

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifteenth Lok Sabha
(Tenth Session)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 14, 2012/Phalgun 24, 1933

(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Question Hour. Q. 21 - Shri Anto Antony.

11.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri O.S. Manian and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MADAM SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is going to make a statement on this point. Please go back to your seats. Let the Question Hour run. The hon. Minister is going to make a statement on this point. Please go back to your seats. Let us run the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

11.02 hrs.

At this stage, Shri O.S. Manian and some other hon. Members went back to their seats

11.02¼ hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No.21, Shri Anto Antony.

[English]

Aakash Tablet

†*21. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

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

(a) whether the Government has launched a scheme to manufacture Aakash tablet in the country for distribution among students;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of students who have already been benefitted under the scheme, State-wise;

(c) the norms laid down for providing this tablet to the students in the country;

(d) whether the Government has already procured a large number of Aakash Tablets from Datawind, a Canadian firm, some of which were found to be defective and could not be rectified;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total cost of the Aakash Tablets procured by the Government and efforts made by the Government to get back the money from Datawind?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):
(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) No, Madam. As of date, no scheme has been launched to manufacture Aakash tablets in the country. However, under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) scheme, a project has been sanctioned to IIT Rajasthan for (i) Acquisition and testing of low cost access cum computing devices and (ii) Hardware and software optimization of low cost access cum computing devices. A Low Cost Access-cum-Computing Device (LCAD) named

Aakash has been launched on 5th October, 2011. A total of 366 LCADs were distributed during the launch ceremony - to students from various institutions located in different States/UTs (not including devices retained at IIT Rajasthan for testing etc.) (on October 5, 2011) to get feedback from across the nation after testing the devices. State-wise distribution of Aakash Tablet for testing is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of Device distributed
1.	Uttar Pradesh	132
2.	Rajasthan	26
3.	Gujarat	20
4.	Madhya Pradesh	86
5.	Punjab	39
6.	Chandigarh	20
7.	Maharashtra	22
8.	Orissa	10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5
10.	Kerala	2
11.	Tripura	4
Total		366

The first phase of 1,00,000 tablets were targeted to the students in Higher technical education institutions so as to further ascertain technical feedback on its operation and usability. Since these LCADs were for the purpose of testing, no norms for distribution of LCADs to students were laid down. The devices are getting tested and hence are not ready for distribution. Once the production capacities are built up, norms for distribution with an aim to prioritise empowerment of students, especially from disadvantaged and marginalised sections of society, through this LCAD would get developed.

(d) to (f) IIT Rajasthan selected M/s Datawind through an open tender and placed an order for supplying 1,00,000 LCADs for the purpose of testing. Of the 6440, LCADs supplied to it, IIT Rajasthan, so far, has conditionally accepted 650 LCADs and rejected rest of the lots as the number of defective LCADs in those lots exceeded the stipulated 5% of devices. These devices were rejected for rectification and return to IIT Rajasthan. M/s Datawind is still to supply 1,00,000 LCADs of higher specifications at the same price. These higher specifications (which include

700 MHz Cortex A8 processor, 3200 mAH Battery and capacitive touch screen) have been necessitated to overcome the initial difficulties observed in the devices.

No payment has yet been made by IIT Rajasthan to the vendor (M/s Datawind), and hence, the question of getting back the money does not arise.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Madam Speaker, I congratulate the UPA Government for introducing the Aakash Tablet, the low cost computer in the world. The Scheme is intended to link 25,000 colleges and 400 Universities in the country in an e-learning programme. What I understand from the statement given by the hon. Minister that only 650 Tablets out of 6,440 have been accepted and rest of them were rejected due to substandard.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it was the mistake from the part of IIT, Rajasthan in selecting M/s. Datawind for manufacturing the Aakash Tablets and also the steps taken by the Government in this regard.
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam Speaker, I want to just inform the distinguished Member of this House that we have entered into an arrangement with M/s. Datawind which has set up a subsidiary in India for the purposes of manufacturing this Low Access-cum-Computing Device. He rightly pointed out that at the initial stage they produced about 6,440 such devices, of which 366 were distributed. We got a feedback from the students about the infirmities and the deficiencies in those devices. After getting that feedback we went back to M/s. Datawind and said that these deficiencies should be addressed. They have agreed to address those deficiencies. The second version of the Aakash Tablet will be launched some time in April. These are all teething problems that naturally arise when you do such a monumental experiment to produce a Tablet which is less than 50 dollars, and these teething problems do arise.

Now we are moving ahead. M/s. Datawind will be supplying us one lakh Tablets based on the second version of the Aakash, which has a much higher capacity in terms of processor. The processor originally was 366 MHz. Now it is going to be 700 MHz. The battery life is going to be three hours when the Tablet is being used continuously. Instead of a resistive stream, it is going to have a capacitive stream. So, he is going to provide these additionalities taking care of the deficiencies at the same

price as he was to supply the Aakash-I, which is Rs.2,476/- . So, there is no problem. We are going ahead with that.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY: My second supplementary is this. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider issuing fresh tenders for manufacturing the Aakash tablet from the vendors other than M/s. Datawind. What would be the norms to ensure the quality of devices at the price of Rs. 1,500/-?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: As far as other tenders are concerned, what we have done is this. If we are going to supply this Tablet to 220 million students in schools and 17 million students in colleges, we need to develop large manufacturing capacities to be able to supply the Aakash Tablet. Now, I do not think M/s. Datawind by itself can supply that. So, what we have now done is this. Now, the principal investigator is going to be IIT, Mumbai.

He is working with C-DoT, which is under the Ministry of Communications and Information and Technology along with ITI and Bharat Heavy Electricals. We are trying to develop, in that process, not only a fresh design but new manufacturing capacities so that the long-term interests and the needs of the students are taken care of, so that in five to six years, we are able to give a tablet in the hands of every student in this country.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR: Madam, I want to ask from hon'ble Minister that he is trying to make 700 MHz and touch screen. I just want to ask that he has taken this step after detecting certain shortcomings in the supply made by Data wind company. It is right that the Government has taken this step but I want to know whether the Government has prepared any norms for distribution among students? There is a need to clarify this issue.

Will the company provide care centre services from rural areas to urban area after distribution or we are going to do something about that. Akash-2 is getting delayed. The delay has come into light after news items to this effect published in newspapers. It has also been published that PMO has complained to the Planning Commission. It has raised question mark on its feasibility. Whether the Government has thought to resolve those question marks?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: So far as the hon'ble Member talked about norms, that situation has not been created so far because we are testing it at present. We are zeroing on the type of tablet and the type of specifications which

are required. After that manufacturing capacity will be fixed.

[English]

This Askash tablet is working under the National Mission for Education through ICT.

[Translation]

This is for higher education Institutes. First of all we will provide Aakash Tablet to the students of University. The students of which university will be provided this table, how it will be distributed, at present we have a budget of Rs. 700/- crore? If we provide tablet at this price in a budget of Rs. 700/- crore, when manufacturing capacity will be developed then we shall be able to provide the tablet to about 50 lakh students. The number of students who are getting education in Universities is 1 crore 70 lakh, their demand will not be fulfilled from this. When manufacturing capacity will be fixed as to how much we can produce per month and per year, only then we shall be able to decide who will be provided tablets first and who will get after that, those norms will be developed at that time.

So far as tablet is concerned, any one can have his/her own opinion but the inter-ministerial group containing Ministry of Science, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Ministry of Human Resource Development, is of the opinion that it is a very good project and it will be taken forward.

SHRI SHAILENDAR KUMAR: Madam, I through you would like to tell hon'ble Minister that he replied in detail, as all the Members of Parliament know that in all over India be it a Hindi medium school or English medium school, at every place computer education is being imparted from the primary stage itself. It has become compulsory. As he said in his reply that first of all students of university would be provided with the tablet. Today the need of the hour is that the roots should be strengthened from the beginning at the primary stage itself. In my view this should start from primary or middle level of education and after that we have to go to the universities, it will be quite suitable.

Madam, through you, I would like to ask hon'ble Minister whether he accord priority to such poor, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children who study with the help of scholarship only and whose parents are economically weak? I demand that the amount of about two thousand rupee fixed by him should be scrapped and arrangement should be made to provide it at minimum

amount. Thank you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Hon'ble Speaker, Madam, hon'ble Member has asked two questions. First he has asked and suggested that this scheme should be first implemented at primary and upper primary level and students of universities should not be provided first. The National Mission on Education through ICT was meant for higher education. Under that we had got Rs. 700 crore through budget. National Mission for Education for ICT is being set up for schools. As we get the funds we will put both these things together I appreciate your views that unless we provide especially the children of primary, middle and primary and elementary school and children secondary school, three will be no empowerment of children. He is right and we will try and provide it when there will be National Mission for Education through ICT for schools. The second thing he put before us is how these should be prioritised. As I said we would set up the norms, but if he had read my reply it has been clearly stated that.

[English]

"Once the production capacities are built up, norms for distribution with an aim to prioritize empowerment of students, especially from disadvantaged and marginalized sections of society, through this LCAD would get developed."

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: The Government has introduced Aakash tablet with a lot of fanfare. But if you look at the performance, it is not up to the mark even. This has been probed in the pilot version of Aakash. Many students, who have used Aakash tablet, are complaining of low speed, poor battery back up, poor response from desk screen, low RAM of 256 MB, etc. So, I would like to know from the Minister what drawbacks were identified by the students in the pilot RAM of Aakash tablet. What steps the Ministry has taken and what is the time-bound programme?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: In fact, Madam Speaker, I have a lot of communications from students who have written to us saying that a lot of them are very thrilled with the Aakash tablet but they have also pointed out deficiencies. As the distinguished Member rightly pointed out, those deficiencies are low speed and resistive screen. Therefore, it takes time for the data to come on to the screen. Precisely, those are the issues we have addressed.

In the second version of Aakash, that is, Aakash-II, the processor, instead of going to be 366 MHz, would be 700 MHz. So, the speed will increase substantially. Instead

of a resistive screen, you will have a capacitive screen like any modern Aakash tablet. It is Aakash-II.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: When?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: It is in April, 2012. And, third is that the battery life would be three hours continuously. ...*(Interruptions)*

These are the very deficiencies that we are trying to address and we have addressed. M/s Datawind has agreed to supply at the same price the second version of Aakash taking care of these deficiencies.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI: Madam, tablet in education field is a very, very important tool. They are widely used in most of the countries in the world. Originally, when the specification was finalized, the Minister said, 366 MHz speed of the CPU was identified. Madam, 366 MHz CPU speed is very low compared to the other tools available. Now, it has been finalized that Aakash-II will be 700 MHz. I would like to request and ask the hon. Minister one thing because it is going to take a long time and in this IT industry, particularly after every six or eight months, upgradation of technology takes place. Can we consider having one GHz speed and higher memory, which will not make any difference in the cost? After seven or eight months, the cost of CPU and the cost of memory will definitely come down. Since this is a very important tool for education, I would request the hon. Minister to consider this technical point.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam Speaker, in fact, you know, whenever we manufacture a product of this nature in India, we face two very serious challenges. Firstly, we have to take care of the fact that the price is affordable and the product is accessible. It is because you have a modern tablet, which costs 150 Dollars with all the features that have been suggested by the distinguished Member. But, those will not be affordable and accessible to the ordinary folks in our country, especially to young students and to poor families. So, whenever we launch a project of this nature, we have to be very careful about the price. At the same time, we also cannot compromise on quality. So, to actually ensure that the quality is good and the price is low is a very difficult task, not just in manufacturing tablets but in all technology solutions in India. For India, the low cost high quality solution is the way forward because we have to access millions and millions of people in our country. Therefore, we started with 366 to figure out as to what the price would be and what the quality would be.

Now, we have learnt from experience, we are going to improve on the quality; we are going to improve on the price, and not only that we have set up a Committee, which will constantly review the latest developments that are taking place. I might tell you that the Government, and thanks to the distinguished Prime Minister, who are thinking of setting up a fab facility in India so that we manufacture our own chip. If we manufacture our own chip, the cost will come down. If the capacitive screens are manufactured in India, the cost will come down.

At the moment, what is happening is, for most of these components, 39 per cent of the components are imported from South Korea; another 25 per cent of components are being imported from Europe; another 16 per cent are being imported from the United States and 16 per cent are being supplied in India. I want this product to be a 'made in India' product. That is what I want at a low price for the children of our country, which would be constantly reviewed to improve the technology and reduce the cost.

MADAM SPEAKER: Question No. 22. Shri Ravneet Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Madam Speaker, Bihar is being discriminated against in the matter, of coal linkage ...*(Interruptions)* The state government is working for the expansion of the Baraunin Thermal Power Plant but the Coal Minister is adamant about not providing more coal linkages for the said plant.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please wait. Let him reply first. Why have you stood-up already?

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

11.16 hrs.

At this stage Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: What have you brought? Why do you bring this every time. You know this is wrong. This is against the dignity of the House. Why have you brought this?

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please go and sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister you may speak. Minister please give your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please give your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please give your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: He should ask the question ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: Since coal is a vital raw material for industries such as power, steel and cement, does the Government propose to set up an independent regulatory body for price determination so as to ensure that the price of coal remains industry friendly? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Madam, there is a need to constitute an independent coal regulator due to the rising demand for coal in the country. A draft Bill has been prepared in consultation with all the departments and Ministries concerned and submitted to the Ministry of Law and Justice. As soon as it is cleared by the Ministry it will be presented before the House ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: What other steps does the Government propose to take to ensure stability in the prices of coal? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Madam, the hon. Members know that the coal sector has been deregulated

* Not recorded.

in the year 2000 itself. Coal prices are determined by CIL.

New Formula for Coal Price

†*22. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has adopted a new mechanism/formula for fixing coal prices in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new and old mechanism/formula and the reasons for adopting the new mechanism;

(c) the likely rise in the price of coal as a result thereof and the extent to which power steel and cement industries would be affected by the coal price hike;

(d) whether various coal consumers such as power, steel and cement industries have opposed the new mechanism; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to address the apprehension expressed by these industries?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Government has switched over from the existing Useful Heat Value (UIIV) based grading system to Gross Calorific Value (GCV) based classification of non-coking coal with effect from 01.01.2012. following the Government's announcement of switching over from UIIV to GCV system of grading of coal the coal companies revised their coal prices in terms of GCV bands with effect from 01.01.2012. In the UIIV based system, the coal grading was determined in seven bands based on ash and moisture content. In the new mechanism, the coal was classified on the basis of gross calorific value into seventeen bands with bandwidth of 300 Kcal/kg. each. The GCV is an international practice of grading of coal which has been recommended for adoption by a number of high level committees including the Integrated Energy Policy. This system will ensure a high degree of consistency in quality of coal supplies and result in high consumer satisfaction. The new mechanism is more scientific and accurate and ensures uniform price across the subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) for similar calorific

value of coals except for some adjustments being made for prices of Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL).

(c) Concurrently with the switching over from UIIV to the GCV based grading system a pricing structure has been notified which has been kept revenue neutral to the extent possible for CIL, as a whole. However, some impact of price revision (upward or downward) on the coal consuming industries, depending on the actual GCV band of coal being supplied to such industries, cannot be ruled out.

(d) and (e) Initially the price of coal in the GCV system was finalised by CIL on the basis of Rupees per Million Kilo caloric heat value by providing various discounts on ex-unload port price of imported Coal. Based on the feedback received from various coal consumers, the issue of coal pricing has been reviewed by the CIL and revised taking into account the price of different coals with corresponding GCV weighted average and it was ensured that revenue neutrality is maintained.

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister you may speak. Minister please give your reply.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please give your reply.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please give your reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: He should ask the question ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: Since coal is a vital raw material for industries such as power, steel and cement, Does the Government propose to set up an independent regulatory body for price determination so as to ensure that the price of coal remains industry friendly? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Madam, there is a need to constitute an independent coal regulator due to

the rising demand for coal in the country. A draft Bill has been prepared in consultation with all the departments and Ministries concerned and submitted to the Ministry of Law and Justice. As soon as it is cleared by the Ministry it will be presented before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: What other steps does the Government propose to take to ensure stability in the prices of coal? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Madam, the hon. Members know that the coal sector has been deregulated in the year 2000 itself. Coal prices are determined by CIL. CIL tries to improve the efficiency and productivity of its operations so that the cost of production could be reduced and coal prices could be kept in check ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Coal is a base raw material for all products generated even for producing power and for producing products of various kinds. So, coal is a centre-stage for the Indian economy. Any revision in its price will have a bearing on all our products. Since coal is an essential commodity and it is contributing to the economy of the nation like its spine, the Government instead of increasing the price of coal should come forward to support the Coal India Ltd., more vigorously and should also support Coal India Ltd., in a big way in this Budget to increase the productivity of coal in India which will ultimately lead to reduction in coal prices. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the government has any plans to support further the Coal India Ltd., for undertaking more coal mining projects in the coming days ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Madam, Coal India has full liberty to try for maximum production so as to enable coal prices to be kept in check. You must have noticed that when we shifted from USV to JCB it led to a rise in coal prices. When complaints were received in this regard Coal India addressed the issue and as on date

...*(Interruptions)* After the shift too coal prices remained the same.

It is our effort and the effort of Coal India Ltd. that production is optimised to keep the coal prices stable. All efforts would be made in this direction ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Question No. 23.

Prof. Ranjan Prasad Yadav - not present.

Shri Neeraj Shekhar - present

The answer may be given by the Hon. Minister.

Airlines Flouting Safety Norms

†*23. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of safety lapses especially by low cost carriers have come to the notice of the Government/DGCA recently;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported in 2011 and 2012 so far alongwith the nature of safety norms flouted, case-wise and airline-wise;

(c) the action taken by the DGCA/Government against such erring airlines, airline-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Details of safety related lapses and action taken in 2011 and 2012 are given in the enclosed Annexure-I.

(d) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken several measures to enhance safety of the passengers as per the enclosed Annexure-II .

Annexure-I

*DGCA Enforcement Actions against Individuals working for the Airlines 2011-2012
(upto February 2012)*

Operators		Name of Personnel/ Post Holder	Date of Action	Year	Cause/Action Taken	Enforcement Type
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	NACIL (1)	S.K. GUPTA, AME Licence No. 5454	07.01.2011	2011	He was stopped from exercising the privileges of authorization from 06/05/2010 from QM NACIL (I), has not exercised the privileges for the last eight months. Considered sufficient punishment for the lapses noted on his part.	Warning
2.	Alliance Air	Rajiv Jindal, AME Licence No. 8011	06.01.2011	2011	Improper rectification of repetitive high vibration on engines. Approval suspended for a period of three months.	Warning
3.	Alliance Air	U. Bhattacharjee, AME Licence No. 7663	06.01.2011	2011	Did replac CVR'S ON CRJ 700 AIRCRAFT VT-RJB & VT-RJC which were involved in incidents on 15.10.2009 & 16.10.2009 respectively. Warning letter issued under sub rule (14) (C) OF Rule 61 OF Aircraft Rules 1937.	Warning
4.	Alliance Air	G.H.V. Ramanan, Maintenance Manager,	06.01.2011	2011	For not monitoring the maintenance practices being followed by the certifying personnel of your organization and for not offering any comment in this regard. Admonishing letter issued under sub rule (14) (C) of rule 61 of Aircraft Rules 1937	Admonishing
5.	Alliance Air	S.R. Sankhyal, QM (Licence No. 2542)	06.01.2011	2011	For not monitoring the maintenance practices being followed by the certifying personnel of your organization and for not offering any comment in this regard. Admonishing letter issued under sub rule (14) (C) OF Rule 61 of Aircraft Rules 1937	Admonishing
6.	Spicejet	Mr. Subhash Chander Dubey, AME No.-10743	11.01.2011	2011	Incident of Missing Panel to M/s Spice Jet B 737 aircraft VT-SPL at Delhi. Suspended the privileges of the ATPL licence no. 10743.	Suspension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Spicejet	Capt. Akshay Hasija ALTP No. 3561	09.02.2011	2011	Tail Strike incident to M/s Spice Jet B737-900 Aircraft VT- SPU at Delhi on 07.02.2011. Suspends the privileges of the ATPL licence no. 3561.	Suspension
8.	Spicejet	Capt. Shabad Chand ALTP No. 4086	09.02.2011	2011	Tail Strike incident to M/s Spice Jet B737-900 Aircraft VT- SPU at Delhi on 07.02.2011. Suspends the privileges of the ATPL licence no. 4086.	Suspension
9.	Kingfisher	Capt. Gayathri Palande ALTP No. 4282	14.02.2011	2011	Incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines Ltd. ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-KAB at Madurai on 11.02.2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
10.	Kingfisher	Captain Ponni Chelvan. ALTP No. 3133	14.02.2011	2011	Incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines Ltd. ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-KAB at Madurai on 11.02.2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
11.	Jet Airways	Sunil Unnikrishnan, CPL No. 5567	23.02.2011	2011	Tyre burst incident to M/s Jet Airways ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-JCD at Cochin Airport on 17-02-2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
12.	Jet Airways	Captain Ramesh Sukumaran, ALTP No. 3310	23.02.2011	2011	Tyre burst incident to M/s Jet Airways ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-JCD at Cochin Ai rport on 17-02-2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
13.	Spicejet	Captain Bhavesh Mishra, ALTP No. 1745	23.02.2011	2011	Tail Strike incident to M/s Spice Jet Airlines B 737-900 aircraft VT-SPU at Delhi on 19-02-2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
14.	Spicejet	Vaibhav Sharma, CPL 5754	23.02.2011	2011	Tail Strike Incident to M/s Spice Jet Airlines B 737-900 aircraft VT-SPU at Delhi on 19-02-2011. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspensionc
15.	Indigo Airlines	Capt. Avinash Khari, ATPL No. 4082	23.02.2011	2011	Ground Incident to M/s Indigo Airlines Airbus A-320 aircraft VT-INO at Bangalore on 24-02-2011	Suspension
16.	Indigo Airlines	Capt. Swati Loomba, CPL No. 9382	23.02.2011	2011	Ground Incident to M/s Indigo Airlines Airbus A-320 aircraft VT-INO at Bangalore on 24-02-2011	Suspension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Kingfisher	Mr. Hemant Bijur, AME Approval No. KF-1044	25.02.2011	2011	Kingfisher Airlines Aircraft A330 VT-VJK (MSN-874) was subjected to SAFA inspection at London- Heathrow on 17.11.2010 while operating sector DEL-LHR. Findings- No information about repair of Nose Cowl No.1 Engine by high speed tape. Memorandum issued to Mr. Hemant Bijur (KF 1044) by operator. Action - Warning issued to Mr. Hemant Bijur (KF 1044) by DAW(Hqrs).	Show Cause & Warning
18.	NACIL (A)	Capt. Anubhav Mittal,	18.03.2011	2011	M/s Air India B 777 Aircraft VT- ALN while operating flight AI 127 (Delhi- Chicago) of 06.03.2011 was involved in an incident of air turn back at Delhi due to nose landing gear not retracting. Fails to notice to installed L/G lock pin during external walk around inspection. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
19.	NACIL (A)	Mr. K. P. Roy,	18.03.2011	2011	M/s Air India B 777 Aircraft VT- ALN while operating flight AI 127 (Delhi- Chicago) of 06.03.2011 was involved in an incident of air turn back at Delhi due to nose landing gear not retracting. Fails to remove to installed L/G lock pin during external walk around inspection. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
20.	NACIL (A)	Mr. Rahul Choudhary, (Technician), Staff No. 12177	18.03.2011	2011	M/s Air India B 777 Aircraft VT- ALN while operating flight AI 127 (Delhi- Chicago) of 06.03.2011 was involved in an incident of air turn back at Delhi due to nose landing gear not retracting.Fails to remove to installed L/G lock pin during inspection. Suspension Order Issued.	Suspension
21.	Indigo Airlines	Capt. Parminder Kaur	24.02.2011	2011	Violation of Rule 19 (5) of Aircraft Rules 1937.	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Gulati, ALTP No. - 3946.			<p>Capt. Parminder Kaur Gulati, ATPL licence No. 3946 (Indigo Airlines), involved in an incident of heavy landing at Goa Airport while operating flight no. 6E- 333 (Del- Goa) on 11.01.2011.</p> <p>During investigation it was found, forged documents produced for issuing ATPL licence (No. 3946).</p> <p>Suspended the privileges of the ATPL licence.</p>	
22.	Indigo Airlines	Capt. Meenakshi Singhal, ALTP Licence No. 3997	07.03.2011-	2011	<p>During scrutiny of documents submitted by Capt. Meenakshi Singhal for issue of ALTP has revealed that she has obtained ALTP Licence No. 3997 on the basis of forged documents.</p> <p>Suspended the privileges of the ATPL licence.</p>	Suspension
23.	NACIL (A)	Capt. J. K. Verma, ALTP	12.03.2011	2011	<p>During scrutiny of documents submitted by Capt. J. K. Verma for issue of ALTP has revealed that he has obtained ALTP Licence No. 4355 on the basis of forged documents.</p> <p>Suspended the privileges of the ATPL licence.</p>	Suspension
24.	JAGSONS AIRLINES	Sh. J. P. Gupta, CMD	13.04.2011	2011	<p>Resignation of All the Post Holders: M/s Jagson Air Lines Ltd. All the Four key post holder i.e. Accountable Manager, Continuing Airworthiness Manager, Quality Manager & Maintenance Manager of Jagson Airlines have already resigned on 4th April 2011. Under these circumstances, the approval granted to Jagson Airlines in accordance with CAR 145 does not remain valid as on 4th April 2011 i.e. the date of resignation.</p>	Organisation Approval Not Valid
25.	Kingfisher	Capt. Sarfaraz Zakir ALTP No. 4543	18.04.2011	2011	<p>Incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines ATR 72-500 Aircraft VT-KAO, IT 2455, BLR-COK on i. 11.04.2011 at Cochin. (involved in skidding of aircraft from runway & Breaking of Taxi edge Light on Runway 09 at Cochin Airport).</p> <p>Suspended the privileges of the CPL licence of Capt Sarfaraz</p>	Suspension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
					Zakir ALTP No. 4543.		
26.	Kingfisher	Caot. Jorly John	18.04.2011	2011	ALTP No. 4193	Incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines ATR 72-500 Aircraft VT-KAO, IT 2455, BLR-COK on 11.04.2011 at Cochin. (involved in skidding of aircraft from runway & Breaking of Taxi edge Light on Runway 09 at Cochin Airport). Suspended the privileges of the CPL licence of Capt Jorly John ALTP No. 4193.	Suspension
27.	Kingfisher	Capt. Balu Unni,	27.04.2011	2011	CPL No. 16959	Operation of flight during NOTAM period at Portblair Airport.	Suspension
28.	Kingfisher	Capt. Jose Neto, FATA No. 9213	27.04.2011	2011		Operation of flight during NOTAM period at Portblair Airport.	Derostered
29.	NACIL (A)	Jyotsana Arora, ALTP-4016	11.05.2010	2011		Capt. Jyotsana Arora, ALTP No. 4016 (NACIL-A), Violation of Rule 4 & 6 of Aircraft Rules 1937-flying without valid of IR on ALTP License.	Show Cause & Warning
30.	NACIL (A)	Capt. Arjun Giare, ALTP No. 3245	07.06.2011	2011		During scrutiny of documents submitted by Capt. Arjun Giare, ALTP No. 3245 for issue of CPL has revealed that he has obtained ALTP on the basis of forged documents.	Show Cause
31.	Jet Lite Ltd.	Capt. H. S. Bansal, ALTP No. 2745	21.06.2011	2011		Capt. H. S. Bansal, ALTP No. 2745 has exercised the privileges of his IR without renewal from 10.04.2010 to 27.04.2010. Violation of Rule 4 & 6 of Aircraft Rules 1937.	Show Cause Show Cause
32.	Air Charter Services Pvt Ltd. & NEPC India Pvt. Ltd.	Zapt Subash Bakshi, ATPL No. 1941	22.06.2011	2011		Dapt. Subash Bakshi, ATPL No. 1941 & IR thereof after the age of 65 yrs, from 19.09.2009 to 07.03.2011. Violation of Rule 28 A of Aircraft Rules 1937.	
33.	Air India Express. Ltd.	Capt. S. S. Hothi, CPL- 3669	21.07.2011	2011		Improper landing incident to VT- AXU, B737 Aircraft, M/s Air India Express Ltd. at Mangalore on 25.06.2011. Preliminary investigation reveals that capt S.S.Hotri, CPL -3669 could not control the aircraft.	Suspension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					Suspended the privileges of the Capt S.S.Hotri, CPL -3669.	
34.	M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd.	Capt. Bram Prakash, ATPL No- 1909	27.07.2011	2011	Serious Incidence to M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd., CRJ 700 Aircraft VT- RJB on 20.07.2011 at Chakeri Airfield, Kanpur. Suspended the privileges of ALTP Licenses of Capt. Bram Prakash, ATPL No-1909.	Suspension
35.	M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd.	Capt. Jitesh Sharma, CPL No 6912	27.07.2011	2011	Serious Incidence to M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd., CRJ 700 Aircraft VT- RJB on 20.07.2011 at Chakeri Airfield, Kanpur. Suspends the privileges of CPL License of Capt Jitesh Sharma, CPL No- 6912 .	Suspension
36.	Spicejet	Capt. Sandeep Suri,	27.07.2011	2011	Taii strike incident to M/s Spice Jet B 737- 900 aircraft VT- SPU at Guwahati on 19.07.2011. Suspended the privileges of ATPL License of Capt Sandeep Suri, ATPL No-3609	Suspension
37.	Spicejet	Capt. Sorab Singh,	27.07.2011	2011	Taii strike incident to M/s Spice Jet B 737- 900 aircraft VT- SPU at Guwahati on 19.07.2011 Suspended the privileges of CPL License of Capt Sorab Singh, CPL No- 7635	Suspension
38.	M/s Air India Charter Ltd.	Capt. Rahul Khanna, ATPL No. 2750	04.08.2011	2011	Capt. Rahul Khanna, ATPL No. 2750 has exercised the privileges of his ATPL without valid medical assessment from 01.06.2011 to 22.06.2011 (22 Days).	Show Cause
39.	M/s Air India (I)	Capt. A. S. Budhwar, CPL No. 6300	23.08.2011	2011	During scrutiny of documents submitted by him for P2 Endorsement it is noticed that Capt A. S. Budhwar, CPL No. 6300 had flown A- 319/ 321 Aircraft without valid P2 Rating. Action-Show cause notice Issued. Under the provision of Rule 19 (5) of the Aircraft 1937.	Show Cause
40.	M/s Air India (I)	Capt. Rahul Mehra,	23.08.2011	2011	During scrutiny of documents submitted by him for P2 Endorsement it is noticed that Capt Rahul Mehra, CPL No. 6296 had flown A- 319/ 321 Aircraft without valid P2 Rating. Action-Show cause notice Issued.	Show Cause

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					Under the provision of Rule 19 (5) of the Aircraft 1937.	
41.	M/s Air India (1).	Capt. Arun Yadav, CPL No. 5743	23.08.2011	2011	During scrutiny of documents submitted by him for P2 Endorsement it is noticed that Capt. Arun Yadav, CPL No. 5743 had flown A- 319/ 321 Aircraft without valid P2 Rating. Action- Show cause notice Issued. Ref No T-1326/05 -L-II. Dt. 23.08.2011. Under the provision of Rule 19 (5) of the Aircraft 1937.	Show Cause
42.	Indigo Airlines	Sh. Jagadananda	18.08.2011	2011	Refuel/defuel coupling cap found on Apron TWY H at Chennai Airport on 12.08.2011 Das AME No. 7186. Action- Suspended the privileges of AME License of Sh. Jagadananda Das AME No. 7186.	Suspension
43.	M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd.	Capt. Srinivasrao CPL No. 2452	19.08.2011	2011	Incident to M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd., ATR 42 VT-ABC on 19.08.2011 at Agati. Action - Suspended the privileges of CPL License of Capt. Srinivasrao CPL No. 2452.	
44.	M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd.	Capt. Renu Shekhawat ALTP no. 3939.	19.08.2011	2011	Incident to M/s Airline Allied Services Ltd. ATR 42 VT-ABC on 19.08.2011 at Agati Action- DDG Suspends the privileges of ALTP Licenses of Capt. Renu Shekhawat ALTP no. 3939.	Suspension
45.	Air India Express Ltd.	Capt. Jean Kappean, CPL No. 5550	28.08.2011	2011	Tail strike incident to Air India Express aircraft VT-AXD at Cochin on 28.08.2011 Action- Suspended the privileges of CPL License of Capt. Jean Kappean CPL No. 5550	Suspension
46.	Air India Express Ltd.	Capt. Rajesh Sobti, ALTP No. 2287.	28.08.2011	2011	Tail strike incident to Air India Express aircraft VT-AXD at Cochin on 28.08.2011 Action- Suspended the privileges of ALTP Licenses of Capt. Rajesh Sobti ALTP No. 2287.	Suspension
47.	Jet Airways	Mr. M. Chandrababu Asst. Manager (ATM)	28.09.2011	2011	Go around by AIC 439 and rejected take off by JAI 2329 on 24.09.2011 at Chennai airport M/s Jet Airways (JAI) aircraft VT-JBM, B737-800, 9W-2329 (Chennai-Delhi) on 24th	Suspension

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					<p>sep 2011, rejected take off at Chennai airport R/W - 25 and due to succeeding AIC- 439 (Delhi- Chennai) initiated Go around on short final and preceding aircraft IGO 275 also did not vacate run way after landing.</p> <p>Action- suspended privileges of all ratings held by Mr. M. Chandrababu Asst Manager (ATM) with immediate effect pending finalization of investigation.</p>	
48.	Kingfisher	Capt. Krishna Kumar Rastogi, ATPL No.1515	10.10.2011	2011	<p>Tyre burst incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-KAN at Trichy Airport on 07-10-2011 Capt. Krishna Kumar Rastogi, ATPL No.1515 Action- Suspended the privileges of ALTP Licenses of Capt. Krishna Kumar Rastogi, ATPL No.1515.</p>	Suspension
49.	Kingfisher	Capt. Amit Kumar,	10.10.2011	2011	<p>Tyre burst incident to M/s Kingfisher Airlines ATR 72-500 aircraft VT-KAN at Trichy Airport on 07-10-2011 Capt. Amit Kumar, CPL No. 4849 Action- Suspended the privileges of CPL Licenses of Capt. Amit Kumar, CPL No. 4849</p>	Suspension
50.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt Vikram Singh, ATPL No. 3598	08.11.2011	2011	<p>Airproxi incident due wrong approach by AI Express B787-800. Suspend the privilege of Capt. Vikram Singh, ATPL No 3598</p>	Suspension
51.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt. R. Escobedo, FATA No 075/07	08.11.2011	2011	<p>Airproxi incident due wrong approach by Ai Express B787-800. Suspend the privilege of Capt. R. Escobedo, FATA No 075/07</p>	Suspension
52.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt. Adarsh Ajay Kumar CPL6184	28.11.2011	2011	<p>Capt. Adarsh Ajay Kumar CPL 6184- Improper landing and tyre deflation incident to B 737-800 aircraft VT-AYA belonging to M/s Air India Express limited at Saialah on 03.11.2011 Action- suspended the privilege of CPL no. - 6184.</p>	Suspension
53.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt. C B Gupta ATPL 3472	28.11.2011	2011	<p>Capt. C B Gupta ATPL 3472 - Improper landing and tyre deflation incident to B 737-800 aircraft VT-AYA belonging to M/s Air India Express limited at Saialah on 03.11.2011</p>	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					Action- suspended the privilege of ATPL no. -3472.	
54.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt. Vikram Singh, ALTP 3598	08.11.2011	2011	Capt. Vikram Singh, ALTP 3598- Airprox incident due wrong approach by M/s AI Express aircraft by B 737-800 VT-AXT at Trichy airport on 07.11.2011 Action- suspended the privilege of ATPL no. -3598.	Suspension
55.	Airindia Express Ltd.	Capt. R. Escobedo, FATA No.075/07	08.11.2011	2011	Capt. R. Escobedo, FATA No.075/07- Airprox incident due wrong approach by M/s AI Express aircraft by B 737-800 VT-AXT at Trichy airport on 07.11.2011. Action- suspended the privilege of FATA No.075/07.	Suspension
56.	Jetlite	Sanjay Biharilal, AME No. 6387- Authorization no. JA/EQ/110	07.12.2011	2011	Sanjay Biharilal, AME No. 6387- Authorization no. JA/EQ/110. In flight shut down incident to Jetlite aircraft B 737-700 VT-JLG on 13.11.2011 due loss of oil in no.2 engine. Action - suspended the privilege of AME No. 6387.	Suspension
57.	Spicejet	Accountable Manager (Mr. Robert Bryant, Post Holder for Maintenance)	16.01.2012	2012	Mr. Robert Bryant, Post Holder for Maintenance. To M/s Spice Jet Ltd., New Delhi has failed to ensure that the Blow Out Panel in Cargo Compartment of B737- 800 Aircraft VT- SPR was installed in approved manner. And he also failed to ensure the availability of appropriately approved personnel for certification of Aircraft batteries in the Battery Shop. Action- Suspends to Mr. Robert Bryant, Post Holder for Maintenance M/s Spice Jet Ltd., New Delhi for a period of 03 (Three) Months	Suspension

ANNEXURE-II**Measures taken to Ensure Safety of Aircraft Operations including Helicopters**

Civil Aviation Requirements Section -5 Series F Part-I on "Flight Safety Awareness & Accident/ Incident Prevention Programme requires that operator should take certain proactive & reactive action, have a Flight safety Documentation System. Following are the details.

- **Implementation of Recommendations Emanating from Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Hazardous Incidents:**

Safety recommendations emanating from investigation of various aircraft accidents and incidents are followed up for implementation with the concerned agencies so as to prevent recurrence of similar accidents/incidents.

- **Dissemination of Safety Information:**

Safety seminars are organized by DGCA to create safety awareness amongst the operators. Further, periodical meetings with pilots, engineers, ATCOs and operators are also convened from time to time.

- **Issue of Air Safety Circular/Civil Aviation Requirements:**

Accidents/Serious Incidents are regularly analyzed and based on these analysis Air Safety Circulars are issued to bring important observations/findings to the notice of the operators to avoid the recurrence of the accidents. Safety precautions also are circulated through the Air Safety Circulars. Whenever requirement is felt regulatory changes are done by issuing Civil Aviation Requirements. Requirement for VIP carriage, Flight Duty Time Limitations etc. are being revised. Detailed Civil Aviation Requirements covering training and operations of the Helicopter for various operators has since been issued.

- **Surveillance by Flight Inspectors:**

The Flight Inspector pilots of DGCA carryout periodic proficiency and standardization checks of pilots of various operators to ensure that laid down operating procedures are followed.

- **Safety Audit of Operators:**

Safety Audit teams of DGCA carry out periodically

safety audit of operators and maintenance organizations. The deficiencies pointed out in the safety audit reports are immediately brought to the notice of the operators for taking necessary remedial in-house measures. DGCA, in its effort to make the operators more responsible for quality control and safety, has stressed that operators should also conduct their internal audit apart from DGCA safety audit.

- **Periodic Spot Checks:**

Periodic spot checks on the operations and maintenance activities of the operators have been intensified by DGCA officers to ensure observance of the laid down procedures.

- **Special Operating Precautions in Poor Weather Conditions:**

Operators and Airport authorities have been advised to take specific actions during periods of monsoon and fog. Airline pilots are subjected to special checks to ensure their proficiency in monsoon conditions.

- **Prevention of Bird Strike Incidents.**

Continuous efforts are being made in association with airport authorities and local civic authorities to take effective measures to reduce bird strike menace. As a result, the number of bird strike incidents have considerably reduced.

- **Action against defaulters:**

Whenever it is found that there is gross violation of the laid down norms or compromise of safety, strict action is taken against the defaulters.

In addition following Specific Steps were taken By DGCA for Accident Prevention

- **100% Monitoring of Flight Data Recorders:**

DGCA through Civil Aviation Requirement has made mandatory for all Scheduled Air Transport Operators and Major Non Scheduled operators having aircraft equipped with DFDR to monitor flight data of all the flights to determine the exceedances in flight parameters from stipulated limits. This is to ensure adherence to standard operating procedures by the flight crew.

- **Minimum Safe Altitude Warning System:**

Minimum safe altitude warning (MSAW) system provides radar warning to the air traffic controllers whenever an aircraft descends below the minimum safe enroute altitude. The air traffic controller in turn alerts the pilot about his descent below the safe altitude. MSAW system has already been provided in the air traffic control (ATC) Radars at Mumbai and Delhi. Airports Authority of India is in the process of installing MSAW systems at other airports.

- **Installation of Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radars (MSSRs)**

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has since installed MSSRs at eight (8) airports in the country. Among other information, an MSSR provides aircraft altitude information to the air traffic controllers which enables him in improved air traffic management and surveillance. Because of the large areas covered by the MSSRs, most of the busy airspace in the country has come under the coverage of the MSSRs. This has enabled better surveillance of the flights in the Indian airspace.

- **Installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS)**

DGCA has issued Civil Aviation Requirements making it mandatory for installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System on airplane having maximum certified passenger seating configuration of more than 30 or a maximum pay load capacity of more than 3 tonnes. All applicable civil aircraft in India have ACAS installed and at the insistence of DGCA, foreign operators also have to utilize ACAS equipped for operation over Indian airspace.

- **Installation of Transponders**

Transponders (A & C Type) provide traffic advisory in an aircraft fitted with ACAS-I and both traffic advisory and resolution advisory in an aircraft fitted with ACAS-II. Mode S Transponder is a reliable means for air space surveillance. It enhances the operation of Air Traffic Control Radar Beacon System (ATCRBS) by adding a datalink feature and interrogation capability over and above Mode A/ Mode C Transponder operation which only determines aircraft altitude. Mode S transponder also provides traffic advisory in an aircraft fitted with ACAS-I and both traffic and resolutionary advisory in an aircraft fitted with ACAS-II.

- **Installation of Ground Proximity Warning System.**

Installation of GPWS system has been made mandatory by DGCA on all turbine engine aeroplanes of maximum certified take-off mass in excess of 5700 kgs or authorised to carry more than nine passengers as recommended by ICAO also. This equipment shall provide automatically a timely and distinctive warning to the flight crew when the aeroplane is in potentially hazardous proximity to the earth's surface.

DGCA India has also made a requirement that no turbine engined aircraft of maximum certified take off mass in excess of 15000 Kgs. or type cetificated to carry more than 30 passengers shall operate on or after 1.1.2003 without having equipped with Enchanced Ground Proximity Warning System (EGPWS).

- **Computerised monitoring of FDTL, Training, Medical & Licence validity**

All the airlines have been mandatorily made to computerise the records relating to Flight crew duty time Limitations, their training, qualification, medical and licence validity. This has enabled instantaneous monitoring of crew records for their validity prior to operating flights.

- **Detailed requirements for compliance of ICAO Standards**

The standards & recommended practices of ICAO contained in their Annex-1 (Personnel Licencing), Annex-6 (Aircraft Operations) and Annex-8 (Airworthiness of Aircraft) have been reviewed and Civil Aviation Requirements issued containing detailed requirements for compliance by the operators in compliance of ICAO standards.

- **Safety Audit of the State government/PSUs:**

CAR Section-3, Series C Part X "Air Transport MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERTAKING AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS WITH AIRCRAFT OWNED BY STATE GOVERNMENTS/ PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS OF CENTRAL/ STATE GOVERNMENTS has been issued on 2nd June 2010.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Madam, I would like to ask the Minister about matters relating to safety, security and passenger amenities and the protection of lives of

passengers. From the 14th Lok Sabha onwards we have been saying that the Jammu airport is too small. Planes do not descend but literally fall down. It is a disaster waiting to happen. One Minister went and another was given this portfolio during the 14th Lok Sabha. Now a third Minister has taken over charge. Which Minister will take care of passenger amenities and their safety in the country including in Jammu and Kashmir ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: It's enough. Your question is done.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI VALAYAR RAVI: The Jammu airport is having a problem because the runway is not ready. It has already drawn the attention of the Government. So, I cannot give an off-the-cuff reply at the moment.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Bail Out Package of Airlines

*24. SHRIMATI SEEMA UPADHYAY:

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the financial health of various aviation companies, operating in the country in the light of the assessment made by the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the poor condition of airlines, airline-wise;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating any bailout package for loss making private and public airlines operating in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, airline-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No such assessment made by the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation is available with this Ministry. However, based on returns filed by airlines with Directorate General of Civil Aviation, all scheduled airlines except IndiGo operating in the country are incurring losses.

The spiraling cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), global economic slow down and low yield due to intense competition and consequent widening gap between revenue and expenses have contributed greatly to losses.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has no bailout package for private airlines. However, Government has recently taken several sector wide measures to resolve short term as well as long term issues to improve its sustainability and viability. These are:

- (i) An inter-ministerial Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation analyzed various factors causing stress in civil aviation.
- (ii) The issue of rationalization of VAT on ATF, has been taken up with the State Govts.
- (iii) Directorate General of Foreign Trade has allowed import of ATF by or on behalf of airlines as actual users and on actual use basis.
- (iv) A proposal to allow FDI upto a limit of 49% by foreign airlines into domestic sector is under consideration.

As regard Air India, Government has infused Rs. 800 crores as equity in Air India in the FY 2009-2010, Rs.1200 crore in FY 2010-11, Rs.1200 crore in 2011-12. Meanwhile, Group of Ministers (GoM) has approved Turn Around Plan (TAP) and Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) formulated by Air India.

[*Translation*]

Quality of Education

*25. PROF. RAMSHANKAR:
SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the quality of education in the country at primary and secondary levels was subjected to any review in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the quality of education during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government is aware that private educational institutes are focussing their energy on higher education and neglecting primary and secondary education;

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

(e) the corrective action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

(a) and (b) Yes Madam. At the elementary education level, the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) periodically conducts Learner Achievement Surveys. To date NCERT has completed two rounds of Learner Achievement Surveys in all subjects for classes III, V and VII/VIII. NCERT has commenced the third round of Learner Achievement Survey, and has completed the same in respect of class V. In addition, the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission had conducted an evaluation of the SSA programme in 2010, which points to significant improvement in access and enrolment, as well as social and gender equity in enrolment. The study has also pointed out that there has been moderate improvement in the pupil teacher ratio and availability of infrastructure. The quality of learning, however, varies considerably between states. Further, the implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the country's flagship programme for elementary education is subjected to bi-annual joint reviews by SSA's Development Partners, namely the World Bank, DFID and European Commission along with nominees of the Government of India. To-date 15 Joint Review Missions have been held.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010, and the SSA Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009. SSA provides for several interventions to improve the quality of elementary education, including *inter alia* opening new schools, recruiting additional teachers, periodic in-service teacher training, provision of textbooks and uniforms, regular academic support for learning enhancement to teachers. Further, the Government has issued an Advisory to State

Governments on the implementation of section 29 of the RTE Act for initiating curriculum reform, including, (i) formulating age-appropriate curricula and syllabi in keeping with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) -2005, (ii) maintaining subject balance, (iii) initiating textbook contents and production reform, (iv) ensuring continuous and comprehensive assessment for learning.

At the secondary level, the Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced the scheme of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) in its schools in a phased manner for improvement of quality in the schools affiliated to it, the Board has also made Class X Board Examination optional for the students studying in Senior Secondary Schools. Rashtriya Madhayamik Shiksha Abhiyan has been launched in 2009. Further, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Information and Communication Technology in Schools" was revised in 2010 to promote computer enabled learning and ICT usage in Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools, and thereby enrich teaching learning processes.

(c) to (e) The private sector has a large presence in the Higher Education sector. However, private sector presence in school education is also increasing over the years. The proportion of private schools including private aided schools at primary level increased from 9.1 per cent to 14.2 per cent between 2001-02 and 2009-10, at upper primary level from 23.6 per cent to 26.9 per cent, and at secondary level from 56.5 per cent to 60.0 per cent during the same period.

[English]

Development of Coal Resources

*26. SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal resources of the country are being developed in an optimal manner;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Coal Regulatory Authority in the country;

(d) if so, the details including the salient features thereof;

(e) whether the views of the various stakeholders have been obtained; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the authority is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Development of coal includes both exploration and production of coal. Out of 18279 sq. kms. of potential coal bearing area of the country, 14013 sq. kms. of area (77%) stands covered under regional exploration till the end of 11th Five Year Plan. Similarly, the area covered by detailed exploration is 7188 sq. kms. (about 40%). As a result of Regional, Promotional and Detailed exploration carried out by Geological Survey of India, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and some State Mining & Geology Departments the coal resources in the country have increased from 267.211 BT (Billion Tonnes) in 2009 to 285.862 BT in 2011. Further the proved reserves have increased from 105.720 BT to 114.002 BT. Details are given in the table below.

As on	Coal Resources (in Billion Tonnes)		
	Proved	Indicated	Inferred
01/04/2009	105.720	123.570	37.921
01/04/2010	109.798	130.654	36.359
01/04/2011	114.002	137.471	34.389

Exploration is a continuous process and action has been initiated for enhancing the efforts for exploration of coal through both increasing the drilling capacities of CMPDIL and also through outsourcing. The objective is to quickly bring the available resources into proved category for projecting the reserves and taking up new projects in line with the rapidly increasing coal demand in the country.

The different steps taken in enhancing coal production include taking up of a number of new projects by the public sector coal companies and allotment of a number of captive coal blocks to both private and government companies, enhancing the delegation of powers of Public Sector coal companies, persuasion and close interaction with the State and Central Authorities for facilitating statutory clearances, land acquisition and related rehabilitation & resettlement etc. have resulted in increase of coal production of the country from 492.757 MT in 2008-09 to 533.076 MT in 2010-11. Company-wise details of coal production are given below.

(in Million tonnes)

Company	Year		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
CIL	403.73	431.26	431.32
SCCL	44.55	50.43	51.33
Captive Blocks	30.01	35.46	34.64
Others	14.47	14.89	15.79
Total	492.76	532.04	533.08

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The details and the salient features of the proposed Regulatory Authority are as under.

Government decided to set up a Coal Regulatory Authority in the country to regulate and conserve resources in the coal sector, protect the interests of consumers and producers of coal and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The major objectives of the proposed authority would be more optimal development of coal resources and to ensure that the Indian coal companies raise their level of competence to be at par with international competitors.

