form. Therefore, show Cause notices were issued to these channels and in some cases Warnings, with orders for scrolling apology were also issued. However, considering the representation made by all the broadcasters and the amendment in Cable TV Rules on 09.08.2006, the Competent Authority decided to grant permanent stay to the operations of the orders issued/to be issued. Matters closed.
13.	HBO	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 31st March, 2006.	
14.	MTV	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 30th March and 31st March, 2006.	
15.	Star Plus	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 30th March and 31st March, 2006.	
16.	Star World	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'White Mischief Holidays' on 30th March and 31st March, 2006.	
17.	National Geographic	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's 100 Pipers Pure Music during the months of March and 1st week of April, 2006.	
18.	Star Gold	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's 100 Pipers Pure Music', 'Hayward's 5000 soda' and 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' during month of March and 1st week of April, 2006.	
19.	Channel [V]	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Fling Wicked' during 1st week of April, 2006.	



1	2	3	4
20.	Sahara One Channel	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium sparkling Water' during 1st week of April, 2006.	
21.	Star Movies	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Fling Wicked' and 'Royal Challenge Premium sparkling Water' during 1st week of April, 2006.	
22.	Star One	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' during 1st week of April, 2006.	
23.	Zee Sports Channel	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Kingfisher Mineral Water', Hayward's 5000 Soda' and 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' on 18.4.06 at 5:00 p.m.	
24.	Channel [V]	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Fling Wicked', 'Seagram's Imperial Blue'	
25.	Star Movies	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Fling Wicked', 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' and, 'White Mischief Holidays'	
26.	National Geographic	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's 100 Pipers Pure Music', 'White Mischief Holidays'.	
27.	Star Gold	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's 100 Pipers Pure Music', 'Seagram's Imperial Blue', 'Hayward's 5000 Soda' and 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water'.	
28.	Star One Channel	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' 'White Mischief Holidays'.	
29.	Animal Planet	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' 'White Mischief Holidays'.	
30.	Sahara One	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium sparkling Water' 'White Mischief Holidays', 'Kingfisher Mineral Water'.	
31.	CNBC TV 18	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Kingfisher Model Hunt' on 7th April and 8th April, 2006.	
32.	National Geographic	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's 100 pipers pure music'	

1	2	3	4
33.	Raj TV	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Sandpiper NA Malt Beverage' on 7th April, 2006.	
34.	Aaj Tak	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' on 1st April to 7th April, 2006.	
35.	Channel 7 News	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' on 1st April to 8th April, 2006.	
36.	Headlines Today	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial blue' on 1st April to 8th April, 2006.	
37.	Sahara Samay Channel	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial blue' on 1st April to 8th April, 2006.	
38.	Star News Channel	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial blue' on 4th April to 8th April, 2006.	
39.	TEZ TV (TV Today)	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' on 1st April to 7th April, 2006.	
40.	ETC Music	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'bagpiper soda' and 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' on 28.03.2006.	
41.	NDTV 24X7	SCN issued for telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' on 24th April to 28th April, 2006.	
42.	Zee Sports	For telecast of Kingfisher Mineral Water on 23/24/28/4.2006	
43.	FTV	For telecasting advertisement 'Seagram's Fling Wicked' on 20.5.2006	
44.	ETV Bangla	For telecast of advertisement 'Bagpiper Mineral Water' on 10.3.06 to 16.3.06	
45.	Star Plus	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's No.1 Soda' and 'Bagpiper Club Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
46.	Set Max Channel	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's No. 1 Soda' and 'Bagpiper Club Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	

1	2	3	4
47.	History	For telecast of advertisement of 'McDowell's No.1 Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
48.	Star Gold	For telecast of advertisement of 'Bagpiper Club Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
49.	In Cable Net (Indusind Media)	For telecast of advertisements of 'Manik Chand Oxyrich', 'Manik Chand Gutka' and 'Manik Chand Tea' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
50.	NDTV 24X7	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Games' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
51.	Channe [V]	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's No. 1 Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
52.	HBO Channel	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's No.1 Soda' from 10.3.2006 to 16.3.2006	
53.	Star World	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' and 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' from 23.4.2006 to 28.4.2006	
54.	Star Movies	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' from 24.4.2006 to 28.4.2006	
55.	Star Gold	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' and 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' from 23.4.2006 to 28.4.2006	
56.	Star Ananda	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' from 06.5.2006 to 11.5.2006	
57.	NDTV Profit	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's Signature Success' from 17.5.2006 to 20.5.2006	
58.	NDTV 24X7	For telecast of advertisements of 'McDowell's Signature Success' from 17.5.2006 to 20.5.2006 and 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 7.5.2006 to 14.5.2006.	
59.	NDTV India	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 17.5.2006 to 20.5.2006. 'Hayward's 5000 Soda' from 16.5.2006 to 20.5.2006	
60.	Sahara TV	For telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' between 1.5.2006 to 3.5.2006.	

1	2	3	4
61.	SS Music	For telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' between 5.5.2006 to 13.5.2006 and between 15.5.2006 to 19.5.2006.	
62.	Tez TV	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 6.5.2006 to 13.5.2006.	-do-
63.	Aaj Tak	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 6.5.2006 to 13.5.2006.	
64.	Headlines Today	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Today Music' between 6.5.2006 to 13.5.2006.	
65.	Channel 7	For telecast of advertisements of 'Seagram's Imperial Blue' between 1.5.2006 to 4.5.2006.	
66.	CNN IBN	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Challenge Premium Sparkling Water' on 30.4.2006 and between 1.5.2006 to 7.5.2006 and 'McDowell's Signature Success' between 18.5.2006 to 20.5.2006 and 'Hayward's 5000 Soda' between 16.5.2006 to 20.5.2006.	
67.	Times Now Channel	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 10.5.2006 to 10.5.2006.	
68.	Raj TV	For telecast of advertisements of 'Sand Piper N A Malt Beverage' between 7.5.2006 to 19.5.2006.	
69.	Star News	For telecast of advertisements of 'Royal Stag Mega Music' between 6.5.2006 to 19.5.2006.	
70.	CNBC AWAZ Channel	For the telecast of an advertisement of 'Martlac Wishkey	Warning dt.24.09.2007 issued to the channel. Matter closed.
<b>Year 2007-2008</b>			
1.	Zee Marathi	For advertisement of "Godrej Fair Glow Soap".	SCN withdrawn and the matter closed.
<b>Year 2008-2009</b>			
<b>NIL</b>			
<b>Year 2009-2010</b>			
1.	INDIA TV	Telecast of the advertisement of product 'Rajanigandha Pan Masala'	Reply under examination.

**PRINT MEDIA****2006-2007**

Sl.No.	Complainant	Respondent	Subject	Action taken/Status
1	2	3	4	5

1.	Dr. O.P. Agnihotri, Lucknow	The Editor, Rozgar Sangrah Hindi Weekly, Agra.	Publication of an unauthorized advertisement.	Adjudicated in the year 2006-07. Council warned the respondent to refrain in future.
2.	Sh. Rajendra Kumar Jain, Chhattishgarh	The Editor, Employment News, New Delhi.	Publication of misleading advertisement.	Adjudicated in the year 2006-07. The respondent had taken a decision not to publish advertisements of Private Institutions including the admission notice. Hence the matter disposed of.

**2008-2009**

3.	Sh. Dilip T. Mehta, Vadodara	The Editor, Sandesh Vadodara.	Publication of misleading and false advertisement.	Show Cause Notice was issued to the respondent on 14.10.2008. No response has been received so far.
4.	Sh. Hardev Sharma, Delhi	Various News papers	Publication of misleading advertisement.	Since the complainant has also directly complained to the Advertising Standards Council of India, Mumbai, a letter dt.23.10.2008 was issued to him and requested to apprise the status of his complaint before the ASCI in the matter. No response has been received so far.
5.	Smt. Kailash Rani, Sh. Bhawani Prasad and ors. Bhatinda	The Editor, Punjab Kesari Jalandhar.	Publication of misleading advertisement.	The complainants were requested vide Council's letter dt.13.3.2009 and 22.7.2009 to comply with the basic requirement of Press Council (Procedure for Enquiry) Regulations, 1979. No response has been received from either side.
6.	Sh. Parvinder Singh, Punjab	The Editor Tribune, Chandigarh	Publication of misleading advertisement/ Public notice.	The complainant was requested vide Council's letter dt.19.02.2009 to comply with the basic requirement of Press Council (Procedure for Enquiry) regulations, 1979. No response has been received so far.

**2009-2010**

7.	Sh. Benjamin G. Macwan, Gujrat	The Editor Gujrat Samachar	Publication of misleading advertisement.	The complainant was requested vide Council's letter dt.15.04.2009 to comply with the basic requirement of Press Council
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1	2	3	4	5
				(Procedure for Enquiry) Regulations, 1979. No response has been received so far.
8.	VIP reference received from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	The Editor Namaskar, Inflight Magazine of Air India	Publication of surrogate advertisement of liquor products.	Notice for comments dt.18.06.2009 was issued to the respondent Editor. Written statement of the respondent was received on 3.7.2009. The matter is under consideration.

### Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers

\*352. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rural people earning their livelihood through agriculture;

(b) the assistance provided by the Government to small and marginal farmers in the country;

(c) whether the number of small and marginal farmers has decreased during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per Census of India 2001, out of a total number of 30.99 crore rural workers, 16.19 crore workers consisting of 10.14 crore cultivators and 6.05 crore agricultural labourers, which is 52.24 per cent of rural workers, earn their livelihood from agriculture.

(b) to (e) As per Agriculture Census 2000-01, there is an increase in number of small and marginal farmers from 9.28 crore in 1995-96 to 9.81 crore in 2000-01 showing an increase of 5.71 per cent. The details are given below:-

Size Class (in ha.)	Number of small and marginal farmers in 1995-96 (in crore)	Number of small and marginal farmers in 2000-01 (in crore)
Small Farmers	2.16	2.27
Marginal Farmers	7.12	7.54
Total (Small and Marginal)	9.28	9.81

The Government provides financial incentives, grants, concessions to the farmers with special emphasis on holdings of small and marginal farmers through various Schemes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management, National Horticulture Mission and Technology Mission for Horticulture for the North Eastern States. Central Government also provides subsidies on seeds, micro irrigation systems, machinery, premium on crop insurance and fertilizer, etc.

[English]

### Rajiv Gandhi Udyami Mitra Yojana

\*353. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Udyami Mitra Yojana is functional in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the scheme has succeeded in entrepreneurship development in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) The objective of Rajiv Gandhi Udyami Mitra Yojana is to provide handholding support to first generation entrepreneurs in the establishment and management of their enterprise. The handholding support is provided through the empanelled lead agencies i.e. 'Udyami Mitras'. For rendering this support, the Government provides assistance in the form of hand-holding charges to 'Udyami Mitras'.

(c) Since its launch on 7th February-2008, 14 sensitization workshops at regional/state level have been organized to create awareness about the scheme. So far 209 organizations have been empanelled as 'Udyami Mitras' under the scheme and 11 training programmes have been organized for providing hands-on training to key functionaries of these 'Udyami Mitras'. These 'Udyami Mitras', in turn, have so far registered 2318 first generation entrepreneurs for providing them handholding assistance in the establishment of their enterprises.

#### **Amendments in Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995**

\*354. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

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

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India had submitted their recommendations on restructuring of cable services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in pursuance thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted its recommendations on 25.7.2008 to the Government. TRAI has recommended change in the present legal provisions and regulatory framework including provisions for licensing at district level, state level and country level, imposition of license fee ad

administrative cess, change in eligibility conditions and necessary documentation such as PAN, ID Proof, Income and service tax returns, etc. to be submitted for issue, renewal, termination and suspension of license, quality of service, addressability, FDI, etc. These recommendations are available at the website of TRAI ([www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in)).

(c) The amendment of the Cable Television networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in the light of the recommendations of TRAI regarding 'restructuring of cable services' are under consideration of the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Maintenance of National Highways**

\*355. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is satisfied with the level of maintenance of National Highways carried out by National Highways authority of India, contractors/ concessionaires etc. who have been entrusted with maintenance works;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether any special drive undertaken for maintenance of National Highways during the monsoon season; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Maintenance of National Highways carried out by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and its Contractor/ Concessionaire is generally satisfactory and the same is carried out by the contractors/concessionaires as a part of their obligations under the contract/concession agreement. Reply to parts (d) and (e) alongwith details of funds released during the last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

- (i) Replay to parts (d) and (e) Necessary preventive/precautionary measures are taken to be in a state of preparedness to meet any eventuality arising out of heavy rains and floods during the monsoon season. These measures include cleaning of drains, inspection of cross drainage works to ensure no obstruction in water way, repair of embankment, ensuring no material/loose soil is dumped on roads, increasing liaison/coordination with district administration, proper demarcation of excavation works etc.
- (ii) Funds released to state PWDS and contractors for maintenance of National Highways

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Year	Funds Released
1.	2006-2007	234.87
2.	2007-2008	442.36
3.	2008-2009	521.05
4.	2009-2010 (up to June, 2009)	156.08

**Accidents on National Highways**

\*356. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL:  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of road accidents on the National Highways (NH) is increasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of persons died and injured during each of the last three years and the current year, NH-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether compensation is paid to all the victims of accidents and to the next of kin of the persons who died in road accidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount paid in such cases during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (e) The data on total number of road accidents on National Highways does not indicate an increasing trend. The number of road accidents that occurred on the National Highways has decreased during the year 2007 (the latest available data). The share of road accidents on National Highways has also remained nearly constant within a narrow range of 29 % to 30.4 %. This Ministry has, however, been taking a number of steps to prevent road accidents. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for compensation to the road accident victims/dependents, both in "Hit & Run" cases and where the vehicle causing the accident has been identified.

A statement containing the detailed point-wise reply is laid on the table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) The number of road accidents on National Highways (NH) reported during the year 2007 has decreased as compared to those reported in the year 2006. Further, the share of road accidents on National Highways has remained nearly constant within a narrow range of 29 % to 30.4 %. State-wise break-up of number of road accidents, number of persons killed and number of persons injured on National Highways (including Expressways) for each of the years 2004 to 2007 (the latest available data) is given in the enclosed Annexure. Road accident data is compiled in the Ministry in a format developed as per the Asia Pacific Road Accident Database (APRAD) project of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP). In this format, specific NH-wise data of road accidents is not compiled.

(c) and (d) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for compensation to the road accident victims/dependents as per the details given below:

(i) Compensation in hit-and-run cases:-

Death	Rs. 25,000/-
Grievous Hurt	Rs. 12,500/-



## (ii) Compensation on "No fault principle".

Compensation to road accident victims on 'no fault principle' (*i.e.* where the victims or their heirs/successors do not have to prove the negligence of the driver of the motor vehicle causing the accident to claim such compensation) is given as per the Structured Compensation Formula prescribed under the Act. The amount of compensation depends upon the age and annual income of the victim. The maximum amount of compensation in respect of permanent disability and death respectively comes to Rs. 7,20,000/- and Rs. 4,80,000/- (reduced by 1/3rd in consideration of the expenses which the victim would have incurred towards maintaining himself had he been alive). To the amount thus determined, certain general damages like funeral expenses, loss of consortium (*i.e.* spouse), medical expenses, pain and sufferings (in case of injury) etc. are added.

## (iii) Compensation on "Fault principle".

The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 also allows application for compensation to Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT) or Civil Court, as the case may be, on the principle of fault/negligence of the driver of the vehicle causing the accident. In such cases, MACT or the Courts award compensation on the merit of the case.

(iv) Compensation paid by the Insurance Companies is only in respect of Claims lodged under the policies issued by the companies. However, in respect of 'Hit & Run' claims, some compensation is paid through the Solatium Scheme 1989. The amount paid by the four Public Sector General Insurance Companies through Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal (MACT) etc. for the claims lodged under the insurance policies issued by the said Companies during the last three years is as under:-

Rs. in crores		
2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
3741.10	3865.17	3975.2

(e) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this Ministry has taken several actions to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

- (i) Road safety is an integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.
- (ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.
- (iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector being implemented by the Ministry since 1997-98 under plan activities.
- (iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.
- (v) Setting up of Driving Training School in the country.
- (vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness both through the audio-visual and print media.
- (vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.
- (viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.
- (ix) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Government/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.
- (x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

**Annexure***State-wise Total Number of Road Accidents, Persons Killed and Persons Injured on National Highways\* 2004-2007*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Total No. of Road Accidents on National Highways				Total No. of Persons Killed on National Highways				Total No. of Persons Injured on National Highways			
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>States</b>													
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12179	9799	15188	13040	3423	3284	5034	4370	14812	13787	19494	17263
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	99	17	109	67	67	7	55	23	209	36	136	110
3.	Assam	2377	2533	2758	2334	870	1041	1199	983	2603	3285	3143	3351
4.	Bihar	967	1688	2695	3159	592	749	1198	1555	712	951	1630	2306
5.	Chhattisgarh	3726	4167	4608	3421	631	814	749	790	3634	3778	2620	3058
6.	Goa	1395	1254	1225	1398	142	112	113	143	1049	879	1028	1179
7.	Gujarat	7480	7846	7030	7253	1631	1474	1661	1812	7613	7173	7051	7445
8.	Haryana	3219	3217	3492	4042	1321	1309	1615	1765	3001	3051	3171	3571
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1076	1178	1086	1947	280	296	354	585	1878	1891	1925	2955
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2401	2035	2013	2385	350	306	377	404	3045	2915	3346	4390
11.	Jharkhand	1761	1739	1849	1718	856	847	592	746	1549	1032	1083	898
12.	Karnataka	11363	13106	13212	13310	2425	2467	2828	2921	14560	17697	17334	16704
13.	Kerala	11102	11585	10619	11000	1196	1216	1309	1453	14081	12954	12162	13369
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8158	6420	11216	10468	1475	1005	1697	1857	9106	6327	12294	10706
15.	Maharashtra	14713	13643	14448	13563	3135	3193	3567	3148	12336	11186	13613	11440
16.	Manipur	250	391	310	307	53	102	100	63	580	966	609	582
17.	Meghalaya	272	244	294	153	87	73	110	77	234	403	182	258
18.	Mizoram	40	43	32	23	36	19	22	12	71	31	40	18
19.	Nagaland	43	90	98	121	36	18	40	49	21	99	130	99
20.	Orissa	3639	3305	3589	3699	1353	1051	1322	1389	4818	4294	4235	5082
21.	Punjab	1620	1884	1811	2240	1047	1217	1140	1346	1545	1805	1372	1828
22.	Rajasthan	7735	7728	7960	8218	2672	2734	3028	3059	10972	10258	9999	10240

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
23.	Sikkim	42	41	51	38	16	16	20	12	71	106	68	40
24.	Tamil Nadu	19797	17695	17763	19910	4158	3659	3982	4430	21240	23720	21173	24330
25.	Tripura	279	307	383	445	77	103	92	124	496	552	677	
26.	Uttarakhand	561	623	647	788	425	492	510	504	929	836	877	1045
27.	Uttar Pradesh	6520	9156	7892	8105	3860	5040	4492	4580	4496	6219	5552	5939
28.	West Bengal	5590	6296	5082	4343	2113	2365	1951	2026	5657	7555	5287	4607
<b>UTs</b>													
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	27	0
2.	Chandigarh	38	67	86	99	22	28	29	45	21	53	98	132
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	—	0	0
4.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Delhi	1046	1057	1826	956	276	274	518	286	975	895	1566	800
6.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Puducherry	777	825	786	372	98	128	116	55	826	815	885	375
Total		130265	129994	140158	138922	34723	35439	39820	40612	143140	145582	152807	154880

\*Include Expressways

[English]

### Survey on MNIC

\*357. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNIC)/Unique Identity Cards to the citizens of the country particularly to people living along the coastal areas;

(b) if so, the financial implication of the scheme;

(c) whether any survey was undertaken for the purpose of issuing such cards; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome of the survey, separately, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) A Pilot Project on Multi-purpose National Identity Cards (MNIC) was implemented in the selected areas of 12 states and one union territory viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry. Under this project, data base has been created of 28.62 lakh persons. 12.88 lakh identity (smart) cards have been issued to those of 18 years of age and above while the rest have been given a national identity number. The implementation of the Pilot Project has been closed on 31.3.2009.

Based on experience of the Pilot Project, the Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country along with 2011 Census. For the NPR, details on specific characteristics of each individual shall be collected along with photographs and

finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above. However, the NPR for the coastal villages in 9 Maritime States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and 4 Union Territories (UTs) of Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Puducherry, will be created during 2009-10. This decision has been made with a view to strengthen the security in coastal areas after 26/11 incident. The scheme has been approved at a cost of Rs. 80.78 crores for data collection in 3331 coastal villages to be covered in first phase. The remaining coastal areas including the towns/cities would be covered along with 2011 census.

The scheme for coastal areas envisages identity cards to be given to all the usual residents who are 18 years of age and above. However, no such decision has been made for issuance of identity (smart) cards to the usual residents in the rest of the country.

[*Translation*]

#### **Performance of Khadi and Village Industry Sector**

\*358. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the sale of khadi products during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has noticed any constraints being faced in the development of the sector including decline in the sale of khadi products;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to formulate a package to stimulate the khadi sector; and

(e) if so; the details thereof and the time by which a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) State-wise details of khadi sales made during last three years and target for 2009-10 are given in the enclosed in the Statement.

(b) to (e) Till 2001-02, there was decline of employment in khadi sector owing mainly to falling wage earning caused by low production capacity of the artisans who were using traditional charkhas. There was also

lack of adequate focus by khadi institutions/producers to production and sales planning, particularly on the aspects of quality and marketability of product. The working capital availability also worsened due to accumulation of unsold stocks, inadequacy of proper space for storage and activities like spinning and weaving. Delay in receipt of rebates admissible to the khadi institutions also resulted in decline in the production and sales of khadi and khadi products during 1998-99 to 2001-02. However, with the initiatives taken by the Government through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to promote khadi, the value of khadi production and its sales have been increasing consistently from 2002-03 onwards. The production and sale of khadi during last three years is given below:

Year	Production (Value Rs. crore)	Sales (Value Rs. crore)
2006-07	491.52	663.19
2007-08	543.39	724.39
2008-09*	565.12	854.78

\*Provisional

In order to promote khadi activities, the Government through KVIC introduced two new schemes in 2008-09 namely, 'Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans' for providing assistance for construction of worksheds for better work environment and the Scheme for enhancing productivity & competitiveness of Khadi Industries and Artisans' to assist 200 khadi institutions to make khadi industry competitive with more market driven and profitable production by replacement of obsolete and old machinery and equipment. One more scheme 'Strengthening of Infrastructure of existing Weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' has been approved in July 2009 which envisages renovation of selected 30 khadi sales outlets and providing assistance for strengthening of infrastructure of existing 100 weak selected institutions.

Besides, a number of steps are taken to strengthen the khadi sector which includes provision of institutional credit at the concessional rate of interest of 4% per annum is given as per the requirement of the institutions registered with KVIC and State/UT Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) under Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme, improved design and packaging of khadi products under Product Development, Design Intervention & Packaging (PRODIP), Scheme of

Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for development clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors, assistance to khadi institutions for participating in exhibitions at the national and sub-national levels, etc.

Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance has tied up financial aid from Asian Development Bank amounting to US\$150 million over a period of three years for implementing the comprehensive 'Khadi Reform Programme to revitalize the khadi sector with enhanced

sustainability of khadi, increased incomes and employment of spinners and weavers, increased artisan welfare and to enable KVIC to stand on its own.

Further to boost the sale of khadi products, a number of khadi and village industry items are covered under the Rate Contract System of the Directorate General of Supply and Disposals, Government of India and Government supply activities are undertaken in the Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans located at Mumbai, Patna, Kolkata, Bangalore, Bhopal and New Delhi.

### **Statement**

*State-wise details of khadi sale during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09*

(Sales Value: Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	61.55	58.55	69.09
2.	Delhi	1700.84	2130.27	2513.72
3.	Haryana	3692.56	3784.67	4465.91
4.	Himachal Pradesh	974.43	755.85	891.90
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	898.43	1565.02	1846.72
6.	Punjab	1177.06	1225.64	1446.26
7.	Rajasthan	3727.09	4776.41	5636.16
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Bihar	1244.85	1322.66	1560.74
10.	Jharkhand	887.57	916.04	1080.93
11.	Orissa	260.01	252.31	297.73
12.	West Bengal	2415.40	2697.45	3182.99
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.05	14.57	17.19
14.	Assam	424.12	455.68	537.70
15.	Manipur	62.03	65.60	77.41
16.	Meghalaya	5.58	5.81	6.86
17.	Mizoram	3.35	3.52	4.15

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Nagaland	74.48	78.47	92.59
19.	Sikkim	8.70	9.02	10.64
20.	Tripura	48.55	55.32	65.28
21.	Andhra Pradesh	935.73	1116.24	1317.16
22.	Karnataka	3596.62	3842.60	4534.27
23.	Kerala	3443.35	3866.00	4561.88
24.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Puducherry	1141.56	83.64	98.70
26.	Tamil Nadu	7470.80	8349.20	9852.06
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Goa	0.00	49.57	58.49
29.	Gujarat	4247.01	4431.66	5229.36
30.	Maharashtra	1283.74	1360.63	1605.54
31.	Chhattisgarh	678.66	787.45	929.19
32.	Madhya Pradesh	1643.46	1778.43	2098.55
33.	Uttarakhand	1887.83	2367.44	2793.58
34.	Uttar Pradesh	22309.43	24233.69	28595.75
Total		66318.84	72439.41	85478.50

\*Provisional figure

Note: Sales target for 2009-10 is under finalisation.

[English]

### Recommendations of IAASTD

\*359. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) has cautioned against Genetically Modified crops as a solution for food crisis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), which was an international initiative undertaken between 2005-2007 by a multi-stakeholder Bureau to evaluate the relevance, quality and effectiveness of agricultural knowledge, science and technology (AKST), has in its Synthesis Report underlined that biotechnologies in general have made profound contributions that continue to be relevant to both big and small farmers and are fundamental to capturing any advances derived from modern biotechnologies.

As regards the Genetically Modified crops, they have mentioned the need for addressing safety issues.

(b) The Government agrees that biotechnology is a useful scientific tool for crop improvement in conjunction with conventional breeding to incorporate certain desirable traits, such as drought and salinity resistance and fortifying it with nutritional qualities. The Government has already established stringent regulatory framework for addressing safety concerns.

[Translation]

### **Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

\*360. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for opening Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country;

(b) the number of districts in the country including Uttar Pradesh where KVKs have not been opened, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which KVKs are likely to be opened in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The criteria for opening Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country is that the host Institute will provide about 20 ha good quality cultivable land preferably at central part of the district, easily accessible, contiguous, encumbrance free and mortgageable land with all other reasonable civic facilities having permanent source of water supply for drinking and irrigation purposes. Based on the proposals from a district, an expert team visits different sites and based on the relative merits makes recommendation to the council for the establishment of the KVK in a district.

(b) By the end of XI Plan, 667 Krishi Vigyan Kendra are to be established in the country and till date 568 KVKs have been already established. 99 KVKs are yet to be established in the country which includes five in Uttar Pradesh. The State-wise list of districts, where KVKs are yet to be established is enclosed as Statement.

(c) The KVKs in the remaining districts are envisaged to be opened during the XI Plan subject to the fulfillment of the prescribed criteria.

### **Statement**

#### *State-wise list of districts, where KVKs are yet to be established during XI Plan*

Sl.No.	Name of State	KVK to be established in recently created District	Additional KVK to be established in the district	KVK in the Districts approved in X Plan & to be established during XI Plan
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	North and Middle Andaman (Mayabunder) (1)		Nicobar (1)
2.	Andhra Pradesh		Ananthapur, Kurnool, Guntur, Prakasam, Mahaboobnagar, East Godavari, Nalgonda, Chittoor, Warangal, West Godavari, Krishna, Karimnagar (12)	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Anjaw (1)		Dibang Valley, Kurung Kumey, Changlang (3)
4.	Assam	Baska, Chirang, Udalguri (3)		North Cachar, Hailakandi, Morigaon (3)

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	Narayanapur, Bijapur (2)	Raipur, Sarguja (2)	
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli			Silvasa, Diu (2)
7.	Daman and Diu			Daman, Diu (2)
8.	Gujarat	Tapi (1)	Kachchh, Banaskantha, Rajkot (3)	
9.	Haryana	Mewat, (1)		Panchkula (1)
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	Reasai, Samba, Ramban, Kishtwar, Gandarbal, Kulgam, Bandipora, Shopian (8)	Leh (1)	
11.	Jharkhand	Ramgarh, Kuti (2)		Saraikela (1)
12.	Karnataka	Rananagara, Chikkaballapur (2)	Gulbarga, Belgaum (2)	
13.	Madhya Pradesh			Anuppur (1)
14.	Maharashtra		Ahmednagar, Solapur, Pune, Jalgaon, Nashik, Yavatmal, Nanded, Amravati, Satara, Beed, Buldhana, Aurangabad (12)	
15.	Meghalaya			South Garo Hills, East Garo Hills (2)
16.	Nagaland	Paran, Kaiphire, Laongleng (3)		
17.	Orissa		Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Sundergarh (3)	Bolangir (1)
18.	Puducherry			Mahe, Yanam (2)
19.	Punjab	Tarantaran, Barnala, Mohali (3)		
20.	Rajasthan	Pratapgarh (1)	Barmer, Nagaur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Churu, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Alwar, Hanumangarh (9)	
21.	Uttar Pradesh		Allahabad, Sitapur (2)	Ambedkarnagar, Shravasti, Jyotiba Phule Nagar (3)
22.	West Bengal		South 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, Bardhaman (3)	East Midnapore (1)

*[English]***Challenges to Internal Security**

3179. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched a scheme for modernisation of State police forces so as to effectively face the emerging challenges of internal security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has suggested steps for better planning and monitoring of implementation of the programmes relating to modernisation of Police to the Government of Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) "Police" is a State subject



as per VII Schedule to the Constitution. As such, the primary responsibility to modernize/adequately equip their police forces rests with the respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been implementing a non-Plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) since 1969-70 and supplementing the resources of State Governments for modernization of their police forces. Under the Scheme, assistance is being provided to the States for procurement of modern weaponry, construction of residential and non-residential buildings, procurement of vehicles, security/communication/forensic equipments, etc. The State Governments formulate their annual action plans based on their assessed requirements which are considered and approved by a High Powered Committee in MHA and funds are released against approved plans under the MPF Scheme.

(c) and (d) For better planning and monitoring of the implementation of the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) in the States, a system of concurrent audit has been put in place. The reports of concurrent audit conducted in the last quarter of financial year 2008-09 have been sent to all the State Governments, including Gujarat, for examination and for taking remedial action.

#### **Supreme Court Advisory on Bride Burning**

3180. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued any advisory to the Government to amend the relevant laws for award of death penalty to culprits of bride burning;

(b) if so, the details of the advisory made by the Supreme Court; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon and action taken thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Registrar of the Supreme Court of India, there is nothing on their record to show that the Supreme Court has advised the Government to amend the relevant laws to give death penalty to those who burn brides in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Investment for Development of Agricultural Land**

3181. SHRI RAJAIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in the investment for the development of agricultural land in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds invested thereon during the Tenth Plan Period; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase investment for development of agricultural land during the Eleventh Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various programmes for the development of agricultural land, namely, National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA). Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) < Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADAS), and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) in the country. Under these programmes, during the Ninth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 1621.09 crore was utilized whereas during the Tenth Five Year Plan an amount of Rs. 2072.40 crore has been utilized.

(d) Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture has targeted for development of about 7.00 million ha. of degraded land under these programmes during XI Plan with an estimated cost of Rs. 7990.00 crore.

[Translation]

#### **Broadcasting Service of Vadodara Akashvani Kendra**

3182. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the broadcasting time for the Vadodara Akashvani Kendra has been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to start 24 hours broadcasting service from the said Kendra;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) No, Madam. At present there is no proposal for 24 hour exclusive service from AIR, Vadodara due to constraints of infrastructure, funds, staff etc. However, the programmes of AIR Ahmedabad-Vadodara are already available for 24 hours on DTH service.

[*English*]

#### **NH From Chamravattoor to Kuttipuram**

3183. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the National Highway from Chamravattoor to Kuttipuram in Kerala has come to a deadlock; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to restart the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The work of realignment and construction of new road from Chamravattoor to Kuttipuram was sanctioned by the Ministry on 27.5.03 for an amount of Rs. 1465.80 Lakh. The work was awarded by the State PWD on 26.2.2004. Due to poor performance of the contractor and abnormal delay, the work was terminated. The quantum of balance works is being assessed by the State PWD and further proposal is awaited from the State Government of Kerala.

#### **Production of Litchis**

3184. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:  
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific areas/States in the country where litchis are produced;

(d) the details of litchi production in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the schemes have been launched to encourage production and export of litchis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Litchis are produced in the parts of North Bihar, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Gumla and adjoining areas of Jharkhand; Udham Singh Nagar and valley of Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand; North-eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh and Murshidabad and 24 Parganas in North-eastern parts of West Bengal. It is also cultivated on a limited scale in Tripura, Sarguja district in Chhattisgarh, Panchmarhi area of M.P. Jammu area of Jammu and Kashmir, Gurdaspur district of Punjab and Kangra valley of H.P. The stat-wise litchi production in the country during each of the last three years and the current year is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Government has launched Centrally sponsored Schemes; (i) Technology Mission on Integrated Development for Horticulture in NE States including Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, (ii) National Horticulture Mission for the remaining States. These schemes are meant for holistic development of horticulture including litchi by improving production, fruit quality and post harvest management. Financial assistance is also provided to exporters of Litchi by Agricultural and processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for:

- (i) Setting up infrastructure facilities like pack houses, sorting/grading equipment, mechanized handling facilities, controlled atmospheric storage etc.
- (ii) Implementation of quality management system.
- (iii) Brand publicity through advertisement.

Statement-II showing details of litchi exports during the last three years is enclosed.

**Statement I***Statewise Area and Production of Litchi*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Area in 000 ha				Production in 000 MT			
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Bihar	28.4	28.8	29.8	30.4	200.1	211.9	223.2	228
2.	West Bengal	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.4	74.9	77.2	77.8	81.2
3.	Assam	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	34.9	33.3	34	34.9
4.	Punjab	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	13.8	14.6	19.3	19.7
5.	Jharkhand	1.4	1.4	3.3	3.3	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
6.	Uttarakhand	7.9	8.4	8.8	8.8	13.6	14.4	15.1	15.3
7.	Tripura	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.6	14.3	14.4	14.4	14.4
8.	Orissa	3.9	3.9	4	4.2	11.9	12.1	12.8	13
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.7	2.8	2.5	3.4
10.	Uttar Pradesh	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.9	1
11.	Others	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.3	7.6	4.6	1.9	1.8
Total		63.1	64.9	69.2	70.5	391.8	402.6	418.4	429.2

**Statement II***Export of Litchi*

Value in Rs.  
Qty. in Kg.

Country	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Nepal	143976	1897959	33830	966254	142735	4570687
U Arab Emts	10400	655038	17300	1268562	16099	1377315
UK	0	0	30	1043	1220	306062
Bahamas	0	0	0	0	840	51096
Baharain	13830	567464	0	0	420	25484
Canada	0	0	0	0	200	12120
Oman	0	0	0	0	8	504
Saudi Arabia	1100	33750	0	0	0	0
Vietnam Soc Rep	28000	1727616	0	0	0	0
Germany	650	7513	0	0	0	0
Kuwait	0	0	675	6682	0	0
Bangladesh	520880	4475114	1609300	14192045	0	0
Total	718836	9364454	1661135	16434586	161522	6343268

Date source: Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

[*Translation*]

### **Involvement of Immigration Officers in Corruption**

3185. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the involvement of immigration officers deployed at international airports in corruption have been reported;

(b) If so, the number of complaints received in this regard during each of the last three years, airport-wise;

(c) the action taken against erring officers during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) As per available information, nine complaints relating to corruption/bribery against immigration officials at the major International Airports controlled by Bureau of Immigration, viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Amritsar, came to notice during the years 2006, 2007 and 2008. The airport-wise break-up of these complaints is as under:

Name of the Airport	Number of complaints
Delhi	3
Mumbai	3
Kolkata	3
Chennai	Nil
Amritsar	Nil

(c) All these complaints were enquired into and on the basis of findings following actions were taken:-

- (i) Four officials were suspended and departmental action was taken against them.
- (ii) Two officials were repatriated to their respective parent departments and departmental action was also taken against them.
- (iii) Enquiry against one official was closed due to non-cooperation from the complainant, but the

official was repatriated to his parent department subsequently.

(iv) Penalty was imposed on one official for his misdemeanor although the allegation of illegal gratification could not be substantiated against him.

(v) In one case, the allegations could not be substantiated.

(d) The following steps have been taken to curb such activities:

(i) Feedback forms have been provided at the Immigration Counters and near the exit gate of the Immigration area.

(ii) E-mail ID of Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRROs) have been published through various media.

(iii) The Immigration Officers are briefed regularly during weekly meetings and training sessions.

(iv) Close supervision over Immigration staff is maintained.

(v) Surprise Checks Are Carried Out By FRRO And Other Senior Officers During Night And Peak Hours.

### **Amarnath Pilgrimage**

3186. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any arrangements to provide advance information regarding weather condition to the devotees during the Amarnath Yatra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any incident of lathi charge on the devotees has been reported; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Arrangements have been made to issue special weather advisory bulletin/forecast/warning twice a day *i.e.* at 0610 Hrs and 1810 Hrs IST for Pahalgam as well as Baltal routes (sector wise), besides setting up of

temporary Weather advisory camps at Base Camps Pahalgam and Baltal for dissemination of weather forecast/warning to Yatra Officers and Pilgrims, making available hourly Satellite imageries in extended scale for NW sector superimposing Yatra route and special weather advisory bulletin/forecast/warning for Shri Amarnath Yatra at IMD website ([www.imd.gov.in](http://www.imd.gov.in)) as well as Regional Meteorological Centre, New Delhi website [wman@amssdelhi.gov.in](mailto:wman@amssdelhi.gov.in) being updated on real time basis and utilizing Public Address System facilities in all the Camps in the Shrine area *i.e.* Holy Cave, Baltal, Sheshnag and Panjtari.

(c) No incident of lathicharge on Yatris has occurred during Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2009.

(d) Doesn't arise in view of (c) above.

*[English]*

#### **Review of Consumer Courts**

3187. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

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

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

(c) whether the performance of the consumer courts/fora in some of the States is not satisfactory and a large number of cases are pending in these courts;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in disposal of the cases; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve the performance/working of consumer courts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) This is being done on a regular basis.

(b) The functioning of the Consumer Fora in the country is reviewed regularly State/UT-wise through their Periodical (Monthly & Quarterly) Reports and remedial actions are suggested accordingly. The matter is also being taken up at the level of Secretary, Consumer Affairs with concerned Chief Secretaries from time to time. The functioning of the Consumer Fora in the country is also reviewed periodically in Conferences with the Secretaries

in-charge of Consumer Affairs & Presidents of State Commissions held in New Delhi, organized by this Department along with National Commission.

As a result of all these measures, the disposal of cases by Consumer Fora as on 01.07.2009 is 2853025 (88.68%) out of total of 3217323 cases filed in all Consumer Fora in the country.

(c) There are some States/UTs, where disposal of cases by Consumer Fora is below the national average and there is large pendency of cases.

(d) Reason for delay in disposal of the cases is due to vacancy in posts of President/Members of Consumer Fora, inadequate facilities including lack of supporting staff, inadequate infrastructure etc.

(e) The important steps being taken to improve the performance/working of consumer courts in the country by the Central Government are as under:

- (i) Financial assistance is being provided to the States/UTs for strengthening their infrastructure. 'CONFONET' scheme for computerization and networking of Consumer Fora across the country is also being implemented.
- (ii) With an objective to facilitate the Fora in quicker disposal of cases, several provisions were made through Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 2002 which included enabling the Senior Most Member to preside over the Consumer Fora if the President is absent for any reasons, establishment of Circuit Benches of National Commission and providing for reappointment of President/Members of Consumer Fora.
- (iii) The Central Government has been requesting State Governments to take advance action for filling up expected vacancies of President and Members. Wherever required, adjacent Fora can be clubbed together. Benches can also be established in Consumer Fora.

#### **Impact of the Hike in MSP**

3188. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the impact of shortage of storage space and hike in Minimum Support Price of foodgrains on its availability and prices in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Due to hike in Minimum Support Price (MSP) in last three years, production of rice and wheat in the country has shown an increasing trend. An all time record of 805.8 lakh tonnes of wheat and 991.5 lakh tonnes of rice has been produced in 2008-09.

Due to record procurement of wheat in RMS 2009-10 and of rice in KMS 2008-09, shortage of storage space has been experienced by FCI and state agencies. In order to address the problems of shortage of storage capacity, various steps have been taken by FCI and state agencies which, inter-alia include hiring of additional storage space, direct dispatch from mandis to consuming states and storage of wheat stocks in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.

Due to increased production in the country and adequate availability of wheat and rice in the Central Pool, open market prices of wheat and rice have remained stable in 2008-09 and 2009-10.

#### **Production of Paddy**

3189. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of paddy in the country including Kerala during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the cultivable land for paddy is shrinking;

(c) if so, the details thereof including area of cultivation of paddy in the State during each of the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the scanty rainfall and storage shortage has resulted in lower output of paddy production;

(e) the loss incurred by the farmers in the country including Kerala during the last three years, State-wise; and

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

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The estimated production of paddy at all India level vis-a-vis its production in the State of Kerala during the last three years i.e. 2005-06 to 2007-08 is given in the table below:

Year	(Million Tonnes)	
	All India	Kerala
2005-06	137.69	0.94
2006-07	140.03	0.95
2007-08	145.04	0.79

(b) and (c) During the past few years, the area coverage under paddy at all-India level has not declined. However, there has been slight dip in the area under paddy in the State of Kerala during 2006-07 and 2007-08. The details of area coverage under paddy at all India level vis-a-vis in the State of Kerala during the years 2005-06 to 2008-09 are given in the table below:

Crop.	(Lakh Hectares)	
	All India	Kerala
2005-06	436.60	2.76
2006-07	438.14	2.64
2007-08	439.14	2.29
2008-09*	453.52	2.34

\*4th advance estimates

(d) to (f) The average rainfall in the country as a whole during the last three years has been normal and the total production of rice at all India level has been increasing. As per reports received from the Government of Kerala, there was no drought like situation in the State during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08. During 2008-09, there was a deficit rainfall in all 13 districts of the State and paddy crop in a few districts was affected. However, there was no significant impact on the overall productivity of paddy in the State and production of paddy during 2008-09 has been slightly higher as compared to the previous year. The State-wise details of production of paddy during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement.

For increasing production and productivity of rice, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice)' is under implementation in 14 States of the country including Kerala. The NFSM-Rice aims at increasing production of rice in the country by 10

million tonnes by the end of 11th i.e., 2011-12. Besides, a Centrally Sponsored 'Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice)' is being implemented in the Non-NFSM-Rice districts in the country.

### **Statement**

#### *State-wise Estimates of Production of Paddy*

State/UT	Production ('000 Tonnes)			
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	17556.0	17808.0	19986.0	21310.5
Arunachal Pradesh	219.3	219.3	237.2	#
Assam	5328.8	4374.0	4978.5	5662.5
Bihar	5243.3	7484.0	6627.2	8503.1
Chhattisgarh	7517.4	7562.1	8139.9	6587.7
Goa	221.0	195.5	182.4	#
Gujarat	1947.0	2085.0	2211.0	1935.0
Haryana	4815.0	5056.5	5419.5	4947.0
Himachal Pradesh	168.2	185.3	182.3	178.7
Jammu and Kashmir	835.2	831.0	842.0	845.2
Jharkhand	2337.0	4451.7	5004.6	4957.3
Karnataka	8616.0	5169.0	5575.5	5535.0
Kerala	944.9	946.5	792.8	883.5
Madhya Pradesh	2484.5	2052.6	2192.9	2339.6
Maharashtra	4042.5	3853.5	4494.0	3466.5
Manipur	579.2	579.2	609.3	#
Meghalaya	227.9	300.3	300.0	#
Mizoram	148.8	44.3	23.6	#
Nagaland	394.7	395.3	435.9	#
Orissa	10288.5	10237.1	11311.1	10143.0
Punjab	15289.5	15207.0	15733.5	16500.0
Rajasthan	229.5	254.7	389.4	361.6
Sikkim	32.3	32.3	34.4	#

1	2	3	4	5
Tamil Nadu	7830.0	9915.9	7560.3	7801.4
Tripura	829.4	930.8	936.9	#
Uttar Pradesh	16700.6	16686.0	17670.0	19611.0
Uttarakhand	885.0	834.0	889.5	870.0
West Bengal	21766.2	22118.9	22079.3	23331.0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	46.1	46.1	32.9	#
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	35.6	35.6	35.6	#
Delhi	36.0	46.7	47.1	#
Daman and Diu	5.6	5.6	5.3	#
Puducherry	89.9	89.9	80.1	#
Others	NA	NA	NA	2961.0
All India	137690.1	140033.0	145039.4	148730.6

\*4th Advance Estimates

# Included in others

NA: Not Applicable

*[Translation]***Development of NH-92**

3190. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for repair, expansion and improvement of the National Highway No. 92 passing through Gwalior, Bhind and Itawah;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon;

(c) the present status of upgradation of Gwalior-Bhind-Itawah National Highway No. 92 into four lane;

(d) whether the Government proposes to construct new bridges over the rivers Yamuna and Chambal on the National Highway No. 92; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N.

SINGH): (a) to (c) The stretch of Gwalior-Bhind-Madhya Pradesh Border has been included in NHDP-IVA for development to two lane with paved shoulder for which feasibility study is in progress and at present there is no proposal for 4-laning of this section. Besides, two proposals (i) widening to two lane in Km.36/00 to Km.48/00 (ii) Strengthening & raising in Km.60/00 to Km.78/00 in the State of Uttar Pradesh have been included in Annual Plan of 2009-10. However, the proposals have not been received from the State Government.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

**Funds for National Games**

3191. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated for the next National Games to be held in Kerala;

(b) the details of ongoing projects for the preparation of the said games including the construction of swimming pools; and



(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make the above event successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) The Central Government has not allocated any funds for the next National Games to be held in Kerala;

(b) and (c) Execution of infrastructure Projects for the 35th National Games is the responsibility of State Government of Kerala.

#### **Cotton Production**

3192. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of cotton has shown a rising trend during the last three years and the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) State-wise details of estimated production of cotton at all India level during the last three years *i.e.* 2005-06 to 2007-08 and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement. During the last three years the estimated production of cotton has followed a rising trend. As per 4th Advance Estimates released on 21st July, 2009, the estimated production of cotton during 2008-09 is slightly lower as compared to its production during the previous year.

#### **Statement**

##### *State-wise production of cotton during the years 2005-06 to 2008-09*

States	Production ('000 Bales of 170 Kgs. each)			
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	2108.00	2181.00	3491.00	3572.00
Assam	0.60	0.60	0.60	1.00
Chhattisgarh	0.40	0.20	0.10	0.01
Gujarat	6772.00	8787.00	8276.00	7616.00
Haryana	1499.00	1814.00	1885.00	1858.00
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.10	0.20	0.12
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	0.01
Karnataka	554.00	610.00	778.00	912.00
Kerala	3.50	2.00	1.70	1.45
Madhya Pradesh	745.10	828.60	864.80	856.10
Maharashtra	3160.00	4618.00	7015.00	4943.00
Meghalaya	7.80	7.70	6.50	#
Mizoram	0.20	5.20	0.60	#
Nagaland	1.70	0.20	0.30	#

1	2	3	4	5
Orissa	144.80	107.90	124.70	146.56
Punjab	2395.00	2678.00	2355.00	2285.00
Rajasthan	880.50	746.80	862.20	725.71
Tamil Nadu	213.30	220.90	200.70	205.42
Tripura	1.60	1.60	1.50	#
Uttar Pradesh	5.20	7.00	6.80	1.00
West Bengal	6.00	14.70	13.20	24.00
Puducherry	0.30	0.30	0.20	#
Others	NA	NA	NA	9.00
All India	18499.00	22631.80	25884.10	23156.38

\*4th advance estimates

# Included in others

NA: Not Applicable

**National Watershed Development Project**

3193. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has selected certain districts in the country for inclusion under the National Watershed Development Project (NWDP);

(b) if so, the details of districts selected for the purpose; and

(c) the details of works undertaken in these districts under the said project?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA) is being implemented in all the 28 states of the country covering 454 districts. In the first two years of the XI Plan, 6.14 lakh ha. has been developed in these districts incurring an expenditure of about 480 crores. The State-wise details of the districts covered under the programme are given in the enclosed Statement. Under the watershed development projects, activities like runoff control measures, in-situ-moisture conservation, drainage like treatment, water harvesting, afforestation, pasture development, horticulture development, improvement of farming system, activities for livelihood support through agriculture production systems and micro enterprises as per the location specific requirement are taken up.

**Statement***Districts covered under NWDPPRA during XI Plan*

Sl.No.	State	No. of districts	Districts Covered
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	Adilabad, Anantpur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kumool, Mahboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal, West Godavari

1	2	3	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	Papumpare, L/Subansiri, K/Kumey, U/Subansiri, West Siang, East Siang, U/Dibang Valley, L/Dibang Valley, Anjaw, Lohit, Tirap, Changlang, U/Siang, Tawang, East Kameng, West Kameng
3.	Assam	21	Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Sibsagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Nagaon, Mogaon, Kamrup, Golpara, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaingaon, Barpeta, Nalbari, Darang, Sonitpur, N.Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Cachar, Hailakandi, Karimganj
4.	Bihar	7	Banka, Jamui, Munger, Gaya, Nawada, Rohtas, Aurangabad
5.	Chhattishgarh	18	Raipur, Mahasamund, Dhamtari, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Bilaspur, Janjgir, Korba, Raigarh, Jashpur, Ambikapur, Koriya, Jagdalpur, Narayanpur, Kanker, Dantewada, Bijapur,
6.	Goa	2	North Goa, South Goa
7.	Gujarat	25	Bhavnagar, Porbandar, Junagadh, Amreli, Surendranagar, Kutchh, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Tapi, Surat, Valsad, Navsari, Dang, Bharuch, Vadodara, Narmada, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Patan, Gandhinagar, Kheda, Panchmahal, Dahed, Sabarkantha.
8.	Haryana	4	Panchkula, Ambala, Bhiwani, Mahendergarh,
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9	Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmour, Solan
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	Jammu, Kathua, Doda, Udhampur, Rajouri, Poonch, Kupwara, Baramulla, Bandipora,
11.	Jharkhand	10	West Singhbhum, Lohardaga, East Singhbhum, Gumla, Latehar, Garhwa, Hazaribag, Palamau, Bokaro, Chatra
12.	Karnataka	28	Bangalore, Ramanagara, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Tumkur, Shimoga, Mysore, Mandya, Hassan, Chickmagalur, Udupi, Dakshinakannada, Chamarajnagar, Kodagu, Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalakote, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad, Uttara Kannada, Gulbarga, Raichur, Koppal, Bellary, Bidar.
13.	Kerala	14	Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikkode, Wayanad, Kannur, Kasargode,
14.	Madhya Pradesh	50	Alirajpur, Anuppur, Ashoknagar, Balaghat, Barwani, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Burhanpur, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindori, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, K a t n i , Khandwa, Khargone, Mandla, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Singrauli, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha
15.	Maharashtra	33	Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Nasik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmadnagar, Pune, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Aurangabad, Jalna,

1	2	3	4
			Beed, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Hingoli, Buldhana, Akola, Washim, Amrawati, Yeotmal, Wardha, Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli
16.	Manipur	10	Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishnupur, Thoubal, Senapati, Sadar Hills, Chandel, Ukhrul, Tamenglong, Churhandpur
17.	Meghalaya	7	South Garo Hills, West Garo Hills, East Garo Hills, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, Ri Bhoi, Jaintia Hills
18.	Mizoram	8	Aizawl, Lunglei, Saiha, Champhai, Kolasib, Serchhip, Lawngtlai, Mamit
19.	Nagaland	11	Kohima, Phek, Wokha, Mokokchung, Zunheboto, Tuensang, Mon, Dimapur, Kiphire, Longleng, Peren
20.	Orissa	30	Kalahandi, Nuapara, Bolangir, Subamapur, Koraput, Rayagada, Nawarangapur, Malkangiri, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Jajpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Angul, Keonjhar, Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Boudh, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Bargarh, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh.
21.	Punjab	5	Gurdaspur, Ropar, Mohali, Hoshiarpur, SBS Nagar
22.	Rajasthan	21	Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jhalawar, Karoli, Kota, Rajasamand, S.Madhupur, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur, Pratapgarh
23.	Sikkim	4	East Sikkim, West Sikkim, North Sikkim, South Sikkim
24.	Tamil Nadu	18	Trichy, Karur, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Theni, Villupuram, Erode, Dharmapuri, Pudukottai, Ramnad, Sivagangai, Virudhnagar, Dindigul, Namakkal, Salem, Tiruvannamalai, Vellore.
25.	Tripura	4	South Tripura, West Tripura, North Tripura, Dhalai
26.	Uttarakhand	11	Dehradun, Pauri, Chamoli, Tehri, Rudraprayag, Uttarkashi, Pithoragarh, Nainital, Bageshwar, Almora, Champawat.
27.	Uttar Pradesh	50	Saharanpur, Agra, Etawah, Aurraiya, Mahoba, Charkhari, Kulpahar, Banda, Chitrakoot, Badaun, Barailly, Barabanki, Hardoi, Sultanpur, Sitapur, Lakhimpur, Lucknow, Kanpur, Farrukhabad, Kannauj, Unnao, Ajamgarh, Balia, Mau, Gonda, Bahraich, Srawasti, Balrampur, Faizabad, Ambedkamagar, Allahabad, Fatehpur, Kaushambi, Deoria, Sidharthanagar, Maharaigaj, Padrauna, Gorakhpur, Basti, Sant Kabimagar, Mirjapur, Santravidasnagar, Gajipur, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Jhansi, Mauranipur, Hamirpur
28.	West Bengal	9	Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Paschim Medinipur, Birbhum, Burdwan, Bankura
Total		454	

**Fake Bt. Cotton Seeds**

3194. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of fake Bt. Cotton seeds being sold by the traders and seed companies in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against such traders/seed companies; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment and Forests has given approval for commercial cultivation of Bt. Cotton in nine major Cotton growing States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. None of the Bt. Cotton growing States, except Punjab, have reported recent instances of sale of fake Bt. Cotton seeds. Government of Punjab has reported that prosecutions have been launched against ten dealers selling spurious/fake Bt. Cotton seeds. All Bt. Cotton growing States are vigilant to ensure sale of genuine seeds and wide publicity is being given to create awareness among the farmers.

[English]

**National Food Security Mission**

3195. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has any component related to tribal farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is under implementation in 312 identified districts of 17 States with

three components viz. NFSM-Rice in 136 identified districts of 14 States; NFSM-Wheat in 141 identified districts of 9 States; and NFSM-Pulses in 171 identified districts of 14 States.

The district under the programme have been identified based on certain criteria i.e. for NFSM-Rice, those districts were identified which have more than 50,000 ha area under rice and productivity less than the State's average productivity; for NFSM-Wheat the districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat is more than 50% and productivity is less than State's average were identified. The district for implementation of NFSM-Pulses have been selected based on existing large area under pulses, potential for area expansion through inter-cropping and utilization of rice fallows.

All the small and marginal farmers in the selected districts, including the tribal farmers, are eligible for getting subsidy under various specified components of NFSM programme. The mission also aims at welfare of farmers, through creation of employment opportunities as well as enhancing farm level economy along with increase in production of rice, wheat and pulses. NFSM is being implemented in the entire area of the identified districts which covers all the farmers including tribal farmers. Moreover, the National Food Security Mission have a provision in accordance with the decision of the Government of India regarding implementation of Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Caste and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes, 16% of the total allocation for SCP and 8% for TSP will be earmarked. Further, the States are advised to ensure to flow at least 33% of the allocated fund to small & marginal and women farmers. There is also a provision for making fund allocation under NFSM to SC/ST farmers also proportionate to their population in the districts out of the total fund allocation. Accordingly, all the farmers including tribal (ST) farmers also are entitled to avail the assistance for various components of the mission limited to 5 ha in a season.

[Translation]

**Employment to Widows under PMEGP**

3196. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the norms laid down for providing employment to widows under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP);

(b) the number of widows benefited during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether there exist any other scheme which provide self-employment to widows; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) The Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), a credit-linked subsidy scheme, implemented by the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) had been approved in August 2008. Under PMEGP entrepreneurs, including widows, can establish 'micro enterprises' as defined in the "Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006", *i.e.*, the enterprises engaged in (i) the manufacture or production of goods pertaining to any industry specified in the first schedule to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, where the investment in plant and machinery does not exceed twenty five lakh rupees; (ii) those providing or rendering of services, where the investment in equipment does not exceed ten lakh rupees, by availing of margin money assistance from the KVIC and loans from any public sector scheduled commercial bank.

Under PMEGP, subsidy levels (in the form of 'margin money') for prospective entrepreneurs belonging to some special categories, like those belonging to the categories of Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), physically handicapped, ex-servicemen, women, minorities, etc., have been kept at higher levels as an incentive. Accordingly, margin money (subsidy) at enhanced rates is admissible to the above-mentioned special category entrepreneurs, including widows, [*@ 25 per cent of project cost in urban areas and @35 per cent of project cost in rural areas*] in comparison to that admissible to entrepreneurs in the general category [*@ 15 per cent of project cost in urban areas and @25 per cent of project cost in rural areas*]. Moreover, the rate of own contribution in case of entrepreneurs belonging to these special categories is only 5 per cent of the project cost as against 10 per cent of project cost in respect of general category entrepreneurs. Women entrepreneurs, including widows, are required to contribute only 5 per cent amount as own contribution (as against 10 per cent for general category).

Before the introduction of PMEGP in 2008-09, the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), had been implementing a Central Sector credit-linked subsidy programme, called the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) from 01.04.1995 to 31.03.2008, in the rural areas and small towns with population up to 20,000. Under REGP, eligible entrepreneurs were assisted in establishing village industries, by availing of loans from public sector scheduled commercial banks, selected regional rural banks, cooperative banks, etc., and also margin money assistance (subsidy) from the KVIC, for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 25 lakh. Under REGP, women entrepreneurs (including war widows) were entitled to margin money assistance *@ 30 per cent* for projects up to Rs. 10 lakh as compared with *@ 25 per cent* admissible to applicants of general category. Women entrepreneurs, including widows, were required to contribute only 5 per cent amount as own contribution (as against 10 per cent for general category).

REGP has been discontinued from 2008-09 and a new scheme called PMEGP has been launched during 2008-09 for implementation from 2008-09 to 2011-12 with an estimated outlay of Rs. 4735 crore (Rs. 4485 crore towards margin money and Rs. 250 crore towards backward forward linkages).

(b) No separate data regarding the number of widows benefited under PMEGP or REGP is maintained. The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of estimated employment opportunities generated for women (including widows) under REGP in the village industry sector through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, are given in the enclosed Statement. Target for helping establish 61,697 projects and generation of 6,16,937 additional employment opportunities during 2008-09 was set under PMEGP, and implementing agencies were advised by KVIC to earmark 30 per cent of the target for women entrepreneurs. The final State/UT-wise figures of actual employment generated for women (including widows) under PMEGP during 2008-09 will become available only after the data are compiled by KVIC from across the country.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of estimated employment generated for women  
(including widows) under the REGP during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08*

Sl.No.	States/Union Territories	Estimated Employment generated for women under REGP (number of persons)		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	11	15	22
2.	Delhi	35	81	93
3.	Haryana	8339	8550	13362
4.	Himachal Pradesh	3857	5160	8718
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	5745	7022	9211
6.	Punjab	5233	10742	12607
7.	Rajasthan	18725	13325	27497
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1412	97	80
9.	Bihar	3596	3721	5337
10.	Jharkhand	1180	2199	1494
11.	Orissa	3038	4921	6783
12.	West Bengal	11579	12923	34836
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	583	635	838
14.	Assam	15583	9326	7384
15.	Manipur	131	567	243
16.	Meghalaya	616	656	1370
17.	Mizoram	5736	4964	243
18.	Nagaland	1743	1013	3382
19.	Sikkim	550	666	2991
20.	Tripura	1765	1765	550
21.	Andhra Pradesh	20753	18027	56691
22.	Karnataka	8524	12798	16027

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Kerala	9610	9094	9248
24.	Lakshadweep	92	0	3
25.	Puducherry	59	258	719
26.	Tamil Nadu	6301	7608	19234
27.	Goa	252	419	242
28.	Gujarat	5639	4079	4308
29.	Maharashtra	9718	8201	10670
30.	Chhattisgarh	5451	5346	4947
31.	Madhya Pradesh	4828	6738	14585
32.	Uttarakhand	3440	3307	3972
33.	Uttar Pradesh	14240	15424	15329
Total		178364	179648	300952

*[English]***Lane Conversion of Highways in A.P.**

3197. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to convert two lanes into four/six lanes wherever necessary on the National Highways in the State including Karim Nagar to Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to complete the projects in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) No proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for four/six laning of NHs in the current Financial Year 2009-10. However, four/six laning of NHs in the entire country including Andhra Pradesh is being implemented by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under National Highways Development Project (NHDP). Karimnagar to Hyderabad road is a State Highway and four/six laning of this road

comes under purview of the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

**Construction of Overbridges on NH-58**

3198. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project relating to the construction of overbridges and roads on the NH-58 at the Muzaffar Nagar-Meerut section under the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) Phase-III has been delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the steps being taken to expedite the completion of the project;

(c) whether any action has been taken against the contractor/company concerned for the delay;

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

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P. N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The construction of Muzaffarnagar-Meerut section of NH-58 including over bridges under NHDP Phase-III has been delayed due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, forest clearances and approval from Railways for over bridges. To expedite the completion of the project, all efforts are being made for making the balance encumbrance free sites available to the Concessionaire and meetings are being held with the State Government officials to clear the above impediment. As the matters of delay were beyond the control of the Concessionaire, no action has been taken against the concessionaire.

(e) The project is likely to be completed by December, 2009.

#### **High Yielding Varieties of Sugarcane**

3199. SHRI R. DHURUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high yielding varieties of sugarcane have been developed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Eleven sugarcane varieties (Co 94008, Co 99004, Co 2001-13, Co 2001-15, CoC 01061, Co 98014, CoPant 97222, CoH 119, Co 0118, Co 0238 and CoLk 94184) have been developed during the last five years which were found to be higher yielding than the respective control varieties. These varieties have also been released and notified by the Central Sub-committee on Crop Standards. Notification and Release of Varieties for commercial cultivation in the country.

*[Translation]*

#### **Mining Lease to PSUs**

3200. SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) granted mining lease of iron ore and presently engaged in mining, State-wise; and

(b) the amount of profit earned by such PSUs from the mining of iron ore?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) As per information furnished by Ministry of Steel, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), two Central Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the administrative control of Ministry of Steel are presently engaged in mining of Iron Ore. SAIL holds mining leases in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh and NMDC holds mining leases in Chhattisgarh and Karnataka.

(b) SAIL is mining iron ore for captive consumption in steel plant and is not selling the iron ore. However, minor quantity of iron ore fines is sent to Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. covering overhead cost. The profit earned by NMDC after deduction of tax during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was Rs. 2320 crores, Rs. 3251 crores and Rs. 4372 crores respectively.

*[English]*

#### **Pension to Sports Persons**

3201. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether pension is paid to the sports persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the amount of pension; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (d) A Scheme of Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons introduced in July 1994 is being operated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the objective of rewarding the meritorious sportspersons for their outstanding achievements with life time assistance in the form of assured monthly pension. Under the Scheme, those sportspersons, who are Indian citizens and have won Gold, Silver or Bronze medals in Olympic Games, World Cup/World Championships in Olympics and Asian Games disciplines, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and Para-Olympic Games and who have attained the age of 30 years and retired from active sports are

eligible for the pension. The rates of pension have been revised with effect from 1st July, 2008 and the revised rates of pension are as under:

1.	Medalists at the Olympic Games	Rs. 10,000/- per month
2.	Gold medalists at the World Cups/World Championships in Olympics and Asian Games disciplines	Rs. 8,000/- per month
3.	Silver and Bronze medalists of the World Cups/World Championships in Olympics and Asian Games disciplines	Rs. 7,000/- per month
4.	Gold medalists of the Asian/Commonwealth Games	Rs. 7,000/- per month
5.	Silver and Bronze medalists of Asian/Commonwealth Games	Rs. 6,000/- per month
6.	Gold medalists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 5,000/- per month
7.	Silver medalists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 4,000/- per month
8.	Bronze medalists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 3,000/- per month

#### **Padma Awards**

3202. SHRI J. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for conferring Padma Awards in the field of ancient Indian scriptural knowledge;

(b) if so, the details of the nominations and awards given during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) In terms of extant policy and procedures regulating Padma awards, the awards are given in nine broad fields/disciplines, namely, Art, Social Work, Public Affairs, Science & Engineering, Trade & Industry, Medicine, Literature & Education, Civil Service, and Sports. The sub-field 'ancient Indian scriptural knowledge' is covered under the aforementioned broad fields/disciplines. It is not the practice to maintain any record for subfields/disciplines.

[*Translation*]

#### **Construction of roads under central road fund**

3203. SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the details of the total length of road in kilometres proposed to be constructed under the Central Road Fund in various States, including Madhya Pradesh, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N.

SINGH): The State-wise details of the total length of road under implementation as on 30-6-2009 through Central Road Fund including Madhya Pradesh, are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details of the total length of road under implementation as on 30-6-2009 through Central Road Fund*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Length (in kms)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1425.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	15.30
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	167.00
4.	Assam	402.41
5.	Bihar	152.88
6.	Chhattishgarh	476.80
7.	Delhi	87.00
8.	Goa	43.00
9.	Gujarat	451.91
10.	Haryana	194.39
11.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	204.00

1	2	3
13.	Jharkhand	207.62
14.	Karnataka	3010.00
15.	Kerala	381.06
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1200.76
17.	Maharashtra	891.89
18.	Manipur	34.14
19.	Mizoram	59.13
20.	Nagaland	124.34
21.	Orissa	254.30
22.	Puducherry	9.34
23.	Punjab	137.00
24.	Rajasthan	746.00
25.	Sikkim	11.00
26.	Tamil Nadu	773.44
27.	Tripura	25.60
28.	Uttar Pradesh	969.59
29.	Uttarakhand	153.00
30.	West Bengal	289.54

#### **Level of Education in MCD Schools**

3204. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any study on the level of education in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) schools;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the level of education in the MCD schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken to improve level of education in the schools run by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi include providing computer aided learning, English teaching, giving scholarship to meritorious students, giving an amount of Rs. 200 to each girl child to promote their education, providing mid-day meal, uniform, shoes, socks, stationary, books, etc.

#### **Harmonious Development of Agriculture Sector**

3205. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to evolve a policy for the harmonious development of the agriculture sector vis-a-vis the other core sectors of the economy like industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to secure the interest of agricultural sector in a rapidly industrializing economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government has announced the National Policy for Farmers (NPF) in 2007 based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan. The Policy document took note of the variation in the growth rate achieved in the farm sector during the 10th Five Year Plan vis-a-vis the non-farm sector. Therefore, one of the major goals announced in the NPF is to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers and to ensure that agricultural progress is measured by advances made in this income. The NPF mentions various initiatives for the revitalization of agricultural sector, improvement in production and productivity, stepping up the growth rates of the agricultural and allied sectors, enhancement of the incomes of the farmers, etc.

Subsequently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation finalized a Plan of Action for operationalization of the NPF, 2007 and the same was circulated in October, 2008 to all the State Governments and the central Ministries/Departments concerned for necessary action.

Besides this, the Government has also taken many other initiatives in this direction like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National

Horticulture Mission, setting up of National Rainfed Area Authority and Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, Micro Irrigation, Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) Scheme, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, Comprehensive Credit Package, Debt Waiver Scheme, Revival of Cooperative Credit Institutions, Technology Mission on Oil seeds & Pulses, etc.

### **Small and Cottage Industries**

3206. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a large number of small and cottage industries based on indigenous skills, traditional industries, rural industries, technology and agricultural products in States having low per capita income and high rates of poverty in the country including Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has drawn up any action plan to implement the same in a time bound manner; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) does not set up small and cottages industries of its own. The development and promotion of small and cottage industries is primarily the responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs). The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) however, supplements the efforts of the States/Union Territories for development and promotion of micro, small and medium enterprises, including cottage industries, through various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, etc, throughout the country, including the States/Union Territories having low per capita income and high rates of poverty. Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is one of these schemes, under which entrepreneurs, can establish 'micro enterprises', as defined in the "Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006", i.e., the enterprises engaged in (i) the manufacture or production of goods pertaining to any industry specified in the first schedule to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, where the investment in plant and machinery does not exceed twenty five lakh rupees; (ii) those providing or rendering services, where the

investment in equipment does not exceed ten lakh rupees, by availing of margin money assistance from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and loans from any public sector scheduled commercial bank.

PMEGP is implemented through KVIC as the single nodal agency at the national level. At the State/Union Territories level, the scheme is being implemented through field offices of KVIC, State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards and District Industries Centres (DICs), including Jharkhand, with involvement of banks. The permissible margin money subsidy assistance provided under PMEGP is as under:

Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP	Beneficiary's Contribution (of project cost)	Rate of Subsidy (of project cost)	
Area (location of project/unit)		Urban	Rural
General Category	10%	15%	25%
Special Category (including SC/ST/OBC/Minorities/ Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically handicapped, NER, Hill and Border areas etc.)	05%	25%	35%

(c) and (d) Tentative targets proposed for employment generation for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 under PMEGP during the XI Plan are as under:

Year	Estimated employment target (No. of persons)
2009-10	616667
2010-11	962000
2011-12	1418833

### **Security for Commonwealth Games**

3207. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn up a special plan for ensuring security during the Commonwealth Games in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fund allocated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) to (c) Delhi Police has been making all necessary preparatory security arrangements for the safe conduct of the Commonwealth Games-2010, Delhi. The following steps have been taken;

- (i) A Commonwealth Games Security Planning Office headed by a Joint Commissioner of Police has been set up in April, 2006;
- (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned 12,612 posts to Delhi Police, out of which 8213 posts have been sanctioned specifically to strengthen the security arrangements for the Commonwealth Games. This involves an estimated expenditure of Rs. 426 crore for 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- (iii) Procurement of additional security equipments like X-Ray Scanners, Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs), Hand Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs) Vehicles, communication equipments, etc., specifically for Commonwealth Games-2010 by Delhi Police has been proposed. This involves an estimated expenditure of Rs. 104.93 crore.
- (iv) During 2008-09, Delhi Police was provided 200 new motorcycles for patrolling with an expenditure of Rs. 1.05 crore and 130 new PCR vehicles with an expenditure of Rs. 7.75 crore for increased visibility and speedy response leading to timely intervention in law & order situation and crime situation.
- (v) The Government has also approved installation of CCTV systems in 58 market places and 27 border check posts by ECIL on single tender basis. Two Pilot projects are at an advance stage of completion.
- (vi) Rs. 40.80 crore has been released to Delhi Police recently under Police Modernisation Scheme.
- (vii) An Intelligent Traffic System (ITS) is being installed in the city covering 302 intersections/crossings and 87 corridors covering 204 kms. The ITS will cover Traffic Light Management, Limited Traffic Zone, Parking Management system, Traffic violation enforcement system, variable message signs, etc., and displaying the same on a video wall in the Central Control

Room for further processing and value added functions. Phase I of ITS Project will cover the area specific to the requirement of the Commonwealth Games (2010).

- (viii) The construction plans for all venues including the Commonwealth Games village are being vetted by Delhi Police from security point of view.
- (ix) Ministry of Home Affairs has issued guidelines for security of under-construction sites to all the concerned venue owners for implementation. Accordingly, steps have been taken by venue owners on police verification of the workers, perimeter security, access control etc.
- (x) An Empowered Security Committee (ESC) headed by Union Home Secretary and a Commonwealth Games Security Review Committee (CWGSRC) headed by Additional Secretary have been constituted for this purpose in MHA to review the security arrangements from time to time.

*[English]*

#### **Smart Card for Students in Karnataka**

3208. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka requesting funds for implementing a scheme for smart cards for students and monthly passes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) and (b) Two proposals have been received from Government of Karnataka in March 2009 seeking financial assistance for introduction of smart card based student passes and monthly commuter passes to be implemented by North Eastern Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NEKRTC) and Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTCL). A draft scheme prepared by the Ministry for providing central assistance to the States for strengthening public transport system has been approved by Planning Commission in principle. Since finalization of the scheme involves

decision/observation of appropriate authorities such as Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), no definite time frame for consideration of the above proposals can be envisaged at this stage.

#### **OBC IPS Officers**

3209. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers in the Indian Police Service (IPS) belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and their percentage in the entire cadre;

(b) whether the percentage of such officers in the cadre is as per the reservation norms; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Total number of directly recruited IPS officers in the Indian Police Service belonging to Other Backward Classes are 251.27% reservation to the OBC category in IPS has been provided *w.e.f.* Civil Services Examination 1994. The reservation for OBC category is done in accordance with the provisions of DOP&Ts OM No. 6012/2/96-Estt (Res) dated 2.7.97. From CSE 1994 to 2007, total 940 officers have been recruited directly. Out of 940, 251 officers belong to the OBC category.

(b) The percentage of officers in the cadre is as per the reservation norms.

(c) In view of b. question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Violence Against Outstation Students**

3210. SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several incidents of violence against outstation students studying in other States have been reported in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to guideline/directive to the States in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) As per available information, some incidents of violence against outstation students studying in other States have been reported from Maharashtra and recently from Karnataka. Action has been taken by the concerned State Governments against the persons involved in these incidents. Details are being collected.

(c) to (e) As per the constitution, "Public Order" is State subject, and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take action such as registration/investigation of cases, arrest of accused persons etc. The Central Government monitors law and order situation in the country on a regular basis, and in the process, maintains close contact with the State Governments besides sharing information with them. Whenever necessary, advisories are also sent to the State Governments. On many occasions, the Central Governments, on the request of the State Government (s) also provides assistance in the form of deployment of Central Para Military Forces to aid States to effectively deal with the situation.

[*English*]

#### **Per Capita Availability of Cereals and Pulses**

3211. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether per capita availability of foodgrains for all the cereals and pulses is showing a declining trend;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the availability of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There have been fluctuations in per capital availability of foodgrains, cereals and pulses mainly due to fluctuations in foodgrains production caused by variations in weather conditions. The figures of net per capita

availability of foodgrains, cereals and pulses during the period 2004-2008 are given below:—

(grams per day)			
Year	Cereals	Pulses	Foodgrains
2004	429.9	35.8	462.7
2005	390.9	31.5	422.4
2006	412.8	32.5	445.3
2007	407.4	35.5	442.8
2008 (Prov.)	374.6	41.8	436.0

(c) To increase the production and there by the availability of foodgrains Government implements a number of programmes/schemes. National Food Security Mission launched in 2007-08, aims to increase the production of rice by 10 million tonnes, wheat by 8 million tonnes and pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-12). Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana launched in 2007-08 seeks to push up the investment in agriculture to improve productivity and reduce yield gaps across the country. The Government also provides good quality seeds, disease free planting material, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest, development of agricultural market infrastructure. Through the extension activities farmers are educated to adopt modern agricultural practices. Given the production and availability in the country, appropriate measures are taken by the Government which include review of imports.

#### **Loans for Road Developers**

3212. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of funds with highway developers is hampering the construction of roads under the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP);

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to give financial relief to the small and medium road construction companies;

(d) whether the Government proposes to empower the National Highways, Authority of India (NHAI) to extend working capital loans to road developers to help them tie over credit crunch, maintain speedy implementation of road projects and timely completion of schedule; and

(e) if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, award of National Highway Development Project was affected due to prevailing downturn in the economy and global recession.

(c) There is no separate policy for small and medium road construction companies. However to mitigate cash flow problems some measures viz; grant of interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractors, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount and deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) are being taken.

(d) and (e) No, Madam. However to maintain speedy implementation and timely completion of projects approved during 2008 as well as those which will be approved in 2009, the measures are taken to release entire Viability Gap Funding (VGF) during construction period itself and increase the Total Project Cost (TPC) upto 20% in case of projects where TPC was originally assessed in 2005-2006. Also the Government has allowed the Indian Infrastructure Financing Corporation (IIFCL) to raise tax free bonds for infrastructure projects.

#### **Assistance to Orange Growers**

3213. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the orange growers are facing problems due to receding ground water level in the country including Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the orange growers have urged for digging of community water tanks for storage of run off water;

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

(e) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal for increasing post harvest management and marketing subsidy amount and the budget for community tanks; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is no specific information about the problem being faced by the orange growers due to receding ground water level in the country. However, as per the information provided by the State Government of Maharashtra the ground water level is receding in the Orange Growing belt in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) The President, Maharashtra State Orange Growers Association has demanded to increase the budgetary allocation for community farm ponds under National Horticulture Mission. (NHM).

To give protective irrigation to the fruit crops, the component of community tanks/ponds has been included under NHM. During the year 2009-10, a provision of Rs. 864.93 lakhs has been made to complete 564 ongoing community tanks and Rs. 349.92 lakh for 72 new community tanks in the State of Maharashtra. Besides, during 2009-10, assistance of Rs. 144.00 crore has been provided under the scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for farms ponds, repair of Bodis and Malgajari tanks.

(e) and (f) Yes, Madam. The proposal for increasing the subsidy amount for the Post Harvest Management and Marketing is under consideration of the Government.

A proposal for increasing the budget allocation of community tanks from 15% to 33% under NHM has been received from the Government of Maharashtra. As the major focus of NHM scheme is on the holistic development of horticulture by additional area coverage, setting up of nurseries and creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing, earmarking of funds to the tune of 33% of the outlay for construction of water tanks/ponds along, is not feasible.

Moreover, several other schemes of the Government like RKVY, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and Watershed Development scheme also provides assistance for the development of water harvesting structures.

#### **CISF Security Cover**

3214. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO  
KHATGAONKAR:  
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) security cover to all the dams located in the border States and in troubled areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to provide CISF for security to Indian Missions abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has recently reviewed the criteria for deployment of CISF personnel; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) As per the priorities decided by the Government of CISF, all the major dams in the country come under Priority-I. As CISF is a need based Force, its deployment is directly linked with submission of formal requisitions by the concerned management who are desirous of inducting CISF. Requests of the concerned management have been received for surveys to assess the manpower requirement for deployment of CISF at Bhakra Dam (Punjab) and Tungabhadra Dam (Karnataka).

(c) Some of the Indian Mission abroad have been provided with security cover of CPMFs, including that of CISF, based on the threat perception involved.

(d) CISF personnel have been deployed for providing security at Indian Embassy at Kathmandu (Nepal) and Consulate General of India, Birgunj (Nepal). Six CISF personnel have been deployed for performing the duties of drivers at High Commission of India, Islamabad (Pakistan).

(e) and (f) There is no change in the existing norms for deployment of CISF at PSUs/Other Installations. However, a policy for deployment of CISF at Private/Joint Sector enterprises has recently been decided by the Government.

#### **Use of Pesticides in Fruits and Vegetables**

3215. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether high pesticides residues are found in fruits and vegetables;



(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any permissible limit prescribed for pesticides residues in fruits and vegetables;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to constitute a statutory authority for ensuring the supply of safe food stuffs, vegetables and fruits; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Government of India is implementing a Central Sector scheme "Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National level" under which samples of various food commodities including vegetables and fruits have been analysed for the presence of pesticide residues. During April, 2007 to March, 2009, only 2.3% of the samples of fruits and vegetables analysed had pesticide residues above Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Under the provision of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, Maximum Residues Limits (MRLs) for various pesticides in food articles, including fruits & vegetables, have been prescribed.

(e) and (f) The food Safety & Standards Authority of India has been established under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006 for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

[Translation]

#### **Production of Pulses**

3216. SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL:  
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of increase in prices of pulses and continuous decrease in the production thereof;

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

(c) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to increase the production of pulses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the production of pulses is likely to be increased as a result of introduction of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per the Wholesale Price Index (Base year 1993-94=100) released by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the overall prices of pulses for the week ending 11th July, 2009 were higher by 15.91% as compared to the last year.

The estimated production of pulses in the country has been increasing since 2004-05. As compared to the production of 14.20 million tonnes during 2006-07, the production of pulses during 2007-08 was estimated at 14.76 million tonnes. However, as per 4th Advance Estimates released on 21st July, 2009, the production of pulses during 2008-09 is estimated at 14.66 million tonnes which is slightly lower as compared to the production during the previous year.

(c) and (d) In order to increase production and productivity of pulses, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored 'Integrated Scheme of Oil seeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), in 14 major pulses growing States since 01.04.2004.

Besides ISOPOM, the Government has launched following schemes to encourage cultivation of pulses:-

- (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) - Pulses launched in 2007-08 is being implemented in 171 identified districts of 14 major pulses growing States. The objective of NFSM-Pulses is to increase production of pulses in the country by 2 million tonnes by the end of 11th Plan i.e. 2011-12.
- (ii) Macro-Management of Agriculture (MMA) scheme (Revised) provides assistance for pulses development to the States not covered under the ISOPOM.
- (iii) The States can undertake pulses development programme under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) launched during 2007.

#### **Four Laning of Jaipur-Agra Highway**

3217. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jaipur-Agra National Highway has been four laned;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of agencies which carried out the said work;

(c) whether the guidelines/conditions with regard to planting of trees along the Highway have been complied with;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of trees planted as against the target fixed;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken against the concerned agencies; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government of speedy implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N.

SINGH): (a) The four laning of 211.70 km from Jaipur to Agra is being implemented under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III. So far, the work of four laning in 157 km from Dausa to Agra is completed and the work is in progress for balance length of 54.7 km from Jaipur to Dausa.

(b) The four laning work of Jaipur-Agra is being carried out in three packages. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Higher Level officers of PWD and Forest Departments of the Government of Rajasthan are closely monitoring the speedy implementation of plantation of trees.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Details of Different Packages*

Sl.No.	Name of stretch and Chainage	Length (km)	Name of Concessionaire	Name of Independent Consultant
1.	Jaipur (at km 229.40) to Mahua (at km 120.00)	109.40	M/s Jaipur-Mahua Tollway Pvt Ltd.	M/s ICT Pvt. Ltd.
2.	Mahua (at km 120.00) to Bharatpur (at km 62.30)	57.70	M/s Madhucon Agra Jaipur Expressway Ltd.	M/s Arvee Associates
3.	Bharatpur (at km 62.30) to Agra (at km 17.70)	44.60	M/s Oriental Pathways (Agra) Pvt. Ltd.	M/s Louis Berger Group Inc

#### **Statement II**

##### *Details of Plantation*

(Figures in Nos.)

Sl.No.	Name of stretch	Plantation in Avenue	
		Provision made	Plantation done
1.	Jaipur-Mahua	48000	41000
2.	Mahua-Bharatpur	32000	21924
3.	Bharatpur-Agra	14000	14000

[English]

##### **Development Projects in NE Region**

3218. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects undertaken by the Government for the development of North-Eastern Region (NER) for the last three years;

(b) whether some of the projects are still pending;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, project-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for completion of these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTERS OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The Ministry of DoNER sanctions the developmental projects in North Eastern Region under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR). North Eastern Council (NEC) also sanctions projects in NE States. The names and schemes of the projects undertaken in different North Eastern States in respect of NEC during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The names of the projects sanctioned in different North Eastern States under NLCPR during last three years is available on the Ministry's website under the head of 'NLCPR' and State-wise sub-head 'e. Sanctioned Projects.'

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam, the completion of some of these projects is still pending. A list of these project is at given in the enclosed Statement-II. The main reason for their delay, *inter-alia*, includes the shorter working period because of long rainy season in the North Eastern Region, delay in released of funds by the State Governments to the implementing agencies, law and order problem and limitation of technical & professional expertise.

(d) In order to expedite their implementation these projects are being monitored regularly for their early completion. The State Governments have been advised to ensure timely release of funds to the implementing agencies and also review the progress on quarterly basis at the level of Chief Secretary.