The proposed Regulatory Authority is envisaged to perform the following functions :

- (a) grant authorization to any person for undertaking mining operations, production and supply of coal and for establishing washeries;
- (b) Suspend or cancel authorization;
- (c) specify by regulation terms & conditions for authorization and alter such conditions;
- (d) specify by regulation standards of performance and operational norms;
- (e) specify by regulation grades or quality of coal;
- (f) monitor and enforce closure of mines as per approved mine project plan towards closure of mines;
- (g) ensure adherence of approved mining plan;
- (h) determine the price of raw coal and washed coal and any other by-product generated during the process of coal washing;

- (i) recover amount of penalty imposed;
- (j) call for information, record or other documents from the entities and publish statistics and other data in relation to the coal industry;
- (k) monitor utilisation of funds for implementation of coal conservation and development;
- (l) Take measures including providing incentives for taking up clean coal technologies, coal bed methane, gasification etc.
- (m) determine and levy fees in such manner as may be specified by regulation;
- (n) specify by regulations procedure for automatic coal sampling and weighing.

(e) and (f) Ministry of Coal engaged Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) as a consultant to draft the Coal Regulatory Authority Bill. During the course of preparation of the draft Bill, ASCI had held wide-scale consultations with all stakeholders. The draft Bill prepared by them was circulated to various Ministry/Departments for their comments. Views/comments of concerned Ministries/ Department have been obtained and suitably incorporated in the draft Bill. The Draft Bill is under finalization in consultation with Ministry of Law for its introduction in Parliament and after the passing of the Bill, the Regulatory Authority will be set up immediately.

[Translation]

Resolution of Issues with China

*27. SHRIMATI ASHWAMEDH DEVI:
SHRI RAMKISHUN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has raised objections to the visit by the Indian Defence Minister to Arunachal Pradesh for participating in the silver jubilee celebrations in the State;

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

(c) whether India has taken adequate steps to maintain peace and tranquility in the border States and impress upon China to resolve contentious issues bilaterally; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) On 25 February 2012, the Chinese Foreign Office Spokesperson made a statement that the Chinese position on the disputed eastern sector of the India-China boundary has been consistent and that pending a final resolution, India and China should not take any action in the disputed area that could complicate the problem. India's position that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side.

(c) and (d) India and China have reiterated, on many occasions, their commitment to maintaining peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, pending a final settlement of the Boundary Question and have put in place various Confidence Building Measures to this end. These include Special Representative (SR) Talks, the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and discussions through diplomatic channels. Recently during the 15th SR Talks the two sides established a Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs as an additional confidence building measure. Its first meeting was successfully held in Beijing on 5-6 March 2012.

Violation of Universal Service Obligations

*28. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the services of some of the private telecom companies have been suspended in certain telecom circles for violation of the conditions of the Universal Service Obligation Fund agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof, companywise;

(c) whether the Government has imposed penalties on erring companies; and

(d) if so, the details of penalty imposed and recovery made from them, companywise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)/ Government have not suspended the services of private telecom companies for violation of the conditions of the USOF agreement. However, M/s Reliance Communications Limited (RCL) and M/s Reliance Telecom Limited (RTL)

switched off their mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) at 1191 and 228 USOF supported sites respectively causing suspension/interruption of mobile services in certain areas during Nov 2010 to Feb 2011. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) A financial penalty of Rs.4,63,22,000 has been imposed on M/s Reliance Communications Limited and Rs. 1,07,67,500 on M/s Reliance Telecom Limited for the period of interruption in mobile services caused due to shutting down of services by these companies. The details of penalty imposed and recovered are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Status Report on Recovery of Penalty due to Switching Off/On of BTSs by M/s RCL/RTL as on 21-02-2012

Sl. No.	CCA	Cluster numbers	USP	No. of BTSs switched off by M/s RCL	No. of BTSs switched off by M/s RTL	Total no. of Down time days	Penalty Re-coverable (Rs.)	Penalty Re-covered (Rs.)
1.	AP	1 to 6	RCL	339	0	20049	10133500	10133500
2.	Gujarat	19	RCL	45	0	2745	1372500	1372500
3.	Karnataka	29,32	RCL	112	0	9968	3563000	3563000
4.	Maharashtra	44,45,47	RCL	179	0	18167	6793000	6793000
5.	Punjab	61	RCL	13	0	933	794500	794500
6.	Rajasthan	62,63,65	RCL	149	0	14307	8149000	8149000
7.	TN	68,69,70	RCL	156	0	10033	6283000	6283000
8.	UP(E)	74,76,77	RCL	177	0	16239	8119500	8119500
9.	Uttaranchal	72,73	RCL	21	0	2143	1114000	1114000
	Total		RCL	1191	0	94584	46322000	46322000
10.	Bihar	9, 11, 12, 13	RTL	0	161	13920	7016000	7016000
11.	Jharkhand	26	RTL	0	55	3630	3080000	3080000
12.	MP	35	RTL	0	7	788	394000	394000
13.	WB	66	RTL	0	5	325	277500	277500
	Total RTL	0	228	18663	10767500	10767500		
Grand Total		1191	228	113247	57089500	57089500		

Development of Talents

*29. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme being implemented by the Government to develop hidden talents of the poor students at school and college levels in the country particularly in the rural areas;

(b) whether any schemes/projects have been

launched for setting up of model degree colleges in the educationally backward districts for improving education;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(e) the other steps being contemplated to improve infrastructure/quality of education in the backward regions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

(a) The National Talent Scholarship Scheme (NTS), for identification of talented students and awarding them with scholarships, is implemented by Ministry of Human Resource Development. Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) and Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Programme are implemented by Department of Science and Technology. KVPY aims to encourage students of Basic Sciences, Engineering and Medicine to take up research careers in these areas. The basic objective of INSPIRE is to communicate to the youth of the country the excitement of creative pursuit of science and attract talent to the study of science at an early stage.

(b) to (d) A centrally sponsored scheme for establishment of a model degree college in each of the identified 374 educationally backward districts having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national average has been launched in February, 2010. Under the scheme the Central Government shall provide assistance to the extent of one-third (1/3rd) of the capital cost for

establishment of each college, limited to Rs.2.67 crore. For Special Category States (i.e. all North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand), the Central share shall be 50% of the capital cost limited to Rs. 4.00 Crore for each college. Land shall be provided free of cost by the State Governments. The University Grants Commission (UGC) disburses grants from its budget to State Universities for projects relating to setting up of Model Degree Colleges in the identified 374 Educationally Backward Districts. According to University Grants Commission, in 2010-11, Rs. 19.95 crores and in 2011-12, Rs. 17.29 crores have been released. State-wise statement is enclosed.

(e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been operative with effect from 01.04.2010. The Act provides that every child in 6-14 age group shall have the right to free and compulsory education. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been revised to correspond to the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provision of additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools as quality interventions including in the backward regions. The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) provides for opening of new secondary schools and Interventions such as construction of school building, additional classrooms, laboratories, toilets etc. including in backward regions. The Girl's Hostel Scheme envisages the establishment of a hostel for secondary school girls in each of about 3500 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs). Further, under the Model School Scheme, State/UT Governments are provided support to set up a Model School in each EBB.

Statement

Performance of States in regard to implementation of the centrally sponsored scheme for establishment of one model degree college in each of the identified 374 educationally backward districts having lower GER than National GER. (Month ending 31.01.2011)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	EBDs	Proposals received	Proposals approved	Proposals under process	Proposal rejected	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	7	5	-	*2	Placed before Expert Committee on 23.9.2011 * Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12B of UGC Act.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	6	6	-	-	Approval has been conveyed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	12	12	12	-	-	Approval has been conveyed
4.	Bihar	25	1	-	-	1	Date of establishment is before 1.1.2008
5.	Chhattisgarh	15	5	5	-	-	Documents called for
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	
7.	Gujarat	20	20	19	-	*1	Grant has been released *Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12B of UGC Act
8.	Haryana	7	10	-	1	9	Date of establishment is before 1.1.2008 /not in EBD
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	-	-	4	Date of establishment is before 1.1.2008
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	-	-	-	-	
11.	Jharkhand	12	-	-	-	-	
12.	Karnataka	20	20	6	3	*11	Documents called for. * Date of establishment is before 1.1.2008
13.	Kerala	4	4	3	1	-	Documents called for.
14.	Madhya Pradesh	39	-	-	-	-	
15.	Maharashtra	7	7	7	-	-	Grant has been released
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	
17.	Meghalaya	5	-	-	-	-	
18.	Mizoram	7	-	-	-	-	
19.	Nagaland	1	-	-	-	-	
20.	Orissa	18	8	-	8	-	Documents called for
21.	Punjab	13	13	11	-	2	Date of establishment is before 1.1.2008
22.	Rajasthan	30	1	-	1	-	Documents called for
23.	Sikkim	4	2	-	2	-	Documents called for
24.	Tamil Nadu	27	7	3	*1	**3	*Documents called for** Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12 B of UGC Act/not in EBD
25.	Tripura	4	4	-	4	-	Documents called for

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26. Uttar Pradesh		41	6	5	1	-	Documents called for
27. Uttaranchal		2	-	-	-	-	
28. West Bengal		17	3	-	3	-	Documents called for
29. Andaman and Nicobar		2	-	-	-	-	
30. Chandigarh		-	-	-	-	-	
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		1	1	1	-	-	Approval has been conveyed
32. Daman and Diu		2	-	-	-	-	
33. Delhi		-	-	-	-	-	
34. Lakshadweep		1	1	-	1	-	Documents called for
35. Pudducherry		1	-	-	-	-	
Total		374	142	78	31	33	

Tele-Density

*30. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tele-density in some States is much less than the national teledensity;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, Statewise alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the tele-density in the country is much less than the global teledensity;

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

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the tele-density in the country, particularly in the rural areas in the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):

(a) and (b) The service area-wise details of rural, urban and overall tele-density in the country for the last three years and current year (as on 31.01.2012) are given in the enclosed Statement. The main reasons for lower tele-

density in some of the States compared to the national tele-density are low per capita income, poor literacy rate, poor availability of infrastructure viz. power and road, particularly in rural areas, socio-economic status of rural population etc.

(c) and (d) The comparative position of fixed and mobile phones' tele-density of the country vis-a-vis' the estimated global tele-density as per International Telecommunications Union (ITU), at the end of December 2011 is as under:

Type of telephone	Tele-density	
	India	World
Fixed Telephones	2.71%	16
Mobile Telephones	74.15%	86

(e) The following steps are taken/being taken by Government to increase the tele-density in the country:

1. Various schemes are being implemented with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for providing access to telecom services to people in the rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. These schemes are contributing in increase of rural tele-density which *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) As on 31.01.2012, 5,80,124 villages i.e. 97.73% of the Census 2001 inhabited revenue villages have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs).
- (ii) As on 31.01.2012, 1,84,775 VPTs, out of a total number of 1,85,121 VPTs earlier working on Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) technology and installed before 01.04.2002, have been replaced with reliable technologies.
- (iii) A scheme was launched by USO Fund to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7353 number of infrastructure sites/ towers in 500 districts spread over 27 states, for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. As on 31.01.2012, 7296 towers have been set up under this scheme. The infrastructure so created is being shared by three service providers for provision of mobile services. As on 31.01.2012, 15,851 Base Transceiver Stations have been commissioned by Service Providers and mobile services are being provided.
2. To meet the demand of wire line telephones in rural areas, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is now laying cable up to 5 Kms. of exchange against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms. based on demand and techno-commercial consideration.
 3. BSNL has deployed Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas to meet the demand of scattered and far-flung rural areas where connection of telephone is not techno-commercially feasible on landlines.
 4. BSNL has deployed its mobile network on national and State highways, important towns and pilgrim centers.
- The Twelfth Five Year Plan has not been approved so far.

Statement

Service area-wise Rural, Urban and Overall tele-density (in %)

Sl. No.	Name of service area	As on 31.03.2009			As on 31.03.2010			As on 31.03.2011			As on 31.01.2012		
		Rural	Urban	Overall	Rural	Urban	Overall	Rural	Urban	Overall	Rural	Urban	Overall
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.22	103.38	39.59	24.33	143.18	57.23	33.70	180.32	74.35	37.88	189.96	80.09
2.	Assam	9.36	86.98	20.65	18.47	96.55	29.99	23.93	124.46	38.98	28.17	146.25	46.06
3.	Bihar	7.49	83.28	17.77	14.65	127.96	30.07	21.86	171.97	42.32	24.68	193.94	47.80
4.	Gujarat	25.21	75.43	45.16	33.52	95.82	58.46	46.68	133.99	81.90	51.25	142.65	88.36
5.	Haryana	28.10	75.97	43.75	39.37	100.63	59.70	51.33	144.18	82.59	53.99	150.50	86.89
6.	Himachal Pradesh	40.47	179.89	55.50	52.53	298.28	79.36	70.23	440.32	111.11	75.07	469.35	119.09
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.72	77.42	32.76	26.93	113.21	49.90	30.01	107.85	50.90	29.66	116.87	53.21
8.	Karnataka	14.36	98.73	45.21	24.08	142.62	67.81	35.10	176.59	87.76	42.67	184.68	95.91
9.	Kerala	35.43	125.35	58.48	44.65	184.18	80.36	53.25	236.25	100.01	58.62	250.86	107.66
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8.61	66.56	23.79	15.41	90.76	35.28	22.92	120.73	48.88	25.68	128.73	53.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11. Maharashtra excl. Mumbai		21.70	69.67	37.90	32.27	85.10	50.30	46.07	112.47	68.97	50.56	123.67	76.00
12. North East		9.70	89.46	28.59	25.36	100.09	43.22	32.36	132.55	56.50	36.70	148.37	63.82
13. Odisha		12.55	78.09	23.30	20.61	133.25	39.30	28.42	194.96	56.37	33.50	215.68	64.36
14. Punjab		33.11	95.85	58.25	42.51	123.57	75.43	57.23	171.07	104.09	63.47	180.03	111.98
15. Rajasthan		16.71	102.56	37.15	31.42	120.89	52.76	38.79	149.89	65.35	43.24	161.24	71.50
16. Tamilnadu excl. Chennai		25.62	79.48	50.46	38.05	114.94	74.31	48.55	150.60	97.73	54.53	161.89	107.19
17. Uttar Pradesh		10.05	74.65	24.27	18.24	104.68	37.37	26.57	145.15	52.97	30.73	160.00	59.64
18. West Bengal excl. Kolkata		13.51	77.03	22.50	23.32	104.13	34.78	36.88	153.28	53.43	41.33	174.57	60.32
19. Kolkatta		#	#	89.68	#	#	120.18	#	#	163.76	#	#	170.31
20. Chennai		#	#	127.38	#	#	149.41	#	#	163.40	#	#	169.43
21. Delhi		#		140.18	#	#	172.49	#	#	225.25	#	#	237.50
22. Mumbai		#	#	110.52	#	#	143.71	#	#	180.44	#	#	189.31
All India		15.11	88.84	36.98	24.31	119.45	52.74	33.83	156.93	70.89	38.08	168.44	77.57

Separate figures for rural and urban population are not available.

Note: Figures of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal license areas also include telephones of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Andaman - Nicobar & Sikkim respectively.

Misbehaviour with Indian Diplomat

*31. SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI:
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the ill treatment allegedly meted to an Indian diplomat in China, during the course of providing consular assistance to two Indian businessmen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Chinese Government;

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

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (e) Government has taken this issue seriously and has raised this matter with the Chinese side, which has conveyed that China would ensure the safety and rights of diplomatic officers in China in accordance with the Vienna Conventions of Diplomatic and Consular Relations.

[English]

FDI in Domestic Airlines

*32. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow Foreign Direct Investment to the tune of 49 per cent in the Indian domestic airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any international carriers have shown interest in picking up equities in the Indian domestic airlines;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the foreign airlines are likely to be allowed to invest in domestic carriers; and

(e) the steps proposed by the Government, if any, to protect the indigenous interests in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) At present, 49% Foreign direct investment is allowed in the domestic carriers. However, no equity from foreign airlines in the domestic sector is allowed.

(d) and (e) A proposal to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by foreign airlines in Domestic Airlines upto a limit of 49% is under examination of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

[*Translation*]

Financial Restructuring of Air India

*33. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:
DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total debt burden of Air India at present and the entities to whom such debt is payable;

(b) the expenditure, income and losses of Air India during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the reasons for incurring losses;

(c) whether banks have refused to give fresh loans to Air India and if so, the steps being taken in this regard;

(d) whether any restructuring plan/bailout package for Air India has been cleared/approved recently and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is considering disinvestment of Air India and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken/being taken and the progress made on the turnaround and financial restructuring plan of the company?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The total working capital loan and aircraft loan position of Air India as on 31.12.2011 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The expenditure, income and losses of Air India during each of the last three years alongwith the reasons for incurring losses are as under:

	Rs. in crore			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	Apr-Sept. 2011
Total Revenue	15119.75	13138.34	14455.98	6803.85
Total Expenses	20668.01	18690.78	21321.15	10903.64
Loss	5548.26	5552.44	6865.17	4099.79

The reasons for the losses are (i) Abnormal increase in Aviation Turbine Fuel Cost (ATF); (ii) High taxes on ATF; (iii) High airport fees and levies; (iv) intense competition among airlines for market share resulting in lower yields/losses; (v) Increase in interest burden on aircraft loans due to strengthening of dollar; (vi) Interest burden on account of working capital; and (vii) High overhead cost compared with industry norms.

(c) and (d) Until Air India restructures its working capital loans, banks are not sanctioning fresh working capital loans. The Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) is under active consideration of the Government. The equity infusion by the Government in Air India during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12 are Rs.800 crore, Rs.1200 crore and Rs.1200 crore respectively.

(e) No, Madam. Government is not presently considering disinvestment of Air India.

(f) Air India has formulated a comprehensive Turnaround Plan (TAP) which entails an operational turnaround alongwith a financial turnaround in order to improve its operational and financial position. As part of the financial turnaround, a comprehensive FRP is proposed, which shall provide relief to the Company from its debt servicing obligations on working capital while providing necessary time to improve its operational efficiencies and implement the TAP. The FRP proposes that Government will infuse substantial equity into the Company to the extent of Rs.30,231 crore during the period FY 2012-2021. In addition, an amount of Rs.7400 crore to be issued as NCDs (Non-Convertible Debentures) and subscribed by investors shall also be guaranteed by Government of India (Principal + interest). The proceeds of NCDs will be used to repay lenders. Both TAP/FRP are under active consideration of the Government.

Statement*Air India Ltd.**Working capital Loan position as on December 31, 2011*

Total Working Capital Limit: Rs. 24000 Crores

Bank	Wide Body INR-Term Loans	Narrow Body INR-Term Loans	Total INR
Dena Bank	235.00	-	235.00
State Bank of India CC	1154.66	-	1154.66
Bank of Baroda	1000.00	1250.00	2250.00
IDBI Bank	660.00	90.00	750.00
Punjab National Bank	680.00	1140.00	1820.00
Allahabad Bank	500.00	-	500.00
Bank of India	953.00	400.00	1353.00
United Bank of India	400.00	-	400.00
Central Bank of India	1600.00	-	1600.00
Oriental Bank of Commerce	1530.00	-	1530.00
Punjab & Sind	475.00	-	475.00
UCO Bank	1000.00	-	1000.00
Syndicate Bank	1100.00	-	1100.00
Canara Bank	450.00	950.00	1400.00
Indian Bank	750.00	-	750.00
Indian Overseas Bank	-	1230.00	1230.00
Federal Bank	155.00	-	155.00
Andhra Bank	-	800.00	600.00
Corporation Bank	1300.00	-	1300.00
Standard Chartered Bank	-	-	-
CC-PNB Bank	-	210.00	210.00
OD-BOI Delhi	-	233.86	233.86
CC-HDFC Bank	9.24	-	9.24
CC - United Bank of India	50.86	-	50.86
USD Loan for W Capital - Bank of India / Standard Chartered Bank	1607.76	-	1607.76
Grand Total	15,610.52	6,103.86	21,714.38

AIRCRAFT Loan outstanding as on

Air India Limited					
Loans	Currency	Amount	Monthly Ex Rate	INR-Crs.	Eqv. USD Mill.
1	2	3	4	5	6
EDC	USD	2,963,520.00	52.169	15.46	2.964
Kfw518	USD	379,012,838.46	52.169	1977.27	379.013
Kfw601		484,766,158.88	52.169	2,528.98	484.766
15 yrs NCDs	INR	40,000,000,000.00		4,000.00	766.739
20 yrs NCDs	INR	15,000,000,000.00		1,500.00	287.527
A310-300 Loan (Simulator) EDC Loan	USD	1,382,241.06	52.169	7.21	1.382
Exim Loan for 7 acft & 2 sp. Eng.-Tr I	USD	597,314,105.06	52.169	3,116.13	397.314
Commercial Loan for 7 acft & 2 sp. Eng. -Tr I	USD	47,464,279.67	52.169	247.62	47.464
PDP Loan for advance payment of 7787 acft	USD	115,528,750.59	52.169	602.70	115.529
Exim Loan for 3 acft & 1 sp. Eng -Tr II	USD	258,795,568.60	52.169	1,350.11	258.799
Commercial Loan for 3acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr.II	INR	1,781,250,000.00		178.13	34.144
Exim Loan for 7 acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr. III	USD	721,307,686.23	52.169	3,762.99	721.308
Comm. Loan for 7 acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr. III	INR	7,000,000,000.00		700.00	134.179
Exim Loan for 3 acft & 1sp. Eng.-Tr IV	USD	354,526,323.65	52.169	1,849.53	354.526
Commercial Loan for 3 acft & 1 spe eng. -Tr. IV	USD	89,085,000.00	52.169	360.31	69.065
				22,1946.43	4,254.716
Air India Narrow Body					
EDC for Sim-1	USD	2,963,520.00	52.169	15.46	2.964
Kfw 518 for 4 A319 & 5 A321	USD	379,012,838.46	52.169	1,977.27	379.013
Kfw 601 for 6 A319 & 6 A321	USD	484,766,158.88	52.169	2,528.98	484.766

1	2	3	4	5	6
15 year NCDs	INR	40,000,000,000.00		4,000.00	766.739
20 year NCDs	INR	15,000,000,000.00		1,500.00	287.527
				10,021.71	1,921.008
Air India (Wide Body)					
A310-300 Loan (Simulator) EDC Loan	USD	1,382,241.06	52.169	7.21	1.38__
Exim Loan for 7 acft & 2 sp. Eng.- Tr. I	USD	597,314,105.06	52.169	3,116.13	597.314
Commercial Loan for 7 acft & 2 sp. Eng.-Tr. I	USD	47,464,279.67	52.169	247.62	47.464
PDP Loan for advance payment of 7 787 acft	USD	115,528,750.59	52.169	602.70	115.529
Exim Loan for 3 acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr. II	USD	258,795,568.60	52.169	1,350.11	258.796
Commercial Loan for 3 acft & 1 sp. Eng. (INR)-Tr. II	INR	1781,250,000.00		178.13	34.14
Exim Loan for 7 acft & 1 sp. Eng.-Tr. III	USD	721,307,686.23	52.169	3,762.99	721.308
Comm. Loan for 7 acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr. III	INR	7,000,000,000.00		700.00	134.18
Exim Loan for 3 acft & 1 sp. Eng. -Tr. IV	USD	354,526,323.65	52.169	1,849.53	354.526
Commercial Loan for 3 acft & 1 spe eng. -Tr. IV	USD	89,065,000.00	52.169	360.31	69.07
				12,174.72	2,333.71
AICL					
Exim Loan for 10 acft-Tr. I	USD	237,852,197.44	52.169	1,240.85	237.852
Commercial Loan for 10 acft-Tr. I	USD	18,690,763.58	52.169	97.51	18.691
Exim Loan for 5 acft-Tr. II	USD	112,482,942.85	52.169	586.81	112.483
Exim Loan for 3 acft-Tr. III	USD	95,140,114.39	52.169	496.34	90.140
Private Placement of Bonds-Tr. III	INR	950,000,000.00		95.00	18.21
				2,516.51	482.38

All conversion @ Dec. 11 Ex. Rate

Share in Telecom Manufacturing

*34. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian companies have only three per cent share in the telecom equipment market in the country;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the said share of the domestic companies?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) According to TRAI recommendation on "Telecom Equipment Manufacturing Policy" dated 12th April 2011, the contribution of all domestic products has been 12-13% in the year 2009-10 while Indian products could meet just 3% of the Indian demand.

(c) With a view to increase share of domestically manufactured Electronic products which includes telecom equipment also, the Government, vide Notification No. 8(78)/2010-IPHW dated 10th February 2012, has laid down the policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in procurement of those electronic products which have security implications for the country and in Government procurement for its own use and not with a view to commercial resale or with a view to use in the production of goods for commercial sale. Based on the above notification, each Ministry/Department has to issue notification for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic product or products, either for, reasons of security or for Government procurement. The notification would specify the percentage of procurement to be made from domestically manufactured electronic product or products but it shall not be less than 30% of the total procurement value of that electronic product or products. Further each Ministry/Department would also specify the domestic value addition requirement which the electronic product should satisfy for the product to qualify as domestically manufactured electronic product. The telecom equipment are security sensitive and hence Department of Telecommunication would also issue notification in line with above notification.

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has already put in public domain draft National Policy on Electronics 2011 http://mit.gov.in/sites/upload_files/

[dit/files/Draft-NationalPolicyonElectronics2011_4102011\(2\).pdf](http://www.dot.gov.in/NTP-2011/final-10.10.2011.pdf) and draft National Telecom Policy 2011 <http://www.dot.gov.in/NTP-2011/final-10.10.2011.pdf>. Both these policies are aimed at creating ecosystem for Electronic System Design and Manufacturing with increased value addition in the country. The draft National Telecom Policy 2012 has proposed to increase share of domestically manufactured telecom equipment and among others has following specific provision

"Promote the ecosystem for design, Research and Development, IPR creation, testing, standardization and manufacturing i.e. complete value chain for domestic production of telecommunication equipment to meet Indian telecom sector demand to the extent of 60% and 80% with a minimum value addition of 45% and 65% by the year 2017 and 2020 respectively."

[English]

Common Entrance Test

*35. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:
SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to hold Common Entrance Test for all the engineering colleges run by the Union/State Governments including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments have expressed their reservation over inclusion of the engineering colleges affiliated to the State Universities in the Common Entrance Test; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Multiplicity of entrance examinations for admission to engineering institutions has been a cause of concern. The burden imposed on the students in terms of time, payment of examination fees and the stress caused in scheduling and preparing for each examination is tremendous and the anxiety and trauma on both the students and parents have been highlighted on numerous occasions. In this context, there is a proposal to hold a

Common National Examination with weightage to State Board results normalized on the basis of percentile formula for admission to engineering institutions. The States may decide to adopt the same pattern of admission with appropriate weightages for State Board marks and National Examination for admission to the engineering institutions affiliated to state universities or continue with their prevalent system as they may deem fit. However, for admission to Central Educational Institutions, the common test is proposed to be operationalized by 2013.

While the proposal was endorsed 'in principle' by the State Ministers in the State Education Minister's Conference held on 22nd February, 2012, certain states like the states of Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Puducherry and West Bengal sought more time to study the proposal. The Central Government has initiated steps to finalize the details for the common examination process in consultation with all the stakeholders, including States.

Killing of Indian Fishermen

*36. SHRI MANICKA TAGORE:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fishermen were killed in a firing by security guards of an Italian ship off the Kerala Coast recently;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken up this matter with the Italian Government at the highest level and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether suitable compensation has been paid to the families of the deceased fishermen;

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

(f) the steps taken for avoiding such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Two Italian naval personnel on board an Italian Merchant Vessel "Enrica Lexie" allegedly opened fire on an Indian fishing vessel on 15 February 2012 resulting in the death of two Indian fishermen on board an Indian fishing vessel off the coast of Kerala. The Italian merchant vessel is currently in Kochi. The two Italian naval personnel suspected of shooting at

the Indian fishermen have been detained by Kerala police authorities and presented in the court.

(c) Yes Madam. This issue has been discussed by me with Italian Foreign Minister during his visit to New Delhi on 28 February 2012. The Italian Foreign Minister expressed regret at the loss of lives of the two Indian fishermen. The Italian side was told that the law of the land should be allowed to take its own course and the Indian judiciary being independent, free and fair would ensure a fair trial considering all legal aspects. The Italian Prime Minister, Mr. Mario Monti spoke to Hon'ble Prime Minister on 7 March 2012 expressing condolences for the loss of lives of the two fishermen. Hon'ble Prime Minister told the Italian Prime Minister that the Indian judiciary is free, independent and fair and would take into account all aspects of the law.

(d) and (e) All matters relating to this incident are currently sub-judice and being heard by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and also the Hon'ble Chief Judicial Magistrate of Kollam.

(f) An advisory has been issued by relevant authorities to all merchant vessels entering the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on the west coast that due to dense fishing activity, they are likely to encounter Indian fishing boats which should not be mistaken for pirate vessels and any suspicious activity should be reported to the Indian authorities immediately. Merchant vessels with armed guards on board should report the presence of guards to the Indian Navy and Coast Guard authorities while transiting through Indian EEZ. Internationally, at a Working Group meeting of the Contact Group on Piracy off the coast of Somalia held in Washington on 28 February 2012, the Government of India stressed the need for transmission of details of armed security guards and their weapons deployed on merchant ships and information regarding any untoward incident within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the coastal state to the authorities of the concerned State.

Flight Cancellation by Airlines

*37. SHRI P.T. THOMAS:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of unscheduled cancellations of flights by public as well as private carriers in the country during the last three years

and the current year, causing inconvenience to the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, year-wise, sector-wise and carrier-wise;

(c) the revenue loss to the exchequer due to such unscheduled cancellations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Generally, scheduled airlines operate their flights as approved. However, at times the flights are cancelled due to weather, technical, operational and

miscellaneous reasons which are beyond the control of the airlines.

Airline-wise details of flight cancellations during the last three years and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No such data is maintained by the Ministry.

(d) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) undertakes regular monitoring of schedule integrity and from time to time takes up the matter with concerned airlines. Additionally, DGCA has issued regulations on "Facilities to be provided to passengers by airlines due to denied boarding, cancellation of flights and delays in flights" which is being strictly monitored by DGCA for their compliance by airlines.

Statement

Details of Flight Cancellations

Airline	Details of Flight Cancellations											
	2009			2010			2011			2012		
	Total Fits	Fits Oper- ated	% Cancel- ation	Total Fits	Fits Oper- ated	% Cancel- ation	Total Fits	Fits Oper- ated	% Cancel- ation	Total Fits	Fits Oper- ated	% Cancel- ation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Air India	56021	55070	1.70	100118	98354	1.80	100763	96487	4.20	9459	9017	4.70
Jet Airways	63180	60053	4.95	112754	108898	3.40	131447	130302	0.90	12351	12188	1.30
JetLite	23752	22762	4.17	39536	37240	5.80	40784	40093	1.70	3817	3748	1.80
Kingfisher	77441	75791	2.13	122750	120362	1.90	119142	117217	1.60	7261	7138	1.70
Spicejet	26607	26397	0.80	50354	49590	1.50	71017	70442	0.80	7972	7867	1.30
Go Air	11273	11239	0.30	23160	22941	0.90	27749	27590	0.60	2375	2305	2.90
IndiGo	30129	29748	1.26	64744	64244	0.80	90181	89898	0.30	8446	8385	0.70
Total	288403	281060	2.55	513416	501629	2.30	581083	572029	1.56	51681	50648	1.99

Data for the year 2009 is from Jun

Data for 2012 is for Jan

Data for Air India is for domestic operations

[Translation]

Report on Millennium Development Goals

*38. SHRI ARJUN RAY:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of a report on the realisation of the targets in different activities/ areas under the Millennium Development Goals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the institutions which have released the report;

(d) whether the achievement of targets is satisfactory as per the said report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the future plans envisaged for realising the said targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) coordinates the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) monitoring system and releases Progress Reports from time to time. Millennium Development Goals, India Country Report, 2011 is the latest report brought out by the Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in December 2011. So far as India is concerned, 8 MDGs with 12 targets are relevant which are sought to be achieved during the period 1990 to 2015. A Brief on the MDG goals, targets and the assessment of performance for the latest year available based on this Report is given in the enclosed Statement. There has been progress in all indicators. Since further progress is expected to be made in the remaining period upto 2015, it is hoped that performance with reference to the 2015 targets will be satisfactory.

The Administrative Ministries such as the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development are implementing a number of schemes relevant to attainment of MDG targets.

Statement*India's Millennium Development Goals and Targets*

MGD Goal	Targets	Major Indicators	1990 (estimated value)	Assessment done for the latest Year	Value achieved for the latest year	MDG Target 2015
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger	1. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.	Percentage of population below poverty line	47.5	2004-2005	37.2	23.75
	2. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.	Percentage of underweight children (< 3 years) (NFHS 1 & 3 - based on National Centre for Health Statistics reference population)	52	2005-2006	40.0	26
Goal 2: Achieve universal	3. Ensure that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike,	Net Enrolment ratio in primary education	77	2008-09	98.6	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
primary education	will be able to complete a full course of primary education.	Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5	62 (1999)	2008-09	76	100
		Literacy rate (15-24 yrs)	61	2001	76.4	100
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women	4. Estimate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education, no later than 2015.	Ratio of girls to boys in primary education	0.73	2007-08	0.98	1.00
		Ratio of Literate women to men (15-24 years)	0.67	2007-08	0.88	1.00
		Share of women in wage employment in non-agriculture	18.6 (2004-05)	2009-10	18.6	50
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality	5. Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five.	U5MR (per 1,00 live births)	125	2009	64	42
		IMR (per 1,000 live births)	80	2010	47	27
		Proportion of one year olds immunized against measles	42.2	2009	74.1	100
Goal 5: Improve maternal health	6. Reduce by three quarters between 1990 and 2015, the Maternal Morality Ratio.	MMR (per 100,000 live births) (Trends in Maternal Mortality 2010)	437	2007-09	212	109
		Proportion of births attended by skilled health professionals	33	2007-08	52	100
Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other Diseases	7. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.	HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years	0.86 (2004)	2008	0.48	Trend to be reversed
	8. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of Malaria and other major diseases.	Prevalence rate associated with malaria	2.08 million in 2001	2010	1.6 million	Trend to be reversed
		Prevalence rate associated with Tuberculosis	338 per lakh	2010	256 per lakh	Trend to be reversed
Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability	9. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes, and reverse the loss of environmental resources.	Proportion of land area covered by forest			Forest cover increased by 0.03% or 728 square Km between 2005 and 2007	
		Ratio of area protected (to maintain biological diversity) to surface area			Ratio of protected area to total area increases by 0.02% or 698 square Km between 1999 and 2011	
		Energy use per unit of GDP (Rupee)			Energy intensity has come down from 0.128KWh in 1970-71 to 0.122 KWh in 2009-10	
	10. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access	Percentage of people using improved source of drinking water	66.4	2008-09	91.4	83
		Percentage of households	76	2008	49.2	38

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.	without sanitation facility Percentage of people using improved sanitation	18	2008-09	47.6	64
	11. By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers	Slum population as percentage of urban population	*	2001		42.6 million
Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development	12. In cooperation with private sector, make available benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication	Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population Internet subscribers per 100 population	0.67% 0.21 million in 1999	2011 2011	76.03% 20.33 million	** **

Source: MDG India Country Report 2011; Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Notes: NFHS- National Family Health survey

U5MR-Under-five Mortality rate

IMR- Infant Mortality Rate

MMR-Maternal Mortality Rate

GDP- Gross Domestic Product

** - Slum data was collected for the first time in 2001.

*** - No quantitative target is set for these indicators.

[English]

Contracts for WiMax Services

*39. SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some franchisees were allegedly favoured in the award of the Leased Service Area contracts for WiMax services by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether minimum stipulations were stated to have been overlooked/ manipulated for awarding the contracts and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any Government agency has estimated the loss incurred to the exchequer as a result thereof and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) There have been allegations regarding irregularities in award of franchisee in 16 Licenced Service Area for Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave access WiMax Services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in 2009 including manipulation of minimum stipulations mentioned in the tender.

(c) and (d) The CBI has registered an FIR on 23.2.2012. In the FIR, loss to the tune of Rs. 535.50 Crores to BSNL has been alleged based on the preliminary investigations.

Pending Cases in CIC

*40. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with the Central Information Commission (CIC) as on 28 February 2012 and the period of pendency;

(b) whether the CIC is losing its relevance due to the large scale pending cases as reported in the media;

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

(d) whether the shortage of commissioners in CIC is one of the reasons for the large scale pendency;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the other factors which have contributed to the high pendency; and

(f) the measures proposed to be taken by the

Government to expedite the clearance of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (f) The Central Information Commission has reported that 26,574 appeals/complaints are pending with them as on 1st February, 2012. The increase in pendency is due to manifold increase in number of RTI applications made to Central Public Authorities from 2006-07 to 2009-10 and consequent increase in number of appeals/complaints filed with the Commission as also retirement of three Central Information Commissioners since September, 2010. The pendency has also increased due to considerable higher number of appeals/complaints being filed to the Central Information Commission despite the fact that disposal of appeals/complaints by an Information Commissioner has increased as given below:

Year	Receipt	Disposal	Pendency as on 1st April	Percentage (disposal/receipt)	Average annual disposal by individual IC/CIC
2007-08	11621	7722	6820 (2008)	68.57%	1544
2008-09	15426	13322	8924 (2009)	86.36%	1665
2009-10	22800	19482	12242 (2010)	85.44%	2165
2010-11	28875	24071	17046(2011)	83.36%	2675

The Central Government has taken several steps like issue of guidelines for the Central Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities enabling them to supply information/dispose of first appeal effectively resulting into less number of appeals to the Commission, sanction of additional posts for the Commission etc. The Commission on its part launched special drive to clear the pendency of appeals/complaints. Further, three more Information Commissioners have been appointed with effect from 1st March, 2012. It has also been decided in consultation with Chief Information Commissioner that Central Information Commission should be granted autonomy in recruitment of staff.

[*Translation*]

Postage Charges

231. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PATLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to reduce postage charges/give rebate on sending condolence messages particularly through Post Cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Madam.

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

(c) The service of Post Cart is already subsidized by the Government.

Sports Facilities under SSA

232. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide funds from the budget of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for development of sports facilities for the talented sport persons;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of implementation provides detailed norms for intervention for universalisation of elementary education. The SSA Framework of implementation has been revised to conform with the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Accordingly, norms have been incorporated for providing Part Time Instructors for Health and Physical Education in upper primary schools where the number of admitted children is above one hundred. Further, the norms for School Grant under SSA have been revised to include play material, games and sports equipment. The RTE Act also provides for play ground facilities.

[English]

Breakfast for School Children

233. DR. P. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to launch a scheme to provide cooked hot breakfast to school children in the next year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also true that such scheme will be implemented in consultation with the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Killing of Indians in Australia/ America

234. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Indian Nationals have died/ killed while in service in other countries especially in Australia and America;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of cases reported, country-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the families of these Indian nationals to get compensation from the companies where the deceased person was working?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Fixation of Pension

235. KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the time by when fixation of pension being given to Group 'D' employees of Central Government was done;

(b) whether the Government proposes to refix the pension in view of soaring prices in the country; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The pension of all Central Government employees (including Group 'D' employees) is fixed at the time of their retirement.

(b) The pension of Central Government pensioners has been revised w.e.f. 1.1.2006 on the recommendations of the 6th Central Pay Commission. In addition, the pensioners are also granted dearness relief sanctioned, from time to time, based on the All India Consumer Price Index. There is no proposal for further revision of pension at this stage.

(c) Does not arise.

Passes Issued by BCAS

236. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:
SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI:
SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and types of passes issued and cancelled by Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) for entering the Delhi Airport and for other business purposes to various categories of persons/companies including VIPs during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the existing process for scrutinizing the applications from security point of view for entering in the Airport;

(c) whether the proper procedure is being adhered to;

(d) if not, whether incidents have come to the light of the Government where passes are issued in connivance of staff without proper examination of applications;

(e) if so, the details thereof during the above period along with the action taken against the guilty;

(f) whether the action on applications received from VIPs requesting for issuance of passes for entry in airport is taken on priority basis; and

(g) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to bring about more transparency in the system and to strengthen the said system?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) During the year 2009, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) had issued 14974 permanent Airport Entry Passes (AEPs), 48571 temporary AEPs and out of this, 23 passes were cancelled. The corresponding figure for 2010 were 25649, 88480 and 117 and similarly for 2011 these were 2430, 116631 and 92 respectively.

(b) AEPs are issued only after the receipt of clear background check reports from State Police/Intelligence agencies, apart from the recommendations for individual from the concerned agency.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

(f) and (g) Yes, Madam. The requests received from

VIPs for issuance of passes for entry in airport is attended by BCAS on priority basis. In order to improve the transparency in processing of applications, BCAS has introduced online submission of AEP applications at various airports of the country.

[English]

Extension of RTE Act

237. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide Right to Free and Compulsory Education at secondary level in order to improve the education scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is getting a code of conduct for teachers prepared through National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE);

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide education through media;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the scheme of providing Mid-Day-Meal in private schools is also under consideration; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its 58th Meeting held on 7th June, 2011 had recommended the extension of the RTE Act to the secondary stage of education. The Government has constituted a CABE Committee under the chairpersonship of Dr. D. Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development to formulate the draft legislation and estimate the requirement of funds for extension of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009 to the secondary level.

(c) and (d) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) had developed a Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers in December 2010 in consultation with the Education Secretaries of States and representatives of All India Primary and Secondary Teachers' Federations. The same was circulated to the States/UTs, School Managements including KVS/NVS as an advisory for adoption/adaption by them.

(e) and (f) Education through audio-visual mode in TV and radio is imparted by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), State Institutes of Educational Technology (SIET), National Institute of Open Schooling, etc. in different languages, including programmes such as Gyan Darshan, Gyan Vani and interactive programmes through EDUSAT facility.

(g) and (h) The Working Group on Elementary Education & Literacy for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) has recommended extension of Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme to the children studying in the private unaided schools in Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste concentration districts in a phased manner.

[Translation]

Private Educational Institutes

238. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increasing emphasis of private educational institutes in the higher education system in the country;

(b) if so, whether the said institutes have financial and functional autonomy and can fix fees, etc. as per norms laid by them;

(c) if so, whether it has been reported that the said institutes have compromised with education and have engaged unqualified teachers;

(d) if so, whether the Government has formulated any norms, procedure, etc. to review the functioning of such institutes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam. However, there is increase in the number of private institutions.

(b) The private educational institutions have financial and functional autonomy. However, it is subject to the tuition and other fees prescribed by the State level Fee Committees constituted by the State Governments under the extant law.

(c) to (e) Higher educational institutions are governed by Regulations framed by the respective Statutory Regulatory Authorities including University Grants

Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) etc. In consonance with the provisions of the relevant Regulations, the Regulatory Authorities conduct inspections of these institutions to ascertain whether these are fulfilling the norms & standards prescribed by the Statutory Authorities. As and when complaints about violation of norms by the private educational institutes are received, such complaints are examined by the respective Statutory Authorities and appropriate action under law is taken as per the laid down procedure.

[English]

Cheapest Aakash Tablet

239. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government requires an additional 22 crore units of the world's cheapest tablet 'Aakash' to move a step further in its endeavour to merge education with information technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Enabling education through the use of Information & Communication Technology is a gradual, step by step process in which e-content availability, connectivity and Low Cost Access-cum-Computing Devices (LCADs) like Aakash play pivotal roles. Empowerment of teachers and students through this triad is a carefully calibrated process wherein pedagogical efficiencies of the interventions need to be ensured for the target audience. Hence, at this stage, it is difficult to quantify the exact requirement of Aakash tablets and their enhanced variants as would emerge in the future. However, with a view to create an eco-system for gradually increasing indigenisation for such tablets, an inter-ministerial committee headed by Secretary, Department of Information Technology (IT), that includes representation from Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Public Sector Electronics Manufacturing Companies and Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs) has been constituted. This committee has already met four times.

[*Translation*]

Adverse Development in Maldives

240. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA:
SHRI P.C. MOHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that thousand years old Hindu and Buddhist statues haven been destroyed in Maldives after a coup in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect Indian citizens and Indian culture in that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) There have been reports that some artifacts at the National Museum in Male, Maldives, belonging to the pre-Islamic era in Maldives, were damaged or destroyed in incidents of violence in February 2012.

(c) The Indian expatriate community in Maldives is safe. The Government is in touch with the Government of Maldives for continued safety and security of Indian nationals there. During the visit of the Foreign Secretary to Maldives on February 15-16 the President of Maldives indicated that the damage and destruction to the artifacts in the National Museum would be inquired into.

Report of ISRO on Deterioration

241. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of review report of weather station set up by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) for painting of world famous temples in Khajuraho and the reasons for deteriorating condition of the temples?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has installed an Automatic Weather Station (AWS) at Khajuraho in December 2010 at the behest of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). AWS helps to monitor the environmental parameters such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, rainfall, etc. The

conservation work for Khajuraho Temples is done by ASI regularly. As per ASI, the world famous temples in Khajuraho are in a good state of preservation.

[*English*]

Expat Pilot

242. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) had issued notices to various airlines for shielding expat pilots;

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

(c) whether all these airlines have responded to the notice issued by the DGCA;

(d) if so, the reasons cited by them for shielding the expat pilots; and

(e) if not, the action taken by the Government against such airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of the answer to the part (a).

Steep Rise in Engineering Colleges

243. SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is steep rise in the number of engineering institutes in the country;

(b) if so, whether the growth of engineering colleges is commensurate with the Government's Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to groom teachers for these engineering colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The number of engineering Institutes, as existing and added from 2006-07 to 2011-12 is as under:

Year	Engineering	Added in year
2006-07	1511	--
2007-08	1668	157
2008-09	2388	720
2009-10	2972	584
2010-11	3222	250
2011-12	3393	171

(b) and (c) The aim is to expand the higher education sector through all its modes of delivery and to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education to 15% by 2011-12. The new technical institutions added above help in achieving this target.

In addition, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has taken following measures to increase the GER in technical education:

- i. Allowed new institutions to start with enhanced intake capacity 300 seats in engineering, 120 in MBA/MCA/PGDM/Pharmacy/Art & Craft and 80 for Architecture & town planning in place of last year approved intake for new institution of 240, 60 and 40 respectively.
- ii. The approved Technical Institutions may expand its activities by adding additional programme/ courses/ divisions, in the existing Technical Institutions and may also opt for an additional programme/ courses/ divisions in 2nd shift or for a separate Technical Institutions in the existing Technical Institution in 2nd shift.
- iii. Permission to open separate division in 2nd year of Engineering/ Technology courses for admitting Diploma and B.Sc. Degree holders through Lateral Entry Scheme.

(d) The AICTE has prescribed norms for requirement of faculty and approval for establishment of new institutions is granted in compliance to these norms.

Further, AICTE differentiates institutions having deficiencies and not having deficiencies in granting new courses and increase in intake in the existing institutions there by making it mandatory on the part of the institutions to comply with the requirements of the AICTE.

Also, in order to address the issue of shortage of qualified faculty in general if any, and also to facilitate the

students to pursue their higher study leading to award of M. Tech degree the AICTE has granted permission to start M. Tech programme in teaching institutions and to start second shift in the existing institutions.

AICTE has certain faculty development schemes like "Quality improvement programme (QIP)" for improvement of qualification of the faculty employed at Diploma & degree level institutions.

AICTE has certain promotional schemes for attracting the faculty like "Research Promotion Scheme (RPS)" for promoting research in the field of Technical Education and to generate Master's and Doctoral degree candidates to augment to supply of research experienced faculty and research personnel in the country.

Thorium Based Nuclear Energy

244. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of thorium reserves available in the country, location-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for extraction of thorium from these locations;
- (c) the time by which thorium is likely to be extracted;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan for generating thorium based nuclear energy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent Unit of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has established the presence of 10.70 million tonnes of Monazite in the country, which contains 9,63,000 tonnes of Thorium Oxide (ThO₂). Indian Monazite contains about 9-10% of ThO₂ and about 8,46,477 tonnes of Thorium Metal can be obtained from 9,63,000 tonnes of ThO₂ which will be used for future programmes of DAE. The State-wise thorium reserves in the country are as given below:

State	Monazite (Million Tonnes)
Kerala*	1.51
Tamil Nadu	2.16
Andhra Pradesh	3.74
Odisha	1.85
West Bengal	1.22
Bihar	0.22
Total	10.70

* Including resources of lake and sea bed

(b) and (c) The commercial exploitation of thorium deposits is being carried out by the Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy. Since the year 1952, the IREL has been processing monazite and sufficient quantity of thorium has been stockpiled for future use. Extraction of thorium is a continuous process.

(d) and (e) India is pursuing a three stage nuclear power generation programme aimed at long term energy independence based on use of our abundant Thorium resources. The programme is to use Thorium for electricity generation in the long-term. In order to realize this goal, we are well into the first stage based natural Uranium fuel, both from domestic and imported sources. This will be followed by second stage comprising of fast reactors. It is proposed to set up a large power generation capacity based on fast reactors before getting into the third stage. Thorium in itself cannot produce electricity and it has to be first converted to Uranium-233 in a nuclear reactor. A comprehensive three-stage nuclear power programme is, therefore, being implemented sequentially.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Sanskriti Schools

245. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up more Sanskriti Schools;

(b) if so, the locations selected for setting up of Sanskriti Schools and the criteria in this regard; and

(c) if not, the views of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Policy/guidelines for setting up Sanskriti type schools in the country have been framed with a provision of 60% seats for the wards of transferable officers of All India Service/Central Services. In case land is provided free of cost by the State Government 10% (out of the above 60%) seats will be reserved for wards of State Government employees. As per guidelines, the proposal to set up Sanskriti type School in any State Capital may be initiated by the State Government or Association of All India Services/Central Civil Services Officers in consultation with the Central Government employees Coordination Committee justifying the need to set up such a school at that Station. A proposal to open a Sanskriti type school in Shillong, Meghalaya has been received. However, no decision has yet been taken on the proposal.

[*English*]

Letters from MPs

246. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of letters received from Members of Parliament during each of the last three years are yet to be replied;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not replying the letters, MP-wise; and

(c) the guidelines issued by the Government/PMO in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be furnished shortly.

[*Translation*]

Improvement in Human Development

247. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no improvement in human development despite officials claims regarding economic development in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI

KUMAR): (a) and (b) No Madam. There has been a significant improvement in the human development in the country over the years as revealed by various indicators of the human development. As per the Census 2011, the overall literacy rate in the country has increased from 64.83 in 2001 to 74.04 in 2011. The male-female gap in the literacy rate has gone down to 16.68 in 2011 in comparison to 21.59 in 2001. The percentage of population below poverty line has also declined from 45.3% in 1993-94 to 37.2% in 2004-05. The Infant Mortality Rate has come down from 80 per thousand live births in 1990 to 50 per thousand in 2009. The Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) was 424 per lakh live births in 1992-93 and has come down to 212 per lakh in 2007-09. Similarly the percentage of people using improved source of drinking water has increased from 68 % in 1993 to 90.3% in 2008-09 and the percentage of households without sanitation facilities has declined from 70% in 1993 to 51% in 2008.

Moreover, the Human Development Report 2011 of United Nations Development Programme also reveals that India has registered a consistent improvement in Human Development Index value which increased from 0.410 in 1990 to 0.461 in 2000 and further to 0.547 in 2011.

Cyber Cafe in Villages

248. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up cyber cafe in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the aims and the objectives thereof;

(c) whether the districts/villages have been identified for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Under National e-Governance Plan, the Government has sanctioned the scheme of Common Service Center (CSCs) for setting up of 1,00,000 kiosks in rural areas. On an average for six villages, one Common Service Center has been planned to be set up. These kiosks are equipped with Computers, Connectivity, trained and incentivized manpower. These centers provide public services alongwith facilities of Internet and E-Mail. The scheme is implemented on Public Private Partnership model with Government of India providing only revenue viability gap funding. As on 31st January 2012, around 88000 Centers have been set up.

The scheme has an outlay of Rs. 5742 crores of which Rs. 1649 crores would be provided by the Government and Rs. 4093 crores by the Private Sector. The state wise list showing number of CSCs planned and setup so far is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Rollout status for the CSC Scheme - January 2012

Sl. No.	State	CSCs to be Setup	Roll Out as on 31st January 2012
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5452	2756
2.	Andaman Nicobar	45	21
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	200	200
4.	Assam	4375	3881
5.	Bihar	8463	7838
6.	Chhattisgarh	3385	2462
7.	Chandigarh	13	13
8.	Delhi	520	520

1	2	3	4
9.	Goa	160	160
10.	Gujarat	13695	13695
11.	Haryana	1159	1159
12.	Himachal Pradesh	3366	2884
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1109	655
14.	Jharkhand	4562	4566
15.	Karnataka	5713	800
16.	Kerala	2694	2694
17.	Lakshadweep	10	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	9232	9228
19.	Maharashtra	10484	8780
20.	Manipur	399	399
21.	Meghalaya	225	214
22.	Mizoram	136	118
23.	Nagaland	220	198
24.	Odisha	8558	5804
25.	Puducherry	44	44
26.	Punjab	2112	674
27.	Rajasthan	6626	3720
28.	Sikkim	45	45
29.	Tamil Nadu	5440	3952
30.	Tripura	145	145
31.	Uttar Pradesh	18745	11122
32.	Uttarakhand	2804	2474
33.	West Bengal	6797	5938
	Total	126,933	97,159
34.	Daman and Diu	4	Under discussion
35.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12	Under discussion
	Total	126,949	

Death of Four Indian Workers in Bahrain

249. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of four Workers from Kerala having died of inhaling poisonous gas in Bahrain due to lack of proper amenities in their lodgings; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure better quarters and living for Indian workers working in the Middle Eastern and Arab countries?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Indian Mission in Bahrain has informed that five Indian nationals had rented one room. Due to cold weather in Bahrain they had decided to use an empty paint tin containing firewood, and lighted it to get some warmth. This burning of the firewood resulted in poisonous carbon monoxide emission which was responsible for the death of four Indian workers, and the hospitalization of a fifth worker who is in a serious condition.

The Indian Mission has informed that many Indian workers in Bahrain are living on modest wages and they make their own group- accommodation to save money.

The Government in the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has taken several initiatives to protect the welfare of overseas Indian workers which include:-

- (i) Indian had signed Labour Agreements with Jordan and Qatar in 1980s to protect the interest of the Indian Workers. Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) were signed with United Arab Emirates (UAE) in December, 2006, with Kuwait in April, 2007, with Oman in November 2008, with Malaysia in January 2009, and with Bahrain in June 2009. An Additional Protocol to the existing Labour Agreement between India and Qatar was signed in November, 2007.
- (ii) These MOUs enhance bilateral co-operation in management of migration and protection of labour welfare. Under these MOUs a Joint Working Group (JWG) has been constituted that meets regularly in order to resolve bilateral labour issues.

In these Joint Working Groups, protection and welfare of the workers, compliance of contractual provisions of employment to be provided by the foreign employer relating to proper accommodation, working and living conditions are impressed upon.

Protection from Misuse of Data

250. SH.P.C. CHACKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mechanism has been evolved to determine which bodies/persons would have access to the information collected by the Unique Identification Authority of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether procedures have been established to protect misuse of this data; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No access of UIDAI data base is provided to any external person or organization, except in accordance with the policies laid down by UIDAI from time to time.

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

(c) and (d) In order to ensure that confidentiality of the data is maintained, UIDAI does not allow download of the data from its CIDR and will answer queries only in 'Yes' or 'No'.

A number of processes have been put in place to ensure that the data collected by UIDAI is not accessed in unauthorized manner. These include the encryption of data at source, immediately on completion of enrolment; transfer of data to the data centre in encrypted and zipped format which is tamper proof; putting standard security infrastructure such as virtual providers, firewalls and intrusion prevention system in place and limiting physical access to UIDAI infrastructure and data to authorized personnel only. UIDAI has also issued data protection and security guidelines for Registrars, Enrolment Agencies, Logistics Service Providers, UIDAI Employees, Authentication User Agencies, and Data Centre Service Providers.

AVATAR Project

251. SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Aerobic Vehicle for Hypersonic Aerospace Transportation (AVATAR) project jointly spearheaded by Indian Space Research Organization

(ISRO) and Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO); and

(b) the time by which the first prototype will be ready for testing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Feasibility study of project "AVATAR" has been done by a group of scientists in DRDO. ISRO has no connection with the project.

Non-payment of Dues

252. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
SHRI K. SUGUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India flights were grounded recently for few hours due to nonpayment of dues to State run oil companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether oil companies have resumed oil supplies to Air India after the latter had promised to pay the outstanding amount to the oil companies;

(d) if so, the present status thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to solve the crisis and to ensure normalcy of flight operations;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. On 2nd February, 2012, the supplies were discontinued by oil companies from 16.00 hrs. to 21.00 hrs. at airports in Mumbai, Delhi Kolkata, Chennai, Trivandrum and Cochin.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Oil companies restored supplies to Air India on the same day. Dues are now being paid immediately on completion of the credit period.

(e) to (g) The Group of Ministers (GoM) had approved an extension of credit of 3 months to Air India by the Oil marketing companies in their meeting held on 28.10.2011.

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas had conveyed the approval of the GOM to the Oil Marketing Companies and asked them to put Air India on Cash & Carry if the dues were not paid within 3 months. The Oil Marketing Companies decided to discontinue supplies when Air India was not able to meet the deadline of daily payments that was because of a temporary mismatch between revenue collections and disbursements. After this discontinuation of the supplies, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas have evolved a mechanism, instituted to consider similar situations that would now reduce such instances that could cause disruption of operations and subsequently inconvenience to public.

[*Translation*]

Haj Quota

253. SHRI BADRI RAM JAKHAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government issues quota for Haj pilgrims of the country including Rajasthan in proportion of its population;

(b) if so, the number of Haj pilgrims who performed Haj pilgrimage during the last three years;

(c) whether the quota fixed in this regard is justified;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to increase the quota for Rajasthan in ensuing years keeping in view the population of the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the number of quota increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) In accordance with the Haj Agreement signed with the Government of Saudi Arabia, the Haj quota is allotted between the Haj Committee of India (HCOI) and the Private Tour Operators (PTOs). Subsequently, HCOI allocates its quota among various States/Union Territories in proportion to Muslim population of that State as per 2001 Census on a random basis through computerised Qurrah (draw of lots).

(b) The number of Haj pilgrims who performed Haj pilgrimage through HCOI during the last three years are as follows:

Year	No. of Haj pilgrims
2009	1,20,127
2010	1,26,018
2011	1,24,901

(c) and (d) Yes.

(e) and (f) The Saudi Government allots a quota of one seat for Haj per thousand Muslims in countries having Muslim population. Over and above this national quota, every year, Government of India requests the Saudi Government to allocate additional quota to accommodate the excess demand.

[English]

Safety in Coal Mines

254. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking any measures for the security of workers/laborers working in the coal mines;

(b) if so, whether all the large coal mines of the country have a team of doctors alongwith ambulance facility for emergency; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) The matter of security of workers /laborers working in coal mines is beyond the purview of the Mines Act, 1952. However, safety of workers is governed in accordance with the provisions as laid down in the Mines Act, 1952 and the regulations, rule and bylaws framed there under. Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has taken several measures to improve standard of safety in its mines in addition to following the statutory provisions under the Mines Act, 1952.

(b) and (c) There is a Team of Doctors and Ambulance at every Area Hospital of the subsidiary companies of CIL, which are well equipped for providing emergency treatment. There are 85 Hospitals with 5,806 Beds, 424 Dispensaries, 667 Ambulance and 1477 Doctors including Specialists in CIL and its subsidiaries to provide medical services including emergency services to the employees.

[Translation]

Unregistered IT Companies

255. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of information technology companies are functioning without registration and has no control over them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for non-registration of such companies alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the outcome of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Madam. As per the information received from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, no such case where company is functioning without registration has come to their notice.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Implementation of RTI Act

256. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Right to Information Act, 2005 is not being implemented by several State Governments;

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

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government against the non-implementing State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The RTI Act, 2005 is being implemented in all the States to which it applies.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Enhancement of Benchmark**

257. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation can enhance the benchmark fixed under aircraft rules 1937 by issuing civil aviation need;

(b) if so, the rule under which it can be done;

(c) if not, the reason therefor;

(d) the benchmark set under the aircraft rule 1937 for conducting flight test of candidates seeking pilot licence or commercial pilot licence;

(e) whether as per the requirement of civil aviation, scope of the benchmark laid under the aircraft rule 1937 has been enlarged by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation;

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

(g) the difference between the benchmark laid down under the aircraft act 1934 and aircraft rules 1937 and the benchmark scope enlarged through the executive order?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. As per provisions contained in Rule 133A of the Aircraft Rules 1937, the Director General may, through Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs), Aeronautical Information Publication, Aeronautical Information Circulars (AICs), Notice of Aircraft Owners and Maintenance Engineers and Civil Aviation Requirements, issue special directions not inconsistent with the Aircraft Act 1934 or these rules, relating to the operation, maintenance or navigation of aircraft flying in or over India or of aircraft registered in India.

(d) The skill test required for obtaining commercial pilot licence for aeroplanes is contained in Section J, Schedule II of the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of the reply given for part (e).

*[English]***Legislation on Standards and Infrastructure in Higher Educational Institutions**

258. SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a legislation to ensure strict adherence to standards and quality of the infrastructure in the engineering colleges, deemed universities and technical institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the provisions likely to be incorporated in the said Bill; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government has introduced The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority For Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010 on 3rd May, 2010 in Parliament, to provide for mandatory assessment and accreditation of higher educational institutions by independent accreditation agencies in order to ensure adherence to standards and quality of infrastructure in higher educational institutions, including deemed universities and technical institutions in the country, and to establish a statutory Authority for the purpose.

Development of Airports

259. SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of airports planned to be made operational in different parts of the country in the next financial year or in the next five year plan, particularly in the State of West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government proposes to develop airports at district level in view of the increased requirements of different religious and industrial destinations;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise alongwith the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The operationalisation / development of airports in the country, including West Bengal, is an ongoing process and is taken up depending upon the traffic demand and availability of resources. The airports taken up for development are Jalgaon, Jaisalmer, Bhatinda, Bikaner and Kadapa.

Further, Keeping in view the enormous growth in air passengers, which has put pressure on air infrastructure and to encourage infusion of greater investment in airport sector, Government had pronounced a policy for greenfield airports in April, 2008. This policy states that it would be the endeavour of the Central Government to ensure that all approvals and clearances are given in a timely manner. State Government may facilitate by giving incentives to an Airport Company such as land, concessional or otherwise; real estate development rights in and around the airports; airport connectivity; rail, road; fiscal incentives by way of exemptions from State taxes; and any other assistance that the State Government deem fit. A Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation has been constituted to coordinate and monitor the various clearances required for setting up of a Greenfield airport. The promoter seeking to develop the airport has to submit the proposal to the Government for consideration by the Steering Committee. Application for setting up of Greenfield airport are received from time to time, which are considered by the Steering Committee/competent authority for grant of 'in principle' approval, after they have completed all necessary formalities of obtaining pre-feasibility study report, site clearance, clearances from regulatory agencies, etc.

The timeline for construction of airport projects depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc.

In pursuance of Policy for Greenfield Airports, the Central Government has accorded "in-principle" approval for setting up of a Greenfield airports at Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Sindhudurg and Shirdi in Maharashtra, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hassan and Shimoga in Karnataka, Kannur in Kerala, Durgapur in West Bengal, Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh, Karaikal in Puducherry and Dabra in Madhya Pradesh (for cargo airport).

Hike in Airfare due to Hike in Oil Prices

260. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the hike in prices by the oil

companies, private/public airlines have announced to increase the air fare;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government oil companies such as Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum have so far increased air fuel consecutively for the seventh time;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard and to make air travel more affordable for the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Air fares applicable for domestic passengers are determined by market forces and therefore are not fixed by Government. However, since fuel cost being a substantial proportion of total operating cost of airlines, frequent hikes in the fuel prices are bound to adversely impact the operating environment of Airlines industry.

(c) and (d) Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices have been revised by Oil marketing companies consecutively for the 5th time since 1st January, 2012.

(e) A Working Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation with Finance Secretary, Secretary, Financial Services; Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas; Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and Joint Secretary (Civil Aviation) to identify the factors causing stress in civil aviation and to suggest solutions to the same.

Also, with a view to maintain transparency in tariff publication, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken following steps:

- Scheduled domestic airlines have been directed to display established tariff route-wise and fare category-wise in their websites, on monthly basis and also to notify any significant and noticeable changes to DGCA within 24 hrs. of effecting such a change.
- A Tariff Analysis Unit has been set up in DGCA to monitor tariff on regular basis at periodic intervals.

Annual Growth Rate of States

261. DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether various States in the country have registered different annual growth rates during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of States which have registered lower than the national average rate of growth and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate/balanced growth of all the States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The State-wise growth rates of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) during the last three years and the all India Gross Domestic product (GDP) annual growth rates are given in the enclosed

Statement. The States registering the growth rate in GSDP lower than all India GDP annual growth rate are indicated in bold letters during the respective years. The annual growth rates of GSDP of States depend on a number of factors which include resource endowments, historical background of development, infrastructure and various other state specific factors.

(c) The Government have taken several measures to improve the growth performance across the country in a balanced manner. The policy instruments in this regard include plan and non-plan transfer of resources from Centre to States favouring less developed States, tax incentives for setting up of private industries in the backward regions, etc. A number of programmes have also been initiated to reduce income disparity between States. These include Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Hill Area Development Programme/Western Ghats Development Programme, and Border Area Development Programme, etc. In addition, several centrally sponsored schemes and state specific schemes are being implemented which are expected to accelerate the growth rate of GSDP of various states.

Statement*Rate of Growth in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at 2004-05 prices*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Eleventh Five Year Plan Target*	% Growth over Previous Year #		
			2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9.5	6.88	5.98	9.96
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.4	8.73	14.80	7.87
3.	Assam	6.5	5.72	7.98	7.34
4.	Bihar	7.6	14.58	10.42	14.77
5.	Jharkhand	9.8	-1.75	4.98	6.01
6.	Goa	12.1	10.00	10.63	8.30
7.	Gujarat	11.2	6.78	10.10	10.47
8.	Haryana	11	8.20	13.00	9.59
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.5	7.42	8.12	8.80
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.4	6.46	4.80	6.63

1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Karnataka		11.2	7.11	5.20	8.87
12. Kerala		9.5	5.56	8.95	9.13
13. Madhya Pradesh		6.7	12.37	10.50	8.17
14. Chhattisgarh		8.6	8.39	3.25	11.16
15. Maharashtra		9.1	8.36	8.08	10.47
16. Manipur		5.9	6.56	7.63	6.16
17. Meghalaya		7.3	12.94	9.03	9.39
18. Mizoram		7.1	13.34	10.39	9.18
19. Nagaland		9.3	6.34	4.36	3.98
20. Odisha		8.8	7.75	6.67	8.60
21. Punjab		5.9	5.85	6.61	7.04
22. Rajasthan		7.4	7.09	4.30	9.69
23. Sikkim		6.7	16.39	31.87	8.94
24. Tamil Nadu		8.5	4.89	9.43	11.74
25. Tripura		6.9	9.44	8.62	8.74
26. Uttar Pradesh		6.1	6.99	6.10	7.86
27. Uttrakhand		9.9	12.68	11.12	7.37
28. West Bengal		9.7	4.90	9.84	7.06
All India		9	6.72	8.39	8.39

Source:

* Planning Commission

Directorate of Economics & Statistics of respective State Governments, and for All-India - Central Statistics Office.

[Translation]

Application under RTI

262. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for information under Right to Information Act in the Ministry during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the number of applications in respect of which information has been provided;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaint in regard to providing incomplete information or

information not based on facts; and

(d) if so, the number of such complaints received and the action taken by the Government in this regard and also against the persons responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Relief to Tamils Displaced by War

263. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has handed over the first set of 50,000 houses and 10,000 bicycles to Tamil civilians in Sri Lanka, displaced by war; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) External Affairs Minister during his visit to Sri Lanka from 16-19 January 2012 handed over the first lot of completed houses at Ariyalai, Jaffna and the bicycles to Internally Displaced Persons in Jaffna. The total tendered cost for construction of 1000 housing units under Pilot Project is Rs 53.04 crore and the total cost for the supply of 10,000 bicycles is Rs. 2.87 crore.

[*Translation*]

Sex Education

264. SHRI C.R. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women is emphasizing to introduce sex education in the school curriculum for boys and girls;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government has discussed this matter with the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the response of the States Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) After consultation with representatives of State Govt. and other stakeholders, Ministry of Human Resource Development has introduced an educational programme, known as Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) at secondary and higher secondary level. It is being implemented by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS). It is also being implemented by 30 States and Union Territories under National Population Education Project (NPEP). This programme focuses on making students aware of the concerns of adolescence stage, and dangers of HIV/AIDS and substance use; helping them to acquire necessary life skills to enable them to avoid risky situations; to take informed decisions and to develop healthy and responsible behaviour.

[*English*]

UNSC Resolution on Syria

265. SHRI P. LINGAM:
SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has voted in the United Nations Security Council against Syria recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the advantages likely to accrue to the country as a result of this decision; and

(d) the name of other countries voting alongwith India on the same resolution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) India supported the Resolution on the situation in Syria which was voted upon in the Security Council on 4 February 2012. The Resolution was supported by 13 of the 15 members of the Council, including India, but was not adopted due to a veto exercised by both Russia and China.

(c) India's support for the Resolution was in accordance with our support for the efforts by the League

of Arab States for a peaceful resolution of the crisis through a Syrian-led inclusive political process. The Resolution expressly ruled out any measures under Article 42 of the UN Charter and called for serious political dialogue between the Syrian government and the whole spectrum of the opposition, under the auspices of the League of Arab States. In our Explanation of Vote (EoV) on that occasion, India explicitly stated its belief that the leadership of Syria is a matter for the Syrian people to decide. India also noted the necessity for all opposition forces in Syria to peacefully engage in constructive dialogue with the authorities and hoped that this would create a new environment for peace and would facilitate a political process. India also stated that this political dialogue should build upon the political reforms already announced by the Syrian leadership with necessary changes so that they find acceptance among all sections of Syrian society.

(d) The 12 other members of the Security Council besides India who voted in favour of the draft resolution were: Azerbaijan, Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Morocco, Pakistan, Portugal, South Africa, Togo, United Kingdom, and United States.

[Translation]

Expenditure for Social Sector Scheme

266. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been fixed for total expenditure for the implementation of social sector schemes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the total expenditure earmarked for the same;

(c) the total amount allocated for the same till December, 2011; and

(d) the gap between the amount allocated and spent during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) A Five Year Plan provides an indicative outlay for various schemes of Union Ministries / Departments which is allocated to the Schemes on annual basis through Union Budgets. Additional Central Assistance to the states is also provided in the Annual Budgets for specific schemes. The amount allocated under these schemes is shown in the respective implementing Ministry's Demand for Grants, as well as in their respective Outcome Budgets. The details of indicative Plan Outlay for Eleventh Plan and subsequent Annual Plan Allocations and Expenditure for various social sector schemes to the Ministries/Departments are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Plan Allocation & Expenditure of Ministries dealing with social sector (Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	Ministry/ Department	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Budget Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Budget Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Budget Estimates	Actual Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Department of Food & Public Distribution	85.00	52.04	144.64	90.43	230.95	111.16
2.	Health	13875.00	12563.51	16534.00	15129.58	19534.00	17646.48
3.	Education	28671.50	23070.07	34400.00	29548.67	36400.00	29640.26
4.	Ministry of Labour & Employment	325.48	530.22	800.00	760.90	900.00	791.77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Ministry of Minority Affairs	500.00	196.57	1000.00	619.02	1740.00	1709.41
6.	Ministry of Rural Development	27500.00	28793.69	49400.00	75129.24	80770.00	74309.07
7.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	2001.00	2172.56	2400.00	2356.12	2500.00	2448.91
8.	Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	500.00	487.47	8619.86	4840.38	7579.83	4555.15
9.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	503.00	455.78	805.00	684.62	805.00	616.41
10.	Ministry of Urban Development	2335.52	2873.04	5478.36	7304.85	5284.15	7627.39
11.	Ministry of Women & Child Development	5793.00	5518.77	7200.00	6677.40	7350.00	8482.32
Total (1 to 11)		82089.50	64150.21	126781.86	143141.21	163093.93	147938.33

Sl. No.	Ministry / Department	2010-11		2011-12	11th Plan Outlay	
		Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Budget Estimates	Total of Five Years BE Allocation	Projected Outlay at 2007-08 Prices
1	2	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Department of Food & Public Distribution	207.96	165.52	197.70	866.25	694.00
2.	Health	22300.00	21518.00	26760.00	99003.00	136147.00
3.	Education	42036.00	43835.50	52060.00	193567.50	269872.79
4.	Ministry of Labour & Employment	1000.00	1227.36	1300.00	4325.48	2499.60
5.	Ministry of Minority Affairs	2600.00	2500.00	2850.00	8690.00	7000.00
6.	Ministry of Rural Development	89340.00	89577.50	87800.00	334810.00	194933.28

1	2	9	10	11	12	13
7.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	4500.00	4300.00	5375.00	16776.00	13043.01
8.	Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	9421.60	7390.61	7954.78	34076.07	3246.00
9.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1200.00	1233.74	1430.00	4743.00	4108.62
10.	Ministry of Urban Development	7605.75	8519.52	8054.00	28757.78	12442.50
11.	Ministry of Women & Child Development	11000.00	10370.00	12650.00	43993.00	54765.00
Total (1 to 11)		191211.31	190637.75	206431.48	769608.08	698751.80

Note: Allocation/ Expenditure to Social Sector is defined to include allocation / expenditure of the Ministries/ Departments of Food & Public Distribution, Health & Family Welfare, Human Resource Development, Labour & Employment, Minority Affairs, Rural Development, Social Justice & Empowerment, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Tribal Affairs, Urban Development and Women & Child Development. Figures includes IEBR

CBI Investigation

267. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases being investigated by CBI in Bihar during the last three years alongwith the details thereof; and

(b) the number of cases where investigation has been completed and the number of cases still under investigation alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) So far as CBI in concerned, it has registered total 97 cases relating to the State of Bihar during the last 3(three) years i.e. 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012 (upto 29.02.2012). Out of these, investigations have been completed in 73 cases and the remaining 24 cases are still under investigation. The details of these cases are mentioned at enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Case ID No., date of registration and sections of law	Type of offence of the case	Present status
1	2	3	4

2009

1.	RC 1/2009 /ACB/PAT 6.1.09 U/sec. 120-B, 420, 467, 468, 471A	Criminal misconduct, Cheating & Forgery	Under Trial
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1	2	3	4
	IPC & 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act		
2.	RC 2 /2009/ACB/PAT 22.1.09 U/sec. 120- B IPC & 7 & 8 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
3.	RC 3 /2009/ACB/PAT 9.2.09 U/sec. 120-B IPC & 7 & 8 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
4.	RC 4 /2009/ACB/PAT 19.2.09 U/sec.7 of PC Act.	Trap Case	Under Trial
5.	RC 5 /2009/ACB/PAT 16.3.09 U/sec. 120-B, 406, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC & 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act.	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
6.	RC 6 /2009/ACB/PAT 16.3.09 U/sec. 120-B, 406, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC & 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act.	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
7.	RC 7 /2009/ACB/PAT 18.3.09 U/sec.7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
8.	RC 8 /2009/ACB/PAT 18.3.09 U/sec.7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for Such Action
9.	RC 9 /2009/ACB/PAT 31.3.09 U/sec. 198, 200, 420, 467, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery etc.	Under Trial
10.	RC 10 /2009/ACB/PAT 15.4.09 U/sec. 120-B IPC & 7 of PC Act.	Trap Case	Under Trial
11.	RC 11/2009/ACB/PAT 17.4.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
12.	RC 12 /2009/ACB/PAT 11.5.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
13.	RC 13 /2009/ACB/PAT 21.5.09 U/sec. 7 & 8 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
14.	RC 14 /2009/ACB/PAT 28.5.09 U/sec. 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
15.	RC 15 /2009/ACB/PAT 28.5.09 U/sec. 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for Such Action
16.	RC 16 /2009/ACB/PAT 8.6.09 U/sec. 120-B, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC and 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act	Criminal Misconduct, Cheating, Forgery	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for RDA.

1	2	3	4
17.	RC 17 /2009/ACB/PAT 8.6.09 U/sec. 13(2) r/w 13(l)(e) of PC Act	DA Case	Closed
18.	RC 18 /2009/ACB/PAT 23.6.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
19.	RC 19 /2009/ACB/PAT 20.7.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
20.	RC 20 /2009/ACB/PAT 24.7.09 U/sec. 120B, 420, IPC and 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d)of PC Act	Criminal misconduct, cheating	Referred to the department for RDA.
21.	RC 21 /2009/ACB/PAT 25.7.09 U/sec.7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for RDA. Referred to the department for RDA.
22.	RC 22 /2009/ACB/PAT 31.7.09 U/sec. 120B, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC and 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act	Criminal misconduct, cheating, forgery	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for RDA. Referred to the department for RDA.
23.	RC 23 /2009/ACB/PAT 17.8.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
24.	RC 24 /2009/ACB/PAT 26.8.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
25.	RC 25 /2009/ACB/PAT 2.9.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
26.	RC 26 /2009/ACB/PAT 16.9.09 U/sec. 7 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
27.	RC 27 /2009/ACB/PAT 22.9.097 of PC Act	Trap Case	Under Trial
28.	RC 28 /2009/ACB/PAT 19.11.09 U/sec. 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
29.	RC 29 /2009/ACB/PAT 16.12.09 U/sec. 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
30.	RC 30 /2009/ACB/PAT 16.12.09 U/sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(e) of PC Act	DA Case	Closed
31.	RC.1(A)/09-ACU-IX dated 01.05.2009, U/sec. 120-B IPC and sec. 7, 8, 10, 12 & 13(2) r/w sec. 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988.	Trap Case	Under trial
32.	RC 2 (S)/2009 - SCU.V./SC-II dated 9/6/09 U/s420, 471 r/w 468 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial.

1	2	3	4
33.	RC No. 3 (S)/2009 - SCU.V./SC-II dated 9/6/09 u/s 420, 471 r/w 468 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial
34.	RC No. 4 (S)/2009 - SCU.V./SC-II dated 9/6/09 u/s 420, 471 r/w 468 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial
35.	RC No. 5 (S)/2009 - SCU.V./SC-II dated 9/6/09 u/s 420, 471 r/w 468 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial
36.	RC 9(S)/09- SCU.V./SC-II dated 17/11/09 u/s 420, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial
37.	RC 10(S)/09- SCU.V./SC-II dated 22/12/09 u/s 420, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under trial
2010			
1.	RC 1/2010 /ACB/PAT 18.1.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
2.	RC 2 /2010/ACB/PAT 9.2.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
3.	RC 3 /2010/ACB/PAT 26.2.10 u/sec. 120-B, 419, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
4.	RC 4 /2010/ACB/PAT 26.2.10 u/sec. 120-B, 419, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
5.	RC 5 /2010/ACB/PAT 14.3.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
6.	RC 6 /2010/ACB/PAT 22.3.10 u/sec.7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
7.	RC 7 /2010/ACB/PAT 31.3.10 u/sec. 120-B, 420, IPC, Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal Misconduct, Cheating	Closed
8.	RC 8 /2010/ACB/PAT 30.4.10 u/sec. 120-B, 420, IPC, Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal Misconduct, Cheating	Under Investigation
9.	RC 9 /2010/ACB/PAT 3.5.10 u/sec.7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
10.	RC 10 /2010/ACB/PAT 11.5.10 u/sec, 120-B, 406, 408, 409, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal Misconduct, Cheating, Criminal Breach of trust, Forgery	Under Trial
11.	RC 11 /2010/ACB/PAT 13.5.10 u/sec.7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
12.	RC 12 /2010/ACB/PAT 20.5.10	Trap Case	Under Trial

1	2	3	4
	u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988		
13.	RC 13 /2010/ACB/PAT 1.6.107 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
14.	RC 14 /2010/ACB/PAT 29.7.10 u/sec. 120-B, 409, 420, 467, 468, 471 of IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(c)& (d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forgery	Under Trial
15.	RC 15 /2010/ACB/PAT 12.8.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
16.	RC 16 /2010/ACB/PAT 31.8.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
17.	RC 17 /2010/ACB/PAT 29.9.10 u/sec. 419, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC	Cheating, Forgery	Closed
18.	RC 18 /2010/ACB/PAT 29.9.10 u/sec. 120-B, 420, 468 r/w 611 IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal misconduct, Cheating, Forgery	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for RDA.
19.	RC 19 /2010/ACB/PAT 13.10.10 u/sec. 13(1)(e) of PC Act, 1988	DA Case	Disposed off after investigation. Referred to the department for RDA.
20.	RC 20 /2010/ACB/PAT 14.10.10 120-B, 409 IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w13(1)(c) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal breach of trust and committed criminal misconduct.	Under Investigation
21.	RC 21/2010/ACB/PAT 9.11.10 u/sec. 120-B, 409 IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(c)of PC Act, 1988	Criminal breach of trust & criminal misconduct.	Under Investigation
22.	RC 22 /2010/ACB/PAT 9.11.10 u/sec. 120-B, 409 IPC and Sec. 13(2) r/w 13(1)(c)of PC Act, 1988	Criminal breach of trust & criminal misconduct.	Under Investigation
23.	RC 23 /2010/ACB/PAT 9.11.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
24.	RC 24 /2010/ACB/PAT 3.12.10 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
25.	RC.1(S)/2010/AHD/PAT 03.02.2010 u/sec, u/s 302, 120B & 34 of IPC	Murder.	Under Investigation
26.	RC2(S)/2010/AHD/PAT 07.04.2010 u/s 302-IPC.	Murder.	Closed.
27.	RC.3(S)/2010/AHD/PAT 29.04.2010	Murder.	Under trial.

1	2	3	4
	u/s 147, 148, 149, 452, 323, 307, 380 & 302 of IPC and section 27 of Arms Act.		
28.	RC.4(S)/2010/AHD/PAT 11.06.2010 u/s 302/34 of IPC	Murder.	Closed
2011			
1.	RC 1 /2011/ACB/PAT 3.1.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Uncter Trial
2.	RC 2 /2011/ACB/PAT 13.1.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
3.	RC 3 /2011/ACB/PAT 23.2.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
4.	RC 4/2011/ACB/PAT 28.2.11 u/sec. 13(2)r/w 13 (1)(e) of PC Act, 1988	DA case	Under Investigation
5.	RC 5 /2011/ACB/PAT 14.3.11 u/sec. 120-B, 409, 420, 467, 468, 471, 477A & Sec 13(2) r/w 13(1) (c) & (d) of PC Act, 1988.	Criminal breach, cheating & forgery.	Under Investigation
6.	RC 6 /2011/ACB/PAT 16.3.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
7.	RC 7 /2011/ACB/PAT 17.3.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
8.	RC 8 /2011/ACB/PAT 28.3.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
9.	RC 9 /2011/ACB/PAT 04.04.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Investigation
10.	RC 10 /2011/ACB/PAT 1.6.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
11.	RC 11 /2011/ACB/PAT 23.6.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Trial
12.	RC 12 /2011/ACB/PAT 29.6.11 U/s 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1) (c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Criminal breach of trust, cheating & forgery.	Under Investigation
13.	RC 13 /2011/ACB/PAT 25.7.11 U/s 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Trap Case	Under Trial

1	2	3	4
14.	RC 14 /2011/ACB/PAT 25.7.11 U/s 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1) (c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Trap Case	Under Trial
15.	RC 15 /2011/ACB/PAT 31.8.11 U/s 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Trap Case	Under Investigation
16.	RC 16 /2011/ACB/PAT 26.9.11 U/s 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Trap Case	Under Investigation
17.	RC 17 /2011/ACB/PAT 27.9.11 U/S 120-B, 409, 420, 468, 471, 477 of IPC 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(c) & (d) of PC Act 198	Trap Case	Under Investigation
18.	RC 18 /2011/ACB/PAT 27.10.11 U/s 420, 467, 468, 471 & 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal breach of trust, cheating & forgery.	Under Investigation
19.	RC 19 /2011/ACB/PAT 23.11.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Investigation
20.	RC 20/2011/ACB/PAT 30.11.11 U/s 120-B, r/w 409 IPC and sec 13(2) r/w 13(c) (d) of PC Act, 1988	Criminal breach of trust,	Under Investigation
21.	RC 21 /2011/ACB/PAT 30.11.11 U/s 120-B r/w 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC & 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988.	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forgery	Under Investigation
22.	RC 22 /2011/ACB/PAT 3.12.11 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Investigation
23.	RC 23 /2011/ACB/PAT 29.12.11 U/S 120-B, 409, 419, 420, 467, 468 & 471 IPC & Sec 13 (2) r/w 13(1)(c) & 13(1)(d) of PC Act 1988.	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forgery	Under Investigation
24.	RC.1(S)/2011/AHD/PAT 24.02.2011 u/s 302/120-B of IPC Act	Murder.	Under trial.
25.	RC.2(S)/2011/AHD/PAT 12.04.2011 u/s 420, 467, 468, 471, 409 & 120B of IPC and 25(1-B), 25 & 26 of Arms Act	Criminal misconduct, Criminal Breach of Trust, Cheating, Forger	Under Investigation
26.	RC.3(S)/2011/AHD/PAT 17.08.2011 u/s 341, 323, 307, 332, 353, 504, 120B	Murder	Under trial.

1	2	3	4
	and modified section 302/120B of IPC		
27.	RC.4(S)/2011/AHD/PAT 23.12.2011 u/s 120B & 420 of IPC	Criminal conspiracy and cheating.	Under Investigation
28.	RC-2192011E 0004 dated 13.5.2011 U/s 120-B r/w 419,420, 464, 468 & 471 IPC	Criminal conspiracy, cheating & forgery.	Under trial.
2012			
1.	RC 1 /2012/ACB/PAT 3.1.12 u/sec. 7 of PC Act, 1988	Trap Case	Under Investigation
2.	RC 2/2012/ACB/PAT 16.1.12 U/s 120-B r/w 419, 420, 464, 468 & 471 IPC	Criminal conspiracy, cheating & forgery	Under Investigation
3.	RC 3 /2012/ACB/PAT 24.2.12 U/s 120-B, r/w 420 IPC sec 13 (2) r/w 13 (1)(b) PC Act, 1988	Criminal conspiracy, cheating & forgery	Under Investigation
4.	RC.1(S)/2012 05.01.2012 u/s 302	Murder	Under Investigation

[English]

GER in Higher Education

268. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on classification of universities and colleges in terms of quality, infrastructure and financing support they get from the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such classification will achieve the target of 30 per cent Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education by 2020; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the rural regions, remote and hilly areas especially for SC, ST, OBC and other minority sections of the society, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, University Grants Commission (UGC) makes a distinction between universities and colleges which are eligible to receive grants from the UGC under Section 12B of the

University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and those which are not. In addition, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), grades universities and colleges based on the quality of their academic programmes, physical infrastructure, governance, financial position etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for establishment of one model degree college in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts (EBDs) having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national GER. Most of these districts are backward districts including districts in rural, remote and hilly areas. 62 of these districts are also identified as Minority Concentration Districts.

Haj Reforms

269. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:
SHRI R. DHUVANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Haj reforms are long overdue;

(b) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take in the matter;

(c) the time by which these reforms are likely to be announced/introduced;

(d) whether the Government has constructed "Haj Ghat's" in the country, particularly in Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the funds allocated and spent for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) The Haj is one of the most complex organisational tasks undertaken by Government of India (GOI) outside its borders for which extensive arrangements are made in India and Saudi Arabia. It is the constant endeavour of the Government of India to improve and reform the management of the arrangements for the Haj pilgrimage in consultation with all concerned.

(d) No.

(e) Not applicable. However, Haj Committee of India provides financial assistance to the tune of one third (1/3) of the total cost of the project or Rs. 1.5 crores, whichever is lower.

Dismal Performance of Some Sectors

270. SHRI SOMEN MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth performance in some sectors has been less than the target during the current Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for this deficiency;

(d) whether steps have been taken to improve the performance of these sectors in the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) By taking into account the Advanced Estimates released by Central Statistics Office (CSO), the services sector is expected to achieve the Eleventh Five Year Growth Targets. However, there may be some shortfall in achieving the growth targets of Eleventh Five Year Plan in Agriculture & Industrial sectors. The estimated sector

wise achievements for the Eleventh Plan are indicated as under.

Eleventh Five Year Plan	Agriculture	Industry	Services	Total
Target	4	10-11	9-11	9
Achievement*	3.3	6.7	9.9	7.9

* Achievement has been computed by taking simple average of the sectoral growth rates achieved during the years: 2007-08 to 2011-12. The figures for 2011-12 are based on the Advanced Estimates and figures for 2010-11 are based on Quick Estimates.

(c) The shortfall in attainment of the target in the agriculture sector is mainly on account of the fact that the country faced a drought like situation in 2008-09 and registered a negative growth rate. This situation continued in 2009-10 also. The sluggishness in the growth of the industrial sector was mainly due to global economic slowdown, inflationary pressure and high degree of volatility in the global oil prices.

(d) and (e) The Approach Paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan recognizes the need for higher levels of investments in agriculture both by the public and private sector which can yield better results if the reforms are undertaken to streamline the incentive structures for the farmers and the institutional frameworks in which agriculture and related activities take place. Seeds and irrigation have been identified as the priority areas for raising the productivity on the supply side. On the demand side, the need to remove most of the controls that have denied a unified and seamless all India market for most agriculture products have been identified as key priority areas in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. In the manufacturing sector issues like improving the global competitiveness, development of physical infrastructure, role of small and medium enterprises, availability of skilled workforce etc. have been identified as the priority areas.

[Translation]

Complaints at Airports

271. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints registered by public representatives and citizens at various airports in the country during each of the last three years, airport-wise;

(b) the details of action taken on these complaints, airport-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to redress these complaints at the earliest and to bring aviation services provided in the country upto the global standards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Number of complaints received during each of the last three years are given as under:

2009-2503, 2010-2220, 2011-2888

Airport-wise number of complaints received for the year 2011 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The complaints received are acknowledged and after taking appropriate action, complainants are informed accordingly.

(c) For improvement in the complaint redressal system, administrative set up has been created by appointing a Public Grievance Officer at each airport whose activities are coordinated at Regional HQs and at Corporate HQs. To make the system more effective, a number of steps have been taken like making the grievance system available at all the airports, to facilitate lodging and redressal of grievances through website, e-mail, through complaint/feedback forms at airports and complaint books.

Trends of the complaints are analysed along with the feedback received from the various surveys being conducted to assess the perception of passengers/users of the airports, about airport services for developments of strategies to match the global standards in services delivery.

Statement

Airport wise Complainsts for the year 2011

Sl. No.	Airport	No of Complainsts
1	2	3
1.	Agartala	7
2.	Agatti	11
3.	Ahmedabad	141
4.	Amritsar	25
5.	Aurangabad	21
6.	Bagdogra	12

1	2	3
7.	Barapani	1
8.	Belgaum	25
9.	Bhav Nagar	2
10.	Bhopal	34
11.	Bhubaneshwar	61
12.	Bhuj	5
13.	Calicut	117
14.	Chandigarh	2
15.	Chennai	82
16.	Coimbatore	30
17.	Dibrugarh	4
18.	Dimapur	2
19.	Goa	25
20.	Gorakhpur	2
21.	Guwahati	34
22.	Imphal	15
23.	Indore	37
24.	Jabalpur	6
25.	Jaipur	112
26.	Jammu	12
27.	Jodhpur	5
28.	Jorhat	2
29.	Kandla	4
30.	Khajuraho	5
31.	Kolkata	10
32.	Kullu Manali	12
33.	Leh	3
34.	Lucknow	17
35.	Ludhiana	1
36.	Madurai	144

1	2	3
37.	Manglore	23
38.	Patna	24
39.	Porbandar	6
40.	Pune	21
41.	Raipur	69
42.	Rajahmundry	9
43.	Rajkot	14
44.	Ranchi	190
45.	RHQ (WR)	1
46.	Silchar	1
47.	Srinagar	23
48.	Surat	8
49.	Trichy	36
50.	Trivandrum	33
51.	Udaipur	9
52.	Vadodara	88
53.	Varanasi	20
54.	Vijaywada	8
55.	Vishakapatnam	32
56.	Bengaluru (BIAL)	186
57.	Cochin (CIAL)	34
58.	Hyderabad (GHIAL)	236
59.	Mumbai (MIAL)	32
60.	Nagpur (MIHAN)	170
61.	Delhi (DIAL)	587
Total		2888

Employment Guarantee Schemes

272. SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a new Employment Guarantee Scheme for the unemployed people in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is not satisfied with the present scheme being implemented to check the problem of unemployment in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) to (e) The Government is implementing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for enhancing the livelihood security of the people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to a rural household whose members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Since it is a demand based legislation there are no pre-determined targets for employment as well as for utilisation of funds under the Act. The average person days demanded has been around 50 days a year since the inception of MGNREGA. With a view to strengthen the implementation of MGNREGA and to ensure that more and more of the rural population are benefited, the Ministry of Rural Development has undertaken a number of measures:

- Awareness generation among rural population has been taken up through intensive IEC activities involving both print as well as electronic media.
- ICT based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny.
- Payment of wages to MGNREGA workers has been made mandatory through their accounts in Banks/ Post Office to infuse transparency in wage disbursement.

- Independent monitoring and verification by National Level Monitors and Eminent Citizens.
- Instructions have been issued directing all States to appoint Ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal in a time bound manner.
- The MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011 have been notified on 30.6.2011. All States have been asked to put in place a robust social audit mechanism as outlined in these Rules.
- Special emphasis has been put on the Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts.
- MGNREGA wages have been revised and indexed with Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL) effectively increasing real wages and partially adjusting for inflation.

In addition, various Ministries/organisations under the Government of India are implementing schemes like Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihoods Mission, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for addressing the problem of unemployment in the country.

[English]

Tipsy Pilots

273. SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA:
SHRI K. SUGUMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether pilots and crew of Air India (AI) are subjected to pre-flight alcohol breathalyzer tests;
- (b) if so, whether these tests are conducted as per the DGCA rules at foreign airports where AI flights operate;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether DGCA has asked all the airlines in the country to upgrade test measures and submit their compliance report;
- (e) if so, whether all the airlines have submitted their compliance reports in this regard; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor, airlinewise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) As per the DGCA rules, tests were conducted at Dubai in June, 2011. These will continue to be done periodically.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of answer to (d) above.

Nuclear Waste

274. SHRI P.K. BIJU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the quantity of nuclear waste generated by the nuclear power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, plant-wise;
- (c) whether the Government uses latest technology for disposing of the nuclear waste; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Nuclear waste is classified into high, intermediate and low levels depending on the level of radioactivity in it. The spent fuel which contains long lived radioisotopes are stored for a long period to reduce the level of radioactivity and subsequently reprocessed at reprocessing plants for collecting fissile elements. The generation of high level waste is at reprocessing plants. The quantity of this waste in our country is much smaller due to our adoption of the closed fuel cycle. High level waste generated from the reprocessing plant is vitrified into a glassy form, contained in multiple barrier containers and stored for an interim period of three to four decades in engineered vaults with necessary surveillance facilities. After cooling down in these storage facilities, waste containers will be stored for long term in deep geological repositories.

Reprocessing and Waste Management plants are currently being operated by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

The low and intermediate level nuclear waste containing radioactive substances with short half life are

generated at nuclear power plants and are processed at the site in the following manner:

- (i) The generated waste is solidified by fixing this in materials like cement, polymers, glass etc., to ensure that it does not move.
- (ii) The solidified waste is then stored in specially fabricated double walled high integrity stainless steel container.
- (iii) The containers containing the solidified waste are stored inside a high integrity concrete pit at each of the nuclear power plant site.
- (iv) As the waste is fixed in cement, glass, polymer, it is immobilized and its placement in high integrity containers inside a pit ensures that the radioactive wastes is completely insulated from the environment.

The radioactivity level of the stored wastes reduces with time and by the end of the plant life, including decommissioning falls to normal levels.

Such facilities for handling low and intermediate level waste are located at all the nuclear power stations viz. Tarapur (Maharashtra), Rawatbhata (Rajasthan), Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu), Narora (Uttar Pradesh), Kakrapar (Gujarat) and Kaiga (Karnataka). The quantity of low and intermediate level waste to be stored at site during the life time including decommissioning is within 0.15 cubic meters/year/MW.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The Government is using latest technology for disposing the nuclear waste generated during operation of nuclear power plants. The details are as follows:

- (i) The low and intermediate level radioactive waste generated during operation and maintenance of nuclear power plants is segregated, its volume reduced using various technologies and solidified. This solid/solidified waste is packaged in suitable containers to facilitate handling, transport and disposal.
- (ii) Disposal of low and intermediate level waste is carried out in specially constructed structures such as stone lined trenches, reinforced concrete trenches and tile holes. These disposal structures are located both above and underground in access-controlled areas. Disposal system is designed based on multi barrier principle for

ensuring effective containment of the radioactivity. The areas where the disposal structures are located are kept under constant surveillance with the help of bore-wells laid out in a planned manner. The underground soil and water samples from these bore wells are routinely monitored to confirm effective confinement of radioactivity present in the disposed waste.

- (iii) Gaseous waste is treated at the source of generation. The techniques used are adsorption on activated charcoal and filtration by high efficiency particulate air filters. The treated gases are then diluted with exhaust air and discharged through a tall stack with monitoring.
- (iv) Liquid waste streams are treated by various techniques, such as filtration, adsorption, chemical treatment, thermal and solar evaporation, ion exchange, reverse osmosis etc. The concentrate from treatment of liquid waste are immobilized in inert materials like cement, polymer etc.

The nuclear waste handling, treatment, storage and disposal is carried out as per the well laid down procedures and guidelines stipulated by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

Review of Performance of Civil Servants

275. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the current procedure for reviewing the performance of the Civil Servants;
- (b) whether the Government has made it mandatory for the Civil Servants to retire in the public interest if they fail to clear a review after fifteen years of service;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has considered the option of third party evaluation for civil servants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The performance of the civil servants is reviewed by the evaluation of the Annual Performance Appraisal Report (APAR) on year to year basis.

(b) and (c) In so far as Central Government Employees are concerned, Government, in public interest, may retire any Government servant after he has attained the age of 50/55 years or after completion of 30 years service by giving him notice of not less than three months in writing or three months pay and allowances in lieu of such notice.

As regards the All India Service Officers, Rule 16(3) of the All India Services (DCRB) Rule, 1958 has been amended on 31st January, 2012 in order to ensure efficiency in these Services and to weed out the officers with doubtful integrity and those who have outlived their utility. The amended rule provides that the Central Government may, in consultation with the State Government concerned, require a Member of the Service to retire from Service in public interest, after giving such Member at least three month's previous notice in writing or three month's pay and allowances in lieu of such notice:-

- (i) after the review when such Member completes 15 years of qualifying Service;
- (ii) after the review when such Member completes 25 years of qualifying Service or attains the age of 50 years, as the case may be; or
- (iii) if the review referred to in (i) or (ii) above has not been conducted, after the review at any other time as the Central Government deems fit in respect of such Member.

(d) and (e) For the Central Government Employees, the existing guidelines provide for inclusion of an outside member in the review committee.

[*Translation*]

Employment of Indians Abroad

276. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large number of Indians have rendered jobless in the gulf countries due to current economic recession and are returning to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government to assist these people;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to announce

any projects or schemes for providing entrepreneur loan at low rate of interest to these people; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The Majority of ECR (Emigration Clearance Required) category of Indian workers go for employment to Gulf countries and return after the completion of their employment contracts. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs does not maintain data about returnee workers.

(b) Such information is not maintained.

(c) At present, there is no special scheme to rehabilitate such returnee workers.

(d) and (e) No, Madam.

[*English*]

Closure of B-Schools

277. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Business Schools are likely to shut down in the country;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the quality of education and other infrastructural facilities in B-Schools to attract students from other parts of the country and abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Some Management institutions have submitted applications to All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for closure of programme due to various reasons including poor admission in these institutes. The state-wise number of such institutes is as follows:

(i) Andhra Pradesh - 36 (ii) Chhattisgarh - 5 (iii) Gujrat-7 (iv) Haryana-7 (v) Himachal Pradesh-1 (vi) Karnataka -6 (vii) Madhya Pradesh-8 (viii) Maharashtra - 14 (ix) Punjab-4 (x) Rajasthan - 25 (xi) Tamil Nadu -2 (xii) Uttar Pradesh-18 (xiii) Uttarakhand -1

(c) The AICTE has prescribed requirement norms for faculty and approval for establishment of new institutions is granted in compliance to these norms.