### **Statement I**

#### *Projects Sanctioned by North Eastern Council during last three years*

#### **POWER SECTOR:**

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Sl.No.	Name of the project	Approved Cost	Amount released
1	2	3	4
1.	Improvement & Renovation including relinment of existing 33 KV line from Pasighat to Mebo and Construction of Tower over river Siang & Siku, AP	246.00	125.00
2.	Augmentation & Improvement of LT distribution system in and around Hapoli township area (ZIRO), Arunachal Pradesh	467.00	350.00
3.	System improvement of Electrical Installation under Naharlagun Electrical Division, Nirjuli, Arunachal Pradesh	500.00	200.00
4.	Installation of Capacitor Bank at 33 KV Umtru Switchyard & 132 KV EPIP-I at Byrnihat, Meghalaya	310.29	200.00
5.	Upgradation & Remodelling of Existing Distribution System of MG Road and its surrounding areas, Gangtok, Sikkim	451.00	350.00
6.	Remodelling and augmentation of HT & LY Power Supply & Distribution System at Pakyong Bazar, East Sikkim	228.00	205.00
7.	1X21 MW Baramura Unit-V Gas Based Power Project", Tripura.	8000.00	4220.60
8.	Construction of 33 KV Express Line from Khonsa to Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh	498.00	160.00
9.	System improvement under Raga Electrical Sub-Division in Lower Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh	490.00	250.00
10.	Improvement of Power Supply in Mengio Circle under Sagalee Administrative Block, Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh	492.00	250.00

1	2	3	4
11.	Construction of 132 KV S/C Transmission line from Melriat Substation (14.5 Km) to Luangmual and 132 KV Bay at Luangmual, Aizawl	499.00	60.00
12.	Construction of 33 KV Transmission line from Serchip Substation to Sialsuk with 33 KV Substation at Sialsuk, Mizoram	497.00	250.00
13.	Construction of 132/33 KV, 2X20 MVA S/s at Umiam in Meghalaya	480.00	80.00
14.	Construction of 132 KV LILO of Sumer NEHU Line at 132/33 KV, 2X20 MVA Substation at Umiam, Meghalaya	494.00	250.00
15.	Upgradation & Modernization of 132/33 KV Meluri Substation, Nagaland	496.00	260.00
16.	Remodelling & Conversion of existing Overhead LT Line into Underground Cable System of all Electrical Network in and around Rabong, South Sikkim	495.00	250.00
17.	Conversion of Overhead HT & LT Over head lines into underground cable system with upgradation of the existing distribution system at Ambedkar Road, Munshi Colony, Bhojo Gharie & Sonam Gyatso Marg & Arithang Areas, Gangtok, Sikkim	497.00	250.00
18.	Conversion of existing 11 KV Transmission line & 440 V, LT Distribution Overhead Lines including service connection to underground cable system in congested areas at Pelling, West Sikkim	476.44	60.00
19.	Lungrit Small Hydro Electric Project stage I & II (2X 1.50 MW) in Assam.	500.00	150.00
20.	Installation of 4 Nos. 1X10 KW wind Solar Hybrid Systems in landem, Hongbei, Lamdangmei and Dolangkhuo Villages in Manipur.	94.16	63.56
21.	Lakhroh Mini Hydel Project (1X1500 KW), Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.	500.00	187.00
22.	Construction of 33 KV Express Line from Old Ziro to Tamen (45 Km) with 2x3.15 MVA, 33/11 S/s at Tamen in Arunachal Pradesh	451.00	318.00
23.	Renovation & Modernization of the protection System of Power Stations and 132 KV Grid Substations of MeSEB	485.36	367.00
24.	Construction of the LILO 132KV D/C from Stage-IV to Sarusajai line (4.08 Km) at Umtru Switchyard in Meghalaya"	350.00	240.00
25.	Construction of 132 KV S/c Transmission line on D/C tower from Agia (Assam) to Nangalbibra (Megh), (110 KM)	4332.00	2518.00
26.	LT Overhead lines with Aerial Bunched Cables for Aizawl (10 Km).	470.00	345.00
27.	Construction of 2.5 MVA, 33/11 KV Sub-Station at Zokhawsang, Assam Rifles Complex Area, Mizoram	368.00	289.00

1	2	3	4
28.	Upgradation & Conversion of Existing dedicated 3.3 KV System into 11 KV System of Gangtok, Sikkim	318.00	286.20
29.	Extension of one 66 KV Bay at 66/11 KV Switchyard at Gyalshing and construction of 66/11 KV, 1x5 MVA Substation at Sardung (Yangthang) in West Sikkim	429.11	386.00
30.	Design, Supply, Erection, Testing, Commission of 2x3.5 MVA, 3.3/66 KV Switchyard cum Substation at Rongli HEP together with Construction of one 66 KV Line Bay from Rongli HEP to Sundung in East Sikkim	426.00	383.00
31.	Interconnection of 11 KV Development Area Sub-Station with 11/11 KV TNA Sub-Station as part of Ring Main Network, Gangtok	102.00	92.00
Total		24442.36	13395.36

## IRRIGATION &amp; FLOOD CONTROL &amp; WSM SECTOR:

1.	Selem HE Project	450.00	100.00
2.	Ganol H.E.P. in Garo Hills	211.00	40.00
3.	Amring HEP in Karbi Anglong	210.00	40.00
4.	Mawblei HEP in Meghalaya	416.00	20.00
5.	Upgradation and modernization of Feeder of Selep water for Gangtok	202.32	50.00
6.	Water Supply Scheme Namchi Town in Ph.II, Sikkim	443.50	50.00
7.	Umngot HEP of 150 MW in Meghalaya	430.78	130
8.	Water supply to Namchi town in South Sikkim providing distribution reservoir Ph.I	432.76	342.75
9.	Myntduh Leska HEP in Meghalaya	293.75	115.00
10.	Water supply to ICDS Centers	27.40	24.66
11.	A/E Works on Dollung river at Dollung	344.64	302.50
12.	Ranipul WSS	393.83	354.45
Total		3855.98	1569.36

## INDUSTRIES SECTOR:

1.	UNIDO-CBTC Phase-II Project	293.16	73.29
2.	Setting up of a Bamboo Technology Park at Byrnihat, Assam	418.23	100.00
3.	Integrated project for Muga Development in Meghalaya implemented by Sericulture Department, Govt. of Meghalaya	224.00	112.00
4.	Setting up of a Bamboo Technology Park at Sairang	209.70	150.00
Total		1145.09	435.29

1	2	3	4
<b>TOURISM SECTOR:</b>			
1.	Setting up of a Tourist Centre/Picnic Spot cum Botanical Garden at Sihmui, Aizawl	49.00	40.00
<b>MEDICAL &amp; HEALTH SECTOR:</b>			
1.	Establishment of a Modern Burn Care Unit at Nemcare Hospital, Guwahati, Assam	300.00	90.00
2.	Modernization of Bethel Medical Research Society, Kohima, Nagaland	375.00	50.00
3.	Support to Phase-I expansion of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Guwahati, Assam	400.00	400.00
4.	Accident & Trauma Centre: Along	147.11	24.56
5.	Accident and Trauma Centre: Namchi	135.00	43.20
6.	Support for Constrn. of X-Ray Bloc, Kitchen & Garage cum Seminar room in PHCs	284.79	180.00
7.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Agartala	160.81	63.73
8.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Kulai	160.81	63.73
9.	Upgradation of PHC at Raga/Boa Simla, Lower Subansiri	298.72	218.85
10.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Jowai	80.00	72.00
11.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Tura	80.00	72.00
12.	Estt. of a Centre for Complementary Therapy & Alternate	41.00	36.90
13.	Support for 6 bedded ICU at Presbyterian Hospital, Aizawl	229.52	206.57
14.	Procurement of Equipment & Machinery at Zion Hospital, Dimapur	482.39	434.15
15.	Support for Constrn. of 2 nos. of PHCs in Difficult Areas at Toupheima, Kohima Dist & Ruzazho, Phek Dist.	131.04	117.94
Total		3306.19	2073.63
<b>HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SECTOR:</b>			
1.	Construction of Rajiv Gandhi Girls Hostel at Dhaka Housing Complex University of Delhi, Banda Bahadur Marg, New Delhi	1400.00	850.00
2.	Constrn. of residential accommodation and staff quarters of I.T.I. Miao	86.58	75.00
3.	Construction of Covered Gallery at Dirang	263.00	202.00
4.	Construction of Sports Hostel at Sarihajan	59.47	40.00
5.	Improvement of playground	31.62	22.00

1	2	3	4
6.	Construction of Office-cum-Durbar Hall	38.59	30.00
7.	Construction of Sports Complex at Khatla, Phase-I	84.44	73.33
8.	Construction of Playground at Mimbung Village	14.50	12.00
9.	Setting up of a hostel for working women of NE States at Jasola, New Delhi	436.12	333.95
10.	Construction of 200 seater girls hostel	100.00	90.00
11.	Extension of College Building & Staff Quarters, Khliehriat	100.00	85.00
12.	Construction of Playground at Pangsha Village	7.35	5.00
Total		2621.67	1818.28

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY SECTOR:

1.	Disaster Management System in Mizoram	185.00	80.00
2.	Sikkim E-Education Infosys for Sikkim	444.00	100.00
3.	Online Connectivity of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools with the Nagaland Board of School Education	213.00	130.32
4.	Nagaland State Spatial Data Infrastructure & Natural Hazard Zonation Mapping of Nagaland	372.00	85.00
5.	Online/Real-time Seismic Network for Disaster Mitigation in North East India (New Proposal)	170.00	25.00
Total		1384.00	420.32

## TRANSPORT &amp; COMMUNICATION SECTOR:

1.	Construction/improvement of Cumin Khor road (Sikkim)	359.00	300.00
2.	Restoration of Silchar-Kalain Road	492.84	300.00
3.	Improvement of Lengpui Airport (Mizoram)	1492.00	1000.00
4.	Construction of Inter State Bus Terminus at Dewlaland, Imphal (Manipur)	2640.00	500.00
5.	Sonapur-Umden road (Meghalaya)	4260.00	2740
6.	Jotte-Balijan road (Assam)	1515.00	1250
7.	Construction/Improvement of Sumin khor road (Sikkim)	359.00	300.00
8.	Chiephobozou-Tuophema-Chiethu (Nagaland)	488.00	280.00
9.	Improvement of Harmoti-Doimukh Road (Arunachal)	491.00	400.00
10.	Improvement of road from Mottum Tinali to Maktumghat (Arunachal)	471.00	380.00

1	2	3	4
11.	Missing link between NH-150 Chalfilh (Vanzau) tourist centre (Mizoram)	345.00	200.00
12.	Conversion of timber bridge in Assam		
	(a) Dhupdara-Adogiri Road	608.77	280.00
	(b) Krishnai-Medhipathar	904.77	370.00
	(c) Amingoan North Guwahati	172.85	100.00
	(d) Rongsai-Borjhora-Bajengdoba	438.19	200.00
13.	ISBT Jorhat (Assam)	1137.00	890.00
14.	Fatikroy-Kalishahar-Dharmanagar (Tripura)	5469.00	5365.00
15.	Seppa-Chyangtajo road (Arunachal)	9051.00	1800.00
16.	Digboi-pengeri-Bordumsa road (Arunachal)	4943.00	1600.00
17.	Digboi-Pengeri-Bordumsa road (Assam)	4289.00	1900.00
18.	Pandit Hemchandra Goswami path (Assam)	3068.00	1900.00
19.	Na Ali road (Assam)	5280.00	2400.00
20.	Tuensang-Longleng-Ladaigarh (Assam)	1414.00	500.00
21.	Tuensang-Longleng-Ladaigarh road (Nagaland)	5150.00	950.00
22.	Wokha-Merapani road (Assam)	3483.00	1600.00
23.	Wokha-Merapani (Nagaland)	4445.00	3500.00
24.	Churachandpur-Singhat (Manipur)	2732.00	2200.00
25.	Dharmanagar-Tilthai-Damchera (Tripura)	6625.00	2700.00
26.	Replacement of suspension bridge with 102M span steel bridge over Rabi Khola river at 9th KM on Melling-Phong road (Sikkim)	497.00	405.00
Total		72620.42	36310.00

**Statement II***List of Pending Projects which were sanctioned during last 3 years***PROJECTS SANCTIONED THROUGH NEC**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Approved Cost	Amount released
1	2	3	4
1.	Extension of one 66 KV Bay at 66/11 KV Switchyard at Gyalshing and construction of 66/11 KV, 1x5 MVA Substation at Sardung (Yangthang) in West Sikkim	429.11	386.00



1	2	3	4
2.	Umngot HEP of 150 MW in Meghalaya	430.78	130.00
3.	Water supply to Namchi town in South Sikkim providing distribution reservoir Ph. I	432.76	342.75
4.	A/E Works on Dollung river at Dollung	344.64	302.50
5.	Setting up of a Bamboo Technology Park at Sairang	209.70	150.00
6.	Support to Phase-I expansion of Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Guwahati, Assam	400.00	400.00
7.	Accident & Trauma Centre: Along	147.11	24.56
8.	Accident and Trauma Centre : Namchi	135.00	43.20
9.	Support for Constrn. of X-Ray Bloc, Kitchen & Garage cum Seminar room in PHCs	284.79	180.00
10.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Agartala	160.81	63.73
11.	Accident and Trauma Centre at Kulai	160.81	63.73
12.	Construction of Rajiv Gandhi Girls Hostel at Dhaka Housing Complex University of Delhi, Banda Bahadur Marg. New Delhi	1400.00	850.00
13.	Constn. of residential accommodation and staff quarters of I.T.I. Miao	86.58	75.00
14.	Construction of Covered Gallery at Dirang	263.00	202.00
15.	Improvement of playground	31.62	22.00
16.	Construction of Office-cum-Durbar Hall	38.59	30.00
17.	Construction of Sports Complex at Khatla, Phase-I	84.44	73.33
18.	Construction of Playground at Mimbung Village	14.50	12.00
19.	Setting up of a hostel for working women of NE States at Jasola, New Delhi	436.12	333.95
20.	Construction of 200 seater girls hostel	100.00	90.00
Total		5590.36	3774.75
PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER NLCPR			(Rs. in crore)
Sl.No.	NLCPR Project	Approved Cost	Amount released
1	2	3	4
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>			
1.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan 2006-07	14.29	14.29
2.	Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya at Kitpi in Tawang District	5.21	3.64

1	2	3	4
3.	Infrastructure strengthening of Secondary Health care facilities in Arunachal Pradesh (General Hospital Naharlagun)	4.72	4.12
4.	Upgradation of medical equipments at R.K. Mission Hospital, Itanagar	4.08	3.67
5.	"Corpus Fund for R.K. Mission Hospital, Itanagar"	22.22	20.00
6.	Construction of State Legislative Assembly Building at Arunachal	38.92	5.00
7.	Ropeway from Tawang Monestary to Ani Gompa (Tawang District)	3.31	2.04
8.	C/o 33 KV Express line from Tawang to Lumla with 33/11 KV, 2x1.6 MVA sub station at Lumla	6.22	5.60
9.	C/o road from Nafra to Nakhu and Nachiban in West Kameng District (11 Km.)	7.54	4.26
10.	Construction of Road from NH 52 'A' to Pappu Hill Settlement (2 Km.)	3.99	1.26
11.	Providing Water Supply at Lumba Township" in Tawang District	4.88	4.27
<b>Assam</b>			
12.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for Assam (2006-07) (1409)	102.93	102.93
13.	Construction of 220/132, Kv, 1x50 MVA, 132/33 Kv and 1x16 MVA Agia S/S (1478)	7.39	6.5
14.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 27/2, 28/1, 29/1, 30/2, 32/2, 35/1 and 45/1 including approaches on Dhubri-Kachugaon Road in Kokrajhar	5.16	1.63
15.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1 and 4/1 with approaches on Nilbagan-Hojai Road in Nagaon District (Assam) (1399)	1.92	1.71
16.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/1 including approaches on Pukia Silapathar Road in Dhemaji District. (1391)	1.37	1.22
17.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/1 and 15/1 including approaches on Nagaon-Bhuragaon Road in Nagaon District	4.34	3.87
18.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 38/1, 43/1, 43/3 and 44/2 including approaches and subway on Silchar-Hailakandi Road in Hailakandi District (1393)	3.53	1.11
19.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/2 and 4/2 including approaches on Gurnagar Tikrikilla Road in Goalpara District (1390)	3.55	1.11
20.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/1 on river Bharalkunda, 7/1 on Sister-par Beel, 8/1 on Dulani Beel, 9/9 on Distributary of river Champamati and 11/1 on Hill Canal including approaches on Jogighopa Chapar Road in Bongaigaon District in Assam. (1401)	7.09	6.32
21.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/3 on river Bhulla, 3/2 on river Lakhi and 7/2 on river Lakhimorasuti on Bengbari Ambagaon Road in Udalguri District, Assam	6.33	3.76

1	2	3	4
22.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/4, 6/1 and 8/1 on river Kaldia including approaches on Dr. Jina Ram Das Road in Barpeta District (Assam) (1405)	5.36	1.70
23.	Project for Road Network of Jorhat Master Plan Area in Jorhat District (1425)	4.61	4.03
24.	Improvement of Barpeta Bashibari Road leading to Manas Sanctuary from km. 1st to Km. 21st in Barpeta District in Assam (1433)	12.36	7.46
25.	Improvement of Roads and Natural Drainage System within Greater Tezpur Town (1479)	25.52	3.48
26.	Dhubri Town Water Supply Scheme (1422)	10.27	6.28
27.	Greater Mahur Town Water Supply Scheme in Assam	5.12	1.61
28.	Udalguri Piped Water Supply Scheme (1462)	5.34	2.54
29.	Bheragaon Piped Water Supply Scheme (1461)	2.46	1.21
30.	Uttarpar Piped Water Supply Scheme (1463)	8.64	4.11
31.	Construction of academic-cum-Administrative building of K.K. Handique Government Sanskrit College (1492)	2.38	0.93
32.	Development of infrastructure facilities of Kahrupetia college, i.e. construction of class rooms, computer labratory with Ac, hostel for tennis, elctricity facilities, water supply and sanitary installation in darrang distt. (1538)	1.76	0.55
33.	Construction of dakhindol Lift Irrigation Scheme at Sonitpur and Joisidhi, Assam (1515)	2.11	0.67
34.	Belsiri Lift Irrigation Scheme (1516)	2.17	0.68
35.	Cashew processing Plant at Mankachar in Dhubri District in Assam (1542)	2.11	1.04
36.	Augmentation of Transformer Capacity of 132/33 KV Panchgram Sub Station from 2x16 MVA to 2x25 MVA in Cachar District' (1590)	4.40	1.39
37.	Improvement of Nagaon Morikolong Nanoi dakhinpath Road under Nagaon district (1550)	1.99	1.77
38.	construction of RCC Br. No. 4/1 & 6/1 with approaches on J.B. road in Jorhat distt. (1494)	3.24	1.01
39.	Construction of Road from Bhangarpar to Chandranathppur via babur bazar (Length 5.5 Km.)	2.49	0.80
40.	Improvement of roads in Jorhat Town (1553)	2.50	0.96
41.	Widening and Raising of Nazirakhat Sonapur Road (Length 6.00 km.) (1555)	2.65	2.39
42.	Improvement of Rampur Model Road starting from NH- 37 in Kamrup District (1589)	2.25	2.00

1	2	3	4
43.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 1/1 over Santijan on Srimanta Sankardev Govesona Kendra Road in Nagaon Road (1596)	2.81	0.88
44.	Metalling and Black Topping of Swapanpur to Ramchandi Road of Hailakandi District (1598)	3.80	1.20
45.	Construction of RCC bridge at 7th Km. of Kathal Road over river Ghagra including approaches and protection work in Cachar District (1601)	2.50	0.79
46.	Construction of Indoor stadium at Silchar (1493)	4.94	1.40
47.	Golaghat Town Water Supply Scheme (1483)	5.05	3.56
48.	Sibsagar Town Water Supply Scheme (1484)	16.39	5.00
	<b>Manipur</b>		
49.	Construction of Dharmasala Building at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS)	2.82	0.86
50.	Construction and Equipping of 50 bedded Hospital at Jiribam Sub Division	15.64	4.93
51.	Construction and Equipping of 50 bedded Hospital at Tamenglong District	14.37	4.53
52.	Construction and Equipping of 50 bedded Hospital at Senapati District	14.26	4.49
53.	Construction and Equipping of 50 bedded Hospital at Ukhrul District	13.97	4.4
54.	Construction and Equipping of 50 Bedded Hospital at Chandel District	13.16	4.14
55.	Construction of Bridge over Thoubal River at Leishangthem	3.41	2.14
56.	Construction of Kumbi Bridge over Khuga River at km. 10.75 of Moirang-Kumbi Road	4.32	3.77
57.	Construction of Bridge at Irong Ichin	3.34	1.05
58.	Construction of Bridge over Imphal River at Kiyamgei Mang Mapa	4.71	4.12
59.	Construction of Bridge at Babu Bazar	2.93	1.84
60.	Construction of Bridge over thoubal River at Haokha	2.76	1.74
61.	Construction of 32 PHCs in Hill areas in Manipur	5.45	3.3
62.	Construction of 10 PHCs in valleys	7.86	2.42
63.	Construction of 18 PHSCs in valley areas	2.57	2.26
64.	Construction of Brodge over Heirok river at Heirok Chingdongpok	2.2	1.39
65.	Improvement of Lamsong-Khonghampat Road	2.68	0.85
66.	Augmentation of Konthoujam Water Supply Scheme (Imphal West District)	8.86	2.74
67.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Purul Sub Division HQ	4.29	1.32

1	2	3	4
68.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Tungjoy	2.16	0.68
	<b>Meghalaya</b>		
69.	Construction of School Building of O.M. Roy memorial School at Kynton Massar, Mawlai, Shillong	2.26	1.42
70.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan 2006-07	8.59	8.59
71.	Construction and Development of the lawmusiang Multi Purpose Market Complex, Jowai	20.10	6.33
72.	Updating facilities of Ginger Processing Plant at Byrnihat for commercial production	0.51	0.51
73.	Improvement, Widening, Strengthening including Metalling & Blacktopping of a road from 9th Mile of NH-37 (Guwahati-Shillong road) to Killing—Pilangkata (6.00 Km.)	3.13	1.99
	<b>Mizoram</b>		
74.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (2006-07) (1407)	6.88	6.88
75.	Construction of Secondary School Buildings in Mizoram (1428)	9.69	8.30
76.	Construction of 3 Bailey Bridges in Mizoram (1427)	6.49	2.05
77.	Construction of Bamboo Plantation Link Road from Saiphal to hortoki (0-27.5 km.) (1449)	13.00	4.09
78.	Construction of Bamboo Plantation Link Road to proposed Bamboo Plantation Areas from tuiarial Airfield to Bukpui (0-40) (1450)	22.39	7.05
79.	Construction of Bamboo Plantation Link road from tuiaral airfield to Bukpui Phase-II (40-84) (1451)	25.13	7.91
80.	Construction of Indoor Stadium at Aizawl and Champhai (1418)	11.60	3.55
81.	Construction of School Buildings in Mara Autonomous District Council	2.12	0.67
82.	Construction of Community halls in various locations in Mizoram	4.70	2.96
83.	Construction of 33 Kv D/C transmission line (Tower type) Lawngtalai to Saiha (1497)	7.44	2.30
84.	Upgradation of Parva to Simenasora Road (1526)	12.26	7.56
85.	Construction of Indoor Stadium at Aizawl (1496)	13.05	4.11
	<b>Nagaland</b>		
86.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (2006-07) (1400)	4.63	4.63
87.	Additional Facilities to Sainik School at Punglwa, Nagaland (1467)	2.08	0.91
88.	Upgradation and Modernization of 3 ITIs in the State of Nagaland (1468)	2.19	1.97
89.	Mini Outdoor Stadium at Wangkhao College in Mon Town (1398)	0.80	0.70
90.	Setting up of State Archive at Kohima (1402)	4.31	2.72

1	2	3	4
91.	Additional facilities (false ceiling) for sainik School at Punglwa (1524)	0.59	0.52
92.	Integrated Nguiki Irrigation Project (1507)	2.37	1.46
93.	Utilization of ground water resources through Shallow Tube Well (1621)	0.63	0.20
94.	Improvement of road from Hezidesa Village to Intanki River Bridge (6.60 km.) and upgradation of Road from Mounglumuk to Jalukie Zandi Village (6.30 km.) in Nagaland (1531)	7.27	6.54
95.	Construction of Road from Phek to Chozuba (44.36 Km.) (1577)	17.47	11.00
96.	Augmentation of water supply at Chen EAC H.Q. Chenwatnyu village (1547)	3.00	0.86
<b>Sikkim</b>			
97.	Construction of School Buildings and Rain Water Harvesting for various Schools (1464)	11.47	10.04
98.	Construction of 132 KV Transmission line to Nathula with LILO arrangement at Bulbulay (1403)	31.01	18.16
99.	Augmentation of Water Supply for greater Rangpo in East Sikkim (1063)	17.00	14.85
100.	Water Supply Scheme from Chakmakey and Ringyang under Soreng Sub-Division (1397)	8.75	7.67
101.	Construction of Rain Water Harvesting structure at Rabdentse in West Sikkim	4.62	2.90
102.	Augmentation of Water Supply for Sang Naya Bazar in East Sikkim	2.01	0.62
<b>Tripura</b>			
103.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (2006-07)	10.66	10.66
104.	Transmission Scheme including Bodhjangnagar Industrial Estate	9.37	6.95
105.	Water Supply Scheme at Melaghar	8.86	2.79
106.	Water Supply Scheme at Bishalgarh (1.00 MGD)	7.81	2.46
Total		862.21	495.60

**Warehousing Facilities for Agro-Products**

(d) if so, the details thereof?

3219. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a plan for providing adequate storage capacity for agriculture produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage private sector participation in creating such storage facilities in the country; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is implementing the following schemes for providing adequate storage capacity for agriculture produce in the country through private participation.

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution through Food Corporation of India (FCI) has

planned to establish new godowns of 3.41 lakh MT for an estimated construction cost of Rs. 164.00 crore, without land cost, in various States during XI Five Year Plan to manage procurement/maintenance of adequate stocks for supplies in the Public Distribution System (PDS) and other Welfare Schemes against the likely budget allocation of Rs. 125 crores by Govt. of India. The details of this shelf of projects are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The actual number of godowns taken up out of this will depend on the availability of funds during the XI Plan period and suitable land from State Governments. Under the Private Entrepreneur Godowns—2008 Scheme of Department of Food and Public Distribution, High Level Committee has approved a capacity of 126.35 lakh MT during the current financial year in the country. The details are given in the Statement-II.

Central Warehousing Corporation is in the process of constructing 1.45 lakh MT additional Storage space during 2009-10 for storage of foodgrains.

Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing a Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme of Construction of Rural Godown since 1/4/2001. The main objectives of the Scheme include creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc., and prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit. Under this scheme, subsidy @ 25% is given to all categories of farmers, Agriculture graduates, cooperatives & CWC/SWCs. All other categories of individuals companies and corporations are eligible for subsidy @ 15% of the project cost. In case of NE States/hilly areas & SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and Women Farmers, subsidy shall be 33.33%. Since the inception of the scheme, 20689 rural godowns with a capacity of 240.87 lakh MTs involving release of eligible subsidy of Rs. 553.80 crore have been sanctioned under the scheme upto 30th June, 2009.

#### **Statement I**

*List of priority of centres, proposed for construction of godowns during XIth five Year Plan (2007-12)*

Sl.No.	Name of the Centre	Proposed Capacity (Fig. in MT)	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
<b>I. ASSAM REGION</b>			
1.	Changsori	50,000 with siding	Rs. 25

1	2	3	4
2.	Hailakandi	5,000	Rs. 1.5
3.	Karimganj	5,000	Rs. 1.75
4.	Kokrajhar	5,000	Rs. 1.75
5.	Nowgaon	25,000 with siding	Rs. 17.5
6.	Dibrugarh	25,000 with siding	Rs. 17.5
7.	Fakiragram	5,000	Rs. 1.75
Total		1.20 lakh MT	Rs. 66.75
<b>II. TRIPURA</b>			
1.	Nandannagar	2,500 (within Existing Complex)	Rs. 1.25
2.	Kumarghat	5,000	Rs. 3.0
Total		7,500	Rs. 4.25
<b>III. MANIPUR</b>			
1.	Jiribam	7,500	Rs. 4.5
2.	Senapati	5,000	Rs. 3.0
3.	Churachandpur	2,500	Rs. 1.50
Total		15,000	Rs. 9.0
<b>IV. NAGALAND</b>			
1.	Kohima	5,000	Rs. 3.0
2.	Dimapur	5,000	Rs. 3.0
Total		10,000 MT	Rs. 6.0
<b>V. MEGHALAYA</b>			
1.	Baghamara/South Garo Hills.	2,500	Rs. 1.50
2.	Shillong	5,000	Rs. 3.0
Total		7,500	Rs. 4.50
<b>VI. JAMMU AND KASHMIR</b>			
1.	Srinagar Valley (Rly Siding)	20,000	Rs. 12
2.	Pulwama	2,500	Rs. 1.5

1	2	3	4
3.	Udhampur	15,000	Rs. 9.0
	Total	37,500 MT	Rs. 22.5
VII.	HIMACHAL PRADESH		
1.	Kinnaur	1,670	Rs. 1.0
2.	Bilaspur	5,000	Rs. 2.0
3.	Mandi	5,000	Rs. 2.0
4.	Nahan	5,000	Rs. 2.0
5.	Nagrota Bagwan	5,000	Rs. 2.0
6.	Shimla	5,000	Rs. 2.0
	Total	26,670 MT	Rs. 11.0
VIII.	SIKKIM		
1.	Jorhat	5,000	Rs. 3.0
IX.	JHARKHAND		
1.	Chakradharpur	15,000	Rs. 7.50
X.	BIHAR		
1.	Mohania/Kaimur	25,000	Rs. 7.25
XI	ORISSA		
1.	Dungarpalli	10,000	Rs. 3.0
2.	Mancheswar	10,000	Rs. 3.0
3.	Baripeda	10,000	Rs. 3.0
	Total	30,000 MT	Rs. 9.00
XIII.	WEST BENGAL		
1.	Jalpaiguri	10,000	Rs. 3.0
XIII.	CHHATTISGARH		
1.	Balod	10,000	Rs. 3.0
2.	Akaltara	10,000	Rs. 3.0
	Total	20,000	Rs. 6.0
XIV.	MAHARASHTRA		
	Bhandara	10,000	Rs. 3.0

1	2	3	4
XV.	UNION TERRITORY		
1.	Lakshadweep	2,500	Rs. 1.25
	Total	2,500	Rs. 1.25
	Grand Total	3,41,670	164.00

**Statement II**

*Proposals under PEG—2008 Scheme approved by High Level Committee during current financial year*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	HLC approved capacity in MTs.
1.	Kerala	15,000
2.	Karnataka	1,00,000
3.	Andhra Pradesh	36,000
4.	Tamil Nadu	3,20,000
5.	Chhattisgarh	5,000
6.	Maharashtra	99,500
7.	Gujarat	45,000
8.	West Bengal	5,000
9.	Jharkhand	1,75,000
10.	Bihar	3,00,000
11.	Haryana	38,80,000
12.	Punjab	71,25,000
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1,42,550
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	3,61,690
15.	Uttarakhand	25,000
	Total	1,26,34,740

[Translation]

**Production Rate of Crops under NAIS**

3220. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Insurance



Scheme (NAIS) was introduced in the country about a decade ago;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States in which the scheme was initially introduced for two years and the States to which it has been extended subsequently;

(d) whether under the scheme the production rate of crop has been fixed in every State, based upon which the compensation under the NAIS is determined;

(e) if so, the State-wise and crop-wise details of the production rate fixed; and

(f) the crops added to the initial list of crops for the purpose of insurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is under implementation in the country from Rabi 1999-2000 season onward. The scheme is available to all the farmers - loanee and non-loanee both - irrespective of their size of holdings. The scheme is voluntary for the States and UTs. In the initial 2 years, 20 States/UTs opted for the scheme. At present, the scheme is being implemented by 27 States/UTs.

(d) No, Madam. There is no provision of State-wise fixing of production rate for the crops under the scheme. However, guaranteed yield is worked out in a notified area, based on which claims are calculated. Guaranteed yield is the moving average of preceding 3 to 5 years yield and it is calculated in advance. As per provisions of the scheme, if the actual average yield of the insured crop in the notified area fall short of the guaranteed yield, claims become payable at the rate of shortfall of yield in the unit area of insurance.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) NAIS envisages coverage of all food crops (cereals, millets, pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops. As per provision of the scheme, State Governments are free to notify any number of crops from the above broad categories of crops subject to the availability of past yield data for adequate number of

years and capacity of the State to conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) for making assessment of yield in a notified area/crop. List of crops covered at present, are given in the enclosed Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Crops Covered under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme*

Sl.No.	Crops Covered under Rabi Season	Sl.No.	Crops Covered Under Kharif Season
1	2	3	4
	FOOD CROPS & OIL SEEDS		FOOD CROPS & OILSEEDS
1.	S. Paddy	1.	Paddy
2.	Wheat (I)	2.	Maize
3.	Wheat (RF)	3.	Jowar
4.	Wheat (UI)	4.	Bajra
5.	Jowar (I)	5.	Cow Pea
6.	Jowar (UI)	6.	Ragi
7.	Jowar (Rf)	7.	Moth
8.	Bajra	8.	Korra
9.	Maize (I)	9.	Navane
10.	Maize (Rf)	10.	Save
11.	Barley	11.	Blackgram
12.	Rape and Mustard	12.	Greengram
13.	Linseed	13.	Horsegram
14.	Blackgram	14.	Redgram
15.	Bengal gram (I)	15.	Groundnut
16.	Bengal gram (Rf)	16.	Sesamum
17.	Greengram	17.	Sunflower
18.	Redgram	18.	Soyabean
19.	Horsegram	19.	Niger

1	2	3	4
20.	Sunflower (I)	20.	Castor
21.	Sunflower (Rf)	21.	Kodo Kutki
22.	Safflower	22.	Guar
23.	Sesamum	-	
24.	Groundnut	-	
25.	Taramira	-	
26.	Ragi	-	
27.	Peas	-	
28.	Lentil	-	
	ANNUAL COMM./HORT. CROPS		ANNUAL COMM HORT. CROPS
1.	Cotton	1.	Sugarcane
2.	Cotton (Rf)	2.	Banana
3.	Sugarcane	3.	Cotton (UI)
4.	Potato	4.	Cotton (I)
5.	Onion	5.	Potato
6.	Ginger	6.	Chilly
7.	Coniander	7.	Ginger
8.	Chillies	8.	Onion
9.	Tapioca	9.	Turmeric
10.	Banana	10.	Pineapple
11.	Jeera	11.	Tapioca
12.	Garlic	12.	Jute
13.	Isabgol	-	
14.	Sonf	-	
15.	Methi	-	
16.	Brinjal	-	
17.	Tomato	-	

*[English]***Demand for Cotton**

3221. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for Indian cotton has fallen substantially due to the economic slowdown;

(b) if so, whether any measures are being taken to protect the interest of cotton growers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam. The demand of Indian cotton has fallen during the current cotton season 2008-09 (October-08 — September-09) as compared to the preceding cotton season.

Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) in the Ministry of Textiles has estimated an export of raw cotton at 50 lakh bales (170 kg. each) for the cotton season 2008-09 as against estimated export of 85 lakh bales for the previous year.

(b) to (d) In order to boost the export of cotton for the benefit of cotton growers, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has extended the Vishesh Krishi Gram Upaj Yojana (VKGUY)-a Special Agricultural Produce Scheme from 30.6.2009.

Apart from the above, the Government of India has also provided the following financial assistance under stimulus package.

- i. Issuance of duty credit scrips authorization for duty free imports under the Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme—a popular import duty reimbursement scheme for exporters—without waiting for realisation of export payments. It also allowed the use of the duty credit scrips for import of restricted items.
- ii. The DEPB Scheme of Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) valid upto 31.3.2009 has been extended upto 31.12.2009.
- iii. Hike in the rate of tax refund to the exporters paid under the popular Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme to the November, 2008 level. The scheme has been extended upto 2009.

*[Translation]***Quota for Rural and Tribal Areas in PMF**

3222. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:  
SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM  
WAKCHAURE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any quota prescribed for recruitment of the tribals in Para-Military forces (PMFs);

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

(c) whether the quota prescribed for recruitment in rural and tribal areas has been filled;

(d) if so, the number of such personnel recruited during each of the last three years, State-wise and force-wise;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to launch a special recruitment drive for recruitment to the PMF in tribal and rural areas of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Quota prescribed for recruitment of tribals in Group 'C' & Group 'D' posts in Para-Military Forces (PMFs), are as per DOP&Ts O.M. No. 36017/1/2004-Estt (Res) dated 5.7.2005 and are as under:

State	Percentage of ST Reservation
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	7
Arunachal Pradesh	45
Assam	12
Bihar	1
Chhattisgarh	32
Goa	0
Gujarat	15

1	2
Haryana	0
Himachal Pradesh	4
Jammu and Kashmir	11
Jharkhand	26
Karnataka	7
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	20
Maharashtra	9
Manipur	34
Meghalaya	44
Mizoram	45
Nagaland	45
Orissa	22
Punjab	0
Rajasthan	13
Sikkim	21
Tamil Nadu	1
Tripura	31
Uttarakhand	3
Uttar Pradesh	1
West Bengal	5
Andaman Nicobar Islands	8
Chandigarh	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43
Daman and Diu	9
Delhi	7.5
Lakshadweep	45
Puducherry	0

(c) There is no quota fixed on this basis.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

#### **Capital Requirement for Small Industries**

3223. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *AL/AS* LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the capital investment required for the small and medium scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, the average annual investment required and made in the sector during the period from 2004-05 to 2008-09;

(c) the sources from which the said requirement was met indicating their contribution in terms of percentage; and .

(d) the steps taken by the Government to enhance capital investment in the said sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) The micro, small and medium enterprises are set up by the entrepreneurs themselves through various sources of finance as per their requirements. The estimates of annual average investment during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (latest available) is Rs. 1.59 lakh, Rs. 1.60 lakh and Rs. 1.61 lakh respectively. Since the medium enterprises were for the first time defined under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Act, 2006 which came into force from 2nd October, 2006, information in respect of capital investment in medium enterprise is not available.

(d) To facilitate the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and enhance capital investment in the sector, the Government has announced a 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' in August 2005 which envisages public sector banks to fix their own targets for funding MSMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the MSME sector. The Government has also announced in February 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure, etc. Further, the Government

has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006, for the promotion and development of the MSMEs and to enhance their competitiveness. In addition, the Government is also implementing several schemes/ programmes, which include the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme and schemes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology up gradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc. All these measures seek to facilitate the development of MSMEs and enhance capital investment in this sector.

*[English]*

#### **Four Laning of Stretches on National Highways**

3224. DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG:

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA:

SHRI MADHU KODA:

SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four laning of various stretches on several National Highways including NH-1A, NH-8, NH-17, NH-33 and NH-48 has been delayed;

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

(c) the time frame fixed for completion of such projects alongwith the progress made so far;

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to expedite the process of four laning; and

(e) the funds allocated, released and utilised for the purpose, State-wise and NH-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e) State-wise and NH-wise details of delayed four laning projects are given in the enclosed Statement. The major constraints are mainly due to delay in land acquisition, utility shifting, obtaining clearances from forest/ environment, poor performance of some contractors and Law & Order problems in some States. In order to expedite the process of four laning, progress of projects is closely monitored by Project Implementation Units of National Highways Authority of India assisted by Supervision/Independent Consultants and concerted efforts are being made by officers at field as well as Headquarter levels to expedite land acquisition, shifting of utilities etc.

**Statement****1. Details of Delayed Projects (Under Implementation): Status as on 30.06.09**

Sl.No.	Stretch	NH No	Total Length (In Km)	Completed Length (In Km)	Funded By	Date of Start	Date of Completion as per Contract	Date of Completion/Anticipated Completion	Total Project Cost (Rs. cr.)	Cummulative Expenditure (Rs. cr.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
1.	Gundla Pochampalli to Bowenpalli Shivarampalli to Thondapalli (NS-23/AP)- Balance Work	7	23.10	16.20	NHAI	Dec-2005	Dec-2006	Jul-2009	71.57	105.64
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
2.	Hyderabad Bangalore section (NS-2/BOT/AP-5)	7	74.65	66.40	Annuity	Sep-2006	Mar-2009	Aug-2009	592.00	801.02
<b>Total</b>			<b>97.75</b>	<b>82.60</b>					<b>663.57</b>	<b>906.66</b>
<b>Assam</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
3.	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-4)	31	28.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2010	175.96	39.49
4.	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-7)	31	27.30	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2010	208.00	48.95
5.	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-5)	31	28.00	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2010	198.16	69.49
6.	Lanka to Daboka (AS-16)	54	24.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2010	225.00	99.85
7.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-27)	54	21.00	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2006	Apr-2009	Dec-2010	200.00	36.15
8.	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-8)	31	30.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	200.00	119.77
9.	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-9)	31	21.50	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	142.00	90.45
10.	Brahmaputra Bridge (AS-28)	31	5.00	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2006	Apr-2010	Dec-2010	217.61	54.52
11.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-10)	31C	33.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2010	237.80	62.48
12.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-26)	54	23.00	0.00	NHAI	May-2006	Nov-2008	Dec-2010	167.64	39.49
13.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-12)	31C	30.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2010	230.00	86.29
14.	Nagaon bypass (AS-18)	37	23.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2010	230.00	137.07
15.	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-20)	37	22.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Dec-2010	160.00	48.47
16.	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-19)	37	25.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2010	200.00	78.52
17.	Daboka to Nagaon (AS-17)	36	30.50	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2010	225.00	86.47
18.	Lumding to Daboka (AS-15)	54	18.50	0.00	NHAI	Feb-2008	Aug-2010	Sep-2010	130.00	27.22
19.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-24)	54	15.00	0.00	NHAI	May-2006	Nov-2008	Dec-2010	155.04	27.96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-25)	54	28.00	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2006	Apr-2009	Dec-2010	199.81	27.54
21.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-11)	31C	30.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2010	195.00	64.72
22.	Sonapur to Guwahati (AS-3)	37	19.00	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2005	Jun-2009	Dec-2010	245.00	165.00
23.	Nagaon to Dharmatul (AS-2)	37	25.00	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2010	264.72	75.54
24.	Harangajo to Maibang (AS-23)	54	16.00	0.00	NHAI	Aug-2006	Feb-2009	Dec-2010	280.00	89.46
25.	Harangajo to Maibang (AS-22)	54	24.00	0.00	NHAI	Jan-2007	Jul-2009	Dec-2010	196.00	23.32
26.	Harangajo to Maibang (AS-21)	54	26.00	0.00	NHAI	Jan-2007	Jul-2009	Dec-2010	212.00	33.72
27.	Naibari to Bijni (AS-6)	31	25.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2009	Dec-2010	225.00	102.85
28.	Silchar-Udarband (AS-1)	54	32.00	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2004	Sep-2007	Jun-2010	154.57	107.30
Total			629.80	0.00					5274.31	1842.09

**Bihar***NHDP Phase I*

29.	Purnea-Gayakota (EW-12/BR)	31	28.00	25.56	NHAI	Sep-2001	Sep-2004	Mar-2010	205.73	240.89
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*NHDP Phase II*

30.	Purnea-Forbesganj (BR-1)	57	41.00	36.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2009	276.00	256.75
31.	Purnea-Forbesganj (BR-2)	57	38.00	26.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2009	310.00	263.65
32.	Forbesganj-Simrahi (BR-3)	57	40.00	2.00	NHAI	Apr-2006	Sep-2008	Dec-2010	332.94	124.40
33.	Kotwa to Dewapur (LMNHP-10)	28	38.00	1.20	WB	Nov-2005	Nov-2008	Dec-2010	240.00	91.10
34.	Mehsi to Kotwa (LMNHP-11)	28	40.00	12.60	WB	Sep-2005	Sep-2008	Dec-2010	239.00	109.53
35.	Simrahi to Ring bund (missing link) (BR-4)	57	15.00	9.00	NHAI	Apr-2006	Apr-2008	Dec-2009	100.50	128.29
36.	Kosi Bridge including approaches and Guide Bond & Afflux Bond (BR-5)	57	10.00	0.00	Annuity	Apr-2007	Apr-2010	Jun-2010	418.04	207.53
37.	Ring bunds to Jhanjhapur (BR-6)	57	45.00	18.00	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	340.00	308.91
38.	Jhanjhapur to Darbanga (BR-7)	57	40.00	0.00	NHAI	Apr-2006	Sep-2008	Dec 2010	340.00	142.16
39.	Darbanga to Muzzaffarpur (BR-8)	57	40.00	10.20	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	305.00	249.67
40.	Darbanga to Muzzaffarpur (BR-9)	57	30.00	22.00	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	291.80	226.05
41.	Muzzaffarpur to Mehsi (LMNHP-12)	28	40.00	6.50	WB	Sep-2005	Sep-2008	Dec-2010	275.00	130.88
42.	Deewapur to UP/Bihar Border (LMNHP-9)	28	41.09	0.00	WB	Terminated			300.00	133.50
Total			486.09	169.06					3974.01	2613.31

**Chhattisgarh***NHDP Phase III*

43.	Aurang-Raipur	6	45.00	0.00	BOT	Apr-2006	Jan-2009	Feb-2010	190.00	172.71
Total			45.00	0.00					190.00	172.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Gujarat</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
44.	Gagodhar to Garamore (Package-IV)	15, 8A	90.30	83.00	ADB	Feb-2005	Nov-2007	Nov-2009	479.54	390.96
45.	Garamore to Bamanbore (Package-III)	8A	71.40	70.00	ADB	Feb-2005	Nov-2007	Jul-2009	380.70	334.72
Total			161.70	153.00					860.24	725.68
<b>Haryana</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
46.	Six laning of Panchi Gujran to Kamaspur (Sonepat) (NS-17/HR)	1	21.70	21.70	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jul-2007	Oct-2010	83.67	99.74
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
47.	Panipat to Panchi Gujran (Six laning work) (NS-89/HR)	1	20.00	20.00	NHAI	Oct-2006	Oct-2008	Oct-2009	109.00	115.88
Total			41.70	41.70					192.67	215.62
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
48.	Kunjwani to Vijaypur (NS-15/J&K)	1A	17.20	16.00	NHAI	Jan-2002	Dec-2004	Dec-2009	110.00	135.13
49.	Srinagar Bypass (Bridge Portion) (NS-30A)	1A	1.23	0.00	NHAI	Jun-2006	Dec-2008	Dec-2009	62.96	0.00
50.	Srinagar Bypass (Road Portion)(NS-30)	1A	17.80	11.00	NHAI	Oct-2003	Sep-2008	Sep-2009	60.66	161.72
51.	Jammu to Kunjwani (Jammu Bypass) NS-33/J&K	1A	15.00	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Dec-2009	85.34	56.58
52.	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-34/J&K)	1A	33.65	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2005	Feb-2008	Dec-2009	193.09	81.77
53.	Pathankot to Jammu and Kashmir Border (NS-36/J&K)	1A	19.65	0.60	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Dec-2009	97.73	116.14
54.	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-35/J&K)	1A	30.00	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2005	Feb-2008	Dec-2009	166.27	63.26
Total			134.53	27.60					776.05	614.60
<b>Jharkhand</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
55.	Gorhar-Barwa Adda (TNHP/V-C)	2	78.75	75.28	WB	Sep-2001	Mar-2005	Aug-2009	399.75	371.99
Total			78.75	75.28					399.75	371.99
<b>Karnataka</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
56.	New Mangalore Port	13,17 & 48	37.00	12.00	SPV	Jun-2005	Dec-2007	Dec-2009	196.50	132.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
57.	Chitradurga Bypass	4	18.00	18.00	NHAI	Apr-2007	Sep-2008	Sep-2009	104.00	134.61
NHDP Phase II										
58.	AP/Karnataka border, Nandi Hill crossing & Devenhalli to Meenu Kunte Village	7	61.38	52.00	Annuity	Mar-2007	Mar-2009	Aug-2009	402.80	301.08
NHDP Phase III										
59.	Elevated Highway from Silk board junction to electronic city junction	7	9.98	9.98	BOT	Jul-2006	Jul-2008	Sep-2009	450.00	763.65
60.	Six Lining of Bangalore-Hosur Section of NH-7	7	14.38	11.00	NHAI	Apr-2007	Jul-2008	Nov-2009	110.00	92.59
61.	Bangalore-Neelamangala	4	19.50	0.00	BOT	Nov-2007	Jul-2009	Nov-2009	445.00	474.15
Total			160.24	102.98					1708.30	1898.52
Kerala										
NHDP Phase II										
62.	Thrissur to Angamali (KL-I)	47	40.00	25.00	BOT	Sep-2006	Mar-2009	Dec-2009	312.50	471.63
Total			40.00	25.00					312.50	471.63
Madhya Pradesh										
NHDP Phase II										
63.	Rajmarg Choraha to Lakhandon (ADB-II/C-8)	26	54.00	12.00	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2010	251.03	62.13
64.	Rajmarg Choraha to Lakhandon (ADB-II/C-9)	26	54.70	5.00	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2010	229.91	29.18
65.	Sagar Rajmarg choraha (ADB-II/C-7)	26	42.00	36.03	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Nov-2009	206.96	51.79
66.	Sagar Bypass (ADB-II/C-5)	26	26.00	6.00	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2010	151.30	83.78
67.	Gwalior Bypass (NS-1/BOT/MP-1)	75.3	42.00	3.00	Annuity	Apr-2007	Oct-2009	Oct-2010	300.93	123.60
68.	Lakhandon to MP/MH Border (NS-1/BOT/MP-2)	7	49.35	33.00	Annuity	Mar-2007	Sep-2009	Sep-2010	263.17	192.15
69.	Lalitpur-Sagar (ADB-II/C-4)	26	55.00	2.00	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	May-2010	225.00	123.53
70.	Sagar-Rajmarg Choraha (ADB-II/C-6)	26	44.00	1.00	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2010	203.43	63.28
Total			367.05	98.03					1831.73	729.44
Madhya Pradesh [1]/Rajasthan [9]										
NHDP Phase II										
71.	Dholpur-Morena Section (including Chambal bridge) NS-1/RJ-MP/1	3	10.00	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2007	Sep-2010	Mar-2011	232.45	77.48
Total			10.00	0.00					232.45	77.48



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Madhya Pradesh [68.5]/Uttar Pradesh [11.5]</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
72.	Gwalior-Jhansi	75	80.00	0.00	Annuity	Jun-2007	Dec-2009	Dec-2010	604.00	146.98
	Total		80.00	0.00					604.00	146.98
<b>Maharashtra</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
73.	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Phase-II	SH 54	14.35	12.00	SPV	Nov-2004	May-2007	Oct-2009	143.00	120.27
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
74.	Jam-Wadner (NS-59/MH)	7	30.00	28.61	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2010	145.00	68.18
75.	Borkhedi-Jam (NS-22/MH)	7	27.40	25.70	NHAI	Jun-2005	Dec-2007	Jan-2010	110.00	105.66
76.	Butibori ROB (NS-29/MH)	7	1.80	0.00	NHAI	Jun-2005	Dec-2006	Dec-2009	26.00	25.34
77.	Devdhari-Kelapur (NS-61/MH)	7	30.00	28.27	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Mar-2010	144.00	95.12
78.	Wadner-Devdhari (NS-60/MH)	7	29.00	0.00	NHAI	Terminated			145.00	29.04
79.	Kelapur-Pimpalkhatti (NS-62)	7	22.00	0.00	NHAI	May-2006	Nov-2008	Dec-2010	117.40	29.83
<i>NHDP Phase III</i>										
80.	Nagpur-Kondhali	6	40.00	16.00	BOT	Jun-2006	Dec-2008	Dec-2009	168.00	227.74
81.	Dhule-Pimpalgaon	3	118.00	112.00	BOT	Mar-2006	Mar-2009	Dec-2009	556.00	531.80
82.	Gonde-Vadape (Thane)	3	100.00	74.00	BOT	Apr-2006	Apr-2009	May-2010	579.00	480.24
	Total		412.55	296.58					2133.40	1713.22
<b>Orissa</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
83.	Ganjam-Icchapuram (OR-VIII)	5	50.80	30.00	NHAI	Jul-2006	Nov-2008	Dec-2009	263.27	178.23
84.	Sunakhala-Ganjam (OR-VII)	5	55.71	21.20	NHAI	Terminated			225.00	145.54
	Total		106.51	51.20					488.27	323.77
<b>Punjab</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
85.	Pathankot to Bhogpur (NS-37/PB)	1A	44.00	19.00	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Dec-2009	284.00	223.80
<i>NHDP Phase III</i>										
86.	Jalandhar-Amritsar	1	49.00	39.35	BOT	May-2006	Nov-2008	Oct-2009	263.00	299.28
	Total		93.00	58.35					547.00	533.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Punjab[29]/Himanchal Pradesh [11]</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
87.	Pathankot to Bhogpur (NS-38/PB)	1A	40.00	0.15	NHAI	Terminated			229.00	79.96
	Total		40.00	0.15					229.00	79.96
<b>Rajasthan</b>										
<i>Misc. Projects</i>										
88.	Chittorgarh Bypass	79.76	30.00	28.40	NHAI	Aug-2005	Aug-2007	Sep-2009	133.03	235.36
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
89.	Gogunda to Udaipur (RJ-3)	76	31.00	30.00	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jul-2008	Aug-2009	288.06	294.68
90.	Kota Bypass (RJ-4)	76	25.00	9.00	NHAI	May-2006	Nov-2008	Jun-2010	250.39	119.03
91.	Chambal Bridge (RJ-5)	76	1.40	0.00	NHAI	Nov-2006	Feb-2010	Dec-2010	281.31	126.78
<i>NHDP Phase III</i>										
92.	Mahua-Jaipur	11	108.00	106.00	BOT	Mar-2006	Mar-2009	Aug-2009	483.00	578.26
	Total		195.40	173.40					1435.79	1354.11
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>										
<i>Misc. Projects</i>										
93.	Kangayam to Coimbatore (KC-2)	67, KC2	55.20	44.20	Morth	Aug-2006	Aug-2008	Aug-2009	0.00	87.94
94.	Karur to Kangayam (KC-1)	67, KC1	59.20	54.57	Morth	Aug-2006	Aug-2008	Aug-2009	0.00	64.58
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
95.	Thumpipadi to Salem (NS-26/TN)	7	19.20	18.50	NHAI	Sep-2001	Aug-2003	Sep-2009	82.49	109.55
96.	Tuticorin Port	7A	47.20	0.00	SPV	Feb-2004	Aug-2006	Dec-2009	231.20	71.02
97.	Chennai-Ennore Express Way	SR	9.00	0.00	SPV	Terminated			45.29	60.61
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
98.	Improvement of Access of GQ within Chennai City including Construction of 4 grade Separators	205.4 & 45	4.00	0.00	Morth	Apr-2005	Apr-2007	Dec-2009	210.00	501.89
99.	Ulundurpet-Padalur (Pkg-VI-B)	45	93.89	93.30	BOT	Dec-2006	Jun-2009	Jul-2009	460.00	797.94
100.	Padalur-Trichy (Pkg-VI-C)	45	40.00	34.00	BOT	Nov-2006	May-2009	Oct-2009	320.00	542.14
101.	Chennai Bypass Phase II	45,4&5	32.00	24.71	NHAI	May-2005	Nov-2007	Dec-2009	480.00	604.64
102.	Salem to Kerala Border Section (TN-6)	47	53.53	35.10	BOT	Jul-2006	Jan-2009	Sep-2009	469.80	662.82
103.	Trichy Bypass end to Tovaramkurchi (Package-VII A)	45B	60.95	53.00	NHAI	Feb-2006	Aug-2008	Nov-2009	261.00	244.63
104.	Salem to Karur (NS-2/TN-2)	7	41.55	40.50	BOT	Aug-2006	Feb-2009	Aug-2009	253.50	333.34

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
105.	Salem to Karur (NS-2/TN-3)	7	33.48	33.42	BOT	Jul-2006	Jan-2009	Aug-2009	205.60	323.94
106.	Karur to Madurai (TN-4)	7	68.13	44.56	BOT	Oct-2006	Apr-2009	Sep-2009	327.20	437.91
107.	Karur to Madurai (TN-5)	7	53.03	49.00	BOT	Jul-2006	Jan-2009	Sep-2009	283.50	422.31
108.	Madurai to km 120 of Madurai-Tirunelveli Section including Madurai Bypass (NS-39)	7	42.00	42.00	NHAI	Sep-2005	Apr-2008	Sep-2009	567.38	371.85
109.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-41/TN)	7	39.51	37.05	NHAI	Sep-2005	Apr-2008	Sep-2009	323.36	189.47
110.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-42/TN)	7	42.70	33.00	NHAI	Sep-2005	Mar-2008	Sep-2009	507.49	269.33
111.	km 120 of Madurai-Tirunelveli Section to Panagudi (km 203) (NS-43)	7	43.00	41.93	NHAI	Oct-2005	May-2008	Aug-2009	423.54	220.35
112.	Salem to Kerala Border Section (TN-7)	47	48.51	47.43	BOT	Jul-2006	Jan-2009	Aug-2009	379.80	453.15
113.	Tindivanam-Ulundurpet (Pkg-VI-A)	45	72.90	72.90	BOT	Oct-2006	Mar-2009	Jul-2009	480.00	1130.78
114.	Tovaramkurchi to Madurai (Package-VII B)	45B	63.89	49.50	NHAI	Feb-2006	Aug-2008	Oct-2009	263.00	266.06
115.	Thopurghat to Thumpipadi (NS-25/TN)	7	16.60	15.80	NHAI	May-2005	Nov-2007	Sep-2009	92.54	94.59
116.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-40/TN)	7	38.86	34.50	NHAI	Sep-2005	Apr-2008	Sep-2009	474.21	233.75
<i>NHDP Phase III</i>										
117.	Thanjarur-Trichy	67	56.00	23.90	BOT	Dec-2005	Jun-2009	Mar-2010	280.00	456.25
Total			1134.32	922.86						7420.90 8950.84

**Uttar Pradesh***NHDP Phase I*

118.	Agra-Shikohabad (GTRIP/I-A)	2	50.83	50.76	WB	Mar-2002	Mar-2005	Dec-2009	367.49	414.97
119.	Lucknow Bypass (EW-15/UP)	56A & B	22.85	10.75	NHAI	Mar-2009	Aug-2010	Sep-2010	111.78	0.59
120.	Lucknow-Kanpur (EW/3A)	25	16.00	15.30	NHAI	Dec-2003	May-2005	Dec-2009	51.28	38.84
121.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-II	2	38.99	38.99	WB	Jun-2004	Dec-2006	Jul-2009	440.93	570.21
122.	Allahabad Bypass Contract-III	2	44.71	42.70	WB	Nov-2004	May-2007	Aug-2009	534.39	605.76
123.	Fatehpur-Khaga (TNHP/II-C)	2	77.00	75.78	WB	Mar-2001	Oct-2004	Dec-2009	372.40	380.72

*NHDP Phase II*

124.	Gorakhpur Bypass	28	32.60	0.00	Annuity	Apr-2007	Oct-2009	Dec-2010	600.24	344.58
125.	Ganga Bridge to Rama Devi Crossing (UP-6)	25	5.60	0.00	NHAI	Dec-2005	Sep-2008	Dec-2010	201.66	38.29
126.	Orai to Jhansi (UP-4)	25	66.00	15.75	ADB	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Mar-2010	451.97	319.16
127.	Jhansi to Lalitpur (NS-1/BOT/UP-2)	25,26	49.70	22.00	Annuity	Mar-2007	Sep-2009	Jun-2010	355.06	223.30
128.	Lalitpur Sagar (ADB-II/C-3)	26	38.00	4.00	ADB	May-2006	Nov-2008	Sep-2010	198.00	66.84
129.	Kasia to Gorakhpur (LMNHP-7)	28	40.00	15.28	WB	Dec-2005	Dec-2008	Jun-2010	242.00	248.55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
130.	UP/Bihar Border to Kasia (LMNHP-8)	28	41.12	19.90	WB	Dec-2005	Dec-2008	Jun-2010	227.00	215.06
131.	Garhmukteshwar-Muradabad	24	56.25	34.00	NHAI	Mar-2005	Sep-2007	Aug-2009	275.00	239.23
132.	Hapur-Garhmukteshwar	24	35.00	7.00	NHAI	Mar-2005	Sep-2007	Dec-2009	220.00	107.08
133.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-2)	28	47.00	30.87	WB	Oct-2005	Oct-2008	Jun-2010	217.00	249.25
134.	Orai to Jhansi (UP-5)	25	50.00	10.47	ADB	Sep-2005	Mar-2008	Jun-2010	217.00	249.25
135.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-6)	28	43.70	22.50	WB	Oct-2005	Oct-2008	Jun-2010	340.68	166.35
136.	Jhansi to Lalitpur (NS-1/BOT/UP-3)	26	49.30	9.00	Annuity	Mar-2007	Sep-2009	Jun-2010	276.09	173.98
137.	New 4 laning Agra Bypass (NS-1/UP-1)	2.3	32.80	0.00	NHAI	Oct-2007	Oct-2010	Feb-2011	348.16	59.69
138.	Bara to Orai	2,25	62.80	37.00	Annuity	Oct-2006	Apr-2009	Dec-2009	465.00	23.82
139.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-1)	28	36.00	22.00	WB	Oct-2005	Oct-2008	Jun-2010	193.00	216.36
140.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-3)	28	41.93	27.44	WB	Nov-2005	Nov-2008	Jun-2010	212.00	245.59
141.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-4)	28	29.00	5.00	WB	Nov-2005	Nov-2008	Jun-2010	205.00	197.13
142.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-5)	28	44.00	5.50	WB	Oct-2005	Oct-2008	Dec-2010	227.00	157.03
143.	Jhansi Bypass (UP-3)	25	15.00	11.62	ADB	Nov-2005	May-2008	Dec-2009	158.06	116.68
<i>NHDP Phase III</i>										
144.	Meerut-Muzaffarnagar	58	79.00	63.50	BOT	Mar-2006	Mar-2009	Dec-2009	359.00	397.25
145.	Sitapur-Lucknow	24	75.00	0.00	BOT	Jun-2006	Jun-2009	Jun-2010	322.00	140.00
Total			1220.17	597.11					8211.19	6184.40
<b>Uttar Pradesh [55]/Bihar [21]</b>										
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
146.	Varanasi-Mohanias (GTRIP/IV-A)	2	76.00	75.10	WB	Mar-2002	Mar-2005	Dec-2009	467.93	444.17
Total			76.00	75.10					467.93	444.17
<b>West Bengal</b>										
<i>NH-34</i>										
147.	Dalkola Bypass	34	5.50	0.00	NHAI	Sep-2006	Aug-2008	Jul-2009	67.00	23.48
<i>NHDP Phase I</i>										
148.	Bridges section (WB-III)	6	1.73	0.48	NHAI	Terminated			81.00	80.20
<i>NHDP Phase II</i>										
149.	Assam/WB Border to Gairkatta (WB-1)	31C	32.00	0.75	NHAI	Jun-2006	Nov-2008	Jun-2010	221.82	105.36
150.	Siliguri to Islampur (WB-7)	31	26.00	14.17	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jun-2008	Jun-2010	225.00	117.44
Total			65.23	15.40					594.82	326.48

*[Translation]***Expansion of NH-2**

3225. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 2 is being expanded;

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

(c) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed; and

(d) the estimated cost and the funds spent so far on the said expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes Madam. Out of a total length of 1453 km of National Highway No. 21, 445 km length has already been four-laned and balance length of 8 km is under implementation under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) which is targeted for completion by December, 2009. The total expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 8042.26 crore. Further expansion of National Highway No. 2 to six-lane standard is approved by the Government under NHDP Phase-V to be implemented on Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) mode. The State-wise details of the status are given in the enclosed Statement. Since projects for six-laning are yet to be awarded, it is too early to indicate the cost and target for its completion.

**Statement***Project-wise details of Six-laning to be Implemented*

Sl.No.	Stretch for Six Laning	Length (in km)	Current status/Remarks
1.	Delhi-Agra	180 (106 km in the state of UP & 74 Km in the state of Haryana)	Bids were invited with due date as 24.12.2008. However, No bids received even after extension of Bid due dates repeatedly. As such Restructuring of the project was carried out and re-bidding is being carried out shortly.
2.	Agra-Etawah Bypass	125 in the state of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
3.	Etawah-Chakeri (Kanpur)	157 in the state of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
4.	Chakeri(Kanpur)-Allahbad	150 in the state of UP	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
5.	Allahbad Bypass-Varanasi	160 in the state of UP	Feasibility study is in progress.
6.	Varanasi-Aurangabad	190(55 km in the state of UP & 135 km in Bihar)	Bids received are under evaluation.
7.	Aurangabad-Barwadda	220 (71 km in the State of Bihar & 149 km in Jharkhand)	Bids for feasibility study have been received and consultant is being appointed.
8.	Barwadda-Panagarh	120 (41 km in the State of Jharkhand & 79 km in West Bengal)	Feasibility study is in progress
9.	Panagarh-Dankuni	135 km in the State of West Bengal	Feasibility study is in progress.

*[English]*

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Production of Spices**

3226. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various spices including Turmeric and Ginger are produced in abundance in the country including Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to setup Research Centres to increase production and marketing facilities for spices;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Details showing spice-wise area and production in the country and in the State of Orissa are given in the Statement-I and II respectively.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. The Government has already established Indian Institute of Spices Research at Calicut and National Research Centre on Seed Spices at Ajmer under Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) along with All India Coordinated Research Project on Spices with 34 research centres spread over the country.

**Statement I***Spice wise Area & Production*

(Area in 000 Hec, Production in 000 MT)

	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Pepper	257.24	50.00	236.18	50.00	196.31	50.00
Cardamom (Small)	73.80	12.54	73.23	11.24	69.28	9.47
Cardamom (Large)	30.04	5.19	30.04	4.30	30.04	4.92
Chilli	742.20	1023.13	809.44	1325.27	838.10	1362.95
Ginger	125.85	810.93	129.01	721.54	119.62	710.34
Turmeric	173.14	867.07	183.92	856.46	175.96	826.07
Corriander	357.04	257.07	361.77	287.65	436.93	291.60
Cumin	403.03	199.85	409.03	176.51	477.94	264.86
Fennel	40.91	61.31	61.13	92.26	84.47	131.65
Fennugreek	33.39	38.99	44.98	55.78	54.97	67.65
Garlic	162.50	624.79	169.61	833.16	207.23	1045.44
Vanilla	5.82	0.19	5.13	0.23	4.73	0.18
Clove	2.14	1.19	1.94	0.74	1.90	0.72
Nutmeg	11.27	2.91	13.71	11.56	15.00	11.23
Cinnamon	0.50	0.02	0.53	0.03	0.48	0.02

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamarind	61.08	192.19	58.62	190.07	40.01	108.26
Dill seed	9.35	5.66	11.08	9.68	11.39	16.62
Ajwan	24.30	8.33	31.66	15.85	19.59	11.20
Saffron	2.99	0.01	2.93	0.00	3.00	0.01
Celery	1.15	1.49	1.80	2.35	3.16	4.24
Tejpat	6.14	15.96	6.14	15.96	6.65	17.28
Sweet lag	7.20	3.56	7.20	3.56	7.49	3.70
Grand Total	2531.09	4182.39	2649.08	4664.21	2804.24	4938.39
Total in MLN Tonnes		4.18		4.66		4.94

Source:- Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi/State Statistical/Agriculture/Horticulture Departments.

### **Statement II**

#### *Area and Production of Spices in Orissa*

(Area in 000 Hec; Production in 000 MT)

Spices	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.
Chilli	75.12	63.29	75.12	63.93	75.14	63.92
Ginger	24.02	57.09	24.73	59.36	24.82	60.34
Turmeric	110.19	39.63	110.31	40.71	110.31	40.71
Coriander	11.04	35.42	11.04	35.50	11.05	35.52
Mustard	15.81	30.64	16.07	31.40	16.34	32.44
Garlic	19.06	9.04	19.07	9.07	19.07	9.06
Total	255.24	235.11	256.34	239.97	256.73	241.99

Source:- Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi/State Statistical/Agriculture/Horticulture Departments.

### **Delhi Milk Scheme**

3227. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) is incurring losses;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to transfer the DMS to the Government of NCT of Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b)

Year	Net Loss (in Rs./Crore)
2004-05	17.78
2005-06	12.22
2006-07	28.28
2007-08	25.49

DMS is incurring losses as a result of increase in the input costs, lower capacity utilization as the plant and machinery is old and excess manpower.

(c) No. Madam

(d) Does not arise.

**Assessment on Modernization of  
Police Force by BPRD**

3228. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) has conducted an impact assessment study of the modernization of Police Forces;

(b) if so, the outcome of the study;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to modernise the police forces in the wake of BPRD studies and reports;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Bureau of Police Research & Development had conducted an Impact Assessment Study of Modernization of Police Forces Scheme in the year 2006. The study has observed that the overall impact of police modernization has reflected in improved communication facilities, greater mobility, improved visibility and better police presence; improved housing facilities; better police buildings; increased training facilities with latest training gadgets; better networking and computerization of police offices, availability of improved and advanced weaponry to fight militancy; better operational efficiency and investigation skills, well coordinated, timely and effective response to

problems; improved service delivery; and increased public confidence and satisfaction.

(c) to (e) Modernization of State Police Forces is an ongoing process and the Government on a continuous basis takes necessary Steps and measures to ensure that the police forces are equipped with modern weapons and technologies to effectively deal with security threats. The State Governments have been provided funds under the MPF Scheme during the last three years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 as under towards modernization of the State Police Forces:

Year	Funds released under MPF Scheme (Rs. in crore)
2006-07	1065.22
2007-08	1248.70
2008-09	1157.64

[*Translation*]

**Contraband Items**

3229. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of contraband items like heroine are on the rise in Delhi and Punjab;

(b) if so, the quantum of heroine seized in both the States during the current year, separately;

(c) the number of accused persons arrested alongwith the source of the contraband during the said period, genderwise;

(d) the action taken against the culprits, category-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Seizure of heroin in the State of Delhi and Punjab as per the Reports received during the current year up to May, 2009 (Provisional) are as under:

State	Heroin Seized
Delhi	92.03 kgs.
Punjab	53,85 kgs.



(c) and (d) The heroin seized in Punjab and Delhi is mostly of South West Asian origin besides indigenous heroin sourced through Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The no. of arrests made in the State of Delhi and Punjab as per the Reports received during the current year up to May 2009 (Provisional) are 15 and 102 respectively. The gender-wise information is not readily available.

(e) The Government has taken number of steps in general to check, detect and prevent illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

- (i) Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
- (ii) An intelligence Cell of Narcotics Control Bureau has been opened at Amritsar.
- (iii) Special drive has been launched to detect and destroy illicit opium cultivation in affected States.
- (iv) Improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (v) Acetic Anhydride, a chemical used in the illicit processing of opium into heroin has been put under special controls (NDPS Act).
- (vi) India is an active member of the various international initiatives including Operation TARCET (Combined Operation of International narcotics Control Board and UNODC), launched to control diversion of precursor chemicals for illicit manufacture of drugs.
- (vii) Strengthening of international Liaison to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (viii) Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.
- (ix) Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of Narcotics drugs to information and officers.
- (x) Financial assistance being provided to the State for strengthening their Anti Narcotics Capability.

*[English]*

#### **Radio and TV Coverage in J & K**

3230. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government had earlier sanctioned any package for increasing radio and television coverage in the State of Jammu and Kashmir (J & K);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the achievements thereunder;

(c) whether the Government proposes to sanction any fresh package for the State; and

(d) if so, the details of the new targets and initiatives proposed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Under J&K Special Plan Phase-I approved in 1999, Doordarshan (DD) have set up 92 transmitter projects in Jammu and Kashmir and with the establishment of these transmitters, terrestrial coverage has become available to 95% population of the state. Further, all uncovered areas of J&K along with rest of the country (except Andaman and Nicobar Islands) have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through DD's free to air DTH service "DD Direct Plus". It is possible to receive DTH signals with the help of small sized dish receive units. As part of J&K Special Plan Phase-II for J&K approved in September, 2007, DD have provided 10000 DTH sets along with TV sets to Government of J&K for uncovered areas.

Under J&K Special Plan Phase-I, All India Radio (AIR) have also set up 10 new transmitters and upgraded 2 transmitters in J&K. Similarly under J&K Special Plan Phase-II, 11 number of DG Sets and 7 number of UPS have been approved for AIR.

(c) There is no such approved scheme at present.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Excesses by Police Personnel**

3231. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to excesses registered against the police personnel during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of accused police personnel arrested and action taken against them during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to bring reforms in the police functioning and sensitizing Central/State police officials through meetings/workshops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to maintain the Law and Order in the State, ensure safety and security of their people and take action against the erring police men in such cases. Therefore, such details are not being centrally compiled and maintained.

(c) and (d) Police being a State subject, reforms in police functioning including training of State Police personnel is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, efforts of States are being supplemented by the Central Government through training of their Police Officers in the country and abroad. The syllabi of induction courses for Constables, Sub Inspectors and Deputy Superintendent of Police have been reviewed by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) with a view to adopt/implement the same keeping in view the local requirements.

In the context of reforms in police functioning and sensitizing Central/State Police officials, sufficient inputs on professionalism, community policing and protection of human rights have been included in the syllabi of induction courses. State Police Forces and Central Police Forces are also organizing special courses on "use of Scientific Techniques in Investigation", "Protection of Human Rights", "Crime against Women", "Crime against SC /ST and Weaker Sections". BPR&D has also been organizing courses on scientific investigation, image building, good Governance ethical issues, use of technology in crime preventions etc to sensitize the Central/State police officials on such issues.

[*English*]

### **Financial Assistance to Small Newspapers**

3232. SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide more financial assistance to small and medium newspapers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to relax the norms to empanel newspapers with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) for those publications from the North-East and border areas and to provide more financial assistance to them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of fresh applications for empanelment with DAVP received/cleared/pending during the current year, State-wise including North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) In the existing print media policy, there is already a provision of 15% (minimum) for small and 35% (minimum) for medium newspaper for release of Government advertisements through the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity. Further, Government announced a fiscal stimulus package for print media (including small, medium and big newspapers) on 27.02.2009. Under this package, rates for DAVP advertisements have been increased by 10% alongwith waiver of 15% agency commission, as special relief, subject to production of the documentary proof of loss of revenue in non-Governmental advertisements. The package was initially given upto 30.06.2009 and further extended till 31.12.2009.

(c) and (d) The Government Policy provides a relaxed norms for empanelment of newspapers published in North-Eastern States and border areas, As per Clause 8 of the Advertisement Policy, newspapers in languages like Bodo, Garhwali, Dogri, Kashmiri, Khasi, Konkani, Maithili, Manipuri, Mizo, Nepali, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Urdu and tribal languages/dialects as certified by State Government or newspapers published in J&K, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and North Eastern States can be considered for empanelment after 6 months of regular and uninterrupted publication. Whereas, in the case of all regional and other language small & medium newspapers, the qualifying period shall be 18 months.

Further, as per Clause 13 of the said Policy, a newspaper/journal should have a minimum paid circulation of not less than 2000 copies for being considered eligible for empanelment, whereas, newspapers/journals in Bodo, Dogri, Garhwali, Kashmiri, Khasi, Konkani, Maithili, Manipuri, Mizo, Nepali, Rajasthani, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Urdu and Tribal languages as certified by State Governments published all over the country and newspapers/journals published in backward, border, hilly areas or remote areas or tribal languages or those published in J&K, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and North-Eastern States need to have substantiated minimum paid circulation of only 500 copies per publishing day. The details of the policy are available at [www.davp.nic.in](http://www.davp.nic.in).

(e) During the current year, 827 online applications for fresh empanelment were received and are pending. State-wise number of cases is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise details showing the number of applications received online during the current year, for fresh empanelment and those pending*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of applications received/pending
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	50
3.	Assam	4
4.	Bihar	9
5.	Chhattisgarh	7
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2
7.	Delhi	99
8.	Gujarat	39
9.	Haryana	8
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	9
12.	Jharkhand	9
13.	Karnataka	12
14.	Kerala	12

1	2	3
15.	Madhya Pradesh	50
16.	Maharashtra	49
17.	Meghalaya	1
18.	Orissa	11
19.	Punjab	5
20.	Rajasthan	73
21.	Tamil Nadu	10
22.	Tripura	4
23.	Uttarakhand	112
24.	Uttar Pradesh	235
25.	West Bengal	11
Total		827

[Translation]

#### **Police Manual**

3233. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any police manual providing for maintaining law and order in the NCT of Delhi and containing provisions on the rights and duties of police personnel;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date on which this manual was prepared issued;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to amend the police manual in view of spurts in crimes; and

(d) if so, the time by which action in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Punjab Police Manual is followed in Delhi.

(c) and (d) The case of heinous and IPC crimes has registered 7.46% and 3.01% decline during the period 1st January to 30th June, 2009 as compared to the cases reported during the corresponding period in 2008. No proposal to amend the Police manual is under consideration.

*[English]***Funds for National Highway-206**

3234. SHRI B. Y. RAGHAVENDRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised for the development of National Highway No.206 during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the development/construction of National Highways has been delayed; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the development works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) During the last three years and current year, 18 works amounting to Rs. 158.75 crore have been sanctioned for development of NH-206 in the State of Karnataka. So far, an expenditure of Rs. 33.30 crore has been incurred on these works.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. Progresses of the projects are monitored on regular basis at state level and also in the Ministry through review meetings to expedite all National Highway works in the State of Karnataka.

**SMP for Cash Crops**

3235. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for cash crops on the line of sugarcane; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) is fixed for Sugarcane only. For other cash crops, such as Cotton, Jute, etc., Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) are fixed. The MSPs fixed by the Government for Cotton and Jute for 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as follows:

(Rs. per quintal)

Crop	Variety	2007-08	2008-09
Cotton	Medium Staple	1800	2500
	Long Staple	2030	3000
Jute		1055	1250

*[Translation]***Fake Visas**

3236. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of issue/use of fake visas have been reported in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported, persons apprehended/convicted during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to check such fraudulent practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) As per available information, the number of cases of forgery in visas and travel documents detected at the major International Airports controlled by Bureau of Immigration (BoI) during each of the last three years and the current year (upto 30.6.2009) are given in the table below:

Sl.No.	Year	Number of cases reported
1.	2006	1492
2.	2007	1251
3.	2008	865
4.	2009	473 (upto 30.6.2009)

As and when such cases of forgery in visas and travel documents are detected, prompt action is taken against such persons by law enforcement agencies under the law. However, data with regard to persons apprehended/convicted in cases related to issue/use of fake visas is not centrally maintained.

A number of steps have been taken by the Government to check travel by persons on forged/fake documents. These steps include:

- (i) Use of Ultra Violet Lamps, Magnifying glasses and specimen copies of travel documents for comparison at all the Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) for scrutinizing the features of the travel documents;

- (ii) Installation of Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) and Questionable Document Examiner (QDX) Machines at major ICPs for detection of sophisticated forgeries in the travel documents;
- (iii) Installation of Immigration Control System (ICS) Software which verifies the passport details of passengers to prevent impersonation;
- (iv) Special training is also imparted to Immigration Officers manning immigration counters at the ICPs on a regular basis to detect forged/fake travel documents.

#### **Diversion of Agricultural Land**

3237. SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of large scale use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes;

(b) if so, the details and the corrective action taken thereon;

(c) the details of paddy fields converted into non-agricultural purposes in the country including Karnataka, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to deal with the ecological problem as a result of such conversion?

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

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, Land falls under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to bring suitable legislation to protect use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. There is no specific information available regarding conversion of paddy field into non-agricultural purposes. However, as per available estimate, there is marginal decline in the availability of agricultural land from 183.07 million ha. in 2003-04 to 182.71 million ha. in 2006-07. During the same period, land under non-agricultural purposes has increased from 24.68 million ha. to 25.19 million ha. In the State of Karnataka also there is marginal decline in the availability of agricultural land from 12.91 million ha. of 2003-04 to 12.89 million ha. in 2006-07 and area under non-agricultural uses has increased from 1.33 million ha in 2003-04 to 1.36 million ha in 2006-07. The State-wise details of agricultural land and area under non-agricultural uses across the country including that of Karnataka State are given in the enclosed Statement. This decline in agricultural land is mainly due to increase in population and diversion of agricultural land for non agricultural purposes such as urbanization, roads, industries etc.

Government of India is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes for development of degraded lands in the country. Under these programmes, upto end of X Five Year Plan about 50.83 million ha. of lands have been developed and parts of such developed lands are also brought under cultivation keeping into consideration the prevailing agro-climatic condition of the area.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise area of Agricultural Land during 2003-04 and 2006-07*

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	Agricultural land		Area under Non-agricultural uses	
		2003-04	2006-07	2003-04	2006-07
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15789.00	15911.00	2692	2683
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	415.00	422.00	22	23
3.	Assam	3224.00	3224.00	1065	1065

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	6640.00	6638.00	1645	1647
5.	Chhattisgarh	5604.00	5581.00	696	683
6.	Goa	197.00	197.00	37	37
7.	Gujarat	12412.00	12412.00	1145	1145
8.	Haryana	3771.00	3782.00	432	421
9.	Himachal Pradesh	804.00	813.00	453	458
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1050.00	1048.00	293	293
11.	Jharkhand	4184.00	4184.00	792	792
12.	Karnataka	12908.00	12894.00	1336	1363
13.	Kerala	2378.00	2329.00	396	449
14.	Madhya Pradesh	17362.00	17312.00	1925	1992
15.	Maharashtra	21180.00	21162.00	1390	1412
16.	Manipur	224.00	231.00	26	26
17.	Meghalaya	1061.00	1057.00	87	91
18.	Mizoram	352.00	213.00	125	125
19.	Nagaland	645.00	657.00	75	75
20.	Orissa	7473.00	7473.00	999	999
21.	Punjab	4270.00	4270.00	429	429
22.	Rajasthan	25638.00	25600.00	1760	1835
23.	Sikkim	153.00	155.00	143	143
24.	Tamil Nadu	8168.00	8148.00	2113	2160
25.	Tripura	310.00	310.00	131	131
26.	Uttarakhand	1511.00	1504.00	152	154
27.	Uttar Pradesh	19307.00	19268.00	2594	2700
28.	West Bengal	5876.00	5751.00	1609	1733
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47.00	47.00	21	22
30.	Chandigarh	2.00	2.00	5	5
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24.00	24.00	4	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Daman and Diu	3.00	3.00	0	0
33.	Delhi	57.00	54.00	75	76
34.	Lakshadweep	3.00	3.00	0	0
35.	Puducherry	31.00	31.00	17	18
Grand Total		183073.00	182710.00	24684.00	25189.00

Source: Land Use Statistics at a Glance-1997-98 to 2006-07, Directorate of E&S, DAC, MOA, GOI, New Delhi

### **Progress of Roads Under CRF**

3238. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the progress of the utilisation of funds sanctioned under the Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the targets likely to be achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The progress of works and utilization of fund under Central Road Fund (CRF) are regularly monitored by the Ministry at different levels. The State Governments are regularly requested to increase the pace of the progress of CRF works and the progress of utilization of funds from CRF is monitored quarterly. This has resulted in almost 100% utilization of funds under CRF. During the year 2008-09, fund amounting to Rs. 2122.00 crore was released to States/UTs under CRF against the original Budget Provision of Rs. 1671.64 crore. To meet the additional requirement of fund under CRF, an amount of Rs. 500.00 crore was obtained from Ministry of Finance through supplementary grant under CRF increasing the total provision to Rs. 2171.64 crore.

[English]

### **Amendment of Law on Custodial Deaths**

3239. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended in their 113th report to amend the Evidence Act to allow the trial court to presume the policeman guilty of causing injuries to the accused under his custody;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the laws which deals with custodial deaths; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Since the subject matter falls under the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, the recommendation of the Law Commission has been referred to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for their views/comments. Since the matter involves amendment of Law involving wide ranging consultations with all the Stake holders, no time line can be indicated for completion of the action.

(c) and (d) Section 176 of Cr.P.C. has been amended in 2005, which provides that in case of death or disappearance of a person or rape of woman while in the custody of the police, there shall be a mandatory judicial inquiry and in case of death, examination of the dead body shall be conducted within twenty-four hours of death. There is no proposal for further amendment of the said provision.

[Translation]

### **Shortage of Doctors/Medicines in Veterinary Hospitals**

3240. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scarcity of doctors and medicines in every veterinary hospital in the country, especially in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated and utilized for deploying veterinary doctors and the distribution of medicines in State veterinary hospitals of the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the ratio of number of veterinary hospitals and veterinary doctors to total number of animals in the country, especially in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(e) whether the number of veterinary hospitals at present in the country is inadequate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam. There is no scarcity of doctors in every veterinary hospital of the country. However, there are State-wise variations. As per information provided by Government of Jharkhand and Bihar, against 424 and 822 veterinary hospitals/dispensaries, there are 753 and 839 sanctioned posts of veterinary doctors of which 613 and 603 are in position. In 2008-09, provision of Rs. 225.00 lakhs and Rs. 289.93 lakhs was made by Jharkhand and Bihar respectively for purchase of medicines.

(c) Veterinary services, including deployment of veterinary doctors, is a State subject. Hence, no funds are provided by the Union Government for deployment of veterinary doctors and supply of medicines to the States. Hence, to supplement the State efforts, funds are provided to cover animal health, including immunizations through certain Centrally sponsored schemes like (i) Assistance to States for Control of Animal diseases (ASCAD), (ii) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE) and (iii) Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP). The Details of funds provided under these schemes to different States during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I, II and III.

(d) As per livestock census, 2003, India has 311 million cattle units (one cattle unit equivalent to one large animal for five pigs or 10 sheep and goats or 100 poultry) and 52, 757 veterinary institutions (veterinary hospitals/dispensaries/aid centres). On an average each veterinary institutions caters to the need of about 5895 cattle units, whereas in the states of Jharkhand and Bihar, each institute provides health care to about 23,000 and 7,9000 cattle units respectively.

(e) and (f) The number of veterinary hospitals in the country at present is not adequate. As per recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture (1976), there should be at least one veterinarian for every 5,000 cattle units by 2000 A.D. Presently, on an average each veterinarian is catering to the needs of 6158 cattle units and one veterinary institution covers 12-13 villages. The State Governments regularly open new veterinary institutions. The State of Jharkhand has set up 19 veterinary hospitals during 2006-08.

#### **Statement I**

##### *Central assistance provided under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Funds released during 2006-07	Funds released during 2007-08	Funds released during 2008-09	Funds released during 2008-09 Till date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	500.00	532.00	750.00	500.00
2.	Bihar	0.00	100.00	400.00	0.00



1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	450.00	330.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Goa	30.22	25.00	0.00	26.00
5.	Gujarat	455.00	280.00	509.00	0.00
6.	Haryana	150.00	200.00	384.00	0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	103.64	117.00	99.85	60.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	200.00	200.00	250.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	865.14	480.00	700.00	600.00
11.	Kerala	197.23	0.00	100.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	195.00	362.00	450.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	1035.00	1172.00	1000.00	700.00
14.	Orissa	270.00	450.00	650.00	300.00
15.	Punjab	369.97	0.00	200.00	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	257.00	289.00	158.00	250.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	200.00	608.00	1271.87	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	732.00	750.00	0.00
19.	Uttarakhand	157.80	100.00	31.00	0.00
20.	West Bengal	547.00	1250.00	756.28	0.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	91.46	121.00	100.00	50.00
22.	Assam	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	96.54	244.00	190.00	150.00
24.	Meghalaya	97.31	7500	149.00	0.00
25.	Mizoram	251.10	275.00	203.00	0.00
26.	Nagaland	310.32	310.00	273.00	0.00
27.	Sikkim	57.27	75.00	125.00	30.00
28.	Tripura	142.08	0.00	330.00	0.00
29.	NCT Delhi	55.20	60.00	23.00	0.00
30.	Puducherry	18.80	0.00	25.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	16.00	12.20	25.00	0.00
32.	Chandigarh	5.60	7.00	6.50	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11.40	7.00	7.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	1.00	2.80	1.50	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	16.00	8.00	5.00	0.00
Total		7153.08	8424.00	10423.00	2666.00

**Statement II***Central assistance provided under National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Funds released during 2006-07	Funds released during 2007-08	Funds released during 2008-09	Funds released during 2008-09 till date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35.00	0.00	20.00	20.00
2.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	15.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00
5.	Gujarat	15.00	25.00	30.00	0.00
6.	Haryana	20.00	17.95	20.00	0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15.00	20.00	4.82	0.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
9.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	49.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	25.00	18.00	23.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25.00	32.00	20.00	10.00
13.	Maharashtra	34.94	20.00	8.00	5.00
14.	Orissa	20.00	5.00	20.00	10.00
15.	Punjab	30.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
16.	Rajasthan	15.00	20.00	8.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Tamil Nadu	25.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	25.00	29.05	19.18	0.00
19.	Uttarakhand	0.00	10.00	10.00	5.00
20.	West Bengal	45.00	25.00	20.00	20.00
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.00	5.00	20.00	15.00
22.	Assam	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
23.	Manipur	10.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
24.	Meghalaya	5.00	10.00	15.00	10.00
25.	Mizoram	20.00	15.00	5.00	0.00
26.	Nagaland	15.00	20.00	15.00	0.00
27.	Sikkim	15.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
28.	Tripura	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
29.	NCT Delhi	8.00	8.00	4.00	0.00
30.	Puducherry	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1.00	1.00	5.00	5.00
32.	Chandigarh	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Total		522.94	327.00	387.00	105.00

**Statement III***Central assistance provided under Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP)*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Funds released during 2006-07	Funds released during 2007-08	Funds released during 2008-09	Funds released during 2008-09 till date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60.00	100.00	35.00	0.00
2.	Gujarat	0.00	15.00	35.00	0.00
3.	Haryana	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Kerala	0.00	44.00	25.00	0.00
4.	Maharashtra	123.00	65.00	70.00	25.00
5.	Punjab	100.00	15.00	30.00	25.00
6.	Tamil Nadu	12.00	10.00	5.00	0.00
7.	Uttar Pradesh	100.00	90.40	150.00	50.00
8.	NCT Delhi	4.00	3.00	2.00	0.00
9.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.00	1.00	2.00	0.00
10.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Lakshadweep	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Total		403.00	394.40	405.00	100.00

### National Highway-80

3241. SHRI MADHU KODA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain sections of the National Highway No. 80 are single lane;

(b) if so, the details of the length of such sections;

(c) whether the development of the said sections have not been covered under the National Highways Development Programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to develop NH-80 alongwith the time by which the work on this Highway is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. A length of about 96 km of National Highway No. 80 is single lane out of total length of 296.26 km. This includes 20 km length in Bihar, 63 km in Jharkhand and 13 km in West Bengal.

(c) to (e) 70 Km length of NH-80 in Bihar is included under the National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III. The development of balance length of NH-80

in Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal is taken up through budgetary resources in a phased manner based on the need of traffic, inter-se priority and availability of funds. 12 nos. of works amounting to Rs. 79.90 crore have been sanctioned for improvement of NH:-80 in Bihar. In Jharkhand 4 nos. of works amounting to Rs. 19.83 crore for widening/Improvement of Riding Quality (IRQP) have been sanctioned during 2008-2009 which are in progress/tender stage. 2 nos. of works for widening to 2-lane and strengthening for a total length of 28.00 km amounting to Rs. 34.00 crore have been included in the Annual Plan 2009-10. In addition to above provisions for feasibility study and detailed project report for widening to 2-lane with geometric improvements for 42 km length and land acquisition for widening from km 210.50 to 213.00 of NH-80 in Jharkhand have been made in the Annual Plan 2009-10. The feasibility study for development of NH-80 in West Bengal is in progress.

[English]

### Attacks on Border Villages

3242. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of shelling of bombs and rockets over villagers living in the vicinity of Indo-Pak border causing loss to life and property have been reported in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) During the last three years, two incidents have been reported viz., (i) On 9th May, 2009, one 120 millimeter bomb, fired from across the Line of Control (LoC) had landed in close proximity to Makri village in the Naushera Sector of J&K. There was no casualty in this firing. This incident was brought to the notice of Pakistan Military authorities at the appropriate level through a flag meeting and was also taken up during the DGsMO level talk. (ii) On the intervening night of 4th/5th July, 2009, three projectiles fired from across the International Border (IB) landed in the nearby Indian villages Dande, Behrwal and Kaonke of Amritsar District, Punjab. There was, however, no casualty. Immediately after the incident, a strong protest was lodged by the Border Security Force (BSF) Commander with his counterpart of Pak Ranger indicating that such attacks are a very grave violation of the sanctity of the International Border. Further, Commander/Wing Commander level Flag meetings of both sides were held

on the intervening night of 4th 5th July, 2009, in the evening of 5th July, 2009 and on 13th July 2009.

#### **Projects for Improvement of National Highways**

3243. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects for widening, increasing of lanes, construction of elevated highway etc. underway on the National Highways in and around Bangalore, project-wise and NH-wise;

(b) the status of these projects, project-wise; and

(c) the reasons for delay, if any, and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Six projects of 4/6 laning by NHAI and one project of 4/6 laning through State PWD of Karnataka are in progress around Bangalore. Some delay has occurred in four projects on account of delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, contractual litigations, clearances from the Railways and due to financial crunch faced by the contractors. All possible steps have been taken by the Ministry by co-ordinating the matter with the State Government as well as with the contractors to expedite completion of the projects. Project wise details given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of projects under implementation in and around Bangalore in the State of Karnataka.*

Sl.No.	Stretches	Executing agency	Length	Project Cost (in Cr.)	Likely date of completion	Reason for Delay
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of Elevated Highway Project from Silk Board Junction to Electronic City on NH-7	NHAI	9.985	450	Sept, 2009	Due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities & religious structure, litigations and financial crunch faced by the contractor.
2.	Widening to 6 lane and Strengthening of existing 4-lane carriageway from Km. 18/750 to Km. 33/130 on Bangalore-Hosur Section of NH-7	NHAI	14.380	105.96	Sept, 2009	Due to delay in land acquisition, clearances from the railways and financial crunch faced by the contractor.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Construction of Access Controlled Highway from Km. 10/00 to Km. 29/50 on Bangalore-Nelamangala Section of NH-4	NHAI	19.5	445	Nov, 2009	No Delay
4.	4/6 laning carriageway of Bangalore—Kolar—Mulabagal Section of NH-4 from Km. 237/0 to Km. 318/0	NHAI	79.724	565	July, 2010	No Delay
5.	4 laning of Nelamangala-Devihalli Section of NH-48 from Km. 28/200 to Km. 110/000	NHAI	80.273	441	July, 2010	No Delay
6.	4 laning from km. 463.600 to km. 542 on Hyderabad-Bangalore section on NH-7	NHAI	81.48	402.8	Oct 2009	Due to delay in land acquisition
7.	4/6 laning from km. 317.90 to km. 319.68 and km. 322.20 to km 324.25 of NH-4	State PWD	3.83	9.33	Nov 2009	Due to contractor's problem and contractual litigation

### **Agricultural Cooperatives**

3244. SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural cooperatives have been given financial grants by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the grant is utilised in the proper manner;

(d) whether any grant has been given by the Government to agricultural cooperatives for downstream industries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government monitors the utilization of such funds by way of having representatives; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. As per the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee, the Government of India has approved a Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative

Credit Structure (STCCS), Revival Package envisages an out lay of Rs. 13,597 crore for recapitalization of STCCS.

An amount of Rs. 6072.71 crore has been released by NABARD as Government of India share for recapitalization of 37,599 PACS in ten states, while the State Government had released Rs. 608.13 crore as their share.

Under the Central Sector Scheme for Cooperative Education and Training, assistance has been given to National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) and National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT) for implementing Cooperative Education & Training in the country. During the 10th Five Year Plan Rs. 216.17 crore was released. An out lay of Rs. 149.00 crore is proposed for 11th Five Year Plan.

The Government of India also implements its cooperative development programmes, through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The programmes/schemes being implemented through NCDC are (i) Integrated Cooperative Development Projects in selected districts, (ii) assistance to cooperative marketing, processing and storage etc. in cooperatively under-developed/least developed states/union territories, and (iii) share capital participation in growers'/weavers' cooperative spinning mills. During the 10th Five Year Plan Rs. 143.15 crore was released. An out lay of Rs. 320.00 crore is proposed for 11th Five Year Plan.

The Central Government also provides grants to the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks (NFSCOB) and National Federation of Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (NCARDBF). During the 10th Five Year Plan, Rs. 1.20 crore was released to these federations. Further, an amount of Rs. 71.60 lakhs has been released so far, in the 11th Five Year Plan.

The grants are released to these organizations on the basis of utilization certificates duly signed by the Chief Executive of the organization and statutory audit report stating that the funds are utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

(f) and (g) Under the revival package for STCCS, financial assistance to States is released subject to legal and institutional reforms for democratic, self-reliant and efficient functioning of cooperative institutions. Section 48 of the MSCS Act, 2002 provides for nomination of the Central Government or a State Government on Board of such multi state cooperative society which receive share holding or grant from the Central Government or a State Government, as the case may be.

#### **Intensive Dairy Development Programme**

3245. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA:  
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned projects under the Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) in the country including Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds

sanctioned for such projects during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has released the sanctioned funds for all such projects;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, project-wise;

(e) whether the State Governments have furnished necessary utilization certificates to the Union Government for the said projects;

(f) if so, the details thereof, project-wise; and

(g) the time by which the balance funds for the said projects are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Government of India has approved altogether 86 projects at a total cost of Rs. 489.84 Crore for implementation of projects in various states under the Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) including 4 projects in Rajasthan. An amount of 379.57 Crore have been released to various implementing agencies under the projects up to 23/07/2009. Statement-I indicating state-wise released made during the last 3 years including the current year is enclosed.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) Statement-II indicating project-wise fund utilization is enclosed. Release of balance fund is subject to submission of Fund Utilization Certificate, satisfactory progress reports and audited expenditure statement from the State Governments.