Further, AICTE differentiates institutions having deficiencies and not having deficiencies in granting new courses and increase in intake in the existing institutions there by making it mandatory on the part of the institutions to comply with the requirements of the AICTE.

Also, in order to address the issue of shortage of qualified faculty in general if any, and also to facilitate the students to pursue their higher study leading to award of M. Tech degree the AICTE has granted permission to start M. Tech programme in teaching institutions and to start second shift in the existing institutions.

AICTE has certain faculty development schemes like "Quality improvement programme (QEP)" for improvement of qualification of the faculty employed at Diploma & degree level institutions.

AICTE has certain promotional schemes for attracting the faculty like "Research Promotion Scheme (RPS)" for promoting research in the field of Technical Education and to generate Master's and Doctoral degree candidates to augment to supply of research experienced faculty and research personnel in the country.

[Translation]

Charging of Higher Tuition Fees

278. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of non-compliance of the ceiling fixed for tuition fee charged by all the schools including primary schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly in respect of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the persons responsible for depriving the poor students from quality education due to exorbitant fee being charged from students by private schools in this regard;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating any penal provisions to take action against them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central Government does not regulate the fees charged from students by private schools. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that no ceiling has been fixed by the State

Government for tuition fee to be charged by private schools.

(c) to (e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. Section 12 (1)(c) of the RTE Act provides that specified category schools and unaided private schools shall admit in class I, to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighbourhood and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion. The RTE Act contains provision of monitoring of child's right to education by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR) and the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR).

[English]

Restrictions on New Recruitments

279. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has got any statistics regarding number of posts currently lying vacant in Central Government service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has put any restrictions on new recruitments to the vacant posts;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government departments are facing shortage of staff due to restrictions on new recruitment; and

(f) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) As per the information available with the Department of Expenditure (Ministry of Finance), the estimated number of vacant posts of regular Central Government Civilian employees as on 1st March, 2010 is 5,33,936.

(c) to (f) There is no restriction on new recruitments. All Ministries/Department are required to review their vacancies vis-a-vis the work load regularly and take necessary steps in the light of such reviews. There is

provision for filling up vacancies by Government Departments as per their requirements subject to extant guidelines and rules on the matter.

Performance of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

280. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to supplement the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) with dry fruits/fruits so as to improve the nutrient content;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has recently reviewed the performance of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the achievements made by each State/UT during

the last three years and the current year under said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Central Government reviews the Mid Day Meal Scheme in all States / Union Territories on an ongoing basis. A National Level Review Meeting was held in January, 2012; the States/UTs of Puducherry, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Sikkim and Lakshadweep have been reviewed recently in the Programme Approval Board Meetings. In addition visits to Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal were organized by the National Level Review Mission.

(e) The number of children and institutions covered under the Scheme during 2008-09 to 2010-11 and the current year 2011-12 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Number of Institutions and Children covered under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2008-09 to 2010-11 and 2nd quarter of 2011-12.

Sl. No.	State/UT	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
		Institutions covered	Number of Children benefited	Institutions covered	Number of Children benefited	Institutions covered	Number of Children benefited	Institutions covered	Number of Children benefited
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	78021	6342088	78716	6107962	79355	6304239	79355	5937091
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5026	181349	4431	174379	4431	269002	4358	268974
3.	Assam	48251	2764934	54175	4132618	54912	4515884	63192	4650092
4.	Bihar	78485	11059009	92209	11241336	71772	9877617	71772	9204598
5.	Chhattisgarh	47175	3388316	47349	3027221	47694	3861048	47729	3868950
6.	Goa	1117	73691	1545	163208	1564	156716	1559	155407
7.	Gujarat	60194	3935214	57784	3820600	33609	3877695	60834	4077133
8.	Haryana	17353	1873000	14703	1993615	15434	2005680	15783	2114515

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15176	810234	13459	741014	15104	715750	15096	657610
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	25355	1169082	21504	1011868	22416	840044	22613	738695
11.	Jharkhand	50497	3880569	52138	4031582	40698	3231921	40864	3294091
12.	Karnataka	55328	5683056	55104	5502935	56384	5216970	56632	5314957
13.	Kerala	17387	3087558	17387	2902204	17387	2781617	17387	2676076
14.	Madhya Pradesh	109980	8869953	112439	9003584	114038	8655943	114102	8058896
15.	Maharashtra	125511	10933868	122018	12187761	120352	10634199	120960	10605330
16.	Manipur	3408	227691	3042	225718	2966	230135	2893	208616
17.	Meghalaya	10074	399975	10074	471738	10074	459778	10074	485474
18.	Mizoram	2312	152969	2412	150569	2496	151718	2506	168898
19.	Nagaland	2188	214893	2223	221368	2751	271144	2261	260800
20.	Odisha	85323	6150492	78925	5525792	66773	5227152	86177	4291329
21.	Punjab	21516	1923323	22648	1855841	22486	1753660	22035	1873200
22.	Rajasthan	101732	8071477	80670	5982376	80670	5781398	79845	5699437
23.	Sikkim	1243	102237	873	89432	879	94855	878	92921
24.	Tamil Nadu	47122	5022030	42632	5026843	42435	4274715	37802	3992373
25.	Tripura	5006	401954	5629	468621	6510	435093	6510	444351
26.	Uttarakhand	17484	975111	17816	850551	17927	801909	17978	841534
27.	Uttar Pradesh	145082	13442006	152501	12713580	153527	11314277	157879	11946485
28.	West Bengal	76959	9262285	79579	9216678	82867	9503404	84050	13390861
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	478	47207	343	36900	345	32449	345	29921
30.	Chandigarh	400	74898	311	61311	311	58182	116	55701
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	359	30853	360	35261	282	34569	454	34688
32.	Daman and Diu	136	15308	127	15227	96	15298	97	15520
33.	Delhi	3546	1187021	3005	1318353	3518	1150332	3496	1240226
34.	Lakshadweep	53	10798	54	10192	54	9035	41	9608
35.	Puducherry	461	93650	383	91298	457	88138	467	87405
Total		1259738	111858099	1248568	110409536	1192574	104631566	1248140	106791763

Operational Coalfields

281. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coalfields which are operational in the country;

(b) the annual production of coal and revenue generated from these coalfields during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the share of coal production from these coalfields in the private sector; and

(d) the details of overseas coalfields where Coal India Limited is into mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) There are 22 operational coalfields under Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL).

(b) Annual coal production and net sales generated by these coalfields for the last three years & current year (April - December, 2011) are given below:

Sl. No.		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (upto Dec. 11)
1.	Production (in Million Tonnes)	485.33	523.76	523.89	359.21
2.	Net Sales (in Rs. Crore)	9673.52	45300.63	51019.44	43702.95

(c) The share of the coal production by the private sector from these coalfields is 7% to 8% (approx.).

(d) CIL has acquired two un-explored coal blocks in Mozambique.

[*Translation*]

Illegal Coal Mining

282. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal reserves have been discovered in chotila Block at Surendranagar in Gujarat and the coal mafia are openly pilfering the said coal in connivance with the administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any concrete steps to check the said pilferage and also to nab the people involved therein; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the said steps are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) Ministry of Coal has no information on occurrence of coal reserves in Chotila Block at Surendranagar in Gujarat. This has also been confirmed from Geological Survey of India.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Aadhar for Overseas Indians

283. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1.2 billion Indian population are engaged overseas

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to include all overseas Indians under Aadhar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) The estimated number of Indian Diaspora is about 25 million spread over more than 110 countries.

(c) and (d) The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), the agency of the Government of India responsible for Implementing the AADHAR scheme has stated that there is no such proposal at present under Aadhar. The mandate of the UIDAI is to Issue Unique Identification Numbers (Aadhars) to all residents of India.

BSNL and MTNL Offices in Rented Buildings

284. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BSNL and MTNL are making efforts to vacate the rented buildings and shift their offices to their

own buildings in the interest of avoiding the rent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the amount spent on rent by both the PSUs during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including the offices in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

285. SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide mid-day-meal to children studying in private schools in districts with predominant population of SCs and STs from the 12th Five Year Plan, in an effort to increase the enrolment of students belonging to these communities; and

(b) if so, the details worked out and the survey made so far and the views of each State Government including Karnataka in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Elementary Education & Literacy for 12th Plan has recommended inclusion of children in private unaided schools in ST and SC concentration districts under Mid Day Meal Scheme, in a phased manner. In the Scheduled Tribe concentration districts, it is proposed to cover 11472 schools, with 25 lakh children, at an estimated cost of Rs. 423 crores. In the Scheduled Caste concentration districts, it is proposed to cover 13645 schools with 32 lakh children, at an estimated cost of Rs. 519 crores. The States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Tripura had agreed to share the expenditure with Central Government. The views of the State Government of Karnataka were not sought for as there are no tribal concentration areas in the State. The Twelfth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalized.

[Translation]

CVC Recommendations for Action Against Corrupt Officers

286. SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the department-wise and year-wise details of number of officers against whom the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has recommended to take action for their involvement in corruption and irregularities during the last three years;

(b) the number and details of officers out of the total against whom action have been taken by completing investigation of charges against them;

(c) the number of officers out of the above against whom the cases of corruption have been registered; and

(d) the number and name of such officers against whom no action has been taken as on 31 December, 2011 alongwith the details of the departments they belong to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) As per extant practice CVC is consulted at two stages, viz., for the first stage advice as to whether evidence collected during the preliminary inquiry merits either a major or a minor penalty in Disciplinary proceedings. After conclusion of the Inquiry, the case records are again referred to the CVC for the second stage advice on the basis of charges held to be partly or fully proved or not proved.

Details of number of advices tendered by the Commission in respect of officials of Central Government etc. at the first stage during the last three years *i.e.* 2009, 2010 and 2011 is given as under:

Nature of advice	2009	2010	2011
(1st stage)			
Criminal Proceedings	121	99	105
Major penalty proceedings	517	556	544
Minor penalty proceedings	321	309	220
Administrative Action	321	378	448

Further, after completion of proceedings, the Commission tenders advice on the nature of penalties or otherwise on references received from the organizations. Such advices are termed as second stage advice. The nature of advice tendered/penalty advised by the Commission during the year 2009, 2010 and 2011 is as under:

Nature of advice (2nd stage)	2009	2010	2011
Major penalty	856	523	445
Minor penalty	239	269	208
Exoneration	214	259	287
Other action	126	129	87

(c) and (d) Such centralized data is not maintained in this Department.

[English]

Funds for Basic Facilities in Schools

287. SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Government to ensure the availability of funds to the State Government and Union Territories for construction of toilets in all Government schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Government has allotted any special funds for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Hon'ble Supreme Court in writ petition (civil) No. 631 of 2004 in the matter of Environmental and Consumer Protection Foundation vs. Delhi Administration and Others, has directed, in its order dated 13th January, 2012 to all States and Union Territories to ensure that permanent toilet facilities are made available in all schools on or before 31st March, 2012 and if it is not possible to construct permanent toilets, than at least temporary toilet facilities be made available in the schools on or before 28th February, 2012 and an Affidavit to that

effect be filed by Chief Secretaries on or before 28th February, 2012. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Union of India to ensure that necessary funds are made available to the States so that they can carry out the orders.

(c) to (e) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) all new schools sanctioned include the toilet and drinking facilities. SSA also provides for girls toilets in existing schools and boys toilets located in urban areas. In the case of existing schools in rural areas, toilets are provided in convergence with the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) implemented by the Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation. An amount of Rs. 954.92 crore (Rs. 851.26 crore for girls toilets and Rs. 103.66 crore for boys toilets) were sanctioned for construction of toilets facilities during 2011-12. The requirement of these facilities are worked out by the State based on need at school/village/block and district level, and reflected in their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B). The States/UTs have been requested to work out their requirements of toilet facilities and include the same in their AWP&B for 2012-13.

Problems during Haj Pilgrimage

288. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last Haj pilgrimage, difficulties were faced by Haj Pilgrims due to poor/messy flight operations;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to solve the problems; and

(d) the steps the Government proposes to take to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future and to make Haj Yatra more affordable and convenient for the pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) While entering into MOU with the airlines, appropriate provisions are made for convenience of pilgrims and regarding strict adherence of the time schedule by the airlines. During Haj-2011, each pilgrim paid only Rs.16,000 towards fare, which is perhaps the lowest fare being paid by any pilgrim from any country and government has paid the balance fare as subsidy.

**Airports having direct Flights
to Foreign Countries**

289. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether many international airports in the country do not have direct flights to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the extent of losses suffered as a result of absence of this facility; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Indian carriers are free to mount their international operations from any point in India as per the respective bilateral Air Services Agreements between India and the concerned country(ies). Of the 17 international airports, the Indian carriers are operating international flights to all except for three airports at Guwahati, Srinagar and Port Blair. Since Indian carriers are free to operate international services as per their commercial judgement, no quantifiable loss on this account can be determined.

[*Translation*]

**Non Payment of Salary
to Indians in Nigeria**

290. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaint from public representatives regarding non-payment of salary to 117 Indians by Delta Steel Company for the last four years in Nigeria;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes. The Government has received complaints regarding non-payment of salaries to Indian expatriate employees of M/s Delta Steel Co., Warri, Nigeria (DSC).

(b) A total of 117 employees of the company are reported to have not received their outstanding payments. Most of the payments relate to the period since January 2011 with the payment relating to the case of one former employee of the company pertaining to the period 2008-

09. The High Commissioner of India, Abuja, Nigeria has been closely following up on the subject matter for its resolution. He has held meetings with the representatives of the management of M/s Delta Steel Co., Warri and employees' representatives. The last such meeting was held on February 9-10, 2012. The meeting, however, remained inconclusive as both sides were unable to arrive at an agreement.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Excess Spectrum

291. SHRI N. KRISTAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Commission has approved charging of excess spectrum held by various operators from the date of allotment of such spectrum partially based on TRAI recommendation and partially based on the auction process;

(b) if so, the details of such approval of the Telecom Commission with respect to charging of excess spectrum;

(c) whether the Government has been allotting 2G spectrum till now without any additional one time charge either for the contracted amount of spectrum or for spectrum beyond the contracted amount;

(d) if so, the estimated loss to the Government as a result of free allotment of spectrum beyond the contracted value; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government to recover the loss suffered as result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The Telecom Commission has given its recommendations on charging for spectrum including excess spectrum after considering the Recommendations of TRAI on 'Spectrum Management and Licensing Framework' of 10th May, 2010 and further recommendations of TRAI dated 08th February, 2011". However no decision has been taken in this regard.

(c) to (e) No separate one time additional upfront charges are levied for allotment of either for the contracted or beyond the contracted amount of spectrum. However, annual spectrum usage charges on percentage of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue) are being levied. The initial/

start-up spectrum is allotted to the Unified Access Service Licensees as per the provisions of their Service Licence Agreements subject to availability of spectrum. Additional spectrum beyond the above is also considered for allocation after ensuring optimal and efficient utilization of the already allotted spectrum, taking into account all types of traffic and subscribed criteria evolved from time to time.

Rejection of UIDAI Bill

292. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the issues raised by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance and the reasons for rejection of UIDAI Bill as reported in the media;

(b) the steps taken to resolve the issue;

(c) the number of persons who have either been issued the Unique ID numbers or are yet to get the same after having been enrolled;

(d) the total amount allocated till date for the implementation of this scheme and the amount spent so far; and

(e) the agencies engaged for the purpose and the cost per bio-metric identity being incurred?

Year	Budget Estimates (in crore of Rs.)	Revised Estimates (in crore of Rs.)	Expenditure incurred (in crore of Rs.)
2009-10	120.00	30.92	26.21
2010-11	1900.00	960.66	268.41
2011-12 (up to February 2012)	1470.00	1200.00	773.24

(e) Enrolment of residents is carried out by Registrars who collect biometric and demographic data through enrolment agencies. Registrars can be Departments of the State Governments, Public sector banks or financial institutions. The UIDAI has been giving assistance to Registrars at the rate of Rs.50 per successful aadhaar generation.

Allocation of Coal Blocks

293. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Governments, public and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the National Identification Authority of Bill, 2010 was presented by the Committee to the Lok Sabha on 13th December, 2011 and laid in the Rajya Sabha on 13th December, 2011. The Committee has, *inter alia*, given its observations on giving number to every resident and not restricting the Unique Identification scheme to citizens, reliability of technology, legislative safeguards for data protection and duplication of work with the National Population Register exercise.

(b) The observations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

(c) 13.80 crore aadhaar have been issued as on 7th March, 2012 against 19.29 resident data packets received at the Central Identities Data Repository.

(d) Cost estimates of Rs.8, 962.06 crore have been approved for Phases I, II and III of the, scheme for the period upto March, 2017. Out of this, the year wise budgetary allocation and expenditure incurred so far is as under:

private sector companies have requested for allocation of coal blocks and coal linkage during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details of applications received and cleared company-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the number of applications still pending alongwith the reasons for such pendency and the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Coal has not invited applications for allocation of coal blocks from Government, Private/Public Sector Companies during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period except for allotment of

coal block for captive use for the purpose of Coal-to-Liquid projects. The requests submitted by the State Governments/ Public and Private Sector Companies on their own were not considered for allocation.

As far as allocation of coal linkage is concerned, the applications received and cleared during the Eleventh Five Year Plan are given in the enclosed Statement.

The sector-wise details of applications pending for grant of coal linkage and the reasons thereof are given below:

Sector	No. of applications pending
1	2
State Electricity Board/ Independent Power Producers	438

1	2
Captive Power Plants	363
Sponge Iron	169
Cement	124
Total	1094

The applications for the grant of coal linkages are taken up by the respective Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) in their meetings, subject to the recommendations by the concerned administrative ministries, coal availability and other relevant factors. In view of non-availability of coal to meet the requirements on account of fresh linkages, it has not been possible to hold the meetings of the respective Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term). No time frame can be specified in this regard.

Statement

Application for Fresh Linkages Received and Cleared, Sector-wise and Year-wise, during 11th Five Year Plan

Sectors	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Received	Cleared*	Received	Cleared	Received	Cleared	Received	Cleared	Received	Cleared
State Electricity Boards/ Independent Power Projects (SEB/IPP)	76	129	182	41	111	0	179	37	67	0
Captive Power Projects (CPP)	74	106	151	30	98	0	150	56	65	0
Sponge Iron	23	236	59	0	50	0	45	0	16	0
Cement	17	72	70	0	14	0	32	0	08	0

* This includes all applications received till 2007

*[Translation]***Suicide Cases**

294. SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether there has been an increasing trend in the cases of suicide by school students due to examination related reasons in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the measures taken or being considered to prevent such cases;

(e) whether there is any proposal to change the pattern of examinations and curriculum; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) There are sporadic reports in the media of suicides committed by the students of various grades. The report of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows that while the number of suicides by school students declined between 2008 and 2009, there was an increase in 2010. This increase can be

attributed to various social, economic or personal reasons and not to examination pressure alone.

(c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in respect of its affiliated schools, does not maintain such data. However, the State-wise details based on the NCRB reports, of suicide by school students for the year 2008, 2009 & 2010 are furnished in the enclosed Statement.

(d) to (f) CBSE has taken the following initiatives to tackle such problem effectively:

(i) Abolition of class X Board Examination w.e.f. 2011 for the students who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after class X,

(ii) Grading System has been brought in at the level of IX & X,

(iii) Providing 15 Minutes time for reading question paper during examination,

(iv) Proper weightage to internal school based assessment,

(v) Five chances of improvements in class X in all subjects have been provided. Also five chances of compartment in class XII examination in one subject have been provided,

(vi) Providing counselling to students and the parents along with helpline programme before the commencement of the examination and during the declaration of results through telephone, Interactive Voice Record system (IVRS), leading news papers and online connectivity.

Statement*State-wise Details of Suicide by Students*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2008	2009	2010
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	223	213	249
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	0
3.	Assam	119	129	142
4.	Bihar	23	28	52
5.	Chhattisgarh	53	43	45
6.	Goa	1	0	5

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gujarat	105	99	85
8.	Haryana	73	44	38
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	6	8
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	12	8
11.	Jharkhand	34	22	63
12.	Karnataka	150	147	147
13.	Kerala	47	46	56
14.	Madhya Pradesh	193	160	177
15.	Maharashtra	236	227	388
16.	Manipur	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	2	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	54	103	111
21.	Punjab	12	14	13
22.	Rajsthan	34	31	56
23.	Sikkim	3	11	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	264	223	240
25.	Tripura	15	13	10
26.	Uttar Pradesh	130	92	107
27.	Uttarakhand	3	8	11
28.	West Bengal	322	275	412
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	1	0
30.	Chandigarh	5	8	5
31.	Dadra and Nicobar Haveli	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	1
33.	Delhi (UT)	61	48	42
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	10	4	4
Total		2189	2010	2479

Role of Touts in Passport Offices

295. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reign of touts in passport offices for issuance of passports has still not ended;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the touts act hand in glove with the staff and officers of the passport offices and charge money from the public to facilitate the issuance of passports due to which a number of illegal passports also get issued; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of touts apprehended during the last three years alongwith the punitive action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Under the Passport Seva Project, the working of Passport Offices is being made transparent and corruption-free by delivering passport related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner and in a comfortable environment through streamlined processes. Since the physical presence of the applicant is required for bio-metrics and photographs in this new system of submission of passport applications, the role of touts in Passport Offices has been minimised to a great extent. However, under the old system of submission, (which will be phased out over the next 3-4 months), activities by touts have been noticed occasionally in and around Passport Offices. In order to obviate any need to approach any outsider for any kind of service, passport application procedures are prominently displayed in all the Passport Offices. Advisories cautioning the public against touts are also displayed prominently. Whenever activities of touts are noticed, Passport Officers, with the assistance of local police, conduct raids to eliminate this menace.

(c) and (d) Cases where collusion of passport officials with touts have come to Ministry's notice, the vigilance team conducts an inquiry and in cases of serious nature, departmental action is taken. Apart from this, surprise raids are made on Passport Offices to check the menace of touts with the assistance of local police.

Racial Discrimination against Indian Students

296. DR. BHOLA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether racial discrimination has led to increase in the incidents of attacks on the students and religious

places in Great Britain, Canada and United States of America;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to sign any agreement with these countries and take any initiative for bringing the culprits to the book so that such incidents do not take place in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) While some incidents of attacks on Indian students in Great Britain have been brought to the attention of the Government, there is nothing to suggest that racial discrimination has led to an increase in the incidents of attacks on students and religious places in Great Britain, Canada and United States of America.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Enrolment Rate

297. DR. RATNA DE:
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

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

(a) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the quality of education and health of the students across the country;

(b) whether the percentage of enrolment in schools after implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has increased in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the proportion of boys and girls enrolment during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(e) whether the enrolment of girls under SSA is poor in some States including Assam;

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

(g) the steps taken to improve the enrolment of children, especially girls at the elementary level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D.

PURANDESWARI): (a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been under implementation in partnership with the States since 2001-02 to universalize access and retention in elementary education, bridge gender and social category gaps in enrolment and improve the quality of education. In addition, the Government is also implementing the Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme to provide a hot cooked meal to children in Government, Local Body and Government-aided schools. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act prescribes, inter alia norms and standards for Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), school infrastructure and facilities. It lays down that the curriculum and evaluation process shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account the all-round development of the-child, build on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. The RTE Act, 2009 also provides for Part-Time Instructor for Health and Physical Education for Upper Primary Schools with enrolment above 100, and for play material, games and sports equipment. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provisioning for additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools, as well as quality interventions. The revised SSA Framework of Implementation is on the website www.ssa.nic.in.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development

collects information on various educational indicators from the States/UTs annually through Selected Educational Statistics (SES). Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was launched in 2001-02 and since then the enrolment of children from class I to VIII has increased from 15,77,00,000 (2001-2002) to 19,50,90,845 (2009-2010) as per the SES 2009-10.

(d) to (f) The State-wise enrollment of boys and girls at elementary level for three years from 2007-08 to 2009-10 as per SES is enclosed as Statement. The enrolment of girls at the national level has improved from 9,05,35,250 (2007-08) to 9,24,17,562 (2009-10). However, some States, including Assam, have reported decline in enrolment of girls in 2009-10.

(g) Steps to improve the enrolment of the children at elementary level include, *inter alia*, the opening of new primary and upper primary schools, construction of school buildings, provisioning for additional class rooms and teachers, supply of free text books and uniforms, special training for out of school children to mainstream them in regular schools, residential/transport facilities for children in habitations which are too small and sparsely populated and urban deprived children, and provisioning of drinking water and separate toilets for boys and girls as per norms for intervention laid down in the SSA Framework of Implementation. Further, SSA also provides for residential facilities for girls from the marginalized sections of society through the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), as well as targeted interventions through the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) in educationally backward blocks of the country.

Statement

Statewise enrolment of boys and girls at elementary level

State/UT	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	5587630	5372109	5494720	5322887	5469574	5286480
Arunachal Pradesh	145729	126778	150495	135581	153870	141524
Assam	2684580	2578705	2598501	2450440	2145011	2151920
Bihar	8997946	6712160	9492532	7230584	10097743	7936720
Chhattisgarh	2425016	2191575	2628781	242293	2378147	2193719

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Goa	99238	88637	100630	89813	102993	91475
Gujarat	5287086	4005502	4964228	4482205	5114802	4358103
Haryana	1817733	1579630	1672306	1643724	1814130	1562312
Himachal Pradesh	571710	512525	561390	504313	545268	490849
Jammu and Kashmir	872339	741525	1014724	893100	1011548	918758
Jharkhand	3591542	3222449	3426727	3260579	3591542	3222449
Karnataka	4440422	4152525	4410762	4123630	434907	4056129
Kerala	2097252	1992932	2086293	1985095	2090052	1988052
Madhya Pradesh	8811786	7912924	8687306	7876529	8687306	7876529
Maharashtra	8349099	7406974	8427434	7495669	8415779	7466081
Manipur	269681	249290	269763	249414	269234	248984
Meghalaya	376329	368850	287173	298941	305848	317373
Mizoram	108032	99542	121236	111926	105780	96771
Nagaland	159905	150125	209009	200482	159905	150125
Odisha	3352900	3121047	3424469	3199146	3362995	3151200
Punjab	1809116	1545086	1538781	1287294	2138723	1697156
Rajasthan	7134388	5680770	7151068	5685545	7035347	5691652
Sikkim	56678	57680	55733	56870	56514	57833
Tamil Nadu	5054815	4702277	5103842	4774779	5125286	4810338
Tripura	355522	335580	349972	333395	339614	324205
Uttar Pradesh	18386325	16793440	16564600	16019145	17998920	16575211
Uttarakhand	913830	861521	897717	857341	884281	842074
West Bengal	6735898	6535093	6153454	6072504	7233007	7240919
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	30580	28505	29884	27955	29171	27394
Chandigarh	68823	55815	73361	60017	72727	60191
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	29484	25328	27458	24123	30746	26771
Daman and Diu	13343	11390	17734	15171	14492	12455
Delhi	1405780	1224213	1418760	1234930	1445359	1251860
Lakshadweep	6012	5590	5412	5386	5127	5144
Puducherry	93439	87158	94513	88061	93369	88806
India	102139988	90535250	99510768	90519505	102673283	92417562

Haj Pilgrimage

298. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has chosen Haj pilgrims for this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the parameters adopted therefor; and
- (d) the funds allocated for this purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Not yet. However, Haj application forms have been made available to intending pilgrims through State/ Union Territory Haj Committee w.e.f. 1 March 2012.

(c) Haj Committee of India has divided the pilgrims into two categories:-

- (1) Reserved Category: Pilgrims above the age of 70 years along with their companion are entitled to make Haj Applications under this category. Besides, the pilgrims who have applied consecutively since last three years but could not get selected are also entitled to apply under Reserved Category.
- (2) General Category: All other intending pilgrims applying for haj throughout the country under the auspices of Haj Committee of India shall be registered under General Category. Computerised Qurrah (draw of lots) shall be conducted in the State/U.Ts. whether number of Haj Applications received will be in excess of their allotted quota after deducting Reserved Category pilgrims.

(d) No funds are allocated for this purpose by Government of India.

Implementation of RTE Act

299. SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI RAJAI AH SIRICILLA:
SHRI KAMESHWAR BAITHA: S H R I
MAHABAL MISHRA: SHRIMATI J.
SHANTHA: SHRI P.L. PUNIA:

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

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the States/UTs which have not yet notified the said Act;

(d) whether the Act could not be implemented properly in some States including Jharkhand due to paucity of funds;

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

(f) the amount released to each State/UT during each of the last three years and the current year and the amount earmarked for the next year for implementation of the Act; and

(g) the steps being taken for effective implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is reviewed from time to time, including in meetings with State Education Secretaries on 25th April 2011 and 4th January 2012, and State Education Ministers on 6th June 2011 and 22nd February 2012. In addition, Regional/State workshops have been organized for awareness on the Rights perspective under the RTE Act. Periodic reviews and workshops have resulted in deepening States' understanding of the provisions of the RTE Act. States are taking action to (i) notify the State RTE Rules, (ii) notify the academic authorities for laying down the curriculum and evaluation procedure under section 29, (iii) notify the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) or Right to Education Protection Authority (REPA), (iv) reiterate the child centred provisions of the RTE Act, such as prohibition of corporal punishment and mental harassment, detention and expulsion through notifications and circulars, (v) conduct Teacher Eligibility Tests (TET) as prescribed by the academic authority notified under section 23 of the Act.

(c) Karnataka, West Bengal and Goa have not yet notified the RTE Rules.

(d) and (e) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is implemented in partnership with State Governments to universalize access and retention in elementary education, bridge gender and social category gaps in enrolment and improve the quality of education. The SSA Framework of Implementation has been revised to conform to the provisions of the RTE Act. The SSA Framework of Implementation along with detailed

norms for intervention is on the website: www.ssa.nic.in. The requirement of funds under SSA for each State is assessed on the basis of a detailed appraisal of the Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPB) prepared by each State, and is approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the SSA. Funds are released after factoring in the pace of expenditure of funds available with the State, submission of requisite Audit Reports and Utilisation Certificates, as well as release of the proportionate State share under the programme.

(f) Funds released by the Department of School

Education and Literacy under SSA to each State/UT during the last three years and the current year are at enclosed Statement. In addition, the States release the State share against the Central share. The SSA allocations for the year 2012-13 would be available after the budget is passed by the Parliament.

(g) The implementation of the RTE Act is monitored through periodic review meetings with State Education Secretaries, as also progress financial and civil works reviews sanctioned under the SSA programme.

Statement

Central funds released to States/Union Territories under SSA-RTE during the last three years and current years

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Release			
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	71031.78	38569.90	81000.00	183551.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13683.64	11427.95	20401.77	8880.10
3.	Assam	42740.91	47480.00	76854.35	106921.15
4.	Bihar	186158.47	121739.06	204789.63	165908.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	51853.86	55592.82	87863.00	58940.22
6.	Goa	804.41	550.58	671.27	1079.14
7.	Gujarat	25432.47	20031.73	44065.01	74350.79
8.	Haryana	20546.87	27600.00	32786.11	40467.41
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8552.99	8608.00	13786.66	1492.78
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	20532.59	37363.27	40348.79	30070.50
11.	Jharkhand	69041.09	70940.22	89562.26	57903.46
12.	Karnataka	51578.19	44220.60	66903.00	62788.35
13.	Kerala	10854.04	11989.50	19660.73	17021.85
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85569.35	113249.00	176783.00	190427.12
15.	Maharashtra	67386.02	56432.00	85537.00	117962.58

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	321.21	1500.00	13253.77	2940.55
17.	Meghalaya	9440.36	9383.00	18540.90	14410.60
18.	Mizoram	5112.59	6617.75	10115.31	9314.05
19.	Nagaland	2367.87	4913.00	8636.83	4798.33
20.	Odisha	49080.90	63061.60	73177.85	92719.98
21.	Punjab	13808.10	20044.00	39612.74	48112.44
22.	Rajasthan	108326.80	127124.00	146182.29	139838.43
23.	Sikkim	1075.31	1736.00	4469.19	3022.84
24.	Tamil Nadu	45414.47	48866.00	69068.57	66937.15
25.	Tripura	6464.12	7473.00	17121.48	17309.23
26.	Uttar Pradesh	212884.89	196011.90	310462.88	245268.64
27.	Uttarakhand	11444.45	16006.29	25793.94	20092.49
28.	West Bengal	65169.37	104142.00	174703.17	167952.74
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	780.54	412.44	357.78	907.36
30.	Chandigarh	820.52	1100.72	2155.89	1311.21
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	104.63	350.18	413.78	564.35
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	169.00	162.99	230.06
33.	Delhi	1529.01	3088.62	3552.71	2135.08
34.	Lakshadweep	70.00	143.80	127.39	127.86
35.	Puducherry	638.59	669.96	485.38	557.82
Total		1261120.41	1278107.89	1959407.42	1969010.38

Inadequate Devolution of Funds

300. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds earmarked for the Allahabad University and its constituent colleges to implement 27% reservation to the OBC students during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and college-wise;

(b) whether the constituent colleges are facing constraints due to inadequate devolution of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for inadequate devolution of funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per information made available by University Grants Commission, the funds earmarked by it to the University of Allahabad to implement the OBC Reservation for students during the last three years and current year are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Allocation	Grant Released				Total
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	
University Departments	23278.00	2638.00	1250.00	2500.00	2400.00	8788.00
G. B. Pant Institute	372.00	42.00	0.00	100.00	130.00	272.00
Constituent Colleges	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	23650.00	2680.00	1250.00	2600.00	2530.00	9060.00

Further, the Empowered Committee constituted by UGC for implementation of the OBC reservation in admission in Central Universities considered the Report of the UGC Committee on Reservation Policy for OBCs in admission to Constituent Colleges of Allahabad University and to suggest measures for improving the standard of education in these colleges on 19.08.2009 and recommended that the University should take immediate steps to reform the admission process, improve class room teaching, attendance system, other academic reforms, examination and evaluation system and that the release of recurring grant for the Colleges would be considered only thereafter.

(b) to (d) UGC has informed that it has given funds to the Constituent Colleges of Allahabad University under Non-Plan during the last 3 years as well as in the current year the details of which are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
5828.36	4152.79	6263.63	6226.72	22471.50

Fee Hike in IITs

301. SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kakodkar Committee has proposed to hike the fee of the IIT students;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the Government has any plan to help the minority sections and weaker sections like SC/ST/OBC in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), in its 43rd meeting held on 14th September, 2011, accepted 'in principle' the report of Dr. Anil Kakodkar Committee on the road map for enhancing the autonomy of the IIT system and make them world class institutions for research and higher learning. The Committee has recommended, *inter-alia*, that while the students scholarships, capital and infrastructure expenditure may continue to be met fully by the Government, the IITs may meet, on their own, the operational expenditure. Thus, while the capital costs may be taken care of by the Government, the student of undergraduate programme may pay enhanced fee towards the recurring cost of education on getting employed, which is justifiable on the grounds of earning potential of an IIT graduate. An empowered Task Force has been constituted for implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

(d) and (e) The Kakodkar Committee envisages institution of a 'National IIT Scholarship Scheme' to fund student fees from reserved and socially disadvantaged groups in the UG programme and also to enable the IITs to scale the Masters and Ph.D. programmes without constraints in a need blind manner.

[Translation]

Unsatisfactory Service of BSNL and MTNL

302. SHRI LAXMAN TUDU:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI PREMDAS:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR:
SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA:
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from landline as well as mobile telephone subscribers for unsatisfactory services and poor network of BSNL and MTNL during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the mobile connections provided to Members of Parliament are also not functioning properly during roaming;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government to curb the rising complaints for unsatisfactory and poor network service of both the PSU telecom companies;

(d) the methodology adopted to collect the information regarding the quality of services of these PSUs;

(e) whether there is any flaws in collecting the data or misleading data are given in regard to the quality of the services of these companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the official responsible for such misleading data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The number of complaints received by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) from landline as well as mobile telephone subscribers for unsatisfactory service and poor network during the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed Statement-I for Landline subscribers and at Statement-II for mobile subscribers. The information w.r.t. landline subscribers is maintained by BSNL circle wise whereas for mobile subscribers it is maintained zone wise.

(b) and (c) There are some complaints regarding proper functioning of mobile connections provided to Members of Parliament during roaming. Whenever any such complaint is received, best efforts are made by BSNL/MTNL to address the same.

BSNL and MTNL are taking a number of steps for further improvement in services. Some of the steps taken by BSNL and MTNL for improvement of telecom services are as follows:

- Improving the wireline Network by change of cables, drop wire etc. as required.
- All exchanges have been made Digital to improve service quality.
- Rehabilitation of outdoor network like replacement of old instruments and drop wires is being done on continuous basis to reduce fault rate.
- Remote Switching Units are planned to reduce the last mile loop length wherever required.
- Deployment of Next Generation Network (NGN) to provide telephony services which replaces/upgrades the existing landline network and provides a lot of services from a single network based on IP in line with the emerging trends.
- Optimisation of Mobile Network continuously for improving the performance based on techno-commercial considerations.
- Training & redeployment of staff.

(d) Telecom Regulator Authority of India (TRAI) has been collecting information about the performance of service providers including BSNL and MTNL on Quality of Service (QoS) parameters through (i) Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports received from service providers; (ii) monthly Point of Interconnect Congestion received from service providers; (iii) quarterly report on audit and assessment of Quality of Service by independent agencies appointed by TRAI; and (iv) quarterly report on customer perception of service through survey by independent agencies appointed by TRAI.

(e) No Madam.

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

Statement-I*Number of complaints received by BSNL and MTNL from landline subscribers*

Sl. No.	Circle	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 upto 31.1.2012
1	2	3	4	5	6
BSNL					
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	788	618	664	320
2.	Andhra Pradesh	141876	137919	130283	112961
3.	Assam	22197	18621	15285	15120
4.	Bihar	82022	44438	35681	22482
5.	Chhattisgarh	16040	14347	10309	8685
6.	Gujarat	114077	106217	93035	87809
7.	Haryana	52094	48471	34913	29470
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	22464	18196	2695	11011
9.	Himachal Pradesh	37024	27953	21786	21822
10.	Jharkhand	20824	17005	8285	8030
11.	Karnataka	141389	123732	116913	99335
12.	Kerala	304291	261017	230694	216917
13.	Madhya Pradesh	47336	40966	34453	28698
14.	Maharashtra	247643	186054	179325	163293
15.	North East -I	9549	8306	5825	7430
16.	North East -II	4739	2777	2569	3180
17.	Odisha	40277	36369	23333	21698
18.	Punjab	123893	96301	53938	50280
19.	Rajasthan	93415	77362	66024	56968
20.	Tamilnadu	82337	73127	69430	85455
21.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	81954	59344	53649	49479
22.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	68761	54084	30431	27508
23.	Uttarakhand	19583	17454	13978	13544
24.	West Bengal	71840	64624	43466	36875
25.	Calcutta Telephone District	136532	123553	131232	120989
26.	Chennai Telecom District	31924	28897	28247	25705

1	2	3	4	5	6
MTNL					
1. Delhi		2175472	2513291	2479857	2009969
2. Mumbai		3132888	2656984	2920510	2187327

Statement-II

Number of complaints received by BSNL and MTNL from mobile subscribers

Sl. No.	Zone	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 upto 29.2.2012
1	2	3	4	5	6

BSNL

1. North Zone [J&K, Punjab, Haryana, HP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, UP (E), UP (W)]		1911291	851674	1006732	321632
2. South Zone (Kerala, Karnataka, AP, Tamil Nadu)		893299	501904	572358	211314
3. East Zone (Odisha, West Bengal, Kolkata, Bihar, Jharkhand, NE-I, NE-II, Assam, A&N)		316752	1511693	1686935	229611
4. West Zone (Maharashtra, MP, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat)		1039728	1335457	1292160	273877

MTNL

1. Delhi		81199	80555	81842	20406
2. Mumbai		138627	159564	200143	159274

[English]

Irregularities in Allotment of ILD Licences

303. SHRI P. LINGAM:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious irregularities have been reported in issuance of International Long Distance (ILD) Licence by the Department of Tele-communications (DoT) to a Hong Kong based company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CVC has found irregularities in purchase of WLL/CDMA integrated Fixed Wireless Terminals by BSNL and asked CBI to probe the purchase;

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

(e) whether as per the CVC initial estimates, several hundred crores of loss has been done to DoT, MTNL and BSNL;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government against the official responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Madam, International Long distance (ILD) license is issued only to the Indian companies registered under the Companies Act, 1956. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has referred a case related to M/s Data Access India Limited (DAIL), an ILD license, to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for investigation. The ILD license issued to M/s DAIL in 2002 was suspended in the year 2005 due to non-compliance of the terms and conditions of the license. CBI is investigating the matter.

(c) to (g) CVG has examined the case of purchase of WLL/CDMA integrated Fixed Wireless Terminals by BSNL and referred the matter to CBI for investigation. CBI is investigating the matter.

Setting up of NMTs

304. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

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

(a) whether several Central Universities do not have a Department of Education at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch National Mission for Teachers (NMTs) to focus on teachers training;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam. At present, 17 of the 40 Central Universities do not have a Department of Education.

(b) Central Universities are autonomous bodies established under Acts of Parliament and are governed by their Acts and Statutes and Ordinances made there under. Opening of any new academic department, including Department of Education, is done by such Universities with the approval of their statutory authorities. Financial

assistance for establishment of any new academic department in the Central Universities is considered by UGC subject to availability of funds.

(c) to (e) Yes, Madam. Government proposes to launch National Mission for Teachers (NMT) to focus on training of teachers in the XII Five Year Plan subject to approval of National Development Council (NDC).

[*Translation*]

Decreasing Ground Water Level

305. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether ground water level is falling down due to coal mining in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend the contract period for maintenance of small trees by the State forest agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any directions have been issued to the Coal India Limited and its ancillary companies in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) No, Madam. However, lowering of ground water level due to coal mining is a temporary phenomenon and is limited to the radius of influence of the mine working. The hydro geological studies show that the zone of influence is limited to 0.20 Kilometer to 0.70 Kilometer from the mine which generally falls within the mine lease hold area and water levels are not affected beyond this.

(b) Various measures being taken to arrest falling of ground water level due to coal mining include the following:

- Periodic monitoring of local water levels close to mine areas and identification of effected areas, if any;
- Artificial recharge measures by adopting rain water harvesting;
- Measures to recycle the treated mine water and other treated effluents;

- wherever possible the treated mine water is recycled for industrial and colony needs;
- The mines discharge after treatment are discharged in to nalas and for irrigation and other uses of the adjoining villages.

(c) to (f) Government has not proposed extension of the contract period for maintenance of small trees by the State Forest Agencies. However, the Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided to extend the contract period of maintenance of small trees by state forest agencies from three years to five years.

Theft at IGI Airport

306. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:
SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger luggage theft cases occurred at Indira Gandhi International Airport during the last three months along with the number of persons arrested so far in this connection;

(b) the reasons for increased incidents of thefts along with the value of luggage stolen in each of the said cases;

(c) the number of the said cases reported by Air India to Delhi Police and CISF during the above period;

(d) whether the security agencies concerned have their roles clearly specified in terms of baggage protection and other security related aspects;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the baggage trolleys of Air India are open while the trolleys of other airlines are closed; and

(g) if so, the reasons for not using the closed trolleys along with the steps taken by the Government/Air India to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the information given by Delhi Police, during the month of December 2011, 3 cases were registered at Indira Gandhi International Airport, in which 2 persons have been arrested. During January 2012, 1 case was registered and 1 person was arrested. In the month of February 2012, 2 cases have been registered, in which 2 persons have been arrested. Details of the cases and the approximate value of the luggage stolen are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) As per the details furnished by Delhi Police, Air India has reported 1 case during the last 3 months and no case has been reported by CISF during the corresponding period.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has issued orders for the protection of passenger baggage by the aircraft operator. The airline security staff are deployed in baggage break up/make up area and aircraft holds while loading and off-loading of passenger baggage. All the baggage trolleys are escorted from arrival aircraft to baggage break up and on departure from baggage make up area to aircraft. Strict surveillance is maintained to avoid any theft/pilferage from passenger's baggage. Surprise checks are also conducted by the airline security staff. Besides, entire baggage movement area and conveyor belt is under CCTV and under surveillance of CISF.

(f) and (g) It has been informed by Air India that in wide body aircraft, all passenger baggage are loaded into closed containers, which are sealed and escorted by security personnel, upto the departure aircraft. In case of Narrow body aircraft, normal trolleys are used and escorted by security staff.

Statement

Details of Theft Cases at IGI Airport During Last Three Months

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Date	U/S	Person Arrested	Status of Case	Police Station	Approximate value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	557/11	02/12/11	379 IPC	-	PI	IGIA	20,000/-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	566/11	08/12/11	379/420 IPC	2 (Neha Company)	PI	IGIA	Debit/Credit Card (stolen) and property recovered (1 DVD, Washing Machine, 1 Pair Shoes Bata).
3.	580/11	16/12/11	379 IPC	-	PI	IGIA	One hand Bag App. Value Rs. 2,000/-.

Month wise details of theft cases in year 2012 in the month of January are as follows:

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Date	U/S	Person Arrested	Status of Case	Police Station	Approximate value
1.	06/12	05/01/12	379/411 IPC	1	PI	IGIA	Driving license, Work Permit, 1 Nokia Blue Tooth & Rs. 3,000/- Cash.

Month wise details of theft cases in year 2012 in the month of February are as follows:

Sl. No.	FIR No.	Date	U/S	Person Arrested	Status of Case	Police Station	Approximate value
1.	38/12	01/02/12	379 IPC add sec 411 IPC	2 (Loader of Air Set Comp.)	PI	IGIA	Sony Video Camera App. Value 40,000/-.
2.	48/12	08/02/12	379 IPC	-	PI	IGIA	1 Kada, 2 Kada, 1 Necklace, 1 Mangalsutra and cash Rs. 15000/- Total App. Value Rs. 5,15,000/-

Note: One case FIR No. 38/12, P.S. IGI Airport has been reported by Asstt. Manager Security, Air India.

Central Grants to States

307. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the formula adopted for providing Central grants to the States;

(b) the amount of revenue received as taxes from States by the Central Government during last two years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to revise the formula under which the Central grants are provided to the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any consent of the State Governments has been obtained in accordance with the spirit of guidelines of federal structure before carrying out any

revisions in the formula pertaining to distribution of Central grants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Central Grants to the States are transferred in different forms as follows:

(i) Finance Commission grants recommended by Finance Commission under Article 275 of the Constitution.

(ii) Plan grants in the form of Normal Central Assistance through Gadgil-Mukherjee formula approved in the National Development Council (NDC).

- (iii) Additional Central Assistance to State Plan through various ACA Schemes.
- (iv) Grants under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) having specific guidelines and
- (v) Other non-plan grants based on specific non-plan schemes.

(b) The Central Government does not receive any revenue as taxes from State Governments.

(c) to (f) The Finance Commission grants are recommended by the Finance Commission constituted under the Constitution every five years by the President of India. There is no proposal at present to revise Gadgil-Mukherjee formula for distribution of Normal Central Assistance. As regards the grants under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and ACA Schemes are concerned, these are based on scheme- based guidelines prepared by the concerned Central Ministries based on several inputs which include inputs from the State Governments.

[English]

Violation of Aircraft Rules

308. SHRI S. ALAGIRI:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of violation cases of Rule 19 of Aircraft Rules, 1937 and Aircraft Act, 1934 during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of action taken against the guilty;

(c) the number of suspended licenses/ privileges of licenses or pilots involved in above violation during the above said period; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to check the violation of above Act/Rules and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken total 298 enforcement actions under the Aircraft Rules from 2009 to 2012 (upto February 2012). The details are as under:

- (i) 2009 - 68
- (ii) 2010 - 71

(iii) 2011 - 123

(iv) 2012 (upto February) - 36

(b) The details of action taken by DGCA against the guilty are (i) Suspension - 139, (ii) Warning - 93, (iii) Cancellation - 05, (iv) Show cause - 43, (v) Debar - 14, (vi) Deroster - 01, (vii) Memo - 01, and (viii) approval not valid - 02.

(c) DGCA has suspended 139 licences/ privileges of licences during the above said period.

(d) DGCA has published an Annual Surveillance Programme on DGCA's website, wherein DGCA monitor the activities of all the operators by carrying out surveillance, spot checks and regulatory audits.

[Translation]

Instability in Nepal

309. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the political instability in Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the likely impact on Indian security as a result of political instability in Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) Nepal is passing through a political transition and is engaged in the task of drafting a new Constitution and concluding the integration and rehabilitation process of former Maoist combatants. The political changes in Nepal are its internal issues, decided and settled by the Nepalese people and their representatives. On account of the unique relationship and an open border, India has interests and security concerns, for which the Government of India has been engaged in on-going cooperation with the Government of Nepal. Nepal has assured India, at various levels, that it would not allow its territory to be used for any activity against India.

Setting up of Nuclear Power Plants

310. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI RAMEN DEKA:
SHRI AJAY KUMAR:

KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY:
 SHRI PREMDAS:
 SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
 SHRI M. VENUGOPAL REDDY:
 SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:
 SHRI NARHARI MAHATO:
 SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
 SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) in the country and the power that is being generated by these plants alongwith their capacity, State-wise and Plant-wise;

(b) the details of NPPs set up during the current five year plan so far alongwith the criteria followed for setting up/site selection of these plants;

(c) whether some of the State Governments have requested to set up NPPs in their States;

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

(e) whether the Government proposes to open new NPPs in the country during the next Five Year Plan;

(f) if so, the details thereof, location wise and estimated cost and capacity of these plants and the expected time by which these plants are likely to be made operational;

(g) the details of land required for each of the plants and the details of agricultural land out of that alongwith the criteria for compensation; and

(h) the names of the foreign companies alongwith

the names of countries assisting in these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) In the current Five Year Plan, 880 MW nuclear power capacity has been added by completion of Kaiga 3&4 (2 x 220 MW) at Kaiga, Karnataka and RAPP 5&6 (2X220 MW) at Rawatbhata, Rajasthan. Construction has started on two nuclear power projects viz. KAPS 3&4 (2X700 MW) and RAPS 7&8 (2X700 MW) at the existing sites at Kakrapar in Gujarat and Rawatbhata in Rajasthan, respectively. These sites were evaluated for setting up the additional units by the Site Selection Committee (SSC) of the Government in accordance with the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)'s 'Code of Practice on Safety in Nuclear Power Plant Siting'. Based on the recommendations of the SSC, 'in principle' approval of the sites for locating these units was accorded by the Government.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Many States/UT had offered sites for setting up nuclear power plants. These include Andaman and Nicobar islands, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. Meghalaya had also evinced interest, though it had not offered any site. After evaluation of the sites by the SSC, the Government accorded in-principle approval for the following sites in October 2009 and July 2011:

State	Site	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	Kovvada	6 X 1000*
Gujarat	Chaya Mithi Virdi	6 X 1000*
Haryana	Gorakhpur	4 X 700
Karnataka	Kaiga (Kaiga 5&6)	2 X 700
Madhya Pradesh	Chutka	2 X 700
	Bhimpur	4 X 700
Maharashtra	Jaitapur	6 X 1650

1	2	3
Rajasthan	Mahi Banswara	4 X 700
Tamilnadu	Kudankulam (KK 3 to 6)	4 X 1000
West Bengal	Haripur	6 X 1000

* Nominal Capacity

(e) Yes Madam.

(f) In the XII Five Year Plan, it is planned to start work on eight Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) of 700 MW, two Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) of 500 MW,

and one Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) of 300 MW of indigenous design. Eight Light Water Reactors (LWRs) of 1000 MW or higher capacity in technical cooperation with foreign countries are also planned to be launched. The details are as follows:

Project	Location	Reactor Type	Capacity (MW)
Indigenous Reactors			
Gorakhpur 1&2	Gorakhpur, Haryana	PHWR	2X700
Chutka 1&2	Chutka, Madhya Pradesh	PHWR	2X700
Kaiga 5&6	Kaiga, Karnataka	PHWR	2X700
Mahi Banswara 1&2	Mahi Banswara, Rajasthan	PHWR	2X700
FBR 1&2	Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu	FBR	2X500
AHWR	Site to be decided	AHWR	300
LWRs with International Cooperation			
Kudankulam 3&4	Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu	LWR	2X1000
Jaitapur 1&2	Jaitapur, Maharashtra	LWR	2X1650
Chhaya Mithi Viridi 1&2	Chhaya Mithi Viridi, Gujarat	LWR	2X1100
Kovvada 1&2	Kovvada, Andhra Pradesh	LWR	2X1500

These projects are to be completed progressively in the XIII Plan and early XIV Plan.

(g) No land is required to be acquired for units to be set up at the existing sites of Kaiga, Kalpakkam and Kudankulam. The title of land at Jaitapur in Maharashtra has already been transferred in the name of NPCIL. The land required at Mahi Banswara site is being worked out. In respect of the other sites, the process of land acquisition has been initiated and is at different stages. The details of land to be acquired at these sites are:

Site	Total Land Area Required (Ha)	Agricultural Land (Ha)
Gorakhpur, Haryana	609	501
Chutka, Madhya Pradesh	447	42
Chhaya Mithi Viridi, Gujarat	877	603
Kovvada, Andhra Pradesh	884	455

Comprehensive rehabilitation packages, including compensation will be arrived at in consultation with the

respective State Governments, in accordance with the prevailing national and state laws and policies on Resettlement and Rehabilitation.

(h) The Light Water Reactors are being set up in technical cooperation with foreign countries. The details are as follows:

Site	In Cooperation with	
	Country	Company
Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu	Russian Federation	Atomstroy export (ASE)
Jaitapur, Maharashtra	France	Areva
Kovvada, Andhra Pradesh	USA	GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH)
Chhaya Mithi Viridi, Gujarat		Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC)

Statement

Location & State	Units	Capacity MW	Generation in Million Units in 2011-12 (Upto Feb.)
1	2	3	4
Tarapur, Maharashtra	TAPS-1	160	1252
	TAPS-2	160	1235
	TAPS-3	540	4161
	TAPS-4	540	2458
Rawatbhata, Rajasthan	RAPS-1	100	0
	RAPS-2	200	1655
	RAPP-3	220	1766
	RAPS-4	220	1472
	RAPS-5	220	1802
	RAPS-6	220	1589
Kalpakkam, Tamilnadu	MAPS-1	220	1119
	MAPS-2	220	1160
Narora, Uttar Pradesh	NAPS-1	220	931
	NAPS-2	220	821
Kakrapar, Gujarat	KAPS-1	220	1755
	KAPS-2	220	1700
Kaiga, Karnataka	KAIGA-1	220	1143
	KAIGA-2	220	1257

1	2	3	4
KAIGA-3	220	1104	
KAIGA-4	220	1215	

Note:

RAPS-I shutdown from 09.10.2004 for techno-economic assessment for its continuation of operation.

[English]

Investment in Railways by CIL

311. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI P.C. CHACKO:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of planned and additional reserves with Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) whether CIL proposes to invest its additional cash reserves to develop infrastructure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the fund that is likely to be invested alongwith the areas where it is likely to be invested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) As per the nine months' accounts of Coal India Limited (CIL) ending on 31.12.2011, the balance with scheduled banks is Rs.54,348.00 crores.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. An amount of Rs.8650 crore has been envisaged by CIL for investment in infrastructure development in the XII Plan period (2012-17), which is planned to be invested in the areas of construction/repair of roads, rail infrastructure, inland waterways/Ports and installation of conveyor belts for coal transportation.

Poverty Reduction

312. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets fixed under the Eleventh Five Year Plan towards reduction of poverty have been achieved by various State Governments including Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States which have failed to achieve the targets; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to help those States to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Eleventh Plan had set a Target of reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points for the country. State-specific targets for such reduction have not been fixed. The Planning Commission estimates poverty lines and poverty ratios for the years for which Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure have been conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). These surveys are conducted quinquennially. The latest estimates are available for the year 2004-05 based on Large Sample Survey conducted by NSSO during 2004-05. It is not possible to measure progress against this target at this stage because no official estimates of poverty are available after 2004-05. After 2004-05, this survey has been conducted in 2009-10, the results of which are being processed. The next Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure is being conducted during 2011-12 which coincides with the terminal year of Eleventh Five Year Plan, data from which will become available only in 2013.

However, The Government has taken various measures to improve the quality of life of the people and to reduce poverty in the country through direct intervention by implementing specific poverty reduction and mitigation programmes such as: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swarajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY),

National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and Total Sanitation Campaign etc. All other policy initiatives of the government which have led to higher GDP growth in the country have individually and collectively contributed to raising the living standards of people over time and to the decline of absolute poverty and destitution.

[*Translation*]

Mechanism to Put Complaints

313. DR. BALIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has put in place any mechanism for the public to directly approach the Minister with a complaint if it is not redressed at the level of officers/secretary;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time frame has been fixed for redressal of the complaints under the said mechanism;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether complaints could be lodged on-line only; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) A member of public can always approach the Minister concerned with a complaint for redressal of grievances.

(c) and (d) As per this Department's guidelines, any grievance should be redressed within a period of maximum two months of its receipt.

(e) and (f) Complaints cannot be lodged on-line with the office of Minister concerned. They can be submitted manually in person and by post. For on-line lodging of grievances in general by members of public, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances has set up a web-based portal called Centralised Public Grievances Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), enabling citizens for lodging grievances from any geographical location and also viewing the status of redressal of the grievances. The Public Grievances portal can be accessed at <http://pgportal.gov.in>

[*English*]

Cyber Crimes/ Financial Frauds

314. SHRI C. RAJENDRAN:
DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of cyber attack on the Government websites including the website of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited have been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the Government agencies whose websites have been hacked;

(c) whether the cases of financial fraud through internet and mobile phones have been on rise in the country;

(d) if so, the details of cases reported during the last three years and the current year till date and the total amount involved therein, State-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the action taken/likely to be taken by the Government for prevention of cyber attacks and financial frauds through internet and mobile phones in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The website of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (www.bsnl.co.in) was hacked on 4th December, 2011 by the 'H4tr!ck' hacker group. In addition, during the period December, 2011 to February, 2012 a total no. of 112 Government websites were hacked. These hacked websites belonged to the agencies in the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Manipur: Agencies of Ministry of Finance, Health, Planning Commission and Human Resource Development.

(c) and (d) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the numbers of internet frauds involving Rs 1 lakh and above have declined over the last three years from 269 cases in the calendar year 2009 to 125 cases in the

calendar year 2011. However, after taking into account the internet frauds wherein the amount involved in individual cases is less than Rs. 1.00 lakh, the total number of internet frauds were 864 numbers involving Rs. 824.05 lakh, 2232 cases involving Rs. 1234.94 lakh and 1798 cases involving Rs.787.39 lakh for the calendar year 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively. The state wise and year wise data is available only in respect of those internet fraud cases where amount involved in individual case is Rs. 1.00 lakh or more. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

Central Bureau of Investigation has also registered cases pertaining to Financial frauds under the provisions of Information Technology Act, 2000 along with other acts. These are:

Year	No. of cases
2009	2
2010	2
2011	3
2012 (upto 29/02/2012)	2

The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The Government has taken several steps for prevention of Cyber attacks and financial frauds through internet and mobile phones in the country. These are:

i. Legal Framework in the form of Information Technology Act, 2000. The Act provides legal framework to address the issues connected with

phishing, hacking and security breaches of information technology infrastructure.

- ii. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a circular to all commercial banks on phishing attacks and minimum set of preventive /detective measures to tackle phishing attacks.
- iii. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised banks to leverage technology to support business processes and implement all stipulations outlined by RBI from time to time. Banks are also advised to ensure implementation of basic organizational frame work and put in place, policy and procedure to prevent financial frauds through Internet. These guidelines are expected to enhance safety, security, efficiency in banking processes leading to benefits for the bank and the customers.
- iv. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued circular dated 1st July, 2011 on credit card operations by banks. The banks have been advised to set up internal control system to combat frauds and to take pro-active fraud control and enforcement measures. The banks are required to fulfill 'Know Your Customer (KYC)' requirements.
- v. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis.
- vi. CERT-In is providing incident response service for handling of phishing attacks affecting the banks in the country.

Statement-I

Statewise data relating to internet fraud

(Amount Rs. in lakh)

State	2009		2010		2011		2012 (as on March 12, 2012)	
	No	Amt	No	Amt	No	Amt	No	Amt
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andhra Pradesh	27	45.64	14	37.16	6	9.21	0	0
Assam	1	1.93	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bihar	0	0	1	1.12	4	5.92	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	1	1.69	1	1.00	1	1.12
Chhattisgarh	0	0	2	3.70	0	0	1	1.05
Delhi	25	74.71	33	197.81	15	28.19	5	122.54
Goa	1	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gujarat	17	31.68	6	9.14	2	31.13	1	1.27
Haryana	9	14.37	6	9.97	4	8.74	1	2.45
Himachal Pradesh	1	1.00	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jharkhand	1	1.25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	31	59.06	18	43.66	14	115.92	2	2.86
Kerala	4	6.34	4	12.64	1	3.35	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	2	10.50	4	27.86	1	1.00	1	9.79
Maharashtra	79	154.80	90	209.93	45	247.93	2	6.84
Odisha	4	6.96	2	2.74	1	1.00	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	1	3.45	0	0
Punjab	3	5.25	1	66.48	0	0	0	0
Rajasthan	2	4.00	7	7.50	1	1.00	0	0
Tamilnadu	37	90.25	33	84.37	10	17.39	3	31.28
Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	1	10.37	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	18	35.81	20	36.09	9	13.16	1	1.00
West Bengal	7	45.94	15	35.75	9	52.18	0	0
Total in respect of cases involving amount of Rs 1.00 lakh and above	269	590.49	257	787.61	125	550.94	18	180.20
Total after taking into account all cases involving even less than Rs 1.00 lakh	864	824.05	2232	1234.94	1798	787.39	@	@

NB. i) State wise data in respect of those cases where the amount involved in each case is less than Rs 1.00 lakh is not available.

ii) @ figures will be available only at the end of the quarter

Statement-II*Cyber Crime cases registered by EOU IX in the years 2009 to 2012 (Till date)*

Year	Cases ID No.	Total amount involved	State
2009	1. RC CY1 2009 E0003 (Nigerian Letter Fraud)	Rs. 10,60,000/-	Himachal Pradesh
	2. RC CY1 2009 E0005 (Fraudulently use of credit cards to do online purchasing)	Rs. 1,61,630/-	Haryana
2010	1. RC CY1 2010 E0002 (IRCTC ticketing fraud involving fraudulently use of credit cards to do online purchasing of Railway tickets)	Rs. 16,33,418/-	Delhi
	2. RC CY1 2010 E0008 (Sim Card swapping case)	Rs. 75,000/-	Delhi
2011	1. RC CY1 2011 E0001 (RTGS Fraud SBI Chapra)	Rs. 8.5 Crores	Bihar
	2. RC CY1 2011 E0002 (RTGS Fraud SBI Muzaffarpur)	Rs. 12.50 Crores	Bihar
	3. RC CY1 2011 E0009 (Lottery Fraud)	Rs. 36,06,700/-	Delhi & Maharashtra
2012 (till date)	1. RC CY1 2012 E0001 (RTGS Fraud SBI Muzaffarpur (National farmers Co-operative Ltd.)	Rs. 29.25 Crores	Bihar & Uttar Pradesh
	2. RC CY1 2012 E0002 (IOB debit card Fraud)	Rs. 3.18 Crore	Andhra Pradesh

*[Translation]***Free Roaming Across
the Country**

315. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to remove the roaming charges across the country;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held by the Government with telephone companies and other stakeholders in this regard alongwith the outcome thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) There is a provision in the Draft National Telecom Policy (NTP) to review roaming charges with the ultimate objective of removing the roaming charge across the nation. One of the objectives of NTP is to achieve 'One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability and work towards One Nation - Free Roaming'. The last date for feedback was 9.12.2011. Feedback have been received from the stake holders including telecom companies. NTP would be approved by the competent authority. Implementation would commence thereafter.

*[English]***Setting up New Polytechnics**

316. SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN:
SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE:

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

- (a) the number of polytechnics in the country at present as on date, State-wise and location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to start more polytechnics in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, location-wise;
- (d) whether the new polytechnics have not been made functional as yet;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to issue strict instructions to the State Governments to make these polytechnics functional at the earliest; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the time limit proposed to be fixed for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There are 3716 polytechnics in the country at present. The State-wise and location-wise details is available in All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Approval Process Hand Book 2012-13 which is available on its website (www.aicte-india.org).

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. A Scheme "Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill Development" has been launched during the 11th Plan. Under the scheme, this Ministry provides one time financial assistance up to Rs. 12.30 crore per polytechnic to the State/ UT Governments for setting up of new polytechnics in 300 un-served and under-served districts of the country. A list of these 300 districts is enclosed as Statement. AICTE has also invited proposals from the State Government for setting up 300 new Polytechnic under the scheme of Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode.

(d) to (g) The polytechnics are at various stages of construction and in provisioning of land. Some of the polytechnics have already started their academic activities. Central Government has sought progress report from the State Governments from time to time. A significant progress has been reported from various State Governments. Based on the progress reports further installment of grant is released. However, no time limit has been fixed for it.

Statement*List of Districts*

Sl. No.	State	District
1	2	3
1.	J and K	Kupwara, Baramula, Badgam, Pulwama, Anantnag, Doda, Udhampur, Punch, Rajauri, Kathua, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Kulgam, Shopian, Ramban, Kishtawar, Reasi, Samba
2.	Himachal Pradesh	Lahul & Spiti, Kullu, Bilaspur, Kinnaur, Sirmour
3.	Delhi	North, North East, Central, West, New Delhi
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Kannauj, Auraiya, Kaushambi, Shrawasti, Balrampur, Siddharthnagar, Sant Kabir Nagar, Mahrajganj, Kushinagar, Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi), Kanpur Dehat, Etah, Sonbhadra, Jyotiba Phule Nagar, Hamirpur, Chitrakoot, Bijnor, Moradabad, Rampur, Agra, Firozabad, Mainpuri, Budaun, Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, Kheri, Hardoi, Unnao, Fatehpur, Pratapgarh, Barabanki, Ambedkar Nagar, Bahraich, Basti, Deoria, Ghazipur, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Gonda, Azamgarh, Balia
5.	Bihar	Pashchim Champaran, Purba Champaran, Sheohar, Sitamarhi, Madhubani, Supaul,

1	2	3
		Araria, Katihar, Madhepura, Siwan, Vaishali, Samastipur, Khagaria, Banka, Munger, Lakhisarai, Sheikhpura, Nalanda, Bhojpur, Buxar, Kaimpur (Bhabua), Rohtas, Jehanabad, Aurangabad, Nawada, Jamui, Arwal, Kishanganj, Darbhanga, Gopalganj, Saran, Begusarai, Bhagalpur, Gaya
6.	Sikkim	North District, West District
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	Tawang, West Kameng, East Kameng, Lower Subansiri, Upper Subansiri, East Siang, Upper Siang, Dibang Valley, Lohit, Changlang, Tirap, Kurung Kumey, Anjaw, Lower Dibang Valley
8.	Nagaland	Mon, Tuensang, Wokha, Dimapur, Phek, Peren, Longleng, Kiphore
9.	Mizoram	Mamit, Kolasib, Champhai, Serchhip, Lawngtlai, Saiha
10.	Manipur	Senapati (Excl. 3 sub-divisions), Tamenglong, Churachandpur, Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal East, Ukhrul, Chandel
11.	Tripura	South Tripura, Dhalai, North Tripura
12.	Meghalaya	East Garo Hills, South Garo Hills, West Khasi Hills, Ri Bhoi
13.	Assam	Dhubri, Goalpara, Barpeta, Nalbari, Darrang, Marigaon, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Tinsukia, Sibsagar, North Cachar Hills, Karimganj, Hailakandi Udalgiri, Chirrang, Baska, Kamrup Rural, Nagaon, Golaghat, Karbi Anglong
14.	West Bengal	Dakshin Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur, Malda, Birbhum, Nadia, North Twenty Four Parganas, Bankura, Puruliya, Medinipur, South Twenty Four Parganas
15.	Jharkhand	Garhwa, Hazaribagh, Giridih, Deoghar, Godda, Sahibganj, Pakaur, Lohardaga, Gumla, Pashchimi Singhbhum, Chatra, Palamau, Jamtara, Khunti, Ramgarh, Simdega, Dumka
16.	Odisha	Sambalpur, Debagarh, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghapur, Jajapur, Nayagarh, Puri, Gajapati, Baudh, Sonapur, Nuapada, Kalahandi, Nabarangapur, Malkangiri, Angul, Mayurbhanj, Bolangir, Baragarh, Koraput, Bhadrak, Balasore, Khandmal
17.	Chhattisgarh	Koriya, Jashpur, Kanker, Dantewada, Narayanpur, Bijapur, Surguja, Janjgir, Champa, Bilaspur, Raipur, Bastar
18.	Madhya Pradesh	Sheopur, Datia, Shivpuri, Rewa, Umaria, Mandsaur, Shajapur, Dewas, Raisen, Katni, Dindori, Anoopur, Alirajpur, Sidhi, Vidisha, Tikamgarh, Panna, Barwani, Rajgarh, Sehore, Hoshangabad
19.	Gujarat	Narmada, Tapi, Junagadh, Kheda, Navsari
20.	Daman and Diu	Diu
21.	Haryana	Yamuna Nagar, Kurukshetra, Fatehabad, Panchkula, Kaithal, Panipat, Rewari
22.	Punjab	Kapurthala, Nawanshehr, Barnala, Fatehgarh Sahib, Mansa, Faridkot, Muktasar
23.	Rajasthan	Pratapgarh, Nagaur, Jalor, Baran, Bhilwara, Bundi, Dausa, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jhunjhunu, Karauli, Tonk, Banswara
24.	Tamil Nadu	Theni, Thimvarur, Villupuram, Thiruvananthamalai, Dharmapuri, Karur, Perambalur

1	2	3
25.	Andhra Pradesh	RangaReddy
26.	Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep
27.	Andaman and Nicobar	Nicobars, Middle & North Andaman
28.	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh
29.	Maharashtra	Akola, Hingoli

[*Translation*]

Earning for Livelihood

317. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN
SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 60% of the population in the country lives in rural areas;

(b) if so, whether only 17% of rural people are able to earn their livelihood from the products of their farms;

(c) if not, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to create new means of employment for the livelihood of the remaining rural people; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Rural population in the country is 68.84% as per Census of India, 2011- Rural Urban Distribution of Population.

(b) and (c) On the basis of the source of major income, 35.5% of the rural persons were engaged in self-employment in agriculture in 2009-10 according to the Statement 3.4 of National Sample Survey (NSS) Report No. 537 of the 66th Round. Taking into account the agricultural labour and subsidiary status, 67.9% of the usually working persons (principal status + subsidiary status) among rural persons are engaged in agriculture and allied activities according to the Statement 5.9.2 of the same Report.

(d) and (e) Various Ministries/Department/Organisations in the Government of India are implementing

schemes for enhancing rural employment viz. (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by the Ministry of Rural Development, (ii) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihoods Mission by the Ministry of Rural Development and (iii) Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) by the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

The Government supports improved vocational training and skill development as a critical part of the employment strategy.

The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), renamed as Aajeevika is being implemented in a mission mode. Aajeevika will support creation of strong institutions of the rural poor and livelihoods as well as diversifying into new livelihoods. Aajeevika will help the rural people through end to end solutions by ensuring forward and backward linkages. A new scheme Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) has been initiated as a sub-component of the Aajeevika to meet the specific needs of women farmers and achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers.

Ph.D. by Working Teachers of KVs

318. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the teachers appointed in Kendriya Vidyalayas are permitted to pursue their studies for Ph.D.;

(b) if so, the number of working teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas pursuing Ph.D. degree as on date; and

(c) the reasons for not permitting to pursue the studies for Ph.D. degree?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D.

PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam. As per Article 75 of the Education Code for Kendriya Vidyalayas, there shall be no objection to any of the teachers employed in a Vidyalaya appearing at some higher examination privately, provided that such pursuit of higher studies is not prejudicial to the discharge of his duties and responsibilities in the Vidyalaya.

(b) As on date, 124 working teachers in Kendriya Vidyalaya are pursuing Ph.D. Degree.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of Women Universities

319. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to open 20 women universities in the country including Gujarat to provide higher education to girls of urban and rural areas;

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

(c) whether the Government also proposes to open women hostels in these universities and to provide scholarship to girls;

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

(e) the time by which these universities are likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) While there have been suggestions to open women's universities, during the deliberations of the Working Group, while preparing the approach of the XII Plan, there is at present no proposal to open 20 women universities in the country in the XII Plan.

[Translation]

Dissection of Animals

320. SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission U.G.C. has set up an Expert Committee to ban dissection of animals in educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions/recommendations made by the said Committee;

(c) whether the Government has taken any decision for banning dissection of animals being conducted for experiments in the colleges and universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Madam. The University Grants Commission (UGC) had constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. H.A. Ranganath to consider discontinuation of dissection of animals for zoology/Life Sciences.

(b) Committee has recommended immediate action points and long term action plan. It has recommended that dissection of animals for class work to be replaced in a phased manner with the acquisition of appropriate technology and the development of human resource for the same. In addition, the Committee had recommended that all Higher Education Institutions to strictly adhere to the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960; all Higher Education Institutions to establish "Dissection Monitoring Committees" (DMC) to look into the utilization of animals and UGC to provide guidelines for the same; for both UG and PG programmes, there shall be reduction in the number of animals for dissection and experimentation as well as in the number of species with all ethical considerations. Preference shall be given to laboratory bred animal models; for UG: 'only one species' to be adopted for 'demonstration only' by the faculty and 'students should not do any dissection'. In lieu of this, Curriculum must be developed to encourage students to take up field work; for PG: students shall have the option to perform dissection of 'selected species' as per the curriculum or have a project related to biodiversity/biosystematics etc.

The long term action plan includes human resource development through training programmes towards adopting alternative modalities for animal dissection; software development for alternative modalities for animal dissection, experimentation and dissection; empowering Zoology/ Life Sciences departments with appropriate

information communication technology (ICT) for implementing the above recommendations; curriculum related to invertebrate/vertebrate etc. to be enriched with bio-systematics, population dynamics, evolution and bio-diversity etc.

(c) and (d) The recommendations were approved and the guidelines were issued by UGC to Universities and Colleges for implementation. These guidelines are applicable to all Departments in universities and colleges which deal animals in teaching and learning. The guidelines are available at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/notices/guidelines/animaldissection.pdf>.

(e) Does not arise.

Introduction of Modern Technology

321. SHRI KAMESHWAR BAITHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any time-frame for coal companies to adopt modern technology with the objective of improving production, productivity and the safety conditions in mines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) No Madam. No time-frame has been fixed by the Union Government for introduction of modern technology in the field of coal production, productivity and safety conditions in mines, in respect of the coal companies. However, Coal India Ltd., (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL) keep introducing modern technologies as per the requirements from time to time.

[English]

Corruption by Civil Servants

322. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of All India Services (AIS) and other Central service officers who have been found to be corrupt under various activities during the last three years;

(b) the number of officers chargesheeted so far;

(c) the measures taken to speed up the procedures for early finalisation of the cases;

(d) the reasons for inordinate delay in charge-sheeting those who have not been charge sheeted; and

(e) the number of AIS and Central Service Officers who have been given major penalty during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The data of number of All India Services (AIS) and other Central Service officers how have been found to be corrupt in a disciplinary proceedings or trial under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 is not maintained centrally. However, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered following number of cases under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against All India Service (AIS) officers, other Central Service Officers and other officers during last three years i.e. 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012 (upto 29.02.2012):-

Year	PC Act Cases
2009	795
2010	650
2011	600
2012 (upto 29.02.2012)	149

Out of these, 33 cases have been registered against 42 All India Service Officers (AIS) as follows:

Year	No. of Cases	No. of AIS (All India Service Officers) in these cases
2009	14	17
2010	09	11
2011	07	11
2012 (upto 29.02.2012)	03	03
Total	33	42*

* 5 AIS Officers are common in more than one case.

Out of the aforesaid cases against AIS officers, charge-sheets have been filed against 13** officers in 16 cases.

(** 3 AIS Officers are common in more than one case.)

(c) and (d) Following are various reasons for delay

in concluding the investigation expeditiously:

1. Complicated nature of cases taken up by CBI for investigation which requires scrutiny of voluminous documents and examination of large number of witnesses;
2. In some cases, investigation has to be done in foreign countries, for which Letters Rogatory has to be executed, which is a time consuming process;
3. Many cases require sanction for prosecution from the competent authority; and also expert opinion;
4. Investigations stayed by Courts;
5. Large vacancies in CBI amongst the rank of investigating Officers and Law Officers affecting the speed of investigation.

Following steps are being taken by the CBI to expedite the disposal of cases from investigation:

1. Regularly requesting the Ministries/Departments concerned to expedite the process of issue of sanction for prosecution;
2. Periodical review of cases which are under investigation for more than one year with a view to finalize these cases early;
3. Regularly requesting the concerned GEQD, FSL and CFSL to expedite expert opinion.
4. Regularly pursuing through Ministry of External Affairs for early execution of pending Rogatory Letter;
5. Regular efforts are being made for early vacation of stays by courts.

(e) Such centralized data is not maintained in this Department.

[Translation]

Release of Prisoners

323. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government are taking any concrete steps to bring back Indian prisoners serving their terms in foreign prisons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Strategic Plan to Improve Connectivity

324. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI ARJUNRAM MEGHWAL:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI AMBICA BANERJEE:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the strategic plan to improve connectivity for the year 2010-15 has been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) the salient features of the said plan;
- (d) whether the areas for world class infrastructure facilities, connectivity, skilled manpower have been identified for the said plan;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the details of the airports in the country for whose construction, political organizations and public representatives have requested during the last three years till date; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) In order to improve connectivity of people by air services, Ministry of Civil Aviation intends to pursue the following strategies:

- (i) Connect un-served and under-served areas through airport using the appropriate development model.
- (ii) To identify factors for reducing risks and hurdles for the aviation sector such as taxation, duties and other economic constraints.
- (iii) To integrate the larger airports with smaller airports in the region.
- (v) Review the policy framework for regional airlines.

- (vi) Develop an approach towards the growth of general aviation in the country.

(d) and (e) World class infrastructure facilities are ensured by providing latest technology in the field of management, maintenance and operation. For better connectivity for unserved and underserved areas of the country specially the north-eastern region, Jammu and Kashmir and islands of Lakshdweep, Andaman & Nikobar. Mechanism could be developed for seamless dovetailing of SOPS and NSOPS between major airports and centres of lower passenger load/ infrastructure so that the hub spoke principles of connectivity can be realized. Man power/Human Resource is concerned, it is likely to grow from the current nearly 32,000 to 90,000 by 2020. The same can be met by globalization of Human Resources requirement with training facilities mushrooming all over the globe. A large number of Indian students undergo training in foreign countries too and then acquire an Indian license. There is consequently a glut in the employment market with nearly 3500 pilots remaining unemployed as a result of the recent recession.

(f) Names of airports for whose construction/ approval requests have been received from political organizations and public representatives are given in the enclosed Statement.

(g) The following airports out of the above are presently proposed to be developed by AAI:

1. Kishangarh - land transfer awaited from State Government.
2. Jalgaon - Work completed.
3. Deoghar- MoU signed with State Government.

Statement

Sl. No.	Place at which Airport was proposed	State
1	2	3
1.	Kishangarh	Rajasthan
2.	Sawai Madhopur	
3.	Jodhpur	
4.	Lalgarh (Ganga Nagar)	
5.	Ajmer sharif	
6.	Bharatpur	

1	2	3
7.	Abu Road	
8.	Kotkasim (Alwar Dist.)	
9.	Bareilly	U.P
10.	Greater Noida	
11.	Meerut	
12.	Iradatgunj	
13.	Jhansi	
14.	Kishtwar	Jammu and Kashmir
15.	Rupsi	Assam
16.	Lengluie	South Mizoram
17.	Androth	Lakshadweep (U.T)
18.	Ankieshwar, Distt. Bharuch	Gujarat
19.	Palanpur	
20.	Rajkot (New location)	
21.	Nevale, Kalyan	Maharashtra
22.	Hotagi	
23.	Belora Airport in Amravati	
24.	Burhanpur	Madhya Pradesh
25.	Gauchar	Uttarakhand
26.	Pithoragarh	
27.	Utkela	Odisha
28.	Deoghar	Jharkhand
29.	Tanjavur (New Civil Enclave)	Tamil Nadu

Suggestions by JAC of BSNL

325. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Joint Action Committee (JAC) of BSNL association/unions presented a charter of demand/ suggestion before the management for improving the financial viability of the company and providing better service to the customer;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The Joint Action Committee (JAC) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)

associations/unions had given a notice for strike in support of their demands contained in the charter. The demands contained in the charter were mainly related to staff issues of BSNL. However, the details and action taken by BSNL/ Government on the demands which were related to financial viability of the company and providing better services to the customer are as follows:

Sl. No.	Demand	Action Taken by BSNL/DOT
1.	Immediate procurement and supply of equipment and implementation of important business projects.	BSNL has already taken suitable steps for the procurement of equipment and completion of important business projects.
2.	Compensation for loss making rural services and quantification of Access Deficit Charges (ADC) through appropriate mechanism.	The matter is being examined in the Department of Telecommunications (Dot)

Joint Development of Uranium Deposits

326. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have agreed for the joint development of uranium deposits in Russian Federation and third countries and joint venture for fabrication of nuclear fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of the said agreements; and

(d) the extent to which both the countries are likely to be benefited by the said agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No Madam.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

[Translation]

Mobile Telephone Facilities in Rural Areas

327. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH:
SHRI S. SEMMALAI:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
SHRI RAJU SHETTI:
SHRI LAXMAN TUDU:

SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has fixed any target for diffusion of mobile telephone in rural and urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the MTNL and BSNL to compete with the private players in increasing their show base in providing better service to customers;

(d) whether BSNL & MTNL proposes to install more mobile towers particularly in remote and rural areas for better penetration;

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

(f) the action taken by the Government to make the non-functional mobile towers functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Under the Draft National Telecom Policy 2012, it is proposed to increase rural teledensity from current level of around 37 to 60 by 2017 and 100 by the year 2020.

(b) A scheme has been launched by Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7353 infrastructure sites/towers in 500 districts spread over 27 states for provision

of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. As on 31.01.2012, 7296 towers have been set up under the scheme. The infrastructure so created is being shared by upto three service providers for provision of mobile services.

(c) Following steps are being taken by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to increase the show base:

- (i) increase number of franchisees/Retailers.
- (ii) implementing agreement with postal department to increase rural reach.
- (iii) availability of products in organized retail stores, malls, neighborhood markets etc.
- (iv) improving availability of network.
- (v) speedy redressal of complaints through call centres.

Steps taken/proposed to be taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) to increase the show base:

- (i) MTNL will be increasing its broadband & Globle System for Mobile communication (GSM)/3G capacity to cater to the demand for providing futuristic services.
- (ii) expansion/augmentation of existing 3G network to HSPA+ to provide high speed internet and high quality video and other bandwidth demanding services.
- (iii) MTNL is also expanding 2G/3G RF networks which will further improve network coverage and service experience.
- (iv) introduction of new technology for decongestion/ efficient utilization of radio frequency spectrum.
- (v) MTNL is also bundling its services with data cards and handsets from various vendors.
- (vi) close monitoring of faults is being maintained. Emphasis has been given on the improvement of the quality of service.

(d) to (f) MTNL operates in Delhi and Mumbai only. BSNL undertakes the installation of towers on a continuous basis, based on techno-commercial consideration. Further BSNL has already has initiated and action for procurement of the Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication equipment for future expansion.

[English]

Fire in Coalfields

328. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of fire in various coalfields/ coal mines have been reported;

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

(c) the period, since when fire has been raging in each such mine;

(d) whether the Government has assessed the loss of life, property and coal as a result thereof;

(e) if so, the details thereof, coal mine-wise and State-wise along with the number of coal mines that have been closed or proposed to be closed as a result thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate, relocate and rehabilitate the affected people and also to check such incidents of fire in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. 31 incidents of fire have been reported from various coalfields/ coal mines of Coal India Ltd. in the last three years and in the current years. As per the information obtained from the office Directortate General of Mines Safety under Ministry of Labour and Employment, the details indicating the period, loss of life etc. are furnished at Annexure. Loss of life has been reported due to fire leading to explosion in case of Anjan Hill Colliery of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. where 14 people were killed. Closure of mines has been reported in case of three mines including Anjan Hill Colliery. While the closure of Anjan Hill Colliery is continuing the other two mines have been reopened as indicated in the enclosed Statement. However, no loss of property has been reported in any of these cases.

(f) The various steps being taken to check such incidents of fire are as follows:

- The seam is worked with panel system having independent ventilation system.
- Construction of sectionalisation stoppings.

- A panel is isolated as soon as it has been goaved out.
 - Pressure Quality Survey is conducted for improving the quality of Ventilation.
 - Regular supervision/inspection.
 - Continuous monitoring of the atmosphere inside the sealed off area as well as working environment is being done with the help of adequate instruments Tale-monitoring system is installed in some of high gassy and fiery underground mines for continuous monitoring of mine environment.
 - Stone dusting.
 - No voids are allowed beyond permissible limits in depillaring with sand stowing districts.
 - Emergency Organisation Plan for dealing with fire exists in every mine as per statute.
 - The rescue station /room etc. have been fully equipped with round the clock emergency services
- available for all mines Coal face is properly dressed.
 - Proper water spraying is provided at coalfaces, which are susceptible to spontaneous heating.
 - In the mines where stowing with sand is a practice, special care is taken to ensure that stowing of sand is in proper order.
 - The surface area over the underground mines is also watched for any cracks or subsidence and cracks are filled with overburden material to curtail breathing of air into the mined out areas and thus preventing fire incidents.
 - In the built up area the workings are limited to avoid any subsidence. If due to any reason any danger is noticed for the structures or heavy tracks, the compensation as well as rehabilitation is arranged by the mine management as per the approved RR policy of the company.
- The details of the compensation package in case of mine accidents is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement-I*Details of mine fires during last three years and current year*

Sl. No.	Name of mine	Company	State	Date of occurrence	Killed	Seriously injured	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Sangramgarh colliery	ECL	WB	25.3.2009	-	-	-
2.	Bararee colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	24.4.2009	-	-	-
3.	Bahula Colliery	ECL	WB	6.9.2009	-	-	-
4.	Murulidih Colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	6.9.2009	-	-	-
5.	Sendra Bansjora colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	22.7.2009	-	-	-
6.	Kandra colliery	ECL	WB	23.7.2009	-	-	Closed for 4 days
7.	Kuju colliery	CCL	Jharkhand	9.8.2009	-	-	-
8.	Churi colliery	CCL	Jharkhand	10.4.2009	-	-	-
9.	Kunustoria colliery	ECL	WB	24.10.2009	-	-	Closed for 6 months
10.	Anjan Hill colliery	SECL	Chattishgarh	6.5.2010	14	5	Closed since the accident

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Ghanoodih colliery (OCP)	BCCL	Jharkhand	2.7.2010	-	-	-
12.	Sharasthali OCP	ECL	WB	26.2.2010	-	-	-
13.	Kooridih Block-IV Colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	26.3.2010	-	-	-
14.	Godhar colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	20.5.2010	-	-	-
15.	Godhar colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	8.6.2010 & 15.6.2010	-	-	-
16.	North Searsole colliery	ECL	WB	28.6.2010	-	-	-
17.	Rajapur colliery (OCP)	BCCL	Jharkhand	7.12.2010	-	-	-
18.	Madhabpur colliery	ECL	WB	16.7.2010	-	-	-
19.	Basantimata Dahibari colliery	ECL	Jharkhand	8.5.2010	-	-	-
20.	New Akashkinari colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	20.8.2010	-	-	-
21.	Lakhimata Colliery	ECL	Jharkhand	21.8.2010	-	-	-
22.	Ratibati colliery	ECL	WB	9.1.2010	-	-	-
23.	Noonodih colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	9.11.2010	-	-	-
24.	Ananta OCP	MCL	Orissa	17.10.2010	-	-	-
25.	Sendra Bansjora colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	20.10.2010	-	-	-
26.	Moira colliery	ECL	WB	12.4.2010	-	-	-
27.	Sarubera East colliery	CCL	Jharkhand	2.7.2011	-	-	-
28.	Bansdeopur Colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	15.3.2011	-	-	-
29.	Khottadih Colliery	ECL	WB	29.6.2011	-	-	-
30.	Central Saunda	CCL	Jharkhand	8.8.2011	-	-	-
31.	Tetulmari colliery	BCCL	Jharkhand	8.8.2011	-	-	-

Statement-II

CIL provides the following compensation, relief etc. to the family of deceased who died in any mine accidents arising out of and in course of employment.

In case of fatal accident:-

1. Payment of compensation under Workmen Compensation Act, 1923 (it is now called as Employee's Compensation Act-1923 as per official gazette notification dated on 23rd December, 2009)
2. Employment is offered to eligible kin of the deceased.

In case there is no eligible person for employment, monetary compensation per month is paid to the family of the deceased.

3. Special Relief / Ex-gratia package of Rs. 5 Lakhs, which is in addition to the amount payable under Workmen Compensation Act-1923 for departmental employee.
4. Immediate payment for funeral expenses and transport etc. to the family of deceased.
5. Monetary benefits under Life Cover Scheme (LCS).
6. Gratuity on the basis of the length of service, P.F as

per CMPF rule, encashment of EL and Payment of Pension as per CMPS, 1998 are paid in addition to the above compensations.

In case of serious bodily injury:-

Compensation under the Workmen (Employee) Compensation Act-1923 is being paid to serious bodily-injured person involved with permanent disability, after due assessment of the percentage of permanent disability by an approved Medical Board.

Salaries/Wages is paid to the person, who is injured while on duty (IOD Case), for the period of his absence from duty due to the said injury and extensive medical treatment facilities have also been provided either in Company's Hospital or any other referred Hospital during his injury period and beyond.

[Translation]

Indian China Meeting

329. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether meetings between India and China have been held from time to time for discussion on various bilateral issues as well as Indo-China border issue;

(b) the number of meeting held so far between the two countries;

(c) whether the Government has sent a small delegation to China reducing the size of its military delegation showing restraint on the Important issue linked to border despite denial of visa to an officer of Indian force;

(d) whether declaration of a joint mechanism on border issues is anticipated following talks held so far; and

(e) if so, the complete details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) India and China have established an elaborate dialogue architecture to discuss all the issues of mutual interest and concern including the Boundary Question. In 2003, India and China agreed to each appoint a Special Representative to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework for a boundary settlement. There have been 15 meetings of the Special Representatives so far, the most recent one in January 2012.

(c) A 15-member Indian Armed Forces delegation

visited China from 10-13 January 2012 as part of the annual defence exchanges between the two countries.

(d) and (e) During the 15th round of Talks between the Special Representatives, India and China signed an Agreement on the Establishment of a Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs. The 1st meeting of this Working Mechanism was successfully held in Beijing on 5-6 March, 2012.

Separate Technical University for Women

330. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up separate Technical University for women in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the time by which the said University is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Simplification of Passport Procedure

331. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued instructions to issue new passports to the applicants within three weeks and simplify the police verification procedure;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the current status of the matter;

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to implement the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat & Maharashtra;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of pending passport applications as on date, RPO-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) As per Government instructions, passports to Indian citizens are issued as per the provisions of the Passports Act 1967 and the Passport Rules 1980 as amended from time to time. Prior to issuing a passport, the Passport Issuing Authority must establish the applicant's citizenship, identity and an absence of criminal record as mandated by the Passports Act. This requires verification of personal particulars of applicants and background check of their criminal antecedents which are time consuming.

The Government has fixed a time target of 30 days for issue of fresh passports and 15 days for re-issue of passports and 1-7 days for Tatkal applications. In case of non Tatkal applications, the Government is aware that in a number of cases passports are not issued within the time target of 30 days for fresh passports and 15 days for re-issue of passports, due to:

- (i) increase in demand for passport;
- (ii) delays in receipt of police verification reports within the stipulated time of 21 days;
- (iii) receipt of incomplete police reports due to submission of incomplete information/documentation by the applicants; and
- (iv) a shortage of staff strength in the Central Passport Organization, not keeping with the increase in demand for services.

In spite of various constraints, in 2011, the 37 Passport Offices, Headquarters and the office of the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands issued 63.06 lakh passports and related services which is a record ever achieved in any year.

(c) to (e) In order to further simplify the passport procedure, a Mission Mode Project (MMP) was identified under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) of the Government of India which *inter alia* includes many other high impact e-Governance initiatives and projects. The MMP on Passports, named Passport Seva Project, aims "to deliver all Passport-related services to the citizens in a timely, transparent, more accessible, reliable manner & in a comfortable environment through streamlined processes and committed, trained & motivated workforce". The Passport Seva Project (PSP) incorporates the global best practices in the passport issuance system. The key features of the PSP are enumerated below:-

- Establishing 77 Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) for delivering all front-end citizen services.
- Creation of on-line Passport Portal [www.passportindia.gov.in] for offering Passport services.
- Providing links to designated points in Police department.
- Establishing a Central Passport Printing Facility (CPPF) for handling extra load of Dispatch process to Postal Department.
- Introduction of a multi-modal Information and Grievance handling system.
- Creating a centralized IT system linking all PSK's, Passport Offices, Police and Postal Departments.
- Introducing productivity linked incentive scheme for Government employees.
- Establishing a proper Program Governance Structure for managing the implementation and operation of all the above.

The set of objectives proposed to be achieved through this project are as follows:-

- Establish a secure & error-free Passport issuance system that compares with the best in the world.
- Issue Passports (fresh and re-issue) in 3 working days (for 'No' or 'Post'-police-verification cases)
- Issue Passports (fresh and re-issue) in 3 working days plus the time taken for Police Verification (for 'Pre'-police-verification cases)
- Issue Passports under Tatkaal scheme next working day excluding the day of submission.
- Render miscellaneous Passport services (change in address and other personal particulars) on the date of application itself.
- Render the services through simplified procedures and in conditions of comfort for the Passport-seeking public.
- Provide a portfolio of ONLINE services to the citizens.

(f) The details of pending passport applications beyond 30 days, as on 24.2.2012 RPO-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Total number of passport applications received, number of passports issued and the status of pendency for the year 2011-2012 (as on 24.2.2012) in all Regional Passport Offices including office of the Chief Secretary of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Sl. No.	Name of RPO/PO	Number of passport applications received in 2011	Number of passports issued in 2011	Number of pending applications as on 24.02.12 (pending for more than 30 days)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ahmedabad	328543	320864	5816
2.	Amritsar	80055	83782	2649
	Amritsar PSK	3239	3142	0
3.	Bangalore	0	4142	1644
	Bangalore PSK	368260	379902	20773
4.	Bareilly	82724	71883	23157
5.	Bhopal	102256	99382	16665
6.	Bhubneswar	56921	52481	23183
7.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
	Chandigarh PSK	251722	254166	22534
8.	Chennai	189061	218098	9208
	Chennai PSK	58827	39889	33411
9.	Cochin	245743	243718	11615
10.	Coimbatore	57121	70799	2170
	Coimbatore PSK	24188	13459	12078
11.	Dehradun	54513	54840	4299
12.	Delhi	331970	327317	5011
	Delhi PSK	18121	7893	5210
13.	Ghaziabad	149582	133444	32053
14.	Guwahati	63883	54483	30878
15.	Hyderabad	431908	443605	88771
16.	Jaipur	206357	199720	35787

1	2	3	4	5
17. Jalandhar		119774	107346	16235
Jalandhar PSK		10506	2436	0
18. Jammu		23253	25410	12557
19. Kolkata		313362	256476	23622
Kolkata PSK		26364	6738	837
20. Kozhikode		193127	195356	8728
21. Lucknow		359566	351097	37659
22. Madurai		64353	62513	17340
Madurai PSK		71877	51277	0
23. Malappuram		171298	164065	23135
24. Mumbai		335125	321264	18710
25. Nagpur		91980	88691	9188
26. Panaji		34667	33455	1821
27. Patna		169704	172062	54529
28. Pune		155885	141184	30652
29. Raipur		34227	33054	10232
30. Ranchi		52787	47964	14939
31. Shimla		27371	25628	2717
32. Srinagar		62357	41566	45243
33. Surat		102096	100359	10974
34. Thane		208615	202007	28015
35. Trichy		65087	77002	28
Trichy PSK		56277	38624	0
36. Trivandrum		141578	143231	1179
37. Visakhapatnam		70607	67065	5259
Visakhapatnam PSK		30142	9435	22654
38. Port Blair		2928	2892	0
Total		6099907	5845206	783165

[Translation]

Casualties of Indians in Syria

332. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casualties of people of Indian origin reported till 29 February, 2012 in the violence erupted in Syria;

(b) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government to provide security to the people of Indian origin in Syria; and

(c) the total number of families of Indian origin living in Syria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) There has been no casualty of people of Indian origin until 29 February 2012 in the violence in Syria.

(b) Government continues to closely monitor the situation in Syria and take necessary steps for the safety and security of Indian nationals residing in there. Our Embassy in Syria is in close touch with the members of the Indian community and have been holding regular meetings to apprise them on the security situation and advise them to take due precautions. Ministry of External Affairs has issued a travel advisory to avoid all non-essential travel to Syria for the present.

(c) There are approximately 1000 Indian nationals, including family members, in Syria. Approximately 100 of them have left Syria in the wake of violent incidents

Date of Birth of IAS

333. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several IAS officers have been found to indicate their wrong date of birth at the time of their appointment in service;

(b) if so, the details thereof, cadrewise;

(c) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the Government during the last three years for taking action against the said officers;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) No, Madam. IAS officers are posted with their Cadre/State as well as in the Central Government etc. on deputation. As far as this Department is concerned, one IAS officer of 1984 batch belonging to UP cadre had contested his date of birth as indicated by him in the form of Civil Service Examination (CSE), 1983.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Property of Corrupt Retired Officers

334. SHRI LAL CHAND KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to seize property of corrupt officers and employees even after their retirement and take action against the Government officers and employees involved in corruption, even after their retirement;

(b) if so, whether the Government has issued any new guidelines in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of such corrupt officers against whom cases are lying pending alongwith the number of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The offence(s) punishable under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, is a scheduled offence under the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944 and Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. Accordingly, the property of corrupt public servants whether serving or retired, is also liable to be confiscated/attached as per provisions of these laws.

(b) and (c) An OM No. 219/12/2009- AVD.II dated 13th May, 2009 was issued laying down procedure for obtaining authorization of the Central Government under section 3 of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944 for attachment of the money or property procured by corrupt means. Further clarifications were issued vide OM

No. 219/12/2009-AVD.II dated 19/01/2012 clarifying that authorization would also be required in the case of retired public servants for attachment of money or property procured by means of scheduled offences.

(d) No centralized data is maintained by this Department in this regard.

[English]

Data Bank of Indian Students Abroad

335. DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY:

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

(a) the number of students studying in foreign countries including Australia as on date, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to establish a data bank of all the students going abroad for studies;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such data bank is likely to be established;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to issue any guidelines for students seeking admission for studies abroad;

(e) if so, the time by which such guidelines are likely to be issued by the Government;

(f) whether the Government is making efforts to provide scholarship to students who want to study abroad;

(g) if so, the details of schemes and the amount allocated for the purpose;

(h) whether the Government is also taking efforts for providing incentives to encourage the students studying abroad to return to India; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Specific information regarding Indian students studying in different foreign countries is not maintained by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. However, as per information available, there are about 80,000 Indian students presently in Australia.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Madam. Studying abroad depends on the choice of students and Government does not intervene in such choices. However, the Ministry of External Affairs issues travel advisories from time to time, which are intended to safeguarding interests of Indians going abroad, including students.

(f) and (g) Ministry of Human Resource Development does not provide scholarships to Indian students for studying abroad.

(h) and (i) The Government has initiated a host of reforms in the higher education sector, especially through a number of new institutions and revamping the existing ones.