#### **Statement I**

*Funds released under Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) during last three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09 and current year 2009-10 upto 23.07.2009*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Uts	Funds released during the year (Rs. in Lakh)			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto 23.07.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	11.34	0.00	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	288.45	298.33	334.53	100.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
5.	Bihar	237.55	0.00	119.39	—
6.	Jharkhand	20.00	107.64	0.00	—
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
8.	Haryana	657.35	200.00	400.00	200.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	39.00	340.05	0.00	—
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
11.	Kerala	240.00	465.25	524.76	—
12.	Karnataka	72.00	0.00	0.00	—
13.	Madhya Pradesh	100.59	285.00	132.00	—
14.	Chhattisgarh	50.00	100.00	40.00	—
15.	Maharashtra	72.00	200.00	0.00	—
16.	Manipur	160.00	200.00	24.61	—
17.	Meghalaya	30.00	0.00	0.00	—
18.	Mizoram	90.00	139.70	50.00	—
19.	Nagaland	162.70	35.00	0.00	—
20.	Orissa	104.61	302.56	345.17	—
21.	Rajasthan	0.00	310.00	284.52	—
22.	Sikkim	140.21	75.30	274.89	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	356.47	125.00	273.59	275.00
24.	Tripura	40.00	90.00	120.44	—
25.	Uttar Pradesh	19.00	100.00	95.00	—
26.	Uttarakhand	467.98	0.00	128.96	—
27.	West Bengal	0.00	70.83	0.00	—
Total		3347.91	3456.00	3147.86	575.00

**Statement II**

*Project-wise year of approval, approved outlay, total fund released, total fund utilised & unspent balance upto 23.07.2009 under the scheme 'Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)'*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of State/Project	Year of sanction	Approved outlays	Total released upto 23.07.09	Total fund utilised upto 23.07.09	Total unspent balance upto 23.07.09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1995-96	239.41	221.91	221.91	0.00
2.	Andhra-I	1995-96	447.32	447.32	447.32	0.00



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Andhra-II	2000-01	934.28	812.64	778.11	34.53
	Andhra-III	2006-07	557.96	469.16	469.16	0.00
	Andhra (Suicide Prone)	2006-07		216.00	216.00	0.00
3.	Arunachal	1993-94	458.50	472.70	472.70	0.00
4.	Assam-I	1994-95	1260.76	909.51	890.23	19.28
	Assam-II	2004-05	588.35	185.87	0.00	185.87
5.	Bihar-I	1994-95	158.61	158.61	158.61	0.00
	Bihar-II	1995-96	364.50	344.50	344.50	0.00
	Bihar-III (Kaimur)	1997-98	67.25	67.25	59.48	7.77
	Bihar-IV (Madhubani)	1997-98	66.30	66.30	66.30	0.00
	Bihar-V (Nalnanda)	2000-01	447.73	333.33	276.50	56.83
	Bihar-VI	2001-02	279.78	228.67	153.18	75.49
6.	Jharkhand-I	1995-96	364.50	364.50	337.79	26.71
	Jharkhand-II	2005-06	294.29	274.53	274.53	0.00
7.	Gujarat	1993-94	679.95	600.00	600.00	0.00
8.	Haryana-I	1995-96	203.75	203.75	203.75	0.00
	Haryana-II	2005-06	1453.83	957.67	957.67	0.00
	Haryana-III	2006-07	823.22	548.14	548.14	0.00
	Haryana-IV	2006-07	287.38	105.37	101.85	3.52
9.	Himachal Pradesh-I	1997-98	805.95	805.95	805.95	0.00
	Himachal Pradesh-II	2004-05	899.12	539.22	443.65	95.57
10.	Jammu and Kashmir-Jammu	1995-96	635.12	414.69	398.23	16.46
	Jammu and Kashmir	1995-96	608.17	355.57	355.04	0.53
11.	Kerala-I	2004-05	288.15	288.15	288.15	0.00
	Kerala-II	2005-06	287.07	248.83	248.83	0.00
	Kerala-III	2005-06	1390.48	1040.10	1014.38	25.72
	Kerala (Suicide Prone)	2006-07		40.00	40.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka (Suicide Prone)	2006-07		72.00	72.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh I & II	1993-94	494.06	494.06	494.06	0.00
	Madhya Pradesh IV	1995-96	599.85	475.26	475.26	0.00
	Madhya Pradesh V	2005-06	228.89	192.44	143.06	49.38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Madhya Pradesh VI	2005-06	420.58	361.77	333.75	28.02
	Madhya Pradesh VII	2006-07	1422.09	332.59	183.15	149.44
14.	Chhattisgarh-I	1993-94	287.00	287.00	287.00	0.00
	Chhattisgarh-II	2001-02	700.63	264.20	244.20	20.00
	Chhattisgarh-III	2001-02	849.16	305.00	285.00	20.00
15.	Maharashtra-I	1995-96	1985.24	1985.24	1985.24	0.00
	Maharashtra-II	1997-98	1941.55	1941.55	1941.55	0.00
	Maharashtra-III	2005-06	1000.30	579.30	460.19	119.11
	Maharashtra (Suicide Prone)	2006-07		72.00	72.00	0.00
16.	Manipur	1993-94	224.10	224.10	224.10	0.00
	Manipur-II	2006-07	1023.23	384.61	384.61	0.00
17.	Meghalaya-I	1994-95	141.29	141.29	141.29	0.00
	Meghalaya-II	2000-01	472.52	438.92	438.92	0.00
18.	Mizoram-I	1993-94	367.99	367.99	367.99	0.00
	Mizoram-II	1995-96	349.19	349.19	349.19	0.00
	Mizoram-III	2001-02	199.41	199.41	199.41	0.00
	Mizoram-IV	2004-05	254.98	254.98	254.98	0.00
	Mizoram-V	2006-07	264.34	160.00	160.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland-I	1993-94	668.22	668.22	668.22	0.00
	Nagaland-II	1998-99	347.49	347.49	347.49	0.00
	Nagaland-III	2004-05	597.30	526.50	526.50	0.00
20.	Orissa-I	1993-94	631.00	631.00	631.00	0.00
	Orissa-II	1994-95	443.21	443.21	443.21	0.00
	Orissa-III	1998-99	621.84	621.84	621.84	0.00
	Orissa-IV	2000-01	784.53	784.53	784.53	0.00
	Orissa-V	2005-06	556.16	493.94	475.80	18.14
	Orissa-VI	2005-06	563.97	436.53	370.78	65.75
	Orissa-VII	2008-09	702.13	204.83	119.56	85.27
21.	Rajasthan	2004-05	590.50	428.10	428.10	0.00
	Rajasthan-II	2005-06	290.00	112.02	112.02	0.00
	Rajasthan-III	2005-06	864.10	194.41	150.00	44.41
	Rajasthan-IV	2007-08	862.74	300.64	100.00	200.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Sikkim-I&II	1993-94	678.47	678.47	678.47	0.00
	Sikkim-III	2000-01	368.16	368.16	368.16	0.00
	Sikkim-IV	2003-04	1007.43	1007.43	799.93	207.50
	Sikkim-V	2008-09	274.45	67.56	67.56	0.00
23.	Tamil Nadu-I	1995-96	336.63	336.63	336.63	0.00
	Tamil Nadu-II	2004-05	312.15	231.18	157.59	73.59
	Tamil Nadu-III	2006-07	554.06	404.50	350.35	54.15
	Tamil Nadu-IV	2006-07	291.77	124.83	124.83	0.00
	Tamil Nadu-V	2007-08	867.62	325.00	325.00	0.00
24.	Tripura-I	1993-94	304.90	304.90	304.90	0.00
	Tripura-II	1994-95	319.51	319.51	319.51	0.00
	Tripura-III	2006-07	295.14	250.44	160.36	90.08
25.	Uttar Pradesh-I,II&III	1993-94	1242.89	1242.89	1224.29	18.60
	Uttar Pradesh-IV	2000-01	758.44	601.66	569.61	32.05
	Uttar Pradesh-V	2001-02	1231.32	665.35	662.36	2.99
	Uttar Pradesh-VI	2003-04	290.54	207.10	168.71	38.39
26.	Uttarakhand-I	2002-03	1911.18	1911.18	1911.18	0.00
	Uttarakhand-II	2004-05	532.75	432.49	416.99	15.50
27.	West Bengal-I	1994-95	498.88	498.88	498.88	0.00
	West Bengal-II	1998-99	140.83	140.83	124.01	16.82
	West Bengal-III	2004-05	126.04	42.01	42.01	0.00
Total			48984.48	37957.40	36059.29	1898.11

[Translation]

#### **Mining of Iron Ore and Manganese**

3246. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of private companies granted permission for mining of iron ore and manganese in the country including Orissa, State-wise and company-wise;

(b) whether reports of companies violating the guidelines issued to them including export of iron ore have come to the notice of the Government; and

(c) if so, the nature of violations and action taken by the Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Mineral concessions including mining lease are granted by the concerned State Government. Prior approval of the Central Government is required only in respect of minerals including Iron ore and Manganese ore specified under the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 before grant of mineral concession by the concerned State Government. Details of prior approvals granted by the Ministry of Mines are available on the website of the Ministry ([www.mines.nic.in](http://www.mines.nic.in)).

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

### **Basic Amenities in Schools**

3247. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that a large number of schools run by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) are devoid of furniture like table and chairs for the students; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures being taken for ensuring proper seating arrangement in such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Out of approximately 9.50 lakh students studying in the primary schools run by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, approximately 8 lakh students are using the dual desk and the remaining students have been provided durries or jute patties to sit on. Improvement in facilities provided to the students is a continuous process. In this regard, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has taken steps for purchase of 70,000 dual desks.

### **Outlay for Commonwealth Games**

3248. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial outlay proposed for the Commonwealth Games;

(b) whether all the projects are likely to be completed within the sanctioned/prescribed outlay;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to enhance the allocation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) The current estimates for holding Commonwealth Games, 2010 at Delhi as of now are Rs. 9865 crore.

(b) No, Madam. The cost of some projects has increased over the initially approved estimates.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. While approval of competent authority has been obtained for revised cost estimates of some projects, the revised cost estimates of remaining projects are under the process for approval.

### **Challan of Vehicles by PCR Vans**

3249. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police PCR Vans instead of checking crimes, challan cars and motorbikes for traffic violation;

(b) if so, the reasons and the number of cars/bikes challaned and crimes reported/checked by PCR vans during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to audit the performance of PCR vans; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) 50 PCR vans were deployed with multi-tasking in 2007 for preventive crime patrolling and also challaning errant drivers from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. The number of Car/Jeep/Taxi/Scooter/Motorcycle challaned by those PCR vans during 2007, 2008 and upto 30th June, 2009 are 23965, 210602 and 116341 respectively. The details of the persons apprehended in connection with reporting/detection of crime, recovery of Fire arms/Sharp edged weapons/Ammunition made under Arms Act and bottles (Halves, Quarters etc.) of liquor seized by PCR vans during 2006, 2007, 2008 and up to 30th June 2009 are given below:

Year	Persons apprehended	Vehicle recovered	Recovery made	Liquor seized
2006	1966	156	66	20959
2007	1812	142	85	14986
2008	1291	104	54	21300
2009	936	23	47	284

(c) and (d) The review of performance of various units of Delhi Police Including PCR Unit is done from time to time by way of monitoring of crime trends/law and order reports; examination of the proposal regarding requirement of manpower/vehicles/equipments; etc.

### State Integration Council

3250. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted the National Integration Council (NIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has issued any direction to the State Governments to constitute State Integration Council (SIC) in their States;

(d) if so, the names of the States which have set up/not set up such council; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to constitute SIC in every State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The National Integration Council (NIC) was last reconstituted in October, 2008. The re-constituted NIC, headed by the Prime Minister, has 146 Members comprising of Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of all States/ Union Territories having legislatures, Leaders of National Political Parties and Regional Political Parties, Chairpersons of National Commissions, Media Person, Eminent Public Figures and a Representatives drawn from Business, Labour & Women.

(c) to (e) The Union Home Minister has written to all the State Governments reiterating the need to set up State Integration Committees on the pattern of National Integration Council. As per available information, State Integration Committees have been constituted in the States of Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

### Prevention of Accidents on National Highways

3251. PROF. RAMSHANKAR:  
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:  
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study conducted to ascertain the reasons for frequent road accidents on National Highways and the prevention thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the procedure in vogue for granting permission for access to/from a National Highway;

(d) the number of permissions granted for the above purpose during each of the last three years and the current year;

(e) whether there is any proposal to decentralize the powers for grant of such permission;

(f) whether irregularities and other cases of corruption in road transport system are some of the reasons for high incidents of road accidents; and

(g) if so, the corrective/preventive action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) and (b) Road safety works are taken up on a continuing basis on National Highways through State Governments, National Highways Authority of India, etc. This Ministry also sponsors various Research Schemes related to road safety, such as (i) Establishment of a system for identification and rectification of accident black spots (ii) Evaluation of Road Accident costs, and (iii) Development of recording methods for road accident data, and has published Manual for Safety in Road Design.

(c) The procedure for granting access permission to a National Highway has been brought out in Ministry's guidelines e.g. (i) RW/NH-33023/19/99-Do.III dated 17.10.2003 titled "Norms for the Access for Fuel stations, Service stations and Rest Areas along National Highways (ii) RW/NH-33023/19/99-DO-III dated 31.08.2000 titled "System Improvement for Installation of Petrol/Diesel/Gas-retail outlets and service-stations as well as access to private properties along National Highways. Briefly, the field units of Ministry's executing agencies examine and forward the proposal for approval of the Ministry. After signing of license deed in the Ministry, the NOC is issued by the field units of executing agencies.

(d) The number of permissions granted for the access of petrol pumps/retail outlets to National Highways during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (till date)
518	402	259	111

As regards entry permission/access to National Highways, either through any vehicle or on foot by a group of five or more persons, the provisions of the Control of National Highways (Land and traffic) Act 2002 shall apply. The number of permissions given under this category is not maintained by Ministry. This information is held by the National Highway Administrations.

(e) There is no proposal to decentralize the powers for grant of such permission.

(f) No Sir. Road accidents are mainly caused due to a number of factors such as driver's fault, mechanical defects in the vehicles, fault of pedestrians, bad road, bad weather, cattle, fallen trees etc. Other factors that contribute to road accidents are increase in vehicular population, increase in population, heterogeneous traffic, modern high speed vehicles, increase in road space, etc. It is not possible to say that the irregularities and other cases of corruption in road transport system are some of the reasons of high incidence of road accidents.

(g) Does not arise in view of answer to (f) above.

#### **National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board**

3252. SHRI GAJANAND D. BABAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board in pursuance to the recommendation of the Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal alongwith the time by which the said Board is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the Union Government has requested the States to set up similar Boards in their States;

(d) if so, the response of the States in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the public transport system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Committee of Secretaries (CoS) and the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) have already agreed to the proposal of creation of the National Road

Safety and Traffic Management Board recommended by Sundar Committee. A draft Cabinet Note in this regard has been circulated to the concerned Ministries/ Departments seeking their comments. Since the procedure involved for creation of the National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board through an Act of Parliament is quite lengthy and depends on the observation/decision of appropriate authorities such as Union Cabinet, Parliament etc., no definite timeframe for creation of the Board can be envisaged at this stage.

(c) and (d) The proposal National Road Safety and Traffic Management Bill suggested by Sundar Committee also envisages enabling provision to create similar State Level Road Safety and Traffic Management Boards for the States. The report was circulated to all the states/ UTs for their comments and was also discussed with the States in various meetings. The State Governments have endorsed the report of Sundar Committee. As such, the States have not been requested separately to create similar Boards in their States;

(e) The State Government are responsible for providing efficient and well coordinated public transport in their respective States. However, keeping in view the precarious financial position of various public transport institutions such as State owned Road Transport Undertakings, Planning Commission has allocated funds in the 11th Five Year Plan for providing central assistance to the States for strengthening public transport system in the country. Planning Commission has also given its in-principle approval on a draft scheme prepared by this Ministry.

*[Translation]*

#### **Black-marketing and Hoarding of food items**

3253. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether hoarding and blackmarketing of foodgrains, food items, oils, milk, ghee and spices is prevalent in the country despite strict laws in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme/action plan to check the hoarding and black-marketing of essential commodities all over the country;

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

(e) whether steps are being taken to strengthen and empower the monitoring cells to check such activities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) Powers have been vested with State Governments for taking action under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (EC Act) and Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 (PBMSEC Act). To enable the State Governments/UT Administrations to continue to take effective action for undertaking de-hoarding operations under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, it was decided to enable State Governments to impose restrictions like stockholding limits by keeping in abeyance some provisions of the Central Order dated 15.02.2002 in respect of pulses, edible oils, edible oilseeds, rice, paddy and sugar. Further, in respect of sugar, the Central Government have also issued Orders providing for stockholding/turnover limits which are as follows:

- Stockholding: (i) in Kolkata and extended area-
- (a) recognized dealers who import sugar from outside West Bengal- 10,000 quintals;
  - (b) other recognized dealers - 2000 quintals;
- (ii) in other places - 2000 quintals.
- Turnover: No dealer can hold the stock of sugar for a period exceeding 30 days from the date of receipt by him of such stock.

The Government of India gets reports from State Governments on action taken under the two Acts referred to above. As per the reports received in 2008, 162 persons were detained under the PBMSEC Act and 790 persons were convicted under the EC Act.

#### **Work on Delhi-Dehradun Highway**

3254. SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Delhi-Dehradun National Highway is going on at a slow pace;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the date of commencement of the work of widening this National Highway alongwith the time limit set for its completion;

(d) the funds sanctioned for the purpose alongwith the proportion of funds spent so far;

(e) whether any complaint has been received against the contractors;

(f) if so, the details of the action taken against the contractors; and

(g) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the completion of this National Highway within the stipulated time frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The section of National Highway (NH)-58 from Delhi to Meerut is already four laned. There is some delay in a project of four-planning between Meerut and Muzaffarnagar under implementation on BOT basis. The Project which commenced in March, 2006 with target date of completion by March 2009 is delayed mainly due to delay in land acquisition, forest clearance and shifting of utility services and is now likely to be completed by December, 2009. Since it is a BOT project, funding is done by the Concessionaire.

Four laning of Muzaffarnagar to Haridwar section of NH-58 and Haridwar to Dehradun sections of NH-58 & NH-72 have been identified under NHDP Phase-III. Bids were invited two times earlier for the reach from Muzaffarnagar to Dehradun; however no response was received from bidders. Government is again inviting bids now for Muzaffarnagar to Haridwar section of NH-58 on BOT (Toll) basis and for Haridwar- Dehradun sections of NH-58 & NH-72 on BOT (Annuity) basis.

(e) and (f) No complaint has been received against the Concessionaire of Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section and thus no action can be taken against the Concessionaire.

(g) Efforts are being made to expedite land acquisition through regular meetings with officers of State Government and other officials to remove bottlenecks and obtain forest clearances. The progresses of projects are being closely monitored by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on regular basis at all levels.

*[English]***Cyber Crimes**

3255. SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of cyber crimes reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) As per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on the basis of reports from the State Government/Union Territory Administrations, the State/UT-wise details of cases registered under IT Act and cyber-crime related IPC Sections during the last three years i.e. 2005, 2006 and 2007 is given in the enclosed Statement-I. The latest information available with NCRB pertains to the year 2007. The State/UT-wise details of persons arrested under IT Act and cyber-crime related IPC Sections during 2005, 2006 and 2007 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies as also for protecting the life and property of the citizens.

The Information Technology Act, 2000 alongwith The Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 provide for legal framework to prevent cyber crimes including internet frauds and provisions to address computer crimes like phishing, spamming, online frauds, cyber Terrorism, identity theft and data protection.

The Government also conducts several awareness and training programmes on Cyber Laws and Cyber Crimes for Judicial Officers and Law enforcement Agencies. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTIN) provides reactive and proactive support to the cyber incidents in the country. It also liaises with similar agencies worldwide and users of cyber space in the country including Government, public or private and issue alerts, advisories and vulnerability notes. These advisories are also published on the Web site of CERT-in <<http://www.cert.in.org.in>>. CERT-IN also interacts with cyber users in the country to mitigate such incidents.

**Statement I***Cases Registered in Cyber Crime Under IT Act & IPC Sections During 2005 to 2007*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2005		2006		2007	
		IT ACT	IPC	IT ACT	IPC	IT ACT	IPC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	68	14	102	16	53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	1	0	1	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	18	28	0	30	5	52
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	3	1
7.	Gujarat	2	153	5	1	1	2
8.	Haryana	8	1	1	1	0	1



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	38	0	27	0	40	1
13.	Kerala	3	0	12	0	38	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	5	126	6	158
15.	Maharashtra	26	1	35	4	49	1
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	2	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	6	0	0	0	0	2
21.	Punjab	7	43	12	26	14	35
22.	Rajasthan	18	0	4	0	16	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	22	0	8	0	10	5
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4	0	0	0	5	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	3	0	1	0
28.	West Bengal	0	0	6	3	2	2
Total (States)		167	294	135	293	206	313
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	11	0	11
30.	Chandigarh	2	0	2	0	1	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	10	8	5	7	10	15
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (UTS)		12	8	7	18	11	26
Total (All India)		179	302	142	311	217	339

Source: Crime in India

**Statement II***Persons Arrested in Cyber Crime under IT Act & IPC Sections during 2005 to 2007*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2005		2006		2007	
		IT ACT	IPC	IT ACT	IPC	IT ACT	IPC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	110	9	171	13	83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	24	51	0	37	4	82
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	3	159	6	0	1	7
8.	Haryana	5	1	1	2	0	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	3	0	17	0	16	0
13.	Kerala	0	0	6	0	15	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	8	152	16	166
15.	Maharashtra	50	1	66	6	46	1
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	1	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	4	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	7	51	16	30	14	69
22.	Rajasthan	21	0	0	0	13	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	21	0	7	0	8	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	25	0	0	0	1	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	7	0	5	0
28.	West Bengal	0	0	2	2	0	0
Total (States)		178	373	146	400	152	409

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Union Territories:</b>							
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	4	0	16
30.	Chandigarh	2	0	1	0	1	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	12	4	7	7	1	4
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (UTS)		14	4	8	11	2	20
Total (All India)		192	377	154	411	154	429

Source: Crime in India

#### **Cost of Farm Equipments and Fertilizers**

3256. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of fertilizers, farm equipments, seeds and other inputs have increased manifold during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cost of farm produce has not increased in consonance with the increase in the cost of production; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to compensate farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The index numbers of wholesale prices for agricultural inputs do not indicate manifold increase in cost of various inputs including fertilizers, farm equipment, seeds etc. during last three years.

(c) and (d) The Government fixes the minimum support price (MSP) for various agricultural commodities inter-alia taking into account the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices.

#### **Sale of Spurious Food Items**

3257. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent raids conducted across the country have revealed the prevalence of several counterfeit/look alike/spurious food items in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has initiated remedial steps to check the sale of such spurious products in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Reports about spurious ISI marked food items without a valid licence from BIS being sold in the market are received. There are also media reports about spurious milk and ghee in the market.

(b) During 2008-09, Bureau of Indian Standards conducted 57 raids relating to food items like Packaged

Drinking Water, Cattle feeds, Iodized salt, etc. Action as per the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 and the rules and regulations framed there under was taken against those found guilty.

(c) to (e) BIS has an ongoing enforcement mechanism to check quality of ISI marked products, under which raids are done in the licensees' premises and samples are drawn from the factory and market for laboratory tests to ensure conformity of the products to the prescribed Indian Standards. Sale of spurious/adulterated food items also attract penalty under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, the implementation of which is with the States/UTs Governments which have been advised to keep a strict vigil on the quality of the products.

#### **Adverse Impact of Pesticides**

3258. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the harmful chemicals pesticides which are being used by the farmers, the Government proposes to amend certain provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):(a) and (b) Pesticides are inherently toxic and are regulated under the provision of the Insecticides Act, 1968. They are registered after evaluating their efficacy and safety. However, their injudicious or indiscriminate use can be hazardous. The Government has brought forth the Pesticides Management Bill, 2008 to inter alia provide for a more effective framework for regulation of pesticides.

#### **Sports Infrastructure in Schools and Colleges**

3259. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the thrust of the Eleventh Five Year Plan is to create adequate sports infrastructure in schools and colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of Central assistance provided to various States including Uttar Pradesh during the above plan for creation of sports infrastructure in schools and colleges, State-wise;

(c) the names of the States where the State Sports Academy have been set up;

(d) whether any plan has been prepared by the Union Government to promote sports at village level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) and (b) Government has, for the first time, introduced a centrally sponsored scheme with national coverage for the promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country. The XIth Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, which was launched in the financial year 2008-09, is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisages to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchyats (Including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of 10 years at an annual coverage of 10%. The scheme is implemented through the State Governments/UTs. Under the scheme, schools are original overriding for the development of playing fields.

Financial assistance is provided to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations upon submission of proposals in the prescribed format and after completion of all the requisite formalities by them. During 2008-09, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 250.77 crore was sanctioned to 24 states for the creation of sports infrastructure in 22,854 villages and 601 block panchyats. Out of allocation of Rs. 92.00 crore in 2008-09 budget for this scheme, Rs. 92.00 crore was released to states. Budget allocation in 2009-10 is Rs. 160.00 crore, out of which Rs. 19.92 crore has, far, been released to States. Details of funds released State-wise under the Scheme of PYKKA are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Central Assistance has not been released for setting up of State Sports Academics.

(d) and (e) Same as at (a) & (b) above.

**Statement***Funds sanctioned/released during 2008-09 and 2009-10 (Upto 10th July, 2009)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State	No.of Village Panchayats approved	No.of Block Panchayats approved	Total Amount Sanctioned	2008-09 Funds released	2009-10 (As on 10.7.2009)	
						Funds Released	Funds sanctioned
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2190	113	25.98	12.99	—	—
2.	Assam	333	22	4.81			
3.	Bihar	847	53	10.44	5.22		
4.	Chhattisgarh	982	14	10.11			5.06
5.	Goa	19	4	0.35			
6.	Gujarat	1369	22	14.20		5.55	1.55
7.	Haryana	619	12	6.51	3.25		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	324	8	4.02	2.01		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	413	14	5.32	2.66		
10.	Kerala	100	15	1.60	0.80		
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2304	31	23.65	11.82		
12.	Maharashtra	2689	35	27.55	8.91	1.83	3.03
13.	Manipur	79	4	1.08	0.87		
14.	Mizoram	82	3	1.07	0.85		
15.	Nagaland	110	5	1.48	1.18		
16.	Orissa	623	31	7.34	3.67		
17.	Punjab	1233	14	12.55	6.27		
18.	Rajasthan	869	24	9.43	3.71		1.01
19.	Sikkim	16	10	0.67	0.54		
20.	Tamil Nadu	1261	38	13.82	5.00		1.91
21.	Tripura	104	4	1.36	1.09		
22.	Uttar Pradesh	5203	82	53.90	10.00	11.05	5.90
23.	Uttarakhand	750	10	8.89	3.00	0.60	0.85
24.	West Bengal	335	33	4.63			
Sub-Total		22,854	601	250.77	83.85	19.02	19.92
Funds released for organizing annual Competitions through SAI NSNIS, Patiala					8.15		
Grand Total					92.00		

### **Institute of Sports Medicine and Research**

3260. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open an institute of Sports Medicine and Research in Andhra Pradesh for the benefit of the tribal and rural athletes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) No, Madam. Government of India does not propose to open any Institute of Sports Medicine and Research in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No scheme exists for opening such centers.

### **Integrated Cereals Development Programme**

3261. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched an Integrated Cereals Development Programme for wheat in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provides incentives to States under the scheme;

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

(e) the criteria fixed for providing such incentives under the scheme;

(f) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) organized field demonstrations under the said scheme in various parts of the country;

(g) if so, the number of such demonstrations arranged by the ICAR during 2008-09 and 2009-10, State-wise; and

(h) the number of farmers benefited by such demonstrations during the said period in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. To enhance the production and productivity of cereals under specific crop based systems, Government of India is implementing Integrated Cereals Development Programme in wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat) under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) in non-National Food Security Mission (NFSM) wheat districts in the country. Under the scheme, assistance is provided to the farmers for distribution of seed minikits, distribution of certified seeds, micro nutrients, gypsum as well as transfer of technology through field demonstrations and training of farmers in Farmers Field Schools.

Under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), the funds are allocated to States in lump sum for various schemes and not for individual scheme. Funds allocated to different States under Macro Management of Agriculture in last three years and Current year are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Based on the following criteria, incentive are fixed:

(i) 50% weightage to the gross cropped area, and

(ii) 50% weightage to the area under small and marginal holding in the State.

(f) to (h) Frontline demonstrations are organized by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) on farmers fields in various parts of country.

The State-wise frontline demonstrations conducted and number of farmers benefited during 2008-09 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Regarding, 2009-10, 850 hectares demonstrations has been allocated to ICAR for conducting the frontline demonstrations in various wheat growing states in the country during coming wheat season.

**Statement I***Allocation of funds & released under Macro Management of Agriculture during 2006-07 to 2008-09 and 2009-10*

Financial: Rs. in Lakh

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 As on 16-7-2009	
		Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	421.00	2541.54	5200.00	4643.82	6535.00	3428.72	7261.11	3267.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2200.00	2200.00	2650.00	2650.00	2050.00	2050.00	2050.00	0.00
3.	Assam	2000.00	1000.00	2050.00	1594.64	1625.00	812.50	1625.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	2170.00	1564.37	2400.00	3042.14	3900.00	4593.03	4333.33	1950.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	2300.00	1129.76	2350.00	2455.48	2170.00	2170.00	2411.11	1085.00
6.	Goa	260.00	385.77	300.00	432.63	100.00	140.00	111.11	50.00
7.	Gujarat	2810.00	2330.84	4350.00	5771.65	3645.00	5045.00	4050.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	2040.00	2700.00	2250.00	2250.00	1690.00	2300.00	1877.78	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2040.00	2770.59	2300.00	2214.88	2000.00	2585.09	2222.22	1000.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4000.00	3351.50	4240.00	2554.04	3660.00	3026.35	4066.67	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	1660.00	830.00	1700.00	850.00	1065.00	532.50	1183.33	532.50
12.	Karnataka	5990.00	5214.24	7010.00	7346.88	5025.00	4885.43	5583.33	2512.50
13.	Kerala	3060.00	1350.00	3450.00	1725.00	1275.00	907.50	1416.67	637.50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4980.00	3963.00	6500.00	4789.92	6285.00	5834.64	6983.33	3142.50
15.	Maharashtra	8730.00	11751.30	12450.00	12034.63	9275.00	10313.09	10305.56	4637.50
16.	Manipur	2200.00	2200.00	2650.00	3309.25	2050.00	2050.00	2050.00	1025.00
17.	Mizoram	2500.00	2300.00	3000.00	3000.00	2325.00	2716.28	1425.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	1800.00	900.00	1850.00	925.00	1425.00	1425.00	2325.00	1162.50
19.	Nagaland	2500.00	2221.04	3000.00	2384.00	2325.00	2325.00	2325.00	0.00
20.	Orissa	2550.00	3550.00	3300.00	3736.11	3280.00	4360.00	3644.44	1640.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	426.00	1300.00	650.00	1750.00	1750.00	1944.44	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	7390.00	8212.55	8600.00	7835.42	5750.00	3775.00	6388.89	2875.00
23.	Sikkim	1900.00	2000.00	2400.00	2335.46	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4590.00	6337.70	5450.00	6662.51	3460.00	4270.00	3844.44	1730.00
25.	Tripura	2000.00	2000.00	2400.00	1444.80	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00	925.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7400.00	5668.14	81.00	7153.27	11375.00	10893.24	12566.67	5655.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27.	Uttarakhand	2170.00	3144.37	2650.00	2353.87	2300.00	2300.00	2555.56	0.00
28.	West Bengal	3190.00	3190.00	3500.00	3364.21	4425.00	3811.30	4916.67	0.00
29.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	50.00				40.00	0.00
30.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	50.00	25.00	35.00	17.50	40.00	0.00
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	25.00	25.00	40.00	20.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	4.00
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.00	5.00	30.00	10.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	25.00	12.50	30.00	15.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.00
35.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00
Total		88700.00	85275.21	107600.00	99579.61	94520.00	92037.17	103266.67	33831.50

**Statement II***State-wise frontline demonstrations on wheat conducted and number of farmers benefited during 2008-09*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Frontline demonstrations allocated (Nos)	Frontline demonstrations conducted (Nos)	Farmers benefited (Nos)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	10	10	27
2.	Bihar	51	51	95
3.	Chhattisgarh	19	19	25
4.	Gujarat	28	28	32
5.	Haryana	56	56	85
6.	Himachal Pradesh	20	20	73
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	9	25
8.	Jharkhand	31	31	148
9.	Karnataka	20	20	20
10.	Madhya Pradesh	29	29	184
11.	Maharashtra	30	29	37
12.	Punjab	38	38	49
13.	Rajasthan	36	36	90
14.	Tamil Nadu	20	20	20



1	2	3	4	5
15.	Uttar Pradesh	70	64	121
16.	Uttarakhand	16	16	145
17.	West Bengal	4	0	0
18.	Delhi	11	11	20
Total		500	487	1196

### **Betel Leaves Growers**

3262. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether betel leaves is being exported;

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

(c) whether the Union Government is aware of pathetic condition of betel leaves growers;

(d) if so, the whether there is any proposal to grant agriculture status to betel leaves and extend insurance cover to betel leaves cultivation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government to help the betel leaves growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A Statement showing country-wise export to betel leaves is enclosed.

(c) No, Madam. Though, the betel leaves growers are small land holders, they are getting sufficient returns.

(d) to (f) Betel leaf is covered under agriculture crops. The Government of India has been implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.*, Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim, Uttarakhand, J&K and Himachal Pradesh (TMNE) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for the remaining states for holistic development of horticultural crops including betel leaf duly ensuring an

end to end approach covering production and post harvest management.

### **Statement**

#### *Country-wise Export of Betel Leaves*

Country	2007-08		2008-09 (April-Dec)	
	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
Pakistan	692.74	616.80	275.39	217.81
Yemen Republic	40.15	21.30	63.67	33.16
Canada	28.00	8.97	45.46	10.71
UK	19.86	17.54	14.84	16.13
Nepal	18.23	3.94	3.57	2.27
Sri Lanka	15.92	16.36	0	0
Kenya	10.75	7.35	22.95	11.02
Unspecified	10.21	8.10	0.50	0.42
Germany	5.47	5.88	2.86	1.89
Norway	2.69	2.39	0	0
Others	2.08	1.50	15.02	4.47
Total	846.10	710.13	444.26	297.88

[Translation]

### **NHAI's Plan for Truck Drivers**

3263. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action plan has been prepared by the National Highways Authority of India on AIDS

awareness among the truck drivers frequenting the National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the required funds have been allocated for the implementation of the above mentioned action plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has been implementing Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/AIDS awareness programme under Lucknow-Muzaffarpur National Highway Project (LMNHP) on NH-28. The truck drivers are one of the stakeholders of this ongoing programme. This programme is being funded from loan component of LMNHP World Bank Loan No. 4764-IN. For implementation of this programme NHAI has appointed four Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) viz, M/s Lokarpi; M/s Gramin Mahila Kalyan Sansthan; M/s Advantage India and M/s Asia Society for Entrepreneurship & Development. NHAI is also seeking assistance from National Aids Control Organisation (NACO) to extend such programme on other stretches under NHDP.

[English]

#### **Rajiv Gandhi Adventure Scheme**

3264. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Adventure Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount earmarked for the scheme;

(c) the number of students likely to participate in the said scheme;

(d) whether the Government has fixed any criteria for participation in this scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. With a view to promote adventure activities among student youth, Rajiv Gandhi Adventure Scheme was launched on 26th June, 2009. The camps will be conducted all over the country from Himalayan Region in the North to Kannur and Thekkadi in South India, on a yearly basis. Each adventure camp is of 10 days duration. The adventure activities to be undertaken in these camps include trekking, mountaineering, white water rafting, para-sailing, para-

gliding and basic skiing. An amount of Rs. 1.66 crores has been earmarked for the scheme.

(c) 2000 NSS Volunteers with at least 50% of the volunteers being girl students are covered under the scheme.

(d) and (e) The physical standards required for NSS Volunteers are that they should be in the age group of 18-35 years; should be able to do physical work/walk/climb/ski/peddle boat for 3-4 hours and should possess medical-cum-fitness certificate. The process of selection of volunteers is done by the selection committees constituted for the purpose with due representation given to all the States and Union territories.

#### **Policy Change for Small Industries**

3265. SHRI CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to review the policy regarding infrastructure, financing, technology research and control for the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether there is any proposal to increase the limit from one crore amount to ten crore rupees for small industries; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The review of the policy regarding infrastructure, financing, technology research and control for the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is a continuous process.

(c) and (d) As per Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 the classification, of micro, small and medium enterprises is provided in the following table:

Class/Category	Manufacturing	Service
Micro Enterprises	Investment upto Rs. 25 lakhs	Investment upto Rs. 10 lakhs
Small Enterprises	Investment above Rs. 25 lakh and upto Rs. 5 crore	Investment above Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 2 crore
Medium Enterprises	Investment above Rs. 5 crore and upto Rs. 10 crore	Investment above Rs. 2 crore and upto Rs. 5 crore

There is no proposal to increase the limit to Rupees ten crore.

#### **Training Programmes in Small Industries**

3266. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the training programmes conducted for skill development for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises alongwith the number of beneficiaries from the said trainings including details of training exchange programmes with foreign countries; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to make the training programmes more relevant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises conducts various training programmes through its Tool Rooms, MSME Development Institutes and other organizations under the Ministry. While the Tool Rooms offer various training programmes to meet the wide spectrum of technical manpower required in the manufacturing sector, the thrust of training programmes conducted by the MSME- Development Institutes are on entrepreneurial skills development coupled with specific skills relating to trades like electronics, electrical, food processing, etc., which enables the trainees to start their own ventures. In addition, Khadi and Village Industry Commission (KVIC) and Coir Board provide grass root training to the artisans and rural entrepreneurs in basic skills. The training programmes are regularly evaluated and the coursewares are regularly updated to make them more relevant. The agencies under the Ministry of MSME conducted skill development programmes for 2.6 lakh trainees during 2008-09.

In addition training programmes are also conducted by other Government Departments and private agencies for skill development of micro, small and medium entrepreneurs.

#### **Functioning of Transmitters**

3267. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of High Power Transmitters (HPTs), Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) and Very Low Power Transmitters (VLPTs) in the country including Karnataka, State-wise;

(b) whether frequent complaints have been received about faulty functioning of these Transmitters;

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

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the functioning of these Transmitters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) At present, there are 1416 transmitters in Doordarshan network. State-wise number of HPTs, LPTs & VLPTs is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) Performance of TV transmitters in Doordarshan network is satisfactory, though complaints of malfunctioning of some of the transmitters are received from time to time. No centralized data is maintained in this regard. All out efforts are made by Doordarshan to attend to the complaints promptly.

#### **Statement**

##### *Existing Doordarshan Transmitters*

Sl.No.	State/UT	HPTs	LPTs	VLPTs	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	81	11	105
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	3	40	45
3.	Assam	6	21	2	29

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar	6	34	2	42
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	16	8	28
6.	Goa	2	0	0	2
7.	Gujarat	11	54	3	68
8.	Haryana	3	20	0	23
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5	8	41	54
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	19	18	88	125
11.	Jharkhand	5	19	3	27
12.	Karnataka	12	49	7	68
13.	Kerala	7	22	4	33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12	60	6	78
15.	Maharashtra	14	89	20	123
16.	Manipur	3	1	4	8
17.	Meghalaya	4	3	3	10
18.	Mizoram	3	2	3	8
19.	Nagaland	3	3	8	14
20.	Orissa	7	69	19	95
21.	Punjab	7	5	1	13
22.	Rajasthan	11	69	19	99
23.	Sikkim	2	0	6	8
24.	Tamil Nadu	10	53	8	71
25.	Tripura	2	6	2	10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	18	62	4	84
27.	Uttarakhand	2	17	35	54
28.	West Bengal	14	21	1	36
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	2	24	28
30.	Chandigarh	0	1	0	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	1	0	1
32.	Daman and Diu	0	2	0	2
33.	Delhi	3	0	0	3
34.	Lakshadweep	0	1	15	16
35.	Puducherry	1	2	2	5
Total		213	814	389	1416

**Consumption and Production of Wheat**

3268. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of increase in wheat consumption and production during each of the last three years;

(b) the irrigated areas available for wheat production in different States during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide high yielding seeds, better fertilizers with high content of micronutrients and formulate a comprehensive policy to revitalise wheat production in the Northern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of increase in the annual estimated consumption of wheat based upon the Consumer Expenditure Surveys of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) along with increase in the estimated production of wheat during the last three years is as under:

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Increase in Consumption	Increase in Production
2005-06	1.13	0.71
2006-07	(-) 3.63	6.46
2007-08	0.94	2.76

(b) The latest available State-wise details of irrigated areas under wheat during the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) The requirement and availability of certified/quality seeds of wheat along with other inputs like fertilizers, machinery, pesticides etc. are assessed in the Zonal Input Conferences normally organized in the month of August/September every year. However, it is the endeavour of Ministry of Agriculture to provide required quantity of high yielding varieties of seeds, better fertilizers with specified micronutrients and proper policy initiatives to encourage wheat production in various States, including Northern States, which are contributing significantly in the production of wheat in the country.

**Statement***State-wise Irrigated area of Wheat*

(Thousand Hectares)

State/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	7.7	8.6	8.5
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
Assam	2.4	1.8	2.2
Bihar	1835.0	1826.3	1870.0
Chhattisgarh	62.6	61.1	60.8
Goa	—	—	—
Gujarat	636.1	801.1	1050.3
Haryana	2295.5	2280.3	2356.2
Himachal Pradesh	71.0	69.2	69.9
Jammu and Kashmir	71.4	70.6	74.0
Jharkhand	54.2	49.9	72.5
Karnataka	120.0	130.5	145.4
Kerala	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	3303.9	2955.6	3494.0
Maharashtra	606.9	707.2	933.0
Manipur	—	—	—
Meghalaya	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mizoram	—	—	—
Nagaland	8.2	12.0	15.0
Orissa	16.4	16.4	16.4
Punjab	3410.5	3397.7	3396.7
Rajasthan	1983.2	2103.5	2522.4
Sikkim	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	—	—	0.0
Tripura	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uttarakhand	202.4	199.9	206.1
Uttar Pradesh	9135.7	8931.5	8964.3

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	296.0	271.3	259.4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.0	1.0	1.0
Daman and Diu	—	—	—
Delhi	18.7	18.2	17.8
Lakshadweep	—	—	—
Puducherry	—	—	—
All India	24139.6	23914.4	25536.8

Note: '0' relates to the area below 500 hectares.  
(Provisional)

#### **Nehru Yuva Kendras**

3269. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the functions and activities undertaken by the Nehru Yuva Kendras in various States including Kerala;

(b) the details of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in various States including Kerala and the areas covered by these Kendras, location-wise;

(c) the amount spent on these Kendras during each of the last three years and the current year, Kendra-wise;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal for restructuring of NYKs;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):  
(a) Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) implements two categories of programmes viz. Regular Programmes and Special Programmes. Regular programmes are centrally planned and implemented in different States of the country.

These programmes, inter-alia, include National Integration Camps, Youth Leadership and Development Programme, You in Club Development, Awareness Generation Programme, Work Camps, Seminars and workshops and Celebration/observation of National & International Days. Special programmes include programmes allotted to NYKS by different Ministries of Government of India.

(b) the details of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in various States including Kerala and the areas covered by these Kendras, location-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Annual Block grants are released to Nehru Yuva Kendras Sangathan (NYKS) for implementing regular and Special Programmes through its 501 District Kendras. Rs. 55.02 crore, Rs. 95.85 crore and Rs. 101.76 crore were made available during the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively for these Kendras which include 14 Kendras in Kerala.

(d) to (f) NYKS is at present functioning through its Kendras at 501 districts. With a view to covering all the districts of the country, the Government proposes to extend the activities of Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in the remaining 122 districts.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of NYKs State-wise and location-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of the districts covered by NYK	Total No. of NYKs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Anantapur, Vijaywada, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Guntur Kakinada (East Godavari), Karim Nagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehbubnagar, Nizamabad, Medak (Siddipet), Srikakulam, Vishakhapatnam, Adilabad, Vizianagaram, Nellore, Warangal, Hyderabad, Nalgonda, West Godavari (Elluru), Prakasham (Ongole), Ranga Reddy.	23

1	2	3	4
2.	Assam	Dibrugarh, Diphu (Karbi Anglong), Dhubri, Kamrup (Maligaon), North Lakhimpur, Nogaon, Cachar (Silchar), Tezpur (Sonipur), Haflong (N C Hills), Karimaganj, Barpeta, Kokrajhar, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Nalbari, Goalpara, Dhemaji, Darrang (Mangaldoi), Hailakandi, Golaghat, Morigaon, Bongaigaon, Tinsukia.	23
3.	Bihar	Araria, Aurangabad, Banka, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Bhojpur (Arrah), Buxar, Darbhanga, East Champaran (Motihari), Gava, Gopalganj, Jamui, Jehanabad, Kaimoor (Bhabua), Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Madhepura, Madubani, Munger, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nawada, Patna, Purnia, Rohtas (Sasaram), Saharsa, Samastipur, Saran (Chapra), Sitamarhi, Siwan, Supaul, Vaishali (Hajipur), West Champaran (Bettiah).	34
4.	Gujarat	Bharuch, Nadiad (Kheda), Kutch (Bhuj), Godhra, Sabarkantha (Himmat Nagar), Junagarh, Mehsana, Surendra Nagar, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Valsad, Surat, Gandhi Nagar, Ahmedabad, Baroda (Chhota Udaipur), Dangs, Amreli, Palanpur, Rajkot.	19
5.	Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Gurgaon, Karnal, Sirsa, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Faridabad, Sonapat, Jind, Hissar, Mahendergarh (Narnoul), Rewari, Yamuna Nagar, Kaithal, Panipat.	16
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur, Chamba, Dharamsala (Kangra), Hamirpur, Kinnaur, Kullu, Keylong (Lahoul Spiti), Mandi, Nahan (Sirmour), Solan, Shimla, Una.	12
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	Kathua, Anantnag, Bidgam, Baramulla, Doda, Jammu, Kupwara, Kargil, Leh (Ladakh), Pulwama, Poonch, Rajouri, Sri Nagar, Udhampur.	14
8.	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Bidar, Chikmagalur, Gulbarga, Hassan, Kanwar, Kodagu (Madikeri), Kolar, Mangalore, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Tumkur, Dharwad, Chitradurga (Devengere), Bellary, Shimoga, Bangalore (Rural, Bangalore (Urban)).	20
9.	Kerala	Alleppey, Kannur, Thodupuzha (Iddukki), Kozhimkode, Malappuram, Palghat, Pathanamthitta, Trivandrum, Trichur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Kasargod, Wynad, Quilon	14
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat, Betul, Bhind, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Harda, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Katni, Khandwa, Khargaon, Mandala, Mandso, Morena, Narsinghpur, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh (Bajora), Ratlam, Reewa, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shahdol, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Vidisha.	40
11.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Alibag (Rajgad), Bhandara, Kolhapur, Sholapur, Thane, Jalgaon, Nanded, Yavatmal, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Jalna, Buldhana, Nagpur, Mumbai (Kal), Satara, Ahmednagar, Nasik, Parbhani, Osmanabad, Dhule, Ratnagiri, Latur, Pune, Sindhudurg, Akola, Chandrapur, Wardha, Beed, Sangli.	30
12.	Manipur	Churachandpur, Imphal, Senapati (Kongpokpi), Tamenglong, Ukhrul, Thoubal, Chandel, Bishanpur, Senapati-II.	09
13.	Meghalaya	Jaintia Hills (Jowai), West Garo Hills (Tura), East Khasi Hill (Shillong), East Garo Hills (William Nagar), West Khasi Hills (Nongstoin).	05

1	2	3	4
14.	Nagaland	Kohima, Mokokchung, Zonheboto, Tuensang, Mon, Wokha, Phek	07
15.	Orissa	Balasore, Balangir, Mayurbhanj (Baripada), Behrampur (Ganjam), Kalahandi (Bhawani Patna), Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Koraput, Phulbani, Puri, Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Cuttack, Naupada, Khurda (Bhubneshwar), Kendrapara.	16
16.	Punjab	Amritsar, Bhathinda, Faridkot, Ferozepur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur, Mansa, Fatehgarh Sahib, Tarn Taran.	15
17.	Rajasthan	Ajmer, Banswar, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Churu, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jalore, Swai Madhopur, Sirohi, Tonk, Udaipur, Alwar, Kota, Pali, Dhoulpur, Nagaur, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Jhalawar, Sri Ganganagar, Raisamand, Baran, Dausa.	30
18.	Sikkim	East Sikkim (Gangtok), North Sikkim (Mangan), West Sikkim (Gayzing), South Sikkim (Namchi).	04
19.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore (South Arcot), Dharmapuri, Madurai, Pudukottai, Salem, Sivaganga, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Nilgiri (Udagmandalam) Ooty, Vellore, Kamrajar (Virudunagar), Kanya Kumari (Nagercoil), Chengalpeta (MGR), Erode (Periyar), Dindigul (Anna), Ramanathapuram, Chidambaram (Tuticorin), Chennai (Rural), Nagapatnam, Thiruvannamali, Villupuram, Tiruvallur, Theni, Tiruvarur, Namakkal, Karur, Perambalur.	29
20.	Tripura	Agartala (West Tripura), Dharam Nagar (North Tripura), Udaipur (South Tripura).	03
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Azamgarh, Badaun, Bahraich, Ballia, Banda, Barabanki, Bareilly, Basti, Bijjnor, Bulandsahar, Amethi, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farukhabad, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Ghaziabad, Ghazipur, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Hamirpur, Hardoi, Jalaun (Orai), Jaunpur, Jhansi, Kanpur Dehat, Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Lucknow, Maharajganj, Mainpuri, Mathura, Mau, Meerut Mirzapur, Moradabad, Muzaffar nagar, Partapgarh, Pilibhit, Rai Bareilly, Rampur, Saharanpur, Shahjahanpur, Sidharth Nagar, Sitapur, Sonbhandra, Sultanpur, Unao, Varanasi.	55
22.	West Bengal	Barsat (24 Parganas North), Burdwan, Murshidabad, Darjeeling, Baruipur (24 Pargana South), Jalpaiguri, Midnapore, Purulia, Calcutta, Cooch Behar, Uttar Dinajpur, Bankura, Birbhum, Hoogly, Nadia, Howrah, Malda, Durgapur (Burdwan-II), Diamond Harbour (24 S Parg), Tamluk Midnapore-II, Calcutta (South), Raghunathpur (Purulia).	22
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	Siang (Along), Lower Subansiri (Ziro), Upper Subansiri (Daporijo), Lohit, (Tezu).	04
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	Nicobar, Port Blair, Kamotra, Campbell Bay, Mayabander (Rangat), Diglipur	06
25.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	1
26.	Delhi	Alipur, Mehrauli, Nangloi	3



1	2	3	4
27.	Goa	North Goa, Panji, South Goa (Margaon)	3
28.	Lakshdweep	Kavarati	1
29.	Puducherry	Karaikal, Puducherry, Mahe, Yanam	4
30.	Mizoram	Aizwal, Lungeli, Ghhimutuiपुर (Saiha)	3
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	1
32.	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur, Champa, Durg, Kanker (Bastar), Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Sarguja.	8
33.	Jharkhand	Bokaro, Chatra, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, East Singhbhum (Jamshedpur), Garwah, Giridih, Godda, Gumla, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Palamau (Daltonganj), Ranchi, Sahabganj, West Singhbhum (Chaibasa).	16
34.	Uttarakhand	Almora, Chamoli, Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarkashi.	9
35.	Daman and Diu	Daman	2
Total			501

[Translation]

### Inspection of National Highways

3270. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways are inspected periodically;

(b) if so, the periodicity of such inspection and the details of the NHs inspected during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the outcome thereof;

(c) whether large section of many National Highways particularly Highway No. 181 is in a dilapidated state and needs Widening/repairing;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reasons for not carrying out timely repairs/widening work on the Highways;

(f) whether any investigation conducted in this regard;

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

(h) the steps taken for early commencement/completion of work on this NHs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes Madam, the National Highways are inspected periodically.

(b) There is no fixed periodicity. They are inspected frequently depending on the necessity of development and maintenance works, by Officers of this Ministry and the executing agencies such as State Governments, Border Roads organisation and National Highways Authority of India. Though the details of the inspections are not maintained in each and every case, the required improvements to the National Highways are attended to based on the inspections.

(c) to (h) The Government has not declared any road as National Highway 181. The National Highways are generally maintained in a traffic worthy condition. The development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon the availability of funds and inter-se-priority, after necessary surveys, investigations and inspections.

*[English]***Committee on Futures Trading**

3271. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to study the correlation between spot prices and futures trading has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the observations and recommendations made by the said Committee;

(c) the action taken by the Government for the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to the consumers therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) The major findings of Abhijit Sen Committee Report are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The recommendations of Abhijit Sen Committee are broadly directed at strengthening the regulatory framework in the commodity futures market as well as deepening of the same. While devising various policies and practices for futures trading in commodities such as hedgers participation, delivery system, price dissemination etc. the recommendations of the committee have been kept in view. Some of other recommendations need amendment to the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 to strengthen the regulatory framework for the efficient functioning of the market.

(d) By bringing efficiency in the market the future trading reduces the volatility in prices. The mark up between the producers' price and consumer price overtime also goes down which benefits both the producers and the consumers. Price discovery and risk management benefits accruing from futures trading help user/consumer of the commodities to get best bargain in the market.

**Statement***Major Findings of Abhijit Sen Committee*

The Committee analyzed the daily, weekly and monthly data on price volatility (spot price). The analysis

made by the Expert Committee led it to conclude as follows:

"Given these conflicting results from daily as against weekly and monthly data, no strong conclusion can be drawn on whether introduction of futures trade is associated with decrease or increase in spot price volatility".

- (i) The Committee also analyzed annual growth rate in prices of sensitive commodities (food grains and sugar) in pre-future period and post future period and concluded that although inflation clearly increased post-futures in some sensitive commodities that have higher weight in consumer price indices, it is not possible to make any general claim that inflation accelerated more in commodities with futures trading.
- (ii) In order to attract the hedgers, the high basis risk in the future contracts should be addressed;
- (iii) Delivery system in the National Exchange needs to be broad based and delivery charges on the Exchange platform should be brought down to promote the deliveries;
- (iv) Before listing of new products on futures market, a rigorous examination is essential to find if they are going to be beneficial to the public and the wide spectrum of stakeholders;
- (v) The Legal and regulatory hurdles in setting up and functioning of these national spot exchanges should be removed;
- (vi) To recommend policy guidelines to develop infrastructure by identifying the gaps in infrastructure like communication, transport, banking facilities, storage and assaying which need to be bridged to increase participation of farmers and other stake-holders in the commodity ecosystem;
- (vii) For benefits to reach farmers, the support infrastructure of warehousing and commodity finance should be made adequate;
- (viii) In order to ensure that benefit of price discovery on Exchange platforms reach farmers, it is of prime importance to create structure which enables dissemination of prices to the remotest corners of the country;

- (ix) There should be a consultative group both in FMC as well as in the exchanges comprising persons with proven domain knowledge of commodity sector;
- (x) At the apex level, a Committee on Commodity Market akin to the HLCC in the Capital Market should be constituted with Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission or one of the Member of the Planning Commission as his nominee as Chairman. FMC Chairman should be the Convener of the Committee. Secretary (Agriculture), Secretary (CA), Secretary (Food), Secretary (Commerce), Deputy Governor, RBI, Economist of repute and one representative each of farmers, cooperatives and trade bodies (like FICCI, CII. etc) should be members of the Committee. The Committee should deliberate on policy issues concerning Development and Regulation of Commodity market and guide the FMC to take appropriate steps;
- (xi) The proposed FC (R) amendment Bill to upgrade the regulation and to improve the capabilities of the regulator need to be pursued vigorously;
- (xii) Farmers' Groups, Co-operative Institutions, RRBs, CCBs, NGOs, State Agricultural Marketing Boards, Warehousing Corporations, Commodity Development Boards which work in the rural areas and have close association with and the trust of farmers should be allowed and encouraged to act as aggregators;
- (xiii) In case of agri-commodities, only simple 'options' may be allowed for some time till market attains maturity of operations and regulations and the farmers attains adequate understanding of the markets and of techniques to use them;
- (xiv) Banks and Financial Institutions which are at present not permitted to trade on Commodity Markets should, subject to approval by the Banking Regulator, be allowed to trade up to limits required for the purpose of devising customized OTC products suited to the needs of small and marginal farmers;
- (xv) An assessment should be made of the possibility of agencies implementing MSP including FCI acting as the writer of 'call' and 'put' options in agriculture commodities;

#### **Prices of Milk Powder**

3272. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of domestic milk powder is higher as compared to international prices;

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

(c) the steps being taken to ensure the availability of milk powder at affordable prices to the Below Poverty Line Families; and

(d) the demand and supply of dairy products in the country including Andhra Pradesh, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The comparative table indicating domestic & international prices (average) of skimmed milk powder (SMP) is as under:—

	Rs./kg.			
Month and Year	Oceania	Western Europe	USA	India
March 2008	160	138	116	134
October 2008	134	127	116	132
April 2009	97	106	90	115
May 2009	94	108	91	120
June 2009	95	110	87	120
July 2009	97	114	97	140

International prices of milk powder in Oceania, Western Europe & USA depends upon cost of production of milk prevailing there and export subsidy provided by the respective Government. In India, price of milk powder generally tends to increase during summer season as the production & procurement of milk goes down due to heat stress of milch animals. Low production & procurement affects the cost of production and also the sale price of milk powder.

(c) Increasing price of milk powder is only a seasonal development. In case of any acute shortage import of milk powder at 5% import duty upto a total quantity of 10,000 MT under Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) is permitted to ensure availability of milk powder. National Dairy Development Board has been advised to work out a contingency plan to import SMP under TRQ if the situation so warrants in the the coming weeks.

(d) Milk Production at National level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic consumption of milk and milk products. A statement of state-wise milk production & availability including Andhra Pradesh is enclosed.

**Statement**

*Statement indicating State-wise estimates of milk production & per capita availability of milk during 2007-08*

Sl.No.	State	Milk Production (000MT)	Per Capita Availability (g/day)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8925	299
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	114
3.	Assam	752	69
4.	Bihar*	5783	170
5.	Chhattisgarh	866	101
6.	Goa	58	100
7.	Gujarat	7911	387
8.	Haryana	5422	632
9.	Himachal Pradesh	874	367
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1498	337
11.	Jharkhand	1442	133
12.	Karnataka	4244	201
13.	Kerala	2253	181
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6572	262
15.	Maharashtra	7210	186
16.	Manipur	78	82
17.	Meghalaya	77	883
18.	Mizoram	17	47
19.	Nagaland	45	57
20.	Orissa	1625	112
21.	Punjab	9282	962
22.	Rajasthan	9536	408

1	2	3	4
23.	Sikkim	49	225
24.	Tamil Nadu	5586	231
25.	Tripura	91	72
26.	Uttar Pradesh	18861	273
27.	Uttarakhand	1221	355
28.	West Bengal	4087	128
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	24	159
30.	Chandigarh	47	121
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	53
32.	Daman and Diu	1	15
33.	Delhi	282	46
34.	Lakshadweep	2	86
35.	Puducherry	46	119
All India		104840	252

Source: Various issues of Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, GOI.

[Translation]

**Funds for Pisciculture**

3273. SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to various States including Chhattisgarh for Pisciculture by the National Fisheries Welfare Board during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the heads under which the said funds have been allocated alongwith the manner in which it is utilised/ being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Funds for pisciculture allocated state-wise by National Fisheries Development Board are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The funds are released under Major Head 2405 (for States) and 2552 (for North Eastern States).

The funds are utilized for intensive aquaculture in ponds and tanks, reservoir fisheries and coastal aquaculture.

**Statement**

(Rs. In lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the state	Funds released			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	77.06	17.52	1653.22	-
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	-	2.04	-	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	61.94	223.43	3.65
4.	Assam	-	1.59	14.39	-
5.	Bihar	-	73.64	-	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	198.82	-
7.	New Delhi	37.50	101.20	206.93	1.74
8.	Gujarat	-	2.79	-	-
9.	Haryana	-	33.68	10.29	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	162.68
11.	Jharkhand	-	104.28	67.40	-
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	314.20	-	-
13.	Karnataka	7.78	257.90	752.40	-
14.	Kerala	-	105.11	348.88	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-	50.89	-	-
16.	Maharashtra	63.27	160.60	207.78	35.38
17.	Manipur	-	40.40	11.59	3.43
18.	Mizoram	-	205.59	454.46	-
19.	Nagaland	6.14	21.32	13.59	-
20.	Orissa	1.27	62.11	966.05	14.00
21.	Puducherry	-	2.99	1.05	-
22.	Punjab	-	5.38	40.37	-
23.	Rajasthan	-	10.86	1.38	-
24.	Sikkim	-	12.48	4.94	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.24	14.12	503.43	32.60
26.	Tripura	-	58.83	84.33	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	63.72	75.31	10.47	-
28.	Uttarakhand	-	0.82	1.60	-
29.	West Bengal	1.15	383.65	227.29	-
Total		259.12	2181.23	6004.06	253.48

#### **Arms Licence with all India Validity**

3274. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recommendations received by the Union Government from the States including NCT of Delhi for last three years for extension of the validity of arms licences to all India licence;

(b) the number of arms licences whose validity has been so extended to all India;

(c) whether the Government has refused to extend the validity of such arms licences despite recommendation from NCT of Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including their number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) As per guidelines issued in 1995, requests for extending the area validity of Non-Prohibited Bore arms licences are considered by the State Governments concerned on merits based on the recommendations of the DMs concerned, keeping in view the genuineness of the need, law and order situation obtaining in the destruct State and other local factors.

In respect of Prohibited Bore arms licences, requests for extending the area validity for the All India are considered by MHA on merits, in consultation with the State Governments and the security agencies concerned. Ninety-one recommendations were received by the Union Government front States including NCT of Delhi during last three years; *i.e.* 2006 to 2009 (till date), for extension of the validity of the Prohibited Bore arms licence to all India basis.

(b) Validity of 62 arms licences was allowed to all India during last three years; *i.e.* 2006 to 2009 (till date) in respect of Prohibited Bore weapons.

(c) and (d) Union Government have received 30 recommendations from the NCT of Delhi during the last three years; *i.e.* from 2006 to 2009 against which validity of eleven arms licences was allowed to all India in respect of Prohibited Bore weapons.

[English]

#### **Construction of Outer Ring Road in up by NHAI**

3275. SHRI RAJENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to build/costruct an Outer Ring Road in Meerut by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status of the said Road along with the details of fund earmarked for the purpose;

(c) the expected timeframe of completion of the said road; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam. Ring road/Bypass around the city of Meerut in the State of Uttar Pradesh has been identified under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VII.

(b) Feasibility study of Ring road/Bypass for Meerut city is in progress since June, 2009 and targeted for completion in 8 months time.

(c) and (d) The project has been identified for implementation on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) (Toll) basis. After completion of the feasibility study, proposal will be submitted to Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC). Upon approval by PPPAC, the action will be initiated for selection of Concessionaire. As such, it is too early to indicate any time frame of completion at this stage.

#### **Linkages between land Acquisition and Price Rise**

3276. SHRI RAJAIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the linkages between land acquisition and increase in food prices in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the findings thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which such study is likely to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food Public Distribution has not conducted any study.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Express Highway Between Baroda to Mumbai**

3277. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had announced in the 2006-2007 budget to construct express highway with Design, Build, Finance, Operate (DBFO) system between Baroda to Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for early implementation of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government decided in 2006-2007 budget to develop 1000 kms of access-control expressways on new alignment on Build, Operate & Transfer basis following Design Build Finance & Operate pattern under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VI. The cabinet has approved this proposal at an estimated cost of Rs. 16,680 crore. The alignment of Baroda-Mumbai Expressway has been finalized on the basis of satellite Imageries. The consultant has started the work of feasibility study in February, 2009 which is likely to be completed within a period of one year.

(c) In order to expedite the implementation, progress of work is closely monitored by field officers of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Supervision Consultant. Meetings are held on regular periodic basis at site as well as NHAI (HQs). Meetings are also held with State Government officials to facilitate measures to remove impediments to work.

#### **Prescribed Width of National Highways**

3278. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether the National Highways passing through rural and urban areas are constructed with a prescribed width;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether densely populated areas are exempted from the said criteria;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether various State Governments including Kerala have urged the Union Government to decrease the width of National Highways and bypasses passing through these respective States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) The National Highways passing through rural and urban areas are constructed with prescribed width as indicated in Indian Roads Congress Standard IRC:73-1980. As per the Ministry's policy, the densely populated areas are not exempted from these prescribed guidelines. For 4-laning under National Highways Development Project, minimum 60m Right of Way (ROW) is proposed by this Ministry; Kerala State was subsequently exempted from 60m ROW and minimum 45m ROW is accepted (depending on site conditions and project requirements), on the request of the State Government.

### **Quality of Seeds**

3279. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 20 percent of Indian farmers purchase hybrid seeds and majority of them depend on farm saved seeds;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness among farmers and for development of the seeds market in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Though farm saved seed is used, the purchase of seed including hybrid seed has increased as is evident from the following facts (i) The production of certified/quality seed has increased from 140.50 lakh qtls. in 2005-06 to 250.35 lakh in 2008-09. Year-wise details are under:

Year	Production in lakh quintals	% change
2005-06	140.50	6.22
2006-07	148.18	5.47
2007-08	194.31	31.13
2008-09	250.35	28.84

(ii) Over all availability of seed is higher than the requirement. The over all availability certified/quality seed in the country for Rabi 2008-09 is 144.80 lakh quintals against the requirement of 111.24 lakh quintals and for Kharif 2009 the availability is 126.51 lakh quintals against the requirement of 110.97 lakh quintals as reported by the State/UT Governments.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutions (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities (SAU's) conduct Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) and Kissan melas. State Departments of Agriculture conduct Field Demonstrations, Crop Production Technology Demonstrations, Farmers Field Schools, seed minikit distribution to popularize the high yielding new varieties of various crops. Assistance for seed sector is provided under the following schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation:

- Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).
- National Food Security Mission (NFSM).
- Integrated Scheme for Oil seeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).
- Technology Mission on Cotton.
- Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta.
- Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds.
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

### **Illegal Cultivation of Opium**

3280. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:  
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of illegal cultivation of opium and funding of Maoist insurgency from the sale proceeds of such opium been reported in various parts of the country;

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



(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb such activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) As per the information available the illicit opium cultivation has been destroyed in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh. However, information pertaining to funding of Maoist insurgency from such sale proceed is not available and the concerned States have been requested to provide the relevant information in case any such instance has come to their notice.

(c) The Government has taken number of steps to curb illegal production of opium poppy in the country. The details are attached as Statement.

#### **Statement**

1. Carrying out of ground survey to detect illicit cultivation of opium poppy.
2. Satellite survey conducted by Advanced Data processing Research Institute' (ADRIN), Secunderabad, to detect illicit cultivation of opium in affected states.
3. Destruction of illicit opium poppy and prosecution of the offenders.
4. Improved coordination with state drug law enforcement agencies including meeting with nodal officers and visits to states.
5. Conducting training programmes for law enforcement official for upgrading their skills.
6. Awareness campaigns to educate people regarding the punitive action for cultivation of illicit opium.
7. Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to destruction of opium cultivation.
8. Financial assistance being provided to States for strengthening their narcotic units.
9. Creation of Anti Narcotics Task Force in States.

[English]

#### **Regional News Bulletin**

3281. SHRI SANJOY TAKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio (AIR) broadcasts regional news bulletins from its stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the languages in which such bulletins are broadcast, State-wise;

(c) whether several State Governments have requested the introduction of regional news Bulletin in Hindi and English including Arunachal Pradesh;

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

(e) whether broadcasting of regional news bulletins has not commenced in some States including Arunachal Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that there is a request from Arunachal Pradesh Government for introduction of regional news bulletins in Hindi and English. No other State Governments have made such requests.

(e) and (f) The proposal for introduction of regional news bulletins in Hindi and English from AIR, Itanagar has been approved. The process of empanelment of Casual News Reader—cum—Translators (NRTs) is in progress and the bulletins will start in August 2009, after the empanelment process is over.

**Statement***Regional News Bulletins in Home Services for Regional News units (RNUs)*

Sl.No.	Station	No. of Bulletins	Timings Hrs.	Language/Dialect
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
1.	Hyderabad	3	1310-1320	Telugu
			1750-1800	Urdu
			1815-1825	Telugu
2.	Vijaywada	2	0645-0655	Telugu
			1320-1330	Telugu
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS				
3.	Port Blair	2	0705-0715	Hindi
			1900-1905	Hindi
ARUNACHAL PRADESH				
4.	Itanagar	11	0620-0625	Tagin
			0640-0645	Apatani
			0715-0720	Adi Galo
			1545-1550	Miju Mishmi
			1605-1610	Khampti
			1625-1630	Wancho
			1700-1705	Idu
			1720-1725	Tangsa
			1740-1745	Nocte
			1830-1835	Adi
			1900-1905	Nyshi
ASSAM				
5.	Dibrugarh	1	1800-1805	Assamese
6.	Guwahati	6	0850-0900	Assamese
			1845-1855	Assamese
			2125-2130	Assamese
			1640-1650	Bodo
			1545-1555	Karbi
			1515-1525	Nepali (Byweekly)

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Silchar	4	0735-0740 1730-1735 1800-1805 1950-2000	Bengali Manipuri Dimasa Bengali
	BIHAR			
8.	Patna	5	0830-0840 1510-1515 1515-1520 1815-1820 1930-1940	Hindi Hindi Urdu Maithili Hindi
	CHHATTISGARH			
9.	Raipur	2	1800-1805 1911-1921	Chhattisgarhi Hindi
	GOA			
10.	Panaji	2	0725-0730 1920-1930	Konkani Konkani
	GUJARAT			
11.	Ahmedabad	3	0705-0715 1425-1430 1910-1920	Gujarati Gujarati Gujarati
12.	Bhuj	2	0650-0655 1825-1830	Gujarati Gujarati
	HARYANA AND PUNJAB			
13.	Chandigarh	4	1305-1310 1310-1315 1810-1820 1820-1830	Hindi Punjabi Hindi Punjabi
	HIMACHAL PRADESH			
14.	Shimla	3	0915-0920 1800-1805 1950-2000	Hindi Hindi Hindi

1	2	3	4	5
JAMMU AND KASHMIR				
15.	Jammu	4	0920-0930	Dogri
			1230-1235	Dogri
			1700-1710	Gojri
			1815-1825	Dogri
16.	Kargil	2	1725-1730	Purgee
			1930-1935	Purgee
17.	Leh	2	0905-0910	Ladhaki
			1915-1925	Ladhaki
18.	Srinagar	9	0920-0925	Kashmiri
			0925-0930	Urdu
			1230-1235	Urdu
			1235-1240	Kashmiri
			1750-1800	Gojri
			1920-1930	Balti
			1930-1940	Kashmiri
			1940-1955	Urdu
			2305-2310	Urdu
JHARKHAND				
19.	Ranchi	7	0830-0840	Hindi
			1900-1910	Hindi
			1920-1925	Nagpuri (W)
			1925-1930	Kurukh (W)
			1930-1935	Mundari (W)
			1935-1940	Ho (W)
			1940-1945	Santhali (W)
KARNATAKA				
20	Bangalore	2	1430-1435	Kannada
			1840-1850	Kannada
21.	Dharwad	1	0705-0715	Kannada
KERALA				
22.	Kozhikode	2	0645-0655	Malyalam
			1230-1240	Malyalam

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Thiruvananthapuram	2	1230-1240 1820-1830	Malyalam Malyalam
	MADHYA PRADESH			
24.	Bhopal	2	1420-1425 1910-1920	Hindi Hindi
25.	Indore	1	0705-0715	Hindi
	MAHARASHTRA			
26.	Aurangabad	2	0650-0700 0840-0845	Marathi Urdu
27.	Mumbai	5	1345-1350 1900-1910 1035-1040 1815-1820 1945-1950	Marathi Marathi Marathi Marathi Marathi
28.	Nagpur	1	1850-1900	Marathi
29.	Pune	1	0710-0720	Marathi
	MANIPUR			
30.	Imphal	9	0730-0740 1200-1205 1600-1606 1620-1626 1640-1646 1700-1707 1730-1736 1750-1757 1930-1945	Manipuri Manipuri Hamar Paite Kabuli Thadou Mao Tangkhul Manipuri
	MEGHALAYA			
31.	Shillong	5	0740-0755 0830-0835 1805-1815 1840-1850 1950-2000	Khasi English Gairo Jaintia Khasi

1	2	3	4	5
	MIZORAM			
32.	Aizwal	2	0730-0740 1830-1840	Mizo Mizo
	NAGALAND			
33.	Kohima	17	0550-0600 0620-0630 0650-0700 0720-0725 0835-0845 0905-0915 0935-0945 1005-1015 1500-1510 1530-1540 1600-1610 1630-1640 1700-1710 1730-1740 1800-1810 1910-1920 1920-1930	Sangtam Yimchungru Konyak Nagamese Khamnugan Phom Chang Zeliang Kuki Rengma Sema Lotha Chakhesang Ao Angami Nagamese English
	ORISSA			
34.	Cuttack	3	0750-0710 1432-1442 1845-1855	Oriya Oriya Oriya
	PUDUCHERRY			
35.	Puducherry	1	1810-1820	Tamil
	RAJASTHAN			
36.	Jaipur	4	0900-0905 1230-1235 1830-1840 1950-1900	Hindi Hindi Hindi Rajasthani

1	2	3	4	5
	SIKKIM			
37.	Gangtok	3	1840-1845	Nepali
			1845-1850	Lepcha
			1850-1855	Bhutia
	TAMIL NADU			
38.	Chennai	2	0645-0655	Tamil
			1830-1840	Tamil
39.	Tiruchirapalli	1	1345-1355	Tamil
	TRIPURA			
40.	Agartala	4	0735-0740	Bengali
			0740-0745	Kokborok
			1945-1955	Kokborok
			1955-2005	Bengali
	UTTARANCHAL			
41.	Dehradun	1	1830-1840	Hindi
	UTTAR PRADESH			
42.	Gorakhpur	3	0720-0730	Hindi
			1725-1730	Bhojpuri
			1800-1805	Hindi
43.	Lucknow	2	1310-1315	Urdu
			1920-1930	Hindi
	WEST BENGAL			
44.	Kolkata	12	0620-0630	Bengali
			0735-0745	Bengali
			0915-0925	Bengali
			1010-1015	Bengali
			1230-1235	Bengali
			1340-1345	Bengali
			1625-1630	Bengali
			1810-1820	Santhali
			1835-1838	Bengali
			1950-2000	Bengali
			2010-2015	Bengali
			2200-2210	Bengali
45.	Kurseong	1	1850-1900	Nepali

**Assistance by World Bank for Development of Highways**

3282. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds provided to the various States by the World Bank and other foreign financial institutions for construction, improvement, repairing, maintenance and widening of the National Highways during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of achievements made in this regard;

(c) whether the grants provided by all the financial institutions have been utilised; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The funds of the World Bank (WB) and other foreign financial institutions are provided for National Highway works on reimbursement system based on expenditure incurred for the project concerned. So far, World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) have provided the assistance to National Highways under different packages. Details of funds provided and utilized during each to the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of Expenditure for Externally Aided Projects (EAP)*

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Source of Finance	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 upto June '09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Sikandra-Bhaunti (TNHP-1) Pkg. II-A	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	14.71	7.39	1.47	0.05
2.	Fatehpur-Khaga (TNHP-2) Pkg. II-C, Km 38-115 on NH2 in UP	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	37.38	42.96	52.06	4.23
3.	Khaga-kokhraj (TNHP-3) Pkg. III-A(UP)	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	3.30	2.04	0.74	0.00
4.	Handia-Varanasi (TNHP-4) Pkg. III-C	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	26.78	13.38	4.24	1.92
5.	Mohania-Sasaram (THNP-5) Pkg. IV-B in Bihar	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	9.88	0.02	0.00	0.10
6.	Dehri-on-sone-Aurangabad (TNHP-6) Pkg. IV-D.	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	0.30	1.82	0.51	0.00
7.	Aurangabad-Barwa-Adda (TNHP-7) Pkg. V-A [Aurangabad-Barachati]	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	37.82	25.91	4.91	0.00
8.	Aurangabad-Barwa-Adda (TNHP-8) [Gorhar-Barwa Adda] Pkg. V-C (Km 320-398.75)	EAP-WB-III-4559-IN	5.50	35.25	37.77	3.90
Total			135.66	128.77	101.70	10.20
9.	Agra-Shikohabad (GTRIP-1) Pkg-I-A (Km 199.66-250.50)	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	37.76	16.92	12.74	2.43
10.	Shikohabad-Etawah (GTRIP-2) Pkg.-I-B (Km 250.50-307.50)	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	105.68	83.33	25.07	2.09
11.	Etawah-Rajpur (GTRIP-3) Pkg. I-C (Km 321-10-393)	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	77.33	47.36	9.53	0.01



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Bhaunti-Fatehpur (GTRIP-4) Pkg. II-B	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	83.55	56.95	21.20	0.00
13.	Varanasi-Mohania (GTRIP-5) Pkg. IV-A	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	2.14	1.21	9.68	9.59
14.	Sasaram-Dehri-on-sone (GTRIP-6) Pkg. IV-C	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	26.58	28.86	32.80	5.09
15.	Aurangabad-Barwa-Adda (GTRIP-7) (V-B) [Barachati-Gorhar]	EAP-WB-IV-4622-IN	69.47	19.36	12.34	0.04
	Total		402.51	253.99	123.36	19.26
16.	Allahabad Bypass Project (Pkg. ABP-I) (Km 163.28-164.30 on NH-2) (Ganga Bridge)	EAP-WB-V-4719-IN	36.98	19.97	21.23	0.29
17.	Allahabad Bypass Project (Pkg. ABP-II) (Km 158-198 on NH-2)	EAP-WB-V-4719-IN	115.71	122.03	95.61	17.18
18.	Allahabad Bypass Project (Pkg. ABP-III) (Km 198-242.708 on NH-2)	EAP-WB-V-4719-IN	121.67	153.92	102.83	29.92
	Total		274.36	295.92	219.67	47.39
19.	Jagatpur-Chandikhol (IDP-100)	EAP-JBIC	0.00	1.73	0.00	0.00
20.	Chikaluripet-Vijayawada Package I	EAP-JBIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Chikaluripet-Vijayawada (Pkg.-II)	EAP-JBIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Chikaluripet-Vijayawada (Pkg.-III)	EAP-JBIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Chikaluripet-Vijayawada, Pkg.-IV (Krishna Bridge)	EAP-JBIC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Cable stayed bridge on river Yamuna near Naini (Naini Bridge, Allahabad)	EAP-JBIC	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Ghaziabad-Hapur & Hapur Bypass	EAP-JBIC	0.00	0.00	9.56	0.00
	Total		0.10	1.73	9.56	0.00
26.	Gurgaon Kotputli (ADB Pkg-I)	EAP-ADB-III-1274-IND	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.00
27.	Vijayawada-Eluru (ADB, Pkg.-V) (Km 3.4 to 75)	EAP-ADB-III-1274-IND	0.02	2.82	0.00	0.00
28.	Raniganj-Panagarh (ADB Pkg-II)	EAP-ADB-III-1274-IND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Barwa Adda-Barakar (ADB-Pkg-III)	EAP-ADB-III-1274-IND	0.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Nandigama/ibrhimpatnam-Vijayawada (ADB, Pkg-IV) 217-252	EAP-ADB-III-1274-IND	0.02	0.00	2.35	0.22
	Total		0.93	3.25	2.35	0.22
31.	Surat-Manor Package-I	EAP-ADB-IV-1747-IND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32.	Surat-Manor Package-II	EAP-ADB-IV-1747-IND	1.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Surat-Manor Package-III	EAP-ADB-IV-1747-IND	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Surat-Manor (Int. During Construction)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total		1.46	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Tumkur-Haveri (Tumkar-Sira) Pkg-I	EAP-ADB-V-1839-IND	0.38	0.13	0.35	0.04
35.	Tumkur-Haveri (Sira-Chitradurga) Pkg-II	EAP-ADB-V-1839-IND	31.54	61.24	0.00	0.00
36.	Tumkur-Haveri (Chitradurga section) Pkg.-III	EAP-ADB-V-1839-IND	1.00	18.61	37.91	5.76
37.	Tumkur-Haveri (Chitradurga-Harihar) Pkg-IV	EAP-ADB-V-1839-IND	24.98	4.54	23.67	4.64
38.	Tumkur-Haveri (Davengere-Haveri) Pkg.V	EAP-ADB-V-1839-IND	19.57	2.09	21.52	3.25
	Total		77.47	86.61	83.45	13.69
39.	Bhiladi to Porbandar (Km. 52.5-2) of NH-8B, Pkg-I	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	90.78	45.66	3.64	0.00
40.	Jetpur to Bhiladi (Km. 117-52.5) of NH-8B, Pkg-II	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	76.93	193.28	90.69	0.60
41.	Garamore-Bamanbore (Km.254-182.60) of NH-8A, Pkg-III	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	63.94	74.23	85.79	3.58
42.	Garamore-Gagodhar (Km. 254-308 of NH-8A) & (Km 281.30-245 of NH-15), Pkg.-IV	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	62.35	91.17	79.76	10.43
43.	Radhanpur to Gagodhar, (Km.138.80-245 on NH-15), Pkg.-V	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	99.88	130.30	33.37	3.25
44.	Radhanpur-Deesa (Km.458-372.60 on NH-14), Pkg.-VI	EAP-ADB-VI-1944-IND	102.22	145.13	56.19	3.37
	Total		496.11	679.77	349.44	21.22
45.	Chittorgarh Bypass (RJ-6)	EAP-ADB Sector-1-2029-IND	91.52	111.58	147.75	3.06
46.	Kota-Chittorgarh (RJ-7)	EAP-ADB Sector-1-2029-IND	90.64	179.05	154.79	0.00
47.	Kota-Chittorgarh (RJ-8)	EAP-ADB Sector-1-2029-IND	75.72	161.63	199.58	0.00
48.	RJ/MP Border-Kota (RJ-9) Km 406 to Km 449	EAP-ADB Sector-1-2029-IND	72.41	64.03	143.16	0.00
49.	RJ/MP Border-Kota (RJ-10) Km 449 to Km 509	EAP-ADB Sector-1-2029-IND	142.48	80.02	129.84	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50.	RJ/MP Border-Kota (RJ-11) Km 509 to Km 579	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	111.49	104.51	77.17	0.00
51.	Shivpuri Bypass-MP/RJ Border (MP-1)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	101.40	88.55	47.86	0.00
52.	Jhansi-Shivpuri (MP-2)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	40.68	71.32	38.43	0.00
53.	Jhansi-Shivpuri (UP/MP-1)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	32.89	47.67	40.36	13.86
54.	Jhansi Bypass (UP-3) (90-106)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	26.72	31.05	42.36	10.79
55.	Orai-Jhansi (UP-4)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	101.93	79.58	79.59	38.89
56.	Orai-Jhansi (UP-5)	EAP-ADB Sector-1- 2029-IND	33.52	27.49	72.20	33.14
Total ADB-Sector-1			921.40	1046.48	1173.08	99.74
57.	Lalitpur-Sagar (Km. 94-132 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/3	EAP-[ADB]	10.35	20.93	34.93	0.00
58.	Lalitpur-Sagar (Km. 132-187 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/4	EAP-[ADB]	41.64	36.58	45.31	0.00
59.	Lalitpur-Sagar (Km. 187-211 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-III A/5	EAP-[ADB]	26.86	10.54	46.38	0.00
60.	Lalitpur-Sagar-Rajmarg Choraha (Km. 211-255 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/6	EAP-[ADB]	27.77	10.68	22.90	0.00
61.	Lalitpur-Sagar-Rajmarg Choraha (Km. 255-297 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/7	EAP-[ADB]	16.05	35.74	0.00	0.00
62.	Rajmarg Chauraha-Lakhanadon (Km.297-351 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/8	EAP-[ADB]	11.00	10.15	10.98	0.00
63.	Rajmarg Chauraha-Lakhanadon (Km-351-405.70 of NH-26) in MP/ADB C-II A/9	EAP-[ADB]	10.21	0.00	18.97	0.00
64.	Kurnool-Anantpur (AP-10) ADB KM 211.000-251.000-ADB Sector-II/C-10	EAP-ADB	10.35	28.37	65.57	14.07
65.	Anantpur-AP/Karnataka Border (AP-11) ADB KM 251.000-293.40-ADB Sector-II/C-11	EAP-ADB	14.73	32.19	73.87	10.20
66.	Kurnool-Anantpur-(NH-7) KM 293.40- 336.000-ADB Sector-II/C-12	EAP-ADB	4.22	22.99	73.43	23.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
67.	Anantpur-AP/Karnataka-(NH-7) KM 336.000-376.000-ADB Sector-II/C-13 in AP	EAP-ADB	1.60	18.54	69.57	27.00
68.	Anantpur-AP/Karnataka-(NH-7) KM 376.00-418.000-ADB Sector-II/C-14 in AP	EAP-ADB	10.77	36.23	74.88	11.34
69.	Anantpur-AP/Karnataka(NH-7) KM 418.000-463.640-ADB Sector-II/C-15	EAP-ADB	12.75	38.60	103.95	18.99
Total ADB-Sector-II			198.29	301.54	640.74	104.76
70.	Lucknow-Ayodhya (Km. 8.25 to 45 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg-I	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	42.81	71.86	84.71	2.09
71.	Lucknow-Ayodhya (Km. 45 to 93 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg-II	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	44.89	80.18	97.50	3.36
72.	Lucknow-Ayodhya (Km 93 to 135 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg-III	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	38.24	80.04	98.30	0.00
73.	Ayodhya-Gorakhpur (Km.135 to 164 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg-IV	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	53.29	63.07	60.63	5.40
74.	Ayodhya-Gorkhpur (Km 164 to 208 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg-V	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	42.21	21.94	61.99	13.30
75.	Ayodhya-Gorkhpur (Km. 208-251.70 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg.VI	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	43.10	77.41	83.14	6.62
76.	Gorakhpur-Kasia (Km. 279.80-319.80 on NH-28 in UP)Pkg.VII	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	47.93	86.93	51.90	42.03
77.	Kasia-Bihar-UP Border (Km. 319.80 to 360.91 on NH-28 in UP) Pkg. VIII	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	30.98	58.74	101.71	4.39
78.	UP/Bihar Border-Dewapur (Km. 360.91 to 402 on NH-28 in Bihar) Pkg-IX	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	41.57	63.57	11.98	0.00
79.	Dewapur-Kotwa (Km. 402 to 440 on NH-28 in Bihar) Pkg-X	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	27.80	16.43	31.88	0.00
80.	Kotwa-Mehsi (Km. 440 to 480 on NH-28 in Bihar) Pkg-XI	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	35.15	9.65	46.00	0.00
81.	Mehsi-Muzaffarpur (Km. 480-520 on NH-28 in Bihar) Pkg-XII	EAP-LMNHP-4764-IN	32.19	18.80	63.18	0.00
Total			480.15	648.62	792.92	77.20
Total expenditure on EAP Projects			2988.44	3446.68	3496.27	393.67

**FM Radio Stations**

3283. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:  
SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:  
DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up FM Radio Stations in the country including Karnataka;

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

(c) whether FM Radio broadcasters have requested the Government to permit broadcasting of news on FM radio; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. 193 new All India Radio (AIR) FM Stations including 145 number of 100 Watt AIR FM Transmitters as part of 10th Plan have been approved under 11th Plan. Details are given in the enclosed Statement. As regards private FM, the policy for FM Phase-III is under consideration for extension of FM Radio services through private agencies in other parts of the country including Karnataka. The details are yet to be finalized.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. In this regard Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has sent their recommendations on Phase-III of FM radio expansion through private agencies and these are under consideration of the Government.

#### **Statement**

##### *New Stations of 10th Plan continued in 11th Plan*

Sl.No.	State	
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5
3.	Assam	3
4.	Gujarat	1
5.	Jharkhand	1
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1
7.	Maharashtra	2
8.	Manipur	3
9.	Meghalaya	1
10.	Mizoram	3
11.	Nagaland	3
12.	Orissa	1
13.	Punjab	2
14.	Rajasthan	1
15.	Tripura	3

1	2	3
16.	Uttar Pradesh	4
17.	Uttarakhand	6
18.	West Bengal	4
19.	145 FM transmitters (100 Nos in North East Region and 45 in rest of the country)*. One number of 100 Watt FM Transmitter in Sringeri (Karnataka).	
Total		193

\*49 nos. of 100 Watt FM stations in North-East & 45 nos. of 100 Watt FM Transmitters in rest of the country are technically ready.

Note: Churachandpur, Rairangpur and Oras are technically ready.

#### **Compensation to Dependents of Police Personnel**

3284. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dependents of police personnel who laid down their lives fighting terrorism have not received compensation and other benefits declared by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such families;

(c) whether the Government has taken any corrective measures in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the pending claims are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) The dependents of the CPMF personnel, who laid down their lives fighting Terrorism, receive compensation and entitled benefits as per the laid down procedure and in accordance with the extant rules. Entitled compensation and benefits have already been released to the dependents whose cases have been completed procedurally. Regarding the rest 62 cases efforts are being made to collect the requisite documents for finalization of cases. Instructions for speedy settlements are issued to all concerned from time to time.

### National Agriculture Insurance Scheme

3285. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Governments including Orissa have given suggestions for further improving the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to include some more crops under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. During the course of implementation of the scheme implementing States/UTs including Orissa State have given various suggestions, from time to time, about unit area of insurance, indemnity level, calculation of guaranteed yield, early settlement of claims, coverage of horticultural crops etc. for making the scheme more acceptable to farmers.

Keeping in view the suggestions of States/UTs, a Joint Group was constituted by the Government, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and made important recommendations which inter-alia includes reduction in the unit area of insurance for major crops; improved method of calculation of threshold yield; higher indemnity level; coverage of additional risks etc. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

(c) and (d) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), at present, covers all food crops (cereals, millets, pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops. As per provision of the scheme, State Governments are free to notify any number of crops from the above broad categories of crops subject to the availability of past yield data for adequate number of years and capacity of the State to conduct requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) for making assessment of yield.

### Progress in Trans-Arunachal Highway Project

3286. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on the Trans-Arunachal Highway has commenced;

(b) if so, the status of the project; and

(c) the timeframe within which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The construction/improvement to 2-lane standards of Trans Arunachal Highway from Nechipu to Tawang has been taken up by Border Roads Organization under funding by Ministry of Defence. Target date for completion of this stretch is March 2012 except the stretches where Army units are vacating their important installation/storage.

In rest of the stretches the executing agencies have taken up preparation of feasibility report and detailed project report. As per the approval of the Cabinet, the target date to complete the entire 1412 km length is March, 2015.

### Funds to PMF for Tackling Terrorism

3287. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMVAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated and sanctioned to the Para Military Forces (PMF) to provide security and fight terrorism are adequate;

(b) if so, the funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised during each of the last three years, force-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the funds in this regard; and

(d) if so, the funds proposed to be allocated and the extent to which the States are likely to benefit from such a move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Madam, the funds allocated and sanctioned to the Para Military Forces (PMF) to provide security and fight terrorism are adequate;

(b) Force-wise funds utilised during each of the three years on 5 provisioning heads of arms and ammunition, machinery & equipment, clothing tentage & stores, motor vehicles and information technology are given below force-wise:—

All figures in Crore of Rupees.

Name of the Force	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Assam Rifles	234.19	228.24	186.50
Border Security Force	456.63	573.94	517.54
Central Industrial Security Force	47.12	61.11	89.46
Central Reserve Police Force	401.66	397.13	299.09
Indo Tibetan Border Police	78.99	217.87	243.76
National Security Guards	10.54	26.67	15.96
Sashtara Seema Bal	214.17	192.59	142.07
Total	1443.30	1697.55	1494.47

(c) Allocation of funds to PMFs to provide security and fight terrorism is a continuous process. During the current financial year an amount of Rs. 2040 crore have been allocated in the budget estimate for all the 7 PMFs on the 5 provisioning heads.

(d) Since part (a) to (c) of the question pertains to PMFs, therefore, no fund allocation to States is included/envisaged.

[Translation]

#### Four Laning of Buxar-Aara-Patna Highway

3288. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to convert the Buxar-Aara-Patna Highway in Bihar into four lane;

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

(c) the time by which the said Highway is likely to be converted into four lane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Buxar-Aara-Patna

Section of NH-30 & 84 has been approved for 4-laning under NHDP Phase-III on BOT (Toll) basis. Bids on BOT (Toll) had been invited twice but there was no response from anyone. The project is now proposed to be taken up for 4-laning on BOT (Annuity) basis. Bids are likely to be invited shortly. Completion of the project will take about 3 years from the date of commencement.

[English]

#### Aerial Surveys for Minerals

3289. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sought permission of the Union Government to conduct aerial survey for mineral exploration;

(b) if so, the names of such States;

(c) whether the Government has given permission to the State Governments for such surveys;

(d) if so, the names of the States where aerial surveys are likely to be conducted; and

(e) the funds earmarked by the Government for these surveys, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. During the last three years State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have sent proposals for obtaining prior approval for grant of reconnaissance permit which inter-alia include aerial survey for preliminary prospecting of a mineral in respect of minerals mentioned under First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(c) and (d) During the last three years prior approval of the Central Government has been accorded for grant of reconnaissance permits in respect of proposals received from the State of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh,

Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. After obtaining the prior approval of the Central Government, concerned State Government grants reconnaissance permit after the completion of all statutory requirements/clearances.

(e) As per rule 7 (ii) of MCR, 1960, the holder of reconnaissance permits has to adhere strictly to minimum expenditure commitment by the permit holder and State Government does not make any expenditure for the reconnaissance operation undertaken by the permit holder.

### **Consumption of Food**

3290. SHRI P.T. THOMAS:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the per capita consumption of food in terms of calories and proteins has declined in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is disparity between urban population and rural population in consumption of food in calorie terms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has formulated any action plan/scheme to address the problem of malnutrition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) As per details relating to household consumption of various goods contained in the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Report No. 509, it is observed that per capita consumption of cereals and pulses has declined between 1993-94 and 2004-05. The quantity consumed in kg per capita in 30 days has been as follows:

Year	Rural		Urban	
	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals	Pulses
1993-94	13.4	0.76	10.6	0.86
2004-05	12.12	0.71	9.94	0.82

As revealed by these surveys, while per capita consumption of cereals is more in rural areas, that of pulses is higher in urban areas.

The problem of malnutrition is a multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature which needs to be tackled through holistic coordinated interventions in areas of food security, sanitation, safe drinking water, nutrition, family welfare and poverty alleviation. National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN) implemented by Ministry of Women and Child Development highlights a systematic collaboration among National Government agencies, State Governments, NGOs, private sector and the international community. NPAN is an affirmation of the Government's commitment to alleviate various forms of malnutrition and achieve an optimal state of nutrition for its people.

To mitigate the problem of malnutrition among pre-school children, pregnant women and nursing mothers, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Women and Child Development in which Supplementary Nutrition is a component. Universalization of this scheme is being taken up with focus on SC/ST/Minority habitations and revision of norms of supplemental nutrition. Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) also focuses on providing nutritional supplement to adolescent girls by providing foodgrains to them. Besides, Nutrition Education, Awareness and Counselling are being taken up by that Ministry.

Government also allocates foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35kg. per family per month. Allocation of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families is also made depending upon availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool. Under TPDS these foodgrains are supplied at Central Issue Prices, which are highly subsidized and lower than the open market prices.

Besides the above, Government allocates foodgrains under different other Welfare Schemes, which include Annapurna Yojana, Mid-Day Meal Scheme and Village Grain Bank (VGB) scheme. These schemes are intended to make available foodgrains to the targeted population to enable them to improve their nutritional level.

### **Import of Sugar**

3291. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:



(a) whether sugar was imported during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the quantum and the landing price of sugar imported during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There has been no import of sugar on Government account during the last three years. However, in order to augment sugar stocks for 2004-05 and enable the Government to meet the normative 3 months' consumption requirement of the country, the Advance Licence Scheme was liberalized for raw sugar import, in as much as the important raw sugar under Advance Licence could be processed into white sugar, sold in the domestic market, and such importers were allowed to fulfill export obligation within 24 months period or such extended period as allowed by DGFT by exporting indigenously manufactured white sugar. This policy remained in vogue from 21.09.2004 to 15.04.2008.

The sugar production in the current sugar season 2008-09 is provisionally estimated in the range of 150-155 lakh tons as against estimated consumption of 255 lakh tons and the Central Government, with a view to augment domestic availability of sugar, has permitted import of raw sugar by sugar mills under Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) at zero duty upto 30.09.2009, and under Open General License (OGL) upto 01.08.2009 and import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PFC and NAFED upto 1 million tons at zero customs duty under Open General License (OGL).

The import of sugar during financial years 2005-06 to 2007-08 was as under:

Financial year	Quantity (in lakh MTs)	CIF Value (Rs/Crores)
2005-06	5.59	651.80
2006-07	0.01	3.48
2007-08	0.005	2.29

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, (DGCI&S) Kolkata.

As per latest report from the Department of Commerce, the total quantity of white/refined sugar contracted by STC, MMTC and PFC is 115563 M.Ts. As

per trade circles, about 25 lac tons of raw sugar have been contracted by Indian sugar factories out of which 18.20 lac tons have already arrived or would be arriving shortly by end of July, 2009.

[Translation]

### **Irregularities in Allotment of Food Items**

3292. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidences of irregularities in the allotment of food items to the consumers through the Public Distribution System (PDS) have been reported from some States;

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

(c) the guidelines issued to the States by the Government to reform and strengthen the existing procedure for allotment of food items to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/UT Government with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The Government of India carries out procurement of foodgrains for the TPDS, their storage, transportation and allocation to the State/UT Governments. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through the fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

Complaints as and when received by Government from individuals and organizations, as well as through press reports about irregularities in functioning of TPDS are sent to concerned State Governments for inquiry and appropriate action.

(c) In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been notified on August 31, 2001, which mandates the State

and UT Governments to carryout all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. As stipulated under PDS (Control) Order 2001, reports are obtained from State Governments on their monitoring of TPDS under clause 8 and penal action taken under clause 9 for malpractices noticed. Reports in Form 'C' are obtained on distribution of foodgrains and status of ration cards. Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for the foodgrains allocated to State Governments are obtained regularly from the State Governments. Review meetings are held with Food Secretaries of State Governments on functioning of the TPDS. Area Officers of this Department also visit the States to monitor the functioning of TPDS in the States.

State and UT Governments have been directed in July 2006 to implement 9-point action plan for streamlining working of TPDS.

Further, to improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State & UT Governments for -

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels; and
- (iv) introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart-card-based delivery of essential commodities.

[English]

#### **Quality of Doordarshan Programmes**

3293. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan (DD) Programmes are as popular as private channels;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to improve the quality of DD Programmes so as to compete with the private television channels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Madam. Prasar Bharati have informed that as per Television Audience Measurement (TAM) rating average Television Rating Point (TRP) of top 30 Doordarshan and private channels programmes in India (total market) among all viewers shows that Doordarshan programmes are as popular as private channels programmes.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Although Doordarshan being the Public Service Broadcaster is not in competition with the private TV channels, Prasar Bharati have informed that efforts are being made to improve the quality of its production by acquiring quality software from various professional software houses/producers through Self Financed Commissioning (SFC) Scheme; outsourcing good Feature Films for telecast on DD-I on different themes; outsourcing better talent for in-house production of programmes and improving transmission quality with digitalization of the studio equipment and transmission.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Eight Lane Access Control Express Highways**

3294. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start eight lane access control express highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations where the expressways are proposed, State-wise and National Highway-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government to overcome traffic congestion on the National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No, Madam. However, the Government has approved construction of 1000 km of 4/6 lane access control expressways under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-VI on Design, Built, Finance and Operate (DBFO) pattern.

(b) Four projects have been selected for construction of expressways on new alignment as per details given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	States	Stretch
1.	Gujarat and Maharashtra	Vododra to Mumbai
2.	Delhi and Uttar Pradesh	Delhi to Meerut
3.	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	Bangalore to Chennai
4.	West Bengal and Jharkhand	Kolkata to Dhanbad

**Procurement of Rice**

3295. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

(a) whether complaints regarding the failure of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other agencies to procure sufficient quantity of rice from the millers have been received by the Government;

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

(c) if so, the whether this has led to piling up of huge stocks of rice with the millers;

(d) whether the millers have shown their inability to procure more rice from the farmers during the current seasons as their godowns are occupied by the current rice stocks;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

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

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) There has been a record procurement of rice in KMS 2008-09. 287.86 lakh MT of rice has been accepted by FCI and State agencies as on 23.07.2009 as against 242.85 lakh MT of rice accepted in KMS 2007-08 in the corresponding period.

However, due to shortage of storage space with FCI, reports of delays in acceptance of livey rice by FCI from the millers have been received from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

FCI has been given directions to make necessary arrangements and accept the rice as per the levy obligation.

*[Translation]*

**Hiring of Godowns**

3296. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and storage capacity of private godowns hired by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other public agencies during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the rent paid therefor, State-wise;

(b) whether any action was taken to ensure reduction in rent at the time of hiring of these godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the storage capacity likely to be hired during 2009-10 alongwith the rent to be paid therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) GM (Region) have been given full powers to take decision to ensure cost effectiveness at the time of hiring godowns.

(e) The storage capacity likely to be hired and rent to be paid during 2009-10 cannot be predicted/projected at this stage, since, hiring of godowns is dependent upon the trend of procurement and offtake.

#### **Training of Rural Youth in Sports**

3297. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:  
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any action plan to motivate and train the SC/ST/OBC youth living in backward/rural/tribal areas to participate in national/international games and events;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the said plan; and

(c) the details of funds provided and utilized for such training in the backward and rural areas as compared to urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) to (c) No specific scheme has been formulated for promotion of sports among SC/ST/OBC youth. However, under the special area games (SAG), which is operated through Sports Authority of India (SAI) in tribal, coastal and hilly areas, sports talent is identified and nurtured. Similarly, under the Panchayat Yuva Krida Khel Abhyas, all sections of population, including Scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and other backward classes are duly covered. Under the said scheme, financial assistance is provided to State Governments/Union Territory Governments for the promotion of basic sports infrastructure and for holding sports competitions at block, district, state and national level. During 2008-09, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 250.77 crore was sanctioned to 24 states for the creation of sports infrastructure in 22,854 village and 601 block Panchayats. The details of fund allocated and fund released during 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Fund Allocation	Fund Released
2008-09	92.00	92.00
2009-10 (10.07.09)	160.00	19.021

#### **Farmers Living Below Poverty Line**

3298. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:  
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of farmers in the country continue to live below poverty line;

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

(c) whether the Government has made any survey to assess the performance of various agricultural sector schemes in the country;

(d) if so, the outcome of such survey;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) (a) and (b) Planning Commission has estimated that at all-India level, 28.3% of population in rural areas are below poverty line based on data of National Sample Survey (NSS) 61st Round (July 2004-June 2005) on Uniform Reference Period. According to them, there is no official estimate regarding the number of farmers living below the poverty line. As per NSS Report on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India (2004-05), 35.9% of households in rural area are self-employed in agriculture at all-India level.

(c) to (e) National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) conducted the Situation Assessment Survey, a comprehensive socio-economic study of the Indian farmers covering educational level, level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness and access to modern technology, resource availability, indebtedness and a host of other relevant issues during January-December 2003 in the rural areas as part of the NSS 59th round. Highlights of the results of the survey at all-India level are as follows:

- An estimated 27% of farmers did not like farming because it was not profitable. In all, 40% felt that, given a choice, they would take up some other career.
- About 18% of farmer households knew what bio-fertilisers were and 29% understood what Minimum Support Price meant. Only 8% had heard of the World Trade Organisation.
- Only 4% of farmer households had ever insured their crops and 57% did not know that crops could be insured.
- Improved seeds were used by 46% farmer households during the kharif and 34% during the rabi season.
- 40% of farmer households accessed various sources of information for Modern Technology for Farming.
- The average Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (MPCE) for farmer households was Rs. 502.83 (less by 9.3%) compared to Rs. 554.15 for all rural households.
- Out of 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted.
- More than 50% of indebted farmer households had taken loan for the purpose of capital or current expenditure in farm business. The most important source of loan in terms of percentage of outstanding loan amount was banks (36%), followed by moneylenders (26%).

(f) The Government of India is implementing the National Policy of farmers, 2007 with an objective to increase the income of farmers by enhancing the economic viability of farming in addition to increasing production and productivity. The policy provisions, in-  
 er-  
 alia, include asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources; provide support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies; agricultural bio-security system; supply of good quality seeds and disease-free planting material, issue of soil health passbooks to the farmers and integrated pest management system; region and crop specific implements and machinery; support services for women like creches, child care centres, nutrition, health

and training; timely, adequate and easy reach of institutional credit at reasonable interest rates and farmer-friendly insurance instruments; use of information and Communication Technology and setting up of farm schools to revitalise agricultural extension; coverage of farmers under a comprehensive national social security scheme; effective implementation of Minimum Support Price across the country and establishing community foodgrain banks; development of agricultural market infrastructure and terminal markets for agriculture; curriculum reforms in agricultural universities; special categories of farming like organic farming and contract farming; rural non-farm employment initiative for farm households; and integrated approach for rural energy. Many of the Schemes programmes being implemented by different Departments and Ministries are as per the provisions of National Policy for Farmers 2007. Major Plan Schemes/Programmes being implemented are Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Bamboo Mission, National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation Schemes, Watershed Development Programme, Integrated Nutrient Management and Integrated Pest Management and schemes covered under Macro Management of Agriculture.

#### **Facilities to Farmers**

3299. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facilities made available to farmers to carry out agricultural activities under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana;

(b) the details of funds spent so far on this scheme;

(c) whether the Government proposes to review the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) funds are released to the States for implementation of projects approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) headed by the Chief Secretary of the concerned State to create

facilities for farmers to achieve 4% growth in Agriculture and allied sectors as envisaged under RKVY guidelines. Funds under the scheme is made available to the States as 100% grant. The States have full autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes. Funds are allocated to the States in two streams, viz., Stream-I and Stream-II and are routed through the State Agriculture Department, which is the nodal Department for the scheme. Under Stream-I, at least 75% of the RKVY funds are made available for specific projects as part of the State and District Plans.

Under Stream-II, upto 25% of the total RKVY funds to a State are made available for strengthening existing State Sector schemes.

(b) RKVY was launched in August, 2007. The details of the funds allocated, released and expenditure is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) RKVY has been approved with total outlay of Rs. 25000/- crore for implementation during the 11th five year plan (2007-2012).

### **Statement**

(Rs. in crore)

#### *Allocation release and expenditure of the States under RKVY as on 30.6.09*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2007-08		2008-09		Total Release (2007-08 & 2008-09)	Expenditure (2007-08 & 2008-09)	Unspent Balance (7-8)	2009-10		
		Allocation	Total Release	Allocation	Total Release				Total Allocation	Funds Released under Stream I	Funds Released under Stream II
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	93.13	61.08	316.57	297.17	358.25	351.92	6.33	315.33	118.25	39.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.85	1.90	6.88	0.00	1.90	1.90	0.00	14.39		
3.	Assam	23.77	0	142.62	144.12	144.12	72.81	71.31	47.53		5.94
4.	Bihar	64.02	57.77	148.54	148.54	206.31	84.47	121.84	70.50		8.81
5.	Chhattisgarh	60.54	52.96	116.48	117.45	170.41	103.71	66.80	289.39		37.3
6.	Goa	2.29	1.70	6.91	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.70	4.32		
7.	Gujarat	53.71	49.81	243.39	243.39	293.20	252.07	41.13	294.48		36.81
8.	Haryana	23.12	21.52	74.00	39.50	61.02	60.23	0.79	96.91		12.11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17.39	16.17	15.11	15.11	31.28	30.94	0.34	24.45		3.06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.85	0	16.17	1.20	1.20	0.00	1.20	33.38		4.17
11.	Jharkhand	61.66	55.68	58.62	29.31	84.99	32.30	52.69	97.14		12.14
12.	Karnataka	171.97	154.30	316.57	314.14	468.44	380.15	88.29	243.62		30.45
13.	Kerala	61.41	55.40	60.11	30.06	85.46	40.77	44.69	99.48		12.44
14.	Madhya Pradesh	110.01	101.62	146.05	146.05	247.67	136.39	111.28	202.39		25.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15.	Maharashtra	142.20	128.20	269.63	261.77	389.97	186.84	203.13	302.70		37.84
16.	Manipur	1.35	0	4.14	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.90	4.83		0.6
17.	Meghalaya	7.00	6.37	13.53	6.77	13.14	4.93	8.21	19.91		2.49
18.	Mizoram	1.05	0	4.29	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.80	3.27		
19.	Nagaland	9.45	3.19	13.89	6.95	10.14	9.04	1.10	18.54		
20.	Orissa	46.59	39.30	115.44	115.44	154.74	84.54	70.20	96.74		12.09
21.	Punjab	39.85	36.05	87.52	87.52	123.57	35.86	87.71	85.29		8.16
22.	Rajasthan	71.68	55.76	233.75	233.76	289.52	175.77	113.75	145.72		18.22
23.	Sikkim	2.77	2.77	11.37	5.68	8.45	7.10	1.35	12.33		1.54
24.	Tamil Nadu	188.21	153.6	140.38	140.38	293.98	269.84	24.14	87.57		10.95
25.	Tripura	4.69	4.16	34.02	16.08	20.24	14.00	6.24	24.68		3.08
26.	Uttarakhand	30.54	28.25	20.6	10.30	38.55	11.72	26.83	58.58		7.32
27.	Uttar Pradesh	116.15	103.90	316.57	316.57	420.47	296.28	124.19	315.33		39.42
28.	West Bengal	60.87	54.93	147.38	147.38	202.31	196.78	5.53	121.55		15.19
	Total States	1475.12	1246.39	3080.53	2876.34	4122.73	2840.36	1282.37	3119.31		384.85
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9.52		6.43	2.26	2.26	0.01	2.25	10.24		1.28
30.	Chandigarh	0.22		2.20	0.14	0.14		0.14	3.37		0.42
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.25		0.61	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.25		
32.	Daman and Diu			1.42	0.26	0.26		0.26	0.26		
33.	Delhi	0.56	0.10	1.83	0.00	0.10		0.10	1.95		0.24
34.	Lakshadweep	0.92		12.08	6.14	6.14	6.04	0.10	8.69		1.09
35.	Puducherry	3.13	0.40	6.67	0.00	0.40		0.40	0.56		
	Total UTs	14.58	0.50	31.24	8.80	9.30		3.25	25.33		3.03
	District Agricultural Plan			53.90					8.90		
	NIRD, ISEC, IEG, IIM-CMA				1.25	1.25		1.25			
	Administrative Conting				0.41	0.41		0.41			
Grand Total		1489.70	1246.89	3165.67	2886.80	4133.69	2848.41	1287.28	3153.85	118.25	387.88

*[English]***Development of Border Villages**

3300. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any revised guidelines to border States for the development of villages located upto ten kilometers of international borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof and implementation status thereon; and

(c) the extent to which this plan has been able to check terrorism in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Government of India has been implementing the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) in the border blocks, through 17 State Governments having land borders with India's neighbouring countries. The objectives of BADP are to meet the special developmental needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international land border and to saturate the border areas with basic essential infrastructure through the convergence of Central/State/BADP/local schemes and participatory approach.

Guidelines of the BADP have been revised in February, 2009 in consultation with the State Governments. As per the revised guidelines, the State Governments concerned shall arrange to utilize the BADP funds only in those villages of the border blocks, which are located 'within 0-10 km' from the international border. Those villages, which are located nearer to the international border, will get first priority. After saturating these villages with basic infrastructure, the next set of villages located within 0-15 km and 0.20 km would be taken up. If the first village in a block is located at a far away location from the international border, the first village/hamlet in the block may be taken as "0" km distance village for drawing the priority list. The revised guidelines of the BADP have come into force with effect from the Financial Year 2009-10, for compliance by the State Governments concerned.

The Border Area Development Programme (BADP) emphasizes the focused socio-economic development of border areas which are generally under developed. The process of socio-economic development in the border areas has brought confidence and belongingness amongst

the border population. The convergence of BADP with other State/Central Plan Schemes has activated the process of development.

*[Translation]***Online Complaints**

3301. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued any instructions to various State Governments including Andhra Pradesh for registration of online complaints to help the women and girls; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No, Madam.

(b) As reported by Delhi Police, a women helpline No. 1091 is functioning round the clock to provide help to women and children in distress. Delhi Police is maintaining two websites, [www.155355.nic.in](http://www.155355.nic.in) and [www.155345.nic.in](http://www.155345.nic.in) and E-mail [acp-sitdl@nic.in](mailto:acp-sitdl@nic.in), where anybody can lodge his/her complaints.

*[English]***Helicopter Facility to PMF**

3302. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has examined the utility of induction of Indian/foreign make helicopters for quick mobilisation of Para Military Forces (PMF) during emergency situation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has finalised any order for supply of such helicopters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and



(e) the time by which such Helicopters are likely to be delivered by the manufactures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) Yes Madam;

The Government had approved the proposal (on 21.10.2008) for the procurement of 8 Dhruv helicopters from M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Central Para Military Forces (CPMFs). The contract for procurement of helicopters and contract for O & M of these helicopters have been signed between Ministry of Home Affairs and M/s HAL on 25.03.2009. As per contract, the delivery of first lot of 4 helicopters is scheduled during 2009-10 and the 2nd lot of 4 helicopters is scheduled to be supplied in 2010-11.

#### **Prices of Corn**

3303. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of corn has shown a rising trend recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Madam. The prices of corn have remained generally stable.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Variation in BPL List**

3304. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:  
SHRI PURNMAJI RAM:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

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

(a) whether there is a wide variation between the number of BPL families assessed and recognized by the Union Government and those identified and issued ration cards by the State Governments;

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

(c) whether a high level meeting was held to resolve the issue;

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

(e) whether a number of States were unable to lift their allotted quota for want of revised BPL list;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the remedial steps taken in this regard alongwith the time by which this anomaly is likely to be rectified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) For identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) as per poverty estimates of Planning Commission, to issue ration cards to them, guidelines are to be formulated by State/UT Governments as stipulated under the Public Distribution System (Control), Order 2001. For identification of Antyodaya Anna Yojana families out of the BPL families, guidelines have been issued by Central Government.

For allocations of foodgrains to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System, Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

However, as reported by end of June, 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL cards, which include 2.43 crore AAY cards. A statement showing State-wise estimated number of BPL families and BPL and AAY cards issued by the State Governments/UT Administrations is enclosed.

(c) and (d) For formulating guidelines for next BPL census in rural areas, Ministry of Rural Development has constituted an Experts Group in August 2008. The new methodology is yet to be finalized by that Ministry.

(e) to (g) Allocations of foodgrains to States & UTs for AAY and BPL families are made @ 35 kg per family per month for the accepted number of 6.52 crore such families. Allocations for APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool. The responsibility for distribution of allocated foodgrains to the eligible ration cards holders through the Fair Price Shops rests with the respective State/UT Government. Foodgrains allocated for BPL and AAY categories are lifted by States & UT Governments.

**Statement***State-wise Total No. of BPL Households & Ration Cards Issued to BPL, AAY Households*As reported by 30.06.2009  
(figures in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of Estimated BPL Families as on 1.3.2000 Based on 1993-94 Poverty Estimates	Ration Cards Issued by State/UT Govts,		
			BPL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	175.54	15.58	191.12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99
3.	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06
4.	Bihar	65.23	39.94	24.29	64.23
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	11.56	7.19	18.75
6.	Delhi	4.09	2.88	1.5	4.38
7.	Goa	0.48	0.13	0.14	0.27
8.	Gujarat	21.20	25.75	8.1	33.85
9.	Haryana	7.89	9.05	2.92	11.97
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	14.76	9.18	23.94
13.	Karnataka	31.29	76.77	12	88.77
14.	Kerala	15.54	14.82	5.96	20.78
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	52.65	15.82	68.47
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	45.13	24.64	69.77
17.	Manipur	1.66	1.02	0.64	1.66
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.7	1.83
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24
21.	Orissa	32.98	37.63	12.65	50.28
22.	Punjab	4.68	2.89	1.79	4.68
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Tamil Nadu*	48.63	181.91	18.65	200.56
26.	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	3.46	1.51	4.97
29.	West Bengal	51.79	37.98	14.8	52.78
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.13	0.04	0.17
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.09	0.02	0.11
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.12	0.05	0.17
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.04
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.02	0.012	0.03
35.	Puducherry	0.84	1.14	0.32	1.46
Total		652.03	842.78	242.75	1085.53

\*Separate figures of APL/BPL cards have not been made available by the Govt. of Tamil Nadu as there is no distinction between APL and BPL categorisation of households.

#### New TV Channels

3305. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved 22 new Television Channels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Approval of channels is a continuing process. As part of this process, 23 TV channels have been approved to uplink from India/ downlink in India as per uplinking and downlinking guidelines during the month of June, 2009. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

Sl.No.	Name of Channels	Category	Name of companies	Date of Approval	Date of Permission
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Kanak Sambad	News	Eastern Media Ltd.	19.6.2009	23.6.2009
2.	Kalaigmar Asia	News	Kalaigmar TV Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	30.6.2009
3.	ABN-Andhra Jyothy	News	Aamoda Broadcasting Co.Ltd.	26.6.2009	30.6.2009
4.	Apna News	News	Priyamda Media P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	8.7.2009
5.	E-Live	Non News	Pride East Entertainments P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	9.7.2009
6.	Nat Geo Music	Non News	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Nat Geo Wild	Non News	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
8.	National Geographic HD	Non- News	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
9.	Nat Geo Adventure	Non- News	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
10.	Fresh TV	Non- News	Rama Associates Ltd.	26.6.2009	6.7.2009
11.	Krishna TV	Non- News	Krishnaswamy Associates Media Renaissance	26.6.2009	23.7.2009
12.	Rhythm	Non- News	Vijayanthi Televentures P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	23.7.2009
13.	VEDIC	Non- News	Vedic Broadcasting Ltd.	26.6.2009	23.7.2009
14.	CNBC-TV 18 South	News	TV 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	Required Fee has not been received as on 23.7.2009
15.	CNBC-TV 18 Gujarat	News	TV 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
16.	CNBC-TV 18 Channel 3	News	TV 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
17.	City Pulse	Non- News	Anoli Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
18.	Awam	News	Information TV Pvt.Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
19.	Samaj	News	Information TV Pvt.Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
20.	Mumbai	News	Information TV Pvt.Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
21.	Delhi News	News	Information TV Pvt.Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
22.	Pavitar	News	Pavitar Entertainment P.Ltd.	26.6.2009	-do-
23.	Raj TV Asia	News	Raj Television Network Ltd.	26.6.2009	The company has proposed different satellite and hence, DOS (Deptt. of Space) comments/ clearance are being sought afresh.

[Translation]

**Corruption in FPS**

3306. SHRI P.L. PUNIA:  
 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:  
 SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD

AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operation of Public Distribution System, Targeted Public Distribution System and Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been severely affected due to pilferage of foodgrains, corruption in Fair Price Shops (FPS) and frequent changes in FPS licencees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken thereon including the number of cases registered and action against the erring officials;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant laws in this regard and check the recurrence of such incidents in future;

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

(e) whether the system of food coupons and smart cards introduced in some States for distribution of foodgrains to check diversion and corruption is proposed to be extended to other States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/UT Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The Government of India carries out procurement of foodgrains for the TPDS, their storage, transportation and bulk allocation to the State/UT Governments. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission and issuance of ration cards to them, licensing of FPS as well as supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through the fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

Complaints as & when received by Government from individuals and organizations, as well as through press reports about leakages/diversion of TPDS commodities are sent to the concerned State/UT Governments for inquiry and action.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carryout all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS, including proper licensing of FPS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

During the last three years (2006, 2007 and 2008) for various malpractices noticed in functioning of TPDS, States/UT Governments have reported arrests/prosecution of 15,553 persons under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Further, detention orders in 442 cases were passed by the State Governments/UT Administrations during this period under provisions of the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. For independent feedback on functioning of TPDS, Government gets it evaluated from time-to-time. Based on such evaluations earlier, a 9-point action plan is under implementation by States/UTs since July 2006. To further improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State & UT Governments for -

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely - availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, and
- (iv) introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart-card-based delivery of essential commodities. For reforming TPDS and ensuring food security to BPL families/persons, Government : to enact National Food Security law.

(e) and (f) In order to make delivery of services efficient under (TPDS) and to assess replicability of use of smart cards for this purpose, Govt has approved in December 2008 implementation of a pilot scheme on smart cards based TPDS in Chandigarh and Haryana. Under it, eligible BPL families would be issued smart cards in place of existing ration cards. They will have biometric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and thereafter only the essential commodities would be issued to them from the fair price shops.

This is a pilot project and based on the success of its implementation, decision about extending it to other states will be taken.

### Reforms in Mining Sector

3307. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:  
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to carry out reforms in the mining sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The National Mineral Policy, 2008 has enunciated policy measures like assured right to next stage mineral concession, transferability of mineral concessions and transparency in allotment of concessions, in order to reduce delays which are seen as impediments to investment and technology flow in the mining sector in India. The National Mineral Policy, 2008 is available on the website of the Ministry of Mines (<http://mines.nic.in>).

[*English*]

### Promotion of Community Policing

3308. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police population ratio is very low in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to promote community policing;

(d) if so, the present status of the aforesaid proposal;

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the incentive proposed to be given to States for promoting community policing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and

(b) As per information received from Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), the actual police per lakh of population in India, as on 1.1.2007, is 11.7.09. A Statement indicating State-wise Police-Population ratio, as on 1.1.2007, is enclosed.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Home Affairs set up a Committee of Experts to draft a new Police Act to replace the Police Act, 1861 which submitted the draft model Police Act in October, 2006. The draft Model Police Act, *inter-alia*, contains provision of community participation in policing in Metropolitan cities and in respect of Village Guards, Village Defence Party and Community Liaison Groups in rural areas. The draft Model Police Act has been sent to the State Governments for consideration and appropriate action.

(f) While no specific scheme is there to give incentives to States, the need and importance of involvement of community in policing has been stressed from time to time during discussions and deliberations with State Governments. Efforts in this direction are proposed to be continued.

### Statement

#### *Police-Population ratio as on 1.1.2007*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Total Police per lakh of population	
		Sanctioned	Actual
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113.79	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	510.43	444.36
3.	Assam	191.12	158.97
4.	Bihar	80.90	56.78
5.	Chhattisgarh	160.19	110.06
6.	Goa	290.65	267.48
7.	Gujarat	131.55	96.69
8.	Haryana	224.07	217.25
9.	Himachal Pradesh	227.82	186.21
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	567.45	NR
11.	Jharkhand	173.63	138.22

1	2	3	4
12.	Karnataka	136.26	101.77
13.	Kerala	127.69	115.58
14.	Madhya Pradesh	113.09	NR
15.	Maharashtra	173.65	NR
16.	Manipur	650.04	517.02
17.	Meghalaya	375.23	343.24
18.	Mizoram	818.50	751.87
19.	Nagaland	1461.47	1456.72
20.	Orissa	114.89	98.60
21.	Punjab	274.72	243.30
22.	Rajasthan	113.61	80.93
23.	Sikkim	609.26	489.54
24.	Tamil Nadu*	150.44	NR
25.	Tripura	739.89	561.85
26.	Uttar Pradesh	89.36	80.76
27.	Uttarakhand	224.74	156.93
28.	West Bengal	95.60	76.33
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	727.07	689.22
30.	Chandigarh	450.63	427.95
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	82.54	73.41
32.	Daman and Diu	135.16	NR
33.	Delhi	381.68	405.25
34.	Lakshadweep	520.90	450.75
35.	Puducherry*	308.85	NR
	All India	145.25	117.09

#### **Impounding of Vehicles by Delhi Traffic Police**

3309. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that the Delhi Traffic Police impounds vehicles without following the mandatory procedures as provided in the Delhi Motors Vehicles Rules, 1989;

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

(c) the details of the action taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A news item regarding "Police impounding vehicles without filling 'Key form'" was reported in Hindustan Times on 10.7.2009. Delhi Police was earlier not following the requirement of issue of Offence Seizure Slip (O.S.S.) forms to the owner or in-charge from whose custody the motor vehicles has been seized and detained by Traffic Police Officers as required under the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1993 (amended in 2004-05). However, corrective action has been taken by Delhi Traffic Police by issuing a circular on 23rd February, 2009 to all Traffic Police officers to issue O.S.S. form to the owner or in-charge of the motor vehicle required under Delhi Motor Vehicle Rules for strict compliance. No action has been taken against Traffic Police officers as there was no mala-fide intention on the part of the Traffic Police officers in this regard.

#### **Performance of NHDP**

3310. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the National Highways Development Programme (NHDP) is unsatisfactory and the pace of construction of roads is slow;

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

(c) whether any irregularity in the construction of roads has come to the notice of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) the loss incurred on account of slow pace of construction of works; and

(f) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the measures adopted to speed up construction of quality roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Madam. There have been some delays in completion of projects due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, obtaining forest/environment clearances, poor performance of some contractors, law & order problems in some States, etc. Slowdown in the process of award of projects was due to inability of the developers to raise necessary finance on account of prevailing economic downturn.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Escalations due to delay are paid as per contract provision. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the Contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Escalations are paid only in case where the delay is beyond control of the Contractor. The overall escalation and time overrun can only be estimated after completion of the projects.

(f) In order to expedite the implementation, progress of the ongoing projects is closely monitored by Project Implementation Units of NHAI assisted by Supervision/Independent Consultants. Meeting have been held on periodic basis both at sites as well as at NHAI Headquarters to review progress and concerted efforts are being made to expedite land acquisition procedure. Projects are being restructured to improve viability.

#### **Impact of Genetically Modified Seeds**

3311. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hybrids/genetically modified seeds affects the fertility of land and the health of living beings;

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

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Hybrids/genetically modified seeds do not affect the land fertility and health of living things.

All GM crops/seeds are extensively tested for its biosafety before it is allowed for commercialization. The Biosafety assessment includes environmental safety assessment as well as food and feed safety.

The environmental safety assessment includes studies on pollen escape out—crossing, aggressiveness and weediness, effect of the gene on non-target organisms, presence of the protein in soil and its effects on soil micro-flora, confirmation of the absence of Terminator Gene. The food and feed safety assessment studies include composition analysis, allergenicity and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes.

As of today, Bt cotton is the only approved for environmental release and is under cultivation for 7 years. There is no evidence to show that Bt cotton seeds affect land fertility or human health.

On the issue of adverse impact on human health due to consumption of GM food, it may be further noted that GM food crops are being cultivated in 25 countries and consumed in several countries (including developed countries like Japan, EU, Australia and New Zealand) for many years and there has been no scientific evidence to prove that Bt protein is toxic to human and animal health.

Studies have been conducted at Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur to assess the impact of GM cotton on land fertility and soil micro-organism that growing of Bt cotton does not adversely affect the fertility of land wherever balanced fertilization and integrated nutrient management practices are followed.

#### **Expansion of Safal Type Stalls**

3312. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVADANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open safal type fruit and vegetable stalls in different parts of the country;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.



(b) The question doesn't arise

(c) Safal outlets have been set up by the Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetable Pvt. Ltd. a subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board. Apart from Delhi NCR, some outlets have been opened on trial basis in Jaipur. Government has no plans to enter into such commercial ventures.

#### **New Items Under BIS Specifications**

3313. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has added new items under compulsory certification of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the name of the new items included in the list;

(c) whether several items carrying fake ISI marks are being sold openly in the market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps including punitive action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Six steel product items and two Ductile Iron Pipes & Fitting were brought under mandatory certification w.e.f. 9th September, 2008 and 1st July, 2009 respectively, the details of which are as under:

Sl.No.	IS applicable	Name of Products
1	2	3
1.	1785 (Pt.1)	Plain hard-drawn steel wire for pre-stressed concrete; cold-drawn stress relieved wire
2.	1785 (Pt. 2)	Plain hard-drawn steel wire for pre-stressed concrete; as drawn wire
3.	6003	Indented wire for pre-stressed concrete

1	2	3
4.	6006	Uncoated stress relieved strand for pre-stressed concrete
5.	13620	Fusion bonded epoxy coated reinforcing bars
6.	4268	Uncoated stress relieved low relaxation seven ply strand for pre-stressed concrete
7.	8329	Centrifugally cast (spun) ductile iron pressure pipes for water, gas and sewage
8.	9523	Ductile iron fittings for pressure pipes for water, gas and sewage

(c) and (d) Through enforcement raids conducted by Bureau of Indian Standards, it was found that various spuriously ISI marked items like packaged drinking water, iodized salt, cattle feed, GLS lamps, diesel engine, plywood products, PVC cables, switches, sockets, electrical appliances, submersible pumps, cement, etc. were found being sold in the market.

(e) BIS has an ongoing enforcement mechanism to check quality of ISI marked products, under which raids are conducted in the licensees' premises and samples are drawn from the factory and market for laboratory tests to ensure conformity of the products to the prescribed Indian Standards. Action as per the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986 and the rules and regulations framed there is taken against those found guilty.

#### **Public Service Advertisements**

3314. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any standard procedure for awarding advertisements relating to public service;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to adopt a new policy for awarding such advertisements and to make the process transparent; and

(d) if so, the salient feature thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The standard procedure for awarding public service advertisements prescribed in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity's Advertisement Policies (Print and Electronic) is available on the web-site of the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) at [www.davp.nic.in](http://www.davp.nic.in).

(c) and (d) Amendments to the policies are undertaken from time to time depending on the requirements.

### Target for Agricultural Production

3315. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for agricultural production and achievements thereon during each of the last three years, crop wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the target has not been achieved; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Statements I, II and III indicating target and achievement of production of crops in respect of major States for the year 2006-07 to 2008-09 of crops viz. Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals, Oilseeds, Sugarcane, Cotton and Jute/Mesta is enclosed.

(c) To supplement the efforts of State Governments a number of crop development scheme (central sector and centrally sponsored) viz. RKVY, NFSM, ISOPOM, SUBACS, technology mission on cotton, jute Macro Management of schemes and Micro Irrigation are being implemented. A shift in the planning and funding process have been made by the decentralized planning at state level and centralized funding by Government of India so that issues of specific nature could be handled effectively.

### Statement I

#### *Targets and Achievements of Production of various Crops in respect of major States during 2006-07*

in Lakh Tonnes

States	Rice		Wheat		Coarse Cereals		Pulses		Oilseeds		Sugarcane		Cotton*		Jute/Mesta**	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Andhra Pradesh	108.25	118.72	0.05	0.09	30.11	30.01	7.7	13.47	30.33	13.62	165	216.92	20	21.81	6.95	5.44
Assam	39.00	29.16	0.69	0.67	0.23	0.18	0	0.59	0	1.34	10	10.55	0	0	7.31	5.83
Bihar	52.40	49.89	38.64	39.11	19.02	17.60	6.8	4.38	1.86	1.47	75	59.56	0	0	13.9	13.90
Chhattisgarh	55.00	50.41	0.82	0.92	1.26	1.78	4.65	4.94	1.72	1.61	0	0.19	0	0	0	0.03
Gujarat	12.00	13.90	19.89	30.00	23.45	15.16	6.20	5.93	40.92	25.69	100.00	156.30	71.00	87.87	0.00	0.00
Haryana	28.00	33.71	98.96	100.55	11.21	11.97	5.20	1.40	8.65	8.35	65.00	95.80	16.00	18.14	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	1.25	1.24	7.51	5.02	8.95	7.28	7.50	0.29	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	5.54	4.76	4.92	6.53	5.12	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	22.85	29.68	1.50	1.29	1.60	3.32	0.00	2.58	0.00	0.50	0.00	1.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06
Karnataka	35.00	34.46	1.88	2.05	61.08	50.55	7.50	8.93	20.20	11.25	225.00	286.70	8.00	6.10	0.00	0.01
Kerala	7.10	6.31	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.03	0.00	4.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	18.15	13.68	82.25	73.26	27.12	18.50	32.00	32.03	67.70	58.14	20.00	28.06	6.00	8.29	0.00	0.02

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Maharashtra	25.70	25.69	18.53	16.31	60.66	61.41	21.50	23.04	31.72	37.21	305.00	785.68	30.60	46.18	0.00	0.33
Orissa	72.10	68.25	0.06	0.06	2.54	1.62	6.70	3.52	1.87	1.75	16.00	12.74	1.50	1.08	2.62	1.32
Punjab	100.00	101.38	159.75	145.96	6.02	5.52	1.10	0.27	1.40	0.78	55.00	60.20	20.00	26.78	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	1.50	1.70	62.55	70.56	48.71	55.02	20.30	14.81	41.76	51.67	0.00	6.30	8.00	7.47	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	58.00	66.11	0.01	0.00	8.65	13.62	3.70	2.91	18.82	10.84	230.00	411.24	3.00	2.21	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	110.00	111.24	239.85	250.31	39.46	30.84	26.45	19.75	15.71	10.33	1330.00	1339.49	0.05	0.07	0.04	0.00
Uttarakhand	6.00	5.56	8.04	8.01	3.55	3.44	0.00	0.34	0.00	0.21	60.00	61.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	150.70	147.46	8.43	8.00	1.32	2.75	1.70	1.54	6.59	6.45	10.00	12.67	0.03	0.15	80.20	85.06
All India	928.00	933.55	755.30	758.07	365.20	339.23	151.50	141.98	293.99	242.89	2700.00	3555.20	185.00	226.32	112.80	112.73

\*Lakh bales of 170 kgs each

\*\*Lakh bales of 180 kgs each

**Statement II***Targets and Achievements of Production of various Crops in respect of major States during 2007-08*

in Lakh Tonnes

States	Rice		Wheat		Coarse Cereals		Pulses		Oilseeds		Sugarcane		Cotton*		Jute/Mrista**	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Andhra Pradesh	113.00	133.24	0.05	0.08	34.80	42.74	13.20	16.97	30.68	33.90	190.00	202.96	20.00	34.91	5.50	5.01
Assam	39.40	33.19	0.69	0.71	0.23	0.17		0.63		1.39	15.00	9.80	0.00	0.00	0.30	6.84
Bihar	47.00	44.18	38.64	44.50	18.49	14.99	6.00	4.97	1.93	1.38	100.00	38.55	0.00	0.00	14.00	14.65
Chhattisgarh	51.00	54.27	0.52	0.99	1.37	2.30	5.80	5.37	1.87	1.93	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03
Gujarat	12.50	14.74	19.89	38.38	18.51	21.51	5.40	7.43	41.99	47.25	120.00	151.90	85.00	82.76	0.00	0.00
Haryana	31.00	36.13	98.96	102.36	12.74	13.57	2.20	1.02	8.92	6.43	80.00	88.60	20.00	18.85	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	1.20	1.22	7.51	5.04	8.91	8.96	0.00	0.36	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	5.50	5.61	4.76	4.96	6.66	5.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	18.50	33.36	1.50	1.40	3.08	3.86	0.00	3.02	0.00	0.69	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06
Karnataka	40.85	37.17	1.88	2.61	56.04	69.43	10.50	12.65	20.26	15.49	250.00	262.40	8.00	7.78	0.00	0.01
Kerala	7.30	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.02	0.00	2.18	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	17.00	14.62	82.25	60.33	25.35	21.23	36.85	24.54	68.61	63.52	25.00	31.80	6.00	8.65	0.00	0.02
Maharashtra	27.20	29.96	18.53	20.79	63.05	70.93	21.25	30.24	32.74	48.74	390.00	884.37	40.00	70.15	0.00	0.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Orissa	70.20	75.41	0.06	0.09	2.03	2.10	3.80	3.84	2.01	1.97	20.00	10.96	1.50	1.25	2.40	1.51
Punjab	100.00	104.89	159.75	157.20	5.96	5.83	0.70	0.23	1.55	0.77	70.00	66.90	27.00	23.55	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	1.40	2.60	62.55	71.25	62.27	71.21	14.30	15.53	42.81	41.98	0.00	5.94	8.50	8.62	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	57.50	50.40	0.01	0.00	8.25	13.57	4.20	1.85	19.07	11.47	250.00	380.71	3.00	2.01	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	110.10	117.80	239.85	256.79	39.02	30.59	24.20	15.77	16.07	11.47	1440.00	1246.65	0.05	0.07	0.35	0.00
Uttarakhand	6.40	5.93	8.40	8.14	3.58	3.39	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.29	90.00	76.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	153.52	147.20	8.43	9.17	1.33	2.66	2.10	1.48	6.66	7.05	10.00	12.72	0.04	0.13	83.80	82.94
All India	930.00	966.93	755.00	785.70	375.00	407.50	155.00	147.62	300.00	297.55	3100.00	3481.88	220.00	258.84	115.00	112.11

\*Lakh bales of 170 kgs each

\*\*Lakh bales of 180 kgs each

**Statement III***Targets and Achievements of Production of various Crops in respect of major States during 2008-09*

in Lakh Tonnes

States	Rice		Wheat		Coarse Cereals		Pulses		Oilseeds		Sugarcane		Cotton*		Jute/Mrista**	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Andhra Pradesh	126.50	142.07	0.05	0.10	38.54	44.73	14.20	14.54	31.50	22.24	220.00	153.22	32.00	35.72	5.25	2.94
Assam	33.40	37.75	0.65	0.75	0.19	0.18	0.66	0.82	0.00	1.63	5.00	8.97	0.00	0.01	7.27	6.86
Bihar	42.50	56.69	40.00	43.96	17.75	16.24	6.00	4.76	1.90	1.37	120.00	47.83	0.00	0.00	11.54	12.40
Chhattisgarh	53.00	43.92	0.52	0.93	2.08	1.84	5.80	5.80	5.06	2.23	1.69	5.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.03
Gujarat	15.20	12.90	38.00	28.97	15.70	18.52	6.05	6.68	47.32	40.12	185.00	152.80	90.00	76.16	0.00	0.00
Haryana	40.00	32.98	103.00	105.93	14.65	12.78	1.70	1.93	8.03	10.52	100.00	56.63	20.00	18.58	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	1.20	1.19	6.10	6.05	7.80	7.20	0.20	0.37	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	5.50	5.63	4.80	4.80	5.26	5.56	0.30	0.14	0.00	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	31.00	33.05	1.30	1.41	4.23	3.48	1.65	2.84	0.00	0.71	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06
Karnataka	36.00	36.90	2.40	2.41	62.30	61.82	10.70	9.66	20.55	12.23	270.00	231.57	5.00	9.12	0.00	0.01
Kerala	6.15	5.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.20	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.00	2.56	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	13.50	15.60	67.00	65.22	21.37	21.37	34.20	36.77	69.97	69.77	35.00	2.98	9.25	8.56	0.00	0.01
Maharashtra	29.50	23.11	21.00	14.71	72.78	59.67	22.00	17.10	36.60	34.42	610.00	508.13	62.00	49.43	0.00	0.33
Orissa	69.00	67.62	0.10	0.08	2.27	1.92	3.45	3.81	2.21	1.78	10.00	6.46	1.50	1.47	2.25	0.98
Punjab	105.00	110.00	157.00	157.53	6.05	5.82	0.70	0.34	1.51	0.76	70.00	46.70	27.00	22.85	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	1.80	2.41	71.00	69.99	84.60	72.23	15.10	17.14	47.26	54.15	0.00	4.14	9.00	7.26	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Tamil Nadu	63.00	52.01	0.00	0.00	21.80	20.88	4.70	2.04	19.18	12.03	410.00	322.20	3.00	2.05	0.00	0.06
Uttar Pradesh	125.00	130.74	255.00	285.54	31.10	30.41	24.00	19.38	16.99	8.82	1260.00	1090.48	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Uttarakhand	6.25	5.80	8.00	8.56	3.80	3.46	0.32	0.39	0.00	0.26	75.00	55.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	156.00	155.54	8.30	7.98	3.45	3.20	2.10	1.75	7.16	7.34	10.00	14.05	0.00	0.24	80.98	79.66
All India	970.00	991.54	785.00	805.83	420.00	394.79	155.00	146.63	317.50	281.57	3400.00	2712.54	260.00	231.56	110.00	104.07

\*\*Lakh bales of 170 kgs each

\*\*\*Lakh bales of 180 kgs each

### **National Project on Organic Farming**

3316. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) in the country;

(b) if so, the aims and objective of the scheme;

(c) the details of the Central assistance provided to NPOF during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 to the State and the farmers, State-wise;

(d) the number of farmers benefited under the said scheme during the said period; and

(e) the extent to which the said project is likely to reduce the increasing use of chemical fertilisers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) was launched in October, 2004 with the following objectives:—

- (i) Capacity building through service provides.
- (ii) Financial support to production units engaged in production of bio-fertilisers, compost and vermicompost units etc.
- (iii) Human Resources Development through training on certification and inspection, production technology etc.
- (iv) Field demonstrations on organic farming.
- (v) Market development for organic produce.

(c) The State-wise details of Central assistance provided under NPOF during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Component wise number of farmers benefited under the scheme is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) Upto March, 2009, an area of 1,77,308 hectares has been brought under organic management under NPOF.

### **Statement I**

*Details of Funds sanctioned and released under National Project on Organic Farming during 2008-09*

Sr.No.	Name of the State	Funds released in Rs. Lakh		
		To State Governments	To Implementing Agencies	Total amount released
1	2	3	4	5
A.	North Eastern State			
3.	Manipur	0	9.325	9.325
2.	Meghalaya	11.02	0	11.02

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Mizoram	25.76	0	25.76
6.	Tripura	100.08	0	100.08
B.	Other States	0	0	0
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	14.1435	24.1435
2.	Bihar	0	1.65	1.65
4.	Delhi	0	17.9725	17.9725
5.	Haryana	0	1.63365	1.63365
6.	Himachal Pradesh	38.05	9.425	47.475
7.	Jharkhand	0	0.8625	0.8625
8.	Karnataka	0	22.835	22.835
9.	Kerala	0	13.18543	13.18543
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0	55.06315	55.06315
11.	Maharashtra	51.57	134.92011	186.49011
12.	Orissa	0	6.5625	6.5625
13.	Pudducherry	7.92	0	7.92
14.	Rajasthan	0	38.74	38.74
15.	Tamil Nadu	133.65	21.10	154.75
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0	13.72967	13.72967
17.	Uttarakhand	0	1.40	1.40
18.	West Bengal	0	5.28003	5.28003
C.	Central Agencies	0	0	0
I.	MANAGE, Hyderabad	0	7.50	7.5
II.	NABARD, Mumbai	0	118.33	118.33
III.	NPC, Delhi	0	9.00	9.00
Total		378.05	502.55804	880.70804

Note 1: Under NPOF, assistance is provided to the farmers through State Governments and implementing agencies and not directly.

Note 2: During 2009-10, funds are yet to be released.

### **Statement II**

*Details in respect of beneficiaries under different components of National Project on Organic Farming*

Sl.No.	Component	Number of beneficiaries
1.	Capacity Building through Service providers Number of farmers brought under organic conversion and organic certification process (since inception)	2,79,699
2.	Number of farmers benefited through farmers training on organic farming (2008-09)	12,160
3.	Number of farmers benefited through demonstrations and field days (2008-09)	44,350

**Theft Cases in Delhi**

3317. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of theft in certain residential areas are on the rise in the NCT of Delhi during the last one month;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the complaints of theft by aggrieved persons was registered as cases of missing goods instead of theft;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check cases of theft in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The details of the cases of house theft, motor vehicle theft and burglary in residential areas in the NCT of Delhi reported during May and June, 2009 are given below:

	May, 2009	June, 2009
House Theft	136	173
Motor Vehicle Theft	964	1070
Burglary	173	164
Total	1273	1407

(c) and (d) No such complaint has come to notice of Delhi Police during the month June, 2009.

(e) The steps taken by Delhi Police to curb the crime in Delhi include introduction of 'eyes and ears' scheme to improve collection of intelligence at the grass-root level, identification vulnerable areas on the basis of regular analysis of crime trends, organisation of regular Division

and Beat patrolling, patrolling by motorcycle and PCR; direction to every Police Station under each District to identify top 10 criminals for proper surveillance and keeping watch on their movement; keeping regular surveillance on the activities of active criminals; organisation of special patrolling during nights in order to check any strike of criminals; mandatory verification of tenants and servants employed in Delhi; deployment of mobile pickets to keep a watch on the movement of criminals; focus on gathering criminal intelligence; strengthening of beat system; etc.

**Seed Development Programme**

3318. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised for the Seed Development Programme in Government agriculture farms during each of the last three years, in the country including Gujarat, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance proposed to be provided under the said programme during the year 2009-10, State-wise;

(c) the total number of agriculture farms incurring losses, State-wise; and

(d) the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A statement showing state-wise details is enclosed.

(d) Several measures including production of higher quantity of high yielding varieties; demonstration of scientific management practices; infrastructural development; cropping programmes; bio-fuel/forest plantation in dry areas; improving irrigational facilities; mechanization of farms; use of vermi compost and farmyard manure; electrification and integrated nutrient management practices have been undertaken.

**Statement***State-wise details of Funds for Seed Development programme in Government Agriculture Farms*

Sl.No.	Name of State	The funds allocated, sanctioned and utilized for the seed development programme in Government agriculture farms during each of the last three years	The financial assistance proposed to be provided during the year 2009-10	The total number of agriculture farms incurring losses
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	55

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Tamil Nadu	2006-07 - Nil 2007-08 - Nil 2008-09 - 420 lakh	Nil	43 Out of which 12 farms incurring loss during 2007-08
3.	Punjab	2006-07 - Rs. 94.50 lakh 2007-08 - Nil 2008-09 - 500 lakh	Nil	Nil
4.	Gujarat	2006-07 - Rs. 10 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 10 lakh 2008-09 - 9.16 lakh	Nil	07 Trial cum Demonstration Farms incurring losses.
5.	Puducherry	2006-07 - Rs. 36.00 lakh 2007-08 - Nil 2008-09 - Rs. 17.00 lakh	Rs. 253.00 lakh	03
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2006-07 - Nil 2007-08 - Rs. 707.17 lakh 2008-09 - 290.00 lakh	Rs. 250.00 lakh	18 Farms
7.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	2006-07 - Rs. 1.00 lakh 2007-09 - Rs. 1.00 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 6.00 lakh	177.77 lakh	02
8.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	04
9.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Rs. 100 lakh	07
10.	Karnataka	2006-07 - Rs. 305.74 lakh (Allocated) Rs. 218.21 lakh (Utilized) 2007-08 - Rs. 381.58 lakh (Allocated) Rs. 246.81 lakh (Utilized) 2008-09 - Rs. 479.69 lakh (Allocated) Rs. 273.13 lakh (Utilized)	Rs. 294.06 lakh	34
11.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	State Farms Corporation of India	2006-07 - Rs. 24.72 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 139.50 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 100.00 lakh	Nil	02
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2006-07 - Rs. 51.470 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 115.957 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 59.02 lakh	Nil	29



1	2	3	4	5
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2006-07 Allocation - Rs. 2658.39 lakh Sanction - Rs. 2658.39 lakh Utilization - Rs. 2527.59 lakh 2007-08 Allocation - Rs. 2204.33 lakh Sanction - Rs. 2167.49 lakh Utilization - Rs. 2110.52 lakh 2008-09 Allocation - Rs. 3135.58 lakh Sanction - Rs. 3133.44 lakh Utilization - Rs. 3055.25 lakh	Rs. 2060.67 lakh	35
15.	Orissa	2006-07 - Rs. 220.68 lakh Utilization - Rs. 214.51 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 289.67 lakh Utilization - Rs. 287.99 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 252.40 lakh Utilization - Rs. 248.13 lakh	Rs. 241.30 lakh	41
16.	Bihar	2006-07 Allocation - Rs. 336.00 lakh Sanction - Rs. 336.00 lakh Utilization - Rs. 100.00 lakh 2007-08 Allocation - Rs. 1322.00 lakh Sanction - Rs. 1322.00 lakh Utilization - Rs. 1181.00 lakh 2008-09 Allocation - Rs. 1808.00 lakh Allocation - Rs. 1808.00 lakh Sanction - Rs. 1808.00 lakh Utilization - Rs. 745.00 lakh	Rs. 884.00 lakh	Most of the farms are producing foundation seeds for Mukhya Mantri Tibra Beej Bistar Karyakaram & Seed Village Programme. Seed production in the state is in initial stage. No profit & loss account have been made so far.
17.	Jharkhand	2006-07 - Nil 2007-08 - Rs. 41.925 lakh 2008-09 - Nil	Rs. 1590.25 lakh	36
18.	Assam	2006-07 - Nil 2007-08 - Nil 2008-09 - Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Sikkim	2006-07 Allocation - Rs. 4.01 lakh Utilization - Rs. 4.01 lakh 2007-08 Allocation - Rs. 3.00 lakh Utilization - Rs. 3.00 lakh 2008-09 Allocation - Rs. 3.00 lakh Utilization - Rs. 3.00 lakh	Rs. 3.00 lakh	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Mizoram	2006-07 - Rs. 15.00 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 11.00 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 10.00 lakh	Rs. 21.90 lakh	Nil
21.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	17
23.	Haryana	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Chhattisgarh	2007-08 Allocation - Rs. 240.50 lakh Sanction - Rs. 240.03 lakh Utilization - Rs. 240.03 lakh 2008-09 Allocation - Rs. 270.35 lakh Sanction - Rs. 266.16 lakh Utilization - Rs. 120.60 lakh	Nil	03
26.	West Bengal	Nil	Rs. 30.00 lakh	50
27.	Jammu and Kashmir	2006-07 Allocation - Rs. 263.65 lakh Expenditure - Rs. 263.65 lakh 2007-08 Allocation - Rs. 213.036 lakh Expenditure - Rs. 213.036 lakh 2008-09 Allocation - Rs. 220.879 lakh Expenditure - Rs. 219.889 lakh	Rs. 70.00 lakh	Seed multiplication farms Chakroi and a few others are running into losses because of inadequate infrastructure facilities
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	2006-07 - Rs. 47.00 lakh 2007-08 - Rs. 11.60 lakh 2008-09 - Rs. 48.60 lakh	Nil	Nil
29.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.	Maharashtra	2006-07 - Rs. 200.00 lakh (Sanctioned) Rs. 98.78 lakh (Utilized) 2007-08 - Rs. 300.00 lakh (Sanctioned) Rs. 295.14 lakh (Utilized) 2008-09 - Rs. 200.00 lakh (Sanctioned) Rs. 197.23 lakh (Utilized)	Rs. 200.00 lakh	27

*[Translation]***Special Agricultural Zones**

3319. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Special Agricultural Zones on the lines of Special Economic Zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have been allocated to set up Special Agricultural Zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, these questions do not arise.

*[English]***Manganese Reserves**

3320. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge reserves of manganese ore are available in the country;

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

(c) the total revenue generated from the said ore; and

(d) the criteria for granting mining rights of manganese ore?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) State-wise information on reserves/resources of manganese ore is given the Indian Minerals Year Book, published by the the Indian Bureau of Mines, a copy of which is supplied to the Parliament Library on regular basis.

(c) The State Governments collect royalty as the owners of minerals. For this reason, the information on total revenue generated from manganese ore is not centrally maintained.

(d) The State Government as the owner of minerals grant mining leases for mineral manganese ore in terms of the criteria given in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Since, mineral manganese is included in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, prior permission of Central Government is mandatory.

**Digitalisation of Doordarshan Studios**

3321. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan (DD) Studio including digital Studios functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to digitalise more studios during the current year;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to carry Private TV channels on Doordarshan platform; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) There are, at present, 66 Doordarshan Studio centres in the country. Out of these, 21 Studio centres are fully digital and 31 Studio centres are partially digital. State-wise number of above Studio centres is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. No DD Studio centre is being digitalized during the current year.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no scheme to carry private TV channels on DD's terrestrial distribution system.

**Statement***Doordarshan Kendras (Studio centers)*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total Number existing Studio Centres	Number of fully digital Studio Centres (Out of those in col. 3)	Number of partially digital Studio Centres (Out of those in col. 3)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	1	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1		1

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	4	1	3
4.	Bihar	2	1	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	2		1
6.	Goa	1		1
7.	Gujarat	2	1	1
8.	Haryana	1	1	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1		1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4	2	1
11.	Jharkhand	2		2
12.	Karnataka	2	1	1
13.	Kerala	3	1	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3	1	1
15.	Maharashtra	3	1	1
16.	Manipur	1		1
17.	Meghalaya	2		2
18.	Mizoram	1		1
19.	Nagaland	1		1
20.	Orissa	3	1	1
21.	Punjab	2	1	
22.	Rajasthan	1	1	
23.	Sikkim	1		1
24.	Tamil Nadu	3	2	
25.	Tripura	1		1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7	2	3
27.	Uttarakhand	1		
28.	West Bengal	3	1	1
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1		1
30.	Chandigarh	1		1
31.	Delhi	2	2	
32.	Puducherry	1		1

**BSF Units in Kerala**

3322. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a Border Security force unit in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has identified the location for setting up BSF camp in Kerala including total land requirement in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Government has approved the setting up of one Reserve Battalion of Border Security Force (BSF) in Kerala.

(c) and (d) Government is yet to identify the location for setting up of the Reserve Battalion of BSF.

**Levy of Farmers' Produce**

3323. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India and other Government agencies procure certain portion of the produce of farmers as the levy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year indicating the quantum and percentage of various crops collected as levy from the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No Madam. Levy is only imposed on rice millers and traders.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Sale of Foodgrains at Lower Prices**

3324. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that foodgrain stock have been sold at lower price in the open market with the active connivance of officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **National Gene Bank**

3325. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a National Gene Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of farmers who have benefited from this bank during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up similar Gene Banks in every State in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps being taken to preserve the genes of the indigenous variety of foodgrains and crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The National Gene Bank was established during the year 1983 at National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi. It presently has 18 storage modules with a capacity to store 1 million accessions and holds more than 3.80 lakh accessions of over 1300 crop/plant species. The National Gene Bank has three components, the Seed Gene Bank (holding 3,72,573 accessions), the Cryo-bank (holding 8,000 accessions) and an In Vitro repository (holding about 1900 accessions).

(c) The material held in gene Banks is readily accessible to farmers but the material is primarily used by breeders and other researchers in crop improvement and basic researches, as raw material. On an average

15,000-20,000 accessions are supplied to various users in national programmes per annum.

(d) to (f) No, Madam, However, NBPGR has 10 regional stations across the country in different agro-ecological zones and many of these stations have medium-term storage facilities. The regional storage facilities (regional gene banks) are available at Thrissur (Kerala), Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh), Akola (Maharashtra), Jodhpur (Rajasthan), Bhowali (Uttarakhand), Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) and Shillong (Meghalaya) stations of NBPGR. A few more such facilities are also available in national network at different places.

The National Gene Bank at NBPGR Headquarters, New Delhi conserves the genetic resources of all agricultural crops of the country for long-term.

*[English]*

#### **Production of Tractors and Agricultural Implements**

3326. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of tractors and other agriculture implements in the country including Karnataka during of each of the last three years; and

(b) the projections for the year 2009-10.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Tractors and agricultural implements are of wide varieties & sizes and large number of manufacturers both in organized and unorganized sectors located across the country are involved in manufacturing of the same. This makes it difficult to collect and compile the State-wise data on annual production volume of tractors and other agricultural implements and also to make projections at a national level. However, the annual production of tractors manufactured by the members of the Tractor Manufacturers' Association in the country including the State of Karnataka during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was 352835, 345762, 339510 numbers respectively.

*[Translation]*

#### **Fire in Jhuggi Clusters**

3327. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of fire in jhuggi clusters in Delhi have become a common occurrence;

(b) if so, the number of fire incidents in the jhuggi clusters location-wise alongwith the loss of life and property during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the main reasons for the fire incidents;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide relief to the victims;

(e) whether each fire incidents has been investigated upon by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that the incidents of fire in jhuggi cludsters are below 2% of the total number of fire incidents reported in NCT of Delhi.

(c) The main reasons for fire incidents in jhuggies include electric short circuits, carelessness on the part of the jhuggi dwellers, use of open flame for cooking etc.

(d) Compensation/ex-gratia relief provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi to the victims of fire incidents is as follows:

Death (Adult): Rs. 1 Lakh in each case

Death (Minor): Rs. 50,000/- in each case

Injury (Serious): Rs. 20,000/- in each case

Injury (Minor): Rs. 1000/- in each case

Damage to Jhuggi : Rs. 2000/- in each case.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. However, Delhi Fire Service organizes public awareness programs through lectures/ demonstrations, distribution of fire safety leaflets and through print and electronic media.

### **Procurement by NAFED**

3328. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the items procured by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the rate of procurement, quantity-wise;

(b) the price at which these items were sold alongwith the quantity thereof, itemwise;

(c) whether NAFED is undertaking activities other than buying and selling of agriculture products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for undertaking other activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Statement-I and II indicating the details of procurement undertaken by NAFED as central agency under PSS and another for procurement undertaken by NAFED in their commercial account for the last 3 years are enclosed. As regard to the details of sale rate, it is to be clarified that NAFED disposes the procured quantity on the prevailing market rates to maximize the sales realization. As such, the disposal rate of different commodities varies from date to date and place to place.

(c) NAFED has reported that during the period under review, no business of non-agricultural item was undertaken by NAFED.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise.

### **Statement**

*Procurement of Oil Seeds, Pulses & Cotton by NAFED under PSS from 2006-2007 to 2009-2010.*

(As on 15.07.2009)

Sl.No.	Year	Commodity	Crop Season	MSP (Rs. Per Qtl)	Quantity procured (in MTs)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2006-2007	Sunflower seed	Rabi-2006	1500	4999	817.47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	2006-2007	Groundnut	Rabi-2006	1520	116	19.37
3.	2006-2007	Copra milling	Season-2006	3590	8850	3435.13
4.	2006-2007	Mustard seed	Rabi-2006	1715	22,05,000	421400.00
5.	2006-2007	Safflower seed	Rabi-2006	1565	50673	8499.73
6.	2006-2007	Sesame seed	Kharif-2006	1550	377	64.66
7.	2006-2007	Soyabean	Kharif-2006	1020	7	0.78
8.	2007-2008	Ball copra	Season-2007	3870	19,156	8039.77
9.	2007-2008	Milling Copra	Season-2007	3620	12,009	4666.20
10.	2007-2008	Milling Copra (AP Copra)	Season-2007	3350 Below grade FAQ	15,649	5524.15
11.	2007-2008	Mustard seed	Rabi-2007	1715	21,905	4020.07
12.	2007-2008	Safflower seed	Rabi-2007	1565	121	20.87
13.	2007-2008	Sesame seed	Rabi-2007	1560	91	15.62
14.	2008-2009	Ball copra	Season-2008	3910	179	73.78
15.	2008-2009	Milling Copra	Season-2008	3660	489	214.60
16.	2008-2009	Cotton	Kharif-2008	2500 & 3000	18,08,461	620649
17.	2008-2009	Sunflower	Kharif-2008	2215	12,800	119.36
18.	2008-2009	Groundnut	Kharif-2008	2100	40	9.46
19.	2008-2009	Urad	Kharif-2008	2520	481	121.36
20.	2009-2010	Milling copra	Season 2009	4450	9465	4582.95
21.	2009-2010	Ball copra	Season 2009	4700	1040	531.13

**Statement II**

*Procurement of Agricultural Commodities by NAFED during 2006-07 to 2009-10 under Commercial Account/Activity*

Commodities	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Oil Seeds	63,306	8754.15	95,808	17784.47	690	214.48	13,880	3071.80
Pulses	38,418	7702.05	51,289	11990.34	24,417	5948.34	5,551	1156.88

Qty. in MT  
Value in Rs. lakh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Food grains	5,34,552	40645.19	9,44,015	88286.21	1,77,445	18263.97	4,828	406.36
Cotton	1,749	408.86	3,010	856.61	-	-	-	-
Horticultural Items	16,525	1228.72	11,761	1354.92	17,978	1247.96	1,538	135.65
Spices	7,109	5317.77	5,632	6990.37	4,515	5770.20	2,111	2554.18
Misc. commodities	4,370	4150.85	5,893	5404.30	947	683.45	24	18.99
Tribal produce	-	-	56	68.77	75	14.28	-	-

[English]

**Promotion of Traditional and Indigenous Games**

3329. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated/implemented any programme to preserve and promote traditional and indigenous games in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such games identified for the purpose;

(c) the details of funds allocated and utilized for developing the sport infrastructure in the villages; and

(d) the details of measures taken/being taken by the Government to promote and preserve these traditional and indigenous games, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) to (d) The existing scheme of Government of India and Sports Authority of India (SAI) lay adequate focus on the promotion of traditional and indigenous games. Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games such as Archery, Chess, Kho-Kho, Tug of War, Kabaddi, Wrestling etc. have been given Government recognition, and are provided with financial assistance for the promotional and developmental activities in their respective disciplines.

The details of financial assistance to the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs during the last three years are given below:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Archery Association of India	94.68	81.67	96.10
2.	All India Chess Federation	112.46	239.94	221.40
3.	Atya Patya Federation of India	15.50	8.50	16.50
4.	Kho-Kho Federation of India	2.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Indian Hockey (Men) Federation	92.09	125.18	156.99
6.	Indian Hockey (Women) Federation	111.64	191.65	74.51
7.	Indian Amateur Kabaddi Federation	13.95	25.68	32.08
8.	Tug of War Federation of India	20.75	3.50	6.00
9.	Wrestling Federation of India	32.58	6.15	200.42



The scheme 'Panchyat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA)', a centrally sponsored scheme, was introduced in 2008-09, for the promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country. The Xlth Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, which was launched in the financial year 2008-09, is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisage to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchayats (including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of 10 years at an annual coverage of 10% (and the coverage will be 20% in the case of special category states including North Eastern States). The scheme is implemented through the state Governments/UTs. administrations. This scheme is not only expected to promote mass participation in sports but would also eventually lead to expansion in the talent base, which would then lead to better performance in international competition.

During 2008-09, financial assistace amounting to Rs. 250.77 crore was sanctioned to 24 states for the creation of sports infrastructure in 22,854 village and 601 block panchayats. The details of fund allocated and fund released during 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Fund Allocation	Fund Released
2008-09	92.00	92.00
2009-10 (10.07.09)	160.00	19.02

In addition to above, the SAI also operates specific schemes for promotion and development of traditional/ indigenous games. Under the National Sports Talent Contest Schemes, SAI adopts schools, provides comprehensive support to the identified athletes, in terms of training and participations in competitions. SAI also operates Special area Games Scheme, which are specifically aimed at promoting local sporting talent in tribal areas.

[Translation]

#### Allocation of Foodgrains for Tribals

3330. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:  
SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:

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

(a) the details of foodgrains allocated for tribals in the country including Gujarat during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to supply foodgrains at Rs. 2 per kg. to the tribals;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) the number of families likely to benefit therefrom; and

(e) the time by which the foodgrains are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is jointly operated with shared responsibilities by the Government of India and State/UT Governments. Identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families including such tribal families as per estimates of Planning Commission and distribution of allocated foodgrains under TPDS are done by State/UT Governments. Details of allocations made under TPDS including for Gujarat during last three years and current year are given in the enclosed Statement.

Allocations of foodgrains for AAY and BPL categories are made @35 kg. per family per month for all accepted number of 6.52 crore families. Out of these, 2.43 crore are AAY families to whom rice is distributed at Rs. 3 per kg and wheat at Rs. 2 per kg.

Since eligible tribal families are already covered under BPL and AAY, it is not proposed to provide foodgrains separately in tribal areas.

**Statement***Allocations of Foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) under TPDS for 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-2010*

(Quantity in 000' tons)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3900.596	3884.823	3577.682	3562.182
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	103.644	103.548	101.556	10.556
3.	Assam	1714.746	1345.527	1406.256	1406.256
4.	Bihar	3988.344	2768.031	2958.122	3382.512
5.	Chhattisgarh	1600.328	825.416	937.698	1091.952
6.	Delhi	836.456	748.181	592.548	592.548
7.	Goa	102.758	32.182	36.355	44.208
8.	Gujarat	2295.882	1130.035	1042.04	1686.888
9.	Haryana	830.085	451.917	603.493	766.972
10.	Himachal Pradesh	443.037	477.496	463.176	475.176
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	791.804	823.595	776.804	756.804
12.	Jharkhand	1195.472	1057.736	1065.93	1240.932
13.	Karnataka	2853.688	2647.031	2033.342	2086.036
14.	Kerala	2257.068	1184.607	1164.604	1226.604
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2756.644	1807.026	2085.683	2612.336
16.	Maharashtra	5015.204	2880.683	3165.785	4087.464
17.	Manipur	111.06	107.657	106.416	107.916
18.	Meghalaya	121.804	140.417	144.276	147.276
19.	Mizoram	72.222	85.047	82.908	82.908
20.	Nagaland	129.084	130.887	126.876	126.876
21.	Orissa	2535.682	1900.067	1866.783	2115.852
22.	Punjab	868.946	280.025	662.92	940.220
23.	Rajasthan	2358.91	1274.968	1364.624	1793.340

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Sikkim	44.687	45.792	44.22	44.220
25.	Tamil Nadu	5805.936	4847.881	3682.832	3767.832
26.	Tripura	300.758	263.211	275.004	302.004
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8329.377	4550.69	4925.854	6473.740
28.	Uttarakhand	496.942	341.541	362.252	414.252
29.	West Bengal	5617.51	3023.204	3031.942	3296.544
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28.91	29.244	29.341	31.272
31.	Chandigarh	35.206	4.128	5.628	25.428
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13.37	11.812	8.154	8.880
33.	Daman and Diu	10.58	2.7	2.37	4.320
34.	Lakshadweep	4.154	4.837	4.608	4.608
35.	Puducherry	85.162	65.802	38.349	51.912
Total		57,656.056	39,277.744	38,776.431	44859.826

[English]

### Missing Children

3331. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of missing children are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year including NCR of Delhi, State-wise;

(c) the total number of such children traced during the said period;

(d) the steps taken to trace all the remaining missing children;

(e) whether the Delhi Police has submitted any report to the Delhi High Court that FIRs were lodged for more than 800 missing children during the current year;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action plan of the Government to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) As per the data provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of children reported as 'missing' for each of the years 2006, 2007 and 2008, State/UT wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) As per NCRB data, the State/UT wise details of children traced for each of the years 2006-07 and 2008, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) and (f) As per available reports, after the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi took cognizance of the matter, Delhi Police reviewed the status of 'yet to be traced children' and registered 1260 cases up to 30th June, 2009 which includes 264 cases of 2007 and 384 cases of 2008.

(d) and (g) As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India "Police" and "Public Order" are State subject and as, such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. However, the Central Government has issued separate advisories to the State

Governments and UT Administrations from time to time, to give more focused attention to the prevention and control of missing children within their jurisdiction. However, as reported by Delhi Police, steps taken by them include a 24X7 helpline number of reporting missing persons in the NCT region, advertisement in leading newspapers, registration of FIRs, development of a web-based computer application ZIPNET which contain

information on missing children. Clear instructions have been issued vide the revised standing order No. 258/09 to register case FIRs in each incident of untraced girl child of 18 years and below, untraced boys of 12 years and below and register an FIR in all such missing reports in case of any suspicion/foul play, irrespective of age. Door-to-door survey is conducted by Delhi Police through the beat and Division staff.

### **Statement**

#### *Number of Children Missing and Traced during 2006-2008*

Sl.No.	State/UT	2006		2007		2008	
		Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced	Missing	Traced
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22	22	35	35	56	53
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2312	1876	774	535	NR	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	7	7	12	10
4.	Assam	889	311	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Bihar	524	360	476	346	NR	NR
6.	Chandigarh	104	95	172	139	118	110
7.	Chhattisgarh	2613	2165	2140	1687	NR	NR
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17	16	NR	NR	NR	NR
9.	Daman and Diu	15	15	11	8	NR	NR
10.	Delhi*	7025	5780	231	128	NR	NR
11.	Goa	225	181	272	219	257	271
12.	Gujarat	1996	1904	2382	1990	2644	2662
13.	Haryana	461	294	754	400	845	388
14.	Himachal Pradesh	197	144	279	162	362	265
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	456	321	445	319	NR	NR
16.	Jharkhand	328	138	NR	NR	NR	NR
17.	Karnataka	3495	2912	3630	3022	2955	3006
18.	Kerala	1047	925	968	829	1206	1312
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	NR	NR
20.	Madhya Pradesh	8079	7416	8852	7825	NR	NR
21.	Maharashtra	13403	10834	NR	NR	NR	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Manipur	7	2	39	25	45	24
23.	Meghalaya	17	1	36	12	NR	NR
24.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	NR	NR
25.	Nagaland	1	1	0	0	NR	NR
26.	Orissa	1398	685	NR	NR	NR	NR
27.	Puducherry	44	44	68	68	NR	NR
28.	Punjab	404	244	564	792	NR	NR
29.	Rajasthan	2155	2073	2425	2157	2477	1975
30.	Sikkim	193	124	NR	NR	NR	NR
31.	Tamil Nadu	1394	1310	NR	NR	NR	NR
32.	Tripura	201	201	193	189	292	427
33.	Uttar Pradesh	3974	3401	NR	NR	NR	NR
34.	Uttarakhand	458	368	356	252	NR	NR
35.	West Bengal	3467	NR	11697	5725	11092	9545
Total (States)		56923	44165	36806	26871	22361	20048

Note: 1. NR Stands for Data Not Received

2. \*Information for The Year 2007 upto March only

[Translation]

#### **Sale of Bottled Water**

3332. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies engaged in the manufacture and sale of bottled water/mineral water in the country;

(b) whether the Government has appointed any regulatory body to ensure quality control of bottled water;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any complaint regarding sale of contaminated water has been received by the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the action taken thereon, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The number of companies, (licensees of Bureau of Indian Standards) engaged in manufacture of Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water are 2146 and 11 respectively.

(b) and (c) Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water were brought under mandatory certification vide Gazette Notifications GSR 760 E and GSR 759 (E) respectively dated 29th September, 2000 issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

Bureau of Indian Standards ensures the quality of products manufactured by its licensees through a well defined certification scheme wherein visits are made to the licensees' premises, samples are drawn from factory and market to check the conformity of the products to the relevant Indian Standards.

(d) and (e) State-wise details of the number of complaints received, for each of the last years years and during the current year and their status are shown in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of the number of complaints received for each of the last three years and the current year and present position about their disposal*

**I. Packaged drinking water (IS 14543:2004)****Complaints received during 2006-07**

State	Total No. of Complaints	Action taken on Complaints	
		No. of Complaints closed after investigation and redressal	No. of cases under investigation
1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	01	01	-
Delhi	06	06	-
Madhya Pradesh	02	02	-
Chhattisgarh	02	02	-
Punjab	01	01	-
Tamil Nadu	02	02	-
Assam	01	01	-
Gujarat	01	01	-
Kerala	01	01	-
Andhra Pradesh	03	03	-
West Bengal	01	01	-

**Complaints received during 2007-08**

Maharashtra	02	02	-
Karnataka	02	02	-
Gujarat	01	01	-
Tamil Nadu	02	02	-
Uttar Pradesh	01	01	-
Andhra Pradesh	01	01	-
Delhi	02	02	-

1	2	3	4
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**Complaints received during 2008-09**

Madhya Pradesh	01	01	-
Andhra Pradesh	01	01	-
Karnataka	02	02	-
Tamil Nadu	01	01	-
Uttar Pradesh	01	01	-
Delhi	02	01	01
Maharashtra	01	01	-
West Bengal	01	01	-

**Complaints received during 2009-10**

Maharashtra	01	-	01
Uttar Pradesh	01	-	01

**II. Packaged natural mineral water as 13428:2005)****Complaints received during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10**

Year	State	Total No. of Complaints	Action taken on Complaints	
			No. of Complaints closed after investigation and redressal	No. of cases under investigation
2006-07	NIL			
2007-08	NIL			
2008-09	Uttar Pradesh	01	-	01
2009-10	NIL			

[English]

**Guarding of Border by ITBP**

3333. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Force guarding the Indo-Tibetan border in Uttar Pradesh,

Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir is fully prepared to meet threats of terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are others forces involved in guarding the Indo-Tibetan border; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to strengthen the forces guarding the said border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The ITBP is deployed to guard the Indo-China border in Jammu and Kashmir (Ladakh), Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. ITBP is fully prepared to meet any threat of trans-border terrorism.

- (i) Border Out Posts (BOPs) have been established along the entire length of the 3488 Km long Indo-China border to ensure border guarding.
- (ii) ITBP regularly patrols the border and crossing points/passes are kept under surveillance by positioning Observation Post during day and Listening Post by night.
- (iii) The troops are trained in conventional and unconventional warfare and anti-terrorist and Counter Insurgency operations.
- (iv) ITBP is the Lead Intelligence Agency (LIA) along the Indo-China border in the States of J & K (Ladakh), Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand.

(c) No other Central Para-Military Force is involved in guarding the Indo-China border along Tibet. However, the Army is also deployed in border areas.

(d) The following steps have been taken to strengthen the forces guarding the border areas:

- (i) Threat perception and security analysis along the border is periodically reviewed.
- (ii) Recently, Government has approved upgradation of 6 existing BOPs and creation of one new BOP along the border in the States of J & K (Ladakh), Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh.
- (iii) It is further clarified that the augmentation of existing BOPs and creation of new BOPs is an ongoing process.

#### **Infrastructure Development for Naxal Affected Area**

3334. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has drawn any action plan for infrastructure development in Naxal affected areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the said purpose, State-wise and the time by which the infrastructural work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) Government has approved a road connectivity plan and scheme for Special Infrastructure in Left Wing Extremism affected States in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Rs. 7300 crore has been provided under the road connectivity plan and Rs. 500 crore under the Special Infrastructure Scheme for Leftwing Extremism affected States for meeting the gaps in critical infrastructure not otherwise covered under any other existing schemes(s).

#### **Drought Resistant Seeds**

3335. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:  
SHRI MOHAN JENA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Universities/ICAR and other agencies have developed several varieties of crops/ seeds which are drought resistant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to popularize the use of such varieties?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) have developed several early maturing varieties of crops which have performed well under the moisture stress/drought conditions. Some of these varieties/hybrids: Wheat (PBW 527, HD 2888, HI 1531, HI 1500, HD 8627); Barley (HBL 276, RD 2660, K 603); Rice (Vandana, Anjali, Dateswari, PNR-519, VL Dhan 208); Maize (Pusa Hybrid Makka-1, 2 and 5, Vivke-21, Vevek-23, HM-4); Sorghum (CSH15R, CSH19R, CSV-18); Pearl Millet (HHB 67 improved, GHB-757, m GHB-538); Chickpea (RSG 888, RSG 963); Lathyrus (BioL 212); Mothbean (CAZRI Moth 3); Horse Gram (AK21); Guar (RGC 936); Groundnut (JGN-3, K 134, Kadiri 6); Mustard (Pusa Bahar, JD-6, Shivani); Soyabean (NRC 7, JS 71-05). Such varieties are also available in other crops.

(c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Governments produce the breeder seed of various varieties/hybrids including those of early drought tolerant varieties as per indent of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for further production of foundation and certified seeds for the use of farmers. ICAR and SAUs also conduct large number of frontline demonstrations for popularizing such varieties/hybrids. The various Institutes and SAUs also organize Kisan Melas, Kisan Goshties, radio talks etc. to popularize the varieties and hybrids. The Government of India has also launched National Food Security Mission for enhancing the production and productivity of major cereals (rice and wheat) and pulses.

#### **Hybrid Models for Implementing Highway Projects**

3336. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has recently sought comments of the various stakeholders on 'annuity' and 'hybrid' models to implement highway projects on Built operate Transfer basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the views of the various parties involved in the development of highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The pure Annuity Model envisages that the concessionaire has no right to collect toll for which contracts are awarded separately. Under the hybrid model, in addition to payment of annuity, the concessionaire also collects toll. While there are suggestions supporting both the models, the Committee of Secretaries, after considering merits and demerits of the two models, has recommended 'pure' Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) (Annuity) model.

*[Translation]*

#### **Development of Animal Husbandry**

3337. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM  
WAKCHAURE:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether animal husbandry is the primary occupation in several States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of various schemes being run by the Union Government for development of animal husbandry alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether any special project prepared/proposed to be prepared for development of animal husbandry in the country including Himachal Pradesh;

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

(f) the extent to which these schemes/projects have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) According to the National Sample Survey Organization's latest survey (July 2004-June 2005 NSS 61st round), the estimate of employment in animal husbandry sector is 11.44 million in principal status.

(c) to (f) Details of animal husbandry schemes run by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India, alongwith State-wise release of funds in the last three years and in the current years so far are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

#### **Statement I**

The Department is implementing various central sector and centrally-sponsored schemes for the development of requisite infrastructure and supplementing efforts of the State Governments in achieving accelerated growth of animal husbandry sector. Details of these schemes are as follows:

**1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB):** To improve productivity of bovine population, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding' since October 2000 for a period of ten years in two phases, each of five years duration, with an outlay of Rs. 402 crore and Rs. 775.87 crore respectively on 100% grants-in-aid basis. The project



envisages genetic upgradation of bovine population on priority basis.

**2. Central Cattle Development Organisations:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. These organizations include seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms, one Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute and four Central Herd Registration Units established in different regions of the country to produce genetically superior breeds of bull calves, good quality frozen semen and for identification of superior germplasm of cattle and buffaloes, so as to meet the requirement of bull and frozen semen in the country.

**3. Central Fodder Development Organisations:** This is a Central Sector Scheme having three components. Under this programme, production of quality fodder seeds, fodder demonstration on high yielding fodder varieties on farmers field, training programmes and farmers fair are organized for dissemination of latest technologies on fodder cultivation and its utilization by livestock owners.

**4. Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme provides central assistance to States to supplement their efforts in feed and fodder development. The scheme is being implemented from 2005-06 with the following four components:

- (a) Assistance to Fodder Block Making Units.
- (b) Grassland Development including Grass Reserves.
- (c) Fodder Seed Production Programme.
- (d) Biotechnology Research Projects.

**5. Poultry Development:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been recently approved with an outlay of Rs. 150 crore. The scheme has three components namely, Assistance to State Poultry Farms, Rural Backyard Poultry Development and Poultry Estates.

**6. Central Poultry Development Organizations (CPDOs):** This is a Central Sector Scheme. CPDOs are located at Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar, Mumbai and Hessarghatta to provide necessary technical services to the farmers and to maintain bird stock suitable for

backyard poultry. A Central Poultry Performance Testing Centre (CPPTC) located at Gurgaon tests performance of layer and broiler varieties.

**7. Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme was initiated during the 10th Plan. It aims at conserving and protecting threatened breeds of livestock whose population is less than 10,000. The scheme is being continued in 11th Plan as well.

**8. Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits:** This is a Central Sector Scheme approved in April 2009 for implementation during 11th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 134.83 crore, out of which budget provision for 2009-10 is Rs. 18.33 crore. The scheme envisages setting up of 54 intensive small ruminant development clusters with venture capital through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as well as Infrastructure Development and Institutional Restructuring.

**9. Central Sheep Breeding Farm:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. The farm was established during the 4th Five year Plan with the objective of producing acclimatized exotic rams for distribution to various State sheep farms and training of personnel in mechanical sheep shearing. In course of time and in accordance with recommendation of experts, the breeding programme of the farm was changed to produce crossbred rams (Nali X Ramboulett and Sonad X Corriedale) as well as Beetal goats.

**10. Livestock Health and Disease Control:** This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme having four components namely, Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD), National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE), Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP), and Professional Efficiency Development (PED).

ASCAD envisages undertaking immunization of livestock & poultry against economically important diseases, strengthening of State Veterinary Biological Production Centres, Strengthening of Disease Diagnostic Laboratories, collection, compilation & dissemination of livestock disease incidents data and in-service training to Veterinarians & Para-Veterinarians for upgradation of technical knowledge.

The objective of the component of NPPE is to strengthen the veterinary services and to eradicate Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) and to obtain freedom from Rinderpest & CBPP infection following the pathway prescribed by Office International des Epizooties (OIE), Paris followed by the physical surveillance to maintain freedom status. India was declared Rinderpest and Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) infection free country by the OIE on 26th May 2006 and 26th May, 2007.

The objective of the component of PED is to regulate veterinary practices and to maintain register of Veterinary Practitioners as per the provisions of Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984.

The component of FMD-CP is being implemented in 54 specified districts of the country to control Foot and Mouth Diseases with 100% funding, which includes the cost of vaccine and supporting expenses. The State and Union Territory Governments are providing manpower, infrastructure and logistic support.

**11. Directorate of Animal Health:** This is a Central Sector Scheme having three components namely, Animal Quarantine & Certification Service, National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre and Central/Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories.

**12. Preparedness, Control & Containment of Avian Influenza:** This Central Sector Scheme was initiated in 2007-08 with the objective of prevention, control and containment of avian influenza in the country.

It broadly covers the surveillance of poultry and migratory birds, enhancement and upgradation of laboratory intelligence for diagnosis, information, education and communication campaign and supporting the outbreak containment plan.

**13. Livestock Census:** The livestock population of different species is worked out on the basis of the Central Sector Scheme 'Livestock Census' conducted on quinquennial basis. It is the only source which provides detailed information on livestock. It also provides disaggregated information on poultry, animal operated agricultural implements & machinery and fisheries statistics. The 18th Livestock Census was conducted with reference date of 15th October, 2007.

**14. Livestock Insurance:** This Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented in all the States except Goa, has twin objectives: providing protection mechanism to the farmers & cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death; and to demonstrate the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people & popularize it with the ultimate goal of attaining qualitative improvement in livestock and their products.

**15. Integrated Sample Survey:** This is a Central Sector Scheme. The Department conducts Integrated Sample Surveys with the help of States/UTs to estimate production of Major Livestock Products (MLP) viz. milk, egg, meat and wool.

All the above schemes are successful in meeting their objectives in varying measure.

### **Statement II**

*Funds released to various States/UTs and other Implementing Agencies during the last three years and current financial year (till date) under various schemes of Animal Husbandry Sector implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries*

						Amount in Rs. Lakh
Sl.No.	States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (till date)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1874.37	2242.52	2838.05	529.00	7483.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	400.22	478.40	426.52	106.00	1411.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	483.80	1060.39	1333.35	1.00	2878.54
4.	Bihar	632.83	481.10	1942.43	5.00	3061.36
5.	Chhattisgarh	870.06	1347.41	450.60	12.00	2680.07
6.	Goa	46.13	105.75	25.27	33.00	210.15
7.	Gujarat	1029.48	1169.65	1512.82	10.00	3721.95
8.	Haryana	633.95	847.94	1528.92	511.00	3521.81
9.	Himachal Pradesh	292.29	712.02	344.94	389.19	1738.44
10.	Jharkhand	268.58	288.77	956.52	2.00	1515.87
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	433.40	761.14	732.81	0.00	1927.35
12.	Karnataka	1236.57	1573.13	1457.86	973.20	5240.76
13.	Kerala	928.82	1187.02	1590.92	137.75	3844.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1507.29	1146.94	2090.03	18.00	4762.26
15.	Maharashtra	2258.82	2159.54	2358.36	901.40	7678.12
16.	Manipur	190.54	411.81	372.66	167.00	1142.01
17.	Meghalaya	296.15	421.53	274.18	20.00	1011.86
18.	Mizoram	629.20	618.30	478.38	20.00	1745.88
19.	Nagaland	833.97	771.41	480.31	3.00	2088.69
20.	Orissa	1660.60	1799.54	2234.09	315.00	6009.23
21.	Punjab	1157.07	444.29	1390.17	471.81	3463.34
22.	Rajasthan	697.00	852.73	1563.26	455.00	3567.99
23.	Sikkim	331.01	412.92	398.03	33.00	1174.96
24.	Tamil Nadu	1317.02	1773.18	2854.26	939.00	6883.46
25.	Tripura	279.71	509.66	814.57	2.00	1605.94
26.	Uttar Pradesh	884.29	1525.50	2903.70	58.00	5371.49
27.	Uttarakhand	545.80	735.09	491.33	17.00	1789.22
28.	West Bengal	1520.93	3058.21	2164.05	445.00	7188.19
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	92.00	54.40	47.36	14.00	207.76
30.	Chandigarh	19.60	37.06	21.54	5.00	83.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15.40	16.72	9.03	0.50	41.65
32.	Daman and Diu	5.00	17.17	5.11	0.50	27.78
33.	Delhi	89.70	172.12	326.08	1.00	588.90
34.	Lakshadweep	50.00	25.54	16.25	4.00	95.79
35.	Puducherry	28.30	70.68	50.04	8.00	157.02
	Others	133.51	53.22	22.68	0.00	209.41
	Total	23673.41	29342.80	36506.48	6607.35	96130.04

*[English]***Security to Foreign Women Tourists**

3338. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to review the safety and security of foreign women tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the review is likely to be done; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide safety and security to the visitors especially women tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime, lies with the State. However, the Union Government is very much concerned about the security of tourists, its adverse effect on tourism and therefore, has issued advisory to the State Government from time to time to give focused attention to the prevention and control of crimes within their jurisdiction with special emphasis on prevention of atrocities against women. However, in order to ensure safety and security of the tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territories

Administration to deploy Tourist Police. Ministry of Tourism has also circulated guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organization(s) comprising Ex-Servicemen, for the safety and security of tourists to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

*[Translation]***Youth Policy**

3339. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate a new youth policy; and

(b) If so, the details thereof and the time by which the said policy is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) The Government proposes to review the existing National Youth Policy, 2003 during the XI Plan Period.

*[English]***Soil Testing Laboratories**

3340. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments including Gujarat for setting new Soil Testing Laboratories;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The details of proposals received from State Government for setting up of new Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) under the scheme, 'National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility' and STLs sanctioned are given in the enclosed Statement. No proposal from State Government of Gujarat has been received so far.

#### **Statement**

*Details of the proposals received from State Governments and sanctioned for establishment of new Soil Testing Laboratories (STL) for 2008-09*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2008-09	
		Static STLs	Mobile STLs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	3
2.	Karnataka	7	1
3.	Kerala	3	7
4.	Rajasthan	14	12
5.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3	3
7.	Punjab	—	—
8.	West Bengal	1	7
9.	Uttarakhand	—	—
10.	Nagaland	—	—
11.	Orissa	6	5
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	—	—
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
15.	Mizoram	1	3
16.	Goa	—	—
Total		42	44

#### **Ghost Ration Cards**

3341. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of ghost ration cards are in existence under the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said cards are being used to divert PDS foodgrains to black markets and smuggle them to neighbouring countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State/UT Governments. The Central Government has taken the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of foodgrains to the State and UTs. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible families living below poverty line, issuance of ration cards to them and supervisions over as well as monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

For identification of BPL families and issuance of ration cards to them, guidelines are to be formulated by State/UT Governments as stipulated under the Public Distribution System (Control), Order 2001. In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of foodgrains, PDS (Control), Order 2001 mandates all the States & UT Governments to issue ration cards only to eligible applicants.

For allocations of foodgrains to States and UTs under TPDS, the Department of Food & Public Distribution uses the number of BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number of BPL families is 6.52 crore.

However, as reported by June 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL rations cards, (including 2.43 crore AAY cards).

In order to streamline TPDS, a 9 point Action plan is under implementation since July, 2006. As part of this action plan, State and UT Governments have been directed to continuously review lists of BPL and AAY families to eliminate bogus ration cards. As reported by 14 State Governments, 148.45 lakh ineligible ration cards have been deleted till 23.07.09 since July, 2006.

Government in addition, has asked all State/UT Governments in 2008 to initiate action against the officials/persons involved in issuance of bogus/ineligible ration cards as well as the families found in possession of such bogus/ghost cards.

### **Doordarshan Equipments**

3342. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the equipments installed in Doordarshan Kendras have become outdated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to replace them with the modern equipments; and

(d) if so, the achievements made thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) to (d) No, Madam. Modernization/upgradation of facilities at Doordarshan Kendras is a continuous process and schemes in this regard are formulated and implemented from time to time, depending upon the availability of resources.