Private Airlines in the Country

336. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN:
SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the private airlines had not fulfilled the conditions and norms specified by the Government at the time of obtaining licence;

(b) if so, whether these airlines have been ignoring the conditions/norms despite repeated warnings by the Government from time to time;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken by the Government against the erring airlines;

(d) the details of private airlines services suspended during each of the last three years and the current year, airlines-wise;

(e) the measures taken by the Government to restore their suspended services;

(f) the approximate market share of these companies in terms of traffic and revenue alongwith the total amount owed by each of the private airline companies to the Government agencies by way of dues towards licence fees, fuel charges, taxes, airport charges and other heads; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the dues?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) For setting Scheduled/Regional Scheduled Operator's Permit to start Scheduled /Regional Scheduled Air Transport Services by private airlines, they are required to fulfill the criteria as given in CAR Section 3 Series C Part II and Part VIII. No permit is issued to any airline, if the guidelines as given in the mentioned CAR are not met.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply of (a) above.

(d) and (e) The only Scheduled Operator's Permit, which was suspended during the last three years is that of M/s. Paramount Airways Pvt. Ltd., which was placed under suspension w.e.f. 19th April, 2010, because they did not pay the lease rental and their lease was terminated by the lessor resulting into de-registration of their aircraft. However, due to injunction Order passed by Hon'ble High Court of Madras, the same was revoked w.e.f. 30.4.2010, but again placed under suspension after disposal off the writ petition by Single Bench, Hon'ble Madras High Court. However, the orders were again kept under abeyance as per the Order dated 22.10.2010 received from Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Madras, in which, the Hon'ble Court also directed the Airline, not to commence flying operations, unless permitted by the Court. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) after conducting several preparedness meeting to assess the availability of manpower and infrastructure, for re-starting operations by M/s. Paramount Airways, granted their No Objection with permission to import two Airbus A-320 aircraft. The Court has also granted permission to M/s. Paramount Airways for commencement of operations, however, the Airline so far has not responded further.

(f) and (g) The current market share of Scheduled domestic airlines in terms of traffic is as follows:

Air India	17.1%
Jet Airways	20.9%
Jet Lite	7.9%
Kingfisher Airlines	11.3%
Spicejet	16.3%
Go Air	5.8%
IndiGo	20.8%

The Ministry do not maintain market share of Scheduled domestic airlines in terms of revenue.

With regard to information of amount owed by private airlines to the Government agencies by way of dues towards licence fees, fuel charges, taxes, airport charges and other heads are being collected.

Production of Coking Coal

337. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:
SHRI ZAFAR ALI NAQVI:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH:
SHRI P.K. BIJU:
SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:
SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of coking coal in the country;

(b) if so, the details of coking coal produced in the country during the last three years and the current year and the reasons for shortage;

(c) the details of coal imported and exported during the last three years and the current year, country-wise quantity-wise, year-wise and grade-wise including the price of imported and exported coal;

(d) whether the Government proposes to put ban on export of coal in view of shortage in the country;

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

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the production of coal including coking coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. As per the Annual Plan 2012-13, against the total requirement of coking coal during 2010-11 at 43.90 million tonnes (Prov.), the indigenous supply was 15.90 million tonnes (Prov.) only.

The production of coking coal during last three years and current year in the country is given below:

(in million tonnes)	
Year	Coking Coal Production
2008-09	16.58
2009-10	16.45
2010-11	15.90
2011-12 (BE)	17.23

The main reason for shortage of coking coal is *inter-alia*, inadequate availability of resources.

(c) The details of coal imported and exported (quantity & value) during last three years and current year upto July 2011, country-wise, year-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

(d) and (e) AT present there is no such proposal before the Government.

(f) The Government has taken steps to expedite Environment & Forestry clearances, pursue with Ministry of Railways for enhancing availability of rail rakes and approach State Government for necessary assistance in land acquisition and in problems relating to law and order. In addition, a series of steps have been taken by Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries for augmenting coal production which include (i) increasing the efficiency of the equipments, regular monitoring, mechanization as programmed and strict supervision of the existing mines and ongoing projects (ii) Capacity addition particularly for coking coal from new and future projects (iii) Consistent efforts for resolving issues of environmental & forestry clearances, land acquisition and law and order problems.

Statement-I

Country-wise import of Coal

2008-09

(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Indonesia	23.768	126440
Australia	19.591	201649
South Africa	7.093	44981
U S A	1.215	16322
New Zealand	0.840	8863
China P R P	0.523	4005
Russia	0.436	6367
Vietnam Soc Rep	0.358	3419

1	2	3'
Philippines	0.194	715
Thailand	0.045	418
Jordan	0.023	46
U Arab Emts	0.010	152
Unspecified	0.006	21
UK	0.000	2
Japan	0.000	0
Others	0.001	7
Total	59.003	413408

2009-10

(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Indonesia	32.164	115474
Australia	22.1136	183803
South Africa	14.492	62269
U S A	1.401	13103
New Zealand	1.059	9977
Philippines	0.671	2235
Vietnam SP	0.188	1694
Russia	0.146	1382
Ukraine	0.095	611
Mozambique	0.083	315
Others	0.120	736
Total	73.255	391800

2010-11*(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)*

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Indonesia	35.944	114788
Australia	5.949	171194
South Africa	11.214	57273
USA	1.771	19829
New Zealand	0.795	7704
Russia	0.423	4217
Philippines	0.262	802
China PRP	0.242	1753
Vietnam Soc	0.241	2581
Colombia	0.100	443
UK	0.075	443
Kenya	0.050	676
Mexico	0.022	239
Iran	0.014	107
Malaysia	0.011	147
Canada	0.0002	2
Others	1.804	13293
Total	68.918	415496

*Country wise Import of Coal from India during
2011-12 (till July, 11)**(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)*

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Australia	8.917	114930
Indonesia	19.889	90668

1	2	3
South Africa	3.786	23723
U S A	0.875	11507
Russia	0.537	3639
New Zealand	0.197	2404
Canada	0.140	1859
Ukraine	0.169	1531
China P R P	0.223	1480
Israel	0.060	951
Netherland	0.050	487
Germany	0.031	463
Vietnam SOC REP	0.021	385
Others	0.364	2751
Total	35260	256779

Source: DGCIS, M/o Commerce

Statement-II*Country Wise Export of Coal from India***2008-09***(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)*

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Bangladesh PR	1.291	2829
Nepal	0.236	450
Bhutan	0.110	179
Sri Lanka DSR	0.006	10
U Arab Emnts	0.006	7
Oman	0.003	5

1	2	3
Mauritius	0.002	2
Malaysia	0.001	2
USA	0.000	1
Others	0.000	
Total	1.655	3485

2009-10

(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
Bangladesh	1.441	3316
Nepal	0.810	719
Australia	0.078	538
China	0.055	167
Bhutan	0.025	59
Indonesia	0.011	61
Vietnam	0.007	45
Iran	0.005	7
USA	0.005	20
Mauritius	0.003	5
Korea RP	0.003	23
Oman	0.002	5
Philippines	0.002	12
Thailand	0.001	6
Sri Lanka	0.001	1
U Arab E	0.001	6
Others	0.003	33
Total	2.454	5042

2010-11

(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
China P R P	2.301	7024
Bangladesh	1.159	2463
Nepal	0.693	1210
Japan	0.232	1865
Bhutan	0.008	24
U S A	0.000	0
Turkey	0.000	0
Brazil	0.000	0
Pakistan	0.000	0
Liberia		
N. Mariana Is.		
Nepal		
Others	0.015	54
Total	4.409	12641

*Country Wise Export Of Coal from India during
2011-12 till July, 2011)**(Quantity in Million Tonnes & Value in Million Rs.)*

Country	Total Coal	
	Quantity	Value
1	2	3
PR	0.336	751
Nepal	0.085	315
Bhutan	0.079	163
Saudi Arab	0.005	23

1	2	3
U Arab Emts	0.002	5
Others	0.0002	1.482
All	0.588	1259

Source: DGCIS, M/o Commerce

[Translation]

ILO Guidelines for Immigrant Workers

338. SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines of International Labour Organization exist to protect the rights of immigrant workers against exploitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have found any facts of the protest by the Indian workers working in UAE and Sri Lanka;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Indian Mission there in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Madam. There are two ILO Conventions dealing with Migrants namely, C.No.97, concerning Migration for Employment and, C.No.143, concerning Migrant Workers.

(b) The Guidelines are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

ILO International Labour Organization Guidelines to protect the rights of immigration workers against exploitation

Convention No. 97

Article 6 of Convention No.97 states that each Member for which this Convention is in force undertakes

to apply, without discrimination in respect of nationality, race, religion or sex, to immigrants lawfully within its territory, treatment no less favorable than that which it applies to its own nationals in respect of the following matters:

(a) In so far as such matters are regulated by law or regulations, or subject to the control of administrative authorities:-

(i) Remuneration, including family allowances where these form part of remuneration, hours of work, overtime arrangements, holidays with pay, restrictions on home work, minimum age for employment, apprenticeship and training, women's work and the work of young person's;

(ii) Membership of trade unions and enjoyment of the benefits of collective bargaining;

(b) Social security (that is to say, legal provision in respect of employment injury, maternity, sickness, invalidity, old age, death, unemployment and family responsibilities, and any other contingency which, according to national laws or regulations, is covered by a social security scheme), subject to the following limitations;

(i) There may be appropriate arrangements for the maintenance of acquired rights and rights in course of acquisition;

(ii) National laws or regulations of immigration countries may prescribe special arrangements concerning benefits or portions of benefits which are payable wholly out of public funds, and concerning allowances paid to persons who do not fulfill the contribution conditions prescribed for the award of a normal pension;

(c) employment taxes, dues or contributions payable in respect of the person employed; and

(d) Legal proceedings relating to the matters referred to in this Convention.

Convention No. 143

This convention states that recalling the provisions of the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949, which require ratifying Members to apply to immigrants lawfully within their territory treatment not less favorable than that which they apply to their nationals in respect of a variety of matters which it enumerates, in so far as these are regulated by laws or regulations or subject to the control of administrative authorities, Recalling that

the definition of the term "discrimination" in the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958, does not mandatorily include distinctions on the basis of nationality, and that further standards, covering also social security, are desirable in order to promote equality of opportunity and treatment of migrant workers and with regard to matters regulated by laws or regulations or subject to the control of administrative authorities, ensure treatment at least equal to that of nationals.

As far as India is concerned, both the conventions (No.97 and No. 143) have not been ratified.

[*English*]

Education to Disabled Children

339. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 70 percent of children with disabilities in the country are yet to be identified, even after more than 10 years of, implementation of the education for all programme and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the report of National Disability Network of National Centre for Promotion of Employment for disabled People (NCPEDP), many disabled children are dropping out after primary education; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No Madam. As per the National Sample Survey conducted by SRI-IMRB in 2009, it is estimated that there is a total of 81 lakh children who are out-of-school. This represents 4.28% of the total child population in the 6-13 age group. The SRI-IMRB survey of 2009 has also estimated that there were 28.97 lakh children with disabilities, representing 1.52% of the total child population. Of children with disabilities, 34.12% children are estimated to be out-of-school. Since inception, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has reached out to 30.28 lakh Children with Special Needs (CWSN), and SSA is continuing in its endeavour to reach out to all children with special needs.

(c) and (d) The report of the National Disability Network of National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP) has not been submitted to

the Department of School Education and Literacy.

However, Government has initiated several measures for inclusive education of children with special needs. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan steps have been taken to:

- Appoint Resource Teachers.
- Engage volunteers for support to severely and profoundly disabled children.
- Provide aids and appliances as per need.
- Provide Braille books to visually impaired children.
- Provide 3-5 days training to teachers on teaching CWSN.
- Provide ramps and handrails to schools for barrier free environment.
- Perform corrective surgeries in convergence with Health departments of the States.

Similarly, the scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) covers all children studying at secondary and higher secondary stage in Government, local body and Government-aided schools. Assistance under Student-oriented components includes assessment, books, uniforms, transport allowance, reader allowance, stipend for girls, support services, assistive devices. Other components include salary of special educators, allowances for general teachers, teacher training, resource rooms, barrier free schools, orientation and awareness, etc.

[*Translation*]

Airport at Jewar, Uttar Pradesh

340. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposal received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of a Greenfield Airport at Jewar; and

(b) the time by which an airport at Jewar, U.P. is likely to be set up and the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Government of India had received a proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of a Greenfield airport at Jewar (Greater Noida) in the year 2002. The proposal was considered by the Union Cabinet

and the Union Cabinet referred the matter to a Group of Ministers (GoM) for looking into the legal and other related aspects of the matter.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

US Students in India

341. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India ranks at 14th position for the US student going overseas;

(b) if so, the number of US students in India;

(c) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of Indian students studying abroad depend on international funding;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the list of major study courses preferred by Indian students studying in US;

(e) whether the Government has taken any action to offer similar courses on equal footing in India itself in order to stop this brain drain; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As per the data for 2009-10, 3884 US students came to India for studying in various higher education institutions, which shows an increase of 44.4 per cent over the previous year.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. As per the information provided by the Indian Mission in USA, more than 60 per cent of the Indian students going to US for their higher studies depend on their own funds. Indian students are primarily enrolled in engineering, computer science, business management, physical and life sciences in US institutions.

(e) and (f) The Government has initiated a host of reforms in the higher education sector, especially through a number of new institutions and revamping the existing ones.

[Translation]

ASI'S Excavation in Afghanistan

342. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether information has been sought from

Archaeological Survey of India for the excavation point of Bhiksha Patra (begging bowl) of Lord Buddha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the government to bring the bhiksha patra back from Afghanistan and hand over to Vaishali;

(d) if so, the details of action taken till date; and

(e) the plans to provide the above valuable item of historical, archaeological and cultural importance to Vaishali?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has conveyed that they are getting the photograph of the bowl examined by experts. They have further conveyed that from preliminary observation the object does not appear to be Lord Buddha's begging bowl. As per the photograph of the bowl purported to be Lord Buddha's begging bowl, it is rather large for a begging bowl, besides having inscription in Arabic and Persian.

(c) to (e) Embassy of India, is also making further enquiries in the matter so as to ascertain the provenance of the bowl from the Afghan authorities.

India's Foreign Policy

343. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review its foreign policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which existing foreign policy is effective to develop cordial relationship with the neighbouring countries; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken by the Government to develop cordial relationship with other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) The Government's foreign policy has proved effective in advancing India's national interests. It is dynamic in meeting new challenges and responding to the rapidly changing international scenario.

(c) The Government accords the highest priority to

its relations with the neighbouring countries and is guided by the fundamental premise that a stable, prosperous and peaceful neighbourhood is in the mutual interest of India and countries in the region.

(d) The Government has intensified its engagement with countries across the globe at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. India's role in diverse regional and international fora, covering the political, strategic, security, economic, commercial and cultural areas has been enhanced further. Our bilateral aid and assistance and capacity building programmes have also contributed to the strengthening of our ties with countries in different regions of the world.

[*English*]

Report of Ved Prakash Committee

344. SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Ved Prakash Committee Report 33 percent of the higher educational institutions are in south India;

(b) if so, whether southern States including Kerala will be allocated less funds and lesser number of higher educational institutions during the Twelfth Plan;

(c) if so, whether it will not be injustice to the southern States where education is given paramount importance; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, as per the XII Plan proposal entitled "Inclusive and Qualitative Expansion of Higher Education - 12th Five Year Plan 2012-17" submitted by UGC to MHRD, 33 percent colleges are located in southern India.

(b) to (d) Grants are allocated to the existing universities and colleges based on UGC guidelines, for the scheme, which are uniformly applicable to all universities and colleges throughout the country. UGC grant is available to individual eligible institutions and thus, does not adversely affect the State or region having

more institutions. However, special grants are provided for institutions located in backward or hilly and border areas and for opening new colleges to promote expansion of education in such regions.

[*Translation*]

Shortage of Teachers

345. SHRI ZAFAR ALI NAQVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute shortage of teachers in the universities and colleges in the country can sabotage the development of the Universities as research centres alongwith teaching plan;

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

(c) the details of the vacancy position of teaching posts in Universities, till date; and

(d) the details of the action taken or being taken by the Government to meet the said shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) There is a shortage of qualified and experienced faculty in higher educational institutions. A Task Force was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Sanjay G. Dhande to make appropriate recommendations for alleviating shortage of quality faculty. As per the report of the Task Force, State Universities have nearly 40%, Central Universities have 35%, Deemed Universities have 25% and affiliated colleges have 40% faculty shortage.

(d) An "Implementation Monitoring Committee" has been constituted by the Government on 23rd January, 2012 to implement and monitor the recommendations of the Task Force. Apart from this, in order to meet the situation arising out of shortage of teachers in universities and other teaching institutions, the age of superannuation for teachers in Central Educational Institution has already been enhanced to sixty five years; University Grants Commission (UGC) has advised all the Central Universities to fill up the teaching post at the earliest; teachers re-employment on contract appointment beyond the age of sixty five years upto the age of seventy years is permitted, subject to availability of vacant positions and fitness and UGC has sanctioned 706 adjunct faculty positions for the entire university system in the country.

Mangalore Air Crash

346. SHRI BALKRISHN KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued notice to the Union Government and the Air India in the case of Mangalore air crash that took place in the year 2010; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) However, a case has been pending in the Supreme Court wherein the Court has directed both the parties to file their written arguments.

[English]

AI Loss Making Routes

347. SHRI AMBICA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow private Airlines to operate on the Air India-routes incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence of Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air connectivity of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with Route Dispersal Guidelines (RDG).

[Translation]

My Stamp Scheme

348. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stamps made under the 'My Stamp

Scheme' so far, State-wise; and

(b) the revenue earned/likely to be earned by the Government under the My Stamp Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The information is being collected & will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Training to Pilots

349. SHRI A. SAMPATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any proposal to train pilots and other staff in airlines on contract basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Indo-Pak Talks

350. DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks has been held at any level with Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of agreements arrived at during the meetings including the issue of cross border terrorism; and

(d) the response of the Pak Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Textiles along with a high powered business delegation visited Pakistan from February 13-16, 2012. The Commerce Ministers of India and Pakistan along with their official delegations met for the bilateral meeting on February 15, 2012. During the visit both sides reviewed the progress achieved in taking forward the bilateral trade relationship.

Three Agreements i.e. Customs Cooperation Agreement, Bilateral Cooperation Agreement on Mutual Recognition between Bureau of Indian Standards and Pakistan Standard and Quality Control Authority and Redressal of Trade Grievances Agreement, were initialled during the visit.

Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, along with a delegation of seven Members of Parliament, visited Pakistan from February 21-25, 2012, on the invitation of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan. Apart from a meeting with the Speaker of Pakistan's National Assembly, the Indian delegation called on the Prime Minister of Pakistan and had meetings with the Governor and Chief Minister of Punjab in Lahore. The Indian delegation also interacted with the members of Women Caucus and the Parliamentary Friendship Group for India.

Fifth Round of Expert Level Talks on Conventional Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and the Sixth Round of Expert Level Talks on Nuclear CBMs between India and Pakistan were held in Islamabad on December 26-27, 2011. The two sides reviewed the implementation of existing CBMs and reaffirmed their commitment to explore possibilities for mutually acceptable additional CBMs. They also agreed to recommend to their Foreign Secretaries to extend the validity of the "Agreement on Reducing the Risk from Accidents Relating to Nuclear Weapons" for another five years.

We have consistently conveyed to Pakistan that it must fulfill its solemn commitment of not allowing territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner. In the Joint Statement issued after the meeting of External Affairs Minister with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan in New Delhi on July 27, 2011, both sides agreed that terrorism poses a continuing threat to peace and security and reiterated the firm and undiluted commitment of the two countries to fight and eliminate this scourge in all its forms and manifestations and in this regard agreed on the need to strengthen cooperation on counter-terrorism to bring those responsible for terror crimes to justice.

Violence against Citizen Abroad

351. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:
DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:
SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing incidents of Indians being attacked in various countries abroad and the recent incidents in the last few months and the one in which a Hyderabad boy studying in London stabbed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind such attacks;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to ensure the safety and well being of Indians living in abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Madam, the Government is aware of the incidents of Indians being attacked in various countries abroad.

(b) There have been instances over the past three years wherein Indians in Australia were attacked. The number of attacks on Indians in Austria has shown a sharp decrease in 2011 as compared with previous two years. The issue of attacks on Indians in Australia has been taken up at the highest level, including at the Ministerial level as well as through the High Commission and its Consulates in Australia. It has been conveyed to the Australian Government that it was the responsibility of the Australian authorities to ensure the well being and security of all Indians in Australia. The steps taken by the Australian authorities have been useful, as reflected in the substantial decrease in the number of attacks in recent months. An Indian National Student was shot dead in Toronto, Canada on 25.12.2011 but the incident cannot be termed as an attack on the basis of racial profiling or an ethnically charged incident.

A few incidents involving the demise of Indian nationals due to reported/suspected assault/attack have come to the notice of the Indian Missions/Consulates in USA. As reported by CGI, New York, USA, the deaths of three Indian nationals i.e. Shri. Vajinder Toor, Dr. Divyendu Sinha and Shri. Arun Kumar Narote have come to their notice during the recent past on account of professional jealousy, random attack and planned looting of the shop.

During February, 2012, an Indian was attacked in Port-Au-Prince, Republic of Haiti and the likely motive of attack was robbery. Some incidents of Indians as well as members of the Missions / Embassy of India, Angola being attacked by robbers and anti-social elements during last

few years have been reported.

One incident has come to notice regarding violence against an Indian national in 2011 and also in the first two months of 2012 in the consular jurisdiction of CGI, Frankfurt, Germany. The matter regarding the death of Shri Hardip Singh on 22.01.2012 at Siegen (Hesse Province) is under investigation by the German authorities.

On the basis of information received from the High Commission of India, London, the Mission is aware of stabbing of Mr. Pradeep Reddy, an Indian student from Hyderabad, who was attacked by fellow Indian students.

The details of attacks on Indian students in the UK since last year (2011) are as follows:-

- (i) Mr. Harjeet Singh Nijjar
- (ii) Mr. Anuj Bidve
- (iii) Mr. Pradeep Reddy (Attacked by Indian Students on 12.2.2012)

Investigations in all the above cases are in progress. Local police are in touch with family members of victims and are keeping their family members informed of progress in investigation/trial. No specific reason beyond criminality has come to the notice of the Mission behind such crimes. The assailant in the case of Shri Anuj Bidve, has since been arrested by the police and is facing trial. The Consulate made arrangements to send his dead body to his hometown. The Government also met the travel expenses of his parents to go to England to receive the mortal remains and to interact with the university and the police authorities.

As regards other countries no incidents of attacks on Indians have been reported.

(c) to (e) Indian nationals abroad are sensitized by Indian Missions/Posts to maintain caution and vigilance in their general activities to avoid untoward incidents. Consulate officials are sent to the place of incidence as considered necessary to liaise with the local authorities and the Indian community, and render all possible assistance. Indian nationals are advised to contact Indian Missions/Posts in case of any attack or assault. Indian Missions closely monitor the welfare of Indian citizens including their safety. Indian Missions maintain a close liaison with the local administration/security agencies in the host countries and extend consular access and assistance to the victims as and when required in all such cases.

[Translation]

World Bank Report on Poor People in India

352. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to World Bank report, 41.6 percent population is poor in India as per international standards;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government has not adopted international poverty standards to show the number of poor people less than actual; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per the World Development Report 2012, brought out by the World Bank, in 2004-03% 41.6% of the Indian population lived below International poverty line of U.S. \$ 1.25 a day. The Planning Commission estimates poverty at the national and state level with reference to poverty line defined in terms of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as recommended by the experts from time to time.

(c) and (d) The Government of India does not use the poverty estimates made by the World Bank on/the basis of international poverty line, since it does not distinguish between rural and urban areas or between different States of the country. At an aggregate level, the two poverty estimates are not very far from each other.

[English]

Opening of Border with Pakistan for Trade

353. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open the borders at Hussainiwala (Ferozpur) to increase trade between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the opening of border at Hussainiwala

likely to boost the agriculture economy of Malwa region of Punjab; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to open borders at Hussainiwala (Ferozpur) for trade between India and Pakistan, at this stage.

(c) and (d) Government has consistently maintained that enhanced economic and commercial cooperation between India and Pakistan would contribute to economic growth and development in both countries.

Air Connectivity

354. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bagdogra airport in Darjeeling district under Indian Air Force opens up for civil flights everyday for some time to facilitate for air connectivity civil population;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also considering to open up Kalaikunda airport under Indian Air Force for some hours for civil aviation benefiting thousands of passengers from south Bengal on the line of Bagdogra Airport;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes Madam. Watch hours of Bagdogra Airport open up for civil flights everyday. The watch hours are as follows:

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday from 0800 hours to 1600 hours IST.

Wednesday and Sunday from 0700 hours to 1600 hours IST.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal.

Indo-Pak Differences

355. SHRI CHANDRA KANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have shown flexibility in their stands to resolve their differences on Kashmir and

other bilateral issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether new process of negotiation envisaged to bring closer co-operation between the two countries would equally benefit the people of Jammu and Kashmir also;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the issue of opening all routes of trade and travel on LoC in Jammu and Kashmir is also included in this new process of negotiations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (f) During the Foreign Minister level talks held between India and Pakistan on 27 July 2011 in New Delhi, the two Ministers affirmed the importance of carrying forward the dialogue process with a view to resolving peacefully all outstanding issues through constructive and result oriented engagement, and to establish friendly, cooperative and good neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan. Discussions were also held on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir and both sides agreed to the need for continued discussions, in a purposeful and forward looking manner, with a view to finding a peaceful solution by narrowing divergences and building convergences. Further, in order to facilitate travel and trade across the Line of Control, for the welfare of the people on both sides, the Ministers decided on several Confidence Building Measures aimed at strengthening and streamlining trade and travel arrangements across the Line of Control.

[Translation]

Basic Amenities

356. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large segment of the population in different States including Maharashtra are deprived of facilities of drinking water, health care, education and employment;

(b) if so, whether the Government is taking/proposes to take any concrete action for addressing the said problems; and

(c) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The government accords high priority to provide basic amenities like drinking water, health care, education and employment to uplift the standard of living of the population especially the marginalized sections in different States including Maharashtra. 'Inclusive growth' emphasised in the Eleventh Five Year Plan resulted in lower incidence of poverty, broad-based and significant improvement in health outcomes, universal access for children to school, increased access to higher education and improved standards of education, including skill development. It is also reflected in better opportunities for both wage employment and livelihood, and in improvement in provision of basic amenities like water, electricity, roads, sanitation and housing. Particular attention was paid to the needs of the SC/ST and OBC population.

Bharat Nirman, a time-bound plan for rural infrastructure launched by the Government of India to be implemented by State Governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions is in operation since 2005. Under the scheme, action was initiated in the areas of irrigation, road, rural housing, rural water supply, rural electrification and rural telecommunication connectivity. Specific targets were set under each of these goals. The first phase of the program was completed in 2009 and based on the outcome; revised targets were set for second phase beginning 2010. Apart from Bharat Nirman a number of other flagship schemes are also in operation to address specific issues. They include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) et.al.

To improve the pace of implementation of these schemes, it is proposed to (i) allocate additional budgetary support (ii) strengthening of institutional capacity (iii) augmentation of contracting capacity (iv) pro-active action for getting forest and environment clearance and (v) continuous monitoring of the physical and financial achievements under the different schemes by nodal Central Ministries/Departments.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

357. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise number of pilgrims who visited Kailash Mansarovar during the last three years;

(b) the annual expenditure made therefor and the facilities provided by the Government to the pilgrims;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy to the pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar as is provided to Haj pilgrims;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) The year-wise details of pilgrims and expenditure incurred on the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra by the Government of India during the last three years are as follows:

Year	Number of pilgrims	Expenditure in Lakh Rupees
2009	607	63.04
2010	754	64.57
2011	761	95.00 (approximately)

Government of India arranges, on self-payment basis, facilities like transportation, accommodation, fresh food, medical tests, guides, Chinese visa, foreign exchange, and porters and ponies for carrying goods and belongings of yatris. Ministry of External Affairs appoints one Liaison Officer for each batch who is responsible for the safety and well-being of yatris of his/her batch. The Liaison Officer is provided with a satellite phone to stay in touch with Indian authorities concerned and to seek assistance in case of any emergency. Air-lift of yatris by helicopter is also arranged in case of medical emergency. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) provides security cover and basic medical assistance to yatris on the Indian side. The Government establishes a wireless link between the ITBP and the Chinese authorities to keep track of yatris for their safety. Besides, the Ministry of External Affairs remains in regular contact with Chinese Foreign Ministry regarding smooth conduct of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and upgrading of facilities for the yatris on Chinese side.

(c) to (e) The Government of India does not have any plan to extend subsidy to yatris of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. However, disbursements at the rate of Rs.3,250/- per yatri are made to Kumaon Mandal Vikas

Nigam for providing logistical support to yatris.

[*English*]

Alternative Learning Centres

358. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA:
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

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

(a) whether the Government has released any funds for setting up Alternative Learning Centres to facilitate mainstreaming of out of school children into formal education:

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof alongwith the number of students that have been able to go back to school after attending these centres; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provided support to alternate schooling facilities under its

EGS and AIE component. EGS centres were envisaged as a transitory measure to provide schooling to children in habitations unserved by a regular school, till such time that regular and full time schooling facilities were provided in the area. The RTE Act-2009, which became operative on 1st April, 2010 provides that the appropriate Government shall establish a school in neighbourhood as defined in the State RTE rules within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act. The SSA norms have, therefore, been revised to correspond with the RTE Act. States have been advised to upgrade all EGS centres to regular Primary Schools by March, 2012, and no new EGS centres are being sanctioned with effect from 2010-11.

Instead of AIE centres, Special Training Centres are now being established for out of school children to ensure their age-appropriate enrolment and participation in regular elementary schools.

During the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs.1642 crore was sanctioned for the coverage of 26,06,666 out of school children by operationalising 49,643 Special Training Centres. State wise details about number of children to be covered and achievement (upto January, 2012) are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Target of Special Training during	No. of children enrolled in
		2011-12	Special Training Centres
		No. of children	No. of children
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	282	166
2.	Andhra Pradesh	250884	94227
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12650	10061
4.	Assam	253832	227194
5.	Bihar	559329	159192
6.	Chandigarh	5200	4470
7.	Chhattisgarh	96217	58732
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	86	9
9.	Daman and Diu	246	162
10.	Delhi	14440	3623
11.	Goa	1199	1281

1	2	3	4
12.	Gujarat	101459	93971
13.	Haryana	98241	0
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2309	2702
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	62873	0
16.	Jharkhand	52749	8411
17.	Karnataka	52244	28733
18.	Kerala	0	0
19.	Lakshdweep	7	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	73379	51340
21.	Maharashtra	125549	13201
22.	Manipur	17093	14695
23.	Meghalaya	11645	0
24.	Mizoram	9759	5358
25.	Nagaland	19116	19116
26.	Odisha	65074	15086
27.	Puducherry	901	232
28.	Punjab	23998	44785
29.	Rajasthan	106339	62520
30.	Sikkim	1769	74
31.	Tamilnadu	61653	49348
32.	Tripura	6422	3915
33.	Uttar Pradesh	157770	0
34.	Uttarakhand	31393	21925
35.	West Bengal	330559	96133
Total		2606666	1090662

[Translation]

Supply of Telecom Equipments

359. DR. RAJAN SUSHANT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether enhancement of telecommunication

system particularly in remote and hilly regions of the country are being affected due to non-supply of telecom equipments, material, etc.;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government for proper and timely supply of required telecom equipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The enhancement of telecommunication system of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been affected in respect of mobile services in some parts of the country due to cancellation of tenders floated for global System of Mobile Communication (GSM) lines during the last three years.

(c) BSNL has initiated the action for procurement of additional Mobile equipment.

**Development Schemes for Farmers,
Youth and Women**

360. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken steps to formulate concrete development schemes for farmers, youths and women;

(b) if so, the details of the said schemes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Several development schemes have been initiated by the Government of India for farmers, youth and women.

The programmes for the farmers aim at diversifying income portfolio of farmers to high value crops such as horticulture, floriculture as well as non-crop farming such as livestock, poultry etc., increasing productivity through transfer of new technologies, subsidizing inputs, promoting mechanization, involving farmers in agricultural planning decisions and conserving natural resources. Some of the programmes to achieve these objectives include: National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Hill Areas (HMNEH), National Project on Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB), Assistance for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD), Agriculture Extension Reforms, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) and Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) etc. ICAR is conducting research on development of new technologies for increasing productivity and reducing cost of cultivation

for the benefit of farmers. Besides these programmes several other steps have been taken by the Government of India which include interest subvention to make credit available at low interest rate to farmers, announcement of Minimum Support Prices (MSP) to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers and initiation of Bharat Nirman for development of rural infrastructure. Field Extension Programmes are strengthened through Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) and Agri-clinics.

For development of youth, Expansion of access to secondary education, revamping or vocational education and creation of additional seats at higher education level are important steps taken by the Government. Further, National Skill Development Mission has been launched in Eleventh Five-Year Plan to bring about a paradigm shift in handling skill development programme. Some specific programmes implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the youth include: National Youth Corps (NYC), National Service Scheme (NSS), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) as also schemes to broad basing of sports in rural areas through Panchayat Yuva Krida Abhiyan Aur Khel (PYKKA) and promoting excellence in sports, etc.

The development of women is a priority area for the Government. The Government of India has introduced Gender Budget which is available at Statement-20 of the Union Expenditure Budget-Volume-I to pay focused attention of the participation of women in development schemes. Some major programmes for women development include: Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA), Indira Gandhi Matritava Sahyog Yojana, Integrated Child Development Services, and National Mission for Empowerment of Women etc.

Development of farmers, youth and women will continue to receive high attention of the Government during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Commercial Activities at Airports

361. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the space available at airports has potential to garner high yields if put to commercial use;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the revenue generated from commercial activities at various airports during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government proposes to enlarge the scope of commercial activities at various airports in the country to maximize revenues; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes Madam. The commercial space/ areas for various commercial facilities are identified

depending upon the area/space available at a particular airport and operational requirements. The commercial space is used for shops, lounges, duty free shops, car park, airport admission tickets, advertisement rights, F&B outlets etc. for maximum revenue generation.

(c) The revenue generated from commercial activities at various airports for the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) At Airports Authority of India (AAI) owned airports, the scope of commercial activities is as per the provisions of AAI Act, 1994.

Statement

Name of Airport Operator	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
	(Rs. in crores)	(Rs. in crores)	(Rs. in crores)
All airports owned by Airports Authority of India	715.26	759.79	866.05
Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd.	402.17	392.47	481.31
Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd.	404.11	574.38	651.82
Bengaluru International Airport Ltd.	78.23	87.45	108.90
Hyderabad International Airport Ltd.	192.44	201.72	220.12
Cochin International Airport Ltd.	17.65	26.53	36.08

[Translation]

Corruption in SECL

362. SHRI SURESH KASHINATH TAWARE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of corruption, irregularities and conspiracy have come into light in various projects of South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether contract work is still going on in Korva Zone in areas of SECL in connivance of coal mafias and officials even after it has been declared a 'No Go Area' Zone; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) During the year

2011, Vigilance Department of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) has taken up 122 complaints for verification in addition to 71 complaints of 2010. Investigation has been completed in respect of 123 complaints, out of which 17 vigilance cases have been registered. In addition 16 Regular Departmental Action (RDA) cases have been registered by Vigilance Department of SECL. Further CBI has registered 8 cases against the officials of SECL.

The Vigilance Department of Coal India Limited (CIL) have found 2 (two) cases of corruption/irregularity/ conspiracy regarding (i) irregular submission of Transfer TA bill by Shri P.P.S. Gill, Dy. Chief Security officer and (ii) procurement of Engineering Wire Ropes and Proposal for purchase of Oracle 10g System Software, valuing Rs.9.51 crore for implementation of Coal-Net at Regional Stores/ Areas of SECL.

(c) and (d) Korba Zone Area of SECL is not a 'No Go Area Zone'. Production of Coal in the Korba Zone Area is continuing. To increase transparency in mining

operations, work is awarded by following open tender system.

[English]

Interception Solution by Networking Service Providers

363. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI MANISH TEWARI:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed all the communications and networking service providers including BlaekBerry Messenger (BBM), Nokia, Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail and others to provide interception solutions to tap these services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of these service providers;

(c) whether Research in Motion (RIM) has provided the Government with an interception solution to tap its BBM service;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those service providers who failed to provide the interception solution to Government of India; and

(f) the steps taken/legal framework formulated by the Government/successive governments to protect the people against unlawful tapping of their electronic communications and to ensure individual privacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (e) Madam, Government has mandated all the Telecom Service Providers and the Internet Service Providers to provide the Lawful Interception and Monitoring facilities to the security agencies for all the services including Blackberry Messenger (BBM), Nokia, Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail etc as a part of their license agreement. As such Security agencies are able to intercept the services including Blackberry Messenger (BBM), Nokia, Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail etc through the lawful interception facilities provided by the Telecom Service Providers. However, Security Agencies have intimated that they are not able to decrypt some encrypted intercepted communication to readable format. The

Telecom Service Providers have stated that they have provided the requisite interception facilities to Security Agencies. With regard to decrypting the intercepted communication, it is stated that Telecom Service Providers are mere carriers, who are not supposed to know the content of the intercepted messages and may not be able to decrypt the content.

World over several services providers are providing services like Blackberry Messenger, Nokia Pushmail, Skype, Yahoo, Gmail & other services across the globe for sharing audio, video, image, email, data and accessing other web services anytime and anywhere by everyone in the world in a secure manner. The security of these services is achieved through encryption technology. These services are mostly availed by the citizens across world through Internet either in their individual capacity or as part of commercial activities. There are multifarious aspects involved in dealing with the issues related to such communication services such as technical, international relationship, legal and regulatory policy, commercial and security requirements etc.

A technical committee established by the Government analysed all the above issues in order to work out an appropriate solution to the problem which balances the requirements of Security Agencies with the secured communication needs of trade, commerce and industry. The complexities involved in the issue resulted in the committee being unable to come out with unanimous conclusive recommendations. The report of the committee and the comments of some the members on the Report were referred to a high level panel of experts who have since submitted their final recommendations on a focused and practical approach to the entire issue. However, the Government regularly interacts with all stakeholders to resolve the issues arising from time to time.

(f) The Lawful interception & monitoring of the communications is governed by the provision of section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Rule 419A of Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rule, 2007. The unlawful interception is a punishable offence under section 26 of Indian Telegraph Act 1885 where one shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

Proliferation of Nuclear Arms in India

364. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any

study regarding proliferation of nuclear arms coming into the country from its neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (c) No. There has been no proliferation of nuclear arms into India from its neighbouring countries.

Supply of Coal on Priority

365. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides coal on priority basis to some sectors;

(b) if so, the names of the sectors which have been given priority; and

(c) the norms on which the priority has been set?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (c) The Government of India has notified New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP) in October, 2007 for effective distribution of coal to all Sector impartially as per which coal is to be supplied in terms of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) for all types of consumers at the level of 100% of normative coal requirement for Power and Fertilizer sectors and 75% of normative coal requirement for all other sectors with clauses for payment of incentives/penalties regarding assured level of supply.

For meeting the requirements of small consumers with annual requirement of less than 4200 tonnes, the policy envisages supply to agencies notified by the State Governments, who shall lift coal from coal companies under FSA and sell them to small consumers in their State.

[English]

Occupation of NIACL Premises by NACIL

366. SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) occupied the premises owned by the New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL) on monthly tenancy basis since, 1960;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NIACL issued a vacation notice during October, 2001;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether NACIL were using the said premises from November, 2001 to December, 2008;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether NACIL gave back the premises to NIACL; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Air India was in occupation of 444.8 sqm. of premises in the ground floor of New India Assurance Building in Flora Fountain, Mumbai since 1960, at a monthly rent of Rs.7084/-.

(c) and (d) The New India Assurance Company Limited had issued a letter on 14.12.1999, giving a notice to terminate the tenancy. Further vide letter dated 9.2.2001, the New India Assurance Company Limited terminated the monthly tenancy of the said premises and called upon to vacate the premises within one month after the expiry of the current month of the tenancy.

(e) and (f) Based on Government's approval, the premises were vacated by Air India in November, 2001. However, Air India desired a compensation of Rs.6.00 lakhs from NIACL towards the fittings and fixtures provided by Air India in the premises. This was not acceptable to NIACL. Thus inspite of vacation, handing over of the premises to NIACL was deferred.

(g) and (h) Yes, Madam. The premises were finally handed over to NIACL on 23.01.2009.

[Translation]

Ambit of CSMO Procedure

367. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision regarding directives relating to the reply of letters of Members of Parliament by the State Governments is not included in Para 122 of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to bring the State Governments and the Public Sector Undertakings

within the ambit of the said directive so that they reply to the letters of Members of Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) No Madam. Paragraph No.122 of Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP) deals with the subject of 'handling of public/staff grievances'. The paragraphs No.63, 66 and 127 of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP) deal with the subject of giving acknowledgement and prompt response to letters received from Members of Parliament. The procedures contained in the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure (CSMOP) are applicable only to the Central Secretariat and not the State Governments who have their own Office Procedure. The relevant extracts are enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Para 63 of the CSMOP dealing with correspondence with Members of Parliament also covers Central Public Sector Undertakings. It is not possible to bring the State Government's within the ambit of CSMOP. However, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (Department of Personnel & Training) vide an Office Memorandum dated 1.12.2011 addressed to all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and endorsed to all the Chief Secretaries of States/Union Territories has requested the Chief Secretaries of States/Union Territories to circulate these instructions to all State Government officials at the State/Division and District levels and to periodically review implementation. A copy of the Office Memorandum is enclosed as Statement-II.

Statement-I

63. Correspondence with Members of Parliament -

- (1) Communications received from Members of Parliament should be attended to promptly.
- (2) Where a communication is addressed to a Minister, it should, as far as practicable, be replied to by the Minister himself. In other cases, a reply should normally be issued over the signature of an officer of the rank of Secretary.
- (3) Where, however, a communication is addressed to the head of an attached or subordinate office, Public Sector Undertakings, Financial Institutions (including nationalized banks) Division/Branch In charge in a

Ministry/Department/Organization, it should be replied to by the addressee himself. In routine matters, he may send an appropriate reply on his own. In policy matters, however, the officer should have prior approval of higher authorities before sending a reply. It should, however, be ensured that the minimum level at which such replies are sent to Members of Parliament is that of Under Secretary and that also in a polite letter form only.

- (4) Normally information sought by a Member should be supplied unless it is of such a nature that it would have been denied to him even if asked for on the floor of the Houses of Parliament.
- (5) As far as possible, in corresponding with Members of Parliament, pre-printed or cyclostyled replies should be avoided.
- (6) In case a reference from an ex-Member of Parliament is addressed to a Minister or Secretary, reply to such reference may be sent by the concerned Divisional Head after obtaining approval of the Secretary of the Ministry/Department. In case the reference is addressed to a lower level officer, reply to such reference could be sent by the officer on his own in non-policy cases and after obtaining approval of the higher authorities in policy cases. However, the lowest level at which reply could be sent should be that of an Under Secretary and that too in a polite letter form only.

66. Prompt response to letters received -

- (1) Each communication received from a Member of Parliament, member of the public, recognized association or a public body will be acknowledged within 15 days, followed by a reply within the next 15 days of acknowledgement sent.
- (2) Where (i) delay is anticipated in sending a final reply, or (ii) information has to be obtained from another Ministry or another office, an interim reply will be sent within a month (from the date of receipt) indicating the possible date by which a final reply can be given.
- (3) If any such communication is wrongly addressed to a department, it will be transferred promptly (within a week) to the appropriate department under intimation to the party concerned.

- (4) Where the request of a member of the public cannot be acceded to for any reason, reasons for not acceding to such a request should be given courteously.
- (5) As far as possible, requests from members of public, should be looked at from the user's point of view and not solely from the point of view of what may be administratively convenient.

127. Watch on disposal of communications received from Members of Parliament -

- (1) The personal section of each Joint Secretary/Director (if the Director submits cases direct to Secretary/Additional Secretary) will maintain a separate register of communications received from Members of Parliament in the form given in Appendix 45. The serial number at which a letter is entered in this register will be prominently marked on that letter together with its date of registration e.g.,

'125/JS/(P)MP'

20.3.2009

- (2) To keep a special watch on speedy disposal of communications received from Members of Parliament, each section will:
- (a) maintain a register as in form at Appendix 46; and
- (b) mark out prominently those communications finally disposed of by circling the serial numbers in the register in red ink.
- (3) If for any reason an M.P.'s letter is received by a section without being registered in the personal section of the Joint Secretary/Director, it should be got registered there immediately.
- (4) On the first working day of each month, each section will submit the register along with the report in the form at Appendix 47 to the Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary. The report, with the remarks of Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary, will be submitted to the Director/Joint Secretary and register will be returned to the section.
- (5) The personal section of the Joint Secretary/Director will check whether all the communications entered in its register figure in the reports sent by the sections. If any discrepancy is found, it should be reconciled. Thereafter, the report will be submitted

to the Joint Secretary/Director for scrutiny and for such other action as he may consider appropriate.

- (6) Ministries/Departments may, through departmental instructions, include additional columns in the forms at Appendices 45, 46 & 47 to suit local needs.

Statement-II

No. 11013/4/2011 - Estt (A)

Government of India Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

(Department of Personnel and Training)

North Block, New Delhi

01st December, 2011

Office Memorandum

Subject: Official dealings between the Administration and Members of Parliament and State Legislatures - Observance of proper procedure.

The Members of Parliament and State Legislatures as the accredited representatives of the people occupy a very important place in our democratic set-up. In connection with their duties, they often find it necessary to seek information from the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India or the State Governments, or make suggestions for their consideration or ask for interviews with the officers. Certain well-recognized principles and conventions to govern the relations between the Members of Parliament/State Legislatures and Government servants have already been established.

2. Reference is invited to the guidelines concerning the official dealings between Administration and Members of Parliament and State Legislatures which were issued by the Cabinet Secretariat (Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, in the O.M. No 25/19/64-Estt. (A) dated 08.11.1974). The importance of adherence to these guidelines was reiterated in the Department of Personnel and Training's O.M. No. 11013/6/2005-Estt. (A) dated 17.08.2007. The provisions of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure regarding prompt disposal of communications from MPs have also been reiterated by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. The Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has also written to all Ministers in this regard vide D.O letter dated 5th May, 2011, requesting that a

mechanism may be set up to periodically monitor progress in disposal of references received from Members of Parliament.

3. Some instances of non-adherence to the existing guidelines have been brought to Government's attention by Members of Parliament and a need has been felt for again sensitizing all administrative authorities concerned.
4. The Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure provides following instructions for prompt disposal of letters from Members of Parliament—Correspondence with Members of Parliament:-
 - (1) Communications received from a Member of Parliament should be attended to promptly.
 - (2) where a communication is addressed to a Minister or a Secretary to the Government, it should, as far as practicable, be replied to by the Minister or the Secretary himself as the case may be. Where it is not practicable for the Minister to reply, a reply should normally be issued under the signature of an officer of the rank of Secretary to the Government.
 - (3) Where a communication is addressed to the head of an attached or subordinate office, Public Sector Undertakings, Financial Institutions (including nationalized banks) Division/Branch in charge in a Ministry/Department/Organization, it should be replied to by the addressee himself. In such cases, care may be taken to ensure that wherever policy issues are involved, approval of the competent authority is obtained before a reply is sent. It should, however, be ensured that the minimum level at which such replies are sent to Member of Parliament is that of Under Secretary and that also in a polite letter form only.
 - (4) Information sought by a Member of Parliament should be supplied unless it is of such a nature that it would have been denied to him, if similar information had been sought in Parliament;
 - (5) While corresponding with Members of Parliament, it should be ensured that the letter is legible. Pre-printed or cyclostyled replies should be scrupulously avoided.
 - (6) In case a reference from an ex-member of Parliament is addressed to a Minister or Secretary, reply to such reference may be sent by the concerned Divisional Head after obtaining approval of the

Secretary of Ministry/Department.

In case the reference is addressed to a lower level officer, reply to such reference could be sent by the officer on his own in non-policy cases and after obtaining approval of the higher authorities in policy cases. Here also, it may be ensured that the minimum level at which a reply is sent is that of an Under Secretary and that too in a polite letter form only.

Prompt response to letters received -

- (1) Each communication received from the Member of Parliament, a member of the public, a recognized association or a public body will be acknowledged within 15 days, followed by a reply within the next 15 days of acknowledgment sent.
- (2) Where a delay is anticipated in sending a final reply, or where the information has to be obtained from another Ministry or another office, an interim reply may be sent within a month (from the date of receipt of the communication) indicating the possible date by which a final reply can be given.
- (3) If any such communication is wrongly addressed to a department, it should be transferred promptly (within a week) to the appropriate department under intimation to the party concerned.
5. The aforesaid guidelines also cover Official dealings between Administration and Members of Parliament/ State Legislatures. In this context, attention is also invited to Rule 3(2A) of All India Service (Conduct) Rule, 1968 and Rule 3-A of Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964 which provide as follows:-

Every member of the service shall in the discharge of his duties act in a courteous manner and shall not adopt dilatory tactics in his dealings with the public or otherwise.

The existing instructions are hereby appropriately strengthened to emphasize the basic principles to be borne in mind by the Government servants while interacting with the Members of Parliament and State Legislatures. These are as follows:-

- (i) Government servants should show courtesy and consideration to Members of Parliament and State Legislatures;
- (ii) while the Government servants should consider carefully or listen patiently to what the Members of Parliament and of the State Legislatures may have to say, the Government servant should always act

according to his own best judgment and as per the rules;

- (iii) Any deviation from an appointment made with a Member of Parliament/State Legislature must be promptly explained to him to avoid any possible inconvenience. Fresh appointment should be fixed in consultation with him;
- (iv) An officer should be meticulously correct and courteous and rise to receive and see off a Member of Parliament/State Legislature visiting him. Arrangements may be made to receive the Members of Parliament when, after taking prior appointment, they visit the officer of the Government of India, State Government or local Government. Arrangements may also be made to permit entry of vehicles of the Members to these Offices subject to security requirements/restrictions;
- (v) Members of Parliament of the area should invariably be invited to public functions organized by a Government office. Proper and comfortable seating arrangements at public functions and proper order of seating on the dais should be made for Members keeping in view the fact that they appear above officers of the rank of Secretaries to Government of India in the Warrant of Precedence; The invitation cards and media events, if organized for the function held in the constituency, may include the names of the Members of that constituency who have confirmed participation in these functions.