Out of total 66 Doordarshan Kendras in the country, 21 Doordarshan Kendras have been made fully digital and 31 Doordarshan Kendras have been made partially digital under 10th Plan. [Projects of digital Studio Centres at two places have also been approved.]

### **Exchange Programme between NIAM and USAID**

3343. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United States Agency for

International Development (USAID) for technical assistance in the fields of strengthening of agricultural marketing system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a team of experts from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is likely to visit India to impart training as part of the MoU;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the benefits likely to accrue from the exchange programmes between the NIAM and the USAID?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) & the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on 11th July, 2006 for a period of three years for technical assistance in the fields of strengthening of agricultural marketing system. The overall objective of the MoU was for further collaboration, cooperation and technical assistance in the areas of mutual benefit and interest relating to agricultural marketing. The goals of this MoU were also to establish collaboration, co-operation between NIAM and USAID to access relevant US Government agencies, universities and related institutions in order to provide technical assistance to NIAM for capacity building and manpower development in training, research, consultancy and education.

Four teams of experts have visited India several times both before and during the period, 2005 to 2009. These teams have given technical assistance and training in the areas of grades and standards, food safety and quality issues, market information, marketing extension and terminal markets.

The stakeholders of the agricultural marketing system of the project States and NIAM have been benefited by the project. About 7640 farmers of Himachal Pradesh have been trained under the project in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in respect of two commodities—Apple and Tomato. The State of Karnataka adopted a strategy of intensive focus by concentrating on 140 farmers, who were trained in GAP in respect of two commodities such as mango and grapes. The faculties of NIAM got exposure to the best International practices in respect of the major components of agricultural marketing.

### Expressway Authority

3344. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up a separate Expressway Authority;

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

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter;

(d) the length of expressways under construction at present, State-wise;

(e) the length of expressways constructed during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for early commencement/completion of work of the above expressways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) In the Eleventh Five Year Plan, it has been recommended to consider establishing an Expressways Authority of India to formulate and implement a Master Plan for 15600 km of access-controlled expressways for high-density corridors while simultaneously expediting construction of 1000 km of expressways under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase VI to provide unhindered, high-speed, and safe movement of traffic. However, no final decision has been taken so far.

(d) and (e) Government has approved following four projects on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis for which alignments are almost finalized and feasibility studies have been undertaken.

Project	States
Vadodara to Mumbai	Gujarat and Maharashtra
Delhi to Meerut	Delhi and U.P.
Bangalore to Chennai	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
Kolkata to Dhanbad	West Bengal and Jharkhand

(f) After completion of feasibility study, preparation of detailed land plan schedules along the alignment is undertaken and the process of land acquisition initiated. The bidding process is initiated approximately one year before the completion date of land acquisition so that award of concession and financial close of the project as well as acquisition of entire land are accomplished simultaneously.

### Registration of Newspapers

3345. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of newspapers registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on date, State-wise;

(b) the details of newspapers which are getting advertisements from the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether the request of some newspapers for registration are still pending with RNI;

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

(e) the time by which these newspapers are likely to be registered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) As on 15.07.2009 there are 74,409 newspapers registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI). State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) State-wise details of newspapers/periodicals which are empanelled with DAVP and are getting advertisements from DAVP as on date are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(e) Registration of newspapers is a continuous process and applications for registration which are received complete in all respects, are disposed off timely.

**Statement I**

*State-wise details of Newspapers registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on 15.07.2009*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No.of titles registered as on 15.07.2009
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	71
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3965
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
4.	Assam	565
5.	Bihar	1647
6.	Chandigarh	459
7.	Chhattisgarh	648
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9
9.	Daman and Diu	9
10.	Delhi	10066
11.	Goa	111
12.	Gujarat	3383
13.	Haryana	1330
14.	Himachal Pradesh	243
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	618

1	2	3
16.	Jharkhand	277
17.	Karnataka	3837
18.	Kerala	2454
19.	Lakshadweep	5
20.	Madhya Pradesh	5169
21.	Maharashtra	9127
22.	Manipur	160
23.	Meghalaya	79
24.	Mizoram	142
25.	Nagaland	20
26.	Orissa	1409
27.	Puducherry	104
28.	Punjab	1482
29.	Rajasthan	4558
30.	Sikkim	89
31.	Tamil Nadu	4293
32.	Tripura	123
33.	Uttaranchal	1634
34.	Uttar Pradesh	11789
35.	West Bengal	4518
Total		74,409

**Statement II**

*State-wise details of newspapers/periodicals which are empanelled with DAVP and are getting advertisements from DAVP [as on 15.07.2009]*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Newspapers		
		Dailies	Weeklies & Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3	0	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	177	13	190
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	3



1	2	3	4	5
4.	Assam	35	11	46
5.	Bihar	50	7	57
6.	Chandigarh	19	3	22
7.	Chhattisgarh	62	5	67
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	2	0	8
10.	Delhi	166	371	537
11.	Goa	8	0	8
12.	Gujarat	108	82	190
13.	Haryana	33	13	46
14.	Himachal Pradesh	10	10	20
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	47	12	59
16.	Jharkhand	31	2	33
17.	Karnataka	53	2	55
18.	Kerala	62	10	72
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	206	126	332
21.	Maharashtra	169	22	191
22.	Manipur	9	0	9
23.	Meghalaya	6	1	7
24.	Mizoram	5	0	5
25.	Nagaland	5	0	5
26.	Orissa	66	37	103
27.	Puducherry	5	0	5
28.	Punjab	36	20	56
29.	Rajasthan	122	244	366
30.	Sikkim	4	1	5
31.	Tamil Nadu	81	2	83
32.	Tripura	14	2	16
33.	Uttarakhand	43	163	206
34.	Uttar Pradesh	335	960	1295
35.	West Bengal	59	30	89
Total		2034	2149	4183

**Statement III**

*State-wise details of newspapers pending with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI), for registration as on 15.07.2009*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of cases pending for registration [as on 15.07.2009]
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6
2.	Andhra Pradesh	92
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
4.	Assam	2
5.	Bihar	3
6.	Chandigarh	—
7.	Chhattisgarh	33
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—
9.	Daman and Diu	—
10.	Delhi	93
11.	Goa	4
12.	Gujarat	82
13.	Haryana	23
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	27
16.	Jharkhand	—
17.	Karnataka	98
18.	Kerala	42
19.	Lakshadweep	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	132
21.	Maharashtra	353
22.	Manipur	2
23.	Meghalaya	2
24.	Mizoram	2
25.	Nagaland	2

1	2	3
26.	Orissa	20
27.	Puducherry	1
28.	Punjab	5
29.	Rajasthan	15
30.	Sikkim	1
31.	Tamil Nadu	36
32.	Tripura	2
33.	Uttarakhand	13
34.	Uttar Pradesh	80
35.	West Bengal	35
Total		1,209

[*Translation*]

**Kisan TV and Radio**

3346. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to start Kisan Television Channel and Kisan Radio Station for providing latest agriculture related information to the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be commenced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Agriculture has outsourced an agency to study the feasibility of launching a 24 hour Agriculture TV Channel. Its report is still awaited.

At present there is no proposal to start a separate Kisan Radio Station. However, 96 identified Stations of All India Radio are being utilized to broadcast 30 minutes Kisan Vani programmes for farmers, 6 days a week. Besides, all AIR Stations broadcast their own agriculture programmes and Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a scheme "Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension" by utilising existing infrastructure of Doordarshan and AIR.

[English]

### **Setting up Land Port Authority**

3347. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Land Port Authority of India to facilitate cross border movement of passenger and goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring a new legislation in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which trade and traffic on the land borders is likely to increase as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government have proposed to set up Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) to facilitate cross border movement of passengers and goods. The LPAI will function through an Administrative Management Committee comprising of all the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India and the State representatives for the border trade.

The Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) is an innovative institutional arrangement, aimed at providing better administrative and cohesive management at the designated crossing points/land ports on our borders through ICPs. Each ICP will be a one-stop location having State-of-Art modern facilities and infrastructure for availing various sovereign and non-sovereign services.

(c) and (d) A Bill, viz. 'The Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2008', to provide for the establishment of the Land Ports Authority of India for the construction and management of Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 18.12.2008. The said Bill could not be considered and passed during the tenure of 14th Lok Sabha and with the dissolution of the 14th Lok Sabha, the LPAI Bill has lapsed. The Government proposes to re-introduce the Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2009 in the newly constituted 15th Lok Sabha.

(e) The volume of trade & commerce and movement of passengers at such designated border crossing points on our land borders is expected to increase, once the LPAI and ICPs come into being. However, the quantum

of increase will depend on the entry/exit regimes to be prescribed for each border, trade pacts/agreements, prevailing bilateral relations etc.

[Translation]

### **Damage to National Highways**

3348. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of damage caused to the National Highways/bridges especially in backward and rural areas by the storms and rains in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has taken/proposed to take steps for repairing of these roads/bridges;

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

(d) the States which have sought funds from the Central Road Fund for the repair of these damaged National Highways/bridges especially in the backward and rural areas during the said period alongwith the details of amount sought, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) This Ministry does not have separate policy for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) in backward and rural areas. There have been damages ranging from minor surface distress to the major damages like breaches on the road etc. on various NHs/Bridges, due to floods/rains etc. during the last three years and current year. Generally types of damages occurred on NHs are pot holes, alligator cracks, stripping, ravelling, depression, undulation, surface damage, sub-grade failures, breach of road, cuts and erosion of embankments & earthen shoulders, damage to cross drainage works and their approaches, landslides etc. The State-wise details of estimates sanctioned for restoration of these damages during each of the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement. The development and maintenance of NHs is a continuous process and NHs in the country are being kept in traffic worthy condition within the available resources, depending upon traffic density and inter-se priority of works. Actions for restoration of the

stretches of NHs damaged in various states due to storms, rains, etc., are accordingly taken up from time to time to keep such stretches in traffic worthy conditions.

(d) and (e) As per the provisions of the Central Road Fund (CRF) Act, 2000, the Central Government is responsible, inter-alia, for administration and management

of the share of Fund allocated to the development and maintenance of NHs. The entire share of fund under CRF allocated for NHs is presently being mobilized only for development and maintenance of National Highways Development Project (NHDP). No States have sought fund from CRF for the repair of the damaged NHs/bridges.

### **Statement**

*State-wise details of estimates sanctioned for restoration of damages, caused to the NHs/bridges during each of the last three years and current year due to floods, rains etc.*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total cost of estimates sanctioned during			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.67	6.09	5.22	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.09	4.81	3.12	
3.	Assam	3.90	21.88	2.82	3.63
4.	Bihar	2.30	18.37	25.50	
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.02	2.91	3.26	
6.	Goa	0.15	2.44	—	
7.	Gujarat	7.90	9.00	6.03	
8.	Haryana	0.75	1.50	2.41	
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.50	3.77	8.63	
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.70	—	2.20	
11.	Jharkhand	1.88	3.75	3.38	
12.	Karnataka	5.26	20.54	7.87	
13.	Kerala	4.50	6.01	6.38	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8.18	3.01	4.08	
15.	Maharashtra	14.99	15.63	25.13	
16.	Manipur	0.74	7.71	3.58	2.41
17.	Meghalaya	1.30	8.23	1.98	3.75

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Mizoram	0.81	10.28	2.50	1.51
19.	Nagaland	0.97	6.81	4.57	3.08
20.	Orissa	10.50	14.25	18.00	
21.	Puducherry	0.09	—	—	0.37
22.	Punjab	0.23	0.60	1.34	
23.	Rajasthan	11.92	7.15	3.75	
24.	Tamil Nadu	9.09	5.17	13.17	
25.	Tripura	0.44	2.23	4.15	0.45
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	9.80	16.45	
27.	Uttarakhand	2.34	4.03	5.40	
28.	West Bengal	4.19	17.30	16.06	

[English]

#### Use of Spurious Fertilizers

3349. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that cases of sale and use of adulterated and spurious fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides have increased in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the impact of use of such fertilizers and pesticides on the agriculture produce;

(c) the number of cases of sale of adulterated and spurious fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides brought to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The number and percentage of samples of fertilizer found nonstandard in terms of provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 during last three years are given below:

Year	Number	Percentage
2005-06	6728	6.0
2006-07	6956	6.0
2007-08	5933	6.2

The number and percentage of pesticides samples found misbranded in terms of provision of the Insecticides Act, 1968 during preceding three years are given below:

Year	Number	Percentage
2006-07	1574	3.28
2007-08	1330	3.16
2008-09	528	2.47

(d) The quality of fertilizers is governed under the provision of Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 which strictly prohibits sale of fertilizers which do not conform to the standards laid down in the Order. 71 fertilizers quality control laboratories have been set up by the State Governments/Central Governments with annual analyzing capacity of 1.31 lakh samples.

Similarly, the quality and sale of pesticides and insecticides is regulated under the provisions of

Insecticides Act, 1968. 55 pesticides testing laboratories with annual analyzing capacity of 52,940 samples have been set up in 21 States and 1 Union Territory.

The State/UTs Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985, Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Insecticides Act, 1968.

### **Highway Projects in Gujarat**

3350. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the National Highway (NH) projects under implementation in Gujarat and Daman and Diu, indicating the progress and investments made thereon during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the construction and maintenance work on such projects have been delayed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the road projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) During the last three years and current year 94 works amounting to Rs. 4747.89 crore have been sanctioned in the State of Gujarat. Out of which 52 works have been completed and 42 works are in progress. So far an expenditure of Rs. 1379.35 crore have been incurred on these works.

There is no National Highway in Union Territory of Daman and Diu.

(b) to (d) Yes, Madam. The construction work in the section from Gagodhar-Garamore on National Highway No. 15 & 8A has been delayed due to delay in completion of bridge across river Surajbari and is likely to be completed by November, 2009. Also, delay in completion of bridge across river Tapi has resulted in minor delay in completion of construction work in Bharuch-Surat section of NH-8, which is likely to be completed by August, 2009.

### **Funds to Orissa for Modernisation of Police Forces**

3351. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa have sought central assistance for modernisation of State Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Orissa has also requested to include certain districts of the State under the security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme as these districts are substantially affected by extremists and to provide training to police battalions on the NSG pattern; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), the State Government of Orissa forwarded an annual action plan for 2009-10 to the Ministry of Home Affairs for Rs. 57.96 crore towards State police modernization. The action plan includes components pertaining to weaponry, construction of residential/non-residential buildings, mobility, security equipment, upgradation of training, communication equipment etc. The MPF annual action plan for 2009-10 of Orissa approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs has been forwarded to the State Government for implementation.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Orissa had requested that Deogarh, Jajpur, Kandhamal, Dhenkanal and Nayagarh districts be included in the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme. These districts have been included and orders issued on 23.06.2009.

The State Government of Orissa had requested for training of 01 company in Police Commando course by NSG in 2009. Accordingly, 50 seats with effect from 6th July to 26th September, 2009 have been allotted to Orissa Police. All 50 personnel from Orissa police have reported for training and are undergoing training presently.

*[Translation]*

### **Arable and Non-Arable Land**

3352. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of arable and non-arable land in the country, State-wise;

(b) the area of land in hectares on which single and multiple crops are grown, separately, State-wise;

(c) the proposals for utilisation of non-arable land; and

(d) the follow up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) In the country, Cultivable Land, which consists of net area sown, fallow land, culturable waste land and land under miscellaneous tree crops, was 182708 thousand hectares in 2006-07. Un-cultivable Land, which is calculated by subtracting Cultivable Land from Total Reporting Area, was 122799 thousand hectares in 2006-07. A statement on State-wise cultivable land and un-cultivable land in 2006-07 (Provisional) is annexed.

(b) State-wise Net Area Sown and Total Cropped Area in 2006-07 (Provisional) is given in the annexed statement.

(c) and (d) The Union Government has set up a National Rainfed Area Authority as an advisory, policy

making and monitoring body to provide knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's dryland and rainfed agriculture. Programmes like National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas, Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River, Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas, Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils and other externally aided projects are being implemented on watershed approach for development of rainfed and degraded land including arid and barren land through soil and water moisture conservation measures.

The Department of Land Resources is implementing three Centrally Sponsored area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. One of the main objectives of these programmes is conservation and development of natural resources *i.e.* land, water and vegetative cover. During the last five years, a total of 5487 projects covering an area of 2.92 million hectares under DPAP, 392 projects covering an area 0.196 million hectares under DDP and 452 projects covering an area of 2.26 million hectares under IWDP have been sanctioned.

### **Statement**

*State-wise Cultivable Land, Un-cultivable land, Net Area Sown and Total Cropped Area for the Agricultural Year 2006-07 (Provisional)*

(Thousand Hectares)

State/Union Territory	Cultivable Land	Un-cultivable land	Net Area Sown	Total Cropped Area
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	15911	11594	10147	12811
Arunachal Pradesh	422	5237	209	275
Assam	3224	4626	2753	3553
Bihar	6638	2722	5556	7582
Chhattisgarh	5581	8209	4722	5732
Goa	197	164	137	172
Gujarat	12412	6457	9852	12202
Haryana	3782	590	3556	6394
Himachal Pradesh	813	3732	543	947

1	2	3	4	5
Jammu and Kashmir	1048	2733	742	1126
Jharkhand	4184	3786	1769	2643
Karnataka	12894	6156	10105	12438
Kerala	2329	1557	2101	2918
Madhya Pradesh	17312	13444	14735	20113
Maharashtra	21162	9596	17475	22571
Manipur	231	1720	224	224
Meghalaya	1057	1170	213	265
Mizoram	213	1733	92	92
Nagaland	657	938	322	406
Orissa	7473	8098	5739	8677
Punjab	4270	763	4243	7983
Rajasthan	25600	8665	16764	21534
Sikkim	155	573	112	123
Tamil Nadu	8148	4879	5126	5843
Tripura	310	739	280	294
Uttarakhand	1504	4162	768	1241
Uttar Pradesh	19268	4933	16633	25800
West Bengal	5751	2933	5296	9635
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	47	748	13	14
Chandigarh	2	5	1	2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24	25	22	28
Daman and Diu	3	0	3	3
Delhi	54	93	23	43
Lakshadweep	3	0	3	3
Puducherry	31	18	20	36
All-India	182708	122799	140298	193723



*[English]***Subsidy for Edible Oil Import**

3353. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy to cover the losses suffered by the companies importing edible oils; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration to provide subsidy to cover the losses suffered by the private companies importing edible oils.

**Production Capacity of Sugar Mills**

3354. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in the country including Kerala, State-wise and sector-wise;

(b) whether the sugar producing capacity has declined during the last three years;

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

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A Statement showing State-wise and sector-wise number of sugar mills in the country including Kerala as on 30.06.09 is enclosed.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Statement***State-wise, Sector-wise Number of Installed Sugar Factories*

(Position as on 30.06.09)

State	Public Sector	Private Sector	Coop. Sector	Total
Punjab		7	16	23
Haryana		3	12	15
Rajasthan	1	1	1	3
Uttar Pradesh	33	94	28	155
Uttarakhand	2	4	4	10
Madhya Pradesh	2	5	5	12
Chhattisgarh			1	1
Gujarat		1	22	23
Maharashtra		30	165	195
Bihar	15	13		28
Assam		1	2	3
Orissa		4	4	8
West Bengal	1	1		2
Andhra Pradesh	1	27	15	43
Karnataka	3	32	23	58
Tamil Nadu	3	22	16	41
Puducherry		1	1	2
Kerala		1	1	2
Goa			1	1
Nagaland	1			1
Total	62	247	317	626

**Investment in Agricultural Research**

3355. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to increase investment in agricultural research in the country;

(b) if so, the required investment and the investment actually made in agricultural research;

(c) the details of funds allocated by the Government for agricultural research during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revamp the Indian Council of Agricultural Research so as to make it more productive;

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

(f) the time by which it is likely to be revamped?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Visualizing the need to increase investment in agricultural research in the country, the DARE/ICAR has been allocated an outlay of Rs. 12023 crore during XIth plan, which is substantially higher in comparison to Xth plan outlay of Rs. 5368 crore and the IXth Plan outlay of Rs. 3376.95 crore.

The status of year-wise plan fund allocation and actual expenditure is as follows:—

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Allocation	Actual Expenditure
2007-08	1620.00	1284.26
2008-09	1760.00	1653.81
2009-10	1760.00	to be compiled

(d) to (f) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

#### **Promotion of MSME Products**

3356. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to formulate a policy for promoting the sale of products by the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI

DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) For promoting the sale of products by the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), the Government is implementing several schemes/programmes like Market Development Assistance Scheme, Vendor Development Programme, Buyer-cum-Seller Meets, training programme on Packaging for Exports, etc. In addition, as per existing policy, 358 items are reserved for exclusive purchase by the Central Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Undertakings from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs). Further, the MSEs registered under the Single Point Registration Scheme of National Small Industries Corporation are provided various facilities like tender sets free of cost, exemption from deposit of earnest money, etc. The Government has also initiated steps for formulating a procurement policy for MSEs, as envisaged under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, in consultation with the Ministries/Departments concerned.

[*Translation*]

#### **Welfare Schemes for Sports Persons**

3357. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM

WAKCHAURE:

SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any welfare scheme for sports persons who have participated in national/international events;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to hike the financial assistance provided to outstanding sports personalities in distress;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to give any financial benefits to distinguished sports awardees; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the other facilities provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL):

(a) to (d) There is a Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sports persons living under indigent circumstances, for providing them with financial assistance. The rates of assistance under the scheme has been revised with effect from 01.07.2008, as follows:

- (i) Eligibility Ceiling for outstanding sports persons in indigent circumstances revised from Rs. 36,000 per annum to Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum.
- (ii) Assistance for fatal injury to a sports person raised from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 5.00 lakh.
- (iii) Assistance for sustaining injury other than a fatal injury enhanced from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (iv) Pension for permanently incapacitated outstanding sports person increased from Rs. 2500 per month to Rs. 10,000 per month (proposed to be replaced by ex-gratia).
- (v) Pension in other cases enhanced from Rs. 2,000 per month to Rs. 8,000 per month (proposed to be replaced by ex-gratia).
- (vi) Assistance to families of indigent sports persons increased from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (vii) Assistance for medical treatment increased from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 2.00 lakh.
- (viii) Assistance to eminent coaches, referees and umpires enhanced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000.

As the amount of financial assistance have been enhanced substantially recently with effect from 1.7.2008, there is at present no proposal to hike the financial assistance provided to outstanding sports personalities in distress.

(e) and (f) The sports persons/coaches conferred with Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dronacharya Award, Dhyanchand Award and Arjuna Award are also given award money at the rates as indicated below:

(Rs. in lakh)		
Name of the award	Existing award money	Revised award money from 2009
Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award	5.00	7.50
Dronacharya Award	3.00	5.00
Dhyanchand Award	3.00	5.00
Arjuna Award	3.00	5.00

Further, the Ministry of Railways provides 1st class/ 2nd AC complimentary card passes to Arjuna Awardees, Dronacharya Awardees, Olympic Medalists, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games Gold medalists.

### **Credit Cards to Farmers**

3358. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of credit cards issued to the farmers during each of the last three years;

(b) the total number of farmers who defaulted on the said credit cards; and

(c) the total number of farmers benefited under the loan waiver scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Details of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued to the farmers during each of the last three years are as under:

(No. in lakh)

Year	Number of KCCs issued
2006-07	85.11
2007-08	84.70
2008-09	67.96

(b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has informed that 828.70 lakh KCCs have been issued upto March, 2009 of which Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have issued 476.16 lakh KCCs. Out of a total of 476.16 lakh KCCs issued by Cooperative Banks and RRBs upto March, 2009, 238.39 lakh KCCs are operative accounts. Rest of the KCCs issued are inoperative either due to default in repayment of overdues or unwillingness of farmers to renew the KCC. Information in respect of operative KCC accounts with Commercial Banks is not available.

(c) Information is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement***Total number of farmers benefited under the loan waiver scheme*

Name of the State	Small Farmers/ Marginal Farmers	Other Farmers	Total
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	6646198	1109029	7755227
Assam	319546	18146	337692
Arunachal Pradesh	10775	1241	12016
Bihar	1662971	94548	1757519
Chhattisgarh	493828	201119	694947
Delhi	1324	388	1712
Gujarat	576137	410605	986742
Goa	1592	768	2360
Haryana	527490	357612	885102
Himachal Pradesh	114997	4794	119791
Jammu and Kashmir	47449	3081	50530
Jharkhand	639187	27239	666426
Karnataka	1171983	555360	1727343
Kerala	1390546	40192	1430738
Madhya Pradesh	1715624	659202	2374826
Maharashtra	3023000	1225000	4248000
Meghalaya	40885	2129	43014
Mizoram	18699	1641	20340
Manipur	56670	1393	58063
Nagaland	12623	2290	14913
Orissa	2377022	135935	2512957
Punjab	227416	193862	421278
Rajasthan	1111821	732765	1844586
Sikkim	7140	651	7791
Tamil Nadu	1427280	328206	1755486

1	2	3	4
Tripura	60502	1101	61603
Uttar Pradesh	4794348	621693	5416041
Uttarakhand	154962	18733	173695
West Bengal	1445743	16590	1462333
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1537	958	2495
Chandigarh	148	79	227
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	351	137	488
Daman and Diu	65	38	103
Lakshadweep	130	2	132
Puducherry	26247	5055	31302
Total	30106236	6771582	36877818

[English]

#### Assistance to Victims of Extremism

3359. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to launch any scheme to assist victims of violence perpetrated by terrorists, militants, insurgents and naxalites; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Government has already launched a scheme with effect from 01.04.2008 to assist victims of Terrorist and Communal Violence. The detailed guidelines are available under 'Circulars for public' on MHA website <http://mha.nic.in>.

#### Import of Foodgrains

3360. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the rates at which foodgrains were imported and the production, demand and availability thereof;

(b) whether the Government is importing foodgrains at a high price despite its production exceeding the demand in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Iron Ore Reserves

3361. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient reserve of iron ore is available in the country;

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

(c) the period upto which the iron ore reserves is likely to last to meet the domestic requirement;

(d) whether the Government proposes to put restrictions on granting mining lease to foreign companies; and

(e) if so, the action taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) As per available information, the total iron ore reserves in the country is 7.06 billion tonnes and the total resources of iron ore are estimated at 25.25 billion tonnes as on 01.04.2005. State-wise information on reserves/resources of iron ore is given the Indian Minerals Year Book, published by the Indian Bureau of Mines, a copy of which is supplied to the Parliament Library on regular basis.

(c) The reserves are a function of detailed exploration of resources and are dynamic in nature. The level of steel production and the grade of iron ore, taken for purposes of calculating the resources, are important parameters for determining how many years the iron ore deposits will last. The estimated figures can be between 150 to over 200 years depending on the assumptions made.

(d) and (e) As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 mining lease can be granted to any person who is an Indian citizen or a company as defined in Section 3(1) of Companies Act, 1956. There is no proposal to change this provision.

[*English*]

#### **Condition of Kedarnath Road**

3362. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road leading to the Kedarnath shrine is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to provide road connectivity similar to that of the Badrinath shrine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The road between Rudraprayag to Gauri Kund, National Highway No. 109 having a length of 75.3 km is in good trafficable condition and improvement of works from single lane to double lane is in progress. The stretch beyond Gourikund up to Kedarnath (14 km) is foot/mule track and is being maintained by State Government and is not a part of National Highway.

[*Translation*]

#### **Serials on Freedom Fighters on Doordarshan**

3363. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to produce/telecast serials and programmes on the biographies of prominent freedom fighters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the freedom fighters on whose biographies, serials and programmes were telecast/produced by Doordarshan (DD) during each of the last three years and the current year, DD-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (b) Prasar Bharati have informed that serials/programmes based on biographies of prominent freedom fighters are telecast as per the calendar of the events/anniversaries issued by the Government of India.

Prasar Bharati have further informed that in addition, Doordarshan have also telecast following programmes:

- (i) Series of 5 episodes on Bharat Ratna Late Lal Bahadur Shastri.
- (ii) Series of 13 episodes "Swarajnama".
- (iii) Series of 53 episodes "Bharat Ek Khoj".
- (iv) Series of 34 episodes "Swaraj".
- (v) "Colors of Freedom".
- (vi) "Bharatiyan".

(c) List of programmes is enclosed as Statement.

#### **Statement**

*Programmes Telecast by Doordarshan Kendras/ Channels of Doordarshan during the last three years & current year on prominent Freedom Fighters*

Sl.No.	DDK	Programme
1	2	3
1.	Jalandhar	Ek Mian Main do Talwaran on Kartar Singh Sarabha, Satguru Ramsingh Ji, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Sukhdev, Shahid Bhagat Singh, Shaheed Udham Singh
2.	Kolkata	Hasi Hasi Parbo Fasi on Kshudiram Bose, Biplaber Panchti Bachhar on Sri Aurobindo

1	2	3
		Agnituger Bismrita Nayak on Bipin Chandra Pal, Maham Bir on Birsa Munda
3.	Mumbai	Swantryacha Udghosh, Hello Manyawar - Programme on Raghunath More Guraji & Bhagat Singh Phatak, Itihas Swantantrachya Udghosh-Documentary on Lok Manya Tilak
4.	Hyderabad	Prakanayakudu Prakasam Sardar Jamalapuram Kesava Rao, Durgabhai Deshmukh, Vavilala Gopalakrishnaiah, Pingali Venkaiah, Suravaram Pratap Reddy, Raghupati Venkataratnam Naidu, Komarram Bheem, Kanneganti, Hanumanthu, Alluri Seetarama Raju, Mutnuri Krishna Rao, Ch. P.V. Murthy Raju, Kasu Brahmananda Reddy
5.	Chennai	Meena Krishna Swamy, Ansari Duraisamy, Sunderlingam, Subramann, Pooli Dvan, P.S. Kumarswami Raja, P.S. Sundram, Kalki Krishnamurti, Veeru Pachi Gopalswami Naickar, Shivamuthu Karupa Pillai, K.R. Jamathagni, Paramashivam, Captain Laxmi, Ve. Ve. S. Iyer, Madrai Maulana Sahib, Vaidyanatha Iyer, Annie Besant, Ammaiyaar, T.K. Shanmugam, Laxmana Iyer, Ganesha Iyer, Munuswami, K.T. Kosariram, G.S. Ramakrishanan, Kalyana Ramayia, Muthu Kumarapa Reddiyar, Arunachalam, Arraponam Rajagopal, Rathinavelu, Amarasimman, Ahmed Shah, Vellusamy Devar, Avinasilinga Chetiyar, Kovei Subramaniam, Ramamirtham Ammal, Kumaraswamy Gounder, Adikeshavalu Nayakar, Kumaraswamy Raja Ulaganthan, Subbalah Pillai, Subramania Sastrigal, Veerabhagu Pillai, Gomathi Sankara Dikshithar Udhaya, Perumal Gounder,

1	2	3
		Captain Janaki Devar, A.N. Sivaraman, Subbana Gounder, Pattabui Rama Iyer, Kallupatti Subramania Iyer, C. Subramaniam, Sengaaliyappan, Irattaimalia Sriniviasan, Sarvapali Radhakrishanan.
6.	Ranchi	Birsa Munda
7.	Dehradun	Swantantranta Sangram ke Nayak, Swantantranta Sangram ki Jayanti Par Vichar Goshthi, Ek Mulakat
8.	Raipur	Pt. Sunder Lal Sharma, Bhartayan Gundadhar
9.	Ahmedabad	Documentary on Shri Mahajot Mota, Suryakant Parekh & Smt. Geeta Parekh, Shri Chunni Bhai Vaidya, Documentary on Jeevraj Mehta, Brahmakumar Bhat & Shri Naveen Chandra Ravani, Narayan Bhai Desai & Gandhian
10.	Jaipur	Kanhaiya Lal Sethia, Govind Guru, Manikyalal Verma, Motilal, Tejawat, Baba Harishchandra, Gokumbhai Bhat, Harideo Joshi, Gauri Shankar Upadhya, Bhogi Lal Pandya, Jamnalal Bajaj, Pt. Abhinhari, Hiralal Shastri, Hari Bhau Upadhya, Vijay Singh Pathik, Mohanlal Sukhadia, Shiv Charan Mathur Kesri Singh, Master Balwant Singh Mehta, Baba Panna Das, Tantyia Tope, Durga Das Rathore Suryamal Mishrann
11.	Rajkot	Rastrapita Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Vichar Goshthi
12.	Silchar	Phire Esho Again, Shahid Khudiram Bose, Chacha Nehru, Non-Violence, Deboshri Dutta, Binay, Badal, Dinesh, Netaji, Laha Pranam

1	2	3
13.	Dibrugarh	Shri Tankeshwar Chetia, Ramesh Chander Bora, Sishuram Dutta, Shri Harendra Nath Mech
14.	Patna	Aaj Ke Mehman-Shri Devlal Sinha
15.	Hisar	TV Report on Shri Ranveer Singh Hooda, Documentary on Ranveer Singh Hooda, Documentary on Lala Deshbandu Gupta
16.	Panaji	Shri Bonafacio Dias, Shri Vinayak Ghadi
17.	Bhubneshwar	Saheed Laxman Nayak, Shaheed Raghu Dibakar, Veera, Surendra Sal, Saheed Bagha Jatin

*DD-India Channel*

Sl.No.	Name of the Programme
1	2
1.	Mahatma Gandhi Ka Jeevan Aur Darshan
2.	Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel
3.	Chacha Nehru
4.	Bharat Ratan Dr. Zakir Hussain
5.	Spl. Prog. on Sarojini Naidu "Bharat Kokila"
6.	Spl. Prog. on Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyaya
7.	Aruna Asif Ali
8.	Azad Ki Yaad Prog. on Shaheed Chandershekhar Azad
9.	Ek Vyakti Ek Desh Spl. Prog. on Late Prime Minister Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri
10.	Moments from the Life & Times of "Pt. Govind Vallabh Bhai Panth"
11.	Ashfaqulla Khan
12.	Pt. Nehru Doc. On Late Prime Minister Sh. Jawahar Lal Nehru

1	2
13.	Spl. Prog. on Late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi Birth Anniversary "Indira an Indian First"
14.	Indira Priyadarshani Prog. on Late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi
15.	"The Supreme Leader" Spl. Prog. on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Birth Anniversary
16.	Mahatma The Great Soul
17.	Observance of Martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi "A TV Report"
18.	"A life sacred beyond words" Prog. on the occasion of birth centenary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh
19.	"Dharati Ka Lal" Serial on former Prime Minister of India Late Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri
20.	"Lagenge Har Baras Mele" Spl. Prog. on shaheed Bhagat Singh
21.	Yugdrishta Gandhi Ji
22.	Live telecast of the 139th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi celebrations
23.	"Dharti Ka Lal"-Bharat Ratna Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri (T.F.)
24.	Indira Gandhi-Ek Mahila Ek Maa
25.	Martyrdom of Mrs. Indira Gandhi Live coverage from Akbar Road
26.	Spl. Prog. on Children's Day-Nehru "A Pictorial Biography"
27.	"Mirror to an age" Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru Autobiography
28.	Mahatma (Doc. On Mahatma Gandhi)
29.	Spl. Prog. on Women's Day "Indira Priyadarshani"
30.	"Bapu Ji" Series o Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi
31.	Azadi Ki Raah Par-Subhash Chandra Bose
32.	Ek Uttang Vyaktimatva Prog. on Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar



**DD Bharati Channel**

Sl.No.	Programmes
1.	Ek Vyakti Ek Desh-on Lal Bahadur Shastri
2.	Azad Ki Yaad-on great martyr Chandra Shekhar Azad
3.	Gandhiji-his contribution on Humanity
4.	Khadi Darshan-on Mahatma Gandhi
5.	Gandhi Ek Vichar
6.	Mahatma-Series on Mahatma Gandhi
7.	Mahamanav Ki Yaad-on Mahatma Gandhi
8.	Fakruddin Ali Ahmed
9.	Sarojini Naidu
10.	Ba Tum Atm Darshan Ho Documentary on Kasturba Gandhi
11.	Ek Vichar Ki Khoj Mein-Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya
12.	Babuji-Prog on Babu Jagjivan Ram
13.	Manavta Ke Pujari-on Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
14.	Aruna Asaf Ali
15.	Jai Jagat-Binova Bhav
16.	Bhahadur Shah Zafar
17.	Lok Manya Tilak-on the occasion of Death Anniversary
18.	Rama Devi-Documentary On A Great Social Reformer and Freedom Fighter
19.	Baba Prithvi Singh Azad
20.	Prog. on Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar
21.	The Search for Truth on Annie Besant
22.	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
23.	"SNEHMAYEE" Documentary on Kamla Nehru
24.	Freedom Struggle and Indian Poetry-Contribution of various National poets like Rabindranath Tagore, Subramaniam Bharati, and Kazi Nasrul Islam & other regional poets
25.	Inquilab-Ek Vichar Ki Yatra On Shaheed Bhagat Singh

*[English]***Allocation Under NFSM**

3364. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI RAMKISHUN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made under the National Food Security Mission; and

(b) the details of the funds allocated to various States including Orissa under the National Food Security Mission during each of the last two years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The reports received from the States so far indicates that during the first two years (2007-08 & 2008-09) of implementation of National Food Security Mission (NFSM), 2.35 lakh demonstrations on rice and wheat were conducted, which covered nearly one lakh ha area. Besides, about 7.5 lakh quintals of HYV rice seeds and 13 thousand quintals of hybrid rice seeds were distributed. In case of wheat, 34.5 lakh quintals of HYVs seeds were distributed. Further, 5.7 lakh quintals of seeds of different pulses were distributed to the farmers. In addition, deficient soils were treated with Gypsum/Lime/Micro-nutrients. Under capacity building of the farmers, 14,535 numbers of Farmers Field School (FFS) were organized under NFSM.

The focused and target oriented technological interventions under NFSM has made significant impact on production of rice, wheat, pulses. During 2007-08 the rice production is recorded as 96.69 million tonnes against 93.35 million tonnes in 2006-07. As per the 4th advanced estimate of 08-09, the rice production is estimated to be 99.15 million tonnes, showing an increase of 5.8 million tonnes compared to 2006-07. Similarly, the production of wheat during 2007-08 was recorded as 78.57 million tonnes against 75.81 million tonnes in 2006-07. As per the 4th advanced estimate of 2008-09, the production of wheat is estimated as 80.58 million tonnes which is 4.77 million tonnes more than 2006-07. The pulses production is recorded as 14.76 million tonnes during 2007-08, which is 0.56 million tonnes more than 2006-07. As per the 4th advance estimate of 2008-09, the pulses production is estimated as 14.66 million tonnes which is more or less same as that of 2007-08.

(b) The statement indicating the funds allocated to various states including Orissa under National Food

Security Mission during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is annexed.

### **Statement**

*Name of the Scheme: National Food Security Mission as on 23/07/2009 (Rs. in Crore)*

States	2007-08					2008-09					2009-10				
	Rice	Wheat	Pulses	Publicity	Total	Rice	Wheat	Pulses	Publicity	Total	Rice	Wheat	Pulses	Publicity	Total
Andhra Pradesh	15.95	0.00	28.11	0.76	44.82	36.69	0.00	68.34	1.00	106.03	38.32	0.00	84.02	2.71	125.05
Assam	11.51	0.00	0.00	0.16	11.67	32.43	0.00	0.00	0.20	32.63	26.22	0.00	0.00	1.06	27.28
Bihar	2.63	28.92	3.38	1.38	36.31	39.28	40.87	29.46	0.00	109.61	10.89	36.42	32.89	1.69	81.88
Chhattisgarh	4.41	0.00	9.63	0.51	14.55	35.30	0.00	52.22	0.00	87.52	34.40	0.00	15.52	0.91	50.83
Gujarat	0.00	4.80	2.26	0.31	7.37	4.45	9.48	7.21	0.41	21.55	0.56	3.28	10.41	0.85	15.11
Haryana	0.00	18.74	2.15	0.62	21.51	0.00	25.53	1.68	0.00	27.21	0.00	20.05	8.68	0.67	29.41
Jharkhand					0.00	12.77	0.00	0.00	0.30	13.07	10.94	0.00	0.00	0.99	11.93
Karnataka	2.42	0.00	5.11	0.34	7.87	19.39	0.00	15.92	0.50	35.81	13.65	0.00	33.59	1.49	48.73
Kerala	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	1.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.89	3.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.47
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	26.47	16.94	3.06	46.47	20.89	42.85	50.83	0.00	114.58	6.42	36.56	40.65	0.72	84.35
Maharashtra	0.87	3.97	8.58	0.72	14.14	15.06	19.51	42.78	1.53	78.88	15.71	8.40	46.92	1.53	72.56
Orissa	6.46	0.00	4.57	0.31	11.34	40.02	0.00	28.43	0.81	69.26	27.77	0.00	13.31	2.03	43.10
Punjab	0.00	31.08	0.66	1.14	32.88	0.00	41.09	4.10	0.00	45.19	0.00	42.18	6.27	0.15	48.59
Rajasthan	0.00	15.04	8.53	1.05	24.62	0.00	25.59	14.63	1.48	41.70	0.00	24.31	15.88	1.97	42.16
Tamil Nadu	9.17	0.00	4.44	0.25	13.86	41.18	0.00	6.14	0.50	47.82	17.79	0.00	12.28	2.31	32.38
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	70.79	8.41	4.59	83.79	33.74	120.07	38.43	0.00	192.24	43.08	142.69	67.11	0.16	253.03
West Bengal	6.09	7.27	1.86	0.78	16.00	49.02	5.69	15.69	0.00	70.39	54.68	4.78	12.34	0.49	72.29
Total	59.51	207.08	104.63	15.98	387.20	382.11	330.68	375.87	6.73	1095.38	303.90	318.67	399.86	19.73	1042.16

[Translation]

### **Residential Arrangements for Commonwealth Games**

3365. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the places where the sports persons and participants are likely to be housed during the Commonwealth Games have been identified; and

(b) if so, the details of the number of sports persons anticipated to arrive for the event and their stay arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. About 8000 sports persons are expected for the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and they would be housed at Games Village, which is being developed by Delhi Development Authority at a site adjacent to the Akshardham Temple, off the NH 24. The Village would have all the modern amenities for the sports persons as per the requirements of Commonwealth Games Federation.

[English]

### **Committee to Assess Small Industries**

3366. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee has been set up to examine the problems being faced by the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government has set up a National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (NBMSME) consisting of representatives from the Central Government, State Governments, both Houses of Parliament, Financial Institutions, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Associations, persons of eminence from different fields and trade unions. The NBMSME, inter-alia, examine the factors affecting the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises and review the policies and programmes of the Central Government in regard to facilitating the promotion and development and enhancing the competitiveness of such enterprises. The Government has also set up an Advisory Committee, which among others also examines the matters referred to it by the NBMSME and recommends suitable measures for its consideration.

#### **Telecast of Commonwealth Games**

3367. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to telecast/broadcast Commonwealth Games on TV and Radio in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Government's preparedness to telecast Commonwealth Games in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Prasar Bharati through its constituents Doordarshan and Akashvani, is in the process of finalizing the telecast plan for Commonwealth Games Delhi, 2010 on Television and Radio.

The broad outline of the telecast plan on Television is:

- I. The opening and closing ceremonies will be telecast live on DD National, DD Sports and DD India Channel. DD News will air these ceremonies live on its News bulletins.

II. DD Sports will telecast all events live and deferred live round the clock during the Games period. It will become Commonwealth Games Channel during the games period.

III. Daily highlights of one hour on DD National during the games.

The broad outline of the Broadcast plan on Radio is:

I. During the games, there will be live programming for 7 hrs. 30 minutes daily, besides the live commentary of the Opening and Closing ceremonies.

II. Every night, there will be a programme highlighting the day's events.

III. Regional capsules will be broadcast by Non-Hindi Capital Stations. Hourly updates will be given on FM Rainbow Channels. Capsules in English, Hindi and Urdu will be broadcast in External Services Division.

IV. All India Radio has also planned to provide adequate coverage to Queen's Baton Relay as a pre-game programme. Curtain raiser and warm-up programmes have also been planned.

(c) All India Radio will depute adequate programme and technical officials, commentators for the live coverage/reporting of the Games. They will be imparted training and will be attending workshops to sensitize them for the coverage.

The basic feed (World Feed) in High Definition Television (HDTV) would be generated by the Host Broadcaster. The Host Broadcaster is in the process of finalizing the entity for the production and coverage of the games. Request For Proposal has been issued.

Doordarshan and AIR would customize the basic feed from Indian perspective including the performance of India Athletes.

Doordarshan and AIR have exclusive telecast right for TV and Radio for Indian Territory. The customized coverage would be telecast Live/Deferred live on Doordarshan and AIR network.

An International Broadcast Centre will also be set up at ITPO. Expression of Interest has been issued for short-listing parties for setting up an International Broadcast Centre at ITPO.

**Disease in Pomegranate**

3368. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reports of problems being faced by the Pomegranate producers due to 'Mar' and 'Telya' disease in different parts of the country including Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government/Agricultural scientists are providing any assistance to such producers to tide over the situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; including funds allocated for this purpose;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of other steps being taken to assist the Pomegranate producers to improve the productivity and quality of their produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Among known diseases, Telya (bacterial blight) alongwith Mar (wilt) are major problems faced by Pomegranate growers in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra. The spread of disease is associated with lack of proper orchard management practices and prevalence of pre-disposing environmental conditions during the last three years.

(c) to (e) Government has sanctioned a special package on Good Management Practices (GMP) under which financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 4434.12 lakhs and Rs. 5549.00 lakhs during 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively was provided to bacterial blight affected pomegranate areas in these three States. Further, a network project has been sanctioned with components of surveillance, demonstration, training and creation of awareness through demonstration in the farmers field.

(f) (i) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has provided 'Orchard Health Management Schedule' to mitigate these diseases.

(ii) The National Research Centre set up at Solapur on 25th September, 2005 has already developed

a comprehensive technology for the management of 'Telya' and other diseases which is demonstrated in major pomegranate growing areas in the country.

(iii) Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore has helped in standardization and demonstration of technologies against 'Telya' disease.

[*Translation*]

**Regional Languages in Eighth Schedule**

3369. YOGI ADITYA NATH:  
PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:  
SHRI MADHUSUDAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for inclusion of regional languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any request from the State Governments for inclusion of more regional languages in the Eighth Schedule;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of the languages suggested by such States including the decision taken regarding Bhojpuri language; and

(d) the time by which such languages are likely to be included in the Eighth Schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No criteria has been laid down in the Constitution of India for inclusion of regional languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) and (d) The request for inclusion of Bhojpuri, Bhutia, Mizo and Rajasthani languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution have been received from the State Governments of Bihar, Sikkim, Mizoram and Rajasthan respectively. A decision on the pending demands for inclusion of languages in the Eighth Schedule including Bhojpuri will be taken in the light of the recommendation of the Sitakant Mohapatra Committee and decision of these recommendation. No time frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule.

*[English]***Annual Growth Rate of Agriculture**

3370. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:  
 SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN  
 SINGH:  
 SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
 SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
 SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual Growth rate of agriculture during the year 2008-09;

(b) whether the Growth rate is lower than the target fixed;

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

(d) whether world wide economic recession is the major factor responsible for this shortfall;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Annual growth rate (at 1999-2000 prices) of Agriculture and allied sectors was 1.6% during the year 2008-09.

(b) and (c) The growth target of Agriculture is set at 4% for the Eleventh Plan (2007-12). During 2007-08 and 2008-09, Agriculture and allied sectors grew by 4.9% and 1.6% respectively. During 2007-08 Agriculture sector only grew by 5.0%.

(d) and (e) There is no evidence of effect of world wide economic recession on agriculture growth. Investment in the agriculture sector has increased over the year from 11.1% to Gross Domestic Product in 2004-05 to 13.3% in 2007-08.

(f) A State Plan scheme of Additional Central Assistance for Agriculture Sector namely Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been launched during 2007-08 to achieve 4% agricultural growth during 11th Five Year

Plan. The strategy to achieve 4% agricultural growth would lay emphasis on the following:

- Accelerating the production and productivity of major food crops on regionally differentiated basis with thrust on pulses and oilseed sector.
- Development of rainfed and dry land areas through farming, livelihood systems and better watershed management.
- Revamp of extension system to improve delivery mechanism at the grass root level.
- Focus on farmers welfare through risk mitigation, reduction of rural distress and better social security system.
- Greater role for the Panchayat Raj Institutions.
- Modernise markets.
- Improve efficiency of investment and rationalize subsidy.

Further, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" has been launched in 312 identified districts of 17 States from Rabi season of 2007-08 with an aim to increase the additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains, comprising of 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of Eleventh Plan (2011-12).

**Marketing Facilities for Farmers**

3371. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that the farmers are facing difficulties in the marketing of their produce and are forced to sell them to certain designated agencies in the open market at a loss;

(b) if so, the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the farmers;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage private sector investment in the marketing infrastructure;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage more investment for agricultural marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The

buying and selling of agricultural commodities mainly takes place in market yards and sub-yards (primary and secondary wholesale markets) and Rural Periodic Markets spread throughout the country. The agricultural commodities move from the farm gate to consumers through several marketing channels which vary from commodity to commodity and farmers are free to choose any channel for sale of their produce where prices are favourable to them. Therefore, they are not forced to sell their produce to certain designated agencies in open market at a loss.

(b) With a view to safeguard the interest of farmers in marketing their agricultural produce, the Government is implementing the following schemes:

(i) **Marketing Research and Information Network:**

The objective of the Scheme is to establish a nationwide information network by providing electronic connectivity to important agricultural produce markets spread all over the country, State Agricultural Marketing Boards and Directorates. The scheme was introduced with the objective to collect and disseminate prices and market related data for its efficient and timely utilization by the producers, traders and consumers to derive maximum advantages out of their sales and purchases and to increase efficiency of marketing by effective improvement in the existing market information system.

- (ii) **Construction of Rural Godowns:** This central Sector Scheme which was launched in April 2001 aims at creating scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc., and prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit. Since the inception of the scheme, 20689 rural godowns with a capacity of 240.87 lakh MTs involving release of eligible subsidy of Rs. 553.80 crore have been sanctioned under the scheme upto 30th June, 2009.

- (iii) **Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading & Standardization:** This reformed linked central sector scheme launched w.e.f. 20.10.2004, provides credit linked investment subsidy on the capital cost of general or commodity specific marketing infrastructure for agricultural commodities and for strengthening and

modernization of existing agricultural markets namely wholesale, rural or periodic in tribal areas. Since the inception of the scheme i.e. 20.10.2004 and upto 31.3.2009, 4338 marketing infrastructure projects have been sanctioned by NABARD, NCDC and of State Agencies and subsidy of Rs. 234.50 crore has been released.

(iv) **Agri-business Development Scheme through Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC):**

The Central Sector Scheme of venture capital assistance for Agri-business Development, which was approved on 19th July, 2005, is being implemented by SFAC in close association with Commercial Banks. SFAC has sanctioned 227 agri-business projects involving Venture Capital Assistance of Rs. 57.30 crore till 31.3.2009. The projects are expected to mobilize private investment of Rs. 549.30 crore.

(v) **Setting up of Terminal Market Complex (TMC):**

The Department has taken the initiative for setting up modern terminal market complex for fruits, vegetables and other perishables in important urban centres of the country by encouraging private investment on Build Own and Operate (BOO) basis. The Department has modified the on-going Terminal Market Complex scheme under which now subsidy not exceeding 40% of project cost would be provided and which shall not exceed Rs. 50.00 crore per TMC. For protecting the interest of farmers, provision has been made for an option to the Producers Associations to participate in the equity of the project subject to a maximum of 26%.

- (vi) **Reforms in Agricultural Marketing:** With a view to encourage private sector participation in the marketing infrastructure, the Ministry of Agriculture formulated a Model Act on reforms in Agricultural Marketing during 2003 in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories and circulated to them for its adoption. The model legislation provides for establishment of Private Markets/Yards, Direct Purchase Centres, Consumer/Farmers Markets for direct sale and promotion of Public Private Partnership in the management and development of agricultural markets in the country. The status of reforms undertaken by various State Governments/Union Territories is given in the enclosed Statement.

(vii) **Minimum Support Prices:** The Government also announces is each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies. The designated central nodal agencies intervene in the market for undertaking procurement operations with the objective that the market prices do not fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government. The Government decides on the support price for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices.

(viii) **Market Intervention Scheme (MIS):** The Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural and agricultural commodities generally perishable in nature and

not covered under Price Support Scheme to protect the growers of these commodities. The MIS is implemented when the prices tend to fall below economic levels/cost of production and to avoid distress sale in the event of bumper crop during the peak arrival period. The MIS is implemented on the request of a State/Union Territory.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Working Group on Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure and Policy required for Internal and External Trade for XI Five Year Plan constituted by Planning Commission has projected total investment of Rs. 64,312 crore, besides Rs. 43000 crores for food processing sector for strengthening and development of marketing infrastructure during XI Plan period. A major portion of this investment is expected from private sector, for which an appropriate regulatory and policy environment is necessary.

(e) The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various schemes to encourage more investment for agricultural marketing. The details are given in reply to part (b) of the Question.

#### **Statement**

##### *Progress of Market Reforms in Agricultural Markets (APMC Act) as on 30.06.2009*

Sl.No.	Stage of Reforms	Name of States/Union Territories
1.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done for <i>Direct Marketing; Contract Farming and Markets in Private/Coop Sectors</i>	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura.
2.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done partially	(a) <i>Direct Marketing</i> : NCT of Delhi. (b) <i>Contract Farming</i> : Haryana (c) <i>Private markets</i> Punjab and Chandigarh
3.	States/UTs where there is no APMC Act and hence not requiring reforms	Bihar*, Kerala, Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, and Lakshadweep.
4.	States/UTs where APMC Act already provides for the reforms	Tamil Nadu
5.	States/ UTs where administrative action is initiated for the reforms	Mizoram, Meghalaya, Haryana, J&K, Punjab Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Pondicherry, NCT of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

\*APMC Act is repealed w.e.f. 1.9.2006.

#### **Status of APMC Rules as on 30.6.2009**

The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka,

Madhya Pradesh (only for special license for more than one market) and Haryana (only for contract farming) have notified such amended Rules.

### **National Rainfed Area Authority**

3372. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to move the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) from Agriculture Ministry to Rural Development Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the major achievements of NRAA in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) is functioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture and is providing technical services to the Ministry of Rural Development for watershed development programme as an inter-ministerial agency.

The Authority has published the Common Guidelines for Watershed Development Projects with a fresh framework for the next generation watershed programmes. The Authority has also prepared a vision document "Harnessing Opportunities in Rainfed Areas". The Vision Document will help to guide and provide future direction to harness innovative policies, knowledge, technologies and opportunities for holistic and sustainable development of rainfed areas. The authority has developed a detailed format for facilitating the States in preparing the prospective plan for development of rainfed areas in the states. The Authority has organized workshops in the States for adoption of Common Guidelines and also have started organizing workshops for preparation of prospective plans. NRAA is associated in review of the schemes of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in all the States of the country with Planning Commission through a Committee of Experts. The Authority has provided technical and scientific back-up in the Climate Change Mission of Agriculture and Environment Ministries. The Authority has also prepared a comprehensive report on 'Mitigation Strategy for Bundelkhand Regions of UP and MP'. Besides above, the following publications have been made by NRAA:

- i. Rainfed Livelihoods: Progressive Paradigms
- ii. Soyabean based farming systems for improving livelihood of rainfed areas.

- iii. Hiware Bazar-An experience in integrated natural resource management.
- iv. Harmonization of wastelands/Degraded Lands Datasets of India.
- v. Food Security, Water and Energy Nexus in India.
- vi. Farmer & Industry Partnership for diversified livelihood and enhanced productivity an ITC case study.

[*Translation*]

### **Steps for NHAI Road Builders**

3373. SHRI MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India has announced any new economic set up to make road construction profitable for road builders from the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has undertaken restructuring of Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) projects which have not attracted bidders to improve their financial viability.

### **Spurious Liquor**

3374. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been reports of large scale production/distribution/consumption of spurious liquor in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such persons died after consuming spurious liquor during each of the last three years, State-wise including NCT of Delhi;

(c) the total number of accused persons arrested and action taken against them during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the name of the States where total prohibition is in force; and



(e) the steps taken by the Government to curb the sale and distribution of spurious liquor in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (e) As per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on the basis of reports from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, the State/UT-wise details of number of cases, persons injured and persons died due to consumption of spurious liquor during the three years 2005 to 2007 are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The State-wise number of cases registered, charge-sheeted & convicted, persons arrested, charge-sheeted & convicted under the Prohibition Act during the period 2005 to 2007 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Intoxicating liquors are specifically covered by entry 8 of List II (State List) of Schedule 7 to the Constitution of India and the States have the exclusive power to regulate their production, manufacture, possession, transport, purchase and sale. While the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of such crimes and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies, the Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime and therefore, has been advising the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measure as necessary for prevention and control of crime.

**Statement I**

*State/UT-wise number of Accidental Deaths by Spurious/Poisonous liquor during 2005-2007*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Cases	2005					
			Persons Injured			Persons Died		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>States:</b>								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35	0	0	0	28	10	38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
3.	Assam	1	86	0	86	17	0	17
4.	Bihar	76	11	2	13	36	41	77
5.	Chhattisgarh	8	0	0	0	5	3	8
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	40	0	0	0	35	5	40
8.	Haryana	62	0	0	0	56	6	62
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14	0	0	0	13	1	14
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	18	0	0	0	7	3	10
12.	Karnataka	78	0	0	0	55	24	79
13.	Kerala	2	0	0	0	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Madhya Pradesh	15	2	0	2	12	1	13
15.	Maharashtra	1	0	0	0	4	2	6
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.	Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	212	0	0	0	150	62	212
22.	Rajasthan	30	47	0	47	32	0	32
23.	Sikkim	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	52	0	0	0	35	18	53
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	45	10	2	12	42	4	46
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	11	2	0	2	6	3	9
Total (States)		702	158	4	162	536	184	720
<b>Union Territories:</b>								
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	3	0	0	0	1	2	3
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (UTs)		4	0	0	0	2	2	4
Total (All India)		706	158	4	162	538	186	724

*State/UT-wise number of Accidental Deaths by Spurious/Poisonous liquor during 2005-2007*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Cases	2006					
			Persons Injured			Persons Died		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>States:</b>								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99	0	0	0	85	19	104
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	51	5	2	7	29	23	52
5.	Chhattisgarh	38	0	0	0	24	14	38
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	55	0	0	0	35	20	55
8.	Haryana	9	0	0	0	8	1	9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	21	1	0	1	17	4	21
12.	Karnataka	18	0	0	0	13	5	18
13.	Kerala	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	42	0	0	0	29	13	42
15.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	14	0	0	0	13	1	14
21.	Punjab	103	0	0	0	66	37	103
22.	Rajasthan	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
24.	Tamil Nadu	116	35	17	52	100	25	125
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	99	17	3	20	78	13	91
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	5	2	0	2	3	1	4
Total (States)		677	60	22	82	506	177	683
Union Territories:								
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
33.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (UTs)		2	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total (All India)		679	60	22	82	507	178	685

*State/UT-wise number of Accidental Deaths by Spurious/Poisonous liquor during 2005-2007*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Cases	2007					
			Persons Injured			Persons Died		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>States:</b>								
1.	Andhra Pradesh	84	0	0	0	63	22	85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	2	0	1	1	4	0	4
4.	Bihar	62	7	0	7	41	27	68
5.	Chhattisgarh	39	0	0	0	22	17	39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	84	0	0	0	70	14	84
8.	Haryana	57	0	0	0	44	13	57
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	1	3	4	1	1	2
11.	Jharkhand	30	2	1	3	27	4	31
12.	Karnataka	142	0	0	0	81	61	142
13.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14	0	0	0	14	0	14
15.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	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.	Orissa	16	0	0	0	18	4	22
21.	Punjab	175	0	0	0	127	48	175
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	101	29	19	48	107	28	135
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	55	14	1	15	47	3	50
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	388	62	25	87	182	143	325
Total (States)		1255	115	50	165	848	385	1233
<b>Union Territories:</b>								
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	18	0	0	0	12	6	18
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total (UTs)	18	0	0	0	12	6	18
	Total (All India)	1273	115	50	165	860	391	1251

**Statement II**

*Cases Registered (CR), Cases Chargesheeted (CS), cases convicted (CV), persons arrested (PAR), persons chargesheeted (PCS) & persons convicted (PCV) under prohibition Act during 2005-2007*

Sl.No.	State	2005						2006						2007					
		CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1084	1243	1068	1618	1796	1214	886	689	457	999	928	529	1530	1477	619	1531	1493	708
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	16	3	1	13	7	0	8	5	0	8	9
4.	Bihar	0	3	0	0	4	0	22	2	0	27	4	0	4	22	4	6	27	4
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	126356	126792	13054	133589	134708	13877	137022	131853	114764	141119	137809	117971	158444	156612	89018	167460	165553	89857
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	7068	7018	3364	10965	10757	5804	4826	5779	3854	8935	9774	6947	6460	6875	3620	12504	13320	7843
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2092	2092	755	2084	2084	756	1955	1955	1372	5322	5322	6650	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	93959	99738	3345	98813	106337	3559	81364	80779	1246	84247	85524	1304	75904	75500	1276	79780	79638	1347
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18.	Mizoram	262	262	60	300	272	160	221	221	377	252	267	259	169	169	181	190	190	187
19.	Nagaland	35	32	27	73	84	37	28	31	28	55	53	59	27	21	15	44	25	18
20.	Orissa	5	3	0	10	10	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	10	7	2	18	15	4	8	4	6	14	7	2	2	1	0	3	1	0
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	95270	75542	56551	92869	82862	57861	89447	61667	41724	88201	62477	41884	101746	73579	49360	99809	84920	54091
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	15	13	0	16	16	0	15	12	0	21	17	0	10	9	0	9	9	0
Total State		326156	312745	73226	340355	338945	83272	315797	283010	163831	329197	302200	175612	344297	314273	144098	361336	345184	154064
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	30	20	1	79	61	5	77	49	2	206	115	5	59	61	4	192	181	9
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi UT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	4	1	0	3	1	0	9	5	3	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total UT		34	21	1	82.0	62	5	86	54	5	211.0	119	6	59	61	4	192.0	181	9
Total All India		326190	312766	78227	340437	339007	83277	315883	283064	163836	329408	302319	175618	344356	314334	144102	361528	345365	154073

**Development of Roads in States**

3375. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a National Highways 'Upgradation Committee' to accelerate the pace of development of roads in various States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to simplify the procedure for land acquisition to solve the problems being faced in construction of Highways; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Land required for National Highway purposes is acquired within the legal framework of the provisions under Sections 3A to 3J of the National Highways Act, 1956 and also under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. As and when deficiencies or problems are encountered, necessary remedial action is taken and this is a continuous process.

*[English]***Ban on Eucalyptus Plantation**

3376. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports about the disadvantages of Eucalyptus trees as they led to depletion of ground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to impose ban on the plantation of Eucalyptus trees in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) As per the study conducted by the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), under Ministry of Environment & Forest, Eucalyptus plantations do not lower down the ground water table. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has also conducted studies and reported that there are several species of Eucalyptus available for plantation in India and they differ in their water requirement from each other and most of them are not known to absorb more water from ground water table. There are some varieties of Eucalyptus species which are suitable for drier regions and some species like *E. Camaldulensis* and *E. Tereticornis* are reported to absorb more water from ground water table at some places particularly in water logged areas.

There is no proposal with the Government as of now to ban plantation of Eucalyptus trees in the Country.

**Well Being of Farmers**

3377. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:  
SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:  
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken several steps for improving the well being of farmers and their families;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure remunerative price and easy access to banks credit at lower rate of interest to the farmers, including small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government has taken several steps for the well

being of farmers and their families. The steps taken by the Government include increase in plan outlays, endeavor to increase in overall investment, launching of new Schemes/Programmes and Projects during recent years such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Revised Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) etc. RKVY is a new State Plan Scheme of additional central assistance for agriculture and allied sectors. The basic objective of RKVY is to incentivise the states to gear up investment in agriculture. The Revised MMA aims to bring all round development in agriculture Sector. Scheme on Micro irrigation has been launched to ensure efficient use of water and improve productivity. There has been quantum jump in production of certified/quality seeds of high yielding varieties during last few years.

The increase in the total financial outlay for agriculture (including Additional Central Assistance to the States) for the year revised estimate for 2008-09 over the corresponding figure of the previous year was 34.5%. It is further proposed to be increased over the RE of 2008-09 by 13.4% in 2009-10 to Rs. 11,915.22 crores.

The Government's Price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. During the last 5 years, a substantial increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) ranging from 49% to 78% of major cereals and upto 83% for pulses & oilseeds has been done. Consequently, the farmers covered larger area and produced more.

The Government has initiated several measures to make institutional credit available to farmers at lower affordable rate of interest. In order to improve the flow of credit and mitigate the distressing situation of farmers, special farm credit package is going on with substantial credit flow. Crop loan upto Rs. 3 lakh is to be provided at 7%. The Government of India is providing interest subvention to banks on their own involvement for making loans available to the farmers at 7% interest. Additional subvention of 1% will be given by the Government from this year for timely payment. In order to ensure timely and hassle free credit to farmers, Kissan Credit Card Scheme has been going on throughout the country since 1998-99. The banks have issued 812.9 lakh Kissan Credit Cards upto 31st March, 2009. The total credit flow has increased from Rs. 86.981 crores in 2003-04 to Rs. 2,87,149 crores in 2008-09 and is further, targeted to be increased to Rs. 3,25,000 crores in 2009-10.

Due to a number of steps taken by the Government and farmers encouraging response thereto, a record level of foodgrain production of 230.77 million tonnes could be achieved during 2007-08. This positive trend continued during the last year. As per the 4th Advance estimates, foodgrain production during 2008-09 is likely to be 233.87 million tons. The average growth rate in the agriculture and allied sector has been more than 4% during the last 4 years.



**CISF Security Cover to VIPs**

3378. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate action has been taken to guard VIPs including PM, in view of security threat to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Industrial Security Force proposes to increase their manpower in view of its undertaking the new assignment of providing security to private establishments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Keeping in view the security threat, adequate security is being provided to VIPs including the Prime Minister.

(c) and (d) As per the report received from CISF, it does not propose to increase their manpower presently.

*[Translation]*

**Acquisition of Sophisticated Weapons by Naxalites**

3379. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received reports about the Naxalites having acquired sophisticated weapons including Rocket Launchers;

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

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to counter the new threat perception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) As per available Information Maoist have sophisticated weapons including rocket launcher. Naxalites primarily get a substantial bulk of their weapons by looting. They also get them from illicit weapons manufacturing units. Law and order being a State subject, action in this regard is taken by the concerned State Governments, which maintain close vigil and conduct Intelligence-based operations against Naxalite hideouts and illicit weapon manufacturing units. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in several ways. These include modernization and upgradation of the State Police under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces; sharing of Intelligence; facilitating inter-State coordination; and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of different Central Ministries.

*[English]*

**Indo-Israel Cooperation in Agri Sector**

3380. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:  
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel have signed an agreement for cooperation in agriculture and dairy sector in the country including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to boost the agriculture production in cooperation with Israel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is an agreement between India and Israel for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied activities including dairy sector. Cooperation includes collaborative research, education, training & demonstration, agricultural marketing, input delivery and extension and dairy sector.

Recently, Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to provide the required land for establishing a dairy farm with an Israeli company.

(c) Israel is considered leader in efficient use of water for agriculture, high-value agriculture, post-harvest management and in agricultural machinery. Israeli expertise is being availed in these areas.

**Impact of rise in Petrol/Diesel Prices**

3381. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the impact of hike in petrol and diesel prices on the prices of essential commodities;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Department of Consumer Affairs monitors prices of 17 essential commodities. The prices of nine essential commodities (viz. rice, wheat, Atta, sugar, Milk, Mustard Oil, Vanaspati, Salt and potato) have remained stable since hike in petrol and diesel prices. However, prices of pulses (viz. Gram dal, Tur dal, Urad dal, Moong

dal and Masur dal) have increased. But the same cannot be attributed to hike in petrol and diesel prices as it is because of the demand supply mismatch and hardening of international prices. Prices of other items, like Tea and Onion have, in fact, declined.

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

#### **Infiltration in NE Region**

3382. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to issue Multi-Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) to the citizens in the country including the North Eastern region with a view to control infiltration in the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the project;

(c) the status of illegal infiltration in the above region and also in Orissa; and

(d) the extent to which the Government is likely to succeed in repatriating such illegal migrants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (d) A Pilot project on Multi-Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) was implemented in the selected areas of 12 states and one Union territory. Data base has been created of 28.62 lakh persons. 12.88 lakh identity (smart) cards have been issued to those of 18 years of age and above while the rest have been given a national identity number. The implementation of the Pilot Porject has been closed on 31.03.2009.

Based on experience of the Pilot Project, the Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) by collecting specific characteristics of each individual in the country along with 2011 Census. The photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above will be added later. However, the NPR for all the coastal States/UTs will be created during 2009-10 as one of the measures to strengthen the security in coastal areas after 26/11 incident. The scheme has been approved for 3331 coastal villages to be covered in first phase. The remaining coastal areas including the towns/cities would be covered along with 2011 census.

The scheme for coastal villages in the first phase envisages identity cards to be given to all the usual residents who are 18 years of age and above. However, no such decision has been made for issuance of identity (smart) cards to the usual residents in the rest of the country.

The Government is aware of illegal immigration/infiltration into various parts of the country. The illegal infiltration in North Eastern region takes place

clandestinely. No specific details are available about the magnitude of this illegal infiltration.

The State Governments/UT Administrations have been empowered under section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals illegally staying in India. Administrative are issued from time to time requesting the State Governments/UT Administrations to detect and deport illegal migrants staying in the country. Besides, the Government has taken up various measures to curb illegal influx into the country, which *inter-alia* includes strengthening of Border Security Force (BSF) and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipments/gadgets; reduction of gaps between border outposts, intensification of patrolling, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing etc.

The issue of illegal immigration/repatriation has also been takenup regularly with the Government of Bangladesh in various fora, including the Home Secretary level talks.

#### **Royalty Rate on Uranium**

3383. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has revised the royalty rates to be paid to the States for mining of uranium;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States would be paid royalty on uranium mining on ad valorem basis equivalent to the compensation received by the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to take initiative to streamline exploration and mining of uranium;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the issues relating to revision of rates pertaining to uranium was taken on the recommendations made by a Study Group; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (h) The Government has revised the rates of royalty for Uranium vide Notification No. G.S.R. 96 (E) dated 13th February, 2009. At present, the royalty rate for Uranium is two per cent of the compensation amount received by M/s. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), for the mineral uranium and the total amount of royalty will be apportioned among the different states on the basis of data provided

by Department of Atomic Energy. The Government has enunciated National Mineral Policy, 2008 which seeks to ensure regional and detailed exploration is carried out systematically in the entire geologically conducive mineral bearing areas of the country using state-of-art technology. The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research is carrying out airborne surveys for uranium mineralization. The decision to revise the royalty rate was taken on the basis of recommendations of Study Group constituted in the Ministry of Mines.

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12.00 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now the House shall take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 538/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 508(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 9 of the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 539/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, on behalf of my colleague Shri Vilasrao Deshmukh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Commercial) (No. PA 27 of 2009-10) – Performance Audit of Activities of selected Public Sector Undertakings under article 151(1) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 540/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Miners' Health, Nagpur, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Miners' Health, Nagpur, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 541/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises, Mumbai, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 542/15/09]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 988(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 306(E) dated the 1st March, 2007 issued under Section 10 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 543/15/09]

- (4) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 544/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Broadcast Engineering

Consultants India Limited and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 545/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): Madam, on behalf of my colleague Shri Pratik Prakashbapu Patil, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 546/15/09]

- (3)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education, Gwalior, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education, Gwalior, for the year 2007-2008.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 547/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (KUNWAR R.P.N. SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Highways Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Highways Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2006-2007.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 548/15/09]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—

- (i) S.O. 1582(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Faizabad Section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (ii) S.O. 1584(E) to S.O. 1587(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/six-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 1 (Panipat-Jalandhar Section) in the State of Haryana.
- (iii) S.O. 1537(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 (Bharatpur-Mahua Section) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (iv) S.O. 1573(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2153(E) dated the 18th December, 2007.
- (v) S.O. 1574(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 2153(E) dated the 18th December, 2007.
- (vi) S.O. 1624(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 (Khargaria-Purnea Section) in the State of Bihar.
- (vii) S.O. 1517(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 80 (Mokama-Munger Section) in the State of Bihar.
- (viii) S.O. 786(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th March, 2009 regarding levy of fees on mechanical vehicles for the use of the high level permanent bridge at Nandghat across Sheonath river of National Highway No. 200 in the State of Chhattisgarh.

- (ix) S.O. 1539(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 18 (Kadapa-Kurnool Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (x) S.O. 1540(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 9 (Hyderabad-Vijayawada Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xi) S.O. 1589(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1535(E) dated the 13th September, 2007.
- (xii) S.O. 1623(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 810(E) dated the 13th July, 2004.
- (xiii) S.O. 1662(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 196(E) dated the 19th January, 2009.
- (xiv) S.O. 1663(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th July, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/six-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 5 (Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xv) S.O. 1583(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/six-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 1 in the State of Punjab.
- (xvi) S.O. 340(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 59 (Indore-M.P./Gujarat Border Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xvii) S.O. 551(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 75 (Gwalior-Jhansi Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xviii) S.O. 911(E) and S.O. 912(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 26 (Jhansi-Lakhondan Section) including construction of bypass in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xix) S.O. 607(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Indore-Khalghat Section) including construction of bypass in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xx) S.O. 861(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Dholpur-Morena Section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (xxi) S.O. 959(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th April, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway Nos. 23 & 200 (Chandikhole-Duburi-Talcher Section) and 203 (Bhubaneswar-Puri Section) in the State of Orissa.
- (xxii) S.O. 1347(E) and S.O. 1348(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 215 (Panikoili-Rimuli Section) in the State of Orissa.
- (xxiii) S.O. 864(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/two-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 154 (Lala bypass) in the State of Assam.

- (xxiv) S.O. 865(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/two-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 154 (Dhaleswari-Bhairabi Section) in the State of Assam.
- (xxv) S.O. 915(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Thanjavur-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvi) S.O. 916(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Trichy-Dindigul Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxvii) S.O. 920(E) and S.O. 921(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 45B (Madurai-Aruppukottai Thoothukkudi Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1144(E) and S.O. 1145(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of different stretches of National Highway No. 68 (Salem-Ulundurpet Section) including the bypass in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxix) S.O. 1229(E) to S.O. 1232(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxx) S.O. 1236(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxi) S.O. 1247(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening, two/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 67 (Trichy-Karur Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxii) S.O. 1581(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 219(E) dated the 13th March, 2001.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 1588(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 1568(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th June, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 21 (Kurali-Kiratpur Section) in the State of Punjab.
- (xxxv) S.O. 1630(E) and S.O. 1631(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 22 (Zirakpur-Panchkula-Kalka Section) in the State of Haryana.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 1592(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be collected at the Toll Plazas on National Highway No. 1 (Jalandhar-Amritsar Section) in the State of Punjab.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 1593(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 7 (Kothakota bypass –Kurnool Section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(xxxviii) S.O. 1659(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 25 (Amola Village to Jhansi bypass Section) in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

(xxxix) S.O. 395(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/six-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4 (Bangalore-Nelamangala Section) in the State of Karnataka.

(xl) S.O. 860(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 48 (Nelamangala-Hassan Section) in the State of Karnataka.

(xli) S.O. 1140(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 2009 authorizing Special Land Acquisition Officer, National Highways, Dharwad as the competent authority to acquire land *w.e.f.* the publication of the Notification for installation of "Weigh-in-Motion-cum-Automatic Traffic Counter Cum Classifier" of National Highway No. 63 (Ankola-Gooty Section) in the State of Karnataka.

(xlii) S.O. 1199(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 2009 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of the National Highway No. 4 (Hubli-Dharwad Bypass) in the State of Karnataka.

(xlili) S.O. 1264(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th May, 2009 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 17 (Kodungallur bypass) including construction of all cross drainage works in the State of Kerala.

(xliv) S.O. 978(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated the 4th August, 2005.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (xxxix) of (3) above.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 549/15/09]

(5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 977(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 2009 entrusting the stretches, mentioned therein, of the National Highway Nos. 3 and 9 to the National Highways Authority of India, issued under Section 11 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 550/15/09]

(6) A copy of the Notification No. F. No. NH-11014/2/2006-P&M (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2009 regarding relinquishing the charge of the post of Presiding Officer, National Highway Tribunal, Lucknow *w.e.f.* 30.06.2007 issued under Control of National Highways (Land and Traffic) Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 551/15/09]

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12.03 hrs.

## MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam, I have to report following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday, the 10th July, 2009 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, ten Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha, have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
2. Shri Mukut Mithi
3. Ms. Sushila Tiriya
4. Shri D. Raja
5. Shri Thomas Sangma
6. Shri Lalhming Liana
7. Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari
8. Shri Veer Singh
9. Miss Anusuiya Uikey
10. Shri Krishan Lai Balmiki

(ii) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday, the 10th July, 2009 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven members from amongst the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee.”

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha, have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy
2. Ms. Mabel Rebello
3. Shri Vijay Kumar Rupani
4. Shri Amar Singh

5. Shri Tapan Kumar Sen

6. Shri Bharat Kumar Raut

7. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishva

(iii) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday, the 10th July, 2009 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Accounts:—

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from amongst the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee.”

I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha, have been duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz
2. Shri Ashwani Kumar
3. Shri Prasanta Chatterjee
4. Dr. K. Malaisamy
5. Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi
6. Shri Shanta Kumar
7. Shri N.K. Singh

(iv) “In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2009, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd July, 2009 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill.”

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12.04 hrs.

## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

### **Report of High-Level Committee that enquired into the accident at the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) construction site on 12.7.09**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Madam, as I have already apprised the House on 13th July, 2009, a launching girder along with a portion of Metro viaduct collapsed at Zamrudpur near East of Kailash in South Delhi at about 5.00 A.M. on 12th July 2009. A high level four member Inquiry Committee was constituted by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to investigate the incident. Subsequently, the Chief Engineer (Design) of DMRC was withdrawn from the Committee on 21st July 2009 and the remaining Experts have now submitted the Report.

The main findings of the Committee regarding the causes of the accident are:-

- (i) Serious deficiency in the design of the cantilever arm; and
- (ii) The concrete not having adequate strength probably due to lack of adequate curing of the concrete.

The DMRC has decided to take the following action:-

1. The Design Consultants, M/s Arch Consultancy Services to be blacklisted for five years. The structural consultant M/s Tondon consultants, who did not give the correct advice to DMRC, is being debarred for two years.
2. Shri V.P. Srivastava and Shri Mukesh Thakur, the two Deputy Chief Engineers directly responsible for the designs and site supervision, have been placed under suspension.
3. Shri Rajan Kataria, the Chief Engineer (Design), DMRC, to be issued with a major penalty charge sheet.
4. Shri C. Mallonga, the expatriate Consultant of General Consultants, who had direct responsibility for ensuring quality of works, to be immediately de-mobilised and replaced.
5. The Contractor M/s Gammon India to be issued a show-cause notice for blacklisting for two years.

6. Shri Vijay Anand, the Director of DMRC in whose jurisdiction this accident took place as well the previous accident involving a launching girder collapse, has been repatriated to the Railways.

7. The DMRC has started a special drive to check all the cantilever piers so far constructed and their designs are now being rechecked by M/s Shirish Patel and Associates, a well known Design Consultant. Based on their advice, necessary action will be taken to ensure that all the cantilever piers are safe.

8. The DMRC has also decided to get all the designs checked in future by the General Consultants or by an outside Consultancy. The Design Wing of DMRC is also being substantially strengthened.

9. The General Consultants are also being strengthened to ensure safety and quality of construction.

10. The DMRC has also initiated steps to revitalize the Tool Box Safety Drill to all the workers before commencement of the shift. DMRC has also started a crash course for three days in safety rules and regulations for every worker involved at the construction site. The entire work force will be covered within a period of 15 days.

[Placed in Library, *see* No. LT 552/15/09]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam Speaker, please give me one minute.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, this matter was raised by me. I have scrupulously listened to the statement of the hon. Minister. There have been many more incidents after this incident. Even today there is news that in a number of pillars cracks have appeared. There have been accidents leading to death after this incident. It is a continuous process going on. Therefore, I suggest that there be a discussion on this statement at an appropriate date fixed by you, because it involves human lives in thousands and lakhs.

MADAM SPEAKER: The hon. Member may give a notice.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I have no difficulty in answering brief queries right now or at a later date, but I request my good friend, Shri Gurudas Dasgupta not to succumb to the temptation of sensationalizing everything.

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12.10 hrs.

# RUBBER (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2009\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber Act, 1947.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber Act, 1947."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

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12.11 hrs

## SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

### RE: Visible cracks in 18 piers being constructed by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Matters of Urgent Public Importance, 'Zero Hour'.

Shri Ashok Argal — Not present.

Rajkumari Ratna Singh — Not present.

Shri Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to raise an issue regarding Metro about which the hon. Minister has made a mention just now. It is true that the Government has made a statement that action is being taken in this regard. The ongoing Metro project is a very big project and it has earned fame world over that the said project is moving quite successfully in India. I have learnt through the newspapers that cracks have appeared in 8 piers of the Metro on the Central Secretariat route, in 8 piers on Gurgaon route, and in 2 piers on NOIDA route. I would like to apprise the House that a number of Metro workers are dying. The Metro people are sending clippings of newspapers and even photos to news

channels saying that accidents take place and people die wherever such type of work is undertaken, thus trying to justify the casualties.

My submission is that a large number of labourers from Bihar are working on these sites. In the last accident, the 6 people who died were from Bihar. Out of it, three were from my Parliamentary Constituency, Bhagalpur. These three were from a village Latipur. I do not want to sensationalize this issue and I want the work to go on in a better way. Metro's CMD is performing well. But, there should be no haste. ... (*Interruptions*). Shri Gurudas Dasgupta ji raised this important issue of Metro and it made the Minister busy. I am raising the same issue for which I have given a notice for Zero Hour. So, I would like the hon. Minister to listen to it attentively.

I do not want to sensationalize this issue. But, I would like to ask the Government the reason behind such a serious lapse even though a hefty payment of Rs. 500 crore is being made per month to the contractors. Metro project is slated to be completed soon. Cracks in piers, not one or two, but in many have appeared before the Metro has started. People are eagerly waiting for the completion of the said dream project. Therefore, my submission to the hon. Minister' is that the Government should take it seriously. Tomorrow if any serious accident takes place, then who will be responsible? The Government cannot escape from its responsibility and, therefore, it should pay attention to this issue. The Chairman of DMRC has acknowledged that the construction of Metro has been affected because of big contractors, unskilled workers and corrupt tender system. No doubt, 2-4 officers have been sacked, many others have been transferred, but the responsibility of DMRC does not diminish by doing all this. It is responsible to the public. The workers engaged in construction of metro are also our countrymen. They are losing their lives. I am concerned as most of the workers who have died, were from Bihar. But no compensation has been paid to them. If any railway employee dies, his next of kin gets employment and compensation as well. But great injustice is being done with these workers. I would like the hon. Minister to respond to it.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Madam, with your permission, may I respond because I am afraid all the comments will otherwise go on record without my having the opportunity to respond?

First of all, I would request the hon. Member and all the Members to draw a substantive distinction between

\*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 28.7.09

\*\*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

the accidents that take place at the construction time and the accidents that take place at the operation time. May I tell you with certain degree of pardonable pride that during the last seven years of Phase-I DMRC working not one accident has taken place? Therefore, accidents at the construction time are unfortunate but sometimes unavoidable. May I tell you, going by global benchmarks, we are doing fairly well. We are slightly behind London and we are slightly ahead of Singapore. There is no need to be alarmed.

As for the piers on which visible cracks have appeared, we have found visible cracks on 18 piers so far. As I have stated in the Statement, every cantilever pier will be examined thoroughly. All the possible steps will be taken. These 18 piers have been identified. We will find out whether the cracks are superficial or structural. If the cracks are structural there are methods of strengthening those piers. I do not think there is any need to worry at all.

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*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Kaushalendra Kumar – Not present.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): Thank you, Madam. I would like to draw the attention of this House to an important issue relating to the plight of the coconut farmers in Kerala.

The Government has consistently reduced the customs duty on crude palmolene and palm oil and this has resulted in a huge import of palm oil. It was 70% in 2006 and now it has come down to zero. As a result of this there has been a crash in the prices of coconut. This has badly affected the coconut farmers in Kerala. The Government has also imposed an excise duty on packed coconut oil on the pretext that this is used as hair oil. At the same time, the Government has not imposed any duty on rich men's oils like Olive oil, which is clearly discriminatory and highly objectionable. The proposed ASEAN Free Trade Agreement will also adversely affect Kerala's farmers, including coconut farmers. As per this FTA, customs duty on around 4000 items will be eliminated. This is going to affect the farmers. This will lead to farmers' suicides.

I would like to demand that Government should not proceed with the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and should raise the customs duty on crude Palmolene and palm oil. I would also like to urge upon the Government to withdraw the excise duty imposed on packed coconut oil.

MADAM SPEAKER: The names of Shri P. Karunakaran and Shri P.K. Biju may be associated with the issue raised by Shri M.B. Rajesh.

*[Translation]*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): Madam Speaker, I had also given notice for Zero-hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: I think, we can take it up afterwards.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Some of the notices are taken up in morning session of zero-hour and the rest of the notices are taken up later on. ...*(Interruptions)*

**12.19 hrs.**

## **MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\***

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377, listed for the day, may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

### **(i) Need to review and modify Section 115BBC of the Income Tax Act**

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (Vizianagaram): The Section 115BBC of the Income Tax Act provides for levy of tax at the highest marginal rate of 30% plus surcharge on wholly charitable trust/institutions which are otherwise exempt under section 10 & 11 of the Act on donations given by anonymous person or institution. At present this provision adversely affects wholly charitable trusts. These trusts are mostly secular organizations working for the welfare of the weaker and needy sections of society. There is no such taxability for trusts with mixed objects (both religious and charitable). The provision will compel wholly charitable trusts to convert into religious-cum-charitable trust or formation of new charities for mixed purposes and abandon their secular and charitable nature.

The provision also affects those trusts/institutions working for handicapped persons, widows, children, animal shelters, free facilities for the poor etc. who are engaged in preserving ancient Indian texts, yoga, Sanskrit, as none of these activities has anything to do

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\*Treated as laid on the Table.

with capitation fees or running educational institutions. The affected trusts & institutions have made their representation to the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Finance Minister, through you Madam Speaker, to review and suitably modify Section 115 BBC of the Income Tax Act to remove this anomaly.

**(ii) Need to constitute a Monitoring Committee to oversee the progress of various schemes being implemented under Bharat Nirman Yojana**

*[Translation]*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Wardha): I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that shortcomings have been noticed in the schemes for which the Government had set targets for their completion under Bharat Nirman. For instance, the target set for irrigation of one crore hectare of land during four years from 2005-06 to 2008-09 under Bharat Nirman has not been achieved even after the period of the schemes was over. Irrigation facility is not available for most of the agricultural land. No State Government could achieve these targets. Farmers in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra are deprived of the means of irrigation. Even now, news of suicide by farmers can be heard every fortnight.

The situation of Indira Awas Yojana is also not different. Finger was raised on this scheme in the report of CAG. In many States, the names of the persons, who were given money for construction of houses under Indira Awas Yojana or for extending the houses, do not figure in the BPL list. The situation of other schemes also is the same.

Therefore, my request is that a monitoring committee should be set up to achieve the targets set by the Government under the Bharat Nirman Yojana so that the responsibility could be fixed and reasons due to which the set target could not be achieved be ascertained.

**(iii) Need to extend Agricultural Debt Waiver Scheme to all the farmers of Uttarakhand who fulfil eligibility criteria**

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA' (Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar): Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to a very serious matter of public importance relating to the farmers' loan waiver scheme.

Madam, as per the Union Governments, Farmers' Loan Waiver and one time settlement scheme, the short-term production loans and investment loans disbursed to the farmers till 31st March 2007 and which are outstanding till 29th February 2008, will be eligible under the scheme in accordance with the guidelines by the Union Government.

It has come to my notice that the co-operatives in Uttarakhand are not following the guidelines issued by the Union Government regarding loans disbursed till 31st March 2007. Only those farmers have been included in the Agricultural Loan Waiver Scheme who have been given loans till 28th February 2007.

Madam, through you, I would like to request the Union Government that NABARD should issue directions to the co-operatives in Uttarakhand to include the guidelines relating to the loans disbursed till 31st March 2007 and outstanding till 29th February 2008 in the Loan Waiver and One time Settlement Scheme for the farmers so that maximum number of poor farmers of Uttarakhand may benefit from this historic scheme.

**(iv) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Patan Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat**

SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR (Patan): Madam, my constituency Patan, Gujarat is quite backward economically, socially and educationally than the other areas of the State. There is no Kendriya Vidyalaya. People of my constituency are very eager that, at least, one Kendriya Vidyalaya should be opened there soon.

I, through the House request the Hon. HRD Minister to sanction a Kendriya Vidyalaya soon keeping in view the sentiments of the people of my constituency. I am sure that the Hon. Minister will respect the sentiment of the people.

**(v) Need to construct railway line on Jhalawar-Ujjain and Dewas-Bhopal sectors**

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas): The basic idea behind the Railway Budget for the year 2009-10 was to extend the new railway lines in the areas dominated by the scheduled castes/tribes where people have not got the benefit of the most cheapest and convenient mode of transportation till today without profit-loss considerations. The pace of development in these areas is very slow and almost negligible in comparison to other parts of the country even after 60 years of independence. No work has been done till now even after completion of the survey for laying of new railway line from Rajganj Mandi to Ujjain via Jhalawar-Soin-Susner-Aagar. A demand is being made for years for laying of a new

railway line from Devas to Bhopal via Sonkuchh-Ashta-Sehore. No work has been done on it which is very much needed.

**(vi) Need to provide adequate supply of power to Korba Parliamentary Constituency of Chhattisgarh**

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT (Korba): The Union Government is trying to electrify all the villages under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana. However, the Bharatpur block (Janakpur) under Korba district in Chhattisgarh is facing severe shortage of power as power is purchased from other State (Madhya Pradesh).

Before the creation of Chhattisgarh, the electricity line for Bharatpur block in the undivided Madhya Pradesh passed through the Jainagar block in Shahdol district. After the creation of Chhattisgarh, the Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board had signed an agreement with the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 2000 for supply of power to Bharatpur up to the time that CSEB could lay its own line up to Bharatpur.

As a consequence of the agreement, Korba district is completely dependent on Madhya Pradesh for supply of electricity. Whenever load-shedding is carried out in Madhya Pradesh, Korba district also gets affected. Power outages for a period of two to three days are a common occurrence. While throughout Chhattisgarh no power cuts take place, the people of Korba district in the State have to remain in darkness due to the negligence of the Government. Despite abundance of resources and financial security, Korba district remains untouched by development due to the neglect by the State Government.

Hence, I would like to request the Government to issue appropriate instructions to the concerned authorities to enable the people of Korba constituency to enjoy the fruits of development.

**(vii) Need to set up Rubber Park in Pattanapuram Taluk, Kollam district, Kerala**

*[English]*

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): I would like to mention that Pattanapuram Taluk, Kollam district, Kerala is a prominent area in rubber production. The marginal and large scale farmers are producing rubber in this area. The farming cooperation which is under the Kerala Government also produces rubber. The Rehabilitation Plantation Limited, which is the Government of India and the Kerala Government's joint venture public undertaking, is also producing large scale rubber in this area. Every year, huge quantity of rubber is produced in Pattanapuram Taluk.

There is one Rubber Park functioning at Irapuram Taluk in Ernakulam district in Kerala, which is doing excellent job. Lot of rubber products are being produced in this Rubber Park. Thousands of workers are getting employment through this Rubber Park.

At present, there is no rubber based industry in Pattanapuram Taluk. There is a long pending demand of the people of this area to set up a Rubber Park under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in Pattanapuram Taluk. Then only, the rubber producers will get more benefit in Pattanapuram for their production.

Hence, I urge upon the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to set up a Rubber Park in Pattanapuram Taluk, Kollam district, Kerala.

**(viii) Need to re-start the construction work on Jabalpur-Nagpur four-lane road under Golden Quadrilateral Project**

*[Translation]*

SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH (Balaghat): The construction work on Jabalpur-Nagpur four lane road under the Golden Quadrilateral Project has been stopped 20 km from Seoni on the basis of the report of the Ministry of environment and forests. This road is accessible and useful for farmers and traders. The people of the area are resentful of the fact that construction of the said road has been stopped.

Hence, the Government is requested that the construction of Jabalpur-Nagpur four lane road be restarted in public interest.