It is clarified that If a constituency of any Member of Parliament is spread over more than one District, the M.P should invariably be invited to all the functions held in any of the Districts which are part of his/her constituency;

- (vi) Where any meeting convened by the Government is to be attended by Members of Parliament, special care should be taken to see that notice is given to them in good time regarding the date, time, venue etc. of the meeting. It should also be ensured that there is no slip in any matter of detail, however minor it may be. It should especially be ensured that:—

- (a) intimations regarding public meetings/functions are sent through speedier communication devices to the M.Ps, so that they reach them well in time, and

- (b) that receipt of intimation by the M.P is confirmed by the officer/official concerned;

- (vii) Letters from Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislatures must be promptly acknowledged, and a reply sent at an appropriate level expeditiously as per the relevant provisions of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure;
- (viii) Information or statistics relating to matters of local importance must be furnished to the MPs and MLAs when asked for. The information so supplied should be specific and answer the points raised. A soft copy of the information should also be sent to the Member via e-mail;
- (ix) If the information sought by a Member of Parliament cannot be given and is to be refused, instructions from a higher authority should be taken and the reasons for not furnishing the information should be given in the reply;
- (x) Wherever any letter from a Member of Parliament is in English and the reply is required to be given in Hindi in terms of the Official Languages Act, 1963 and the rules framed there under, an English translation should also be sent along with the reply for the convenience of such Members of Parliament from non Hindi speaking areas;
- (xi) References from the Committees of Parliament must be attended to promptly;
- (xii) The officers should not ignore telephonic messages left for them by the Members of Parliament/State Legislatures in their absence and should try to contact at the earliest the Member of Parliament/State Legislature concerned. These instructions also include SMS and e-mails received on official mobile telephones which also should be replied to promptly and on priority;
- (xiii) All Ministries/Departments may ensure that the powers of Members of Parliament/State Legislatures as Chairpersons/ Members of committees under various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector government schemes are clearly and adequately defined; and
- (xiv) A Government servant should not approach MPs/ MLAs for sponsoring his individual case as bringing or attempting to bring political or non-official or other outside influence is prohibited under the conduct Rules e.g. Rule 18 of the All India Service (Conduct)

Rules, 1968 and Rule 20 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules.

6. All Ministries/Departments are requested to ensure that the above basic principles and instructions are followed by all officials concerned, both in letter and spirit. Violation of the guidelines laid down on this subject will be viewed seriously.
7. Any violation of relevant Conduct Rules in this regard, which violation is established after due enquiry will render the Government servant concerned liable for appropriate punishment as per Rule.

(C.A. Subramanian)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

To

**All the Ministries/Departments of
Government of India**

Copy to:-

1. Presidents Secretariat/Vice Presidents Secretariat.
2. PMO/Cabinet Secretariat.
3. Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
4. UPSC/SSC/LBSNAA/ISTM/CVC/CIC.
5. Lok Sabha Secretariat/ Rajya Sabha Secretariat.
6. All Officers/Sections in Ministry of Personnel, PG & Pension.
7. NIC, DOPT-please upload this OM on this Department's website.

Copy also to:

Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs with a request to circulate these instructions to all State Government officials at the State/Division and District levels and to periodically review implementation.

(C.A. Subramanian)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Funds for CSR

368. SHRI AJAY KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Uranium Corporation of India

Limited (UCIL) has allocated and utilized the funds in Jaduguda for social work as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The expenditure incurred during the last three years and allocated during the current year is as follows:

Financial Year	Amount in Rs.
2008-2009	42,89,683/-
2009-2010	1,35,56,515/-
2010-2011	1,82,65,819/-
2011-2012	1,50,00,000/-

User Development Fee at Airports

369. SHRI KAPIL MUNI KARWARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airport Authority of India proposes to impose/increase user fee on domestic and international travellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of airports where this fee is proposed to be levied/increased and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding its likely impact on the passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has submitted proposals to this Ministry for levy of UDF at eleven airports (i.e. Dehradun, Chandigarh, Srinagar, Raipur, Ranchi, Aurangabad, Bhopal, Indore, Surat, Madurai & Coimbatore). UDF is levied at the airport for a specific period to bridge the revenue gap to improve the financial viability of the airport and to achieve a reasonable rate of return on the investment made.

(c) and (d) No such assessment has been made by this Ministry.

*[English]***Shifting of Naini Project**

370. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a final decision on the request of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited to change place of power project based on the Naini Orissa Coal Blocks;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (c) On 25th July, 2007, M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) was jointly allocated Naini coal block with geological reserves of 500 million tonnes (GMDC share- 250 million tonnes) of coal located in the State of Odisha for generation of power for the proposed 1500 MW power plant to be set up at Angul in Orissa or near Dumka in Jharkhand. A request from Government of Gujarat has been received for setting up of power projects by power developers in Gujarat or at mining location in Orissa to whom M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation has agreed to supply coal from the allocated Naini coal block. The request of M/s GMDC has been sent to Ministry of Power and State Government of Odisha for comments. The comments are yet to be received. Hence no time frame can be given.

Low Frills Airports

371. KUMARI MEENAKSHI NATRAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up low frills airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations identified for the purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Indian Forces Deployed
in UN Missions**

372. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian armed forces/ personnel deployed abroad at the invitation of United Nations and their tenure;

(b) the procedure adopted by the Government in this regard and the details of international rules/treaties followed in this regard;

(c) whether all the cost of deployment of such Forces is borne by the United Nations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) According to the latest UN figures, the total number of Indian armed forces personnel presently deployed in UN peacekeeping missions is 8093 including 7071 troops and military experts and 971 Police personnel, including formed police units and experts.

The tenure of the troops and police personnel is 6 months to 1 year, based on the rotation policy of the specific UN peacekeeping mission.

(b) The deployment of Indian armed forces personnel in UN peacekeeping missions is based on the requests received from the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO). Once the Government has agreed to deploy its personnel in a UN Peacekeeping Mission, the process of selection of troops and police personnel and their deployment in the UN peacekeeping missions is controlled by the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Home Affairs respectively, in coordination with the UN Secretariat. Their terms and conditions of deployment are governed by the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government and the UN Secretariat.

(c) and (d) The cost of deployment of personnel, including basic allowances for the troops and police personnel as well as the cost of contingent owned equipment is reimbursed by the UN at rates fixed by it and in accordance with relevant agreements signed by Member States with the UN.

[English]

**Displacement of People due to Mumbai airport
Expansion**

373. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the number of people/families that will be displaced due to the Mumbai airport expansion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to rehabilitate all the people that will be displaced;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the number of people that will not be rehabilitated, alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e) There are about 85000 slum dwelling units on airport land. Government of Maharashtra has undertaken the eligibility survey of hutments on airport land for the purpose of rehabilitation and removal of encroachments.

[Translation]

Chinese Incursions in the Indian Territory

374. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the Chinese incursions in the Indian Territory including in Arunachal Pradesh and Ladakh Area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up this issue with the Chinese authorities;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Chinese authorities;

(e) whether the Government plans to set up a Joint Mechanism with the Chinese authorities to avoid such incidents of incursions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) There is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the border areas between India and China. From time to time, on account of differences in the perception of the LAC, situations have arisen on the ground that could have been avoided if we had a common perception of the LAC. Government regularly takes up any transgression along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including border personnel meetings, flag meetings and diplomatic channels. The two sides have reiterated, on many occasions, their commitment to maintain peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, pending a final settlement of the Boundary Question. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

(e) and (f) During the 15th round of Talks between the Special Representatives, India and China signed an Agreement on the Establishment of a Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs. The 1st meeting of this Working Mechanism was successfully held in Beijing on 5-6 March 2012. The two delegations agreed on the rules governing the functioning of the Mechanism which include convening 1-2 meetings a year, and if required, holding of emergency consultations either through meetings or by telephone/ video conferencing. The two delegations reviewed the situation prevailing in the India-China border areas and noted the adherence by both sides to the various agreements for maintenance of peace and tranquility. At the same time they stressed the need for continuing efforts towards this objective and discussed additional confidence building measures between the two sides. They also discussed the possibility of an alternate route for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra and additional items for border trade at Nathu La Pass in Sikkim.

Definition of Poverty Line

375. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of 'poor person' in India and the criteria thereof;

(b) the number of persons living below the poverty line in the year 2005 and in March, 2011, State-wise;

(c) the details of facilities given to them and schemes implemented for them;

(d) whether the poor are actually getting benefits of

the programmes run for them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. The methodology for estimation of poverty has been reviewed from time to time. The Expert Group headed by Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar that submitted its report in December 2009, computed the poverty lines at all India level as MPCE of Rs. 447 for rural areas and Rs. 579 for urban areas in 2004-05.

(b) The number and proportion of persons living below the poverty line (BPL) are computed using the data from Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). These surveys are conducted quinquennially. The latest estimates are available for the year 2004-05 based on Large Sample Survey conducted by NSSO during 2004-05. After 2004-05, this survey has been conducted in 2009-10, the results of which are being processed. As 2009-10 was not a normal year, NSSO is

again conducting Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure during 2011-12 and poverty in 2011-12 can be estimated only after the results of this survey become available. The revised estimates of poverty will be based on the recommendations of experts taking into consideration all relevant data and the various indices of poverty on a holistic basis. The state wise number of persons living below poverty line as based on Tendulkar Committee Report in the year 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) The Government remains totally committed to the welfare of the under-privileged & poor sections of the society and is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewable Mission (JNNURM), Swarna Jyanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), etc. All these programmes and Government policies relating to inclusive economic growth aim at reducing the incidence of poverty and improving living condition of poor in the country and have made a substantial contribution in blunting the sharp edges of poverty and deprivation.

Statement

*Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line - 2004-05
(Tendulkar Committee)*

Sl. No.	States/U.T.'s	Number of Persons (Lakhs)			%age of Persons		
		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	187.07	51.33	238.76	32.30	23.40	29.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.92	0.67	3.59	33.60	23.50	31.10
3.	Assam	88.82	8.44	97.26	36.40	21.80	34.40
4.	Bihar	445.07	40.90	485.60	55.70	43.70	54.40
5.	Chhattisgarh	96.55	13.43	109.92	55.10	28.40	49.40
6.	Delhi	1.41	18.92	20.40	15.60	12.90	13.10
7.	Goa	1.91	1.72	3.63	28.10	22.20	25.00
8.	Gujarat	130.11	41.94	172.17	39.10	20.10	31.80
9.	Haryana	39.29	15.77	55.15	24.80	22.40	24.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Himachal Pradesh	14.32	0.30	14.62	25.00	4.60	22.90
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	11.31	2.87	14.23	14.10	10.40	13.20
12.	Jharkhand	115.12	15.56	130.67	51.60	23.80	45.30
13.	Karnataka	134.99	50.76	185.69	37.50	25.90	33.40
14.	Kerala	49.45	15.65	64.99	20.20	18.40	19.70
15.	Madhya Pradesh	255.32	61.66	316.88	53.60	35.10	48.60
16.	Maharashtra	277.14	116.12	393.26	47.90	25.60	38.10
17.	Manipur	6.61	2.06	8.66	39.30	34.50	38.00
18.	Meghalaya	2.73	1.21	3.93	14.00	24.70	16.10
19.	Mizoram	1.05	0.38	1.43	23.00	7.90	15.30
20.	Nagaland	1.73	0.16	1.88	10.00	4.30	9.00
21.	Odisha	197.33	22.69	220.16	60.80	37.60	57.20
22.	Pondicherry	0.79	0.71	1.49	22.90	9.90	14.10
23.	Punjab	36.52	17.20	53.76	22.10	18.70	20.90
24.	Rajasthan	167.23	42.84	210.31	35.80	29.70	34.40
25.	Sikkim	1.59	0.18	1.77	31.80	25.90	31.10
26.	Tamil Nadu	125.56	61.35	186.76	37.50	19.70	28.90
27.	Tripura	12.31	1.35	13.67	44.50	22.50	40.60
28.	Uttar Pradesh	604.74	130.26	735.48	42.70	34.10	40.90
29.	Uttarakhand	23.33	6.35	29.67	35.10	26.20	32.70
30.	West Bengal	231.24	57.94	289.07	38.20	24.40	34.30
All India		3266.63	807.59	4076.10	41.80	25.70	37.20

[English]

**Rashtriya Madhyamik
Shiksha Abhiyan**

376. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise list of upper primary schools that have been upgraded in 2010 till present under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA);

(b) the details of financial assistance provided in this regard in 2010 till present, State-wise;

(c) whether any incentives are undertaken for the students in order to remove disparity among the different social groups in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in sanctioning the proposals along with the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), opening of new 9676 secondary

schools by way of upgradation of upper primary schools have been approved from 2009-10 to 2011-12. Out of 9676 upper primary schools approved for upgradation, in 2010 till date, 7303 secondary schools have become functional. The number of upper primary schools approved for upgradation, State-wise, and list of functional schools are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) State-wise details of financial assistance during last 2 years and current year for various interventions including construction of new schools, salary for Teachers for new schools approved under RMSA are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Under RMSA, no individual incentive is

provided to the students. However, in order to remove disparity and promote equity, interventions like Maa-Beti Mela camps, transportation for girl students, school retention drive in minority concentrated areas, special teaching for learning enhancement, bridge course are approved under RMSA.

(e) Annual Work Plan Proposals prepared by the States are appraised and put before the Project Appraisal Board (PAB) for consideration and approval after which funds are released. For Annual Plan 2011-12, the PAB meetings were held for all States/UTs. Due to limited funds, grants have not been released for Civil Works approved in 2011-12.

Statement-I

State wise new secondary schools approved and functional under RMSA

Sl. No.	State/UT	New secondary schools approved under RMSA			Total new secondary schools approved	New Schools become functional till date
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	102	102	88
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	11	22	33	0
4.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Bihar	350	447	169	966	325
6.	Chhattisgarh	218	500	633	1351	1338
7.	Chandigarh	0	4	0	4	0
8.	Daman and Diu	0	2	1	3	2
9.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Gujarat	0	72	262	334	326
13.	Haryana	0	32	5	37	9
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	69	45	22	136	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	69	182	279	530	240
16.	Jharkhand	300	297	297	894	404
17.	Karnataka	80	249	0	329	305
18.	Kerala	60	36	16	112	60
19.	Lakshadweep	4	0	0	4	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	341	0	603	944	944
21.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Manipur	44	23	49	116	67
23.	Meghalaya	0	25	0	25	0
24.	Mizoram	23	32	26	81	23
25.	Nagaland	35	67	45	147	0
26.	Odisha	300	400	9	709	709
27.	Puducherry	0	9	2	11	11
28.	Punjab	70	79	73	222	222
29.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	200	344	710	1254	1254
32.	Tripura	0	42	41	83	76
33.	Uttarakhand	23	58	147	228	228
34.	Uttar Pradesh	254	318	449	1021	572
35.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0
Total		2440	3274	3962	9676	7303

Statement-II*State-wise fund released from 2009-10 to 2011-12 under RMSA*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Fund released under RMSA		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (as on 12.03.2012)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.64	0.65

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15.05	311.57	227.90
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.89	26.98	2.32
4.	Assam	8.70	19.35	71.05
5.	Bihar	19.64	77.27	23.50
6.	Chandigarh	0.10	0.45	1.86
7.	Chhattisgarh	58.12	15.25	338.12
8.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.20	1.15
9.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.31	1.10
10.	Delhi	0.00	0.71	3.97
11.	Goa	0.51	0.54	0.28
12.	Gujarat	2.94	10.69	15.25
13.	Haryana	5.33	23.00	175.56
14.	Himanchal Pradesh	3.74	38.50	21.01
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	11.02	26.40	25.50
16.	Jharkhand	9.41	69.43	17.94
17.	Karnataka	74.43	19.47	25.46
18.	Kerala	10.33	15.13	0.00
19.	Lakshadweep	1.10	0.05	0.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	97.58	196.19	190.06
21.	Maharashtra	3.50	13.47	64.17
22.	Manipur	18.54	25.26	22.24
23.	Meghalaya	1.86	0.00	1.78
24.	Mizoram	17.21	19.08	32.64
25.	Nagaland	11.87	5.24	25.02
26.	Odisha	8.04	89.83	128.87
27.	Puducherry	1.82	1.87	1.96
28.	Punjab	25.25	188.25	22.51
29.	Rajasthan	19.38	52.96	146.89
30.	Sikkim	2.70	4.26	0.08
31.	Tamil Nadu	55.18	77.05	165.46
32.	Tripura	9.98	25.26	6.95

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Uttar Pradesh	36.10	49.43	204.49
34.	Uttarakhand	3.52	76.01	26.92
35.	West Bengal	12.99	0.00	2.74
Total		547.83	1480.10	1995.40

Leh Airport*[Translation]*

377. SHRI HASSAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terminal building at Leh airport is insufficient to handle the heavy rush of passengers that surfaces during tourist seasons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Airports Authority of India has any dispute with the Indian Air Force (IAF) in regard to construction of new airport building;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government for expeditious completion of new terminal building at Leh alongwith the expected time by which it is likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The existing Terminal Building at Leh Airport is sufficient to handle 125 arriving and 125 departing passengers at a given time. However, considering the traffic growth Airports Authority of India (AAI) has planned to construct a new Terminal Building for 250 arriving and 250 departing passengers along with a new apron for parking 04 Nos. of cagegory "C" type of aircraft.

(c) and (d) Indian Air Force (IAF) has granted working permission on 5.01 acres of land. However, NOC/working permission for utilizing 3.4 acre of additional land for construction of new terminal building and apron is still awaited from IAF.

(e) The matter is being regularly pursued with the defence authorities at the Head Quarter level. The operationalisation of the new terminal building is subject to NOC/working permission from IAF.

Uranium Reserves

378. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI HARI MANJHI:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of uranium reserves found in the country during the last three years and the current year, location and State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is self-reliant in providing uranium to nuclear power plants in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any survey to locate new uranium reserves in the country;

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

(f) whether the Government proposes to acquire uranium mines in foreign countries; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy, has established 1,75,010 tonnes insitu uranium (U_3O_8) resources as on January, 2012. The details of insitu uranium resources established by AMD during the last three financial years and current financial year are as given under:

(Figures in Tonnes)

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
12,688	6,520	22,628	11,034	62,870

This Uranium has been located in Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Jharkhand.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

(d) Yes, Madam. AMD has been engaged in activities for establishing uranium resources required for the Nuclear Power Programme of the country.

(e) Surveys by AMD includes heliborne geophysical surveys and AMD continues its efforts to locate additional resources of uranium by conducting such surveys in order to locate new uranium reserves in the country. Important areas which are currently under survey and exploration involving integrated geological-geophysical-geochemical-radiometric surveys, mapping and reconnoitry/ exploratory/ stratigraphic drilling include Tummalapalle-Rachakuntapalle, Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh; Koppunuru, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh; Chitrial, Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh; Rohil, Sikar district, Rajasthan; Wahkut and Umthongkut areas of West Khasi Hills district, Meghalaya; Gogi, Yadgir district, Karnataka; Singridungri-Banadungri, East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand and Bangurdih, Seraikela-Kharaswan district, Jharkhand.

(f) The Government is exploring the possibility to acquire stake in uranium mine abroad. However, no precise proposal in this regard has emerged till date.

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

[English]

Unclaimed Amount in Postal Accounts

379. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of savings and other accounts in various post offices in the country are inactive and unclaimed deposits are lying therein for several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total unclaimed amount in such accounts throughout the country, State-wise;

(d) the action taken by the Government to identify the depositors; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure safety of the money lying in such accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Yes, Madam. There are inactive (Silent) accounts under Savings Account Scheme.

(b) and (c) The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The following steps are taken at regular intervals to identify the depositors of such accounts:

(i) Notices are issued every year to the account holders of such accounts who are not maintaining minimum balance.

(ii) Special drives are launched to re-activate such accounts by issuing notices and giving information through electronic media.

(e) The balance amount lying in such accounts remains in the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) which is managed by Government of India. To ensure safety of the money lying in these accounts, valid Identity and Address proof is taken from the individual who claim the amount in the account at the time of reactivation.

Extradition Treaty with Israel

380. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has signed an extradition treaty and also a pact on transfer of sentenced prisoners with the Government of Israel, recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India has signed an Extradition Treaty as also an Agreement on Transfer of Sentenced Persons with the Government of Israel. Both the Treaty and the Agreement were signed during the visit of the External Affairs Minister to Israel from 9-11 January 2012. The Extradition Treaty will provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of fugitive criminals between the Contracting States while the Agreement on Transfer of Sentenced Persons provides the opportunity to persons of

each Contracting State sentenced in the other to serve their sentences in their own country.

[*Translation*]

Confiscation of Illegally Amassed Wealth

381. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA:
SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any concrete steps to confiscate the illegally amassed properties of the Government officials found involved in corruption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether strict action has been taken against the officers found involved in amassing property through illegal means and the number thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether a person found guilty in a corruption in case, the maximum punishment meted out to him will be in prison for seven years; and

(f) if so, the measures taken against the wealth and properties amassed by corrupt persons using corrupt means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Action for confiscation of property of corrupt public servants is taken as per provisions of Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. The offences punishable under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, (PC Act) are scheduled offences under the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). Accordingly, the property of corrupt public servants is liable to be confiscated under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

(c) and (d) No centralized data is maintained by this Department in this regard. However, the Directorate of Enforcement has attached properties, valued at Rs. 368.88 crore approx. as on 31.12.2011 under PMLA where scheduled offences of PC Act were involved. So far as CBI is concerned, the authorization for attachment of properties in respect of 20 officials in 20 cases have been received from various Ministries/Departments of the Government of

India during the last 3 years i.e. 2009-2010, 2010-2011 & 2011-2012 (upto 29.02.2012).

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) The assets of the corrupt public servants are attached/confiscated under the provisions of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944, and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. Provisions for attachment of property of corrupt public servants acquired through corrupt means have also been incorporated in the Lokpal and the Lokayuktas Bill, 2011.

[*Translation*]

Cancellation of Telecom Licences

382. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI P.K. BIJU:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI N. KRISTAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in its recent judgement has cancelled a large number of telecom licenses allotted to various telecom companies;

(b) if so, the details of such companies; company-wise and circle-wise;

(c) whether some foreign Governments have approached the Indian Government in the aftermath of the Supreme Court judgement in this regard; if so, the details thereof and the issues raised by them;

(d) the amount of license fee likely to be refunded

as a result of cancellation of these licenses and the manner in which the Government proposes to re-allocate these licenses;

(e) whether the Government has finalized or proposes to revisit the National Telecom Policy in the light of the Supreme Court judgement; and

(f) if so, the details alongwith the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Madam, all the 122 Unified Access Services (UAS) licences granted in the year 2008 has been quashed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide its judgement dated 02.02.2012 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 423 of 2010 with Writ Petition (Civil) No. 10 of 2011. The above direction of the Court shall become operative after four months from the date of the judgement.

(b) Details of above said 122 UAS licences

alongwith the name of the company and name of the service areas is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Russian Government and Norwegian Government have approached this Government. The Russian Government has conveyed that Sistema Shyam Telecommunications Ltd. (SSTL) has invested over US\$ 3 billion in the Telecom sector, but its license has been cancelled due to some legal problems which they understand but this is a matter of serious concern for its investors. Norwegian Government has sought an interaction to discuss the verdict of the Supreme Court on the cancellation of the 2G licences which involves the Norwegian company, Telenor.

(d) The Government, on 03.02.2012, has sought the recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) as per the directions of the Supreme Court in the above said judgement.

(e) and (f) The new National Telecom Policy has not been finalized.

Statement

List of 122 Unified Access Services (UAS) licences issued in 2008 which have been quashed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court

Sl. No.	Name of Licensee Company	Service Area	Effective Date of Licence
1	2	3	4
1.	Allianz Infratech (P) Ltd.	Bihar	31-Jul-2008
2.	Allianz Infratech (P) Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	31-Jul-2008
3.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
4.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
5.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
6.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
7.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
8.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
9.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
10.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
11.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
12.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
13.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
14.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008

1	2	3	4
15.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
16.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
17.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
18.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
19.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
20.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
21.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
22.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
23.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
24.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
25.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
26.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
27.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
28.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
29.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
30.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
31.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
32.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
33.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
34.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
35.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
36.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
37.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
38.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
39.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
40.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
41.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
42.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
43.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
44.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
45.	Loop Telecom Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008

1	2	3	4
46.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
47.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
48.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
49.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
50.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
51.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
52.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
53.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
54.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
55.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
56.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
57.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
58.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
59.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
60.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
61.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
62.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
63.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
64.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
65.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
66.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
67.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
68.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
69.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
70.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
71.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
72.	Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
73.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
74.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
75.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
76.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008

1	2	3	4
77.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
78.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
79.	Tata Teleservices Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
80.	Unitech Wireless (Delhi) Pvt.Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
81.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
82.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
83.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
84.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
85.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
86.	Unitech Wireless (East) Pvt. Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008
87.	Unitech Wireless (Kolkata) Pvt. Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
88.	Unitech Wireless (Mumbai) Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
89.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008
90.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
91.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
92.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Punjab	25-Jan-2008
93.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
94.	Unitech Wireless (North) Pvt. Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
95.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
96.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
97.	Unitech Wireless (South) Pvt. Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
98.	Unitech Wireless (Tamil Nadu) Pvt. Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
99.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
100.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
101.	Unitech Wireless (West) Pvt. Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
102.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
103.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Assam	25-Jan-2008
104.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Bihar	25-Jan-2008
105.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Delhi	25-Jan-2008
106.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Gujarat	25-Jan-2008
107.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Haryana	25-Jan-2008

1	2	3	4
108.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
109.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	25-Jan-2008
110.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Karnataka	25-Jan-2008
111.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Kerala	25-Jan-2008
112.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Kolkata	25-Jan-2008
113.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	25-Jan-2008
114.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Maharashtra	25-Jan-2008
115.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Mumbai	25-Jan-2008
116.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	North East	25-Jan-2008
117.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Odisha	25-Jan-2008
118.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Rajasthan	25-Jan-2008
119.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Tamilnadu (including Chennai Service Area)	25-Jan-2008
120.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	25-Jan-2008
121.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	25-Jan-2008
122.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	West Bengal	25-Jan-2008

[English]

Grievances of Cabin Crew/Pilots of AI

383. SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
 PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:
 SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
 SHRI C. SIVASAMI:
 SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA:
 SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:
 SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED:
 SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
 SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
 SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA:
 SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cabin crew/pilots of Air India (AI) refused to fly and threatened to quit in the recent past;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
 (c) the details of flights cancelled and losses

suffered by AI as a result thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government to redress grievances of cabin crew/pilots including payment of salaries, allowances and other dues in time; and

(e) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such incidences in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Out of a total 1859 cabin crew, 68 cabin crew refused to fly in the month of January 2012 due to non-payment of Sustenance Amount (in Foreign Exchange) that was caused by the financial crisis in the airline.

(c) None of the flights of Air India were affected as a result of the above.

(d) and (e) To resolve the disparities to the HR issues like level mapping, compensation, Harmonization, etc. for all employees including cabin crew/pilot, the Government has already appointed an independent Committee of external Experts Under Justice D.N. Dharmadhikari, a Retired Judge of Supreme Court.

[Translation]

Developments in Maldives

384. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN:
SHRI P. C. MOHAN:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the recent developments in Maldives;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the extent to which the change of power in Maldives is likely to affect India in region;
- (d) the action taken by the Government with regard to safety and security of Indians living in Maldives in the wake of the recent developments;
- (e) whether any contingent plan chalked out to evacuate tourists and Indian citizens from Maldives;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps being taken by the Government to safeguard the Indian interests in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) The Government has been closely monitoring the recent developments in Maldives. In a statement issued on 7 February 2012, Government highlighted that the transfer of power to a new President was an internal matter to be resolved by the Maldivians in a peaceful and democratic manner. During a telephonic conversation with the President of Maldives, the Prime Minister conveyed that India had always stood ready to provide any support or assistance that the people of the Maldives might require. On his part, The President of Maldives reaffirmed the special and close ties that Maldives has with India. Special envoy of the Prime Minister visited Maldives on 10-11 February 2012 to assess the situation. As part of diplomatic initiative, Foreign Secretary visited Maldives on 15-16 February 2012 and 28-29 February 2012 to facilitate a way forward in the situation.

The Government is in regular touch with the Government of Maldives with regard to the safety and security of the Indian nationals and its interests in Maldives. No reports have been received indicating that safety and

security of Indians in Maldives have been adversely affected.

(e) to (g) Does not arise.

[English]

Extension of MDMS

385. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

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

- (a) the number of upper primary level students in the Government schools who were given Mid Day Meal daily during the last three years and the current year, Statewise;
- (b) the amount earmarked and expenditure incurred on it;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to expand the Mid Day Meal Scheme to secondary level;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Planning Commission has approved the proposal; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which Mid Day Meal Scheme in secondary level is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Detail of upper primary level students covered under Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme in Government schools during the last three years and the current year State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The funds allocated and expenditure incurred to cover children studying in classes I-VIII during the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) to (f) The Working Group on Elementary Education & Literacy for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) has recommended inclusion of MDM Scheme to children studying in class IX and X. The total fund requirement for the same during the 12th Five Year Plan is estimated to be Rs. 21,523 crore. The Twelfth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalized.

Statement-I

Number of Upper Primary Children covered under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2008-09 to 2010-11 and 2nd quarter of 2011-12

Sl. No.	State/UT	2008-09 Number of Upper Primary Children covered	2009-10 Number of Upper Primary Children covered	2010-11 Number of Upper Primary Children covered	2011-12 Number of Upper Primary Children covered
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1953494	2122125	2228854	2091882
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	60650	56094	68984	68990
3.	Assam	331034	12010470	1521318	1557740
4.	Bihar	2488208	2451691	2045212	1997959
5.	Chhattisgarh	943977	827670	1142558	1125227
6.	Goa	0	88712	62823	64029
7.	Gujarat	886790	887055	988650	1159955
8.	Haryana	595000	624589	633879	685811
9.	Himachal Pradesh	339604	310345	303856	280350
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	321056	313394	268924	247944
11.	Jharkhand	574835	998945	780425	843662
12.	Karnataka	2073136	2004333	1924686	1967240
13.	Kerala	1252417	1108415	1081966	1060703
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2322211	2540333	2520678	2478144
15.	Maharashtra	2680031	4206833	3799392	3841861
16.	Manipur	33658	40148	40501	37742
17.	Meghalaya	139859	124645	121510	120358
18.	Mizoram	51392	50117	50749	62710
19.	Nagaland	34039	42062	61993	50186
20.	Odisha	1913745	1657375	1515835	1295435
21.	Punjab	727733	689894	667896	714925
22.	Rajasthan	2215623	1883279	1828958	1809263
23.	Sikkim	22925	27236	27788	32352
24.	Tamil Nadu	1860534	1823238	1574944	1521786

1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Tripura		56834	147064	138111	139979
26. Uttarakhand		278010	322870	310634	329798
27. Uttar Pradesh		2729625	2682665	2628708	3210169
28. West Bengal		1591276	2167922	2452590	4847389
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		19427	15552	13413	12698
30. Chandigarh		27132	22181	21950	20609
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		6538	8295	9881	10000
32. Daman and Diu		4391	4374	5829	6152
33. Delhi		5810	468952	419086	442229
34. Lakshadweep		3752	3482	3714	4023
35. Puducherry		40000	39376	37801	37700
Total		28590746	31971731	31304096	34177000

Statement-II

Funds allocated and expenditure incurred under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2008-09 to 2011-12

Sl. No.	State/UT	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12
		Allocation	Expenditure incurred by States/UTs	Allocation	Expenditure incurred by States/UTs	Allocation	Expenditure incurred by States/UTs	Released to States / UTs (As on 29.02.2012)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27962.7	18809.99	26105.62	20981.31	48302.37	45775.07	45901.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	820.79	819.79	1616.82	1073.71	2043.18	1663.96	2091.75
3.	Assam	27156.47	22491.68	28555.8	25167.47	34408.20	39322.31	53220.9
4.	Bihar	62168.38	34026.4	52100.05	31936.13	80506.41	78795.91	78837.3
5.	Chhattisgarh	30402.54	29177.16	17578.58	15661.61	36187.73	36938.86	40448.84
6.	Goa	554.38	256.92	794.34	578.81	1168.27	1049.35	825.41
7.	Gujarat	21711.35	19764.8	24603.06	21163.78	28851.62	30167.61	35301.58
8.	Haryana	7299.26	5230.65	19094.93	17651.91	15325.12	15325.12	16713.43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11073.48	9956.65	4835.78	5932.09	6487.67	7002.68	7351.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4868.06	1955.48	5607.67	2982.36	7990.60	8234.22	8047.48
11.	Jharkhand	18033.59	14334.13	22777.87	18335.06	32595.49	28691.03	26917.22
12.	Karnataka	23339.47	22461.3	26902.33	25847.73	45368.29	42599.65	46331.26
13.	Kerala	12492.2	9581.17	13845.1	10198.55	18511.33	18112.88	10277.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	57669.41	53776.27	53311.19	35598.17	65781.83	69417.09	76704.43
15.	Maharashtra	72925.21	63724.02	57771.47	46105.61	107492.08	85622.18	69177.92
16.	Manipur	1463.58	768.77	1478.66	1056.59	5658.11	5575.57	1894.19
17.	Meghalaya	2593.86	2342.07	5635.93	5360.22	13831.77	12275.48	3528.12
18.	Mizoram	1401.91	1298.23	821.34	769.19	1902.29	1668.96	3282.7
19.	Nagaland	940.08	864.04	1062.01	1023.36	4026.97	4079.66	2464.37
20.	Odisha	28851.34	28238.19	32108.24	28046.1	38959.13	28403.44	37123.55
21.	Punjab	16874.65	14022.09	11139.42	10267.4	16605.10	16310.76	17561.54
22.	Rajasthan	55153.39	47740.75	40639.53	36328.56	46225.76	46428.64	52901.22
23.	Sikkim	425.86	418.84	444.55	423.78	899.59	920.36	1035.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	24235.39	23906.89	40189.22	40012.72	44250.56	42407.53	40333.68
25.	Tripura	2968.42	1729.19	3801.36	4462.79	4856.76	4661.20	8408.41
26.	Uttarakhand	5136	3702.27	5169.29	3916.02	10963.29	12478.40	14255.51
27.	Uttar Pradesh	82307.17	75170.48	89054.39	83949.67	102715.36	114633.53	107638.85
28.	West Bengal	65732.32	41447.18	74165.5	60920.72	79480.03	79578.36	73983.83
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	322.35	322.35	216.48	154.48	247.06	207.31	509.14
30.	Chandigarh	364.88	364.88	343.12	343.12	525.54	492.83	520.59
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	151.42	151.42	152.62	144.46	290.45	288.83	342.71
32.	Daman and Diu	71.57	71.57	89.96	89.96	147.78	142.10	136.58
33.	Delhi	5772.06	2656.45	7074.43	3817.07	9072.32	7944.17	6562.19
34.	Lakshadweep	41.85	19.59	46.48	38.5	80.54	48.87	76.32
35.	Puducherry	423.6	421.42	429.7	366.34	693.24	651.84	635.99
Total		673709	552023.08	669562.8	560705.35	912452.00	887915.93	891342.9

Aakash 2 Tablets

386. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to get Aakash 2 tablets manufactured for supply to college students/secondary level school children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to give this order to a Public Sector Undertaking;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Aakash 2 is likely to be fully indigenous and may be available to students at a nominal rate; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time table chalked out for the manufacture and supply of these tablets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Regarding the proposal for manufacturing of Aakash 2 tablets, things are in realm of conceptualisation. So far, no formal decision has been taken in this regard.

(c) and (d) Activities of this nature require active collaboration between Public Sector and Private Sector organisations and hence it is premature to be definitive.

(e) and (f) Full indigenisation in a short time frame is difficult. Availability of Aakash 2 or their enhanced versions to students through libraries of their institutions may be a possibility. As the XI Plan is nearing an end, it is premature to provide a time table.

[*Translation*]

Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant

387. SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL:
KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the opposition in completion of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether some Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have allegedly used funds received from foreign agencies for opposing the setting up of the plant;

(c) if so, the details of such funding agencies and NGOs;

(d) the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against these funding agencies and NGOs;

(e) the current status of Kudankulam nuclear power plant; and

(f) the time by which the plant is likely to be made operational and the power generated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes. Madam. The Fukushima incident in Japan in March 2011 and emergency response drill in August 2011 created apprehensions in a section of local people about safety aspects of the project. This resulted in agitation and halt of work. Pursuant to multi pronged outreach programmes by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) the resumption of work is expected soon.

(b) Preliminary reports indicate receipt of funds originating from foreign NGOs through certain Indian NGOs to oppose the nuclear power plants.

(c) As the investigations are in progress, it is not possible to furnish the details at this stage.

(d) The Government monitors the receipts and utilizations of foreign contributions by any "person" in the country through the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 2010 and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011 framed under the Act. Besides FCRA 2010 and FCRR 2011, various laws of the land such as Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Indian Penal Code and State Local Laws form the legal structure for regulating the activities of the NGOs in India.

(e) A cumulative physical progress of 99.2% in Unit-1 and 94.6% in Unit-2 with an overall progress of 97.4% has been achieved in the Kudankulam project.

(f) All efforts are being made by the Central government to resolve the impasse in consultation with the State Government. The revised schedule of operationalisation of Kudankulam units can be worked out only after normalization of the situation and resumption of work.

[English]

Harassment and Attacks on Indian Students

388. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA:

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

(a) whether a number of incidents of harassment and attacks on Indian students in various countries particularly in Western countries have been reported in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, year-wise, country-wise and incident-wise;

(c) the number of Indian students killed/injured in such incidents;

(d) the remedial measures taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government to ensure the dignity and honour of Indian students pursuing higher education abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) There have been instances over the past three years wherein Indian students in Australia were attacked. The number of attacks on Indian students in Australia has shown a sharp decrease in 2011 as compared to previous two years. Though three incidents of attack on Indian students in UK have been reported during 2010-2012, there is nothing to suggest harassment and attack particularly aimed at Indian students. No incident of harassment and attack particularly aimed at Indian students has been reported from any other country.

(d) and (e) The issue of attacks on Indians in Australia was taken up at the highest level by GOI, including at the Ministerial level as well as through the High Commission and its Consulates in Australia. Several measures have

been put in place on the ground to improve safety and security by the Federal and State Governments in Australia like improving policing, interaction with students and providing information cards to students to seek emergency assistance whenever required. The steps taken by the Australian authorities have been useful, as reflected in the substantial decrease in the number of attacks in recent months.

Initiating Penalty for Officials

389. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has sought permission to initiate major penalty proceedings against Government officials involved in corruption cases during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details of the persons involved therein;

(c) whether permission has been granted in every case; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The Central Vigilance Commission does not seek permission to initiate major penalty proceedings but it advises on (a) initiation of criminal and/ or regular departmental action (major or minor) against the public servant(s) concerned; (b) administrative action against public servants concerned; or (c) closure of the case, on the basis of the enquiry/ investigation reports furnished by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) or the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Further, after completion of proceedings, the Commission tenders advice on the nature of penalties or otherwise on references received from the organization. During the last three years i.e. 2009, 2010 and 2011 the Commission had advised initiation of major penalty proceedings in 517, 556 and 544 cases respectively.

(c) and (d) As per relevant disciplinary rules, the concerned disciplinary authority is required to take an independent view in each case after taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances of the case including the advice of the CVC. Acceptance or otherwise of the advice of the CVC lies with the concerned Disciplinary Authority. The Central Vigilance Commission maintains

data of non-acceptance of its advice and reports such non-acceptance in its Annual Report.

Development of Coal Blocks

390. SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI S. ALAGIRI:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the central coal projects being run in the country, State-wise and the mechanism to monitor the development of coal blocks in various States;

(b) the number of such projects which have been completed as per scheduled;

(c) the progress made in the development of captive coal blocks allocated to different entities, State-wise;

(d) whether some of the public and private sector companies have not developed the coal blocks allocated to them according to the norms laid down by the Government;

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

(f) whether the Government has initiated any action against the said companies or issued any show cause notice during the last three years and the current year; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, company wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) and (b) There is no central coal project in the country.

(c) to (e) As on Dec. 2011, a total 218 coal blocks have been allocated to various Private and Public companies, out of which 25 coal blocks have been deallocated (2 blocks reallocated after deallocation). Out of net 195 allocated coal blocks, 29 coal blocks have achieved all the major milestones and have started coal production. The details of these 29 coal blocks are as under:

Sl. No.	State Name	No. of Blocks completed
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
2.	Chhattisgarh	7
3.	Jharkhand	4
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2
5.	Maharashtra	9
6.	Odisha	1
7.	West Bengal	5

83 coal blocks allocated to Public & Private Sector have not started coal production as per the stipulated normative date of production, the details of which are as under:

Sl. No.	State Location	Pvt. Company	Govt. PSUs	Tariff based	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh		1		1
2.	Chhatisgarh	7	4		11
3.	Jharkhand	20	10		30
4.	Madhya Pradesh	3	2	3	8
5.	Maharashtra	8			8
6.	Odisha	9	7	3	19
7.	West Bengal	2	2		6
Total					83

(f) and (g) After the review meeting held in 20th & 21st July, 2010, show cause notices were issued by Ministry of Coal based on recommendations of the Review Committee to the allocattees of 84 coal blocks. Based on the clarifications submitted by the allocattees of these 84 coal blocks, 14 coal blocks (12 of public sector companies & 2 of private companies) were deallocated. The last review meeting to review the progress of the Captive Coal Blocks & it associated end use projects was held on 11th & 12th January, 2012. The committee has given its recommendations and it has been decided to issue show cause notices for de-allocation to allocattees of 58 coal blocks.

[Translation]

Shortage of Coal

391. SHRI HARI MANJHI:
SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and actual production of coal by the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, company-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there was a shortage in production of coal during the above period;

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

(d) whether the Government has fixed any coal production target for the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government proposes to take to increase the production and meet the targets in the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) The target fixed and actual production of raw coal of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies during the Eleventh Five year Plan, company-wise & year-wise is as under:

(in million tonnes)

Sl. No.	Company	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
		Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target (BE)	Target (RE)
1.	ECL	33.41	24.059	31.00	28.135	31.000	30.058	33.000	30.804	33.00	31.00
2.	BCCL	25.20	25.215	26.50	25.514	28.000	11.512	29.000	29.004	30.00	30.20
3.	CCL	44.00	44.146	47.00	43.236	48.000	47.083	50.000	47.521	51.00	49.00
4.	NCL	58.00	59.623	61.25	63.650	66.500	67.67	72.000	66.253	68.50	68.50
5.	WCL	42.40	43.512	43.05	44.700	45.000	45.735	46.500	43.654	45.50	43.80
6.	SECL	91.50	93.791	96.00	101.150	106.000	108.009	112.000	112.705	112.00	113.75
7.	MCL	88.00	88.012	99.00	96.336	109.300	104.079	116.750	100.28	106.00	103.00
8.	NEC	2.00	1.101	1.20	1.009	1.200	1.113	1.250	1.101	1.00	0.75
9.	CIL	384.51	379.459	405.00	403.730	435.000	431.259	460.500	431.322	447.00	440.00
% achv.		-	98.69	-	99.67	-	99.14	-	93.66	-	98.43

(b) During the first three years of XIth Plan, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has achieved almost 99% of target, However, during the year 2010-11, CIL has achieved about 94% of target.

(c) The main reasons for shortfall in achieving growth rate include delay in land acquisition, imposition of restriction of mining in areas having Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) above 70 coupled with delay in environment & forestry clearance of major projects, R&R issues, inadequate availability of railway wagons in different coalfields, law and order problems particularly in Jharkhand & Orissa and excessive rainfall during the current year in major coalfields.

(d) and (e) As per the draft Report of the Working Group on coal and Lignite for formulation of XIIth Five Year Plan (2012-17), all India coal production for the year 2016-17 has been projected at 715 million tonnes. Out of which 556.40 million tonnes shall be contributed by CIL, 57 million tonnes by SCCL, 79.60 million tonnes by captive mining and 22 million tonnes by others.

With a view to meet the targets in the 12th Five Year Plan, Govt. shall *inter-alia* ensure time bound fast track implementation of coal projects, increased production from captive coal blocks, removal of logistic bottlenecks, expeditious Environment & Forestry Clearance, approaching state Govts. for necessary assistance in land acquisition & in problems relating to law & orders etc.

[*English*]

**Setting up of Higher Education
Credit Guarantee Authority**

392. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up a Higher Education Credit Guarantee Authority for providing limited credit guarantees through risk pooling for educational loans obtained by students;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the modalities worked out in this regard;

(c) whether the Government is planning to extend the scope of assistance to State universities through an incentivisation plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the concrete steps taken by the Government to provide loan to students on concessional rates; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to increase the quantum of loans on offer for students and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The objective of Higher Education Credit Guarantee Authority is to provide guarantees to banks on loans given to students, for pursuing Higher Education, to reduce the risk perception about such loans. Limited credit guarantee by a Credit Guarantee Authority will be extended to the banks for student loans up to a specified limit at a nominal credit guarantee fee.

(c) and (d) The Higher Education Credit Guarantee Authority will provide guarantees to student loans for acquiring higher education in State Universities also.

(e) Government has started a new Scheme w.e.f. 2009 to provide full interest subsidy for the period of moratorium (course period plus one year or six months after getting job, whichever is earlier) on Education Loan to the students from Economically Weaker Section (EWS) with a total parental income upper limit of Rs. 4.50 lacs p.a. for pursuing approved technical/professional courses in India after class XII.

(f) No, Madam.

[*Translation*]

Revenue from Telecom Sector

393. DR. SANJAY SINGH:
SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecommunication sector has the potential of becoming the second highest source of revenue in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the revenue share of telecom sector in the Gross Domestic Product; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to exploit the potential of the sector and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) As per the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) Report, the contribution of the telecom sector in the Gross Domestic Product was 3.6% in the year 2009-10.

(c) The Government has introduced various policy measures which have resulted in an increase in the teledensity from 3.6% in March, 2001 to 70.89% in March, 2011. The contribution of the telecom sector to Gross Domestic Product has grown from 1.9% in 2000-01 to 3.6% in 2009-10.

[English]

Delay in Issue of Visas to Foreigners

394. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether instance of delay in issue of visas to tourist by different Indian High Commissions been reported;

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

(c) the average time taken by Indian High Commissions and Embassies in different countries to issue tourist visas and other visas; and

(d) the steps/action taken in reduce time lays in issuing visas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In routine cases, Missions/Posts normally grant visas in one to three days.

(d) With the introduction of The Immigration, Visa, Foreigners Registration and Tracking (IVFRT) scheme which is being implemented in a phased manner, time taken to grant visas will be reduced in cases requiring clearances from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Indo-China Border Talks

395. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI BALI RAM JADHAV:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China propose to devise a new border management mechanism to resolve boundary issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main issues between the two countries which have not yet been resolved;

(c) the manner in which this mechanism is likely to help in resolving the occasional problems relating to borders being faced by India;

(d) whether the Government has held certain rounds of talks with China in the above direction;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether China has raised a new controversy about Arunachal Pradesh; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (e) During the 15th round of Talks between Special Representatives, India and China signed an Agreement on the Establishment of a Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs. The 1st meeting of this Working Mechanism was successfully held in Beijing on 5-6 March 2012. The two delegations agreed on the rules governing the functioning of the Mechanism which include convening 1-2 meetings a year, and if required, holding of emergency consultations either through meetings or by telephone/video conferencing. The two delegations reviewed the situation prevailing in the India-China border areas and noted the adherence by both sides to the various agreements for maintenance of peace and tranquility. At the same time they stressed the need for continuing efforts towards this objective and discussed additional confidence building measures between the two sides. They also discussed the

possibility of an alternate route for the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra and additional items for border trade at Nathu La Pass in Sikkim.

(f) and (g) China has objected to the visit of Raksha Mantri for the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of statehood of Arunachal Pradesh on 20 February 2012. On 25 February 2012, the Chinese Foreign Office Spokesperson made a statement that the Chinese position on the disputed eastern sector of the India-China boundary has been consistent and that pending a final resolution, India and China should not take any action in the disputed area that could complicate the problem. India's position that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side.

[Translation]

**Weaning Away of Passengers by
Private Airlines**

396. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
DR. RATNA DE:
SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken to keep pace with the weaning away of air passengers by the private airlines;

(b) if so, the details of such steps taken during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the details of performance of Air India for on-time departure and arrival as compared to other domestic and international airlines during the above period; and

(d) the specific steps taken to improve the performance of Air India and to enable it to compete with private airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (d) Steps initiated by Air India to keep pace with weaning away of air passengers by private airlines as also to improve the performance of Air India and compete with private airlines are as under:

- Corporate House Agreements have been tailor made to suit to the specific requirements of

Corporate including Govt. Banks and Public Sector Undertaking to welcome back executives to travel on their brand new fleet of aircraft operated on non stop direct international flights and domestic flights. Super Saver tickets in various denominations have been introduced to attract frequent flyers. Holiday packages have been offered covering wider destinations to appeal to the leisure passengers. Corporate image and Network related advertisements released to revitalize the brand. The advertisements include "Most trusted Brand award" awarded by Brand Equity, "Jode Apnonko Jode Bharatko," "Har Sapne ke badi Udaan", "Unstoppable" etc.

- Air India has formulated number of schemes to improve the occupancy factor of First and Business/ Executive class. Corporate House Agreements have been signed with many corporate in India and Abroad, as Local and Global deals by offering special fares for their travel in First and Business class, especially. "Platinum Pass" scheme has been launched for unlimited travel in Executive Class. "Super Saver tickets for travel in Executive class" in various denominations introduced targeting frequent fliers. "Get Upfront" scheme has been launched to induce the passengers' last minute at airports, to upgrade themselves into Executive class by paying very nominal amounts. First and Business Class facilities have been highlighted by releasing an advertisement "Your Business Lounge in the Sky", by highlighting the special features of these classes to their esteemed customers.