**(ix) Need to construct railway line linking Khajuraho, Panna and Satna in Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA (Khajuraho): It is 60 years since the country achieved Independence but the important district in my Constituency, Panna, does not have a rail link. It has many religious and tourist sites. It is known as Heera Nagar and a tiger reserve is there. The erstwhile Prime Minister, Shri Atal ji had gifted the Lalitpur-Singrauli rail line which is presently under construction. However, the work on line between Khajuraho and Panna has been stayed by the court on the basis of Panna being a tiger reserve. This line has to be linked from Panna to Satna but the work has not yet been started. This work may be started soon to provide rail links to this place. Also, survey for rail line from Khajuraho-Ajaygarh to Panna may be done and these places linked to the rail line so that just this one district in M.P. does not remain deprived of railway facilities.

**(x) Need to set up a hospital at par with All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI RAJENDRA AGARWAL (Meerut): I represent the Meerut-Hapur Lok Sabha Constituency. Meerut was identified as a priority town in the Regional Plan 2001 of the National Capital Region. No meaningful efforts have been made to provide facilities to this city despite it falling in the NCR. The few private hospitals that have come up in the city are too expensive to be of any use to the common man. The poor public is falling prey to complex and serious diseases due to lack of proper treatment and inadequate facilities in Government hospitals. Even on the rare occasions when some seriously ill persons are referred to AIIMS in New Delhi, they have to wait for months in the corridors or campus of AIIMS due to the long waiting list of patients.

Hence, I would like to request that as the rural and urban areas of Hapur and Meerut in my Constituency together have a population of more than 35 lakhs, a hospital on lines of AIIMS, with the latest facilities may be established in Meerut with funding either by the Union Government or by the NCR Planning Board. This step would not only provide better health care facilities for the general public of this area but also would take some load off the AIIMS in Delhi and people would be able to get proper treatment. Besides, this decision of the Union Government would prove to be beneficial not only for the people of Meerut but also other districts in Uttar Pradesh such as Ghaziabad, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Baghpat, Muzaffarpur, Saharanpur and Moradabad.

**(xi) Need to reconstruct dilapidated roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Bharuch Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat**

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA (Bharuch): The target set up under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is not being achieved in Bharuch and Narmada districts in my Parliamentary Constituency, Bharuch. The said scheme meant to link the villages is not being implemented properly. The roads under this scheme have not been completed in several villages having population of 1500 as the reserve forest laws do not permit for construction of roads. There had been roads in some villages earlier which are now completely dilapidated but roads under the said scheme are not constructed in those villages as the roads are there on the record. This record is several decades old and there are no proper roads in those villages as on date. I request the Government that roads should be constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in such villages also. The roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

are not being constructed as per the target due to these shortcomings in my Parliamentary Constituency.

I request the Government, through the House, to address these shortcomings and expedite the construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Bharuch and Narmada districts in my Parliamentary Constituency, Bharuch.

**(xii) Need to put in place flood control measures and provide adequate compensation to flood-affected people in Hardoi Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA (Hardoi): I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to my Parliamentary Constituency, Hardoi. A large area including Shahbad, Sandi and Sawaipur is severely affected by floods caused by Ganga, Ramganga, Neelam, Kunda and Garra rivers every year. This issue was raised earlier also in the House but the situation remains the same. There is huge loss of property and lives due to the soil erosion by rivers and the affected families get only Rs. 1000-1500 as compensation which is very less as against the requirement. I request the Government that concrete stone ceiling on the banks of the rivers may be done so as to protect the banks of the river against soil erosion. Similarly, the amount of compensation for the affected families may be raised to about Rs. 10,000/-. More funds for flood affected regions in Hardoi may be allocated.

A 'Flood Management Programme' was formulated by the Government under the Eleventh Plan Period (2007-2012) for the development of flood affected areas and to protect the people from the possible loss. Under this plan only 5.25 crore rupees were provided to Uttar Pradesh for the period from the year 2007 to 2010. It is much less than the requirement. I request the Government to increase the grant amount for the flood affected areas.

**(xiii) Need to check the soil erosion caused by river Ganga in Bhadohi Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (Bhadohi): Thousands of acres of land is destroyed by rain and the floods in the rivers in the country every year. Poorvanchal area of Uttar Pradesh is most affected by the river Ganga. A major part of my Parliamentary Constituency is situated along the Ganga river. Hundreds of acres of land is affected by the soil erosion caused by Ganga in Handiya, Gyanpur and Aurai Assembly Constituencies under Bhadohi Parliamentary Constituency between Allahabad and Varanasi. Some villages have already

been devoured by the Ganga in the past. Embankments are to be constructed there to prevent the soil erosion in dozens of villages from Saidabad to Derwan Bhawanipur including Chhechhua, Bhurra, Bhamauri, Kalatuli, Itahra, Waripur, Kalinjara, Berwan Paharpur, Bhawanipur-Derwan of Konia region.

**(xiv) Need to provide safe drinking water to people in Jamui Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY (Jamui): I would like to draw hon. Minister's attention, through you, towards 3000 families of the dalit and most backward classes in Rawaira village of Ramnabagh Panchayat in Tarapur block in my Parliamentary Constituency, Jamui. There has been no provision of safe drinking water in this village after Independence of the country till date. The villagers have to drink water containing fluoride which causes birth of disabled children. The pregnant women suffer problem like abortion after drinking this water. The young people become disabled at the age of thirty years.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister to provide for safe drinking water to the people of Rawaira village so that the problem of drinking water could be solved and the pace of development of this village could be accelerated.

**(xv) Need to provide safe drinking water to people in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts in Tamil Nadu**

*[English]*

SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN (Dharmapuri): Dharmapuri district has a high concentration of endemic fluoride in drinking water sources and ranks the highest in the State of Tamil Nadu. Around 30 per cent of the water sources in Dharmapuri and adjoining Krishnagiri were found fluoride contaminated when compared with the state average of 6.9 per cent. According to health officials, dental fluorosis occurs mainly due to heavy ingestion of fluoride from the foetal state upto 12 years. When pregnant women drink fluoride infected water, the foetus also gets affected. To address this burning issue, the Government of Tamil Nadu initiated the Hegenakkal Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme which is in its very preliminary stage. In the meanwhile, as an urgent interim arrangement, it is necessary to chalk out an alternative water supply scheme for the district of Dharmapuri which not only lacks in potable water but also its groundwater level had depleted and the existing water level was also contaminated with a high content of fluoride causing various diseases, to address this

endemic problem. The supply of protected drinking water to all villages was incorporated in the 10th Five year Plan. But in many parts of Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri, people still depend on the groundwater which has high content of fluoride. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to extend a helping hand to the State Government of Tamil Nadu to provide potable water to all the villages in entire Tamil Nadu.

**(xvi) Need to provide adequate financial assistance for all-round development of Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency in West Bengal**

SHRI PULIN BIHARI BASKE (Jhargram): Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal is one of the most backward areas in the country. About 80% people of this area belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Village road connectivity, irrigation, power supply, rail communication, health service, employment generation scheme, education etc. are needed for them. Government of West Bengal have tried their best for the all round development of Jhargram as a whole and their effort is continuing for the interest of common people particularly for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. But it is not possible only by the State Government with their limited financial capacity. It is expected that the Union Government would come forward to provide adequate financial assistance for all round development of Jhargram Parliamentary Constituency.

I urge upon the Government to consider this matter favourably.

**(xvii) Need to fill up the vacancies of judges to clear the huge backlog of court cases**

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN (Faridkot): As on March 31, 2009, about 50,613 cases are lying pending in Supreme Court, 38,74,090 in High Courts and 2.64 crore in District and Sessions Courts. About 30% pending cases are criminal in nature, which require early disposal. Presently cases are pending on an average of 15 years.

One of the main reasons of huge pendency is attributed to shortage of judges and not filling up of the vacancies in various courts causing considerable delay in clearing the cases. It is said that justice delayed is justice denied. The Government must, therefore, take immediate necessary steps to fill up the vacant posts of judges in courts, consider setting up of double shift of courts including mobile courts, the services of retired judges may be taken in this regard, to clear the mounting backlog of cases with a view to deliver the justice at the door steps of the people.

**(xviii) Need to augment rail services in Amroha Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar-Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI DEVENDRA NAGPAL (Amroha): Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Railways and the Union Government towards the non-electrified railway line on Moradabad rail route alongwith other rail related problems. Delhi-Lucknow rail route which passes through my Parliamentary Constituency Amroha, the rail line between Delhi and Moradabad has not been electrified. This rail route connects the capital of the country to the capital of Uttar Pradesh. The people of my Constituency are also facing a lot of problems due to lack of flyover at the railway crossings on Gajraula-Bijnaur route, Garhmukteshwar Chaupla-Meerut route and Amroha-Atarasi route. The day-to-day life of people is affected due to this as they face difficulties in getting timely medical attention and tourism is also adversely affected as it creates problems for the pilgrims who wish to take holy dip at Garhganga Dham. No new rail line has been announced by the Hon. Minister of Railways for Western Uttar Pradesh in the present Rail Budget.

Hon. Madam Speaker, through you I would like to urge the Hon. Minister of Railways to immediately resolve the aforesaid problems related to the development of railways.

**(xix) Need to revise the time frame fixed for completion of Bharat Nirman Projects**

*[English]*

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA (Dausa): As per the policy of the Government of India, under Bharat Nirman Programme, all the quality-affected habitations (34183) which include remaining NC habitations as per CAP-99 (2300) and slipped back habitations (17159) are required to be covered during the period 2005-09. In addition, all habitations which have slipped back from full/ partial/no coverage status due to failure of provisions of resources are also to be addressed.

There are mainly three problems in meeting the time frame of Bharat Nirman as per Government of India policy. Firstly with the present trend of funds availability under State share and Central share, it does not seem possible to arrange for funds required to solve problems of entire problematic habitations. Secondly, due to the limitations of quality and quantity, the ground water sources can no longer be considered dependable. Future trend will, therefore, be to cover group of villages from a common surface water source. These schemes shall

be costly and shall have components like pipe lines, reservoirs etc. The conceptualization, preparation of detailed project report and tender documents, tendering process and physical execution of such projects is likely to take minimum of 3 to 4 years time. Thirdly, even if the measures mentioned in foregoing para are taken expeditiously considering the present fiscal absorption capacity, the same is likely to increase gradually over the years. Thus even if adequate funds required are made available, the constraints of physical and financial absorption capacity, it does not seem possible to cover all problem villages by March 09. It is estimated that the funds absorption capacity can be increased at the most by five times of the existing capacity within next five years, the most reasonable period by which the coverage of all problematic villages can be expected is by March 2013.

Considering large requirement of funds and implementation time for major projects, time frame for achieving targets for coverage of all problem habitations with safe and sustainable water supply, scheme needs to be extended up to March 2013 under Bharat Nirman.

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**12.20 hrs.**

**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193**

**Situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country**

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Discussion Under Rule 193.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH (Munger): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to initiate the discussion on such an important topic. The topic that we are going to discuss today is basically a topic related to humanity. This is such a humanitarian issue that almost 75 per cent population is connected with this issue. Whether it is floods, drought or any other problem, most of the population of our country is affected by that. It is the fate of this country that every year we hold discussion on flood and drought. Sometimes we discuss floods and sometimes droughts. We hold discussions, debate and the Government replies to that. The Government makes many attractive announcements, desk thumping takes place and next year again we hold the same discussions. It means that the entire system is like singing the same



tune again and again that we have discussions and our problems remain as it is before us and despite so many years having lapsed after Independence we are still unable to resolve them whereas our country is entirely agriculture based. Whether it is flood or drought, in both the conditions agriculture is worst affected and agriculture is the basis of our economy. If our yield is not good, then even if we make lakhs of efforts, increase industrial production, do export and import, we cannot control our economy. Therefore, it is required today that we work towards finding a permanent solution to this problem. First of all we need to develop our resources. We dream of development. We discuss development every year. We say that our country is continuously progressing towards development and within the next 15-20 years we will get the status of a developed country. But we are unable to mobilize the resources required for the sustenance of our economy. Today, even after so many years the saddest thing is that the farmers of our country are forced to commit suicide due to floods and droughts. There cannot be anything more shameful than this for us. Therefore, we need to develop our resources first and then talk about development. We are unable to mobilize resources and are talking about development. Every year we are faced with natural calamity.

Today we are concerned about food security, the entire world is worried about it. But we are required to enact a law pertaining to food security. Why is such a situation coming up? Why is such a situation arising that we have to enact a law and be dependent on that. Today we should be self-reliant in foodgrains. I would like to tell that there is a huge difference between the production rate of irrigated land and the rainfed land. On irrigated land 1,880 kg. rice is produced per hectare whereas on rainfed land 1,220 kg. rice is produced per hectare. This is the difference. Similarly 2,068 kg. wheat is produced per hectare from irrigated land and 1,100 kg. per hectare wheat is produced from rainfed land. Where are we heading for?

There is a question of water management. As long as we do not get relief from flood and droughts we will not pay attention towards proper water management. It is not so that we have shortage of water. On the one hand many States are suffering from drought and if we visit southern states of the country, there is a situation of flood. We have water in abundance but today we are unable to manage that water properly. If we managed water properly then we could get rid not only of floods but of drought also. 79 per cent water is recharged during rainy season *i.e.* from June to September whereas throughout the remaining year only 30 per cent water is recharged. We are not able to conserve that water today. It is most important to conserve water today.

Madam Speaker, what is the condition of the rivers flowing from Nepal into our country? I would like to tell you about the water situation in our country. The average water being accumulated in the 19 river basins of the country is 1,869 billion cubic meter whereas we are able to store only 225 billion cubic meter of water. 525 billion cubic meter water floods into the Ganga river basin whereas the storage capacity of the same is 42 billion cubic meter only. There is such a huge difference. On one hand it is 525 billion cubic meter and on the other only 42 billion cubic meter. If we make proper arrangements for water management, we can easily deal with drought today. From this on the one hand we can get rid of drought and floods also on the other.

Madam Speaker, rivers flowing down from Nepal, especially those flowing through Bihar and UP, bring 200 billion cubic meter water. Every years this issue comes up that if our Government constructs dam on these rivers after having talks with Nepal, we can check flood in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, we can generate power by constructing hydel power projects and can become self-reliant so far as power is concerned. Apart from it, we can also check droughts.

A committee was constituted in 2000 for holding Indo-Nepal talks in this regard. So far, *i.e.* by 2009 only three meetings of the said committee have been held. By this, one can easily judge how serious the Government is on this issue. I would like to ask the Government as to what it intends to do in this regard.

Madam, I remember, Hon. Chidambaram presented General Budget for 2004-05. I would like to quote para 37 of his Budget speech. He said, "National Water Resources Development Project has been launched for repair and expansion of water resources in the country and also for maintaining their capacity. With an investment of Rs. 100 crore for the said pilot project allocation has also been made for other schemes of rural development." In his budget speech, he also added that small ponds in the villages will be cleaned for storing water therein. Now it is 2009. I would like to ask the Government as to what has happened to the said pilot project which was welcomed by thumping the tables and was acclaimed country wide? How much progress has been made by the Government in this regard?

My submission is that until and unless we make proper arrangement for conservation and management of water, we can't save country from floods and drought.

Madam, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture is present here. I would like to suggest the Government that as roads, power etc. come under infrastructure whereas irrigation is not considered infrastructure. So, irrigation should be treated as a part of basic infrastructure.

Infrastructure is essential for development of any country or a state. And if irrigation is treated as infrastructure, we would be in a position to pay attention to whole country's irrigational facilities, water reservoirs and its management. Therefore, there is a need to treat irrigation as infrastructure.

For long, we have been talking about interlinking of rivers. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, when he was the Prime Minister in the NDA Government, had constituted a committee for interlinking of rivers. Though the said committee had submitted its report but the said report was never taken up for discussion in the House, not to speak of its implementation. All the rivers are left just like that and consequently we face floods in several states. Huge areas get inundated and areas where water has no access face drought. Therefore, today, there is a need to interlink the rivers. My State Government sought permission to interlink its rivers matter whether the Union Government interlinks rivers or not at national level. The said Government also sought funds to implement it. Almost one-and-a-half-years have gone by, the Government has not taken any decision in this regard so far. The Union Government is responsible for water management. I would like to make a point on interlinking of rivers. In Budget 2009-10, an allocation of Rs. 40,900 crore has been made for ambitious project Bharat Nirman. This amount is to be spent on rural roads, telephone connectivity, irrigation, drinking water, housing, electrification. If the said amount is distributed equally for each item, it works out to Rs. 6,000 crore. But, see the irony, an allocation of only Rs. 600 has been made for Ministry of Water Resources for whole year 2009-10. The Government proposed to take up Bharat Nirman with an investment of Rs. 40,000 crore and an allocation of Rs. 40,000 crore has been made whereas only 600 crore rupees have been allocated for irrigation. It shows how serious the Government is about country's 75 per cent population.

So far as drinking water is concerned, it is a serious problem in the country. Not to speak of irrigation or agriculture, the Government has not been able to provide drinking water for all in the rural areas even after so many years of independence. What can be more shameful than this for us? Drinking water scheme was launched at national level in the year 2005. Under the said scheme, it was assessed that out of 6,03,639 inhabitations, per capita water availability was found deficient in 3,31,604 inhabitations. Even today, a number of years have gone by since we became independent, but have failed to provide clean drinking water to a large section of the society. The water in 2,16,968 inhabitations is found to contain salinity, iron, nitrate, fluoride and arsenic which cause several diseases.

Madam, you too are aware that people in many areas in our state drink water from wells and hand-pumps even today, which results in diseases. It's a very serious matter for the Government if the people of the country are not provided pure drinking water even after so many years of independence.

Madam, the groundwater level is decreasing at many places due to drought situation in Bihar. As a result of this, the drinking water problem is about to turn into severe crisis in future. Hilly areas also face drinking water problem because of the difficulty in boring there. Madam, you are also aware that boring is not successful at many places even in your area due to the ground water level falling much lower. We should have provided pure drinking water for the people but we could not.

There is severe drought in the state I hail from *i.e.* Bihar. During the debate on the demands for grants of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution in this very House, the hon. Minister had accepted that Bihar, too, alongwith many other states of the country, is in the grip of drought. He had also given assurance to provide assistance in this regard. The need of the day is that the Central Government should take initiative in this matter. It becomes the responsibility of the Central Government to go all out in providing assistance to the state Governments when a State Government is standing at its doors to receive assistance. That is why there is a need for urgent coordination with the State Governments by the Central Government. It should see the problems faced by the state. There is need to have such an attitude.

There has been 50 per cent to 60 per cent rainfall in many sub divisions and divisions in Bihar so far. On an average, there has been 50 to 55 per cent rainfall there. This has resulted in sowing of paddy on just 6 lakh hectares of land whereas 35 lakh hectares of land is used for paddy cultivation. It means that only 17 per cent sowing has taken place. If this situation persists, then it may result in deeper crisis. Though, the Meteorological Department has stated that there is possibility of rain after 25th July. It would be very good if that happens. I will take it as the lord Indra's blessings to the Government. But, looking at the circumstances, it does not look so ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, it is good if it rains, otherwise the situation may become even more severe in the future.

Electricity is an important medium for irrigation in the states. Our State Government has made efforts to provide diesel and electricity for the pump sets used for irrigation. I would like to thank the hon. Agriculture Minister that during the debate on demands for grants

of the Ministry of Agriculture in the House, the hon. Minister had said that he had read the news about the decision of the Government of Bihar to provide subsidy on diesel and on the basis of that assistance should be provided to the State Government. The Government of Bihar has so far given the subsidy on diesel for three crops and it is likely to be extended if there will be no rainfall. Perhaps, the State Government has written a letter to you on this matter. I want that the Central Government should help us on basis of that. We assume that the Central Government will come forward for help on its own. The State Government is giving subsidy on diesel but more than that electricity is need there so that the pump sets can be used for irrigation. The State Government has decided to provide electricity for seven hours without interruptions in rural areas by fixing a time limit so that farmers may irrigate their land. But, the electricity situation in Bihar is not satisfactory. The people of our state have to depend on the Central Grid for electricity. They have to depend on the allotment made by the Centre. The party which had ruled Bihar for a long time had made the production of electricity nil in the state. What are could have done when the production of electricity was nil in the state? On the basis of what we had inherited, we revived the two thermal power plants at Barauni and Kanti and we are able to produce about 125 MW of electricity today. There are many such examples. During the discussion on demands for grants of the Ministry of power, I had asked the Minister of Power that he should coordinate with the Ministry of Coal. Many of our schemes for coal-links are pending with the Ministry of Coal. I do not want to discuss them today. I would like to request him to establish coordination with the Ministry of Power to deal with the drought. A permanent coordination with Power and Irrigation Ministries should be set up at the state and national level which is very much needed today.

The allocation for Bihar is 1500 MW electricity but we are allowed to draw only 900-950 MW. We should be allowed to draw fully the 1500 MW of electricity which is our allocation, so that we can provide irrigation facility to our farmers through pump-sets. I want to request him to provide the additional requirement of electricity to the state, if there is any.

I also request you to provide Rs. 2000 crore under the GR head for the agricultural input if the State Government is forced to declare the entire state as drought affected to deal with the drought situation. The Central Government should remain prepared to help as the state will require at least 8000-9000 crore rupees under various schemes to deal with the drought. Although we are praying to Indra, the rain god, to shower rain

and provide relief to the people of the region, if our prayers are not answered I would like to urge the hon. Agriculture Minister to be prepared to extend help to the State Government in near future. If drought occurs, it is the farmers who need assistance the most.

Farmers could be given assistance in the form of fertilizers. Hon. Minister of Agriculture said in his reply the other day that farmers are provided fertilizer subsidy. He has incorporated subsidies in the Budget. Pardon me, Minister Sahib but I have to point-out that despite being a leader of the farmers at one time, you do not seem to realize that the subsidies are not reaching the farmers. In fact, it is the fertilizer companies that are getting the subsidies. This happens because the fertilizer companies simply have to inform the Ggovernment of the quantity of fertilizer sold by them to avail of the subsidy. A huge fertilizer subsidy scam has been unearthed in my state which is being investigated by the CBI. So, now you can understand where the subsidy is going, who is benefiting therefrom. The need of the hour is to find ways to ensure that subsidy reaches the farmers directly without the involvement of fertilizer companies. The farmers need to be provided cheap fertilizers and seeds at affordable rates have to be supplied to the State Government. It should be ensured that the cost of the said items is within reach of the farmers.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude. Your speech has become quite lengthy.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *AL/AS* LALAN SINGH: Madam, I will take only two or three minutes. I have talked of irrigation. Agriculture Minister Sahib you should put aside everything else and ask the Power Ministry to provide electricity to all rural areas so that the problem of irrigation is resolved. Besides, the farmers in the villages also need financial assistance. The country went through a slump and a big financial package was announced. The farmers in the country have been most affected by drought and floods. You should give something to the farmers too. You should open up the reserves and give a financial relief package to the farmers as well.

What preparations have been made to deal with the scarcity of drinking water? The Government should constitute a task force and be prepared to deal with the situation because it is better to be prepared beforehand. It is of no use to start preparations at the eleventh hour.

MADAM SPEAKER: kindly wind-up.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH: I am going to conclude. There is scarcity of cattle-feed in the village. What arrangements have you made for the cattle which are going to die due to lack of fodder. Employment should be provided to poor villagers. How are they expected to earn a livelihood if no farming takes place and they don't get any employment? A food-for-work programme should be started in villages to provide employment and sustenance to the people. There should be coordination between the Ministries of Irrigation, Agriculture and Power so that the Government may be able to deal with floods and drought effectively when the need arises. The effort to deal with mere natural disaster needs to be made at the national level. This is my request to the Government.

I conclude with these words.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY (Shrawasti): Madam Speaker, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this very important topic of drought. I belong to Shrawasti in north Uttar Pradesh. My esteemed colleagues were talking about the situation in Bihar. Failure of rain has led to a very grim drought situation. The situation in west Uttar Pradesh region and in Bihar is equally grim. A horrifying picture emerges when we think of a drought situation in this backward area where the per capita income is lower than the national average. My colleagues have expressed their concern about the drought situation from time to time and it is an indication that we should be prepared for the future situation. I would like to say in this august House, through you, that agricultural growth rate which had increased from four per cent to nearly five per cent in 2007-08, has fell by 1.6 per cent in 2008-09 due to certain reasons although production of foodgrains was not substantially affected. However, the drought of 2009-10 indicates that we need to give serious thought to food security, agriculture and the likely situation in the times to come.

Madam, I would like to state through this House that there are certain anomalies and discrepancies in drought relief package. Today, the drought affected poor farmer needs Rs. 1000/- to open his account in Uttar Pradesh and that is why he does not deposit the cheques of amount Rs. 100/- and Rs. 50/- received as drought relief in the account. When all the small farmers working daily in their fields do not get their due return how they will open their account and deposit the cheques of Rs. 100/- and Rs. 50/- in the account. In such case that money is embezzled at some stage. I agree with what my learned friend has stated in the House just now. I agree that the Ministry of Agriculture needs to think about it whether subsidy or bonus on wheat and paddy and the benefits of all the announcements or

schemes made by the Union Government reach the farmers? Hon. Minister of Agriculture is sitting here. The schemes are formulated and funds are provided by the Union Government but in a federal system the State Governments have to implement those schemes. When the States are governed by the parties having different ideologies and when there are ideological differences between the Union and the States, in such a situation the funds are misused somewhere. There is a need for all of us to think over it seriously.

Without taking much time, I would like to refer to certain anomalies, through you, which need to be discussed in this House. I think there is a need to provide smart cards to the farmers on the basis of their land holding. The farmers should have an account and all the money, be it subsidy or the bonus given on their crops or produces or relief package is deposited directly in the account of the farmers so as to benefit the poor farmers directly. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): The State Government will have some share in it. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: The State Government has always its share in it. How much will be provided by the State Government, you are sitting by my side. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: All right, Madam. Hon. Member has just said very good things. I would like to tell some other things before I speak something about the State Governments. Today there has been a serious discussion on power sector in the country. I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister of Agriculture, through you, towards the disagreement between the developed countries and developing countries in regard to carbon emission. Keeping carbon credit in view, India is the largest market. Can we provide resources for irrigation free of cost to the farmers by utilizing our carbon credit? Can we provide irrigation resources to our farmers with the help of subsidy provided by the Union Government and the State Governments under various schemes and with the funds for carbon credit? We may provide those sources which are energy efficient and can be installed permanently. For example we can revive the tube wells from which water was drawn using Persian wheels operated by the animals. Not only the tube wells but other resources may also be provided. These things can be taken to farmers in a planned manner. There has been talk of clean development mechanism every where in the 21st century. Can we use all the characteristics of the said mechanism in agriculture sector? Can the facilities be provided to the farmers using this mechanism? There is a need to think

over it seriously. Keeping the drought situation in view, can we provide subsidy in addition to postponement of payment of agricultural loan and liabilities of the farmers as per rule after declaration of drought? It is , essential to think over it. I would like to state that horticulture should also be promoted.

Madam, I would like to state in this House that the use of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides is reducing the fertility of the soil. We will have to think about it. As I am also a farmer, I have to face the same problem which is being faced by the farmers. Today we feel ourselves compelled to think that we will have to go back to natural resources. The villagers are gradually going back to natural resources. We need to expedite this procedure so as to reduce the dependence of the farmers on chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The hon. Member speaking just before me has stated that there are problems like agricultural management and flood. We are living at Nepal border. When there is drought in our region, there is no crop but when there is rainfall in Nepal and water is released by Nepal from dams, our region is drowned which is very painful for our village as everything is destroyed. Not only eastern Uttar Pradesh but Bihar also has to face these problems. We will have to formulate a scheme for its management. Talks may be held with the Nepal Government for setting up hydro-power projects.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please wind up within two minutes.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Madam, I am concluding. Earlier Uttar Pradesh Government had declared 20 districts as drought affected and later on 47 districts were declared as drought affected. I would like to state, through you, in this House that Unnao, Kanpur, Balrampur, Shrawasti, Bahraich, Gonda, Barabanki, Maharajganj, Kushinagar all these districts are facing drought. There has been rainfall less than 40 mm in Uttar Pradesh during the last two months. There has been only 100-120 mm rainfall against the expected 325-350 mm rainfall. The entire crop has been destroyed and the condition of farmers is very pitiable in the State.

**13.00 hrs.**

But even then the Government of Uttar Pradesh has not declared those-districts as drought affect districts. I have come to the House to present the serious situation prevailing over there.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Hon. Madam, through you, I would like to make this August House aware that

the situation is bad not only in these districts, in fact the condition of entire Uttar Pradesh is very serious which is why today situation has arised to declare it as drought affected and to make special arrangements for the farmers, workers, animals and agriculture over there. Besides this, the rains are gradually decreasing, there are significant changes coming in our electro-magnetic fields as a result of which less rain is being recorded.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, now you conclude.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Therefore, a situation of no rains may develop in the coming years. In view of this, we should take up watershed management and water management on permanent basis.

Madam, we should minimize our use of chemical fertilizers and chemicals by diversifying towards horticulture and by using bio-technology and give special importance to our agriculture by conserving its fertility and conserving water because if any problem comes up then it will break the backbone of the entire country. Therefore, to strengthen our economic system and the nation, we should pay special attention towards the agriculture sector.

Hon. Madam, I would once again like to thank you and would like to tell my predecessor speaker, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh ji that today the State Governments should also shoulder their responsibility.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you please conclude.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: The condition is that the hon. Minister of Agriculture has asked the Government of Uttar Pradesh thrice to submit the project but the project has not been sent till date.  
*...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: With these words I conclude my speech.

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

**13.03 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.04 hrs.

*(The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Four Minutes  
past Fourteen of the Clock)*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

### **Situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country—Contd.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue of drought and flood.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussions on drought and floods have been taking place routinely for the last 62 years in this House or in the State Assemblies. Shri Sharad Pawar ji is the Minister of Agriculture for the last six years. He comes from a farmer family. Drought and floods are adversely affecting the farmers of our country. The country faced drought six times from 1900 to 1952. But from 1952 to 2009 till date the country has faced drought more than 12 times. The reason behind that is quick changes in the climate. Trees are being felled. Carbon dioxide gas is increasing so much that it is directly affecting our climate. That is the reason why we are facing drought so frequently and it is an issue of concern for our country.

Sir, our country is agriculture oriented and even today it provides employment to 60 per cent people. Agriculture pays a major contribution to our GDP and employment generation. The GDP of our country had been 8 per cent and 9 per cent during the last three years and agriculture has paid no less contribution to it. This year also agriculture is projected to contribute 4 per cent to our GDP. I am surprised that you have not changed it. Northern India has not faced a severe drought than this. Hon. Minister of Agriculture has stated in this House as well as outside the House that there will be average rain in June and July but if we see the figures then I can say for sure that paddy plantation has not taken place on more than three-fourth land. Places where paddy has been planted, the plants have dried up. Coarse grains like Jwar and Bajara have also not been sown and wherever these were sown, all those plants have dried up.

Sir, there is a possibility of huge shortfall in agriculture production this time and the Government will have to import despite our reserved stock of foodgrains.

Whenever, India desires to import foodgrains, be it from America, Australia or Mexico it is forced to purchase at high price.

Sir, I would like to ask as to why our Governments did not evolve short-term or long-term plans to find a permanent solution to the problem of shortage of foodgrain. When we face floods or drought we have a routine debate in Lok Sabha and state assemblies. And as the time passes the matter is forgotten and files are closed. The Government has not found any solution to both these problems so far. It is true that out of these 62 years, Congress party alone has been at the helm of affairs for 45-46 years. Still, This problem remains as it was.

I am surprised, despite scanty rainfall in June and July, no efforts were made by the Government to help the farmers. So far no steps have been taken by the Government to provide any relief to the farmers so that they can face drought. Last year, I had raised this issue in Zero-hour. That time I made a mention of Bundelkhand and Allahabad. At that time, the Government admitted that in entire Bundelkhand, folling M.P. as well as in U.P., and four trans-Yamuna Tehsils of Allahabad, namely, Meja, Karchana, Bara and Soranv people are facing drought. But the Government said that it is helpless as it has received no proposal from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. It is quite surprising that, despite long time having passed, the U.P. Government has so far declared 22 districts as drought affected in first instance and now, by adding some more districts, in all 47 districts have been declared drought affected. I do not know whether the U.P. Government wrote any letter to the Union Government or not. But it is a long process. Whenever the State Government write to the Union Government the Union Government will send a team there. The team will assess the situation and it will submit its report. Sir, July is over, there is no fodder for animals, they will die of hunger. By the time the Government sends help, the time will run out. From where the BPL card-holders will get foodgrains? I have given some details to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that day relating to a survey which was got conducted by the hon. Supreme Court under the Chairmanship of Shri A.C. Saxena, Ex-Commissioner. He had submitted a report stating that 50 per cent of our population and not 28 per cent belongs BPL category. Please get this figure corrected and accept that 50 per cent of population still belongs to BPL category.

Sir, we do not have any control over nature. But it has not changed overnight. As I have said we faced drought six times between 1900 and 1952 and more than twelve time from 1952 till today. Now, drought after every four years has become almost a routine affair.

And, that, too severe ones which we are unable to tackle. I remember last time Shri Chidambaram had said that this year the Government would allocate adequate funds for irrigation. But, we can see in fact how many ponds have been dug? Number of ponds have been dug but at a height. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I have spoken for seven minutes.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Four more Members of your party are to speak.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: I will take my seat if you ask me to do so.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you please continue.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: At least give the facts. Sir hold this debate for more time. It is very important issue. All the Members be it from ruling party or opposition parties want to speak on this issue. Incidentally, Budget is also not to be presented today. Therefore, please do not make hurry and ask for concluding the speech within 2-3 minutes.

Sir, earlier Hwang Ho river in China and Nile in Egypt used to play havoc. But they desilted these rivers and utilized their water properly by constructing dams on the rivers. And that is why China is producing three times more foodgrains than us. Why are we not able to do so? Agriculture needs water more than fertilizers and anything else. Therefore, water is the foremost necessity. If water is arranged for irrigation, we can increase the foodgrains production at least by two time. But the irony is that though 62 years have elapsed since we got Independence, we are in a position to irrigate only 38 per cent of our cultivated land. It indicates that we will be able to bring our entire cultivable area under irrigation only by the end of 21 century.

Sir at present, all the districts in Punjab, Haryana, Jharkhand, U.P., Chhattisgarh and Bihar are facing drought. Large areas of West Bengal and M.P. are also affected. Gujarat and Maharashtra are facing floods. Water is life and there is nothing without water. Drought not only affects agriculture, it also creates drinking water problem. I can tell from my own experience about North India and particularly Bundelkhand and Allahabad that the water level has gone down so much there that water cannot be taken out even from hand pumps and tube-wells. The Government should ponder over this too.

Sir, people are migrating from villages. There is no fodder for the cattle. In reply to a question, the hon. Minister had said that the production of pulses and

oilseeds has increased but it has not increased in the same proportion in which the population has increased. The Government will have to make a separate scheme for this.

Sir, farmers have produced huge quantities of foodgrains through green revolution. Earlier, we used to import foodgrains from the US under PL-480 and used to import red wheat from there. But, now, we do not need to import. We have become self-dependent now. The Government has stored enough foodgrains. He has said in this very House that there has been so much production of foodgrains that all the godowns are full. But, how long will it last? We should make two kinds of arrangements—one, long term and the other, short term so that people could get jobs and be saved from starvation.

Sir, 'Food for Work' scheme should be implemented. New ponds should be dug up and old ponds should be renovated under this scheme. It will help in providing employment to the poor and unemployed and they will get foodgrains also for the work done.

Sir, water level will rise and we will be able to do irrigation also if water is retained by making check dams on small rivers and rivulets. Similarly, there are many laws in the country to check deforestation but they are not implemented actually. Lakhs of trees were felled in NOIDA. The Government is just inquiring into the matter. This affects the environment directly and it is one of the main reasons behind failure of rains.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the way water level is going down, our farmers and the entire country will have to face a very serious problem in the coming days. I would like to say that irrigation and electricity are two most important things in infrastructure. The economy of the country can be changed in the next five years if 60 per cent of the Budget is spent on irrigation and electricity and a little cut is made in the allocation for the remaining projects.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will conclude by saying one thing. Livestock is equally very important. We produce a lot of milk and milk alone gives us maximum revenue in comparison to the combined revenue earned from wheat, paddy and sugarcane. The economy of the villages and cities is also dependent on milk but how will the animals produce milk for us properly if they do not get fodder. Is it not possible that these schemes are implemented urgently in such a manner that the farmers get relief. The Centre will give package here but it will not reach them. The Government provides subsidy on fertilizers but it does not reach the farmers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Chidambarm ji had said last year that subsidy would be provided to the farmers directly. Hon. Finance Minister has said the same thing this year again but the farmers are not getting it. The Government should take it very seriously and should urgently formulate such an action plan in view of drought and flood as a permanent solution to this problem could be found out.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I conclude with these words.

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE (Beed): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the problem we are facing in the country today. Such an important issue is being discussed in the House today. There is a possibility of drought in the whole country. I am not predicting this. It was expected that this year's monsoon would be the best but it proved wrong. It is considered that only monsoon is the basis of Indian economy. The life of the common man, poor farmers and the farm labourers will be good if the monsoon is good in the country. But, Indian economy is facing a crisis due to insufficient monsoon this year. The average All India rainfall during the months of June and July this year has been 19 per cent. Thus, rainfall has not been as expected, only 19 per cent rainfall has been received.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we hope there will be good rainfall in August which will improve the monsoon in the country and change the situation. There are 64 per cent districts in the country which have received less than 35 per cent rainfall. Only 13 districts have received more rainfall and 22 districts have received almost negligible rainfall. There are 80 per cent districts in the country which have received less than 50 per cent rainfall. I think that the biggest problem is that of drinking water. In all our dams and canals, only 10 to 20 per cent water has been stored, they do not have more water than this. Therefore, if there will be no rain in August, leading to drought, then the biggest problem of the country would be of drinking water.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the country has never experienced such a situation of drought in the last 25 years. I know that being such a vast country some States would face famine and the others would face flood. Thus, we witness two strange situations simultaneously in the months of June and July. People incurred huge losses due to the cyclone in West Bengal recently. But, the State Government did not get any relief from the Central Government in this regard. Whether there is low or high rainfall, losses are incurred in both the situations. Except one or two States, drought situation has spread in the entire country. There is famine like situation in Uttar

Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu-Kashmir and all the north-eastern States today. About 80 per cent area of these States in the country is under the grip of drought. This is a natural calamity. It has to be faced by all unitedly. I do not think that the Government is at fault in this. I believe that this is a natural and national calamity.

The Union Government and the State Governments are now banking on better rainfall in August for improvement in the situation. This is a wrong approach. The Union Government and the State Governments should made efforts to deal with the situation jointly.

Sir, in our country different parties are in power at the centre and in the States. The parties in power in the centre are not in power in the states. The party holding the reign at the centre is not in power in the states. Hence, this should be considered as a national crisis and the Union Government and the State Governments should rise above party politics and join hands to deal with the situation. This is a national crisis. This is a crisis for the society as a whole. None of the state in our country has resources to deal with such a severe drought on its own. Hon. Sharad Pawarji belongs to Maharashtra. He knows that the country had faced worst drought in 1970 and Maharashtra had been the worst affected state. We are experiencing similar conditions this time also. It is not right to sit idle in the hope of rains in August. Hence, I ask the Prime Minister to call a meeting of Chief Ministers and Agriculture Ministers of all the states and to create a disaster management mechanism to deal with the drought situation in the country with the centre assuming a leading role in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, according to the report of the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) agricultural production is likely fall by 4.7 percent. There has been no rainfall in July. If August also turns out to be dry, it is difficult to asses the extent of fall in agricultural production. Drought and famine have certain fallouts. The first fall-out is water scarcity. Water is needed for industries and irrigation. Nothing can be done without water. I demand that all the water in dams should be reserved for drinking purposes. If this is not done one day a glass of water will be sold for Rs. 50/- in the country. The NDA Government had formulated a scheme to link Ganga and Kaveri rivers. The concept of the scheme was that interstate linking of rivers would enable flood waters to be diverted towards dry areas. This was an excellent scheme but it was not implemented. Had the scheme been implemented, 80 per cent of the farmers could have been saved the losses caused by floods and drought and they could have been assured



that they would not face ruin due to these causes. The Government should have implemented that scheme. At that time that we took steps to formulate and Rs. 10,000 crore was earmarked for the same. This Government has sidelined that scheme. We are facing a drought situation now. If we intend to get on top of the drought and famine situation, then Ganga and Kaveri will have to be linked. Hence, I could request you that the scheme should not be set aside just because it was conceived by the NDA. I would also like to say that there is also a scheme for linking the within state rivers on the line of the interstate rivers scheme. These rivers should also be linked and the centre and the state should collaborate for doing so. India has two crop seasons *i.e.* Kharif and Rabi. Kharif crops are not going to benefit now even if rainfall does occur. Rains would benefit only the Rabi crops now. One crop season is over and the impact would befall by the farmers. The drought affected farmers have been ruined. All the Members in the House are aware of the fact that the farmers do not have the means to take care of the cattle or buy expensive fodder for them. Cattle is national property and if subsidy on fodder is not provided this year, it would not be possible to keep them alive. The farmers are sending their cattle to the slaughterhouses. This should be stopped. If it is not stopped, we would definitely have to face a severe problem.

This is not merely an issue of farmers. 50 per cent of the people in villages do farming but even those who do not do farming, are dependent on agriculture. What will happen to them? It is a matter to which serious consideration should be given. NREGA is a good scheme. There is EDS in Maharashtra under which the poor are given employment. They also get 80 to 100 rupees per day under NREGA. However, this scheme has been implemented in some 300-350 districts. Could this scheme not be implemented in all the states as an exception to deal with the drought situation? It should be implemented in all districts but no money is being allocated for it. ...*(Interruptions)* That is what I am saying. States do not get the grains allotted under the Food for Work programme and the funds sanctioned under NREGA for months altogether. I feel that when the farmers have no means of production, When labourers have no work then they should get weekly or fortnightly payments. If the Union Government does not release funds for four months then the State Government would not be able to make payment under NREGA. I would like to request the MPs to tell the Government that funds under NREGA are not being released for 3-4 months. You should work towards ensuring timely release of funds under the scheme.

Today, people are migrating from every village in search of employment and the poor farmers and farm workers are moving from villages to cities and if such migration takes place then they start living in those cities only and this increases the problems for the cities. If we want to avoid this problem and provide employment to the farmers in villages itself then it is required to begin work in every village and ensure that they get employment till the coming month of June. I had requested for a meeting of Chief Ministers to be called and initiate works like laying of roads and water storage etc. in the districts where such a situation is developing. The entire House is aware and hon'ble Minister of Agriculture who himself is a farmer, knows that last year loans were waived but no new loans were disbursed. This year new loans were disbursed but the seeds sown by them got destroyed. They should have been provided new seeds and fertilizer and the new seeds should be given at subsidized rates. Since the kharif crop sown by the farmers has got destroyed and they cannot repay their loan so I would like to request in this House that the loan of farmers for this year should also be waived and if that cannot be done then moratorium should be given on that. If there are no rains this year then how will the farmers return their loan. The farmers should be given new loan and the old loan may be stayed. I would also like to urge that if the Government actually wants to provide any relief to the farmers and help them in the times of drought then they should be given loan at 6 per cent rate of interest. In some States loans are given at 13 per cent rate of interest. I would like to urge that the new term loan should be for 2-3 years and it should be given to farmers at 4 per cent rate of interest so that it will prove to be a big relief for the farmers.

Sir, despite such a serious problem, neither State Government nor the Union Government is that serious about it. Chidambaram ji, you do not have the Finance Department now so you are not aware of it. You are now Minister of Home Affairs. I would like to say that you must help other States. So far you have not sent any team to the States, whereas the States have sought help. You had helped in the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 but during the year 2009-2010 the Union Government did not provide assistance to any of the States so far. Unfortunately, I have to say that Maharashtra is worst affected by drought. In certain areas of Maharashtra like Vidarbha, Marathwada, Khandesh etc., less than 25 per cent rains have occurred and 78 per cent sowing has not taken place over there. It is very unfortunate that at the time of such a situation, your Government is in power over there, but so far the State Government has not sent any proposal and not sought any help from the Union Government and neither is the State Government making any efforts nor bringing any scheme

to deal with the drought situation. Packages are being announced keeping elections in view. Hon. Pawar Saheb should also pay attention to this, he had a meeting in Konkan and announced a package of Rs. 350 crore for Konkan. Similarly, a meeting was held by him in Nasik and a package given for the department stating that new roads will be constructed and new works would be taken up but today, the farmer is starving and facing a drought like situation. I think a package should have been given for that but the Government of Maharashtra has ignored this serious situation. No steps have been taken to deal with the drought.

Sir, two meetings were held this month, one in Konkan and the other in Nasik. The State Government did not pay any heed to the situation despite 80 per cent drought in Maharashtra. Therefore, I would like to demand that even if the Maharashtra State Government does not send any proposal, you should seek the current status report from the Maharashtra Government because you hail from Maharashtra and represent it. If you will take this step then I am sure that it will certainly provide relief to the State. I can confidently say that the State Government is not discharging its responsibility. If the Government receives any proposal then you should definitely convey this thing while giving your reply.

Sir, another repercussion of drought and poor monsoon is that the economic condition of the country gets worse which gives rise to inflation. There are two things associated with inflation. One is that there is price rise and the other is shortage of foodgrain. You are saying that godowns are full of grains. It will be very good if there are huge stocks of grains but if it is not so, then what will be the situation? We should also pay attention towards this thing that drought occurs every fourth year and whenever there is a drought the inflation goes up by 3 to 4 percent. Currently there is 4.6 percent Budget deficit and if we spend something to deal with this situation then we will further invite inflation. Are you not aware of how much inflation is there today? Today pulses are selling at Rs. 100 per kg. What does a village farmer eat, roti and dal. Nothing else than that, he does not have any sugar or oil. The prices of dal have increased so much that it has touched Rs. 100 per kg, how can a farmer survive in such a situation? There is a situation of famine and he has got no produce, then how will he survive? Is it not inflation? It has never happened in the history of India that price of dal has gone up to Rs. 100 per kg. Rs. 100 per litre oil, how can a poor farmer survive? I am not aware as to how much quantity of wheat and rice is available in godowns. I do not know who is to be held guilty for that but last year a ban was put on everything else except Basmati rice. The present Government put a ban in the year 2007, 2008 and issued a notification in April, 2008 that

if there will be 1100 dollar per tone rate, then only exports will be allowed, but on humanitarian grounds, rice was exported to twenty countries.

I do not know about the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture in this regard, but it should be investigated. When our country is facing shortage of foodgrains such as pulses and rice, why did we export 11 lakh metric tonne rice at the rate of 460 dollar per tonne? Why was this decision changed? The Deputy Prime Minister of Ghana was arrested as the rice meant for Ghana did not reach there. Where did it go? Farmers in our country are facing starvation, agriculture labourers have nothing to eat, but we exported rice on humanitarian grounds. First, let us show humanity for our country's farmers, then only we should think of foreigners. Our farmer is dying, today he is paying Rs. 100 for a kilogram of pulses and rice too has become so costly. It has got to be costly because we are exporting it. I can say that we are going to face shortage of sugar, pulses and oilseeds. During Diwali, we will face shortage of sugar as it is already Rs. 27 a kg. Pulses have already touched Rs. 100 a kg. How will the Government face it? I feel, the Government will have to seriously ponder as to what is the basis of our export-import policy, what is its central point? What does the Government think about it? When prices of our agri-products increase, we import and when the prices fall, we export. Please change this policy. If our EXIM policy is right, our farmer will not die. Please do not adopt an anti-farmer policy. Therefore, our EXIM policy should be pro-farmer and pro-common man. The Government changes the policy after every three months. Recently, the Government decided not to export rice. If EXIM policy is changed every third months, how will it do? There should be short-term as well as long-term EXIM policy. It will protect the farmers and at the same time the consumers will not have to spend more for buying. The Government will have to ponder over it. The pulses available at Rs. 100 a kg. can be Rs. 125 a kg. tomorrow because if the country faces famine, where the pulses will come from? The Government should import five lakh metric tonne pulses and provide it to the farmers at subsidized rate. I have a demand, but I do not know, whether it is fair or not. We are always short of pulses and oilseeds, so, why do not we encourage the farmers to switch over to these crops? Why does the Government not implement some incentive scheme for encouraging the farmers to adopt these two crops? What are our agricultural universities doing? Why are we waiting for the prices to touch Rs. 100? I think, we should plan our crops. We have no crop-planning. We should encourage our farmers to produce the commodities which we are short of and such commodities should be subsidized. Apart from it, we should change our crop pattern. The whole world is aware that global warming is resulting in climatic change, seasons are

changing consequently, rain has become uncertain and all the seasons are changing. ...(*Interruptions*). Sometimes, it rains even 4 inches a day. It is because of global warming only. If the monsoon behaves like last year, then we need to modernize our Meteorological Department, it is time we provide them satellites, new technologies, so that we could obtain accurate information. I would not like to drag it long. But, I would like to say that we should switch over to crops which can survive erratic monsoon conditions. We depend on traditional agriculture. If global warming makes the farmers to face erratic monsoon every year, then we will have no option, but to change our crop pattern.

I have one more suggestion, it is about artificial rain, call '*Kritrim Paus*' in Marathi. We should think about this option also. I have deliberately used this word. It has been experimented in Maharashtra and Karnataka. If monsoon plays truant even in August, can we experiment this option all over the country, I do not know if it will be successful, but what is the harm in trying it out. We should definitely think of artificial rain. Our population is over 120 crore in addition to a live stock population of 50 crore. Therefore, we should definitely think of it. Decline in paddy and soyabean production is another problem before us. We will have huge shortfall of pulses, rice, soyabean and oilseeds. And we should seriously ponder over this decline. Most of the areas in Maharashtra are facing famine. The State Government is not paying any attention to it nor is it making any efforts to overcome it. The Union Government should provide some relief. I demand on behalf of my State, Maharashtra and I hope the hon. Minister of Agriculture would request the hon. Prime Minister and convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers this week itself. Never in the last 25 years, such a severe draught was experienced in the State. The Union Government, State Government and the whole country should overcome this crisis unitedly. I conclude with these words.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before entering into the very serious subject matter of 'situation arising out of drought and flood in India', I would like to proudly call myself, a member of the low profile community, the low profile society, the society of farming community, the society of agriculturist, who serve food for all, without any discrimination of caste, creed, religion, place of birth, gender and so on.

Flood can be controlled; whenever flood comes, it can be regulated, controlled and sent to the place where

there is no proper rainfall. At the same time, rain could not be created. It is more important to see that the flood is controlled properly and wherever flood arises, wherever necessity of water is not there, it has to be regulated and sent to the places where they are in need of water. It is more important.

The Governments, from 1996 onwards—the successive Governments came and gone—are not giving proper attention to the interlinking of rivers.

Coming back to the subject matter, in the millennium year, 2000—the new Millennium Year was celebrated the world over – the UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution, giving top priority to alleviation of poverty. In 2002, WSSD meeting took place in Johannesburg. I had the privilege of leading the members of the Government of India to that particular WSSD, World Summit on Sustainable Development meeting at Johannesburg. The countries of the world took note of the MDGs—they said that poverty should be alleviated at any cost. How to alleviate poverty? But for the development of agriculture, poverty could not be alleviated. That was the most important subject that has been discussed and the WSSD gave thrust to agriculture.

But to our dismay, from 1947 onwards, the growth of agriculturists is dwindling. The country, we proudly say, belongs to farming community and we say that our country has more than 70 per cent farmers; the farmers are casting their votes in favour of the Government, whichever Government comes and goes. Because of the farming community's vote bank, the successive Governments are coming and going. But are we giving proper attention to the development of agriculture and the farming community? Definitely, to a certain extent, the UPA Government has given a lot of sops to the farming community like low-cost credit, loan waiver and so on. I am not disowning all this, but at the same time, from 1947, the contribution to the GDP is dwindling. For instance, in 1990 the contribution of the agriculture was of the level of 30 per cent. In 2008, it was of the order of 17 per cent. It has to be checked. We have to put our heads together to find out how to develop agriculture in spite of all these ordeals.

The agriculture sector is extending employment opportunities to the tune of 58.2 per cent of the total work force. Its share of export is to the tune of 12.2 per cent. The Government must understand that if anything goes wrong with agriculture, the entire economy would be adversely affected. It is a bad signal. For instance, on 14.7.2009, in this very House, my friend, Mr. Rajamohan Reddy had asked a question. The question

was: 'What is the level of rainfall in the country?' The Minister's answer:

"Up to 8.7.2009, the country has received 151 MM only against the normal rainfall of 235 MM."

So, the deficit is of the level of minus 36 per cent. Out of 36 Meteorology Stations, 27 have recorded deficit rainfall and nine have recorded normal rainfall.

As far as States of Maharashtra including Vidharbha, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat are concerned all cash crops like cotton, soyabean, groundnut and sugarcane are badly in need of even first shower. Uttar Pradesh is the leader in sugarcane production. What has happened in Uttar Pradesh? It has received less 57 per cent rainfall. In Haryana, Delhi and Chhattisgarh the rainfall is minus 83 per cent which is below normal. The paddy growing States of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh have received very minimal rainfall. West Bengal has received 49 per cent; Andhra Pradesh – 55 per cent, Punjab— 68 per cent; Orissa— 15 per cent; Tamil Nadu— 28 per cent and Chhattisgarh – 93 per cent below normal rainfall. It is because of the failure of South-West monsoon. But things have not been properly taken into consideration. The Government should come forward to give proper solace to the farmers.

The storage level of the biggest reservoirs is also low. In 81 reservoirs which are holding water for our farmers, the level has dropped very seriously. According to the Central Water Commission, the storage level on June 11, was 16.5 billion cubic metre only against 151.76 billion cubic metre. It is just 11 per cent of the full capacity. But the Meteorology Station used to say that there will be rain, there will be normal rain and whenever the Meteorology Department predicted that there will be a normal rain, the normal rain would not occur.

They failed miserably in their predictions in 1991. The Department again failed miserably in their predictions in the years 1999, 2002 and 2004. In the year 2002 there was a drought like situation all over the country. The adverse impact of bad weather was allowed to be continued. It has been observed that in a span of two to three years there ought to have been a famine like situation in some districts of some States. The Government should be watchful about the fallout of this. The fallout of it is very serious. It would not be a stand alone fall out for a particular place or region, but it would affect the entire economic growth. The prices of foodgrains will increase. Food will not be available. There would be acute shortage of water, not only for irrigation but also drinking water. It is good that because of the

better management of administration owing to his administrative skills, Shri Pawar is sitting pretty over the buffer stock of wheat and rice. I appreciate that. But the question is, for how many years would he be able to sustain this status of the buffer stock? Buffer stock is there because of good production; good harvest and good rainfall. I do appreciate the fact that because of his administrative skills the hon. Minister, Shri Pawar, for the last two years, have been able to maintain a proper buffer stock. I also appreciate the UPA Government for this.

But when one looks at the global scenario one would find that the International Grain Council has stated that the availability of foodgrains in the year 2008-09 was of the order of 1781 million tonnes, but this is expected to be 1715 million tonnes only in 2009-10.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up now.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, it would not be possible for me to wind up right now. I will need another two to three minutes.

What is the scenario in respect of global wheat production? Global wheat production in the year 2008-09 was of the order of 1287 MT whereas in the year 2009-10 the production is expected to be 652 MT. So, global production of wheat has registered a deficit. My point is that the problems of the farmers should be addressed properly and on time.

What are the inputs required for good production and good harvest? A farmer needs credit at low interest rates, good fertilizer, pesticides, power and so on. What is happening in the State of Tamil Nadu? Farmers are provided with credit at low interest rates. In the year 2006-07, the interest rate on credit was reduced from 9 per cent to 7 per cent. My leader Kalaaignar Karunanidhi reduced this rate of interest from 9 per cent to 7 per cent. In 2007-08 this rate was reduced to 5 per cent and in 2008-09 the rate of interest on credit to farmers has been reduced to 4 per cent. Further, the State Government under our leader Kalaaignar Karunanidhi has declared zero per cent interest for those who pay their instalments on time. If the State Governments are coming forward to give credit on reduced rates of interest, from 9 per cent to 4 per cent and even at zero per cent interest, why can the Central Government not do this? I would like to suggest the Government that they extend subsidy and also provide credit to farmers at low interest rates. The Central Government can at least provide a matching grant.

Sir, power is provided totally free of cost in States like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and some other States. These States should be helped in a proper

manner. What is happening in the State of Tamil Nadu? I would like to bring to the notice of the House that by June 12, water from the Mettur reservoir was supposed to be released which would have helped the areas of Thirucherapalli, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and such other places. But it has not happened due to lower level of water. Today our leader Kalaaignar Karunanidhi has order to release order from this dam at the risk of maintaining its level.

**15.00 hrs.**

What has not happened? It is because of the non supply of water in the delta area. The farmers have lost their first crop, the kharif crop, in more than 2.8 lakh acres of land. That means 2.8 lakh acres of land could have produced 8.4 lakh tonnes of rice. That means it is a loss of Rs. 840 crore by the farmers. They have lost the entire crop. Why is it so? The Central could have intervened at the proper time, at the time of construction of Harangi, Kabini, Hemavathi, etc. They should have intervened at that time but they did not intervene. What is happening today? Andhra Pradesh is digging canals in the Palar River. Our friend, Shri Y.S.R. Reddy is doing it. I do not know what has gone wrong there? It is being done across Palar River. Palar is an inter-State river. It flows through Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Across the Palar River, if an upper riparian State tries to construct or dig any structure, it has to be approved by the lower riparian State. But without any consultation with the lower riparian State, dams constructed across Cauvery and the Cauvery issue is still lingering on. Without consultation with the lower riparian State, structures are being constructed across Palar River also.

The Chief Minister has gone on record sometime back saying, I quote: "It is really surprising and shocking because, on the one hand, Andhra Pradesh is saying that it is waiting for the Report of the Committee and, on the other hand, it is going ahead with the construction work". He has also said and I quote: "Instead of remaining a mute spectator, the Centre should play an active role to resolve our problem". He has requested the Central Government to come forward and settle the issue amicably.

The matter is before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has directed the Central Water Commission to intervene and advise the Government of Andhra Pradesh not to do anything till such time the matter is settled. But then things went wrong.

Finally, before I conclude, I only request the Central Government to look into the funding of intra-linking rivers. You are not going in for interlinking of rivers. You have

30 programmes in this regard out of which 14 programmes are for rivers flowing from the Himalayas and 16 for peninsular rivers. Thirty programmes are there on paper. What is happening to them? Unless and until you go for interlinking of rivers.

Sir, interlinking of rivers is the most important issue which has to be taken up immediately. It is lingering on just like the Bill on women reservation.

Our leader, Dr. Kalaaignar, has sent three proposals so that they can be accommodated in the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme. The first proposal is to divert the flood surplus of Cauvery by constructing Kattalai Barrage across Cauvery and connecting Agniyar, Koraiyar, Pamban, Vaigai and Kundar at the cost of only Rs. 189 crore. The second proposal is, surplus water from Kannadiyan channel of Thambirabarani Basin could be linked to Karumeniyar and Nambiyar to serve the drought prone areas of Radhapuram, Nanguneri and Sattangulam at the cost of Rs. 369 crore. The third proposal is Pennaiyar surplus water could be diverted to Cheyyar and Palar so that those drought prone areas can be benefited and the cost of project is 174 crore.

So, my point of view is that you cannot avoid deficit in the rainfall. It is not possible. He is not God. Even God could not bring rain, if at all God is there. But you can divert the surplus water to the areas which are needy.

So, it is more important to see that all the thirty schemes that have been planned, but put in the cold-storage, should be taken out and implemented. Inter-linking of rivers is the most important subject matter. But even before that, what is important is intra-linking of rivers, which has been planned by my State, should be encouraged and proper funding should be given under the AIBP.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when there is a flood, the farmers or the peasants face problems. That problem is for the time-being only. When the water gets receded, the farmers can start cultivation. But when there is a drought, its impact on the production of food grains is felt not only in the current year, when there is a drought, but also in the next year. It continues to impact the production of food grains in the next year also.

Although agriculture's contribution to the GDP is declining, it is still contributing to the extent of 17 per cent. Ten or eight years back, it was contributing 25 per cent of the GDP. Still sixty per cent of our population is dependent on agriculture. There are 22 crores of agricultural labourer who are dependent on agriculture. When there is a delayed monsoon, when there is a

shortage in the rainfall, when the sowing, transplantation and cultivation do not start in proper time, then they have their impact on the production of food grains.

What is the position of sowing in different States? In Andhra Pradesh it is 75 per cent. Andhra Pradesh's position is better in comparison to other States. In Madhya Pradesh, it is 30 per cent and in Rajasthan it is 40 per cent. In almost all the States the sowing is less than fifty per cent so far. Already one or one-and-a-half month have passed.

I was in my constituency, which consists of two districts. One district is drought-prone. In earlier times, there was a Programme called Drought Prone Area Programme, the DPAP. But that Programme has been dispensed with. In my constituency, I have seen no land where the sowing is more than ten per cent. Such is the situation in a number of States! In the past we have seen drought in one or two States or within a State one or two districts.

But this year, drought is so extensive and intensive that it extends from Eastern part of our country. This year Orissa is, to some extent, fortunate to have rains or floods in some districts. But starting from West Bengal to Punjab, from East to West and in the North Western region, which is known as the food bowl, the rainfall is less than 50 per cent. When there is less than 30 per cent of rainfall, then it is called drought. It has its impact on our acreage cultivation also.

Sir, since 60 per cent of food grains are produced during monsoon, and, if there is a delayed monsoon — less monsoon and less rain — it will definitely have its impact not only on the paddy but also on other food grains like pulses, bajra, soyabean, etc. As bajra is reported to be covered in 34.67 lakh hectares as compared to last year area of 46.01 hectare, and if there is less rainfall, then it will have its effect on the production also. When there is a delayed sowing and delayed cultivation, then there will be less production. The area coverage under maize and jowar is reported to be 46.48 lakh tonnes. Not only in case of paddy where area coverage has come down to just 50 per cent; in case of other food grains like pulses, the area coverage has also come down.

Sir, we have been facing this drought situation every year, but this year it is intensive and extensive. But what is required to be done by the Central Government has not been done. The Food Security Mission was announced and created. What was the aim or object of this Mission? The aim was to increase the production of rice to the extent of 20 million tonnes by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

Sir, according to the Economic Survey of 2008-09, except for a marginal increase in case of rice, all other food grains have been declining in production *vis-à-vis* target of 2008-09. When there is a deceleration in the production, there has been marginal increase in case of rice, but in case of other food grains, there has been deceleration and there has been decline. The National Food Security Mission was created to increase the food production. But how by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan it can be achieved?

Now, we have a number of big dams. Some of the dams were constructed in the 50s. Today, the water level is just ten per cent of its capacity.

After construction of the dam, after many years, say 50 or 60 years, dredging has not been done. There has been siltation because check dams have not been created to prevent the siltation in the dam, in the reservoir. I can cite the example of three such reservoirs created in the 1950s under the Damodar Valley Corporation. The DVC was created in 1948 by an Act of Parliament for facilitating irrigation in four or five districts in West Bengal and, prevention and control of floods as there was a flood in the 1940s. These dams were constructed in the 1950s like Maithon, Panchet in my district and the Durgapur Barrage. After the construction, dredging has not yet been done. As a result of this, the capacity of the reservoirs has been reduced to a great extent. What is required today is that dredging of these reservoirs should be done in a massive way. For that, investment is required.

Sir, you have seen the allocation for irrigation for this year. The capital formation in agriculture was declining in the past. As a result of that, you will be surprised to know that for the last five to six years, there has not been extension of irrigation capacity, the irrigated area. Today, after 62 years of Independence, we have only 40 per cent of irrigated land and 60 per cent of the land has to depend on rain, on monsoon. The point is that 60 per cent of our food production has to depend on rains. So, there is a need for massive investment in agriculture, irrigation, extending the irrigation facilities. The dams which were constructed 50 years back need dredging. There is need for dredging of these reservoirs so that the capacity - which was created at that point of time, which capacity has been reduced to a great extent — can be increased.

We have been raising the question in regard to prices. We are asking for the remunerative prices. Two Committees — the Dr. Swaminathan Committee and the Dr. Y.K. Alagh Committee — were set up and both the Committees recommended certain things. The Dr. Swaminathan Committee recommended that the formula

in regard to determining the Minimum Support Price or remunerative price should be C2 Plus 50 per cent. The Dr. Y.K. Alagh Committee recommended giving statutory status to the CACP. None of these recommendations has been accepted by the Government. What is now required to tackle the situation is long-term as well as short-term measures.

The short term measure is to release relief to the farmers. Most of the farmers are small and marginal farmers who are poor and the seeds which are sown already have been damaged now. So, the Government should supply seeds free of cost to the farmers in the affected areas.

A Central initiative should be taken up immediately to identify the intensity of the problem and take specific measures to provide relief to the affected areas. The Government should also send Central Teams to various States to assess the damage that has been caused because of delayed monsoon, as cultivation has not yet started in many States.

Then, the high level Committee on National Calamity Contingency Fund should be empowered and made the final authority on matters of drought relief and for State-specific relaxation of norms for dealing with reduced acreage as well as productivity due to deficient rainfall.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am concluding. You have given me only five minutes. How can I conclude my speech in five minutes on such a vast subject?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No; you have taken more than 15 minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Government should declare the regions that have received deficient rainfall leading to cancellation of sowing operation as 'drought-hit' and provide compensation to the farmers who have been affected.

The Government should provide seeds, fertilizers and other inputs free of cost to the farmers in the affected areas.

The Government should announce loan waiver scheme and provide interest-free loans to the farmers in the affected areas.

The Government should also provide free and uninterrupted supply of power and assist States by providing additional power from the Central Pool which is necessary.

Then, the price of diesel has been increased recently by Rs. 2 per litre. This should be withdrawn in view of the drought situation prevailing in most States of our country. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government of West Bengal has decided yesterday to reduce the power tariff applicable to the agricultural sector because out of 18 districts, at least 15 districts are worst affected by drought and my constituency of Bankura is also affected by drought. Purulia is known as a drought-prone district in West Bengal where paddy sowing is less than 10 per cent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is my last point.

The Government should announce the Minimum Support Price for the Khariff Season immediately.

Then, in Durgapur Barrage, Panchet, Maiton, Kansabati and Tilpara dams, storage capacity has been reduced to a great extent. So, immediate investment should be made and enough funds should be provided to the State Government for dredging and desilting of all the reservoirs so that the storage capacity of these dams can be enhanced and rain water harvesting can be taken up in a massive way.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the whole country is facing the problem of flood and drought today. Hon. Minister is present in the House. His statements are proving his concern that the whole country is in the grip of flood and drought today particularly North India which is being discussed today. I would like to ask the hon. Minister that he has been a part of the Governments for a long time and has held important Offices. But, what is the reason that no Government has ever taken any meaningful initiative so far to find a permanent solution to the problem of flood and drought being faced by the country from time to time since Independence. Hon. Minister is a responsible and learned Minister. He has expressed concern particularly for North India in both the Houses. He should take an initiative on this issue because he is seen as pro-farmer.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, North India including Orissa, Bihar and Jharkhand is reeling under drought. Many States are much affected by the flood. They would be feeling quite strange that we are discussing drought today. I hail from Uttar Pradesh which is in the grip of drought today. Uttar Pradesh Government is the first State Government which has declared maximum number of districts as drought affected. It is an historic decision in which 47 districts have been declared as drought

affected. In the other House, the hon. Minister had said that entire North India is in the grip of drought. I want to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has remained concerned. Being the largest State of the country, the number of farmers and labourers is also more there. That is why the Chief Minister of the State has taken this responsibility and expressed the concern most. The Agriculture Ministers of the States of the country had talks with the Central Government on 25th June this year. Then, the secretary, Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh had expressed concern that in view of the monsoon in the country, the sowing of paddy is on the verge of being discontinued in the places receiving low rainfall and it was demanded that pulses and oilseeds can be grown there. But, the Central Government did not take any initiative in this direction. I think that the hon. Minister of Agriculture should consider it seriously. Hon. Minister has accepted that 60 per cent farmers are the backbone of the development of the country but the Governments so far have looked up to the big corporates without paying attention to the farmers. I think that the national calamity that is prevailing in the country today would not have arisen if the Governments would have shown concern towards the problems of the farmers and their betterment and future.

Sir, I want from the hon. Minister that a national disaster policy should be made for the farmers of Uttar Pradesh which is the largest State of the country and for all those areas of the country where farmers are affected by drought and he has made this policy too. Discussion on giving remunerative prices to the farmers for their produces is taken up in the House time and again even after so many years of Independence but no concern has been shown towards it. Today, 20 to 30 per cent of the labourers working in the farms of the farmers get food in the evening only after finishing their work. They will not get food if they do not work as a labourer. The hon. Minister of Agriculture has not expressed any concern on this. I think that the hon. Minister should be concerned about it. The Government has the policies to compensate the losses of the farmers having agricultural land but what about the labourers who work in the farms and have no land. The hon. Minister must tell in the House as to what the Government is going to do for them. The U.P. Government has declared 47 districts as drought affected. There have been various Governments in the State before also and they have had been telling about themselves as the biggest well-wisher of the farmers. But, not any of the previous State Governments had taken the initiative in such a natural calamitous situation. The present Government in Uttar Pradesh has taken this initiative today.

Sir, earlier, assessment for compensation of loss was used to be made in the month of September and the work on calamity started thereafter. But, now, 47 districts have been declared as drought affected in Uttar Pradesh in view of the situation of monsoon till 30th June. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the U.P. Government is working with honesty and responsibility to deal with the situation of drought in the state. Secretary level talks were held on 25th June between the Secretary, U.P. Government and Secretary, Government of India on cultivation of pulses during monsoon but no attention was paid to it. After that, no attention was paid to the proposal made by the Director, Agriculture of U.P. Government on 2nd July, 2009 too. On 22nd July, the Central Government was requested to provide packets of seeds to the farmers of U.P. for drought relief under the National Agriculture Development scheme. But, the Central Government did not pay attention to it also.

Sir, I want that the hon. Minister should express concern on it. On 23rd, the Chief Secretary of the U.P. Government had issued directions to all the District Magistrates that necessary steps should be taken to deal with the drought and advertisements had been published in the local newspapers to provide relief. There are agricultural labourers, who work in the farms and about whom I was speaking, but they are very perturbed today due to non-availability of work on the farms. Our Government has made arrangements to provide work to them under the dream project NREGA. Arrangements have also been made for their health and for installation of hand pumps for them. A team of doctors has been formed to deal with the diseases likely to occur there due to drought.

I, therefore, want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the situation of Uttar Pradesh. The Central Government did not make any effort to check the drying of rivers taking place in Uttar Pradesh or in the entire country today or to link the rivers which was discussed many times. Had there been proper water management, we could have dealt with the flood today and even water could have been made available to the people for irrigation. Perhaps we would have been generating more power through hydro-power projects if we had talked to the Nepal Government in a responsible manner. The entire country is facing electricity crisis due to less generation of electricity by the hydro-power projects due to drought. Only about 300 MW electricity is being allotted to U.P. whereas 1400 MW is needed there. He should try to provide maximum electricity to U.P. to provide relief to the farmers in the State in coordination with the Ministry of Power.



Today, people are suffering all over the country due to drought. I want to tell the hon. Minister of Agriculture that pulses should also be included under PDS system through which wheat and rice is sold because how can a farmer, who is even under BPL, have his fill only from wheat and rice? He also needs vegetable and pulses. Therefore, there is need for including pulses too in the PDS system. With these words, I would like to thank the Chairman and request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to provide maximum relief to Uttar Pradesh which is reeling under drought.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak a few words on this important discussion on drought and floods in various parts of the country.

Sir, flood and drought are not new to the country or to any Government that is in power at the Centre as well as in different States. It is estimated that around 40 million hectares of the land in our country are flood-prone; similarly about 60 per cent of the land in the country is drought prone. This has been known to all of us and also to the Government in power.

It is also known that the flood problem cannot be solved, and it can only be managed to some extent. Similarly, drought that has affected different areas can be managed. The people especially at the lower level, those who own only two acres of land or even less than two acres of land and also the landless people are the most sufferers. How can the Government solve that problem? That is a question before us.

It is also known that unless the Centre provides money to the States and also the States have coordination with the Centre, whatever projects or schemes that are being provided cannot be implemented to the satisfaction of the farmers or the people at large.

Sir, as I have stated earlier, the flood-prone area of the country is not confined to certain States only. It is already known over the years that these are the States or these are the areas of the country, which are repeatedly being affected by floods. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister, who is a very learned and competent Minister, to provide sufficient money. There should be a proper coordination also between the Centre and the States; there should be a will to provide funds and there should be will to utilise funds. Otherwise, it would not serve any purpose. Money is being provided. But whatever project proposals are being sent by different States to the Centre are not being looked after or are not being examined by the Central Government on time.

There should be some kind of mechanism created in this regard to ensure these projects are looked after well and properly addressed in time.

Similarly, Sir, I hail from the State of Orissa, which is not only being affected by droughts but also by floods every year. Fortunately, this time, in this month of July, we have had excess of rainfall. But prior to that, the hon. Minister had visited my State of Orissa and got the first hand information about the problems of the State. Unfortunately, the people of Orissa were very much worried about the monsoon because it did not rain at the proper time. But now, it has rained, which has created more problems. That is the problem of my State.

As has also been stated, more than 100 per cent rainfall has occurred in the month of July itself in Orissa. The State Government of Orissa has informed the Central Government. I have been told that they have also written to the hon. Union Minister of Agriculture to come to the rescue of our State, especially the western parts of Orissa including KBK districts. It is known to all that KBK are the most backward districts of the country. Not only this Government knows but also all the previous Governments knew about the problems of the KBK; they are the worst affected areas especially by droughts. Fortunately, we have *Indravati* project now, which provides water for cultivation. This particular project has already been completed. My submission is that there are some projects, the proposals of which have already been sent by the State Government of Orissa but they are still lying with the Ministry of Water Resources. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to use his good office to get it sanctioned and implemented.

Sir, I must also make a mention about a project, which has been languishing for years together. It is *Subernarekha* project of 1978. The hon. Deputy Speaker also knows about it. This *Subernarekha* project was first sanctioned in the year 1978 and now, we are in the year 2009.

Still the project has not yet been completed. On the other hand, the cost overrun of the project has gone so high that it is very difficult on the part of any Government to provide funds for its completion. So, I would request the hon. Minister to provide adequate funds. Fortunately, our Minister of Home Affairs is also present here. It traverses in the Naxalite affected areas. So, for providing development to the area, this project should be provided with adequate funds. Now the Government is declaring some projects as national projects. If this project can be included in the list of national projects, it will certainly do a good thing not only for the State of Jharkhand but also for the State of Orissa as well as the neighbouring State of West Bengal.

Similarly, the State Government of Orissa has submitted a Comprehensive Plan for Protection of Mahanadi delta areas. The plan of about Rs.1200 crore has been submitted to the Government at the Centre, and the Central Water Commission is still examining this project, though it was submitted to the CWC more than two years ago.

Unless we provide money or unless we bring more areas under irrigation, the problem of drought cannot be managed and the sufferings of the people, especially small farmers and also downtrodden people living there cannot be solved.

There is one thing that I would again request to the hon. Ministers—both the Ministers are present here—is about the money. Last time when our Home Minister, Shri Shivraj Patil Ji visited the State during the flood of 2007-08, realising the gravity and severity of the flood problem there, especially in Mahanadi and Subarnarekha, he had announced an assistance of Rs.500 crore. Later on, a Central Team visited. Finally, they had recommended Rs. 89.89 crore. Accordingly, getting the assurance from the Central Government, the State Government incurred the expenditure for having restoration of different roads and different utilities. But, subsequently, I am sorry to say—I do not know how far it is reasonable to say this—that they have asked the State to return back the money. If that is not true, I am subject to amend myself.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): That is not correct. As the Finance Minister explained, that is only a technical accounting requirement because this is a cumulative account. The Finance Minister also said there is no question of recovery of any money given in advance. That is a technical accounting statement which has been sent. The Finance Minister has already said there is no recovery. In fact, in UPA-I, there were three cases where we had given money, and the technical note was sent that it will be adjusted/recovered. Eventually, the Cabinet took a decision that we will not recover the money. So, these cases will also be considered.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Thank you. I am obliged that you are giving the right answer. But at the same time, the letter has been sent. That is the difficulty. The letter has been sent not only to Orissa but also even to the State of Bihar. They have raised it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: That is the technical accounting letter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: All right, hon. Minister, I am obliged that you have clarified the position.

But, at the same time, I request one thing of the Government. Many senior Ministers are present here. I request you. Once a hon. Minister has declared the assistance, later on how can it be made as nil? How can it be made nil? That is the problem. The amount of assistance the then hon. Minister of Home Affairs declared was Rs. 500 crore. Subsequently, the account became nil. This is something astonishing and this should not be repeated.

Sir, I thank you once again for giving me the time.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL (Amravati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate on an important issue like drought. Most parts of the country are drought affected. Hence this issue is being discussed in this House today. I come from Vidarbha region in Maharashtra. If the farmers commit suicide in any state in the country, that is in Vidarbha. Other States are famous for good things but it is our bad luck that two or four farmers commit suicide everyday in our region. If we go through the newspapers, we get to know that some farmer has committed suicide. We are known for this. The reason is that the agriculture in Marathwada and Vidarbha depends totally on monsoon. If monsoon comes on time, the farmers get a good crop. As the agriculture is totally dependent on monsoon there, the farmers are forced to take loan. There is only one crop in a year. The number of family members is increasing day by day, so they are not able to support their family with agriculture. The farmers have to take loans for treatment of diseases, education of children and marriage of daughters etc. All this has been going on in our region for the last ten years. UPA Government in Maharashtra has failed to prevent the farmers from committing suicide in Vidarbha and Marathwada.

Sir, the Union Government decided to waive the loans of the farmers almost two years ago. We had also demanded for waiving the total loan of the farmers but the Government decided to waive the total loan of only those farmers who had a holding up to five acres of land. The budgetary provision was only Rs. 10,000 crore rupees. When a farmer goes to bank, he is told that he would get relief only after the funds are received from the Government. The farmers of Vidarbha or Marathwada or any other region in Maharashtra have always to face the drought situation. On one hand, the agriculture is totally dependent on monsoon and on the other, when monsoon does not arrive on time, the farmer is compelled to take loans. I would like to inform you

that Rs. 3,200 are given as crop loan per acre. When the loans of the farmers in Vidarbha having a holding of five acres of land were waived, only Rs. 15,000 or 16,000 out of their loan were waived. Only crop loan is not sufficient for them. They have to take other loans also. They have to take loans from the sources other than banks and the money-lenders. Only then they are able to support their families. But as this cycle has been going on for several years, the relief provided through loan waiver was very little. Even today, two or four farmers commit suicide everyday. I remember that in July 2006 we requested our Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singhji and he visited the region and after taking stock of the situation he declared a package of Rs. 3750 crore for six districts (Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Wasim and Wardha) where more farmers committed suicide. But it was not implemented in the manner as it should have been implemented. We are witness to that as we hail from that region. Being a public representative of the region, I know that there has been unfair treatment in this regard in that region. Rs. 2177 crore were provided for irrigation but that was also not distributed. The Government had announced the package in July, 2006 but unfortunately it was distributed only in the last month when it was announced that 1000 wells will be dug in every tehsil. The first instalment of Rs. 10,000 was provided in the first week of June. The government is aware that it starts raining in June and if Rs. 10,000 are provided now to a farmer he will not dig a well. If at all he starts digging, the well will be filled up during the rainy season and if he asks for second instalment, that will not be provided to him as the first instalment would not have been utilized. If he deposits the money in bank and proposes to dig a well after the rainy season, he will withdraw that money in the meantime whenever he needs something for his family. Then the Government would say that the second instalment will be given only after the first instalment is utilized.

It would not be wrong if I say that this Government is playing with the farmers keeping the assembly elections in view. You did not provide the funds for two years. Why the funds were not provided every year for digging wells in the last two years when the package was announced by the Prime Minister two years ago? Now the funds have been provided as the assembly election are likely to be held in October and the farmers would think that the Government had given Rs. 10,000 and if they wanted the remaining amount of Rs. 90,000, they would have to reelect the same Government.

The loadshedding is also an issue. If anybody has got a well in his land, even then he can not grow his crop due to shortage of power. It means that there is problem everywhere. This year there has been little

rainfall after lapse of one and half month of monsoon period. Now the farmers have sown the seeds but there is no possibility of rainfall in future. Hence being a representative of Vidarbha, I would like to state that fortunately the Minister of Agriculture hails from not only Maharashtra but from our home district Satara. There are five representatives belonging to Satara. Satara is very aggressive in this regard. Satara figures in history. If someone pays special attention to Vidarbha, it will be good. I hope that Hon. Sharad Pawarji, our Minister of Agriculture will pay attention to Vidarbha. More separate package may be provided for Vidarbha. The package provided earlier has not been implemented and I feel that the earlier package needs to be revised.

**16:00 hrs.**

Where did those Rs. 3,750 crore go? Rs. 2,177 crore out of the said package were provided for irrigation. Why this amount was provided so late? If the suicides by the farmers have to be stopped, water should be provided for irrigation to the farmers throughout the year. The required dams, be it small or big, should be constructed. Funds have only been announced for the wells. These funds must be provided to the farmers. If there is a well in each field a family depending on agriculture will be happy. The amount of loan will be reduced and the farmers will not be inclined to commit suicide.

Sir, this is my request and I hope that our Minister of Agriculture will certainly think about this and try to announce a new package for Vidarbha.

*[English]*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Respected Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of AIADMK, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country.

**16.02 hrs.**

*[SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA in the Chair]*

This is an issue of critical National importance as this concerns crores of people of our country. We find that some States like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala and Orissa are flooded with water, and some other States like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry and some Northern States are facing drought.

We find that majority of the population depends on agriculture. At the same time, agriculture also depends on monsoon, and when monsoon fails, the agriculture also fails in India. Nearly, 70 per cent of the cultivable

area depends on monsoon. Therefore, when monsoon fails, the whole agriculture also gets affected. The farmers in most parts of India, especially, in Tamil Nadu start the agricultural operations anticipating good rain and monsoon. They spend a lot of money in sowing and other cultivation-activities, but what is happening now? India is facing a monsoon failure, and as a result of this the farmers are facing a lot of problems. It is because they have lost their investment.

The hon. Agriculture Minister — while replying to the debate on the Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Agriculture — had admitted that the monsoon situation is very grave and serious. He had also announced that the interest on farm loans would be reduced to six per cent if the farmers repay the loans on time. This is not enough. The Government should have a very well thought-out backup plan in case the monsoon fails, and the Government need not wait till the situation becomes worse. It should have a contingency plan to counter the situation and meet the challenges.

Today, the farmers are in a state of total frustration, and they are waiting for some succor from the Government. The farmers need a uniform crop insurance policy. Some crops are insured at premium-level, and some other crops are insured at some other premium-level. This will affect the farmers, and they are not in favour of this. Hence, we have to give protection to the farmers by giving a farmers insurance and security package. The previous AIADMK Government in Tamil Nadu — under Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalitha — had implemented such a package known as *Uzhavar Paathukappu Thittam*. The same should be introduced at the National-level. Further, they also need to give quality seeds free at their doorsteps; free fertilizers should be distributed to them; and there is an urgent need for interest-free loans to save them so that they can save us and save the country also.

Lack of drinking water is a very important problem in Tamil Nadu and also in other parts of our country. Lack of drinking water has become a major problem not only in the villages of Tamil Nadu, but also in urban areas and towns. Drinking water is being supplied to the people only once in 15 days or 20 days in most parts of Tamil Nadu, which too is not hygienic. Whatever rivers we have are all polluted not only by industries, but also by poor drainage system. So, we do not have water either for irrigation or drinking purpose. The problem needs to be addressed forthwith by giving it top priority.

Today, we have seen in the newspaper wherein it has been reported that the Meteorological Department

has monitored seven rice-producing States of India and found that there is scanty or deficient rainfall in those States. This would severely hit the prospects of Kharif production. Those seven States account for 50 per cent of the country's rice production. Due to the drought condition, there is a shortage of production of food grains. This shortage leads to an increase in prices.

Yesterday, while replying to the debate on the Finance Bill, the hon. Finance Minister said that he would give a stimulus package to agriculture sector. But without production of food grains, pumping money into agriculture sector will not serve the purpose.

The country does not have sufficient infrastructure to save rainwater. There is an urgent need to take water conservation measures. Very little effort is put for conserving water. Whenever there is excess rain, it floods a particular area, pours into a river and then into the ocean. Water table in the country should be raised systematically and substantially through rainwater harvesting, and proper channelizing of flood waters. Rainwater Harvesting Project introduced by hon. *Amma* Jayalalithaa in Tamil Nadu was a resounding success, and that model should be replicated nationally.

Another point that is gaining ground in the last three years is about interlinking of rivers. This would solve the problem of recurrence of floods and drought in our country. There should be a time-bound action plan for interlinking all inter-State rivers and also intra-linking of rivers within States. In this connection, I would say that dredging and deepening of all rivers, water bodies should be taken up first, before attempting to interlink the rivers. This would ensure optimal retention of water in the water bodies and artificial floods will not cause havoc.

I find that for the Cauvery-Vaigai Link Project in the Peninsular Rivers Development Component, the feasibility report had been completed. I will request that this may be taken up on priority and completed early so that the whole of Tamil Nadu benefits from this.

There are large-scale disputes concerning sharing of river waters. I would like to say that these disputes can be solved by negotiations and also by implementing the direction of the Supreme Court. I will like to draw the attention of the Government to the agony of the people of Tamil Nadu where most of the lakes and small reservoirs have dried up. There is acute shortage of water; people do not have water for drinking purpose, needless to talk about water for irrigation.

Tamil Nadu is dependent on the waters of Cauvery River. However, Karnataka releases the water only when all their reservoirs are full to the brim and when there is imminent danger to the lives and properties of the

people of Karnataka. Therefore, I will request the Central Government to direct the Karnataka Government to release waters of Kabini and Krishna Raja Sagar regularly which will help the people of Tamil Nadu.

We are having another problem relating to drinking water. Hogenakkal Project is still pending because of Karnataka Government's interference, and the State Government of Tamil Nadu is not in a position to implement it. Therefore, I will request the Central Government to direct the Karnataka Government not to interfere in implementing the Hogenakkal Project because it helps the people in districts like Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri and Vellore.

Concerning Andhra Pradesh, one hon. Member has already mentioned that they are constructing a dam on Palar River. This causes drinking water problem in our State. Therefore, I will request the Central Government to direct the Andhra Pradesh Government not to construct a dam on the Palar River.

Finally, I want to say that when we are spending crores of rupees on flood relief and drought relief, if we spend that money somewhat early to prevent these kinds of things, definitely, our country will prosper.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take precautionary measures to avoid this kind of drought and flood condition. That will help prosperity of our country.

\*At the very outset, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity participate in a very important discussion on drought in some parts of the country and floods in some other parts. This is an issue of critical national importance. This concerns crores of people of our country.

Some parts of the country are submerged in water and some other parts are crying out for water. We find that States like Maharashtra, Gujarat and Orissa are now flooded with water, while many other States like Tamil Nadu, Puducherry are facing drought situation.

Majority of our population depends on agriculture; with slight stress on agriculture, the well-being of our people is impacted disproportionately. The performance of Indian agriculture largely depends on the mercy of the 'Rain God'. Lack of rain leaves thousands of hectares of land 'barren'. 70% India's cultivable land is rain-fed, and hence, I would say that agriculture has always been a 'gamble with monsoon'. At the same time, a substantial portion of our cultivable land depends on irrigation, which is again dependent on river waters.

Anticipating good rains and a fair monsoon, in Tamil Nadu especially, the farmers started the agricultural operations like sowing seeds, etc. but due to failure of monsoon, the farmers suffered heavy loss of their investment. It is because of this uncertainty of future, that the farmers commit suicide in large numbers. Farmers' suicides are primarily the by-product of a losing economy.

While replying to the debate on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hon'ble Minister has admitted that the interest on farm loans would be reduced to 6%, if the farmers repay loans on time. It is not enough. The Government should have a very-well-thought-out back-up plan, if monsoon fails. The Govt. need not wait till the situation becomes worse and it should have a contingency plan to counter the situation and to meet the challenges.

The farmers are today in total frustration and are waiting for some succor from the Government. The farmers need a 'uniform crop insurance policy'. Some crops are insured at some premium while some other crops are insured at some other premium. If farmers have a uniform rate of crop insurance, it would benefit them.

Farmers' insurance and security package, known as Uzhavar Paathukappu Tittam, implemented by the previous AIADMK Government in Tamil Nadu under Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Hon'ble Amma J Jayalalithaa should be introduced at the national level. They also need to be given quality seeds free at their doorsteps, free fertilizer should be distributed to them and there is an urgent need for interest-free loans, to save them so that they save us and save the country.

Drinking water is a very important problem and Tamil Nadu is no exception to this. When there is no rain, there is no question of water for irrigation purposes, leave alone for drinking purposes. Drinking water is becoming a major problem not only in the villages of Tamil Nadu, but also in urban areas and towns. Drinking water is being supplied to people only once in 15-20 days in most parts of Tamil Nadu, and that is also not hygienic water. Whatever rivers we have, are polluted by not only industries, but also by the poor drainage system. So, we do not have water either for irrigation or for drinking purposes. This problem needs to be given priority and addressed forthwith.

Due to the drought conditions, there is shortage of production of crops and food grains. This shortage leads to increase in prices. Yesterday while passing the Finance Bill, Hon'ble Finance Minister said that he would give stimulus package for agriculture. But without production of food grains, pumping money into agriculture sector

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\*...\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

will not serve the purpose. On the one hand, there is already an unprecedented fiscal deficit this year; and on the other hand, we have the problem of counterfeit, fake currencies that are being pumped into our economy by anti-social elements. Fake currencies are being smuggled into our country and are in circulation in large numbers. This will lead to further deficit; and this problem needs the urgent attention of the Government.

The country does not have sufficient infrastructure to save rain water. There is an urgent need to take water conservation measures. Very little effort is put for conserving water. Whenever there is excess rain, it floods a particular area; mixes with river water and joins the ocean. It does not help in raising the water table in the country. Water table in the country should be raised systematically and substantially through rain-water harvesting and proper channelling of flood waters. Rainwater Harvesting Project introduced by Hon'ble Amma J Jayalithaa in Tamil Nadu is a resounding success; and that model should be replicated nationally.

Another point that is gaining ground over the last few years is the inter-linking of rivers. This would solve the problems of recurrence of **floods and droughts** in our country. There should be a time-bound action plan for interlinking of all inter-State rivers and also intra-linking of rivers within States. In this connection, I would say that dredging and deepening of all rivers, water-bodies should be taken up first, before attempting to inter-link rivers. This would ensure optimum retention of water in the water-bodies and will not cause havoc by artificial floods. I find that for the Cauvery – Vaigai Link Project, on the Peninsular River Component, the Feasibility Report is completed. I request that this may be taken up on priority and completed early so that the whole of Tamil Nadu benefits from this.

There are large scale disputes regarding sharing of waters of rivers. I would like to say that the disputes regarding water-sharing should be solved by initiating mutual dialogue and by ensuring the directives of the Supreme Court in this regard.

Here, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the agony of the people of Tamil Nadu. Most of the lakes and small reservoirs in Tamil Nadu had dried up. There is acute shortage of water. People do not have 'water for drinking purposes', needless to talk about 'water for irrigation purposes'. Tamil Nadu is dependent on the waters of Cauvery River. Karnataka releases water only when all its reservoirs are full to the brim and when there is imminent danger to the lives and properties of people of Karnataka. This situation needs to be corrected immediately. The Government of India should direct the Government of Karnataka to

release water from Kabini and Krishna Raja Sahar Reservoirs into Cauvery River so that water flows into Tamil Nadu. This alone would cater to the needs of the people for drinking and irrigational purposes.

Like rubbing salt to the injury, now we have a situation whereby the Government of Andhra Pradesh illegally started constructing a dam on Palar River. This will adversely affect the drinking-water-needs of the people of Tamil Nadu. The Central Government should immediately direct the Government of Andhra Pradesh to stop construction of the dam.

We are living in an electronic era and we have technologies for prediction. Though we cannot anticipate everything, we can use technology at least for predicting floods or droughts. There should be a scientific approach towards the natural calamities and we have to make use of technology and tackle the situation on the ground. I would say that India should use technology for monsoon prediction at the district level so that the farmers are helped and benefited.

Finally, if one sees the amount of money spent by the Government of India every year, on 'drought relief and flood relief measures', it would be a phenomenal amount. If we divert this amount of money at least once, for taking precautionary measures, that would be great opportunity for us. If we do something concrete on this, I am sure, the country would move forward, without the perennial problem of floods and droughts. In the process of doing it, we can probably help create new opportunities on irrigation and new opportunities on power generation, which is the need of the hour.

I hope that the Government would address these problems with all seriousness and come out with some concrete action plan to deal with the situation.\*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, being a Member of Parliament from Jharkhand, I rise to speak on the issue of drought. The entire country demonstrated unity in the name of tribals at the time of creation of Jharkhand out of Bihar. All were of the opinion that development was not taking place in Jharkhand. It was nice to see that at least the country was concerned about tribals dalits and backward people. After the creation of Jharkhand, all the Chief Ministers of the State from 2000 to 2009 were from tribal community. It means that all the Political Parties were unanimous on the point that the Chief Minister of a State created in the name of tribal people should be from tribal community only and all the political parties fulfilled that commitment. You will be surprised to know, hon'ble Home Minister is also present here, that since 2000 till 2009, panchayat

elections have not been conducted in this State in the interest of tribals only because there are some issues yet to be settled like the percentage of reservation to be given, the division of seats between tribal and general candidates etc. It is nice to see that at least they are concerned for the rights of tribal people. Delimitation has been done in the entire country except Jharkhand. It was also not done there for the sake of tribals because in that process the number of seats reserved for tribal would reduce. Therefore, the entire country showed unity, delimitation taken place in the entire country but not in Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir and in some parts of north east.

Sir, when I was not Member of this House, it was always nice to see the Secretary General of Congress Party visiting dalit basti or working under NREGA. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Please speak on the subject....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Please listen. I am speaking on the subject only. ...*(Interruptions)* You need not guide me. Let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)* Congress Party had given slogans like "Gareebi Hatao" and aam adami. When I got elected as Member of Parliament, there was an issue of drinking water in my constituency. On 2nd June I wrote a letter to the hon'ble Prime Minister in this regard. I got elected from Santhal Pargana. If in my constituency. ...*(Interruptions)* this issue is related to drought. ...*(Interruptions)* If drinking water supply is not made to my constituency, the people of my area, Santhal Pargana and Chhota Nagpur will die in the absence of water in the next five years. I had written this letter on 2nd June but the standard reply came from the hon'ble Prime Minister that I have received your letter. Thereafter, the drought has hit the area. When I had written the letter on 2nd June I had no indication that drought will struck but today my constituency is in the grip of drought. You can imagine the situation in my constituency. I had raised a question to which reply came from accelerated water irrigation project. Some major projects are going on in Jharkhand also. These projects are located at Swarn Rekha, Ajay Baraj, Punasi and Bateshwar. These are big projects. The projects of Sunder Jalashaya, Triveni and Trigut Pahar are small ones. All these projects are going on for the last 25 years but have not been completed as yet. If I talk about drinking water it is not there, if I talk about water management, that is also not there. I am giving an example of situation prevailing in my area. I have an official report with me. The hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is present here. President's rule is there in Jharkhand. As per this report cultivation which was supposed to be done on five lakh hectares of land has

reduced to 10 thousand hectares of land this time. It is an official report, I have the papers with me. The report further says that due to the failure of rain, temperature is rising, weather is very hot and it is badly affecting not only the crops but local vegetation and common people also.

They have made a comparison that the rice which was earlier available at the rate of Rs. 1100/Qt. is now being sold at Rs. 1400/Qt. and what which was available as Rs. 900/Qt is being sold at Rs. 1100/Qt. *Arhar Dal* has been increased from Rs. 5000/Qt. to Rs. 8000/Qt., *Khasadi Dal* has risen from Rs. 1400/Qt. To Rs. 1800/Qt., Potato which was being sold at Rs. 10/Kg is now available at Rs. 18/Kg and prices of *gur* has been increased from Rs. 2000/Qt. To Rs. 3500/Qt. You can understand the plight of common people who do not have water to drink, no money for food and not able to do work. This is not my report, it is an official report which has been submitted by District Magistrate and Director of Agriculture to the Governor. They have submitted this report so that Jharkhand be declared as drought affected State. In this report they have stated that ponds and wells have been dug up in Jharkhand under NREGA but the geographical situation of the State is that in the absence of rain water harvesting, the water table in wells, ponds and other sources of water is depleting rapidly. It has created shortage of water for agriculture and other daily chores on the one hand and on the other people are facing problem of drinking water also. Hon'ble Finance Minister was aware of the situation that drought can struck the State but even then he did not give a single penny to Jharkhand. The situation in Jharkhand is very critical. I would like to mention one thing. I do not know what is in the destiny but whenever he becomes Finance Minister, the country faces drought. On 22nd November 1983 he became Finance Minister and the country was in the grip of drought in 1982 and in 1983 also. While replying to the discussion on drought situation he had slated which I am quoting here:-

*[English]*

"Drought did not have effect only on farmers and agricultural commodities. As I mentioned on an earlier occasion, the major industrial states depend totally on the hydel sources of electricity. When there is no adequate rain, it affects not only our agricultural production; it creates a problem for manufacturing activities also."

*[Translation]*

It means drought is not only affecting poor, farmers, dalits and backward people of Jharkhand but it is badly affecting the industries also because of the shortage of

electricity. Therefore, the situation in Jharkhand cannot be improved till the Government declares the drought in the State as a national calamity. The Hon'ble Member on behalf of Congress Party has suggested that Member of Parliament should go to their constituencies. A few of us will manage and look after the poor but majority of the members elected to this House do not have money which they can distribute among poor. Money is required to provide food and clothes to the poor people. Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Home Affairs and other Ministers are present here, I just want to submit that drought in Jharkhand should be declared as national calamity and funds be provided. If they are really committed for the welfare of poor and tribal people, then they should do it and complete the irrigation projects-lying incomplete for the last 25 years. They should make efforts especially to solve the problem. I have raised in my letter to hon'ble Prime Minister that poor and tribal people in my constituency are dying without water.

With those words, I conclude.

DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT (Korba): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to take part in the discussion on the situation of drought in various parts of the country.

Sir, whether it is drought or excessive rains in the country, I believe, that both are two aspects of the same coin. Only farmers have to bear the losses arising therefrom. The result is that the crop of the farmer gets destroyed, his personal income also stops and he suffers loss. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Agriculture that all the relief schemes that are made after drought or excessive rains, are made keeping in view the society, village or region, but no scheme has been made to subsidize the loss incurred by an individual farmer or to compensate for the reduction in the earning of the farmers. Therefore, schemes should be made keeping in mind the individual earnings of the farmers in places affected by drought or floods so that their earnings could be made secure. I hope that the hon. Minister of Agriculture would consider it.

Today, there are 2-3 methods for assessment of drought which need to be changed. One of them is that a place is considered to be drought affected if it does not receive 50 per cent rain during the kharif season. Under another method, a place having meteorological sub-division is considered to be drought affected if 25 per cent rainfall is recorded there irrespective of the machines working properly or not. Under the third method, a Patwari from the Revenue Department visits the farms having standing crops to give *Aanawari* Report on the basis of which it is decided whether there is drought or not. I, therefore, would request the hon.

Minister to adopt a new approach as these methods have become too old and are no longer beneficial to the farmers.

The places growing paddy are almost facing drought situations today due to the failure of the South-West monsoon in the country. I would like to talk about my State Chhattisgarh. Thousands of paddy varieties are sown there and they have different time periods for ripening too. Some of them take 85 to 90 days while others take 90 to 100 days and still some others take 100 to 115 days. They need water continuously every week. They suffer during the week in which they do not receive water. The crop loss today is determined by keeping a district or tehsil in the centre of focus due to which the farmers do not get full compensation. It is my suggestion to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that the assessment of crop or drought should be made Panchayat-wise and only then we would be able to benefit the farmers.

Raigarh, Korea, Dantewada, Jaspur, Korba and Sarguja in Chhattisgarh State are drought affected areas and are in the grip of drought even today. Only 15 per cent sowing has taken place in Korea district. Even if there are rains today there cannot be more than 20 per cent sowing. Groundwater is going down there and there is shortage of it also due to which hand pumps too are not able to work properly. My suggestion is that hand pumps should be installed urgently in all the blocks in such districts in the country.

Moreover, I want to say one more thing. Directions should be issued to the States to check black marketing in the PDS system and to ensure proper food system. The Centre started the NREGA scheme. It is, in a way, the lifeline for the poor. It should be fully used for irrigating the agricultural land too. Whether it is anicut dams or small ponds, they can be built under this scheme. The Government should provide maximum irrigation facilities to the farmers so that they could irrigate their farms in future without depending on rainfall. Today, almost 80 per cent of the farmers are marginal or small farmers. They cannot progress if we do not make proper arrangements for them. Another limitations with them is that they cannot go away to earn a living. They live and die in the same place. I believe that the hon. Minister will make some proper provision for such farmers.

I would like to thank the hon. Minister that he called a meeting of the Secretaries from 9 States and provided them Rs. 1200 crore to initiate work. I request that he should give instructions so that the farmers could get the benefits of the Rs. 8000 crore given for the flood management programme. I want the production of the



poor farmers in the country to increase and that they get the opportunity to live a dignified life. Besides, I want to tell that we all are responsible for the climate changes taking place. We should keep in mind that though the crops are getting destroyed yet there are plants, animals and birds living on the land and it would be a good step for the country if we could, somehow, protect them.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, many more speakers are there. I request all of you to kindly restrict your speech to five minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Kaisarganj): Five minutes are sufficient for me. Hon. Mr. Chairman, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. The issue under discussion at the tailend of the session is drought. It is difficult to say how much this discussion is going to benefit the farmers. Goswami Tulsidas had written a couplet, '*Samay chook puni ka pachhtane, ka barkha jab krishi sukhane*' which means that it is no use crying over spilt milk. We tend to lock the stable door after the horse has bolted. We are still following this tradition. This is why even 62 years after Independence, 60 per cent of our farmers are dependent on monsoon. I do not want to blame any one. But, this issue has not been given the consideration it deserves.

Sir, this is not drought. This is nature's warning to us. The nature is trying to warn us. What happened to the river linking project? Our country has abundant water resources in the form of rivers and streams. But, we need to pay more attention towards water management because lot of water is wasted as rivers empty into the seas.

Sir, the environmental imbalances caused by human interference is also a major reason for the drought. Cutting down of trees was being discussed here. Uttar Pradesh has a law under which if a one hectare farm contains 50 trees, it is declared to be forest area. Sir, besides Government land and forest department lands, a large number of trees and other vegetation grows on lands, a large number of trees and other vegetation grows on lands owned by farmers. Farm lands contribute a large number of trees. But, the farmers are now reluctant to plant trees because when a farmer wants to cut down a tree he gets merely Rs. 2000 for a tree which is valued at Rs. 10,000. 40 per cent of money is usurped by the police as commission. So, the farmer is reluctant to plant trees. If he cuts down a tree to get a bed preposed as a wedding gift to his daughter, or a

chair or some other things, he is sent to jail. Now farmers who used to take the lead in planting trees, refuse to do so because cutting those trees would mean that he would have to go to jail. A farmer who cuts a tree to fulfill his need is sent to jail and is insulted. But, people sitting on higher posts, people running the Government cut down 10,000 trees in Lucknow, six thousand trees in NOIDA for their interests. What is the law for them? There should not be two sets of law in the country. A poor man who cuts down a tree to make furniture for his daughter's wedding is sent to jail but no legal action is taken when 6-10 thousand trees are cut down by those who are in power. There should be a law to stop such discrimination.

I would like to draw your attention towards another fact. The Minister has mentioned subsidy for the farmers. It is a good thing. But, I would like to urge him to make a scheme which would benefit the farmers directly. The farmers in Uttar Pradesh get fertilizers at double the fixed rate for fertilizers. Mulayam Singh ji is sitting here. This is why I have raised this issue. I belong to region bordering Nepal. We are given subsidy and we are given fertilizers. But the fertilizer is smuggled to Nepal. Maharaj ji is sitting here. Samajwadi Party Member Shri Patandeem Singh had raised his voice against the black marketing of fertilizer. Uttar Pradesh police beat up his entire family, jailed them and slapped the Gunda Act on them. Do not depend on the officials or any State Government. If you want to benefit the farmers, then they should be benefitted directly.

Finally, I would like to request you to complete the pending projects.

SHRI RAMESH RATHOD (Adilabad): Mr. Chairman, sir, I sure to take part in the discussion on this important subject on behalf of the Telugu Desam Party in Andhra Pradesh. We are discussing drought and the Minister concerned is Shri Sharad Pawar. He is the son of a farmer and is himself a farmer. I would like to make him aware of the situation in Andhra Pradesh. Farmers are called food producers in India but now the farmers are being forced to become labourers. Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru had started the SRSP project on the river Godavari in my State in 1968. It is a matter of regret that the same State is facing drought under the governance of the UPA Government led by Sonia Gandhi Ji. I am making this statement because 14 projects have been started under the Baabli project in Maharashtra. There is a Congress Government in the State and my State is also under the Congress Government. Baabli project. ...*(Interruptions)* You do not know this, you had gone to sleep for five years. You should not kowtow to the Centre. The farmers are on the verge of ruin.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that 14 sectors have been set up in Baabli without clearance from the CPWD but the Union Government has not raised any objections till date. Led by Chadra Babu Naidu, we approached the Prime Minister, the President, the Chief Minister, we sat on a dharna in Hyderabad but to no avail. When the case came up before the Supreme court two days earlier, the State Government cited 4 sectors in Baabli project where work has been started. But, the advocate for the Telugu Desam Party brought photographic proof of 14 sectors on which work is going on. After the heavy rainfall in Nasik the day before yesterday, there was talk of starting SRSV project there but not a drop of water has been supplied till date. If this situation is not addressed then farmers tilling 20 lakh acres of fields in 6 districts of the State would be forced to starve. Work on Krishna river project in Karnataka is also going on. Hence, I would like to request the hon. Minister to save the farmers of Andhra Pradesh and ensure that they do not suffer from drought. You are also aware that merely 171 mm rainfall has taken place so far instead of the normal rainfall of 293 mm. I would also like to bring to the notice of the Minister that the farmers are still not getting the crop price as recommended in the 2006 Swaminathan Report. For example, it has been seen that the payment of Rs. 730 crore in regard to insurance of ground nut production in Andhra Pradesh in the year 2008 has not been made till now. What decision is being taken by the hon. Minister in this regard? When the payment due in last year has not been made till date, what will be the fate of drought affected areas? ...(*Interruptions*) for example. ...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly wind up.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESH RATHOD: Mr. Chairman Sir, I will conclude within one minute. I am a *girijan*. I hail from Adilabad district and 2000 people have died last year in Adilabad, 2000 people died in the year 2007 and 2008 respectively and 150 people died this year due to non-availability of drinking water. UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhiji had herself visited Narnaur *girijan* region in 1998 when 3000 people had died there. ...(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record later.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESH RATHOD: Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to know whether the *girijans* have no right to live in this country? ...(*Interruptions*) Can the *girijans* not get even drinking water after 62 years of Independence? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)... \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, no cross talk please. Nothing is going on record.

(*Interruptions*)... \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

(*Interruptions*)... \*

Shri P. Lingam.

[*Translation*]

\*\*SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi): Mr. Chairman, the House is now discussing the situation arising out of floods and drought in the country. On behalf of the Communist Party of India, I would like to put forth my views.

At a time when we are anxious about the South-West Monsoon, this House has taken up this discussion. Though floods and drought are diametrically opposite, they are affecting us in cycles, one after the other. Every time we are forced to discuss either about floods or about drought. This is because we have not found out a long term solution to our irrigation needs in a country like ours which is dependent on monsoon. South-West Monsoon is like a panacea to our country which converts our tropical country to a fertile one, if it arrives on time without delay. This year we find the commencement of this monsoon a bit delayed. So naturally, we have the anxiety whether we would be able to irrigate effectively and successfully complete our crop cultivation. Even after 62 years of Independence, we have not evolved effective water management strategy. We have failed on that front. I do not know whether we have solved any of the river water disputes amicably in this country. There are long-pending vexing issues of river water sharing disputes. Inter-State river water disputes are still on the increase.

\*Not recorded.

\*\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

The river water from the upper reaches is not flowing as naturally to the lower riparian regions as it should be. Check dams and diversion of water creating new cultivation areas come in the way of natural water supply not only for irrigation but also for a basic need of meeting the drinking water requirements. That is why, an impending danger of drought is staring at our face today. No river in Tamil Nadu is originating within the State. Almost all the rivers in Tamil Nadu are the lower part of the river systems in the Southern part of the country. But the water table even in the river beds of Tamil Nadu are depleting because we are not getting water even for our basic needs from other States. At a time when we apprehend a big drought situation in the country, certain States like Kerala, Orissa, Gujarat and Karnataka have got huge to considerable rainfall. But the due share of Cauvery water has not been given to Tamil Nadu as yet. That is why, the Mettur Dam which was to be opened on 12th of June is yet to be opened. The paddy cultivation in the Cauvery Delta has been greatly affected. In the past, such situations have created great havoc giving rise to huge fall in paddy growth and food production.

Similarly, Mullaiperiyar Dam controversy has given rise to a great tension between the two States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Centre has failed to intervene in an appropriate way to sort out this problem which is prolonging as a vexing issue. In the same way, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also taken up the basic work for constructing a dam across the river Palar even without taking Central clearance. This is also a cause for great concern in the minds of farmers of Tamil Nadu. Just because we have failed to evolve a right kind of strategy to share river waters, we find drought in the country often. At the same time, we also find several rivers flooded during monsoons are flowing wastefully into our seas and oceans in the absence of well planned barrages and check dams. This is the cause for floods on one side and droughts on the other. At least, in the near future, we must ensure that we are not caught between the vagaries of weather and the artificial scarcities resulting in man-made disasters competing with natural disasters. Drinking water and irrigation needs are basic and vital. These days we are talking about climate change. The worst hit are the farmers and the poor common people. These people who have not seen any comfort in their life could not get any comforting solution and are left high and dry in the problems caused by natural disasters like floods and droughts.

In my constituency, the river Shenbagavalli is not the same as it used to be because of the destruction caused to its check dam due to heavy rains. Many years have passed and no solution is in sight. Rebuilding that check dam can help the farmers and poor people of both the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. But it is being left unattended as though it is an inter-State problem which, in fact, is not. Even in repairing a check dam we notice problem. In the year 2007, due to cyclone, a severe damage was caused in many of my constituency like Rajapalayam, Puliangudi and Srivilliputhur. It was announced that rehabilitation measures will be taken up through the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, but no action has been taken so far. Such people must get relief and rehabilitation immediately after such devastations caused by floods. People who have been already affected are again hit hard by the neglect and betrayal of the Government. In the future, we must ensure that the needy poor masses are not only swayed by natural disasters but also by man-made disasters.

With these words, I conclude.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)... \**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)... \**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)... \**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can speak when you get your turn. Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I will give you time.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this sovereign House is discussing the problem arising

out of drought and floods in the country and I would like to express, through you, my views on the drought situation in Bihar. I had heard a song sung by Begum Akhtar in my childhood- "*Ab ke aayegi barsaat, barsegi sharab, aayi barsaat par barsaat ne dil tod diya.*" The rainy season came but there was no rainfall and therefore Bihar has reached a terrible situation.

Sir, Bihar is a State of paradoxes. I say so because there are hundreds of rivers, lakes, chauras and the rivers originating from the Himalayas, in Bihar. But in Bihar the practice so far has been to construct embankments along the rivers but no canals were dug out from the rivers. The water in the rivers was made to go to ocean and not to the fields and the water outside the embankment was left in the fields and there was no provision to divert that water to the rivers. Bihar is the land of paradoxes. Bihar State could not make proper arrangement for irrigation despite having enough water. That is why even today about 35 lakh people are helpless and home less in the area surrounding Kosi due to breach in the Kusha checkdam last year. Our Prime Minister had himself termed it as a national tragedy. Bihar Government had requested the Union Government to provide Rs. 14,000 crore for rehabilitation of the people and for removing the sand from the fields. But the Union Government has not been sensitive to Bihar was affected by floods in the year 2005, 2007 and 2008 and by drought in the year 2002 and 2004. But in the year 2009 Bihar has been devastated by the unexpected drought.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to say that the present Government of Bihar has been trying its best to combat the problems and present set of circumstances being faced by at Bihar Government has provided for a grant of Rs. 15 per ten litre for three times irrigation. The Government has tried to set up 6000 tubewells with 45 percent Government grant, 45 per cent from bank loan and ten per cent individual contribution by the farmers.

Bihar Government has taken such steps. Hon. Union Minister of Agriculture has an agricultural background. He can empathize with the farmers. That is why I want to put the agony of the farmers before him.

Mr. Chairman Sir, there is 50 lakh tonne *kharif* crop produced in Bihar every year comprising 35 lakh tonnes of paddy, 3 lakh tonnes of maize and one lakh 25 thousand tonnes of pulses. Under the prevailing circumstances, there even 10 lakh tonnes of *kharif* crop is unlikely. There will be no paddy crop. Last year, there had been 500mm. rainfall in Bihar but this year it is

only 64mm rainfall. I represent Nawada region in Bihar. That is a drought prone area. The rivers are dry. The rainwater goes to those rivers but that water goes to ocean. ...(*Interruptions*). Mr. Chairman Sir, you have rung the bell. I know that you are a disciplinarian. I am scared of the Chair and yet comes the thought in my mind that God has placed such a person in the chair who rings the bell immediately. I am 72 years old and I still have to bow before I request you to give me two minutes more. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should be scared of the Bell, not the man who is sitting here. Now, please sit down. Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am giving you just one minute. Please conclude.

[*Translation*]

DR. BHOLA SINGH: Mr. Chairman Sir, I would request the Union Government that instead of having negative attitude towards Bihar, the Government should adopt a positive approach. Bihar has a quota of 1500 MW power and this quota should be provided to Bihar. Please provide Rs. 470 crore as grant for diesel. Bihar Government has submitted a proposal of Rs. 9000 crore to deal with the drought and that proposal may be approved. A ban may be imposed on recovery of loans by the banks and Bihar should be declared a drought affected state.

With these words, I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this discussion.

Sir, the drought and flood situation in the country this year is really very serious and it becomes more serious because more than 60 per cent of the population of our country depends on agriculture. They are directly affected by the drought and flood situation.

Many hon. Members of this House have highlighted the problems of the country, particularly their respective States. I definitely want to highlight some of the steps taken by the Central Government to address the problems of our country because it is always there.

Primarily, in our country, agriculture depends on monsoon. The Meteorological Department is one of the major Departments. I personally feel that we wait up to the last stage to have the Report and take necessary steps. Still, our Government has taken some of the major steps in the agricultural sector. As you see, in the recent Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister, the agriculture credit flow has increased from Rs.2,87,000 crore to Rs.3,25,000 crore to help the agriculturists of the country.

He has reduced the rate of interest from 7 per cent to 6 per cent to those farmers who are regular in repaying their loans.

Sir, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme is a major flagship programme of this Government. About 99 per cent of the people who are working under NREGP are from villages and from agricultural background. I think there should be more schemes for rain water harvesting under NREGP. As exploitation of water in our country is becoming reckless, proper information about the economic usage of water must be given to farmers and that should percolate down to the ground level. So, I would request the Government to see that the NREGP is directed towards that scheme.

The Government has taken up the National Food Security Mission to provide 25 kilograms of wheat or rice per month at Rs. 3 per kilogram to crores of BPL families in our country. That depends on the food production in our country. At this juncture, I would like to congratulate the UPA Government because they have announced a record increase in the MSP for various agricultural produce in our country which will definitely encourage the farmers in this country.

The Government has taken up irrigation schemes to provide irrigation facilities to the farmers of our country. For this purpose, the Government has provided a lot of money and in the period between 2007 and 2012, the Government has targeted another 6 million hectare of land to be brought under small and medium irrigation schemes. These schemes are implemented through State Governments. I do not know what mechanism the Central Government has to review the implementation of these schemes at the ground level and what degree of support they are getting from State Governments.

The Government has identified 312 districts in our country for producing paddy or wheat under the National Food Security Mission. This scheme is also implemented through State Governments and so their proactive support is very much required for successful implementation of

the National Food Security Mission. I think, all these schemes have to be properly reviewed and implemented. So, the Central Government should take some special measures to see that these schemes are properly implemented at the ground level.

Sir, I come from the North Eastern Region and I hail from Assam. Everybody thinks that Assam is a flood-affected State, but I am sorry to state that this year, about 22 districts of Assam are affected by drought. The shortage of rainfall varies from 10 per cent to 50 per cent in many districts and the Government has declared almost 25 districts as drought-affected districts in Assam. Then, in the middle of June, flood has occurred because all the rivers that are flowing in Assam come from neighbouring countries. Some are coming from Tibet and some are coming from Bhutan. Due to heavy rain in the hills, flood has occurred in the plains of Assam.

Then, soil erosion is one of the major problems in Assam. In the last one decade alone, we have lost more than one lakh hectare of fertile cultivable land due to soil erosion. The Government of India should look into this problem because those farmers who live beside these rivers have lost everything. They have lost their cultivable land, they have lost their homes and they have lost all their properties, but there is no scheme to help them or for rehabilitation.

**17.00 hrs.**

Lakhs of cultivators in the North-Eastern region, especially, in Assam, are affected by flood erosion and drought.

There is one National Institute of Disaster Management for Drought and they have prepared a national manual for drought management. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Agriculture the status of that drought management project. I think the hon. Minister of Agriculture will look into that so that the work relating to this is expedited.

As far as allocation of funds to Assam with regard to national calamity is concerned, it is very meagre. The Central Government has provided only a sum of Rs.150 crore. That is not sufficient to address the problem of drought and flood in Assam. So, I would request the Central Government to come forward with more and more help to the Assam Government and declare the flood problem as a national problem. With this meagre amount, it will be very difficult to control the flood problem in Assam.

At the same time, deforestation is one of the major causes for all these climatic changes. There has to be more fund for mass afforestation programme from the Central Government's side; otherwise the climatic change will affect the rains. Cherapunji used to be the highest rainfall area in the world. Now, we have very less rainfall in Cherapunji, which used to be the highest rainfall area in the world. The Government has to think about that.

There has to be a coordinated effort from all the Ministries concerned with that. The Agricultural Ministry alone cannot address this problem. There has to be coordination with the Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment and Forests and other Ministries so that the problem of flood and drought can be effectively addressed to. There has also to be massive infuse of funds to address this problem because we depend on agriculture.

With these words, I conclude.

**17.02 hrs.**

[DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI (Samastipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Sir, I hail from Bihar where people are often affected by the problems of floods and drought. Although Kosi, Bagmati, Kareh, Kamala and Balan rivers flow through Bihar. Almost all these rivers have dried up and there is hue and cry among the farmers. They are not able to cultivate as the saplings have dried up. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Minister of Agriculture to enhance the amount given to the State from the Calamity Relief Fund.

Sir, our leader hon'ble Nitish Kumarji is a versatile person and is running the State very effectively. He has made all efforts to tackle the situation of drought in Bihar. He has provided subsidy of Rs. 15/litre on diesel. Last time when floods struck the State, he distributed one quintal of foodgrains to each poor family. He made arrangements to provide food to all though a number of people died due to floods.

Sir, I would like to request the Government of India that since Bihar is a poor State, a special package should be provided to it so that it could stand at par with other states.

Sir, I would also request that to facilitate the farmers, all the rivers flowing through the State should be interlinked. Farmers of this State have no facility. The Government of India always quote that India is an agriculture based country but it is not providing even basic facilities to its farmers. I would like to request the Government to provide irrigation facilities to the farmers of Bihar. Rivers have dried up there. Even there is no water for the livestock.

Mr. Chairman Sir, through you, I would like to submit that under NREGA only 20 per cent of the funds reaches the grassroot level while the rest 80 per cent is siphoned off midway. The functioning of the NREGA should be reviewed. The Act should be amended so that the entire funds are utilized at the grassroot level. The 110 per cent increase made under NREGA is a commendable step. The rules and the law should be amended to ensure utilization of funds for grassroot people. Funds should be provided directly under this scheme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to mention that subsidy should be given to the farmers directly because the subsidy given to them is gobbled up by influential people and businessmen. Therefore, subsidy should be given to the farmers directly.

Sir, with these words I conclude.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request all the hon'ble Members to strictly speak within five minutes because 35 Members are yet to speak and the Minister has to reply thereafter. Therefore, I request the hon'ble Member, who is next to speak, to be brief.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this importance issue. The hon'ble Minister of Agriculture is present here, he has the biggest responsibility of ensuring food security for the country. In the wake of the current drought, it seems food security in the country is in danger. Though, he is assured that 5-6 crore tonne rice and wheat is lying stocked in the godowns but when the production will go down due to drought, this much of wheat and rice would not be sufficient to cater to the needs of all the people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hail from Bihar. Bihar had surplus stock of foodgrains during the tenure of Shri Laluprasadji and Shrimati Rabri Devi as Chief Ministers

of the State. Sometime people discuss about the achievements of their regime. Bihar no longer remained dependent on the Centre and became self-reliant in their regime. It not only produced enough foodgrains to provide to all its people, but it has also started exporting its produce to other states of the country. However, I am observing that this year achievement regarding foodgrains production is threatened by drought. It is somewhat due to natural causes but more than due to the callous attitude of the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bihar has three major irrigation projects-Kosi, Gandak and Sone. The Sone canal system is the oldest canal system in the country. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture that even today the productivity of this area is more than any other areas in the country. Our scientists have fixed a target for production of paddy in this area but the farmers there are producing more than that, they are producing 80-90 qt. of paddy per hectare in their fields. However, due to callousness of the State Government, the Sone canal system is not getting water from Ban Sagar and Rihand. Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are also not cooperating. I belong to the same area where my Parliamentary Constituency Buxar is located in Kamur and Rohats districts. Generally, there is no shortage of water though the area receives scanty rainfall, as the presence of a proper canal system has left no scope for shortage of water there. Kosi is the second major canal system in the State. Last year, the whole nation witnessed breach in the Kosi banks which affected a population of 35 lakh people and completely damaged the irrigation system.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to state that, that structure was not meant to prevent floods, that was a part of our irrigation system. Aflax dam had broken there. Aflax dams are always part of barrage and irrigation system. As a result, thereof, today we are getting only 3 thousand cusecs of water for irrigation in place of 15 thousand cusecs being used earlier. We used to get 15 thousand cusecs of water for irrigation from the perennial rivers which receive it from the Himalayan region and causes floods but we are able to utilize only 15 hundred cusecs of water out of that.

Sir, the Union Government has sanctioned Rs. 400 crore for the Gandak canal system which irrigates 8 lakh hectare land but our canal system is not unproving. As a result of which we are able to utilize only three thousand cusecs of water out of 15 thousand cusecs. Is this a natural calamity, is this drought a natural calamity

or man made calamity? Kosi, Gandak and Sone river canal system has been destroyed during the last four years.

Sir, I would like to say that there were 5 thousand old tubewells in Bihar, out of which 4500 tubewells are non functional. NABARD had installed 4 thousand tubewells but not even a single tubewell has been made functional during the last four years. Despite spending millions and billions of rupees and having a base for proper irrigation system, if our fields remain dry then somewhere our Government is responsible for that. Therefore, I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture that he will not be able to provide food security merely through the Ministry of Agriculture. If he does not have continuous discussions with the Ministry of Power and Ministry of Water Resources, then our country will not be able to face this challenge.

Sir, I would like to urge the Hon. Minister of Agriculture that he should hold talks with the Minister of Water Resources and Minister of Power and ensure that our farmers will get 50 per cent power generated in the country for their fields, then the farmers will produce so much of foodgrains that the FCI godowns will be full to capacity as they are today and there will be food security in the country otherwise if drought situation continues then 5-6 crore tonnes of foodgrain will not be sufficient to feed the entire population of the country.

Sir, I will conclude my speech with one or two suggestions. I would like to say that the current paddy crop which has been planted in fields despite less rains should be saved at any cost. Secondly a meeting should be held with the Ministry of Water Resource and thirdly our Hydel power plants should not be merely used for power generation infact some water should be released from them for irrigation purpose. This will ensure power generation and also foodgrain production and our country will be able to face the natural calamity present before it. With these words I thank you and conclude my speech.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, today all of us have gathered here to discuss drought and floods situation in the country. Almost every year we hold discussions in the House on these issues. It is really strange that the country is facing both the problems at the same time. On the one hand in the northern India states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana etc. are facing drought and on the other hand people of Assam and Maharashtra are facing devastating floods. There is a lack of proper system and planning to

deal with these problems. Drought and floods are not such natural calamities which can not be dealt with or which cannot be foreseen. It is not a calamity like earthquake or cyclone which cannot be foreseen but lack of will power is the cause of all these problems and ultimately the common man has to face these. I hail from most densely populated region of the country in Uttar Pradesh which is its eastern region and several small and big rivers originating in Nepal pass through this region. Every year either that area is affected due to floods and if there is no rain then it comes in the grip of drought.

It is very strange that only a few days back hon. Minister of Agriculture had issued a statement that the Government of Uttar Pradesh is unable to take a decision as to which are the drought affected districts in the state. The next day itself the Government of Uttar Pradesh declared 15 districts as drought affected. Two days later again 27 districts were declared as drought affected but I am surprised that eastern, southern and western districts of Gorakhpur were declared drought affected but Gorakhpur, Kushinagar and Maharajganj districts were not declared drought affected. This is political prejudice therefore, through you I would like to request hon. Minister of Agriculture to pay special attention that the common people will get affected by the decisions being taken with the political considerations and afflictions. Therefore, farmers, villages and common people should be kept away from such things and decisions should be taken in the interest of the people of the State.

Immediately after independence talks were held with Nepal for setting up of hydro power projects in collaboration with Nepal. If those projects were completed by now then the common man would have been saved from the devastation of floods and droughts occurring in eastern Uttar Pradesh. I have seen the flood of 1998 and in the same year we raised this issue in the House. In the year 2001 also the said area witnessed a devastating flood. That time also, we asked the Government to take preventive measures in this regard. The Government was also urged to have talks with Nepal. If the projects proposed on rivers flowing from Nepal, be it Karnali, Pancheswar, Bhalu, Saryu, Rapti, Narayani, Gandaki had been completed, I feel, we would have been able to save eastern Uttar Pradesh from floods. The area had its first rain fall yesterday only, but now it is of no use, as crop sowing time is over. The farmers are not going to have any benefit out of it. But, when the farmers were in need of water for irrigating

their crops, water was not available. And there are no adequate network of canals over there so that their water could be used. There was inadequate water in rivers also. If the said projects were completed, then the water could have also been used for irrigation in the event of drought. The issue of boring tube wells also came up here. We know the electricity is essential for running the tube wells. When people are not getting power supply even to lit their bulbs how the farmers will get power to run tube wells? It is the real issue.

So far as drought and flood is concerned, I would like to remind the Agriculture Minister that the NDA Government had envisioned a scheme of interlinking of rivers to tackle the perennial problem of drought and floods. If the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Water Resources make efforts to translate the said scheme into action, the problem of drought and flood in the country can be overcome. Secondly, our Government should hold talks with the Government of Nepal to solve the problem of drought and floods in eastern U.P. and Bihar. Jalkundi project should be implemented. It will not only solve the problem of floods in that area but would also provide adequate water for irrigation during drought situation. At the same time, hydel power projects should also be completed. This House should definitely take some positive initiatives in this direction. I rise to make this very request today. I once again thank you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Adhir Chowdhury, I am giving only five minutes for you also.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Sir, you were also earlier speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I know. What to do?

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, due to the drought of time in Parliament, I shall be constrained to be brief in my deliberations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Otherwise, flood will come. Therefore, we have to be brief.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, India is such a country which is bestowed upon with all possible natural endowments. In spite of all, we are very much familiar



with the nemesis of drought and flood which used to occur in our country in a regular interval. It is true that in the background of the global financial meltdown, we are lustily waiting to see the profuse rainfall in order to plough back our economy to the moderate growth trajectory. But it is distressing to note that the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy has predicted that the crop production will fall by 4.7 per cent during the year after recording a marginal increase of 0.3 per cent in 2008-09 and in 2009-10, the CMIE expects GDP from agricultural and allied activities to decline by two per cent compared to 16 per cent increase in 2008-09.

Every year in this country, 50 million people are affected by drought. But the disastrous consequences arising out of drought and flood are not adequately recognized. The Minister must admit that in the wake of all disasters, we simply resort to short-term mechanism such as relief, recovery, etc. But what we need to have is a comprehensive mechanism to deal with the situation. It is the primary responsibility of the State Government to look after any natural disaster, including drought. Therefore, the Calamity Relief Fund has been constituted. The Central Government used to supplement financial and logistical support to the State Government. If the Calamity Relief Fund is not adequate, then the Government will supplement more funds from the National Contingency Calamity Fund.

*[Translation]*

Lalan ji levelled several charges against the Union Government I would like to warn all the M.P.s from Bihar and U.P. including him about river Koshi which played havoc with Bihar last year.

*[English]*

It is because of heavy rain in the catchment areas of Nepal, the water discharge level, which had plummeted to 88,240 cusecs on Saturday and remained more or less the same all through the previous week, suddenly went up to 1,18,000 cusecs on Sunday. The upward trend continued on Monday sending a wake up call to all concerned. The level at Barah Kshetra from where Kosi originates was recorded at 1.89 lakh cusecs on Monday. So, there may be further inundation to occur in the bank of Kosi also.

Drought is categorized into three phases. One is called meteorological drought, second one is hydrological drought and the third one is agricultural drought.

I would suggest to the hon. Minister to restructure the Rainfed Area Authority so that the climate monitoring centres could be set up under the guidance of this Rainfed Area Authority. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the present status of the extended range forecasting system for climate risk management in agriculture. The truth is that if we are able to propagate, to disseminate and to generate the possibilities of drought and other disasters, then at least we will help the common people in mitigating the intensity of drought and flood.

With these words, I am concluding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those hon. Members who want to lay their written speech, can give it at the Table of the House. Those who are interested to give a written speech, they can lay it on the Table of the House. That will be recorded.

Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar to speak now.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): Hon. Chairman Sir, 62 years have passed since independence of our country. We all know that unless agriculture develops, the country cannot progress. We also know that drought and flood are the two enemies of agriculture. I am a new member of this august House representing North Bengal - a question troubles me a lot and that is, to control flood or drought, why don't the Central Government and the State Governments rise above party politics to chalk out any long term programme. If they have not done so, then what is the reason for that? Thus, through you Sir I would like to draw the kind attention of Hon. Minister and the Government to the fact that if flood and drought are our main obstacles and when agriculture is the mainstay of our country's economy, then why don't we try to mitigate these problems and have a permanent solution.

Secondly, weather and nature change rapidly. Sometimes we have delayed monsoon, inadequate rainfall, sometimes we have excessive rain. On one hand we find that the water table is going down gradually as a result of which there is dearth of drinking water; on the other hand we have excess rain to trouble us. We can see that in most parts of the country there is scorching sun, minimal rainfall. My humble submission to you is that there are numerous rivers, lakes, canals

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

and other water bodies in India. So when incessant rain occurs, when there is flood - like situation, we should make an attempt to preserve the water, store the excess water effectively and channelise that through the canals and rivers. If done in this fashion, we will be able to properly utilise the water and keep it for future use. We never knew that water would have to be purchased one day. Price of 1 litre of milk is Rs. 12/- and that of a litre of water is Rs. 14/.

So you can well imagine the worth of water. Therefore, the natural water should be used in the agricultural fields and can be effectively utilised for cultivation.

Thirdly to control drought, we need to increase productivity in agriculture, and to do that subsidy for fertilizer and seeds should continue.

We sow seeds, we cultivate crops but productivity is not upto the mark. Now-a-days seeds are imported from foreign countries. Earlier paddy, wheat or mustard used to be dried in the sun in order to prepare indigenous seeds. Today, seeds are imported and these have no guarantee. The quality of the seeds are also questionable. For this reason we should resort to rain water harvesting.

So I'd like to say that when there is drought, only one crop year is not lost, more than two years are lost. When there is bumper crop, it creates problem too. In my state West Bengal, the land is favourable for paddy cultivation. But if production is more, then it becomes difficult to store the crops due to lack of proper storage facility or warehouse. Thus my humble request to Hon. Minister would to provide storage facility or granaries to the farmers, so that they can store and in turn market their produce and also get the remunerative price from the Government for paddy, wheat, sugarcane etc. This will help the distressed farmers a lot. With these words, I thank you for allowing me to speak and conclude my speech.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (East Champaran): Natural calamity has become fate of Bihar. It faced floods in the year 2005, 2007-08 and drought in 2002 and 2004 and this year the drought seems to be unprecedented. Scanty rains have worsened the situation in the State. During the Kharif season, rain has been

\*Speech was laid on the Table.

deficient by 60% between 01 June to 20 July. Paddy, maize and arhar is sown in this season in Bihar. Planting of paddy crop in Bihar ends in July. As per the details received from remote areas in Bihar, planting of paddy crop has not even started in majority of the villages and in some of the areas, 25 per cent planting of paddy has started. In districts like Betiah, Motihari and Gopalganj only 50 per cent planting of paddy has been done as these areas have received some rain and flowing of water from Nepal side also proved somewhat helpful. Small paddy plants are getting damaged due to drought. Kharif crop is cultivated in 50 lakh hectares of land in Bihar, out of it, paddy is sown in 35 lakh hectare, maize in 3 lakh hectare, pulses in 1.5 lakh hectare and other crops in rest of the cultivable land. Whereas, as per the information available now, paddy has been sown in 6 lakh hectare, maize in 1.25 lakh hectare and pulses in 45 thousand hectare. Paddy has been sown in only 17 per cent area against the projected target. Moreover, it is very difficult to save the crops as under the prevailing scenario of scanty rainfall, large quantity of water will be required for irrigation and it will not be only difficult but also impossible to irrigate the crops by running the tube wells. Drought affected Bihar will have to face not only food grains crisis, but also acute shortage of fodder for animals. Every year we have 45-50 lakh tonne rice production and 14-16 lakh tonne maize production. In view of prevailing drought, it will be very difficult to produce even 10 lakh tonne paddy. Bihar is not self-reliant in case of food grains.

Sir, the Union Government should lend a cooperative hand to save Bihar from this crisis. But, non-release of water by the Union Government in Sone Canal on time has destroyed the crops. As per Ban Sagar agreement, Bihar was supposed to get 10 thousand acre feet water daily in the month of June, but it has not been released. Only 2-3 thousand acre feet water was released for some days during that period and consequently seedlings of paddy was damaged and planting of paddy could be undertaken in lesser area. The farm labourers, alongwith farmers, are also going to be affected by this drought, as they will be facing a situation of starvation if the paddy is not sown. Besides, it is also going to affect the livestock in a big way.

We cannot grow much paddy by depending on our existing irrigation system. All our ponds and feeder canals, which once stored enough rainwater, have been encroached. The Government is facing problem in reviving the tubewells, which have been lying unused for years. Growing crops through irrigation by private

tubewells is quite difficult. Electricity and diesel are two important factors in irrigation. But, irrigation through diesel is a costly proposition today as it puts economic burden on the farmers and electricity is rarely available for irrigation. The State Government too has made many announcements to deal with drought in the interest of the farmers, which include subsidy of Rs. 15/litre upto 10 litres of diesel for each of the three irrigations of paddy and installation of 6.25 thousand tubewells in the private sector with 45 per cent Government subsidy, 45 per cent loan from banks and 10 per cent contribution by the farmer himself. Besides, there are many other schemes. We are unable to irrigate land due to shortage of electricity as we are totally dependent on Central sector and there is negligible generation of electricity in the state after its division. The state needs 2500 MW electricity but only 1500 MW has been allotted by the Centre. Moreover, the state gets only about 800-900 MW electricity. Keeping in view the drought situation the Centre must supply to Bihar its allocated 1500 MW electricity. Besides, the Central Government will have to change its negative attitude because it will not be proper to discriminate against Bihar on the basis of election results, especially in this critical moment when no Central team has visited Bihar yet and no initiative has been taken to provide help. The Central Government should immediately provide a grant of Rs. 470 crore for diesel, drinking water and other work. If the same situation persists then Rs. 9000 crore would be needed which the Central Government should provide. In addition, loan recovery by banks should be banned and the area should be declared as drought affected so that Bihar could be saved from this crisis. At the same time, the State Government should send the agricultural scientists, university students and officials of the department of agriculture, cooperatives and animal husbandry to the villages with seeds so that they could give suggestions regarding farming in difficult conditions, which will help the State Government in facing the drought.

Sir, I urge the Central Government to provide 300 MW electricity in addition to the already allocated 1500 MW electricity, send central teams to the drought affected areas, ban recovery of loans by the banks and release the amount demanded by the State Government without any delay.

\*SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Four-five districts are prone to drought and other four-five districts are prone to floods in Bihar every year.

\*Speech was laid on the Table.

Similarly, about 200 districts in the country always face drought. Famines of big, medium and small intensity strike after every five years, ten years and twenty years respectively. No history of the famine cycle has been written. Meteorologists and scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should jointly conduct a research on famine and prepare a history of its cycle. A terrible famine strikes after every 100 years. Famine had struck Bihar and other parts of the country in 1914-15. Now it is expected to strike in 2014-15. The crops will get destroyed in 2009 and its impact would be felt in 2010. When the history of famine is prepared, its reasons and solution would be searched. No solution can be found without knowing the cause. The scientists take pride in them being of scientific temperament but end up being unscientific in their approach. The farmers are illiterate but they have experience based knowledge. Measures should be taken to benefit from that experience and knowledge. Due to blind pursuit of modernization we have labeled ancient and popular practical experience based wisdom as superstition. A blind disbelief is more dangerous than superstition. Permanent solution should be found. Measures should be taken in accordance with the geographical topography. Long-term schemes should be made. Storage of foodgrain should be decentralized. Foodgrain storehouses should be built in every Panchayat. Grant should be provided for construction of rural storehouses. The farmers' sell their foodgrain at the time of crops due to lack of storage facilities. A lot of money is spent on transportation to the FCI godowns and wastage is additional. All these problems could be solved and the farmer will have foodgrains in his store as well.

All the traditional sources of irrigation viz., canals, nullah, aahars, pokhars, ponds and bigger water reservoirs, should be dug up and the existing ones should be made ever encroached free. This should be given priority under the Rural Employment Scheme and the MLA and MP Fund. This will help in checking water during flood and will decrease its magnitude too. Permanent arrangements should be made to contain water in all the seasonal and small rivers by building sluice gates, pucca dams after conducting their survey. This will prove more beneficial than large irrigation schemes. Means of irrigation would remain available throughout the year through human labour and small machines. Water would be available for bathing of the animals. Fish would be available and people will get water for bathing themselves. The ground water level will increase which will facilitate irrigation through boring.

All the dead rivers should be dug up and arrangements should be made to hold water in them at intervals of 5-10 kilometres. Efforts should be made to convert the bane of famine into a boon. It will provide employment immediately. Wages should be given in the form of foodgrains. Subsidy should be provided on diesel used for irrigation and similar provisions should be made for irrigation through electricity. Programmes should be made by the farmers, for the farmers and of the farmers only. Bureaucracy goes on looting during the times of drought and famine. Sixty per cent is spent just on paraphernalia itself. A special session of 10 days should be called and a discussion on the integrated development of Agriculture should be held in the Parliament.

[*English*]

SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO (Purulia): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me a chance to participate in this discussion on the situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country. Today many hon. Members of Parliament have participated in this discussion on drought and floods. On behalf of my party, I am participating in this discussion on drought and floods.

Now-a-days drought is a burning problem in our country. I have been elected from the Purulia constituency of West Bengal where most of the people depend on agriculture and agriculture depends on rainfall. The crop is grown there only one time a year. Till today, the rainfall has not taken place. So, the farmers are crying bitterly. Normally, the farmers take loan from the co-operative banks for purchase of cattle, buffalo, bullocks etc. to take care of their agricultural needs. So, they do not know what to do now. The seeds which were to grow into plants have died for want of water. In some parts of the land, the farmers had sown the seeds which have also dried out. The farmers are unable to collect the seeds and again sow them into the fields. The farmers are unable to decide what they have to do now.

In this regard, I would like to submit that the people are facing drought in various parts of the country for want of rainfall. The drought has happened and the rains did not come due to change of weather and climate, due to excess of carbon dioxide and due to pollution of different types.

On the other side, Aila Cyclone had come in West Bengal and three or four districts were flooded due to which all types of moveable and immoveable properties

— houses and cattle — were destroyed there. Even after 62 years of Independence and several Five Year Plans, we have not been able to put in place a long-term strategy to resist the drought and floods in the country. It should be looked into. Mr. Chairman, my humble submission to the hon. Minister, through you, is that short-term and long-term strategies should be adopted to resist the floods and droughts. If the short-term and long-term strategies or policies for agriculture are adopted, farmers will be able to pass through such periods and they will be able to cultivate their land and resist drought.

My humble submission to the hon. Minister, through you, is that rain water should be preserved by constructing dams; irrigation projects should be there; and the Master-plan should be prepared. Further, the long-term strategy and short-term strategy for irrigation, proper development of agriculture, etc. should be adopted. I am saying this because it has not been done even after 62 years of our Independence. Therefore, my humble submission, through you, is that it should be adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Dushyant Singh. Hon. Member, please be brief while making your speech.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (Jhalawar): Sir, it is my first speech in the 15th Lok Sabha. I would at least need five minutes to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I would not be able to give you more than a maximum of five minutes.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me a chance to speak on a very important topic regarding drought and flood in India. It is a calamity, which happens round the year, and on some days some States have drought while some other States have flood.

The Indian '*aam aadmi*' depends primarily on agriculture. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Sir, I would like to ask you how many people you are going to call from each party? One hon. Member from my party has spoken and there are three of us left. Is there no limit to the number of party members who may speak?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, it is not like that. It is not possible. The time is over. The Minister is going to reply within 10 minutes or so.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is going to reply around 6 o'clock.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Most of the Parties have availed their time. Hence, there is no time at all left with the Parties. More or less, all the Parties have availed their time.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Are you going to allow more people?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can continue your speech.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): Sir, this is a very important discussion. This discussion should continue till 8.00 o'clock. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: The Indian economy primarily depends on agricultural production. ...(Interruptions)

Our GDP has been reduced from 21.7 per cent in 2003-2004 to 17.8 per cent in 2007-2008. As regards employment opportunities, it has also been reduced due to this decline. The raw material production has also been affected with drought, rain and flood. The average

growth has also been reduced from 4.9 per cent in 2005-2006 to 4 per cent in 2007-2008.

I would just like to say that there has been lack of production of rice due to lack of rain. In today's paper in the *Express* it has been stated that rice production has been reduced, and they have been talking about top dressing rice fields. If we give them more urea or more fertilizers, then this will help in increasing the production of rice. Likewise, sugarcane production has also come down.

In the State of Rajasthan, from where I come, we produce soyabean, and soyabean production has also been reduced by around 35 per cent. It has been stated in the *Financial Express* that:

"...soyabean, the largest oil seed grown in India during the Kharif plantation largely in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, will badly suffer due to lack of monsoon..."

I would just like to say that we, in India, depend primarily on rain, and on the South-West monsoon, which comes from the month of May till the month of September.

We should think about inter-linking of rivers; we should think about better strategies of remote sensing; we should think about information and communication technologies; and GIS technology. Thereafter, we should link it to our Krishi Vigyan Kendras to improve production of our crops.

Sir, all our States depend on irrigation projects. I come from Rajasthan. In my State of Rajasthan, we have 10.4 per cent of *kshetraphal* of which, in only 1.16 per cent area, we have water sources. Jalawar and Baran in the State of Rajasthan where I come from, it is the Cherrapunji of Rajasthan, we have the Kalisindh Project which is yet to begin. We have another famous project called Parwan Lift Irrigation Scheme which costs Rs. 1,114 crore. With the implementation of this Scheme, the water level in Jalawar-Baran region will go up.

I would like to ask you about funding of these irrigation projects. We have a Five-Year Plan, and these Five-Year Plans keep on shifting the projects to the next Five-Year Plans. As I went through the questions answered on 22.07.2009 relating to the Water Resources Ministry, I learnt that in the State of Rajasthan, under

the CWC, there were numerous projects, like Pipalda Lift Irrigation Project, Hatiadeh Irrigation Project, Parwan Irrigation Project, Andheri Irrigation Project, Rajgarh Irrigation Project, Manohar Thana Irrigation Project. I would urge the Government to help the State Governments to provide proper irrigation facilities to our people, and this will help the growth during bad monsoon period and also help in the production of soya bean and other crops.

I would like to end by saying what should be done for having adequate food supplies. The Public Distribution System should be proper, otherwise this will affect all the States of India. Secondly, as there is no power in the States, the farmers have to depend on diesel. As diesel is costly, it affects the grocery bill of the *aam admi*. If the grocery bill goes up, the *aam admi* has to pay a huge amount for his daily grocery bills. The number of Indian bread basket States has been reduced. The States of Punjab and Haryana have shortage of rainfall and because of that, the production of rice and others crops has come down. Power crisis is looming in every State. Irrigation projects are not working.

In the last 30 years, I just want to let you know that in the North Eastern States, like in Nagaland, there is 67 per cent less rain; in Assam, there is 34 per cent less rain; in Arunachal Pradesh, there is 29 per cent less rain; and in Cherrapunji, there is 55 per cent less rain which is due to global warming. When the Prime Minister has intervened, they have created State Monitoring Agencies. I would urge the Government to take measures by which these things can take place.

Sir, due to less rainfall, the Planning Commission's target of four per cent will not take place, National Food Mission will be affected, and the import of food grains will cost our foreign exchange. Therefore, we should think about roof water harvesting. We should change the CRF norms and the NCCF norms. We should think about handicraft clusters in Rajasthan, and in this manner help the *aam admi* to earn revenue.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR (Parbhani): Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in the House. Through you, I would like to give some suggestions for dealing with the drought situation.

The Government is serious about improving the condition of the farmers. The Union Government has implemented the NREG Act. I would like to make the following points in this regard:

1. NREGA should be made a stepping stone for development in the agricultural sector throughout India.
2. Many irrigation projects in Marathwada such as Lower Dughna, the right bank canal in Jayakwadi are lying incomplete. These should be completed.
3. River waters should be used to deal with drought in future.
4. Schemes for farmers, labourers and villages under NREGA should be completed.
5. Marathwada Agriculture University has requested for funds. Agriculture Universities in the country should be given the resources so that techniques of farming despite low rainfall could be developed.
6. The Government should take-over the land development programme.
7. Drinking Water, fodder for cattle, food for the people, pulses, rice, water and irrigation, fertilizers and seeds should be made available. There is scarcity of water for cultivation of pulses, cotton, sugarcane, jowar, maize etc.
8. Lab to land experiments should be promoted and agriculture universities should be made self sufficient. The Government should strengthen the agricultural institutions. Agro-processing industries should be developed.
9. The country would be able to exist only if the farmers are able to sustain themselves. India is predominantly an agricultural country. The mainstay of the country should be provided all facilities. The sector which provides food to 110 crore people in the country deserves to be respected, otherwise all will be lost.
10. Basic infrastructure for agriculture such as land, water, electricity, required funds and fertilizers should be provided at cheaper rates and on time. In addition to the price of paddy, the farmers should also be paid the cost incurred on maintenance of per hectare of farmland. The farmers have to bear expenditure on the household, education of children, marriage of

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

daughters etc, throughout the year. The entire wages of the partner should be deposited. 20 per cent of margin aid has to be deposited. The farmers need to be paid keeping these factors in mind.

I would like to draw your attention towards a few other issues as well.

1. Drinking water, foodgrains, fodder of cattle, work for labourers should be provided and development of dry land for agriculture should be undertaken.
2. Bio-technology
3. Improvement in NREGA

*[English]*

4. Lower Dudhna Project should be implemented in time.
5. Agro-university Research Project should be approved.
6. Insurance should be given to all farmers.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON (Unnao): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I will try to express my views within very short time. First of all I would like to thank our honourable Prime Minister and hon. Minister of Agriculture and express my full faith in them. The flood and drought have been discussed a lot here and I think there is no Member of Parliament who is not aware of the conditions in our country. I have full faith in our Government and the Government also demonstrated this faith while taking a historical decision to waive loan of amount Rs. 72,000 crore of the farmers. I have full faith that the Government will take right decisions in the present situation also. The Government demonstrated its generosity in the case of outbreak of swine-flu. The way Government handled the swine-flu and contained its spread is an example of the Government's alertness.

*[English]*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH (Munger): Swine-flu has become an epidemic.  
*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

Madam is talking about swine-flu.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: I am not speaking on swine-flu. I am just giving example. Perhaps you. *...(Interruptions)* do not understand the meaning of analogy *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us listen to what she says.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH: She should have read the newspaper today.  
*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Natural disaster was being discussed. Earlier also when I stood to speak, some Members could not understand my view point. I hail from Unnao and I have also lived in a village. It is not that I have dropped here from a city. I understand their feelings and sufferings. I wanted to go there and take stock of the situation in my constituency before giving suggestion in this House in regard to declaration of national calamity. I was just trying to state that, but they misunderstood that I did not want a discussion on flood and drought. I think that no decision can be taken without discussion, holding talks and proper understanding and that is why I have been elected to this House.

All of us know that there is 75 per cent rainfall during the period from June to September which constitutes major part of total rainfall and on which the irrigation and crop of farmers depend. We know one more thing that 16 per cent of land in our country is drought affected or drought prone. One of our hon. Members stated that 5 crore people are affected by drought every year. We know this also that there is drought at least in four years out of every 10 years on an average. All of us agree with it. Knowing all this I want to state two things in brief. One about short term measures and the other about long term measures. Every person in the country seeks a short term package from the State Government and Union Government. I had gone to meet the farmers in my constituency. I am trying

to convey their sufferings to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. I would like to tell the hon. Minister of Agriculture that this issue is not related to his Ministry alone but the Ministries of Water Resources, Environment and Forest and Rural Development are also related with it and all these Ministries will have to think about it collectively. This is not related only with Ministry of Agriculture. It is a issue related with nature and a lot depends on God's will. One of the farmers said to me. "Didi, if it rains between 10 to 12 August, we will be able to overcome the fury of drought to some extent. You do not worry." ...*(Interruptions)* If there is rain between 10 to 12 August ...*(Interruptions)* The condition is not good but they assured me ...*(Interruptions)* I am repeating what that farmer told me ...*(Interruptions)* Try to listen to the sufferings of a poor farmer. He also knows what he would get from the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: They are of the opinion that if any package is to be provided then the criteria of 5 acres or 3 acres adopted for farmers in the case of loan waiver should be adopted in this case also and in case the crop is totally damaged, at least one third of the total produce in proportion to the holding of the farmer should be provided. It will help them avoid starvation.

It would be very good if Foodgrains are distributed free of cost for the landless workers. If nothing else is provided to those farmers who have more than five acres holding, at least larger amount of loan should be provided to them under Kisan credit facility particularly for irrigation related implements for next year's preparation. We should keep an eye on farmer insurance scheme sometimes it is not distributed properly. So far as long term measures are concerned, I would like to say to all the honourable Members, through you, that we need to think about water conservation and development of water reserves. All of us know about these things but our participation in these things is also required. Particularly the participation of farmers is needed because be it the Union Government or the State Government, everything cannot be provided on plate. We will have to cook the food and eat it. It is necessary to persuade and help the farmers and provide subsidy to them.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can lay your remaining speech on the table

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: In the end, I would like to state one more thing that after all that we have gone through, the hon. Minister of Agriculture should bring a revolution and help the farmers in such a way that we do not have to go through all this again even if the monsoon does not come next year.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar, you are the last speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only Shri Rajbhar's speech will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. If you want to make a point, put it in writing and lay it on the Table. They will be taken into consideration.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Sir, I would like to express my thanks to your for giving me an opportunity to speak on an important issue. Even after 62 years of independence the entire country is worried about floods and droughts. Human mind and technology have to a large extent captured everything that is exiting on earth. The Government cannot bring rains but it should make arrangements to conserve the rain water which goes into the sea after submerging villages covering thousands of kilometers. Even after so many years of independence we are sitting in this House and merely discussing the situation of floods and drought and doing nothing to save the invaluable water that runs into the sea. What happened to our technology, our mind and our experiments? We should remove this kind of irony that one area gets submerged into water and another one suffers from drought. If this irony is removed, a number of other problems will be solved. If we save our water and supply it to drought affected areas then

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\*Not recorded.



our country can get rid of drought and flood. For example, I would like to say that wherever we have constructed canals the effect of drought has reduced considerably. My constituency includes Deoria and Ballia districts. You will be surprised to know that I had talks with the District Magistrate on 17th of July 2008 regarding severe drought condition in Deoria and Ballia districts. Till 17th July 2008 the total rainfall in Deoria was 600 millimeter and this year in Deoria and Ballia it is 100 mm and 32 mm respectively till the same date. You can assess the condition of drought from this situation. We are very much concerned about the farmers but in my parliamentary constituency out of Asia's four major Power Houses one power house has been set up in Ibrahim Patti, the village of Late Shri Chandrashekhar ji.

Thousands of acres of crop was destroyed and thousands of acres of farmers land was acquired to set up the plant, one pillar each has been erected in every Katha of land and the entire country is being supplied power from there. The project has cost at least Rs. 1200 crore and three huge machines have been installed over there which I had never imagined in my political career so far but the people of Ballia and farmers who gave their land for this power house never got power from it.

In the end, I would like to say only one thing and would like to thank the hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh that before the newspapers started publishing that certain districts were drought affected, the Chief Minister declared a total of 47 districts, first 20 and later 27 districts, as drought affected. Not only this much, as further reports are being received the Chief Minister has sought a package of Rs. 500 crores from the Union Government and the Government has agreed to sanction the relief package sought for Uttar Pradesh.

*[English]*

I also lay the rest of my speech on the Table.

*[Translation]*

\*First of all I would like to bow my head before those who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country. I also bow my head to the great personality of independent India Dr. Ambedkar who got the right to vote for the men and women and poor people of independent country. The people of my Parliamentary Constituency Salempur elected me and sent me here.

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\*....\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, floods and droughts are a challenge for us. Rivers create havoc in thousands of kilometers of area and all the valuable water flows into the sea. For the last 62 year we have been unable to check this water and use the same for drought affected areas. In those areas where water was saved and canals were constructed. We have been able to fight the drought. I do not request the Union Government to request the nature for rains but would like to say that we can save our agriculture and farmers by storing rain water.

In my parliamentary constituency Deoria, 122 mm of rain was recorded this year in comparison to 600 mm till 17th July last year. Similarly only 33 mm rain was recorded in Ballia district in comparison to 450 mm last year. As a result of this Deoria and Ballia districts are known as severe drought affected areas. The State Government took it seriously and declared 47 districts as drought affected. The hon. Chief Minister by understanding the pain of people has taken immediate action to provide 10 hours of free power, free seeds, foodgrains to BPL alongwith APL families, free medicine camps, common kitchen for handicapped people, fodder, water, and postponement of loan recovery facilities to the people.

The State Government has forwarded a proposal worth Rs. 230 crore under the National Agriculture Development Scheme to the Union Government and the same is pending here. The proposals include a Rs. 100 crore scheme for revival of tubewells, new boring for tubewells, proposal of Rs. 251 crore for check dams etc. This thing has been published in newspapers. I would like to demand that a package of Rs. 502 crore for the Ministry of Agriculture, should immediately be sent to the Government.\*

*[English]*

\*SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur): I rise to participate in the discussion on drought and floods in the country. Monsoon has failed us this year also and there is drought almost through out the country and it is prevalent in all districts of Uttar Pradesh. All sections of the people and specifically farmers have already been hard hit by economic recession. The prices of essential goods i.e. fruits and vegetables, grains, pulses have already sky rocketed and with the failure of monsoon the poor people will be ruined. Almost all parts of our country

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

depend on monsoon for agricultural activities and since the monsoon has failed the poor farmers keep their fingers crossed as to what to do next. With no support from either Central Government or the State Government the farmers in Uttar Pradesh and other regions also are facing severe hardship. In view of severe drought conditions I demand that the whole of Uttar Pradesh should be declared as a drought affected State and all loans of farmers should be waived with immediate effect. They may be given consumption loan at subsidized rates.

All the states of our country AP, UP, Maharashtra, MP, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Rajasthan are affected with drought this year. The farmers are in severe crisis and have suffered due to the extreme climates.

I am from Andhra Pradesh but my Karam Bhoomi is Rampur, that is UP, which has received 25% less rainfall. All the dams are dry and no water for the agriculture particularly in UP. Budhelkhand water project is still pending. There is no time bound. That is why people in crisis without water. Agriculture in our country is 70% . Rampur is more of cane growers, wheat and rice producers. They are completely in financial crisis. They should get the benefit of loan waiver completely and special packages should be given to UP farmers and advance financial support from the Banks.

The National Calamity Management should give information to alert in time of drought and rain water harvesting should be introduced. Forest trees should be protected and Swaminathan Committee report should be implemented. And subsidy should be followed like in Haryana and Punjab. Total drought package for UP farmers should be given. As far as floods are concerned, linking of major rivers in the country is required. Till today no steps has been taken in this regard. With this measure, some parts will be relieved from drought situation.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take just three minutes instead of five minutes, provided there are no interruptions. Sir, I am grateful for being given the opportunity to speak on the issue raised by Shri Lalanji. This is a very important and significant issue and many members want to put forward their views thereon. This is a huge problem for the country. The Members want to give suggestions for their states and constituencies. The Union Government had got together with the Agriculture Ministry and four or five other

Ministries and held an emergency meeting to identify the states and districts therein affected by drought. It is a sad situation for our country that it is facing floods at one end and drought at other end. In my view, drought should be included in the list of natural calamities because every year some state or the other has to face this situation. Hence, we should not wait for the entire country to be affected by drought before we start thinking of ways to deal with it. We should be in a state of preparedness to face drought at any time. This is one point.

Secondly, floods are also being discussed here. I belong to Jammu-Kashmir. This region has several rivers and streams. It has large rivers. Although we are facing a drought situation but if there is heavy rains fall then flash floods submerge thousands of acres of land. A lot of irrigation takes place along with river banks. Floods cause loss of land on the one hand and on the other hand add to the woes of the farmers and to unemployment.

17.59 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*]

Hence, I would like to urge the Government to make an effective programme whereunder those rivers where floods occur most often should be identified, including the river in my state, so that land could be saved and people given employment. The Agriculture Minister is present here. He had sanctioned a number of minor irrigation projects under the Water Resources Ministry on which work is going on. I would like to request him to construct dams on the rivers in my constituency such as River Chenab that flows through Poonch and Rajouri, Manawar Tawi, Jammu Tawi and Vasantar. The waters of these rivers flows towards Pakistan. Dams on these rivers would enable the Government to use the water in dams by lifting it for irrigation in times of drought.

18.00 hrs.

This would lead to higher yield of foodgrains and the challenges posed by drought would be met in an effective manner. Change of chair is taking place I do not want take the time allotted to some other member. I associate myself with the views expressed by my colleagues in the House. I would like to thank you for giving me time to speak and represent my state and constituency.

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Sir, the issue of Madhya Pradesh has not been taken up. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to make an announcement.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Sir, the issue of Madhya Pradesh has not been taken up ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. I have to make an announcement. Hon. Members, we have allotted four hours for the discussion on this topic. We have taken more than five hours. Now, there are many more Members to speak but I am sorry the Chair cannot allow all the Members to participate in the discussion. Therefore, with the consent of the House, I am winding up the discussion. I invite the hon. Minister to reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak one at a time. Let me hear the hon. Member. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. I am on my legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): I have come to attend the House. I should be given at least two minutes to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please wait for a minute. Hon. Members, why are you not listening to the Chair?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: I am a farmer. You cannot struggle a farmer's voice ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs. You please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: We want your protection ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am allowing him.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: I will not go from here, I will stay here at night as well ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you behaving like this? Why do you not cooperate with the Chair?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Sir, senior member Narendra Singhji will speak on behalf of Madhya Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am allowing him and you are disturbing others also. I will allow some hon. Members for three minutes each.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

\*SHRI GANESH SINGH: The incidence of natural calamities has been rising day by day in the country. The ecological balance is being disturbed continuously. There is drought in some regions and flood in other regions. Apart from these two calamities more than one lakh people have been killed by other natural calamities, like earthquakes, Tsunami and cyclone during the last three years. Several lakhs of animals died and the crops worth billions were destroyed.

A country, where 65 per cent agriculture depends on monsoon will lead towards destruction if monsoon does not favour agriculture. 70 per cent of the total population of the country depends on agriculture. 42 per cent farmers in the country are bringing up their families by tilling only two acres of land.

Several States have been affected by drought and flood in the country during the last three years. I have got the details in this regard. Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Manipur and Chhattisgarh are drought affected.

In Madhya Pradesh 10 districts in 2007-08, 39 districts in 2008-09 and now 152 tehsils in 41 districts have been drought affected.

There has been 266.2 ml rainfall in my Parliamentary Constituency Satna till now. There has been 256.8 ml rainfall in Rewa and 270 ml in Sidhi which is less than average rainfall. Rewa, Shahdol, Chambal, Sagar and Gwalior divisions in the State are widely affected by drought.

60 per cent farmers did not sow. 40 per cent farmers sowed the seeds but now the crop is drying up. The State has been bearing the brunt of drought for the last four years. Central Study team had visited the state in April-May. The team had recommended assistance for dealing with drought.

The Kharif crop could not be sown. Whatever seeds were sown, they are drying up now. In Rajasthan 22 districts were affected by drought in 2006-07, 12 districts in 2007-08 and 2008-09. In Uttarakhand 9 districts and 11 districts were drought affected in 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. In Uttar Pradesh 9 districts were affected in 2007-08 and 47 districts are affected by drought now in 2009-10.

The Government has itself admitted that the entire north India is drought affected. The power generation and agricultural production has been less due to drought. There has been starvation, shortage of drinking water and food for the cattle.

There had been more than average rainfall in 28 per cent districts last year. There was normal rainfall in 48 per cent districts and less than average rainfall in 23 per cent districts. There are 81 large water reservoirs in the country in which 151.77 billion cubic metre water is stored but last year only 141.62 bcm water was stored. Whether Central Water Commission should not take up this issue seriously? There has been immense loss due to flood, cyclone and landslide. Lakhs of people and cattle died and houses crumbled down in 26 states during the period from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

Disaster Management Authority was constituted in the year 2005 and was entrusted the work of chalking out plans for disaster management with the help of the States. But no effective measures have been taken till date. Earlier in 1976 National Flood Commission was constituted. In the year 1972 Ganga Flood Control Commission was constituted. 23 rivers were brought under the purview of this Commission. Later on Flood Management Board was constituted. But there were no positive results.

In the year 2002 National Water Policy was simplified. A task force was constituted in the year 2004 for controlling the floods in Assam, Bihar, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

The Union Government had formulated in 2007, a Flood Management Programme with a corpus of 8000 crore rupees with an objective of controlling floods but to no avail. After all what is the outcome of all these efforts? The Union Government has not been able in taking any concrete and effective measure.

The river linking project launched during NDA regime with a provision of Rs. 10,000 crore has been put in cold storage, otherwise the situation in the country would have been different.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

There is a need to develop the old practices through which nature can be understood better. We will have to resort to nature to preempt something unusual that might take place. A tribe in Andaman knew about the Tsunami well before. The nature forewarns about its calamities through various gesture of animals like cows and several other creatures.

I demand that a research on old practices should be undertaken and effective measures may be taken for maintaining the ecological balance.

\*SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mahesana): I would like to draw your attention to the flood caused by heavy rains in Gujarat recently. About 51% of this season's rainfall has taken place from 15 to 25 July. Most of this rainfall was in the coastal area of Saurashtra and South Gujarat. A flood situation was created in Junagarh and Porbander districts due to heavy rains and tides. All the dams in Saurashtra overflowed requiring huge quantity of water to be released from them. It caused an extraordinary situation and water reached inside verawal and Mongrol talukas in Junagarh district and in the villages in Porbander district. All the villages lost links. The Gujarat Government had sent special teams of NDRF and SRP for rescue operations. Huge losses took place in Saurashtra and particularly in Junagarh, Porbander and Jamnager districts and the standing crops were destroyed.

Roads, ponds and drains were full of water in other parts of the state. Loss worth about Rs. 300 crore was caused in the electricity infrastructure and houses.

About 10,000 people in Junagarh district and 1500 clusters in Porbander had to be shifted. The relief and rescue machinery played its role very responsibly. Arrangements were made to drop 63000 food packets in 37 villages in Porbander district by helicopter. It had done hard work to restore the flood affected areas to their earlier situation.

Seventy two people had died till 25th July due to heavy rains and a relief amount of Rs. 55 lakhs has been paid so far. About 450 animals had died and assistance amount of Rs. 7 lakh has been paid in 233 cases.

Ten thousand persons have been shifted in various districts in Gujarat and 6000 out of them have been paid Rs. 3 lakh in cash. A provision of Rs. 32 lakh as relief amount was made for 3000 of the households.

The farmers have suffered huge losses in sowing of crops due to heavy rains and storms in different districts in Gujarat and particularly in South Gujarat during this monsoon. Most of the sugarcane growing farmers, including maximum number of scheduled caste farmers, in south Gujarat districts like Bharuch and Baroda have suffered losses amounting to about Rs. 100 crore.

The Central Government should fulfill its duty and provide assistance to the flood affected. It should provide sufficient relief amount similar to the one provided to West Bengal by it.

Sir, through you, I would like to urge the central Government to declare this year's flood situation in Gujarat as 'National Calamity' and provide adequate assistance to the State Government.

\*SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Rajasthan has faced drought for more than 40 times during the last 60 years. The Western part of the state, known as Thar desert, is most affected by this drought. I hail from the parliamentary constituency of Bikaner in Rajasthan and mainly 11 districts around it are most affected by drought. The Government make efforts at their level to solve the problem of drought but they are not enough. I, therefore, would like to give some suggestions about the sevan grass, animal rearing and water reservoir etc.

Sevan grass, bhoorat, dachabh, gadhiya, pala, moth, bajra, til, moong, gwar etc. are the main crops in the area between Hanumangarh and Barmer under Bikaner Division and rearing animals was and is an integral part of their life even today. But, permanent grass was removed completely leading to the decline in the number of animals as its result. After studying the whole situation deeply, it has become clear that rearing animals by growing natural grass in the area concerned would be the best thing.

Though, with enough water coming in the Indira Gandhi Canal Project areas foodgrains are being produced in sufficient quantity for a living, but animal rearing is the basis of livelihood of the farmers even now. The farmers stealing water in the canal areas do more cultivation and do not pay attention to animal rearing. All the remaining farmers earn their livelihood by rearing cows, buffaloes, sheep, goats etc. and through camel carts. The Indira Gandhi Canal Project is divided into two phases. The number of animals is low in the

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

first phase and animal rearers show more interest in keeping buffaloes and there is large number of cows but in the second phase, the number of animals is higher.

After surveying the whole of North-west Rajasthan, the experts of the Bikaner Zila Dugdh Utpadak Sangh have arrived at the conclusion that natural vegetation including growth of animal rearing farmers alongwith grass and traditional farming will create new sources of employment which will benefit the common man.

Cultivation of grass alongwith animal husbandry and traditional farming was the basis of the life in North-West Rajasthan. Adoption of new technique after independence has destroyed the sewan grass, bhoorat, dachabh, gadhiya, pala etc. completely and nominal traditional farming has been left which is done during seasonal rains only. If the farmers of this area grow good quality of grass like Sewan, Bhurat, Pala, Dachabh etc for animals and switchover to animal husbandry they can derive more benefits and they can produce good quality food grains by resorting to traditional farming.

If sewan grass is grown in Indira Gandhi Canal fed area and animal husbandry is adopted income of a farmer will increase to ten fold per acre. Input cost of growing sewan grass in comparison to groundnuts, wheat, narma is almost half and fodder for 30 cows and 100 goats can be provided in 25-bigha land. Apart from it, the yield through traditional farming will also be not less than the present farming. 30 cows will produce 300 litre milk daily which will fetch a farmer Rs. 4500 daily. In addition to it, these cows will produce 450 kg. dung per day, which can fetch a farmer Rs. 2250 daily. Apart from it, sheep and goats will fetch per day income of Rs. 100. Fodder for their animals can be provided from the fields and canal water will be available for them. Some amount will need to be spent on animal feed and their upkeep. If the income from traditional farming of both Rabi and Kharif season is taken together, it will definitely be Rs. 10,000 per bigha. For getting optimum yield of sewan grass and traditional crops only 2 Quasec water per hectare will be required for irrigation.

There is no question of irrigated or un-irrigated land for growing sewan grass as sewan, bhurat, dachabh, fog, pala etc can be grown in mounds and by providing minimum water through sprinkle irrigation we can get good harvest of these varieties.

Lakhs of hectares of land in north-western Rajasthan is discarded by treating it as wasteland but, if, a little

efforts are made it will produce fodder in abundance. It can easily feed 2 crore cows and 20 crore sheep and goats. These 2 crore cows can easily produce 20 crore litre of milk daily, yielding Rs. 300 crore daily. Apart from it, daily 3 lakh tonne dung will also be available. It will fetch another Rs. 300 crore daily. It includes milk of goats, wool of sheep's and dung-manure. At the same time, their number will increase to three-fold every year as sheep and goats give birth to kids twice a year and expenditure on them is just their up keeping.

No efforts have been made during last sixty years for storing the rainwater in this area, consequently, dependence on Indira Gandhi canal and wells for water is proving to be a costly affair. My submission is that in view of special circumstances in Rajasthan permission should be granted to construct a water tank of one lakh litre capacity in the farmer's fields itself so that better infrastructure can be developed for ensuring availability of water in rural areas and it will encourage farmers to adopt horticulture alongwith the traditional crops thereby generating additional resources of income for the farmers. In the first instance, all the five-lakh small and marginal farmers in all 11-desert districts of Rajasthan should be covered under the said programme. For this purpose, technically a tank of 15 feet diameter and 20 feet depth is required to be dug and around this tank a water reservoir of at least 60 to 80 feet diameter, on the basis of average rain of each district, should be constructed. My submission is that local sand or other material with proper pounding should be used for constructing such reservoir. It will ensure that only one good rain will be enough to fill up the said reservoir. The construction of a reservoir of the said size will entail an expenditure of Rs. 80,000. Out of it, the 50 per cent amount will be spent on labour and 50 per cent on material. Tanks will be constructed by the farmers in their own fields with the help of other farmers. It will provide jobs to members of his family and to large number of the landless labourers in their village and also to other unemployed labourers.

Cultivation of sewan grass in north-western Rajasthan will help in growing Mateera in abundance and also Kakadiya, a fruit with a very fine smell. Apart from it, medicinal plants like tumba, fog, aakda etc can also be grown in this area. It will further increase the farmers' income.

For cultivating sewan grass on the mounds in those areas of Indira Gandhi Canal, water can be made available from the canal itself. Change can be made in

the present pattern and water can be saved by reducing the quality of water being distributed as most of the cattle-breeders will join farmers cooperatives and they will evince interest in cattle-breeding and growing grass which will automatically lead to the water saving.

By promoting cattle-breeding in entire western Rajasthan and providing at least five animals to each farmer, by digging a tank of one lakh litre capacity in each farmer's field, by bridging the difference between APL and BPL, and promoting cattle-breeding, dairy farming, growing medicinal plants and horticulture all-round development of this region can take place and economic condition of the farmer's can be improved.

It will enable the farmers to earn their livelihood even in the face of drought or famine and they will be able to face these calamities.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the serious problems being faced by the people in my Parliamentary constituency area Bikaner due to drought and famine. The relief announcement has been made by the Government under CRF/NCCF to deal with the situation of drought and famine there. Through you, I would like to suggest some amendments in the present rules of CRF/NCCF.

#### **Compensation in the case of crop destroyed due to cold**

Most of the times there is summer in Rajasthan but during the winter season a lot of problems crop up in desert areas of Rajasthan, which also includes crops getting destroyed. If the crop in entire area gets affected then the State Government provides compensation by granting a special package. But there is no provision for compensation to be provided by the Union or State Government if crops get destroyed due to cold in any particular area.

#### **Compensation in the case of domestic animals being killed by wild animal**

Alongwith agriculture cattle breeding is also an important source of livelihood in Rajasthan. The main source of income for many families comes from cattle breeding and in such a situation if their animals are killed by wild animals then it becomes difficult for such families to survive. There is no provision for providing compensation if a domestic animal is killed by any wild animal.

#### **Compensation in the case of death of domestic animals or human beings by electrocution**

Strong dust storms are common in Rajasthan as a result of which electricity wires get broken and poles get uprooted. In case of death of any human being or animal by getting electrocuted due to these wires, the compensation given by the Electricity Department is very less. There is a need to increase the same.

#### **Compensation for the damages caused due to National Calamity**

Most of the kuccha houses in Rajasthan fall down as a result of natural calamity and more than 80 per cent houses in rural areas of Rajasthan are of mud only. There is a provision for making meagre financial assistance for the damage of houses in natural calamity. There is a need to increase this amount also.

#### **Compensation in the event of damages in the drainage made for collecting rain water**

Less rain takes place in Rajasthan therefore, it is important to store rain water. There is no provision for compensation in case of losses caused due to breaking of drainage system meant for storing rain water. If this thing continues then people will not allow to start any projects for collecting rain water in their nearby areas. Therefore, there should be a provision for compensation in this regard.

\*SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to express my views on such an important issue. India is the only country in this world where there are six seasons, which happens nowhere in this world. It is believed that such climate cannot be found anywhere.

But during the last few years the environmental balance is getting disturbed as a result of huge exploitation of natural resources. The nature deceives us due to which agriculture in India gets adversely affected. India is an agricultural country. We have been reading since childhood that 70-75 percent of country's population is dependent on agriculture and the same is a yardstick for country's economic prosperity.

Today in the event of unfavourable monsoon, sometime we have to face heavy rains and sometimes there are no rains. The more we exploit the nature, the

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

more the earth will get adversely affected. At present it is getting affected due to drought. This year the rainfall has been much less than the average. There should have been 246.5 mm rain in Bihar but so far only 118.21 mm rain has been recorded. In my Constituency Supaul 280.2 mm rain was expected but only 178.6 mm rain was recorded. It has got less rain by 38.39 per cent. Due to less rains the crop of paddy has been sown in 25-30 lakh hectares only in place of 36 lakh hectares of land. Same is the condition of pulses and maize. Not only this, it will indirectly have adverse effect on the rabi crop also. Lack of moisture in fields will adversely affect the production also. The same will affect the economic condition of the state and country as well.

Drought is indirectly having adverse effect on power also. Due to shortage of water, hydel power plants will not be able to generate power and the farmers will not get any power for irrigation. There is no Hydel Power Project in Bihar and the farmers are given power somehow from Thermal Power, which costs a lot. The UPA Government has increased the rates of diesel by Rs. two as soon as it came to power and this has added salt to their injuries. If someone plants paddy crop by using diesel engine for irrigation then it gets very costly for them. Sir, if all aspects are taken together then one can see that there is no profit in agriculture. The farmer has to work on no profit no loss basis.

Our area also is drought affected. Supaul Sahara, Madhepura, Araria, Purnea, Katihar, Darbhanga Madhubani and some more districts are affected. Canals were an alternative mode of irrigation in these districts, but demolition of Kusha dam paralyzed the entire canal system. Consequently irrigation was badly affected. 60 per cent agriculture here depends on monsoon and monsoon played truant this year. Water table has also depleted. Even hand pumps and tubewells, which would have helped in irrigation, have failed. My submission is that all the districts in Bihar should be declared drought affected and a package should be announced for farmers, wherein farmers can easily be provided fertilizers, seeds and water for irrigation. Mr. Minister, Sir, the State Governments have accepted that the condition in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Western U.P. and Bihar is really bad.

But, it is quite painful that the name of Bihar was missing from the list of drought-affected states declared yesterday. I do not understand why the centre treats Bihar step-motherly. The Government did not lend any help when the Kosi floods, played havoc and same is the attitude now in tackling drought. All the states are equal, be there a congress or non-congress Government.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR (Muraina): Sir, six districts of M.P. had over 20 per cent rain and the remaining districts had no rain. Consequently, people are fleeing from these districts. People are on the verge of starvation. Now today, I apprehend it, as 37 districts and 157 tehsils in M.P. were drought affected. Our Chief Minister, repeatedly urged the Prime Minister and also the Minister of Agriculture and a study team visited the state. the study team submitted its recommendations and the State Government sent a proposal for Rs. 1548 crore. But, the central Government, being prejudiced did not provide even a rupee to the State Government.

Sir, through you, I urge the central Government to assess the situation in Madhya Pradesh without any delay and also provide relief. If anything happens, in Madhya Pradesh due to failure of rain and drought, the central Government will be responsible for it.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, kindly allow our Members also...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, please bear with the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you not take your seat? How many times should I say this?

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): I am a farmer. I will make my point. I want time to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you time.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. R.K. Singh Patel, I will give you time. Do not behave like this. It is very unfortunate.

...*(Interruptions)*



SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I would like to say something. Hon. Members from Rajasthan want to participate in the discussion as there is a total drought situation prevailing there. They would like to make their submissions. So, please give them two minutes each.  
*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understand. Four hon. Members also will speak and after that hon. Minister will give a reply.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA (Karnal): Sir, I will make my point in five minutes. Three minutes will not do. I would like to raise a very important issue.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, please conclude within three minutes.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the most important thing is that our hon. Prime Minister, our Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji and our Minister of Agriculture are closely watching flood and drought situation in the country. There is no doubt in it. I will make my point within two minutes. The most important thing is that we should ponder over seriously as to what causes floods and drought in our country every year. Global warming is its major cause. All these problems are created because of global warming. I think we should deliberate upon global warming as well.

The second point, I would like to make is that a farmer works very hard, but he is never prosperous and free of worries. One can see that despite his hard labour, he never gets remunerative price for his produce. I will talk about one crop. Kharif season has several crops, such as pulses, rice, jawar, bazra, oilseeds, and sunflower. So far as paddy is concerned, a farmer has to bear an input cost of around rupees 15-18 thousand per are on paddy. Right from its sowing to harvesting, *i.e.* he has to spend Rs. 15-18 thousand per acre till it reaches the market. But, what does a farmer get in the event of any natural calamity. Some Governments pay Rs. one thousand, while others Rs. 1500 as

compensation. But, my state, Haryana's Government led by hon. chief Minister, Choudhary Bhoopendra Singh Hooda gave a compensation of Rs. 3-4 thousand per acre when hailstorms lashed last year. My submission is that we should prepare a solid plan in this regard.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude within one minute.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: That is a crop Insurance Scheme. We need to take the said scheme seriously as it has no effect so far. My submission is that the hon. Minister should see to it and a Vigilance Committee or a M.P.s committee should be constituted in this regard. Until and unless crop Insurance Scheme is made effective it is not going to help. How will the said scheme be effective? At present, it is implemented only at Block level. My submission is that Crop Insurance Scheme also should be implemented on the lines of other schemes such as health Insurance scheme.

The Union Government and the State Government should contribute to crop insurance scheme and the farmers should get the money for their labour under the said scheme. I urge the hon. Minister that there is need to understand this scheme very well. Nothing is going to work until the Crop Insurance Scheme is implemented properly. By the Crop Insurance Scheme I mean that the farmers should get atleast Rs. 20,000- Rs. 25,000 for paddy, wheat or other major crops under this scheme. Only then, a farmer can be prosperous. If a farmer marries his son today. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: What is left with a farmer if he marries his daughter, constructs his house, sends his child for study? He falls in the debt trap for 10 years in such a way that he never recovers from it. My request is that the hon. Minister should implement the Crop Insurance Scheme very effectively. There is need to think over this issue deeply. There should be a

discussion to see as to what we can do in respect of crop insurance scheme.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, thank you very much. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA: I am concluding within a minute. Big companies like the Life Insurance Corporation purchase shares worth crores of rupees. But, I want to tell you that this money should be used for the farmers. If this money will be used for the farmers then you will see how prosperous farmers will become within a short period. It is not a small thing. I urge you to take into account all these points.

[*English*]

I also lay a part of my speech on the Table.

[*Translation*]

\*I am very grateful to all those hon'ble Members and intellectuals who have drawn the attention of the Union Government in both the Houses by expressing concern on the situation arising out of delayed monsoon and effect on Kharif crops in many states due to low rainfall in the country and pitiable condition of the farmers alongwith the effect on electricity, water, food items and items of daily use and situation of drought in some of the states and flood in the other. I am, once again, grateful to you for extending cooperation to the Government in the interest of the nation to deal with such situations.

I express my gratitude to the hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singhji and the UPA Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji that they have, on the request of the State Governments, agreed to provide maximum financial assistance to all the affected states without any prejudice from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) on the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) after completion of the survey of all the affected states by a Central team. According to Meteorological Department, there has been a sharp decline in the rainfall this year in comparison to the previous years. Rainfall

of 151 mm has been recorded in the whole country against the normal rainfall of 234.7 mm, a deficit of thirty six per cent and its maximum impact has been on the north eastern states like Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, etc. and on the northern states like Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and north Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and other States.

The Union Ministry of Agriculture has, in last June, given assurance to provide assistance and relief to the farmers in every way so that they could deal with the future problems well before by calling a meeting of all the secretaries of agriculture from Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam and Bihar to save to Kharif crops of paddy, jowar, bajra, oil seeds, Urad, moong and other pulses, peanut, soyabean, sunflower, sugarcane and all other crops in all the state affected by the delay in monsoon. The Central Government is keeping a close watch on the day-to-day activities and is ready for all possible help.

The Union Government has given assurance that it would take some concrete steps for welfare of farmers through the National Agriculture Development Scheme, National Food Security Mission and the State Agriculture University. All these agencies would provide information pertaining to agriculture to the farmers through Doordarshan, All India Radio and other channels. The Union Government is committed to resolve the problems of farmers related to seeds and irrigation. The Union Government has set up a calamity relief fund in each state with a 75:25 ratio of contribution between the Union Government and the State Governments. The Union Government and the State Governments have together mobilized Rs. 16,729.02 crore thereunder during the period between 2005-06 and 2008-09.

The Union Government has constituted a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for states affected by national disasters which works to safeguard the states from floods, earthquakes, tides and other natural calamities and also provide financial assistance to disaster hit states. A National Flood Commission was constituted in 1976 by the Union Government to provide immediate assistance to flood affected states. The Union Government also constituted the Ganga Flood Control Commission in 1972, Brahmaputra Board, National Water Policy 2002 and Task Force 2004 to help states deal with floods.

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\*....\*This part of the Speech was laid on the Table.

As per the 22 July 2009 report of the Meteorological Department North India including Delhi, Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab received 58.1 mm rainfall against the normal rainfall of 163.5 mm which shows a deficit of 65 per cent in comparison to previous years. The rainfall deficit in North India has been estimated to be 62 per cent during the last two days. The farmers and agricultural labourers in Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand have been badly affected by the deficit in rainfall. The Kharif crops in these states have been affected the most.

Besides, the crops of farmers in Haryana are insured at district and block levels under the crop insurance schemes. Those farmers who pay insurance premium on a per acre basis and those who have taken loans from cooperative banks are granted compensation for loss of crops. Under this scheme, not all crops but only a few major crops are insured. The average loss of crops is assessed on the block level instead of village level to determine the amount of compensation. The farmers want the compensation to be determined on the village level/unit because quite often merely 5 to 7 villages in a district at the State level suffer loss of crops due to hailstorm and farmers are not able to get fair compensation. Hence, I request that crop insurance should be done at village level/unit so that farmers of all the villages are able to get fair compensation on per acre basis. A committee for agricultural labourers should also be constituted so that these labourers are also compensated when the farmers, whose lands are tilled by these labourers, suffer losses. Not just the major crops but all the crops should be included under the insurance scheme.

The Union Government should provide loans at cheap rates and subsidies on seeds, fertilizers and agricultural implements, power for irrigation at low rates, and pipes and motors at cheap rates for tubewells to the State Governments to enable the States to deal with drought and flood situations. The Government should provide water pumps for irrigation. Dams and ponds should be constructed to collect rain water. All the rivers, deep nullahs and canals should be desilted before start of rains to prevent floods and special arrangement of dinghies and boat should be made for this purpose. Tree plantation should be done on a large scale on Government and private lands to prevent soil erosion.

Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh are states where the number of farmers with small landholdings is rising. Most of the farmers have merely 2-3 acres to 5-7 acres

of land and they have neither ploughs nor tractors for ploughing their fields. They have to spend a lot of money to till one acre of land and have to face unforeseen risk of loss of crop from sowing stage to ferrying it to the market. Haryana is the second highest producer of rice and wheat after Punjab and it is making the highest contribution to the national income. The farmer spends nearly 20,000 rupees per acre in the whole process of ploughing, irrigating, sowing, weeding, fertilizing, watering, spraying pesticides, harvesting, threshing and finally ferrying the crop to house and market without loss. The same farmer receives merely 2500 to 4000 rupees under the insurance scheme as compensation for losses suffered due to natural disasters. A farmer who has not got any insurance receives no compensation. The Government does not have any scheme to provide compensation to agricultural labourers who work on lands of farmers and also suffer as a consequence of natural disasters.

Quite often, it so happens that one area gets rainfall and another area quite close by does not get any rain. In such a situation, the small farmer's request for compensation goes unheeded. The farmers lack the means to buy high quality seeds, modern agricultural equipment, expensive fertilizers. Therefore, the productivity suffers at national and international levels. Crop insurance for each individual farmer needs to be provided by the States. This insurance should be done not at the unit level but at individual level even if a farmer owns merely one acre of land. The State Governments should follow the example set by the Haryana Government which does not arrest any farmer for defaulting on loan repayment when any natural disaster has struck that area. The farmers should be given adequate time to repay loans. The Haryana Government's initiatives of loan waiver for farmers, providing of kisan credit cares, loans at cheap rates and timely subsidy are commendable steps. Provision of royalty in lieu of land acquisition for 33 years is an important step. Provision of electricity and water at low rates and announcement of a flat rate for irrigation are steps that are extremely beneficial for the farmers. Tractor loan to farmers on registry of one acre of land has proved to be very effective. Haryana Government should be allotted more power from the central pool.\*

\*DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion under 'Rule 193' on

\*English translation of the speech originally laid on the Table in Manipuri.

situation arising out of drought and floods in various parts of the country as raised by Hon'ble Members Shri Rajiv Ranjan and Shri Mahabal Mishra.

It is a well-known fact that today many states are facing a drought like situation whereas few states are reeling under floods. In both the situations crops are ruined, resulting in shortage of foodgrain in the country.

Sir, we are facing this problem because of our over-dependence on monsoon. We need to study the monsoon more seriously. Superficial understanding of monsoon will not help us. A profound knowledge of monsoon is indispensable in order to save our economy particularly our agricultural economy. Whether the monsoon is arriving early or late, whether it brings less or more rain, we need to learn more about it, so that we can plan our crops and decide the crops accordingly. We have to see whether crop rotation is helpful. It is a serious matter for Research and Development.

We also need to understand the El Nino phenomenon in the Pacific Ocean so as to have in depth knowledge of monsoon. Sir, I therefore urge upon the Government to analyse the monsoon behaviour more systematically and scientifically.

Sir, inter-linking of our big rivers can be a solution to our chronic problem of flood and drought. In China, they have linked two big rivers and they are immensely benefited from it. In India we also need to go ahead in this direction and link our big rivers. We have started inter-linking small rivers and now Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are going to get the benefits.

Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Hon'ble Minister that in Israel, sea water is used for farming and agricultural purposes. We have to examine whether this technology is cost effective and can be applied in our country. A thorough study may be conducted at the earliest. We may also seek the co-operation of the Israel Government in this regard.

Fortunately, in the last few days we have received some rain. Yesterday, just after passing the Finance Bill there was heavy down-pour. Perhaps it was waiting for the Finance Bill to pass. Listening to Shri Jaswant Singh's story of whisky bottle and Hon'ble Finance Ministers abstinence from pipe smoking the Rain God is showering rain to us. It seems if the Budget and Finance Bill were passed early this year the monsoon could have arrived bit earlier. Confusion is all around including the

rain as this session is a mixture of Budget and Monsoon session. Now, the spell of drought is almost over and it is time to talk about flood.

Sir, keeping in view the drought situation we must give importance to water conservation and rain water harvesting. Sir, the significance of rain water harvesting can't be ignored. For this we have to deepen our rivers, lakes, tanks etc. to retain more water. Cleaning and dredging of lakes, rivers, canals and pools is must for this. For instance, the Loktak Lake, the fresh water lake of Manipur, is shallowing and shrinking — a well chalked out programme is necessary to save this lake.

Since our agriculture is dependent on monsoon, states are facing a lot of problems. In the Northeast, Assam is now on the brink of flood after experiencing a drought like situation. In Manipur we are passing through a dry spell. This season the amount of rain received in Manipur is very less. Almost all the paddy fields in Manipur are still dry. Existing irrigation facilities are inadequate. Farmers are really worried. Recent showers are not enough. It only cleans the roads.

Sir, Manipur Government had declared drought in the state, in the month of June. With some reluctance now the Agriculture Minister acknowledges that there is a drought like situation in the 11 districts of Manipur. Sir, I would like to clarify that Manipur has only 9 districts. I request the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister that the drought relief package asked by the Government of Manipur should be given in time. During NDA regime, Manipur asked for drought relief - the relief package reached Manipur when it was devastated by flood. Sir, my point is that there should not be any delay in extending assistance whether is drought or flood. It happens quite often in my state, Manipur, that under a drought situation people grow crops with great difficulty but these crops are again destroyed by flood which came late. Hence Sir, I request the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister to provide drought relief to my state at the earliest.

Finally Sir, I would like to urge upon the Union Government for adequate and timely assistance to the drought affected areas as well as to the flood affected parts in the country.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri R.K. Singh Patel, I would like to say one thing. Your behaviour is unbecoming. It cannot be tolerated. I am giving you a warning. You can speak

now, but please do not behave like this. Please conclude your speech within three minutes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am a farmer and I have ploughed my fields with a tractor yesterday. Drought it not a Government made calamity but a natural calamity. This calamity comes often irrespective of the party in power. Not only the northern India but the entire country is drought affected. The Government should formulate an action plan to deal with the drought. We can construct a corridor from the southern part of the country to northern India for gas pipeline and diesel pipeline. We can construct all the corridors. But can we not make arrangements for irrigation of the fields of the farmers who are the backbone of the country? Our country is surrounded by ocean and sea on three sides. A scheme may be formulated for taking sea water to various parts of the country through a pipeline in a large corridor for irrigation. I demand that a corridor may be provided for using sea water for irrigating the fields of the farmers.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the Government is talking about interlinking the rivers. If there is rainfall only then there will be water in the rivers. Now the glaciers are melting and the water is going to sea from our rivers. That water can be utilized for irrigation by constructing a corridor for carrying water to the fields. Today the farmers are in trouble because they do not get back the cost of their crops. I demand that there should be proportionate increase in the price of their produce. On one hand an industrialist manufacturers small things and big thing like aeroplanes and the price of these things have increased by 25 times of the price thereof fifteen years ago but there has been only three times increase in the price of the farmer's produces over the same period. The Government should think about the increase in the price of farmer's produces in proportion to the increase in the price of industrial goods. A factory manufactured item cost one rupee fifteen years ago but now it costs Rs. 20 to 30. The price of wheat was Rs. 250-300 per quintal fifteen years ago but now the Government has fixed the price of wheat Rs. 1080 per quintal. The price of factory goods has increased from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50. Earlier the bicycle cost Rs. 400 but now its price has increased to Rs. 3200 and the price of cement has increased from Rs. 30 to Rs. 250. But you talk about the rise in the prices of rice and pulses. But you do not

think that the prices of the goods produced in the factories have increased by 20 times whereas the price of farm produces has increased only by 3 times. Therefore, I demand that there should be proportionate increase or decrease in the factory goods and farmer's produces only then the farmer can be prosperous. I demand from the Government, through you, that the farmers can progress only if this gap is bridged.

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY (Barmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Lok Sabha constituency, which I represent, has been affected by drought and famine for the last 50 to 60 years. Everyone in this country knows the importance of water. 60 per cent area of Rajasthan is desert. The area of my Parliamentary constituency Barmer is 58,000 square kilometers. I am giving this figure just to show what is the population density of my constituency. We earn our livelihood from agriculture and cattle breeding. The House can imagine as to how agriculture is possible without water. I would like to tell about cattle breeding in our constituency. The population of Barmer district was 6,77,000 in the year 1961 which increased to 19,38,000 in the year 2001. The number of cattle was 6,34,000.

Unfortunately the number of cattle was only 3.5 lakh. What has happened with us? Cattle breeding was the main source of our livelihood. We did not rear the cattle rather the cattle reared us. Earlier we used to take our cattle to Haryana, Punjab and Malwa in Madhya Pradesh for grazing. This has not been possible for a long time. Try to understand our suffering. We have no source of ground water. We use mostly 'Taka' for drinking water. 'Taka' is a pucca pond in which about 30,000 litre water is stored and we use that water for drinking, other purposes and cattle for the whole year. Not only one year but we use that water for the second year and third year as there is no rainfall for many years in our state. Khejari is a tree in our state. We worship that tree. We use the leaves of that tree as cattle feed and we eat the fruits of that tree ourselves. We use the bark of that tree as fuel and make a plough with the wood of the tree. You can understand the importance of the tree from the fact that when a king ordered to cut down a Khejari tree 250 years ago, 363 people sacrificed their lives to save the tree. That tree has great importance in our state and the whole country should follow it.

Sir, whatever foodgrains are produced in our State, we keep that in an airtight Kadhai and preserve that with neem leaves and ash by using an indigenous method and use the foodgrains for 10 years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY: Sir, we use fodder for 10 years. I request that the management of famine relief by Rajasthan Government headed by Ashok Gehlot should be implemented as a model scheme all over the country. In today's times famine code has become so outdated and it is quite impractical today. Goat used to be the favourite animal of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation. Unfortunately that also is not included under famine. Goat and sheep are not included under that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please conclude. This topic is important but your time is over now.

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY: Sir, this is my first chance in life. I am concluding. Only two animals have been included in the category of big and small animals under CRF but the parameter of the same should be increased. There is a certain parameter for small and marginal farmers. There is a huge land holding running into thousands of acres of land in our area but not agriculture takes place on that and no yield is produced, so this parameter should also be changed. For crop insurance the parameter has been fixed at Tehsil level. In my Barmer district the area of Shiv Tehsil measures is 15 thousand square kilometers. One part of this Tehsil receives rain while in the other. ...(*Interruptions*). Instead of Tehsil being the unit for crop insurance Patwar or the circle should be the unit because in our area Tehsils are spread over very large area. The water pits being revived under NREGA is the best water harvesting system available in our area. I would like to urge that APL people should also be covered under this scheme. In view of the existing situation Rajasthan should be declared as a backward state.

\*SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Today, most of the states in the country are reeling under drought. 40 per cent area of the country has got irrigation facility. Many states have sought special economic packages from the Union Government in order to deal with the drought situation. The Government has constituted committees to deal with drought. The recommendations made by the committees or the State Governments are not implemented by the Government. I would like to give an example. In the year 2007-08 the Government of Madhya Pradesh demanded Rs. 1883 crore from the Union Government to deal with drought

but it got only Rs. 42 crore. Similarly in the year 2006-07 Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Governments demanded Rs. 228.23 crore and Rs. 1439.81 crore respectively but the amounts sanctioned were Rs. 76.27 crore and Rs. 78.96 crore only. National Calamity Fund (NCCF) and High Level Committee (HCL) have been constituted for this but we do not have any actual vision to deal with this.

We have failed to implement Water management, irrigation management and River Linking projects. Today somewhere the country is facing drought and somewhere else it is floods. The reason behind this is the failure of the management policy of the Government. We will see that a total proposed outlay of Rs. 382 crore in 2006-07 and Rs. 529 crore in 2007-08 was fixed for Jharkhand whereas for Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan the proposed outlay was more than Rs. 1000 crores.

Today, four districts of Jharkhand namely Palamu, Godhva, Latehaar and Chatra have been declared on drought affected whereas most of the district of Jharkhand like Bokaro, Giridih and Dhanbad are suffering from drought. Although the State Government is bound to give correct information regarding drought situation because it affects the entire budget of the state, but how can we ignore the truth just to save our face from such situation?

Today, we may make tall claims that the Congress's hand is with the poor but when the NDA Government came into power Kissan Credit Card Scheme (KCC) was launched for the farmers in the year 1998-99. The UPA Government issued 84.7 lakh Kissan Credit Cards with a limit of Rs. 88,264 crore during the year 2007-08. This limit came down to Rs. 26,828 crore in the year 2008-09 and 47.26 lakh KCC's were issued with this limit. Why don't we issue KCC to every farmer of the country and provide employment for 365 days in a year. We must control inflation and help the farmers get appropriate support price for their crops. But when the farmers crop is ready for harvesting, the Government agencies do not come forward to buy their produce.

The market is in the grip of blackmarketers and traders. Recently thousands of tonnes of adulterated pulses were recovered which is very dangerous from the health point of view. Even after 62 years of independence we have failed to achieve more than 2 percent agricultural growth rate.

River linking project was launched by hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji during the NDA regime but no positive results have been achieved by the UPA Government so far in this direction.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

According to the Report of the Committee on Financial Inclusion, 2008 more than 73 per cent farmers do not have access to formal sources of loan. Agricultural sector is facing a lot of problems. The general public is reeling under huge inflation. Till 31.3.07 fourteen irrigation projects receiving foreign exchange were going on in 14 states, but Jharkhand was kept out of that project.

Therefore, the Government should shun its objective of getting cheap publicity and try to understand the pain of poor persons, workers and the common man. The Government should make better arrangements for water, preparations for agriculture should be made keeping in view the drought situation and the Union as well as State Government should make their system active and functional for implementing the Smart Subsidy Scheme.

An Extensive Action Plan will have to be prepared for prevention from the ill effects of environments. The Government machinery will have to be made effective in order to really implement water conservation programmes and pending irrigation projects. The Government will have to develop its own machinery as a challenge to achieve the agricultural growth rate and accountability should also be fixed for failure of the same. A time bound programme will have to be prepared to check the flood and drought situation. Only then we will be able to help the farmers, poor people and countrymen who have been away from the light of development.

*[English]*

\*SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dhubri): Sir, thank you very much for providing me the opportunity to express my views and concerns on the issues of flood and drought which have become one and the same with my state of Assam.

I hope the august House will agree that linking our economy's prospects on pouring of rains/mercy of Almighty is the biggest weakness in public policy so far.

Is it not a pity that every year Indians pray for rain and then for shelter when there is some excess rain?

Are we destined to doom? It seems everything is so pre-destined! It seems that we have virtually stopped believing that there are solutions! Coming back to my state of Assam, I wish to reiterate that flood is a recurrent phenomenon while drought is also not uncommon to us.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

The year 2009 is not an exception. Assam has witnessed floods affecting lakhs of people at the same time Government of Assam has extended its July 15 announcement of drought from 14 districts to all districts of Assam in its July 22 announcement.

It is reported that so far in 2009 drought has affected 18 lakh hectares of cropped land affecting 22 lakh cultivators.

Flood in Assam occurs in an irregular cycle and the frequency of occurrence of flood increased over the decades since 1950's earthquake. Floods of severe intensity occurred in 1954, 1962, 1966, 1972, 1977, 1984, 2002, 2004 and 2007 though the floods of less magnitude occurs every year including the current year.

The extent of food problem in Brahmaputra valley is much greater than any other flood prone valleys in India. Analysis of flood damage figures for Assam since 1953 reveals that annually an average of 4.75 lakh hectares of the State gets affected by floods whereas in 2007 nearly 15.04 lakh hectares was under flood disaster.

The most damaging impact of the flood in Assam is the erosion of land. On an average 2500 hectares of land is being eroded by the river every year. Since 1954, as per most conservative Government estimates 3.86 lakhs hectares *i.e.* 7% of the total area of Assam has been eroded. 2534 villages have been eroded affecting 90700 families.

The irony is that relief and rehabilitation for such a huge loss of national properties do not fall in any of the current national relief and rehabilitation policies. I wish Hon'ble Members of the House will agree that a disaster preparedness plan essentially contain measures to be taken before, during and after disaster strikes. But it seems that there is little preparedness before and after disaster, there are only forced announcements during the disaster. I would also like to draw the attention of the House to the most recent incident of flood in Assam which has happened not as a result of excess rain but as a result of breaching of embankment due to corruption in construction of embankment.

On 1st July 2009, in Lakhimpur district of Assam, a 100-metre stretch of the first ever Hi-Tech "geo-fabric" and "geo-tubes" embankment, constructed by a Malaysian company 'Emaskira' at a cost of Rs. 142 crore could not withstand the first flood and was breached. Over 300 villages have been affected so far, displacing or affecting about 2.50 lakh population. (UNI News).

The breach has also put in danger the northern part of Majuli, the heritage island in the middle of the Brahmaputra.

I wish to further bring to the Notice of the House that the Government of Assam in its report to the 13th Finance Commission has mentioned that:

- So far only short term measures have been implemented and that too partially.
- Medium and long term measures remain unimplemented for last 54 years.
- Out of the total length of embankment of 4500 kms in the state 4176 kms (95%) embankment length is almost 40 years old and they have completely outlived their strength and normal life. Breaches of these embankments are a regular feature even in a low intensity flood.

This is perhaps the prime reason of the breach of 290 embankments in last three years repaired for Rs. 33.47 crores.

Coming about drought, I wish to inform the august House that:

- Currently, out of 35 lakh hectares of agricultural land 18 lakh hectares are severely affected by the drought impacting the lives of 22 lakh of cultivators,
- The irony is that out of drought affected areas less than 10% have irrigation facilities. Thus Government subsidy in terms seeds and diesel will reach to only 10% of the affected people leaving aside 90% of the people at the mercy of Almighty!

I may please be permitted to quote the comments of the Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, Government of Assam regarding the state of affairs in Assam.

"I personally know the situation. This draught is unprecedented. Mere continuation for another 10%15 days will left no hope for rich cultivators of the state. But directly I can help none. It is the department like Agriculture and the Deputy Commissioners who only can produce the proposals in this regard on which my department will have to care about.

It is due to bureaucratic diplomacy in the department of Disaster Management for which no money could be released from the CRF fund till today."

I hope Hon'ble Minister is misquoted. But if this reported statement of Hon'ble Minister is true than it can be treated more dangerous disaster than flood and drought.

Through you I wish to draw the attention of the Government the immediate indirect impact of flood and drought in Assam. The price of essential food item has been increased by manifold. Illegal hoarding of food stock has been reported to be taking place. I wish the Government of India to take note of such incidences and initiate steps to curb such illegal activities which put people in greater hardships. Considering the gravity and recurrent occurrences of floods in Assam, my party AUDF demands:

- \* Declaration of Flood in Assam as National Disaster.
- \* Immediate declaration of a special package for the flood and drought hit people of Assam.
- \* All the flood and draught hit families should be provided one year ration eligible for BPL families as there is no possibility of recropping due to non-availability of irrigation facilities and also due to the elapse of crops growing season.
- \* All the drought and flood hit families should be provided interest free advance loan as they will be not in a position to cultivate in next season.
- \* Constitute a Joint Parliamentary Committee to prove the recent breach of Matmora embankment as so called experts and high officials have cleared the project and there is no benefit of a high level departmental enquiry as have been ordered by the Government of Assam.
- \* Review the basis on which flood in Assam has not been considered as National Calamity despite repeated appeals and assurance of Hon'ble Prime Minister.
- \* To initiate talks with neighbouring states of Assam whose release of water from dams has also been identified as flood in even without rain.
- \* Establish a strategy and platform that could help change the common perceptions and management approach to drought.

At the end I wish to express my dilemma over increased spree of spending on calamity control. I wonder should we stop spending on calamity control measures



as 10% increase in spending in calamity control results in 20% increase in calamity damages especially in Assam. If we repair 10 embankments we see breach of 20 embankments in Assam. This is really a matter worth further research.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (Alathur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this very important and serious discussion about drought and flood situation in our country.

Sir, in our country we have diversity not only in culture and language but also in different climatic conditions. That is why we are discussing about drought and flood situation together in this House. I am not going to speak about the drought situation in detail here because many hon. Members have already spoken about it in this House.

Sir, I come from the State of Kerala, one of the severely affected States in our country due to floods. A total loss of Rs. 648.32 crore is estimated in the flood. I am not going to explain the details of that loss. The loss is there in the health sector, in the electricity sector. About 101 persons have died in these floods from 15th to 25th of this month. Around 1,115 persons have been injured.

But I am happy to inform the House that this time the NCCF and CRF have included the landslides in the list of national calamities. In my State, around 35 incidents of landslides have happened. Hon. Minister of State for Home, Shri Mullapally Ramachandran, was there at that time. He visited a lot of places there.

Sir, I would like to raise one issue relating to the norms and criteria for allocating the relief fund. Sir, under the CRF and NCCF very little is allocated to various sectors. I would like to give some examples in relations to agricultural sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only make the points and do not give examples. We have no time.

SHRI P.K. BIJU: Sir, I am going to conclude.

In the case of crop loss, only a sum of Rs. 2,000 per hectare is being given and in the case of plantation loss, only a sum of Rs. 4000 per hectare is being given. It is a very less amount. It is very difficult for a farmer to survive in such a situation. I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture that it should be increased. In the case of fishermen, only a sum of Rs. 2,500 is being

given for repairing the boats and nets. It is an insufficient amount. A sum of Rs. 7,500 is being provided to buy a new fishing boat which costs around Rs. 45,000 to Rs. 65,000. With this much amount you get the things which are immediately required from a stationery shop and not good shipping boats or nets.

Sir, one more thing is missing in the NCCF and CRF list, it is death due to lightening and thunder. It is not included in the list. I would request the hon. Minister to include that also in this list. I would also humbly request the hon. Minister to change the norms of allocating funds for relief and the assistance should be increased not only on the basis of the calamity but it should be modified State-wise and given to the actually affected persons in a proper manner.

Sir, I also lay a part of my speech on the Table of the House.

\*Sir, the diversity is in our country not only in culture and language but also the climate that is why we would discuss the drought situation and flood situation together in this House. I am not going to discuss much about in drought situation because Hon. Members already spoken in detail in this regard. I am coming from Kerala, one of the severely flood affected state in the country 648.32 crores rupees loss were estimated in Kerala from 15th July to 25th July due to the heavily down pouring followed by landslide and other mode of natural calamities. I am happy with the inclusion of landslide in the revision of item and norms of Assistance from the Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency fund. Sir, in this flood 101 people death and 1115 were seriously injured in Kerala. In my constituency, Nelyampathi Panchayat one of the tourist place in Kerala was isolated from the nearest town due to the landslide. In our state 916 houses were totally damaged and 16381 were partially damaged. Bridges and roads also affected in this flood 8186.7 lakhs rupees lost were estimated only in bridges and roads.

Loss in the agricultural sector and animal husbandry was 281 crore rupees and 4.61 crore rupees respectively. Drinking water supply, electricity and health section also affected. I am not explaining everything in the House because our Hon'ble Minister of State of Home Mr. Mullappally Ramachandra also visited there. Sir, I am raising the issue related with the compensation from CRF and NCCF in the affected persons. I hope Government

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\*...\*This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

should take this in a serious manner. The revised amount of relief fund in CRF and NCCF are not adequate and the norms not at all helping the victims. In the revised items and norms in 32/34/2007NPM-1 dated 27th June, 2007 was not adequate. I quote one example in Agriculture Relief Fund (1) for agriculture crops, horticulture crops and plantation crops Rs. 2000 per hectare and Rs. 4000 per hectare and perennial crops Rs. 6000 per hectare which is not sufficient and not to help poor farmers in the country. It should be increased substantially. Small and marginal farmers get only Rs. 2000 and Rs. 2500. And also fishermen get only Rs. 2500 for the repair and replacement of boats, nets and damaged or lost Rs. 2500 and Rs. 7500. How can one purchase a boat from this amount? The market value of boat is 35 to 45 lakhs rupees and market value of net is Rs. 50,000 to 75,000. Sir fully damaged houses due to the flood get only Rs. 25000/- and partially damaged houses get only Rs. 15000/-. What is this? And CRF and NCCF have not covered many of the areas. The death due to lightning and thunder not included in the CRF and NCCF items and norms. This should also be included. Our nation having 77,000 kms. Coastal areas out of which 1/7 are in my state. So the number of affected person is much higher as compared to other states. Thousands of fishermen living in coastal areas. In this flood number of fishermen who were out in the sea were reported missing. Their properties, dwelling houses, country boats fishing boats and nets were lost. But Sir, these thousands of victims are not in the purview of CRF and NCCF. People living in hilly area or in plateau or in coastal area the difference in calamity Relief Fund should be avoided and given assistance uniformly to these poor people. The present CRF and NCCF items and norms must be changed. Introducing and incorporating new norms and items to support all the victims and the amount should be increased substantially. With these words, I conclude my speech.\*

\*DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar): Sir, Orissa is a land of flood, drought and cyclone. This year there is heavy flood in the State. According to the Constitution, the Central Government should pay proper attention in allotting sufficient grants to protect the life of poor people. In the last flood Bihar was allotted more than 1000 crores, but 100 crores is allotted to our State despite of heavy flood. This year also the same flood is repeated and most of the fertile lands are totally packed with heavy water and the same time continuous raining also damage the livelihood of common people. Presently,

my parliamentary constituency Jayadev constituency is totally damaged with heavy flood. The poor farmers are looking to the heaven because of the drought conditions also they need sufficient nourishment. It happen every year because of the irrigation the lands are fruitful bearing the high paddy and vegetation and that is totally drowned beneath the water because of the breakage of the embankments and also the same flood affected nearby paddy fields around the city Bhubaneswar, capital of Orissa.

May I draw the special attention of the Central Government that Chilka is the biggest lake of Asia quite adjacent to the lake, the paddy fields are always drowned with salty water. Under Khurda block, the Naraingarh; Soraigarh; Harpada; paddy fields are always drowned the poor farmers having no alternative to maintain their livelihood goes without earning. There must be a permanent solution in allotting sufficient money from the Centre to protect from Shradhapur to Naraingarh via Harpada immediate strong embankments should be constructed and protected under Tangi Block of Khurda, my assembly segment is always suffering with refugees from Bangladesh from those days sheltered and recognized as a local citizen suffering always with water and without water. There are about thousands acres of lands, full of flood water. They do not go for either vegetation nor for any types of crops. Fishermen those who are depending on Chilka, their family members are starving and always submitting their grievances before the Government from Bhushundupur, Balipatpur, Sunderpur upto Tangi is totally damaged with flood water and also salty Chilka water. Thousands and thousands baren acre should be protected allocating sufficient grants by the Central Government so that no more flood water would be affected in rainy season, and in other season also the lands should be properly utilized in summer and other season the drought is creating havoc and the people are also debarred of getting water and there are thousands to thousands acres of land is packed with sands after the flood is over. To save this, Government should have concentrate a great stone wall not to enter the Chilka water and more embankment should have been constructed. Presently during my tenure there in the State as a Member of Legislative Assembly whatever the allotment be made by the State Government is totally damaged and merged in sand Chilka. Therefore, I request the Central Government for immediate allocation through the proper utilization by enforcing State Government to execute the works properly and immediately. It is not the case of today, it happen since

\*Speech was laid on the Table.

the Independence, and I pray more money to be allotted to Bolgarah and Begunia Assembly Segment always suffering because of drought. I draw the attention of the Central Govt. to depute one central team for immediate survey and submit the report to the Government.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion and given a detailed picture of the drought and the overall situation of the agricultural front in a particular way in their respective areas.

I would like to apprise the hon. Members of this august House the status of the South-West Monsoon because there was a lot of discussion about the monsoon. Firstly, the South-West Monsoon 2009 set over Kerala on 23rd of May 2009, a week earlier than the normal date. That covered part of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and North-Eastern States by the first week of June.

But the progress of the monsoon slowed down thereafter causing a delay between one week and three weeks. It was in Telangana, Maharashtra, east Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Bihar and East Uttar Pradesh. The deficiency of the rainfall in this country, which was minus 39 per cent as on 10th of June, increased to minus 54 per cent on 24th of June, 2009. Most of the States in North East and West Region, and some States in North East Region received scanty rain as on 24th of June. The situation is changing and the changes will be for better. The situation improved after 24th of June in the Central India, Southern Peninsula, and North Eastern States. The rainfall situation in the country as a whole improved from minus 54 per cent on 24th of June, 2009 to minus 46 per cent on 1st of July, 2009. During July, the Southern Peninsula, Central India, Gangetic West Bengal and some North Eastern States continued to get rainfall, and the situation has further improved to minus 36 as on 8th of July, 2009 and further to minus 27 on 15th of July. As on 22nd of July, the rainfall in the country as a whole is minus 19. So we have practically come from minus 65 to minus 19.

One of the important issues was raised by some hon. Members regarding the reservoirs position. It is true that in the initial stage, the reservoirs position was quite serious. The live capacity in the major 81 reservoirs declined from 12 per cent on 4th of June, 2009 to 9

per cent in the week ending 2nd July, 2009. But, it has improved thereafter to 23 per cent as on 23rd of July, 2009. Some States have taken the initiative. They have assessed the situation; they have collected the information from District Collectors and others; and they have taken decision for declaration of draught.

Some of the hon. Members have suggested here as to why the Government of India should not take decision to announce drought in a particular State. In fact, this is a practice and responsibility of the State Government to assess the situation in every block in the State and come to a conclusion. If they feel that the situation is such that they should declare drought, they do declare. And, along with the declaration they give instructions to the State machineries particularly to the District machinery and the block-level machinery. The States of Manipur, Jharkhand, Assam and Uttar Pradesh have so declared drought or drought-like situation. In Manipur, all the nine districts of Manipur have been declared as drought-affected. In Jharkhand, the Government of Jharkhand has declared drought in four districts. In Assam, drought has been declared in all the 27 districts. In Uttar Pradesh, in 47 districts, they have declared drought situation.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): In Bihar?

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: They have not yet declared. They have communicated us to send a team.

*[Translation]*

At the same time they have made some demands, but they have not made any announcement so far. I will come to that also. None of states, apart from these four states, has decided to declare itself as a drought affected state. But they have given some suggestions to the Government of India.

*[English]*

I tried to collect information from the various States as to what is the State-wise sowing status of the kharif crop.

*[Translation]*

We should not forget that our Kharif crops production is quite high. It will be in Rabi crop also. Apart from it, wherever financial position is sound, the farmers go for

summer crop also. If all the three crops fail, then only the situation turns serious. Now we are paying attention to Kharif crop. I am making this statement on the basis of information received from State Agriculture Ministers and Agriculture Commissioners.

*[English]*

Andhra Pradesh State has reported total kharif crop to the tune of 13.34 lakh hectares sowing compared to the figure of 13.34 lakh hectares last year. Practically the figures are the same. That indicates the normal progress in respect of sowing in the State.

As far as Bihar is concerned, the normal kharif crop in Bihar is 38 lakh hectares; in the current kharif season, sowing has been completed in 11.89 lakh hectares as compared to 23.95 lakh hectares on the same day last year. It shows that the major shortfall is mainly in respect of rice, it is 11.26 lakh hectares less area when compared to last year.

As far as Chhattisgarh is concerned, 26.18 lakh hectares area has been sown this year as compared to 32.5 lakh hectares last year. Here also, there is slightly a less area of coverage, that is, minus 5.46 lakh hectares, it is again in respect of rice.

Gujarat State has reported the area coverage of 70.28 lakh hectares as compared to the figure of 63.55 lakh hectares.

*[Translation]*

Situation is good there.

*[English]*

Haryana State has reported the area coverage of 22.28 lakh hectares as compared to last year's figure of 24.89 lakh hectares. That means,

*[Translation]*

It means it is 2 lakh 60 thousand less than third years.

*[English]*

As far as Himachal Pradesh is concerned, the sowing of the kharif crop of Himachal Pradesh is 3.77 lakh hectares as compared to last year's figure of 3.93 lakh hectares.

*[Translation]*

It is only a difference of 15-20 thousand.

*[English]*

As far as Jharkhand is concerned, the total kharif area is 19 lakh hectares; so far 4.23 lakh hectares area has been planted as compared to the figure of the same day last year of 10 lakh hectares.

*[Translation]*

It means, by this date paddy plantation has been less by 6 lakh hectare.

*[English]*

Karnataka State has reported 43.28 lakh hectares area of sowing of kharif compared to the figure of the last year of 28.26 lakh hectares. The sowing area has gone up from 28 lakh hectares to 43 lakh hectares.

*[Translation]*

It is better there and also there was good rainfall.

*[English]*

Kerala and Puducherry States have reported normal area coverage during the current kharif season.

Maharashtra State has reported area coverage 99.42 lakh hectares as compared to the figure of 83.69 lakh hectares last year.

*[Translation]*

Here also more area has been covered.

*[English]*

As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, normal sowing has been reported in respect of all crops in Madhya Pradesh. This year, area coverage in respect of all crops is 91 lakh hectares as compared to the figure of 86.86 lakh hectares last year.

The total kharif area of Madhya Pradesh is 1.2 lakh hectare. Higher area coverage is reported in rice, Tur, Arhar, Urad, Mung and Soyabean. It is expected that the entire area would be planted without any need of Contingency Plan. So far, 89 per cent area of the kharif crop has been sown.

About Orissa, sowing of all crops is progressing well in Orissa. The sowing has been completed in about 38 lakh hectare which is comparable at last year's area coverage of 33.83 lakh hectare. There is a gap of 3.87 lakh hectare as compared to last year.

About Punjab, the total crop sowing in Punjab is 33.78 lakh hectare this year as compared to last year's area coverage of 34.88 lakh hectare, which is almost normal.

About Rajasthan, the State has reported kharif area coverage as 90.15 lakh hectare compared to last year's area coverage of 108 lakh hectare. So, there is a gap of about 18 lakh hectare. Bajra sowing is behind this year in Rajasthan. A little less area is also reported under the pulses. The total kharif area in the State is 139 lakh hectare. So far, as on yesterday, 64 per cent area of kharif crop has already been sown.

About Uttar Pradesh, the total area coverage under kharif in Uttar Pradesh is about 92 lakh hectare. The sowing of kharif crop has been completed in 49 lakh hectare. As compared to last year on the same day, it was 80 lakh hectare. So, there is a substantial drop in Uttar Pradesh. The area coverage in all other crops is lower than last year except Bajra, about which higher area is reported in the State of Uttar Pradesh. About rice, the area coverage is 29.80 lakh hectare this year as compared to last year's area coverage of 55.25 lakh hectare. Here, there is a substantial drop.

About Uttarakhand, the kharif area in Uttarakhand is 5.6 lakh hectare and sowing has been completed in 4.62 lakh hectare. If you compare it last year, last year on the same day, it was 2.86 lakh hectare, which is practically double this year.

About West Bengal, in the current season, the total area coverage is 16.4 lakh hectare as compared to last year's area coverage of 30.66 lakh hectare. Here also, there is a drop of about 50 per cent.

About Tamil Nadu, the total area coverage in Tamil Nadu is 4.77 lakh hectare, which is very well compared to last year's area coverage of 4.17 lakh hectare. So, higher area coverage is reported in Tamil Nadu as compared to last year.

About the North-Eastern States, in Assam, the total area sown is 9.22 lakh hectare as compared to last year's total area coverage of 10.1 lakh hectare, which shows normal sowing in Assam.

Now, let me give the figures about the other States, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. In the State of Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya, sowing is reported as normal. However, in the States of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland, the Government has been reported lower area coverage under kharif crop.

As regards the overall impact, the main kharif is paddy. In kharif, mainly we take Dhan. So, about paddy, last year, it was 216.49 lakh hectare; and on the same date, this year it is 155.67 lakh hectare. That means, there is a decrease of 60.82 lakh hectare this year.

*[Translation]*

60 lakh hectare paddy crop. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): 60 lakh hectares is too much. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Chairman, 60 lakh hectare is less. So far, present one is the most serious situation. So far as sowing of jawar is concerned, it has been sown in one lakh and 10 thousand hectares more than that of last year. Last year, Bajra was sown in 56 lakh hectare in comparison to last year's 52 lakh hectare. Maize has been sown in 55 lakh hectare in comparison to last year's 53 lakh hectare. Total coarse cereals have been sown in 136 lakh hectare against last year's 139 lakh hectare. Cotton has been sown in 82 lakh hectare against last year's 72 lakh hectare. Sugar cane has been sown in 42.50 lakh hectare against last year's 43.79 lakh hectare. This year, the said coverage is less by 1 lakh 29 thousand hectare. So far as jute is concerned, during current year, it has been sown on 6.89 lakh hectare against last year's 7.6 lakh hectare i.e. 0.71 lakh hectare less. On seeing the present status of crops sown, as on date, it is clear that the coverage of paddy has been adversely affected. We will have to see as to how to overcome it.

Sir, it was discussed in the house as to what will be the foodgrains scenario this year? Even on prior occasions, I have said that this year we have been in a position to make record procurement, if we compare with past years. Upto yesterday, 252 lakh tonne wheat has been procured. It is maximum since independence. It is for the first time. I would thank our farmers on this account. The contribution of farmers of Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Bihar, Gujarat and M.P. has been more in this. So far as our requirement is concerned, in our godowns we have adequate stock for next 13 months.

So far as rice is concerned, I would like to say that the quantum of procurement we have made till yesterday, has never been so much before. Current year's procurement has been 319 lakh tonne. Taking this into account, we have enough stock of rice for the next 13 months. Therefore, we are not worried at all so far as rice and wheat is concerned. Our overall performance has been very good. But, this year paddy has been sown in 60 lakh hectare less area. It may have some impact. Secondly, paddy crop in states like say Punjab and Bihar, where there has been shortage of water, is likely to give less production. There will be area-wise impact. But the average per acre production is likely to decline this year. On seeing current scenario we can say so.

Sir, so far as Monsoon is concerned, the IMD has predicted that the rainfall in the month of July will be 83 per cent, with 9 per cent plus/minus variation. So far as rainfall in August is concerned, IMD has predicted that rainfall in the month of August will be 101 per cent better than the average rainfall in August. In it there can be swing of four per cent either side. We have been given this kind of estimate.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Hon'ble Minister, Sir, the Monsoon has no meaning for the farmers whose crops have been damaged for want of irrigation. If the sown crops have dried up, now rainfall will be of no use. People will die of starvation, irrespective of the fact that the Government's godowns are full. People are on the verge of starvation. *...(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: If our stock position is good, it will be definitely helpful to overcome the problem to some extent. But I wanted to say that as per the advisory received from IMD the rainfall is likely to be good in the month of August. *...(Interruptions)*.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Last time they predicted shortfall, but it failed. So don't depend on them.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Their one prediction failed, but three predictions proved to be correct. It is true that their one prediction failed. *...(Interruptions)*.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Whatever they predict, it always proves to be otherwise. It will be good if August has good rainfall. Rabi crops will be good, though Kharif crops failed. *...(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is not that it was damaged totally. Therefore, the figures I gave just now. *...(Interruptions)*.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the speech of the hon. Minister I will allow clarificatory questions. Please don't interfere now.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The figures which I have presented before you and the country. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ask it later, Please take your seat. I will allow you after this.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Both the districts to the east and west of Gorakhpur have been declared as drought affected but Gorakhpur, Maharajganj and Kushinagar districts have not been included in it. I would like to urge the hon. Minister. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will be given time. The hon. Minister is on his legs. Please, take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are delaying a chance for yourself to ask a clarificatory question.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: please do not interfere now.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: At the very outset, as I have said before the House that the right and responsibility to declare drought affected areas rests with the State Government After viewing the local situation, the State Government decides which Block or District is to be declared as drought affected. As far as the information received from the Uttar Pradesh Government is concerned, there is no mention of your district in that

list. You may be right but this decision has been conveyed to us by the Uttar Pradesh Government after taking stock of the situation there. I would definitely write to the Uttar Pradesh Government that a complaint regarding Gorakhpur district has been received by us through a Member. You should pay attention to it. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You must mention his name in that communication. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Some steps were needed to be taken in this regard. We had made contingency plan for every state. We have had a meeting with the State Governments on 25th June after formulating a contingency plan where they were suggested as to how to implement the contingency plan and 15 quintal seeds were made available to them through public sector to take alternative crop in case the situation further deteriorates requiring sowing of seeds again. The State Governments were informed about the quantum of spare seeds kept by us after making normal seeds distribution to them. But, some of the States were facing the problem of funding so each of them was provided fund through the National Agriculture Development Scheme. The plan was made flexible so that if a state needed more seeds then it could take it through the funds provided to it and the National Seed Corporation and other organizations can also provide seeds to it. The states were informed about this and, therefore, the problem did not arise. It is true that a Member from Uttar Pradesh has made a complaint to the Central Government about the seeds.

His complaint was that the demand of Uttar Pradesh was not met. *...(Interruptions)* It is true. It was made by Dara Singhji. He said that the Central Government did not meet the demand of Uttar Pradesh Government I want to make one thing clear that whenever such a problem is faced anywhere in the country, we never consider as to which party is ruling there. The Government of India takes full responsibility of the farmers of the country and every part of the country. I want to say before the House that it is my experience of last 5-6 years that whenever problems were faced by the States having Government other than the UPA Government then, I myself had spoken to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard and he had always advised us to do our best keeping in view the whole country and not taking into consideration as to which party is ruling the affected state. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): This is happening constantly since last year. Madhya Pradesh has not got even a single paisa. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The demand was not proper. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas): The State could not spend even what was allocated to it. *...(Interruptions)*  
*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. You can have your chance after he finished his speech.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Uttar Pradesh was being mentioned here. I had gone through the whole correspondence with Uttar Pradesh. It was not as if the Uttar Pradesh Government had less seeds.

*[English]*

In fact, Government of India took stock of the seed position of the *Kharif-2009 vis-a-vis* all the States. Let me tell you the overall seed availability indicated by Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh indicated the overall availability of 9,42,146 quintal of seeds against their requirement of 8,45,100 quintal of seeds. That means Uttar Pradesh was having 97,046 quintal surplus seeds with them.

They have also communicated the crop-wise position. There was a marginal shortfall in maize and *jowar* of 651 quintals and 435 quintals respectively. The shortfall in *till* was of 201 quintals.

In fact, we have requested the State Government that they should give their demand. They have not indicated their demand. In fact, this particular subject was discussed with them, but at that time, they had not placed any demand to the National Seed Corporation of India.

*[Translation]*

Later on, they wrote a letter to us. It is true. In the letter, they had asked for truthful seeds. Seeds are of two types. One is certified seeds about which there is a certification that it is genuine or proper seed. The truthful seeds is one where some traders or persons making seeds do not take certificate but mention the seed as truthful. But, the Government of India does not encourage it and many State Government also do not encourage it. Uttar Pradesh Government had requested us to allow it to purchase truthful seed. We were not in

favour of that. We asked them to purchase certified seeds. That is why they complained that the Government of India is not cooperating. *...(Interruptions)* I do not want to make any allegation against anyone. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli): They had asked for one more thing. We demand electricity from the Central Government He may kindly tell about it. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMKISHUN: *...(Interruptions)* But you have stated that they have not made any demand, please clarify this in your reply.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. Nothing will go on record other than what the Minister is speaking.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: All that you are speaking is not going on record. Why are you wasting your time? Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister is on his legs. Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Uttar Pradesh Government demanded truthful seeds. We were not in favour of truthful seeds. But as Uttar Pradesh Government demanded it, so we allowed them to procure truthful seeds if they wanted. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, this will not be allowed.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are going on talking like this without the consent of the Chair.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am saying this to hon. Members on both sides of the House.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not talk like this.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do not you keep quiet?

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I want to assure the farmers as well as the Government of Uttar Pradesh, through this House that we will provide assistance to fulfill their all the legitimate demands though I do not see favourable conditions in Uttar Pradesh. Infact, earlier when this issue was raised in the House, I had said that I had received no suggestion from Uttar Pradesh till then. I expected someone to write.

*[English]*

In fact, I made this particular statement on 24th of this month, and on the same day I had written to the hon. Chief Minister

*[Translation]*

that several members of our Parliament had described the situation in Uttar Pradesh in this House. So is we needed to do something, a report is this regard should be sent. But I have not received any acknowledgement till now.



[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Even the acknowledgement of the same has not come to him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: But I noticed one thing that after my statement the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh a press conference and said

[English]

"He is terming the statement by Sharad Pawar as a blatant lie." ...*(Interruptions)* It is the Chief Secretary who is saying that : "It is a blatant lie, namely, the statement made by the Union Agriculture Minister on the floor of the House." ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It is very shameful. It is a privilege issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: He has also said that: "The Centre was dillydallying in considering the demand of the State for allowing import of the truthful seed in ..." In fact, the Chief Secretary has said that we were dillydallying, and that we have not allowed them to import truthful seed. I cannot understand that when the certified seed is available in the country ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: You should move a Privilege Motion against him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Sir, it is a privilege issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I do not want to go to that level. But I would just like to bring to the notice of the august House that there was no problem from our side not only for Uttar Pradesh, but for any Government. Still, we will cooperate and we will help because we know the situation in Uttar Pradesh, which is a serious situation and we had to pay more attention about this.

[Translation]

Here a question has been raised that under the existing system it takes much time in providing assistance for drought. I would like to say one thing in the House that the State Government, which have announced drought in their states, have not submitted any memorandum to us. There has been a system of

submitting memorandum in which details are to be provided as to which districts and blocks are to be visited by the team what is to be observed by them. The State Government always submit a memorandum in this regard. I have got a memorandum in my hand.

[English]

It is a memorandum, which has been sent by the Government of Karnataka. This is a Drought Memorandum presented to the Government of India seeking Central Assistance for the drought-relief measures in Karnataka. They have prepared a detailed memorandum, and they have sent it to us. This is the practice, and all the State Governments are also sending it.

19.00 hrs.

[Translation]

The remaining States, which have announced drought in their States, have not submitted any memorandum. But I would like to assure that the day memorandum is received, we will constitute a team and send the team to study every district and after receiving the report of the said team a final decision will be taken in due process and we will provide assistance wherever it is needed.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Minister, a memorandum has been sent from Bihar Government but you have not referred to that. You are discussing only Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Till today, as I said, I have not received a single memorandum from any State. However, I have received a letter from the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar.

[Translation]

The Chief Minister of Bihar has referred to two or three things in his letter. The first thing is that Bihar Government has provided Rs. 15 per litre subsidy on diesel. The Government has spent 29 to 30 crore rupees in this regard till now and this amount is likely to increase upto 230 crore rupees. He has said that the Union Government should provide help in this regard. The

second thing referred to by him is about the need for assistance in regard to drinking water. Thus he has referred to two or three items.

[*English*]

This is not a regular memorandum.

[*Translation*]

He has also written that a team should be sent. After receiving details from him, as I have said earlier, I will send a team to Bihar and after receiving the report of the team the required steps will be taken at the earliest. But for the time being funds out of CRF have been provided to each of the States so as to enable them to deal with the present situation. The first instalment has been provided. There were four states which have not submitted the utilization certificate for the funds provided to them last year. There is a practice that next instalment is not provided till the accounts for the last instalment is submitted. But keeping in view the present situation of these states, Finance Ministry has allocated funds even for those States which did not get the next instalment.

[*English*]

for want of some detailed information which they have not submitted.

[*Translation*]

Those States will collect the information later and the funds have been provided for them at present. Rs. 81 crore for Assam, Rs. 62 crore for Bihar, Rs. 2.34 crore for Manipur, Rs. 124.77 crore for Uttar Pradesh, total Rs. 221 crore have been allocated as first instalment today. If those states have shortage of funds for dealing with the present situation, they can use this fund and they have the right to submit proposals for financial assistance from NCCF. It will be taken care of. So far as the issue of diseases is concerned, we have amended it a little. If there is any demand from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and any other States, the Union Government will help the State Governments in their efforts to protect the crops. It has been decided that the Union Government will pay 50 per cent of the subsidy of Rs. 15 per litre on diesel provided by the State Government. Approx Rs. 1000

crore will be needed for these four or five states in this regard and the Union Government takes the responsibility to pay this amount. The State Governments will be assisted in their efforts to protect the crops.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Diesel is O.K., but we must find a way to provide subsidy on power as well.

[*English*]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Regarding power, as I have already said in the House, 100-megawatt additional power from the Central Grid has been allotted to Punjab and Haryana. When I got a request letter from the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar the day before yesterday.

[*Translation*]

He has also demanded power in this letter. Alongwith this, demand for power has been received from Uttar Pradesh also. I have forwarded the demand of these two states to the Ministry of Power. Hon. Minister for Power Shri Shinde ji is also trying to find some way out in this. They are considering reduction of power supply to some states also. We will support supply of power to both these states in order to meet their demand.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You have made arrangements for Punjab and Haryana but have not done anything about Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: A request from Punjab and Haryana was received ten days ago, that has been met. The request from these two states has been received three days earlier, we will be ready to support them also.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: What about those states whose power has been cut already? 350-megawatt power of Madhya Pradesh has been cut. ...(*Interruptions*). I have records with me that Madhya Pradesh has not received a single penny from XICCF from the year 2006-07 till date.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: A suggestion was given by Rajiv Ranjan ji that we need to give more money for water management in the country, this is true. We will have to pay more attention towards that, but a statement was made generally that there is a lot of water in the country, this is not true.

[English]

4.2 per cent of the world's water is available in India; 2.3 per cent of world's land is available in India; and 17 per cent world's population is available in India. So, with the limited resources of 4.2 per cent of world's water and 2.3 per cent of world's land, we have to protect the interests of 17 per cent of the world's population. It is not that simple. That is why, I entirely agree that we have to give more attention for water conservation programme. In fact, the Government of India has recently taken some of the programmes. Now, take the case of NREGA. This year, the provision for NREGA has been Rs. 39,100 crore. In fact, under NREGA, weightage has been given to water conservation programme, watershed development programme, small, minor, irrigation tanks and percolation tanks. One can definitely take up these types of works under NREGA and substantial budgetary provision has been made here. There are a number of other aspects also, if we have to conserve and preserve water very carefully. That is the reason that a number of schemes has been introduced by the Government of India like the AIBP, irrigation projects etc. The thinking behind the AIBP is that we are not in a position to support each and every project of every State.

[Translation]

But the projects can be completed soon with a little help and water can be available over there for agriculture. It has been provided under AIBP to help in such projects and a provision for Rs. 9,700 crore has been made per the same in this year's budget. The State Government also pay their attention towards this.

[English]

In fact, irrigation works are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments, whether it is minor irrigation, whether it is medium irrigation and whether it is major irrigation. I think, the time has come when the State Government should pay more attention for the water conservation programme. It is not only the water conservation programme and the construction of dams, but even how to use the water. In fact, I do not want to say something about my own area. But once upon a time, I was representing a constituency where the average rainfall is eight inches. This is drought-prone area.

In that particular area, there are more than 18 sugar mills; substantial area is under sugarcane; substantial area is under grapes and a number of other horticultural crops. That was because we succeeded in preserving each and every drop of water and providing that water to the crops through drip irrigation systems.

[Translation]

I am personally involved in agriculture. All my crops depend upon drip irrigation system. The benefit of this system is that in flow water system, the same quantum of flow-water required for perennial crop per acre can irrigate three acres of crop in the drip system. We can save much by drip system. The State Government, Union Government and we all will have to pay attention towards all such things. It is absolutely true that if we do not pay attention towards water management then we will have to face difficulties in meeting the increasing demand of food for the increasing population. In our country we see that our land is being used for non-agricultural purposes. We are looking at urbanization and number of other issues in the country. In such a situation, if we increase irrigation facilities then only agriculture can be improved and will be able to solve the problem of food. Therefore, I would like to request all State Government to pay maximum attention in the field of water-management. The Union Government will support this completely. In NREGA there are particularly such schemes that if the State Governments implement them and pay little more attention to them and use their maximum provisions for water conservation, then I feel that we will definitely get some relief from this problem.

A number of Members here have mentioned that they have been discussing droughts for the last 50 years, this is not a good situation. If we want to change this situation then we will have to leave behind our political differences and come together as one and pay maximum attention towards this issue.

Hon. Gopinath Munde has said that there is a need to call a meeting of Chief Ministers. I have mentioned in the beginning also that it is not appropriate to take a decision on drought in a hurry. We will watch the entire situation till August and then if need arises we can call a meeting of hon. Chief Ministers and the Minister of Agriculture. We are definitely willing to pay attention towards this.

He also told that it takes 3 to 4 months for the NREGA money to reach the states. I have sought infor-

mation on that, but the situation is not so. Actually in some states the NREGA money for last year is still pending which has not lapsed. We cannot ignore that yesterday only the Finance Bill has been passed here and today it may get approved in Rajya Sabha also. There is a need for the State Governments to release more funds. We will try to release the same as early as possible so that such complaints are not received again.

The third suggestion they gave was that when the drought situation comes up the State Governments have to take a lot of measures. One of the measures include suspension of recovery of various loans disbursed amongst farmers, and if possible provide some relief in interest as well. These measures are taken by the State Governments but the banks will also have to take some steps for this. When the entire situation will come before the country then we will pay attention towards the steps required to be taken in accordance with the suggestions given by the State Governments. But there is still time in that and once the month of August is over there will not be problem in this regard.

Sir, on global warming an hon. Member has said that there is need to pay more attention to it. The Government has paid attention to it. A committee has been constituted under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister which includes experts and representatives from several ministries and sub-committees too have been constituted. As far as the Ministry of Agriculture is concerned we have Indian Council for Agriculture Research, which is the most important institution in the field of research where more than six thousand scientists are working. These scientists are told that some states of the country may have to pay a heavy cost of the impact of the global warming and our total research should change keeping it in view. As per our scientists assessment Punjab, Haryana, Western U.P., some parts of Bihar and Himalayas will have the maximum impact of global warming in India. All these areas are the granaries of India and as per reports by the experts this will have an impact on the crop of wheat. That is why, the approach of research has been changed to develop new variety of wheat. We are developing such a variety, which will have resistance capacity to face the bad impact of global warming. Our scientists are busy in developing such a resistant variety of wheat. I feel happy to inform the House that our scientists have been successful in developing 8 to 9 such varieties. Research will be conducted further for 2-3 years and then our crops will not be affected by global warming. The steps needed to be taken through other departments of the Government of

India to deal with the bad impact of global warming are being taken. Attention is being paid to it by opening a special section under Prime Minister's office. We do not want to ignore this issue and I am sure that we will be successful in solving this problem.

As far as drought situation is concerned, I have said in the beginning that there is much improvement in today's situation over the situation one month before. We will receive weekly information of each state and pay attention to it. We will focus on providing assistance to the State Government and farmers and whatever will be needed to take the farmers and citizen of the country out of this crisis, we will do that keenly and with all our might through the Government of India, through the UPA Government. This is the assurance I want to give to the House.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS *LALAN* SINGH (Munger): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I seek two clarifications from the hon. Minister. Hon. Minister has discussed in detail in the House the preparations made by him to deal with the drought and he has also proposed to give 50% contribution to the subsidy on diesel as declared by the Government of Bihar for which I am grateful to him. I want to know two things. We had given a suggestion to the hon. Minister and he has accepted it that water management is very essential for the future action-plan and better irrigation facilities can be provided through it. I had given a suggestion earlier. Today, the departments of road, telephone and energy are known as the infrastructural departments and remain in focus.

Why the Government does not want to concentrate on irrigation as basic infrastructure so that there could be focus on it? The second clarification sought by me is regarding the letter written by the Government of Bihar to you about electricity and you have assured that you would talk to Energy Minister for additional allotment of electricity. I want to draw your attention to the fact that out of the 1500 MW allotted to Bihar from Central Grid, only 900-950 MW is allowed to be drawn by it. In view of the situation of Bihar, I also urge you to coordinate with the Department of Energy and allow Bihar to draw whole of its allotment. This is the only request to you.

*[English]*

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (Jhalawar): Sir, I come from the State of Rajasthan. Out of 33 districts of Rajasthan, has the Government of Rajasthan declared any district as drought-prone? Has the Government of India received any memorandum from the Government of Rajasthan?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to say to the hon. Minister that all the hon. Members have put forth their views, suggestions and demands here in the House. As Yogi Adityanath ji has told, districts in Uttar Pradesh are being declared as drought affected keeping the political interior in view while there is severe drought in the whole of Purvanchal and particularly in Bundelkhand. Even in the report of the Samra Committee of Planning Commission, Purvanchal and Bundelkhand have been mentioned as the most backward areas in Uttar Pradesh. Rainfall has also been less there. A central team should be sent there to conduct a study and a special package should be provided there to complete all the works related to drought-relief *e.g.*, land revenue should be exempted and fodder should be made available to all the birds and animals. Just now Mulayam Singh ji had raised the matter that Etawah has been ignored while nearby districts have been included. My district in Kaushambi Pratapgarh has been left out while nearby districts have been included. Will the hon. Minister pay special attention to include such districts?

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask, through you, as to why hon. Minister has not given any information about the production and loss of crops in Jammu and Kashmir. He has not even talked of the drought situation there and has not informed about the arrangements made to deal with the situation. I would like to ask you the reason for these missions. As far as my knowledge of Jammu and Kashmir goes, maize is the main crop of the region and paddy is planted in a small area. The sowing season of maize is over. The maize crop, soon after last week's rain, is not going to give any yield. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what assistance he proposes to give to those poor farmers? How does he propose to solve their problems. Is he likely to offer them individual crop insurance at this stage?

*[English]*

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): My question is related to the relief that is being provided to the farmers when crops are destroyed. When there is more than 50 per cent crop loss relief is provided through Calamity Relief Fund. It is being distributed according to the recommendation of the Finance Commission. You are providing CRF per hectare.

It is around Rs. 4,000 per hectare for areas under assured irrigation and Rs. 2,000 per hectare for non-irrigated areas. Shri Biju, our hon. colleague, has already raised this question in this House. Of course, he mentioned about Kerala only, but it needs a holistic approach for the whole country.

So, I would like to submit through you, to the hon. Minister that this amount is too meagre. I would like to know whether the Government is considering enhancing the assistance that is being provided to CRF or not.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam): Sir, the hon. Minister, while speaking about Andhra Pradesh, has said that it could be called normal according to this year's reports when compared to last year. I would like to know the source of such a report from the hon. Minister because the fact is that even drinking water is not available in Telangana district. An investigation team should be despatched immediately to find out the facts because it may be cover-up as the Congress Government is there in the State and the UPA Government is here at the centre. I demand that a team may immediately be sent to enquire into the matter. My district Khammam does not have drinking water. I would like to request the hon. Minister, through you, to send a team from there.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, I would like to appreciate the efforts made by the hon. Minister. Wheat and paddy in some region of Bihar were harvested eight months earlier but it is still lying with the farmers. The FCI has not procured their wheat and paddy despite being reminded repeatedly. On the one hand, it is said that a food crisis is looming upon us and on the other hand, the farmers have no money. I would like to know whether the Government intends to procure wheat and paddy of these farmers at the earliest.

Sir, I had pointed out earlier also that the farmers are facing a lot of problems because of the rampant corruption in FCI. The Government should immediately procure the foodgrains and fill up the godowns. The income of farmers needs to be augmented. I want to have a categorical reply as to what the Government proposes to do in this regard?

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, as there was a devastating cyclone -Aila- in the State of West Bengal in the coastal area, whatever fund which was

available under the NCCF, was utilized for rehabilitation and reconstruction work in the Aila affected area. Almost 80 per cent of the area in the State of West Bengal is affected because of drought and because of delayed monsoon.

So, may I know from the hon. Minister as the fund available with the State Government has been exhausted, whether the Central Government will consider providing funds under the NCCF to West Bengal to tackle the problem of drought?

*[Translation]*

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dhubri): Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that it is a good thing that we have enough foodgrains to last for 13 months. However, reports on T.V. and newspapers say that let alone the poor even the middle class is not able to buy anything because of the steep rise in prices of all commodities. Will the Government do anything to check inflation? The fear of shortage of foodgrains is being spread amongst the populace of the country. This is a matter of serious concern for the common man.

My second question is very important. The Minister has said that he has provided 80 crore rupees to Assam from the CRF in which is commendable. But I have the report of the Government of Assam with me

*[English]*

It is due to the bureaucratic diplomacy in the Department of Disaster Management for which no money could be released from the CRF till today.

*[Translation]*

I would like to know if the hon. Minister would enquire into this matter. I want this information from the hon. Minister.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Take your seat now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: I would like to ask the Minister whether the Government proposes to waive the loans of farmers who took loans for the present crops which have been destroyed?

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have been given enough time. Please put the question.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the hon. Member has said there is no political agenda behind the districts that have been declared drought affected in Uttar Pradesh. The guidelines of the Government have been followed in identifying the said districts. I would like to bring to the hon. Minister's notice the fact, that all the hon. Members participated fully in this discussion. Uttar Pradesh is a large state. The Agriculture Minister of the state government has sought an appointment with the Union Agriculture Minister. Hence, I would like to ask the hon. Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Aaron Rashid, please take your seat. Please do not interrupt now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: He is a sensitive person and has been a farmer too. Hence, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, regarding Uttar Pradesh, which is worst-affected by drought, what he intends to do about the shortage of power in drought-affected areas. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dara Singh Chauhan, please conclude now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Would the hon. Minister contact the Power Ministry and persuade it to make the additional allotment of power, as demanded by the State, for development and to provide relief to the farmers?

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ganesh Rao Dudhgaonkar, in one minute put only one question.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR (Parbhani): Hon. Minister, Sir, out of the 60-40 expenditure booked under NREGA ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken the time of the House. Why do you disturb the House? Shri Ganesh Rao, please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR: The expenditure booking ratio under NREGA is 60-40 and hon. Minister will have to give relaxation under the same, then only it will help in drought. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you cannot ask questions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Sir, our Speakers ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no package in the House to allow this much of questions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: I would like to say that Jharkhand is under President's rule at present and the state is hit by drought. I would like to urge the hon. Minister to urge hon. Governor to declare Jharkhand as drought affected state.

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE (Beed): Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that the benefit of half of the subsidy of Rs. 15 on diesel to be borne by the Union Government will be available to Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana only or to all the drought affected states of the country. He has not made it clear. Will Maharashtra also receive the same relief?

Second thing I would like to know is that whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any memorandum? If a memorandum has been sent then how much relief has been sought in that?

Thirdly, I would like to say that rains in the month of August may be helpful in some states but the same may not be of any help in some states. What is the problem in implementing the drought relief scheme in such states? How long will the Government wait for this. If rains do not come by 15 August then will the Prime Minister call a meeting of all the States?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahesh Joshi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more questions will be allowed. Shri Mahesh Joshi, please come to the question straight.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI (Jaipur): Sir, Rajasthan has been the worst affected by drought. I am only asking a question but will have to tell the background for that. 60 per cent area in Rajasthan is desert area. There has been a situation of famine there for most of these 60 years. The BJP Government remained in power over there for five years but it did not generate a single megawatt of power. The groundwater there is continuously going down. That state is becoming dark zone. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want to put a question to the hon. Minister, please do it. Otherwise, take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: I would like to ask hon. Minister as to whether he intends to give any special financial assistance or special package to the farmers of Rajasthan ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)...\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please take your seat. You are not allowed. I allowed to you put a question on the Discussion under Rule 193.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: My question is whether the hon. Minister is going to provide any special assistance for the drought hit Rajasthan.

[*English*]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask a very important question pertaining to agriculturists and particularly about cardamom growers. There is an existing package of Rs. 1,711 crore which has been given by the Commission headed by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, but so far it has not been implemented.

Then, I thank the Government for reducing the rate of interest from 7 per cent to 6 per cent to those farmers who are prompt in paying back their loans. The Nationalised Banks are extending this benefit to farmers, but the Scheduled Banks, other than Nationalised Banks, are not giving this benefit to farmers. So, will the Government consider issuing suitable instructions to Scheduled Banks also to reduce the rate of interest to farmers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the hon. Minister may briefly respond to the queries.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has communicated, as I said, firstly 20 districts, namely Mainpuri, Kanpur, Bareilly, Farukhabad, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Rae Bareilly etc.

[*Translation*]

The criteria fixed for including any district in this was area which had less than 40 per cent rains and less than 75 per cent sowing. In the second criteria districts with less than 40 per cent rains and less than 50 per cent sowing were included. Banda, Mathura, Allahabad, Auraiya, Kanpur city, Varanasi, Jalaun districts were selected under this criteria. I have got such reports. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*)... \*

\*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more question now. Please don't interrupt.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, this is the basic right of the State Government. Definitely I can write to the State Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

This is not under my authority, this comes under the authority of State Government. One particular thing has been stated here about some districts that there is drought situation in Gorakhpur and other nearby districts but it is not the same in these districts. I will write to them to bring this to their notice. Their decision will be final in this regard.

Choudhary Lal Singhji has asked about Jammu-Kashmir. As far as the sowing and transplantation of paddy in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, this year it has been done in 2 lakh 2 thousand hectares whereas last year it was done in 3 lakh 39 thousand hectares. As far as maize is concerned, it has been sown in 24 thousand hectares of land whereas last year it was sown in 1 lakh 60 thousand hectares. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shailendra Kumarji, please don't interrupt.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Shri Aaron Rashid mentioned about Prof. Swaminathan Commission's Report. We are discussing about drought situation here and Prof. Swaminathan Commission's Report is about some other areas. That is altogether a different subject. I do not think we should discuss about it here now.

[*Translation*]

Shri Lalu Prasad has asked a question that procurement of paddy is not taking place in Bihar even today. We had received this complaint and we have given the instructions. In today's situation, it would be better to procure as much paddy as possible as there is shortage of it. We will send a team there this week itself for this purpose. Another complaint is that paddy is to be procured from the rice mills. We will see to it that the money reaches the farmers and our stock is improved. We will provide assistance in this regard and we have issued instructions to this effect.



*[English]*

Shri Mahtab asked about the norms pertaining to release of money under CRF. About two years back a decision was taken to review these norms, but it looks like that there is scope to look into the matter again. In fact, we are meeting immediately after this Session. So we will see as how to make improvements in CRF norms.

*[Translation]*

Munde ji has spoken about diesel subsidy whereby the Government has taken the responsibility of saving the crop in its hands. The Government of Bihar has informed that it provides diesel subsidy to save the crop in the districts having low rainfall and shortage of water. Similar information has been received from Punjab and Haryana. All those States which are providing subsidy, we will provide assistance to all of them. Dudhgaonkar ji said that the ratio of 60:40 in NREGA should change but this point is not before us today. Though we have a demand before us to extend the 100 days programme in NREGA by 50 days in the drought affected areas and such a decision will definitely be taken there. As far as Badruddin Ajmal ji spoke about the prices of foodgrains, it is true that there will be a discussion on it tomorrow. I am happy that Basu Deb Acharia ji will express his views before the House. He has made a good demand for giving C2+50% price to the farmers but ultimately it also increases the price of foodgrains. I think we are trying to follow the path as demanded by him. Tomorrow, he should not complain that the foodgrain prices are increasing.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You should provide subsidy to them.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: From where we should give subsidy? How can we give subsidy everywhere and to everyone? It is very simple. *...(Interruptions)* Patel ji has said that prices of all other things go up, that is why higher price should be paid to the farmers for their produce. A lot of debate takes place here on this subject. I want to say it clearly that the farmers will have to be given better prices if the food security problem of the country is to be solved but at the same time the fellow citizens will have to accept that. *...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please. Take your seats.

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

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I am not on my legs here to fix the prices. This will ultimately be decided by the CACB. A complaint was made that reports from Andhra Pradesh may not be true but it is not so. The Andhra Pradesh Government has no intention to hide anything. It has informed about the situation there and we have no doubts about it. Regarding CRF, Ajmal ji has said one more thing that the loan of the farmers, who have taken loan this year, should be waived. We will see how we can we help in this regard after the State Government takes steps. It was said here that irrigation projects should be infrastructure crtesis. But, the investor benefits from the infrastructure crtesis. The cold chains have been given the status of infrastructure in this budget which they did not have earlier. The Government has been told that this will attract more investment in the field of cold chain. As far as irrigation projects like minor irrigation project, medium project etc. are concerned they do not receive investment from the private sector. Here 100% investment is made by the Government. I, therefore, do not know as to what will be the benefit of infrastructure status. I will speak to you and understand from you and I am read to speak to the Finance Ministry in this regard if it is really beneficial and helps in increasing the area. Dushyant ji has asked

*[English]*

have you received any proposal from the Rajasthan Government; and whether they have announced any DPAP districts? In fact, DPAP districts have already been announced in the entire country. There are some districts, but I may not be able to tell exactly which districts in Rajasthan. But as on today, we have not received any proposal from the Rajasthan Government for sending any observer or any team or anything.

*[Translation]*

Sir, it was said that there are no funds in CRF. Ajmal ji had cited the case of Assam. Assam, Bihar, Manipur and Uttar Pradesh these four States had the

problem of CRF funds. I had told the House that an order has been issued today itself for release of funds to them.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH: The hon. Minister was requested to coordinate regarding electricity for Bihar. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: That has to be sent in writing.

[*English*]

Ultimately, as I said, I have to discuss it with the Power Minister. I will take it up with the Power Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: In our Jharkhand there is a problem. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Why should I seat?. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. You have already raised the issue. Let him reply. Would you not listen to his reply? Listen to the reply, please.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Practically, to most of the points that have been raised here, I think I have tried to reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up matters of urgent public importance. We have only fifteen minutes left and there are 18 matters of urgent public importance. Please take only one minute each. We will be completing this by eight o'clock.

Shri Ashok Argal *ji*, when your name was called, you were absent. Please finish it in one minute.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Bhind): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier the ex-MPs used to pay Rs. 18000 for the CGHS card, now they have to pay Rs. 60,000 to get the card. As a result, many ex-MPs are not able to get the card. I would like the Union Government to consider this issue. Many of the ex-MPs draw a pension of merely Rs. 8000/-. They can barely make the ends meet with this amount. Many of the ex-MPs also want the pension to be raised. I would like a remedy to this problem. It used to be made for 18000 rupees earlier and now it costs 60,000 rupees. An increase of Rs. 2,000 at one go is not justifiable. I would like the Union Government to intervene and get this sum lowered.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Dumariyaganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue and you may concur with my view. The common petitioners, the common people throughout the country are not getting justice. As per the Ministry of Law and Justice 26, 16, 246 cases are pending in high courts in various states. 50, 654 were pending in the Supreme Court as on 1 June 2009. The state-wise number of cases pending in the lower courts in the country are-40 lakh cases in Maharashtra, 24 lakh cases in west Bengal, 14 lakh cases in Bihar, 12 lakh cases in Rajasthan and 11.5 lakh cases in Delhi. Similarly, there are 9,11,858 cases in Uttar Pradesh high court which is the highest number, 4,51,496 cases in Tamil Nadu high court, 3,69,978 cases in Maharashtra and 3,00,473 in West Bengal high court are pending.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand? What is your suggestion to the Government?

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Justice delayed is justice denied.

[*Translation*]

It is difficult to get justice if it is delayed. Many posts of judges in the high courts are lying vacant. These posts should be filled up, new posts be created, fast track courts be constituted. Efforts should be made to dispose of the large number of pending court cases in the country. There can be no issue that is more important.

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Kavar jheel in Bihar is spread over 25000 hectares of

land and birds from Siberia and other parts of the world come here during winter and make it resound with their chirping. The Union Environment and Ministry of Environment and Forests had given a grant of ten crore rupees to convert it into a bird sanctuary. An action plan was prepared for the purpose but was not implemented. Hence, I would like to request the Government, through you, to get the action plan implemented to turn it into a bird sanctuary.

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the railway station, Madiyahu in my constituency. This is on Allahabad-Jaunpur North-Eastern railway-line. Madiyahu railway station is situated near the Tehsil headquarters and Madiyahu is also a trading centre. Hence, it attracts a lot of footfalls. Lack of a reservation centre here forces people to travel 30 km to get a reservation. Hence, I would request the Government to set up a computerized reservation centre at Madiyahu railway station.

CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am raising a very important issue of public interest.

Sir, a 90 crore rupees DPR for drainage and sewerage work in Hajipur Municipal council in Bihar with NGO assistance had been prepared in 2008. The Union Urban Development Ministry had passed it in the year 2009. Hajipur is in a deplorable condition. The city gets waterlogged during the rainy season. Hence, the funds sanctioned by the Union Government may be released soon so that the denizens of the city may be relieved of the problems caused due to water logging.

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an issue of national interest during the zero hour and attract the attention of the House towards the news item published in the Dainik Jagran on 08 July wherein it has been reported that 9000 tonnes of wheat was transported from Punjab to Bihar for storage in FCI godowns. However, the entire consignment of wheat got spoiled in the takes due to the negligence of the officers of F.C.I. The value of the consignment was estimated to be about Rs. 60 lakh. Therefore strict action should be taken against the erring officials. Also, proper arrangements should be made for transportation of wheat by train to prevent loss of national wealth in future. F.C.I. or Railways should arrange for this.

Sir, paddy has not been procured from Bihar due to the indifferent attitude of FCI officials. They gave the excuse of non-availability of jute sacks for not buying paddy directly from farmers and earned kickbacks from middlemen. Hence, I demand that strict action should be taken against the officials who colluded in this scam.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Purvi Champaran): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the slow pace of work on national highway projects in Bihar.

Sir, NHDP phase-I, Golden quadrilateral project was scheduled to be completed in the year 2007, but the bridge on the Son river in Sasaram, Bihar is still incomplete. Under NHDP phase-II east-west corridor is 513 kilometres long in Bihar. Tenders were invited for 15 packages. The first package was scheduled to be completed in the year 2002 and only one package has been opened for traffic till now. Even 25 per cent work has not been completed in the remaining packages. Bihar Government has written against four particular agencies engaged for this project that those agencies should not be allowed to work further as their performance has been negligible.

Sir, hon. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways had visited Patna on 26th June, 2004 and announced widening and four-laning of highways under NHDP phase-III in Patna. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Sir, this is my issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot make a long speech like this. You have raised the issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: The announcement made by him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are reading a statement. You can place it on the Table of the House and that will form part of the record. Otherwise you can speak in one sentence.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Sir, four years have passed since that announcement but it has not been started yet. Even detailed project reports in regard to Patna-Bakhtiyarpur, Motihari-Raxaul and Patna-Gaya-Dobhi have not been finalized till now. Funds are not being provided for 1935 kilometres long stretch of national highway. The Bihar Government is spending 400 crore rupees from its own coffer. I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards it.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. K.S. Rao, your matter has already been raised today while having the discussion under Rule 193.

DR. K.S. RAO (Eluru): Yes, Sir, I know. I would not take much time. I would come to the main points only.

Andhra Pradesh is one of the States, which has been affected by weak monsoon. The main reason is that the sowing season in Andhra Pradesh is from June to August and the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh would get cyclones in November. Andhra Pradesh being the rice bowl of the country, it would be badly affected because of the weak monsoon.

Keeping all these things in view, I would request the Government to provide more funds for Andhra Pradesh through AIBP, about which the hon. Minister has already mentioned in his speech that he has provided Rs. 9,700 crore in the whole country.

Sir, similarly, the price of palmolein has come down from Rs. 6,300 to Rs. 3,800, and all the farming community ran after it and cut down their mango gardens, and are now repenting for going in for palmolein. Therefore, I would request the hon. Agriculture Minister to immediately intervene in the market and take steps to increase the price of palmolein to at least, Rs. 4,800.

My last point is that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has undertaken Jalayagnam activity in a big way, and there are projects, which can be completed immediately. The Pollawaram project is one project, which is linking Godavari and Krishna rivers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has already replied while speaking on the discussion under Rule 193.

DR. K.S. RAO: So, my request is that the Pollawaram project must be treated as a national project.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I have already raised the matter relating to the CRF.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This has also been covered in the reply of the hon. Minister. So, please be very brief.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Yes, Sir. The hon. Minister was kind enough to say that after the Session, the Government is going to consider it. My demand is that the CRF relief amounts that are being provided as assistance at the rate of Rs. 4,000 per hectare for irrigated area and Rs. 2,000 per hectare for non-irrigated land, should be raised as Rs. 10,000 per hectare for irrigated area and Rs. 5,000 per hectare for non-irrigated areas. This is my demand. I think, the Minister present here can communicate this demand to the concerned Minister when it is taken up by the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas): Mr. Chairman Sir, exactly three years ago in Ujjain city of Madhya Pradesh ... (Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just raise the issue. No allegations can be levelled. Only mention the matter and sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Mr. Chairman Sir, it is a very important question relating to teacher-student relationship. A professor murdered by the persons belonging to Vidyarthi pons had three years ago. ... (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to say that the judge of Nagpur Court observed that though he was acquitting the accused persons but he was feeling sad because ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is it that you want to raise? You make your point.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Mr. Chairman Sir, it is a very important issue. Flm. Magistrate pronounced this judgement with heavy heart. St happened so because the prosecution and the police did not present the evidence property.

(Interruptions)...\*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. Mr. Verma, please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. This cannot be raised in the House. Please understand that such things cannot be raised in the House. Take your seat, please.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not allowed. This will not go on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, please take your seat.

Now, Mr. Ganesh Singhji.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, what you are saying is not allowed. This will not go on record. You can take your seat.

(Interruptions)...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Mr. Ganesh Singh speaks.

(Interruptions)...\*

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\*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please take your seat. I have not allowed you. I have only allowed, Mr. Ganesh Singh.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): He is demanding CBI inquiry into the matter. You may consider it...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ganesh Singh, please start speaking. Otherwise, you would lose your chance.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, please take your seat. It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

**20.00 hrs.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please take your seat. I am repeatedly telling you to take your seat. Please take your seat. This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)...\*

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my Lok Sabha constituency, Satna. My Lok Sabha constituency Satna is very important from cement industry, tourism and religious point of view. One third of total cement production in the country is produced in this Lok Sabha constituency. Big industries have been set up there and several other industries are proposed to be set up. Similarly, lakhs of domestic and foreign tourists visit Chitrakoot and Maihar every year. The airport constructed during the world War II is under the control of the State Government. I have continuously demanded that Satna may be air-linked with Delhi, Bhopal and Mumbai. Today I am repeating the demand. There is no dearth of air passengers in this area. The people are travelling to Khajuraho, Jabalpur and Bhopal by air. I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

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\*Not recorded.

KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY (Durg): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much. I through you, would like to draw the attention of the House to the Bhilai Steel Plant which is the biggest public sector undertaking of Chhattisgarh employing 40000 people and a population of about 5 lakh in the surrounding areas depends on it. I would like to urge that the Rao Ghat Project was going at great pace during the NDA regime but it has now been limited to papers only in the UPA regime. It is very much needed today because the iron ore mines of the Bhilai Steel Plant in Chhattisgarh are about to exhaust. The development of the area will come to a standstill if this scheme is not completed in the future. Since this scheme is only on the papers for the last 12 years, I therefore, request that it should be completed on priority.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are many castes in the country, particularly in Jharkhand which are not able to earn their livelihood. The Union Government and the State Governments should periodically review the social status of such castes and they should ponder over it. Sir, some people progress with the help of Government assistance but most of the castes do not get the benefit of Government concessions because regular review of their economic and social status is not made. Today, the people belonging to the Teli, Gop and Maira castes are migrating from Jharkhand. I, therefore, want to urge the Government that regular review of the economic and social status of these castes should be made and the Teli, Gop and Maira castes in Jharkhand should be included in the list of the most backward castes.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kaushalendra Kumar, your name was called this morning. You were not present. Please make your point very quickly.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much. The harbinger of knowledge in the whole world, the Nalanda University was not just a university but an unparalleled centre of education, culture and ideology. From 5 A.D. to 12 A.D., no other university could match this educational centre in the contemporary world.

Sir, 10000 students used to study in that university and there were 1000 teachers. You just imagine how huge and grand it would have been. The Chief Minister of Bihar has taken a decision to revive this university and a lot of work has been done in this direction. The Government of Bihar has even arranged land for this university. I, therefore, through this House urge the Union Government to revive and restart the Nalanda University.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwalji, you are allowed to raise your point. You cannot raise any allegation. You just make the point and sit down.

[*Translation*]

The notice given by you contains allegations.

[*English*]

You just raise the issue and then finish.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Sir, thank you for allowing me to make my submission in the 'Zero Hour'.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hail from the Bikaner parliamentary constituency. An urban cooperative Bank was established there about 30 years ago and people deposited their money with it believing that it has been established under licence from the RBI and financed by the NABARD. They have the cash deposit receipts with them but the bank says that the Bank is under liquidation. The bank is not returning their money. I, therefore, through you, would like to urge the hon. Finance Minister not to leave the Urban Cooperative Bank on its own. The money of the people who have deposited with the Bank in savings bank or fixed deposits should be returned to them. Atleast, this duty can be performed by the Government. I, therefore, through you, would like to say that the people should not be subjected to injustice and the hon. Finance Minister should intervene in the matter. People's money is deposited there and they have receipts of that. The employees of the Bank are also not getting their salary.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you Meghwalji.

I thank all the hon. Members for raising these matters of urgent public importance.

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 29th July, 2009.

**20.05 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, July 29, 2009/Sravana 7, 1931 (Saka).*

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## ANNEXURE I

*Member-wise Index to Starred Questions*

Sl.No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1.	Shri Ahir Hansraj G.	351
2.	Smt. Chakravarty Bijoya	343
3.	Shri Chauhan Sanjay Singh	352
4.	Shri Das Bhakta Charan	350
5.	Shri Dasgupta, Gurudas	342
6.	Shri Gaddigoudar, P.C.	346
7.	Smt. Gandhi Maneka	359
8.	Dr. Jagannath Manda	343
9.	Smt. Jayaprada	347
10.	Dr. Joshi, Mahesh	355
11.	Shri Khaire Chandrakant	342
12.	Shri Kumar, Shailendra	349
13.	Shri Mahato, Narahari	344
14.	Shri Meghwal Arjun	356
15.	Shri Muttemvar Vilas	357
16.	Dr. Naik, Sanjeev Ganesh	354
17.	Shri Pal, Jagdambika	358
18.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	348
19.	Shri Rawat, Ashok Kumar	351
20.	Shri Reddy Magunta Sreenivasulu	350
21.	Shri Reddy, K.J.S.P.	356
22.	Shri Sanjoy Takam	341
23.	Shri Satpathy, Tathagata	345
24.	Shri Shetti Raju	349
25.	Shri Shri, Anto Antony	348
26.	Shri Siddeshwara, G.M.	360
27.	Shri Singh Rajnath	353
28.	Smt. Sule, Supriya	354
29.	Shri Swamy N. Cheluvaraya	346
30.	Shri Vardhan, Harsh	360

*Member-wise Index to Unstarred Questions*

Sl.No.	Member's Name	Question Number
1	2	3
1.	Shri Prabhakar, Ponnamp	3197, 3297, 3380
2.	Shri (Guddu), Premchand	3203
3.	Shri Adhalrao Patil Shivaji	3213, 3239, 3308, 3338
4.	Shri Adsul Anandrao	3239, 3308, 3338, 3359
5.	Shri Agarwal Jai Prakash	3204, 3296, 3332, 3352, 3365
6.	Shri Agarwal, Rajendra	3198, 3275
7.	Shri Ahir Hansraj G.	3263, 3319, 3346, 3361
8.	Shri Ananth Kumar	3243
9.	Shri Anantkumar, Hegde	3370
10.	Shri Argal Ashok	3190, 3274, 3324
11.	Shri Baalu, T.R.	3209
12.	Shri Babar Gajanan D.	3252, 3306, 3311, 3344, 3380
13.	Shri Bairwa Khiladi Lal	3245
14.	Shri Basheer Mohammed E.T.	3183
15.	Shri Bavaliya Kunvarjibhai M.	3257, 3313, 3342
16.	Dr. Beg. Mehboob	3224
17.	Smt. Botcha, Jhanshi Lakshmi	3283
18.	Shri C., Sivasami	3219
19.	Shri Chauhan Sanjay Singh	3317
20.	Shri Chauhan, Prabhatsinh P.	3222, 3297, 3330
21.	Shri Chowdhury, Adhir	3207, 3292
22.	Shri Das Bhakta Charan	3285, 3377

1	2	3
23.	Shri Deo, Kalikesh Narayan Singh	3244
24.	Shri Deora Milind	3280
25.	Shri Dharuva Narayana	3199
26.	Shri Dhotre Sanjay	3192
27.	Shri Dubey Nishikant	3216, 3218, 3293, 3329, 3349
28.	Shri Gaddigoudar, P.C.	3283, 3376
29.	Shri Gadhvi Mukesh Bhairavadanji	3250, 3312, 3340
30.	Shri Gaikwad Eknath Mahadeo	3214, 3242, 3247, 3289, 3309
31.	Smt. Gandhi Maneka	3211
32.	Shri Gopal, L. Raja	3180, 3304
33.	Shri Gowda, D.V. Sadananda	3208
34.	Shri Hussain Syed Shahnawaz	3231
35.	Shri Jaiswal, Gorakh Prasad	3193, 3328
36.	Shri Jena, Mohan	3335
37.	Shri Jigajinagi, Ramesh Chandappa	3202
38.	Dr. Joshi, Murli Manohar	3220, 3373
39.	Shri Kateel, Nalin Kumar	3224
40.	Shri Khaire Chandrakant	3279, 3325, 3353, 3367
41.	Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena	3217
42.	Shri Koda Madhu	3224, 3241
43.	Shri Kumar, Shailendra	3304
44.	Shri Laguri Yashbant N.S.	3246, 3251
45.	Shri Madam Ahir Vikrambhai Arjanbhai	3179, 3266, 3318, 3345, 3360
46.	Shri Maharaj, Satpal	3254
47.	Shri Mahato, Narahari	3184, 3282
48.	Shri Majhi Pradeep	3230, 3298, 3302, 3334, 3355

1	2	3
49.	Shri Majumdar, Prasanta Kumar	3184, 3370
50.	Shri Mishra, Mahabal	3233
51.	Shri Munda Arjun	3206
52.	Shri Muttemvar Vilas	3287
53.	Shri Naik P. Balram	3195, 3271, 3295, 3323
54.	Shri Nama, Nageswara Rao	3221, 3294
55.	Shri Narayanrao Sonawane Pratap	3368
56.	Shri Owaisi Asaduddin	3290, 3371
57.	Shri Pal, Jagdambika	3278
58.	Shri Panda, Jay Baijayant	3295, 3331, 3351, 3364, 3382
59.	Shri Panda, Prabodh	3284
60.	Shri Pandey Ravindra Kumar	3240, 3304, 3306
61.	Dr. Pandey, Vinay Kumar	3283
62.	Dr. Patasani, Prasanna Kumar	3242, 3362
63.	Shri Patel Devji M.	3245
64.	Shri Patel Bal Kumar	3216
65.	Shri Patel, Kishnbhai V.	3230, 3261, 3298, 3302, 3316
66.	Shri Patil Bhaskarrao Bapurao	3214, 3242, 3247, 3289, 3309
67.	Shri Patil Rao Saheb Danve	3192, 3194, 3270
68.	Shri Pradhan Nityananda	3372
69.	Shri Punia, P.L.	3237, 3306, 3339
70.	Shri Raghavendra, B.Y.	3234
71.	Shri Ram Purnamasi	3256, 3304
72.	Dr. Ram Shankar	3251
73.	Shri Ramkishun	3225, 3299, 3364



1	2	3
74.	Shri Rao K.S.	3188, 3212, 3268
75.	Shri Rao, Sambasiva Rayapati	3235, 3305, 3336, 3356
76.	Shri Rathwa Ramsinh	3182, 3277, 3330, 3350
77.	Shri Rawat, Ashok Kumar	3280, 3327, 3348, 3363
78.	Shri Ray, Rudra Madhab	3226, 3280
79.	Shri Reddy Gutha Sukhender	3260
80.	Shri Reddy M Raja Mohan	3357
81.	Shri Reddy Magunta Sreenivasulu	3236, 3377
82.	Shri Reddy, Anantha Venkata Rami	3227
83.	Shri Reddy, K.J.S.P.	3266, 3272, 3301, 3320
84.	Shri Roy Nripendra Nath	3184
85.	Shri S.S. Ramasubbu	3214, 3370
86.	Shri Sahu, Chandu Lal	3200, 3273
87.	Shri Sanjoy Takam	3281
88.	Smt. Saroj, Sushila	3259, 3262, 3315, 3343
89.	Shri Satpathy, Tathagata	3264, 3321, 3347, 3381
90.	Shri Sethi Arjun Charan	3201, 3303, 3335, 3357
91.	Shri Sharma, Jagdish	3223, 3298, 3373
92.	Shri Sharma, Madan Lal	3258, 3314
93.	Shri Shetti Raju	3291
94.	Shri Shukla Balkrishna K.	3224, 3255
95.	Shri Siddeshwara, G.M.	3187, 3265, 3267
96.	Shri Singh Dushyant	3248
97.	Shri Singh Jagadanand	3288
98.	Shri Singh Radha Mohan	3224, 3229, 3301, 3375, 3379

1	2	3
99.	Shri Singh Rajnath	3216, 3286, 3358, 3377
100.	Shri Singh Rakesh	3186
101.	Shri Singh Sushil Kumar	3249, 3310, 3341
102.	Shri Singh Uday	3228, 3370
103.	Shri Singh, Brijbhushan Sharan	3236
104.	Shri Singh, Rajiv Ranjan <i>Alias</i> Lalan Singh	3220, 3223, 3298, 3370
105.	Shri Singh, Umashankar	3210
106.	Shri Siricilla Rajaiah	3181, 3276
107.	Smt. Sule, Supriya	3300, 3333, 3378, 3383
108.	Shri Suresh Kodikkunnil	3189, 3269, 3322, 3354, 3366
109.	Shri Swamy N. Cheluvaraya	3237, 3265, 3326
110.	Shri Thakur Anurag Singh	3205, 3337
111.	Shri Thomas P.T.	3215, 3290
112.	Shri Toppo Joseph	3232
113.	Shri Vasava, Mansukh Bhai D.	3185, 3328
114.	Shri Venugopal K.C.	3191
115.	Shri Verma Sajjan	3253, 3374
116.	Smt. Verma, Usha	3196
117.	Shri Wakchaure, Bhausaheb Rajaram	3222, 3238, 3307, 3337, 3357
118.	Shri Yadav Anjan Kumar M.	3185, 3251
119.	Prof. Yadav Prof. (Dr.) Ranjan Prasad	3369
120.	Shri Yadav, Madhusudan	3369
121.	Shri Yaskhi Madhu Goud	3242, 3247, 3309
122.	Yogi, Aditya Nath	3369

## ANNEXURE II

*Ministry-wise Index to Starred Questions*

<i>Agriculture</i>	:	352, 359, 360
<i>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</i>	:	342, 344, 348, 349, 350
<i>Home Affairs</i>	:	341, 343, 345, 357
<i>Information and Broadcasting</i>	:	351, 354
<i>Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises</i>	:	353, 358
<i>Mines</i>	:	
<i>Development of North Eastern Region</i>	:	
<i>Road Transport and Highways</i>	:	347, 355, 356
<i>Youth Affairs and Sports</i>	:	346

*Ministry-wise Index to Unstarred Questions*

<i>Agriculture</i>	:	3181, 3184, 3189, 3192, 3193, 3194, 3195, 3199, 3205, 3211, 3213, 3215, 3216, 3219, 3220, 3221, 3226, 3227, 3235, 3237, 3240, 3244, 3245, 3256, 3258, 3261, 3262, 3268, 3272, 3273, 3279, 3285, 3298, 3299, 3311, 3312, 3315, 3316, 3318, 3319, 3325, 3326, 3328, 3335, 3337, 3340, 3343, 3349, 3352, 3355, 3358, 3364, 3368, 3370, 3371, 3372, 3376, 3377, 3380
<i>Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution</i>	:	3187, 3188, 3253, 3257, 3271, 3276, 3290, 3291, 3292, 3295, 3296, 3303, 3304, 3306, 3313, 3323, 3324, 3330, 3332, 3341, 3353, 3354, 3360, 3381
<i>Home Affairs</i>	:	3179, 3180, 3185, 3186, 3202, 3204, 3207, 3209, 3210, 3214, 3222, 3228, 3229, 3231, 3233, 3236, 3239, 3242, 3247, 3249, 3250, 3255, 3274, 3280, 3284, 3287, 3300, 3301, 3302, 3308, 3309, 3317, 3322, 3327, 3331, 3333, 3334, 3338, 3347, 3351, 3359, 3369, 3374, 3378, 3379, 3382
<i>Information and Broadcasting</i>	:	3182, 3230, 3232, 3267, 3281, 3283, 3293, 3305, 3314, 3321, 3342, 3345, 3346, 3363, 3367
<i>Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises</i>	:	3196, 3206, 3223, 3265, 3266, 3356, 3366
<i>Mines</i>	:	3200, 3246, 3289, 3307, 3320, 3361, 3383
<i>Development of North Eastern Region</i>	:	3218
<i>Road Transport and Highways</i>	:	3183, 3190, 3197, 3198, 3203, 3208, 3212, 3217, 3224, 3225, 3234, 3238, 3241, 3243, 3251, 3252, 3254, 3263, 3270, 3275, 3276, 3282, 3286, 3288, 3294, 3310, 3336, 3344, 3348, 3350, 3362, 3373, 3375
<i>Youth Affairs and Sports</i>	:	3191, 3201, 3248, 3259, 3260, 3264, 3269, 3297, 3329, 3339, 3357, 3365.

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