- Website has been made more users friendly. Tide up with Google to lead customers who are searching on any travel related information, on to Air India website, to make them aware of Air India website and induce them to navigate the web, thereafter buy online. Introduced web sales promotional scheme known as "Click & Save" by offering attractive discount on basic fare, if the ticket is bought through Air India web site. Also introduced, "Get Lucky" scheme, to reward every 100th Passenger buying ticket using Air India website.

(c) During the last three years and the current year the details of On Time Performance of Air India and other Indian carriers are as follows:

Airline	On Time Performance(%)			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Air India	73.7	73.5	73.7	63.8
Jet Airways	75.8	84.7	91.1	85.2
JetLite	72.4	83.0	88.5	83.9
Kingfisher	83.1	86.3	90.7	90.0
Spicejet	79.3	74.6	82.8	80.1
Go Air	80.5	75.9	87.3	72.3
IndiGo	83.2	85.0	88.8	80.3

Data for year 2009 is from June.

Data for year 2012 is for Jan.

Data for Air India is for domestic operations.

ASER Report on Education

397. SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO
DHGAONKAR:
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI:
SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH:
SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA:
SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY:
SHRI JOSE K. MANI:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

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

(a) whether according to the recent Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) survey, the reading as well as basic arithmetic level of primary school students continue to be low and have even declined in most of the States;

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

(c) whether the Government has analyzed/proposes to analyze the reasons behind this dismal findings revealed in the survey;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures proposed to be taken to ensure satisfactory learning levels among these students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is brought out annually by PRATHAM, a non-governmental organization. ASER (Rural) - 2011 points out a decline in the reading levels in some States. However, States like Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have reported improvement in the reading levels. The report also points to decline in basic arithmetic levels. However, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have reported improvement. Several States in the North Eastern Region of the country also show positive change.

The National Learners' Achievement Surveys conducted periodically by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) for classes III, V and VIII has revealed improvements in the overall learning level in the subjects of Mathematics and Language. Till now, two rounds of such Achievement Surveys have been completed by NCERT. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds is given below:

Subject	Class III		Class V		Class VIII	
	Round I	Round II	Round I	Round II	Round I	Round II
Mathematics	58.25%	61.89%	46.51%	48.46%	39.17%	42.71%
Language	63.12%	67.00%	58.57%	60.31%	53.86%	56.50%

The findings of Achievement Survey for Round III, class V recently completed by NCERT indicates improvement in achievement levels in both Mathematics and Language.

(e) The Government has issued an Advisory on implementation of section 29 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act to State Governments for initiating curriculum reform, including, inter alia (i) formulating age-appropriate curricula and syllabi in keeping with National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005, (ii) maintaining subject balance, (iii) initiating textbook contents and production reform, (iv) ensuring continuous and comprehensive assessment for learning.

Teacher availability in schools is key to the improvement of quality of learning. The RTE Act provides that the prescribed Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) should be maintained for each school. States have been advised to rationalise the deployment of teachers to conform to the provisions of the RTE Act. Further, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down teacher qualifications under Section 23 of the RTE Act. NCTE has also notified the Guidelines for Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) to be conducted by the appropriate government. The Central TET has been held twice, and several States have also held the State TET.

Enhancement of Reservation in NITs

398. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

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

(a) whether the various States including Uttar Pradesh have demanded 25 per cent reservation for students of the States concerned in admissions to the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) for strengthening the infrastructure and improving standards of technical and engineering education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend legislation governing the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to help streamline its functioning;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has suggested for constituting a Committee consisting of members from UGC, AICTE and DEC for checking issuance of fake degree by fake universities after getting accreditation from some deemed universities; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto alongwith the details of the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No Madam. 50% of total intake in any National Institute of Technology (NIT) is already reserved for the candidates belonging to the State in which the NIT is located and other 50% of seats are filled on the basis of All India merit list.

(d) and (e) The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 28.12.2011 which, *inter-alia*, proposes to establish the National Commission for Higher Education and Research to facilitate determination, coordination, maintenance and continued enhancement of standards of higher education and research, including that in technical education. The Bill envisages to repeal, amongst others, All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987.

(f) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(g) Does not arise.

[English]

Modernisation of Post Offices

399. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI K. SUGUMAR:
SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:
SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
SHRI ZAFAR ALI NAQVI:
SHRI NARAYANSINGH AMLABE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from various State Governments for opening of New Post and Telegraph Offices/Sub-Post Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to modernize/computerize the rural post offices in the country with modern technology;

(d) if so, the number of post offices modernized/computerized in the rural areas, State-wise and the time by which the rest of the post offices are likely to be computerized;

(e) whether the Government has constituted an expert committee for strengthening postal network and upgradation of the post offices with modern technology; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government on its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) A proposal for opening of Post Offices has been received from Chhattisgarh Government during the current financial year. No proposal has been received from the State Governments for opening of new Telegraph offices.

(b) Department of Posts has included it in its 12th Plan Proposal and has presented it to the Planning Commission.

(c) Government has approved the IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts covering all Post Offices of the country including Branch Post Offices in rural areas.

(d) State-wise details of computerised Post Offices is given in the enclosed Statement. Department has planned to computerise remaining Post Offices by 2014.

(e) No, Madam.

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

Statement

*Circle-wise Total Number of Post Offices
Computerized in rural areas as on 31.12.2011*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circles	Number of Post Offices Computerized in rural areas as on 31.12.2011
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1299

1	2	3
2.	Assam	401
3.	Bihar	573
4.	Chhattisgarh	95
5.	Delhi	6
6.	Gujarat	565
7.	Haryana	159
8.	Himachal Pradesh	332
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	54
10.	Jharkhand	161
11.	Karnataka	735
12.	Kerala	924
13.	Madhya Pradesh	285
14.	Maharashtra	928
15.	North East	153
16.	Odisha	517
17.	Punjab	335
18.	Rajasthan	670
19.	Tamil Nadu	1359
20.	Uttarakhand	184
21.	Uttar Pradesh	962
22.	West Bengal	699
	Total	11396

[Translation]

Model Degree Colleges

400. SHRI RAM SUNDAR DAS:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:
SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA:
SHRI P.C. MOHAN:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to open Model Degree Colleges in each district of the country;

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

(c) the number of model degree colleges proposed to be set up by March, 2012;

(d) the details of proposals received from the State Governments for setting up of model degree colleges in each district, as on date, State-wise;

(e) the details of the proposals sanctioned and pending, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government have held any discussion with the State Governments in this regard;

(g) if so, the details of share of the Union Government in the expenses likely to be incurred on these degree colleges;

(h) whether several State Governments have demanded the entire expenditure should be borne by the Union Government;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which these colleges are likely to be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has decided, as part of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to establish one Model Degree College in each of the identified 374 higher educationally backward districts with Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national average. A State-wise list of the 374 identified educationally backward districts is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) to (e) Model Degree Colleges are set up by the State Governments having territorial jurisdiction. State-wise details of the proposals as furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC) for setting up of Model Degree Colleges are enclosed Statement-II.

(f) The details of the scheme were discussed during the meeting of State Ministers of Higher and Technical Education in July, 2008, The scheme was also discussed during the 55th Central Advisory Board of Education meeting held in February, 2009.

(g) The capital cost of a Model Degree College is between Rs. 4 crore to Rs. 8 crore. The capital cost is

shared between the centre and state on a 1: 2 ratio, while for Special Category States, the ratio is 1:1.

(h) and (i) While some states have requested to enhancing share of Central Government, no formal request has been made by any state to completely do away with states' share. Moreover, since this is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 100% contribution by Central Government is, in any case, not possible.

(j) According to information supplied by the UGC, 40 Model Degree Colleges have become functional out of which 01 is in Karnataka, 11 are in Punjab, 08 in Gujarat, 01 in Dadra and Nagar Haveli, 03 in Kerala, 06 in Arunachal Pradesh, 06 in Maharashtra, 04 in Uttar Pradesh.

Statement-I

List of 374 identified Higher Educationally Backward Districts

1	2
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands Andamans Nicobars
2.	Andhra Pradesh Adilabad Anantapur East Godavari Kurnool Mahbubnagar Medak Nizamabad Prakasam Srikakulam Vizianagaram West Godavari
3.	Arunachal Pradesh Changlang Dibang Valley East Kameng

1	2
	Lohit
	Lower Subansiri
	Tawang
	Tirap
	Upper Siang
	Upper Subansiri
	West Kameng
	West Siang
4.	Assam
	Bonjaigaon
	Cachar
	Darrang
	Dhubri
	Goalpara
	Hailakandi
	Karbi Anglong
	Karimganj
	Marigaon
	Nagaon
	Sonitpur
	Tinsukia
5.	Bihar
	Araria
	Aurangabad
	Banka
	Begusarai
	Darbhanga
	Gopalganj
	Jamui
	Kaimur
	Katihar

1	2
	Khagaria
	Kishanganj
	Lakhisarai
	Madhepura
	Madhubani
	Nawada
	W. Champaran
	E. Champaran
	Purnia
	Saharsa
	Samastipur
	Sheohar
	Sitamarhi
	Siwan
	Supaul
	Vaishali
6.	Chhattisgarh
	Bastar
	Dantewada
	Dhamtari
	Durg
	Janjgir-champa
	Jashpur
	Kanker
	Kawardha
	Koriya
	Mahasamund
	Raigarh
	Raipur
	Rajnandgaon
	Surguja

1	2	1	2
7.	D and N Haveli		Karnal
	D and N Havelli		Panipat
8.	Daman and Diu		Sirsa
	Daman	11.	Himachal Pradesh
	Diu		Chamba
9.	Gujarat		Kinnaur
	Amreli		Lahul & Spiti
	Banas Kantha		Sirmaur
	Bharuch	12.	J and K
	Bhavnagar		Anantnag
	Dohad		Badgam
	Jamnagar		Baramula
	Junagad		Doda
	Kachchh		Kargil
	Kheda		Kathua
	Mahesana		Kupwara
	Narmada		Leh
	Panch Mahals		Punch
	Patan		Rajauri
	Porbandar		Udhampur
	Rajkot	13.	Jharkhand
	Sabar Kantha		Chatra
	Surat		Deoghar
	Surendranagar		Dumka
	The Dangs		Giridih
	Valsad		Godda
10.	Haryana		Gumla
	Fatehabad		Kodarma
	Gurgaon		Pakaur
	Jind		Palamu
	Kaithal		P. Singhbhum

1	2	1	2
	Sahibganj		Barwani
14.	Karnataka		Betul
	Bagalkot		Bhind
	Bangalore Rural		Chhatarpur
	Bel gaum		Chhindwara
	Bellary		Damoh
	Bijapur		Datia
	Chamaraj anagar		Dewas
	Chikmagalur		Dhar
	Chitradurga		Dindori
	Dakshina Kannada		East Nimar
	Gadag		Guna
	Hassan		Harda
	Haveri		Jhabua
	Kodagu		Katni
	Kolar		Mandla
	Koppal		Mandsaur
	Mandya		Morena
	Raichur		Narsimhapur
	Tumkur		Neemuch
	Udupi		Parma
	Uttara Kannada		Raisen
15.	Kerala		Rajgarh
	Kasaragod		Ratlam
	Malappuram		Sagar
	Palakkad		Sataa
	Wayanad		Sehore
16.	Lakshdweep		Seoni
	Lakshadweep		Shahdol
17.	Madhya Pradesh		Shajapur
	Balaghat		Shivpuri

1	2	1	2
	Sidhi		Anugul
	Tikamgarh		Balangir
	Ujjain		Bargarh
	Umaria		Baudh
	Vidisha		Debagarh
	West Nimar		Dhenkanal
18.	Maharashtra		Gajapati
	Buldana		Ganjam
	Gadchiroli		Kalahandi
	Hingoli		Kandhamal
	Jalna		Kendujhar
	Raigarh		Koraput
	Ratnagiri		Malkangiri
	Sindhudurg		Nabarangapur
19.	Meghalaya		Nayagarh
	East Garo Hills		Nuapada
	Jaintia Hills		Rayagada
	Ri Bhoi		Sonapur
	South Garo Hills	23.	Pondicherry
	West Khasi Hills		Yanam
20.	Mizoram	24.	Punjab
	Champhai		Amritsar
	Kolasib		Bathinda
	Lawngtlai		Faridkot
	Lunglei		Fatehgarh Sahib
	Mamit		Firozpur
	Saiha		Gurdaspur
	Serchhip		Kapurthala
21.	Nagaland		Mansa
	Mon		Moga
22.	Orissa		Muktsar

1	2
	Nawanshahr
	Patiala
	Sangrur
25.	Rajasthan
	Ajmer
	Banswara
	Baran
	Barmer
	Bharatpur
	Bhilwara
	Bikaner
	Bundi
	Chittaurgarh
	Churu
	Dausa
	Dhaulpur
	Dungarpur
	Ganganagar
	Hanumangarh
	Jaisalmer
	Jalor
	Jhalawar
	Jhunjhunun
	Jodhpur
	Karauli
	Nagaur
	Pali
	Rajsamand
	Sawai Madhopur
	Sikar

1	2
	Sirohi
	Tonk
	Udaipur
26.	Sikkim
	East
	North
	South
	West
27.	Tamil Nadu
	Ariyalur
	Coimbatore
	Cuddalore
	Dharmapuri
	Dindigul
	Erode
	Kancheepuram
	Kanniyakumari
	Karur
	Madurai
	Nagapattinam
	Perambalur
	Pudukkottai
	Ramanathapuram
	Salem
	Sivaganga
	Thanjavur
	The Nilgiris
	Theni
	Thiruvallur
	Thiruvarur

1	2	1	2
	Thoothukkudi		Kanpur Dehat
	Tirunelveli		Kaushambi
	Tiruvannamalai		Kheri
	Vellore		Kushinagar
	Viluppuram		Lalitpur
	Virudhunagar		Maharajganj
28.	Tripura		Mahoba
	North Tripura		Mathura
	South Tripura		Moradabad
	West Tripura		Muzaffarnagar
	Dhalai		Pilibhit
29.	Uttar Pr.		Rae Bareli
	Bahraich		Rampur
	Banda		Saharanpur
	Barabanki		Sant Kabir Nagar
	Bareilly		Shahjahanpur
	Basti		Shrawasti
	Bijnor		Siddharthnagar
	Budaun		Sitapur
	Bulandshahr		Sonbhadra
	Chitrakoot		Sultanpur
	Etah		Unnao
	Farrukhabad	30.	Uttaranchal
	Fatehpur		Bageshwar
	Gonda		Champawat
	Hamirpur	31.	W. Bengal
	Hardoi		Bankura
	Hathras		Barddhaman
	Jyotiba P. Nagar		Birbhum
	Kannauj		Dakshin Dinajpur

1	2	1	2
	Darjiling		Murshidabad
	Haora		Nadia
	Hugli		North 24 Parganas
	Jalpaiguri		Puruliya
	Koch Bihar		South 24 Parganas
	Maldah		Uttar Dinajpur
	Medinipur		Total Districts = 374

Statement-II

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	EBDs	Proposals received	Proposals approved	Proposals under process	Proposals rejected	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	7	5	-	*2	Placed before Expert Committee on 23-09-2011 * Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12B of UGC Act.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	6	6	-	-	Approval has been conveyed
3.	Assam	12	12	12	-	-	Approval is being conveyed
4.	Bihar	25	1	-	-	1	Date of establishment is before 01.01.2008
5.	Chattisgarh	15	5	-	5	-	Documents called for
6.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	20	20	19	-	*1	Grants is being released * Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12B of UGC Act
8.	Haryana	7	10	-	1	9	Date of establishment is before 01.01.2008/not

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							in EBD
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	-	-	4	Date of establishment is before 01.01.2008
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	11		-	-	-	
11.	Jharkhand	12	-	-	-	-	
12.	Karnataka	20	20	6	3	*11	Documents called for. * Date of establishment is before 01.01.2008
13.	Kerala	4	4	3	1	-	Documents called for
14.	Madhya Pradesh	39	-	-	-	-	
15.	Maharashtra	7	7	7	-	-	Grant has been released
16.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	
17.	Meghalaya	5	-	-	-	-	
18.	Mizoram	7	-	-	-	-	
19.	Nagaland	1	-	-	-	-	
20.	Orissa	18	8	-	8	-	Documents called for.
21.	Punjab	13	13	11	-	2	Date of establishment is before 01.01.2008.
22.	Rajasthan	30	1	-	1	-	Documents called for
23.	Sikkim	4	2	-	2	-	Documents called for
24.	Tamil Nadu	27	7	3	*1	**3	* Documents called for ** Affiliating university is not covered under Section 12B of UGC Act/not in EBD.
25.	Tripura	4	4	-	4	-	Documents called for
26.	Uttar Pradesh	41	6	5	1	-	Documents called for.
27.	Uttaranchal	2	-	-	-	-	
28.	West Bengal	17	3	-	3	-	Documents called for
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	2	-	-	-	-	
30.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		1	1	1	-	-	Approval has been conveyed
32. Daman and Diu		2	-	-	-	-	
33. Delhi		-	-	-	-	-	
34. Lakshadweep		1	1	-	1	-	Documents called for
35. Pudducherry		1	-	-	-	-	
Total		374	142	78	31	33	

Coal Reserves with Power Plants

401. SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHATO:
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI:
SHRI C.R. PATIL:
DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
DR. MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coal reserves at various power plants was less than the prescribed limit;
- (b) if so, the details of power plants where this situation has been faced during the last three years, and the current year, State-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Prime Minister's Office has given direction to meet at least 80% requirement of coal of power plants or get ready to pay a penalty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet requirement of coal of various power plants and also honour the directives of the Prime Minister's Office;
- (f) whether the Government has taken steps or propose to take to ensure rapid capacity addition at the grassroots to achieve service standards and affordability and encourage private participation for the same; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) Power Stations are required to carry coal stock to the tune of 15 days' requirement in case of pithead power stations and 30 days' requirement for other than pit-head power stations. However, more than 20 power stations have been carrying critical coal stock (i.e. stock less than 7 days' requirement) in the last three years and in current year.

(b) Number of power stations carrying critical coal stock in the last three years and current year is 37 on 1.3.2009, 21 on 1.3.2010, 32 on 28.2.2011 and 34 on 29.2.2012. Details of State-wise TTP-wise coal stock as on 1.3.2009, 1.3.2010, 28.2.2011 and 29.2.2012 are at enclosed Statement. Unloading constraints of TPPs, heavy rains affecting transportation and wagon loading during monsoon months, intermittent law and order problems affecting transportation and wagon loading particularly in Jharkhand and Orissa, wagon availability constraints of Railways during peak production months of December to March, less import of coal by power stations against targets fixed by Central Electricity Authority are some of the factors resulting in critical coal stock position of the power stations.

(c) and (d) A meeting was held in Prime Minister's Office to discuss, inter alia, the issues relating to shortage of coal and find out ways to meet the requirement of power sector. As a result of the discussions, the following decisions have been taken:

- (i) Coal India Limited (CIL) will sign Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) with power plants that have entered into long term Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)s with Electricity Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) and have been commissioned/would get commissioned after 31.3.2009 and on or before 31.3.2015.

- (ii) with the plants included in (a) above that have been commissioned upto 31.12.2011, CIL will sign FSAs before 31.3.2012.
- (iii) the FSAs that will be signed with regard to power plants in (a) above shall be for full quantity of coal mentioned in the Letters of Assurance (LoAs) for a period of 20 years, to be reviewed after every five years, with trigger level of 80% for levy of disincentive and 90% for levy of incentive.
- (iv) to meet its commitments, CIL may reduce coal meant for e-auction from 10% to 7% of its production of aggressively till the end of 12th Plan.

(e) In order to implement the decisions as mentioned above, CIL is gearing up to supply coal to power stations from alternate sources including imported coal in respect of any shortfall over and above the available production.

(f) and (g) Obtaining environmental and forestry

clearances, land acquisition & related R&R issues are the prerequisites for rapid capacity addition for which necessary steps are being taken at appropriate levels. Issues related to law & order and coal evacuation facilities are also being addressed.

The underground manual workings have been mechanized to the extent feasible, using side discharge loaders and load haul dumpers. Further, new underground mines using continuous miner and high capacity longwall equipment are being planned. In opencast mines, deployment of large size equipment, maintenance of haul roads, control of bench slopes & overburden dump slopes with computerized models etc. are some of the important approaches in improving productivity and service standards.

Regarding private participation, removal of overburden and extraction of coal in opencast mines is being outsourced.

Statement

Coal Stock Position at various Thermal Power Stations in the country (As on 01-Mar-2009)

Region/ State	Mode of Transport	Name of Thermal Power Station	Capacity (MW)	Nor- mative Stock Regd. (Days)	Daily Lin- kage in '000 Tonnes	Actual Stock		Critical Coal Stock		Reasons for Critical Coal Stock
						In	Day	< 7	< 4	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Northern										
Delhi										
1.	Rail	I.P. TPS.	247.5	25	3.1	45	15			
2.	Rail	Rajghat TPS	135.0	25	2.1	100	48			
3.	Rail	Badarpur TPS	705.0	30	13.4	56	4	*		Less Receipt - CCL
Haryana										
4.	Rail	Faridabad Ext.	180.0	25	1.9	21	11			
5.	Rail	Panipat TPS	1360.0	25	24.2	13	1	*	**	Less Receipt - CCL
6.	Rail	Yamuna Nagar TPS	600.0	25	9.7	46	5	*		Inadequate linkage
Punjab										
7.	Rail	GH TPS (Leh. Moh.)	920.0	30	14.0	34	2	*	**	Inadequate linkage

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8.	Rail	GND TPS (Bhatinda)	440.0	30	6.3	84	13			
9.	Rail	Ropar TPS	1260.0	30	20.0	104	5	*		Inadequate linkage
Rajasthan										
10.	Rail	Kota TPS	1045.0	30	19.5	191	10			
11.	Rail	Suratgarh TPS	1250.0	30	24.4	109	4	*		Inadequate linkage
Uttar Pradesh										
12.	Pithead	Anpara TPS	1630.0	15	25.8	163	6	*		Inadequate linkage
13.	Rail	Harduaganj B	225.0	25	2.9	15	5	*		Inadequate linkage
14.	Rail	Obra TPS	1362.0	20	14.5	214	15			
15.	Rail	Panki TPS	210.0	30	3.9	13	3	*	**	Inadequate linkage
16.	Rail	Parichha TPS	640.0	30	11.3	36	3	*	**	Less receipt- CCL.BCCL
17.	Rail	Dadro (NCTPP)	840.0	30	14.5	194	13			
18.	Pithead	Rihand STPS	2000.0	15	34.5	534	15			
19.	Pithead	Singrauli STPS	2000.0	15	31.0	404	13			
20.	Rail	Tanda TPS	440.0	25	8.1	158	20			
21.	Rail	Unchahar TPS	1050.0	25	19.4	146	8			
		Total of N.R.	18539.5	24	304.5	2681	9	10	4	
Western										
Chhattisgarh										
22.	Rail	Korba East V	500.0	15	8.7	100	12			
23.	Pithead	Korba-II	440.0	15	7.7	63	8			
24.	Pithead	Korba-West TPS	840.0	15	11.9	270	23			
25.	Pithead	Korba STPS	2100.0	15	31.0	518	17			
26.	Rail	Sipat STPS	1000.0	20	152	28	2	*	**	Less Receipt - SECL
Gujarat										
27.	Rail	Gandhi Nagar TPS	870.0	30	12.3	54	4	*		Less Receipt - SECL
28.	Rail	Sikka REP. TPS	240.0	30	4.2	17	4	*		Less Receipt - SECL
29.	Rail	Ukai TPS	850.0	30	12.6	93	7			
30.	Rail	Wanakbori TPS	1470.0	30	23.2	46	2	*	**	Inadequate linkage
31.	Rail	Torr Power AEC	390.0	30	4.2	3	1	*	**	Inadequate linkage

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Madhya Pradesh										
32.	Pithead	Amar Katak	500.0	15	5.7	96	17			
33.	Rail	Sanjay Gandhi TPS	1340.0	20	17.7	86	5	*		Inadequate linkage
34.	Rail	Satpura TPS	1142.5	20	20.3	48	2	*	**	Less Receipt - WCL
35.	Pithead	Vindhyachal STPS	3260.0	15	50.0	409	8			
Maharashtra										
36.	Rail	Bhusawal TPS	475.0	25	7.6	46	6	*		Inadequate linkage
37.	Rail	Chandrapur (Maharashtra) STPS	2340.0	20	345	70	2	*	**	Inadequate linkage
38.	Rail	Khaparkheda TPS- II	840.0	20	14.4	81	6	*		Less Receipt
39.	Rail	Koradi TPS	1040.0	25	17.9	48	3	*	**	Less Receipt SECL, MCI
40.	Rail	Naski TPS	880.0	25	14.0	14	1	*	**	Inadequate linkage
41.	Rail	Parli TPS	920.0	25	14.6	96	7			
42.	Rail	Paras TPS	305.0	20	5.7	20	4			Less Receipt
43.	Rail	Dahanu TPS	500.0	25	9.4	79				
		Total of W.R.	22242.5	21	342.8	2285	7	13	7	
Southern										
Andhra Pradesh										
44.	Rail	Dr. N. Tata Rao TPS	1260.0	25	19.8	71	4	*		Inadequate linkage
45.	Rail	Kothagudem TPS	1180.0	20	19.4	154	8			
46.	Road	Ramagundem - B TPS	62.5	20	0.8	20	24			
47.	Rail	Rayalaseema TPS	840.0	25	15.3	26	2	*	**	Inadequate linkage
48.	Pithead	Ramagundem STPS	2600.0	15	37.9	560	15			
49.	Rail	Simhadri	1000.0	25	18.7	282	15			
Karnataka										
50.	Rail	Raichur TPS	1470.0	30	28.0	477	17			
Tamil Nadu										
51.	Inter Modal	Ennore TPS	450.0	30	7.4	44	6	*		Less Receipt - MCL.ECL
52.	Inter Modal	Mettur TPS	840.0	30	13.6	131	10			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
53.	Inter Modal	North Chennai TPS	630.0	30	10.1	91	9			
54.	Inter Modal	Tuticorin TPS	1050.0	30	16.9	150	9			
		Total of S.R.	11382.5	24	187.9	2006	11	3	1	
Eastern										
Bihar										
55.	Rail	Barauni TPS	320.0	20	0.7	3	5	*		Inadequate linkage
56.	Rail	Muzaffarpur TPS	2200	20	1.0	2	2	*	**	Less Receipt
57.	Pithead	Kahalgaon TPS	1840.0	15	34.7	29	1	*	**	Less Receipt - ECL
Jharkhand										
58.	Rail	Patratu TPS	840.0	20	4.5	20	4	*		Less Receipt
59.	Road	Tenughat TPS	420.0	20	5.5	0	0	*	**	Inadequate linkage
60.	Rail	Bokaro 'B' TPS	630.0	20	8.6	159	19			
61.	Rail	Chandrapura (DVC) TPS	7500	20	5.7	126	22			
Odisha										
62.	Pithead	IB Valley TPS	420.0	15	8.6	178	21			
63.	Pithead	Talcher (Old) TPS	470.0	15	8.1	68	8			
64.	Pithead	Talcher STPS	3000.0	15	58.1	181	3	*	**	Inadequate linkage
West Bengal										
65.	Rail	Durgapur TPS	340.0	20	5.2	164	32			
66.	Rail	Mejia TPS	1340.0	20	21.9	0	0	*	**	Unloading Constraint
67.	Rail	Bakreshwar TPS	840.0	25	11.3	269	24			
68.	Rail	Bandel TPS	450.0	20	5.2	8	2	*	**	Inadequate linkage
69.	Rail	D.P.L. TPS	695.0	20	9.7	40	4	*	*	Less receipt - EMTA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
70. Rail	Kolaghat TPS		1260.0	25	19.2	245	13			
71. Rail	Sagardighi TPS		600.0	20	7.1	6	1	*	**	Unloading Constraint
72. Rail	Santaldih TPS		730.0	20	7.4	124	17			
73. Rail	Budge Budge TPS		500.0	20	7.1	120	17			
74. Rail	New Cossipore TPS		160.0	20	1.3	19	15			
75. Rail	Southern REPL. TPS		135.0	25	2.3	42	19			
76. Rail	Titagarh TPS		240.0	20	3.6	50	14			
77. Rail	Farakka STPS		1600.0	15	33.9	91	3	*	**	Less Receipt - ECL
	Total of E.R.		17800.0	18	270.7	1943	7	11	8	
All India Total			69964.5	22	1106	8915	8	37	20	

(*) Critical i.e. stock less than 7 days in 37

TPSs (Includes super critical also)

(**) Super Critical i.e. stock less than 4 days in 20 TPSs

Figures in 000 tonnes

Coal Stock Position at Various Thermal Power Stations in the Country (As on 01-Mar-2010)

Region/ State	Mode of Transport	Name of Thermal Power Station	Capacity (MW)	Nor- mative Stock Regd. (Days)	Coal Requi- rement in '000 Tonnes	Actual Stock		Critical Coal Stock		Reasons for Critical Coal Stock
						_____	In	< 7	< 4	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Northern										
Delhi										
1. Rail	Rajghat TPS		135.00	25	2.2	51	23			
2. Rail	Badarpur TPS		705.0	30	13.1	154	12			
Haryana										
3. Rail	Faridabad TPS		110.0	25	1.0	18	18			
4. Rail	Panipat TPS		1360.0	25	20.9	67	3	*	**	Higher Generation
5. Rail	Yamuna Nagar TPS		600.00	25	9.1	2	0	*	**	Less Receipt
Punjab										
6. Rail	GH TPS (Leh. Moh.)		920.0	30	12.1	147	12			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Rail	Gnd TPS (Bhatinda)	440.0	30	5.2	107	21			
8.	Rail	Ropar TPS	1260.0	30	19.2	329	17			
Rajasthan										
9.	Rail	Kota TPS	1240.0	30	20.5	127	6	*		Delay in import
10.	Rail	Suratgarh TPS	1500.00	30	23.9	289	12			
11.	Rail	Chhabra TPP	250.0	30	3.2	6	2	*	**	Less Receipt - SECL
Uttar Pradesh										
12.	Pithead	Anpara TPS	1630.0	15	24.3	268	11			
13.	Rail	Harduaganj TPS	220.0	25	2.9	93	32			
14.	Rail	Obra TPS	1372.0	20	17.0	111	7			
15.	Rail	Panki TPS	210.0	30	3.1	120	38			
16.	Rail	Parichha TPS	640.0	30	10.3	111	11			
17.	Rail	Dadri (NCTPP)	1330.0	30	13.5	292	22			
18.	Pithead	Rihand STPS	2000.0	15	30.1	600	20			
19.	Pithead	Singrauli STPS	2000.0	15	33.6	424	13			
20.	Rail	Tanda TPS	440.0	25	7.4	240	32			
21.	Rail	Unchahar TPS	1050.0	25	16.0	200	12			
		Total of N.R.	19412.0	24	288.6	3758	13	4	3	
Western										
Chhattisgarh										
22.	Rail	Korba East V	500.0	15	7.7	84	11			
23.	Pithead	Korba-II	440.0	15	8.0	110	14			
24.	Pithead	Korba-West TPS	840.0	15	13.3	436	33			
25.	Pithead	Korba STPS	2100.00	15	33.4	556	17			
26.	Rail	Sipat STPS	1000.0	20	10.4	226	22			
27.	Rail	Pathadi TPP	300.0	15	5.4	75	14			
Gujarat										
28.	Rail	Gandhi Nagar TPS	870.0	30	12.1	68	6	*		Less Receipt - SECL
29.	Rail	Sikka REP TPS	240.0	30	3.3	84	26			
30.	Rail	Ukai TPS	850.0	30	12.8	80	6	*		Less Receipt - SECL
31.	Rail	Wanakbori TPS	1470.0	30	25.9	149	6	*		Less Receipt - SECL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
32.	Rail	Torr Power AFC	400.0	30	5.7	15	3		**	Higher Generation
Madhya Pradesh										
33.	Pithead	Amarkantak Ext. TPS	450.0	15	4.7	26	6	*		Less Receipt
34.	Rail	Sanjay Gandhi TPS	1340.0	20	20.3	132	7			
35.	Rail	Satpura TPS	1142.5	20	20.4	262	13			
36.	Pithead	Vindhyachal STPS	3260.0	15	51.7	650	13			
Maharashtra										
37.	Rail	Bhusawal TPS	475.0	25	8.5	69	8			
38.	Rail	Chandrapur (Maharashtra) STPS	2340.0	20	42.1	298	7			
39.	Rail	Khaparkheda TPS- II	840.0	20	15.8	264	17			
40.	Rail	Koradi TPS	1040.0	25	18.1	221	12			
41.	Rail	Nasik TPS	880.0	25	16.2	246	15			
42.	Rail	Parli TPS	1170.0	25	19.0	213	11			
43.	Rail	Paras TPS	305.0	20	6.4	157	25			
44.	Rail	Dahanu TPS	500.0	25	8.6	18	2	*	*	Less receipt - SECL
		Total of W.R.	22752.5	21	369.8	4441	12	6	2	
Southern										
Andhra Pradesh										
45.	Rail	Dr. N. Tata Rao TPS	1760.0	25	20.4	290	14			
46.	Rail	Kothagudem TPS	1220.0	20	21.1	555	26			
47.	Road	Ramagundem - B TPS	62.5	20	1.2	24	19			
48.	Rail	Rayalaseema TPS	840.0	25	14.3	188	13			
49.	Pithead	Ramagundem STPS	260.00	15	42.5	570	13			
50.	Rail	Simhadri	1000.0	25	17.0	192	11			
Karnataka										
51.	Rail	Raichur TPS	1470.0	30	23.5	248	11			
52.	Rail	Bellary TPS	500.0	20	8.6	138	16			
Tamil nadu										
53.	Inter Modal	Ennore TPS	450.0	30	6.3	2	0	*	**	Less Receipt

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
54.	Inter Modal	Mettur TPS	840.0	30	13.5	9	1	*	**	Less Receipt
55.	Inter Modal	North Chennai TPS	630.0	30	9.7	82	8			
56.	Inter Modal	Tuticorin TPS	1050.0	30	18.4	443	24			
		Total of S.R.	12422.5	24	196.5	2741	14	2	2	
Eastern										
Bihar										
57.	Rail	Barauni TPS	310.0	20	1.1	12	10			
58.	Rail	Muzaffarpur TPS	220.0	20	1.0	27	27			
59.	Pithead	Kahalgaon TPS	2340.0	15	30.2	17	1	*	**	Delay in import
Jharkhand										
60.	Rail	Patratu TPS	770.0	20	4.0	39	10			
61.	Road	Tenughat TPS	420 0	20	4.7	174	37			
62.	Rail	Bokaro 'B' TPS	630.0	20	9.1	363	40			
63.	Rail	Chandrapura (DVC) TPS	1000.0	20	5.3	355	68			
Odisha										
64.	Pithead	IB Valley TPS	420.0	15	8.7	232	26			
65.	Pithead	Talcher (old) TPS	4700	15	8.5	201	24			
66.	Pithead	Talcher STPS	3000.0	15	56.3	143	3	*	**	Delay in import
West Bengal										
67.	Rail	Durgapur TPS	340.0	20	3.3	50	15			
68.	Rail	Mejia TPS	1340.0	20	19.9	0	0	*	**	Higher Trun around time
69.	Rail	Bakreswar TPS	1050 0	25	11.8	6	0	*	**	Higher Generation
70.	Rail	Bandel TPS	450.0	20	4.9	5	1	*	**	Less Receipt
71.	Rail	D.P.L. TPS	690.0	20	9.3	90	10			
72.	Rail	Kolaghat TPS	1260.0	25	19.8	91	5	*		Delay in import
73.	Rail	Sagardighi TPS	600.0	20	9.1	52		*	6	Less Receipt
74.	Rail	Santaldih TPS	730.0	20	8.3	31		*	4	Long Outage
75.	Rail	Budge Budge TPS	750.0	20	5.6	246	44			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
76. Rail	New Cossipore TPS		160.0	20	1.1	13	11			
77. Rail	Southern Repl. TPS		135.0	25	2.2	42	19			
78. Rail	Titagarh TPS		240.0	20	3.5	47	14			
79. Pithead	Farakka STPS		1600.0	15	29.2	40	1	*		** Delay in import
	Total of E.R.		18925.0	18	256.9	2276	9	9	6	
All India Total			73512.0	21	1112	13215	12	21	13	

(*) Critical i.e. stock less than 7 days in 21 TPSs (Includes super critical also)

(**) Super Critical i.e. stock less than 4 days in 13 TPSs

Coal Stock Position at Various Thermal Power Stations in the Country (As on 28-Feb-2011)

Figures in 000 tonnes

Region/ State	Mode of Transport	Name of Thermal Power Station	Capacity (MW)	Nor- mative Stock Regd. (Days)	Coal Requi- rement in '000 Tonnes	Actual Stock In Ton- nes	Critical Coal Stock < 7	Reasons for Critical Coal Stock < 4		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Northern										
Delhi										
1. Rail		Rajghat TPS	135.0	20	2.7	22	8			
2. Rail		Badarpur TPS	705.0	30	13.6	51	4	*		Less Receipt
Haryana										
3. Rail		Panipat TPS	1360.0	25	19.5	28	1	*	**	No import
4. Rail		Yamuna Nagar TPS	600.0	25	8.9	11	1	*	**	No import
5. Rail		Rajiv Gandhi TPS	1200.0	25	13.3	0	0			No import
Punjab										
6. Rail		GH TPS (LEH.MOH.)	920.0	30	11.3	374	33			
7. Rail		Ropar TPS	1260.0	25	17.9	505	28			
8. Rail		Gnd TPS (Bhatinda)	440.0	30	5.3	148	28			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Rajasthan										
9.	Rail	Kota TPS	1240.0	30	23.2	30	1		*	No import
10.	Rail	Suratgarh TPS	1500.0	30	26.4	89	3	*	**	No import
11.	Rail	Chhabra TPP	500.0	30	7.1	143	20			
Uttar Pradesh										
12.	Pithead	Anpara TPS	1630.0	15	26.8	243	9			
13.	Rail	Harduaganj TPS	220.0	25	2.9	87	30			
14.	Rail	Obra TPS	1372.0	20	18.6	132	7			
15.	Rail	Panki TPS	210.0	30	3.6	49	14			
16.	Rail	Parichha TPS	640.0	30	12.9	171	13			
17.	Rail	Dadri (NCTPP)	1820.0	30	22.1	284	13			
18.	Pithead	Rihand STPS	2000.0	15	37.1	621	17			
19.	Pithead	Singrauli STPS	2000.0	15	37.5	437	12			
20.	Rail	Tanda TPS	440.0	25	8.2	211	26			
21.	Rail	Unchahar TPS	1050.0	25	18.2	382	21			
22.	Rail	Rosa TPP Ph-I	600.0	25	9.6	77	8			
		Total of N.R	21842.0	24	346.7	4097	12	6	5	
Western										
Chhattisgarh										
23.	Rail	DSPM TPS	500.0	15	9.7	120	12			
24.	Pithead	Korba-II	440.0	15	12.3	43	4	*		Less Receipt
25.	Pithead	Korba-WEST TPS	840.0	15	15.0	501	33			
26.	Pithead	Korba STPS	2600.0	15	39.3	592	15			
27.	Rail	Sipat STPS	1000.0	20	19.6	543	28			
28.	Rail	Pathadi TPP	600.0	15	10.4	521	50			
29.	Rail	Bhilai TPS	500.0	25	9.6	243	25			
Gujarat										
30.	Rail	Gandhi Nagar TPS	870.0	30	13.4	84	6	*		Less Receipt
31.	Rail	Ukai TPS	850.0	30	13.6	29	2	*	**	Higher Generation
32.	Rail	Wanakbori TPS	1470.0	30	26.8	86	3		*	Less Receipt
33.	Rail	Sikka REP. TPS	240.0	30	4.3	25	6		*	Less Receipt

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
34.	Rail	Sabarmati (C Station)	400.0	30	6.4	45	7			
Madhya Pradesh										
35.	Pithead	Amarkantak EXT TPS	450.0	15	5.5	138	25			
36.	Rail	Sanjay Gandhi TPS	1340.0	20	22.9	31	1	*	**	Less import
37.	Rail	Satpura TPS	1142.5	20	22.5	138	6		*	Less Receipt
38.	Pithead	Satpura STPS	3260.0	15	59.6	669	11			
Maharashtra										
39.	Rail	Bhusawal TPS	470.0	20	9.4	212	23			
40.	Rail	Rail Chandrapur (Maharashtra) STPS	2340.0	20	42.9	473	11			
41.	Rail	Khaparkheda TPS- II	840.0	25	18.0	109	6	*		Less Receipt
42.	Rail	Koradi TPS	1040.0	25	17.0	189	11			
43.	Rail	Nasik TPS	880.0	25	15.0	252	17			
44.	Rail	Parli TPS	1170.0	25	17.5	111	6	*		Less Receipt
45.	Rail	Paras TPS	555.0	25	8.3	157	19			
46.	Rail	Dahanu TPS	500.0	25	8.2	31	4	*		Less Receipt - SECL
		Total of W.R.	24297.5	21	427.2	5341	13	10	3	
Southern										
Andhra Pradesh										
47.	Rail	Dr. N. Tata Rao TPS	1760.0	20	27.3	244	9			
48.	Rail	Kothagudem TPS	1220.0	20	23.4	370	16			
49.	Road	Ramagundem - B TPS	62.5	20	1.1	7	7			
50.	Rail	Rayalaseema TPS	1050.0	25	15.0	130	9			
51.	Pithead	Ramagundem STPS	2600.0	15	42.9	419	10			
52.	Rail	Simhadri	1000.0	25	19.6	41	2	*	**	Less Receipt
53.	Pithead	Kakatiya TPS	500.0	15	7.5	105	14			
Karnataka										
54.	Rail	Raichur TPS	1720.0	30	27.6	374	14			
55.	Rail	Bellary TPS	500.0	20	10.5	126	12			
Tamil Nadu										
56.	Inter Modal	Ennore TPS	450.0	30	6.6	10	1	»	**	Less Receipt

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
57.	Inter Modal	Mettur TPS	840.0	30	13.4	66	5	*		Less Receipt
58.	Inter Modal	North Chennai TPS	630.0	30	10.0	27	3	*	**	Less Receipt
59.	Inter Modal	Tuticorin TPS	1050.0	30	18.6	84	5	*		Less Receipt
		Total of S.R.	13382.5	23	223.5	2004	1	5	3	
Eastern										
Bihar										
60.	Rail	Barauni TPS	310.0	20	1.1	23	22			
61.	Rail	Muzaffarpur TPS	220.0	20	2.1	24	11			
62.	Pithead	Kahalgaon TPS	2340.0	15	43.6	7	0	*	**	Coal Transportation
Jharkhand										
63.	Rail	Patratu TPS	770.0	20	7.1	112	16			
64.	Road	Tenughat TPS	420.0	20	6.4	45	7			
65.	Rail	Bokaro B TPS	630.0	20	10.0	317	32			
66.	Rail	Chandrapura(DVC) TPS	890.0	20	10.3	50	5	*		Less Receipt
Odisha										
67.	Pithead	IB Valley TPS	420.0	15	8.5	52	6	*		Less Receipt
68.	Pithead	Talcher (Old) TPS	470.0	15	10.0	203	20			
69.	Pithead	Talcher STPS	30000	15	65.0	81	1	*	**	Less Receipt
West Bengal										
70.	Rail	Durgapur TPS	340.0	20	6.1	220	36			
71.	Rail	Mejia TPS	1840.0	20	26.3	35	1	*	**	Higher Trun around time
72.	Rail	Bakreswar TPS	1050.0	25	16.1	0	0		*	Higher Generation
73.	Rail	Bandel TPS	450.0	20	4.9	43	9			
74.	Rail	D.P.L. TPS	690.0	25	9.9	103	10			
75.	Rail	Kolaghat TPS	1260.0	25	19.6	46	2	*	*	Less Receipt
76.	Rail	Sagardighi TPS	600.0	20	8.4	2	0	*	**	Less import
77.	Rail	Santalalih TPS	730.0	20	5.7	42	7			
78.	Rail	Budge Budge TPS	750.0	20	8.3	249	30			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
79. Rail	New Cossipore TPS		160.0	20	1.1	5	5		*	Less Receipt
80. Rail	Southern Repl. TPS		135.0	20	2.5	34	14			
81. Rail	Titagarh TPS		240.0	20	3.6	16	4		*	Less Receipt
82. Pithead	Farakka STPS		1600 0	15	27.5	81	3	*	**	Coal Transportation
	Total of E.R.		19315.0	18	304.1	1789	6	11	7	
All India Total			78837.0	21	1302	13231	10	32	18	

(*) Critical i.e. stock less than 7 days in 32 TPSs {Includes super critical also}

(**) Super Critical i.e. stock less than 4 days in 18 TPSs

Coal Stocks Position at Various Thermal Power Stations in the Country (As on 28-Feb-2012)

Figures in 000 tonnes

Region/ State	Mode of Transport	Name of Thermal Power Station	Capacity (MW)	Nor- mative Stock Regd. (Days)	Daily Lin- kage in '000 Tonnes	Actual Stock in '000 Tonnes	in Days	Critical Coal Stock < 7	Reasons for Critical Coal Stock < 4		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Northern											
Delhi											
1. Rail		Rajghat TPS	135.00	20	2.2	0	22.03	10			
2. Rail		Badarpur TPS	705.0	30	13.1	0	36.66	3	*	**	Less Receipt - CCL
Haryana											
3. Rail		Panipat TPS	1360.0	25	22.4	4	220.47	10			
4. Rail		Yamuna Nagar TPS	600.00	25	8.4	0	58.85	7			
5. Rail		Rajiv Gandhi TPS	1200.00	25	20.0	38	110.23	7			
6. Rail		Indira Gandhi STPP	1000.00	25	13.8	4	217.97	16			
Punjab											
7. Rail		GH TPS (Leh Moh.)	920.0	30	13.5	0	222.39	17			
8. Rail		Ropar TPS	1260.0	25	20.9	0	396.18	19			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9.	Rail	GND TPS (Bhatinda)	440.0	30	5.4	0	147.62	27			
Rajasthan											
10.	Rail	Kota TPS	1240.0	30	21.5	0	35.89	2	*	**	Rake diverted to Chhabra
11.	Rail	Suratgarh TPS	1500.0	30	21.5	0	37.99	2		*	Rake diverted to Chhabra
12.	Rail	Chhabra TPP	500.0	30	6.6	0	9.95	2	*	**	Inadequate coal allocation
Uttar Pradesh											
13.	Pithead	Anpara TPS	1630.0	15	26.3	0	229.40	9			
14.	Rail	Harduaganj TPS	470.0	25	4.1	0	14.84	4		*	Less Receipt
15.	Rail	Obra TPS	1372.0	20	14.3	0	115.00	8			
16.	Rail	Panki TPS	210.0	30	3.6	0	56.58	16			
17.	Rail	Parichha TPS	640.0	30	9.6	0	241.70	25			
18.	Rail	Dadri (NCTPP)	1820.0	30	27.5	0	16.75	1	*	**	Less Receipt-CCL
19.	Pithead	Rihand STPS	2000.00	15	33.2	0	429.26	13			
20.	Pithead	Singrauli STPS	2000.00	15	33.8	0	567.05	17			
21.	Rail	Tanda TPS	440.0	25	8.1	0	33.10	4	*		Less Receipt - CCL
22.	Rail	Unchahar TPS	1050.0	25	18.2	0	14.29	1	*	**	Les Receipt - CCL
23.	Rail	Rosa TPP Ph-I	900.00	25	9.0	102	39.59	16			
24.	Rail	Anpara C TPS	1200.0	25	15.9	0	0.00	0		*	Inadequate coal allocation
		Total of N.R.	24592.0	24	372.9	148	3273.78	0	9	7	
Western											
Chhattisgarh											
25.	Rail	DSPM TPS	500.0	15	9.0	0	162.46	18			
26.	Pithead	Korba-II	440.0	15	9.0	0	95.42	11			
27.	Pithead	Korba-West TPS	840.0	15	14.9	0	366.35	25			
28.	Pithead	Korba STPS	2600.0	15	38.9	0	492.86	13			
29.	Pithead	Sipat STPS	2320.0	20	31.0	0	298.86	10			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
30.	Rail	Pathadi TPP	600.0	15	9.0	0	162.72	18			
31.	Rail	Bhilai TPS	500.0	25	8.1	1	92.51	12			
Gujarat											
32.	Rail	Gandhi Nagar TPS	870.0	30	14.7	0	131.48	9			
33.	Rail	Ukai TPS	850.0	30	13.8	0	65.86	5		*	Less Receipt
34.	Rail	Sikka REP TPS	240.0	30	3.9	0	25.55	7			
35.	Rail	Wanakbori TPS	1470.0	30	23.3	0	290.34	12			
36.	Rail	Sabarmati (C Station)	400.0	30	6.6	0	101.73	15			
Madhya Pradesh											
37.	Pithead	Amarkantak EXT TPS	450.0	15	5.4	0	144.02	27			
38.	Rail	Sanjay Gandhi TPS	1340.0	20	19.1	0	176.82	9			
39.	Rail	Satpura TPS	1142.5	20	18.5	0	213.82	12			
40.	Pithead	Vindhyachal STPS	3260.0	15	55.9	0	715.04	13			
Maharashtra											
41.	Rail	Bhusawal TPS	420.0	20	7.8	0	49.29	6	*		Less Receipt
42.	Rail	Chandrapur (Maharashtra) STPS	2340.0	20	40.3	0	310.12	8			
43.	Rail	Khaparkheda TPS	1340.0	25	16.1	41	91.73	8			
44.	Rail	Koradi TPS	1040.0	25	14.3	0	56.92	4	*		Less Receipt
45.	Rail	Nasik TPS	880.0	25	14.0	0	216.64	15			
46.	Rail	Parli TPS	1130.0	25	17.9	0	23.20	1	*	**	Less Receipt
47.	Rail	Paras TPS	500.0	25	7.8	0	54.88	7			
48.	Rail	Dahanu TPS	500.0	25	9.6	6	75.72	9			
49.	Rail	Wardha Warora	540.0	20	6.9	29	101.07	19			
		Total of W.R.	26512.5	21	415.8	77	4515.42	0	4	1	
Southern											
Andhra Pradesh											
50.	Rail	Dr. N. Tata Rao TPS	1760.0	20	26.9	0	69.43	3	*	*	Less receipt - MCL
51.	Rail	Kothagudem TPS	1720.0	20	25.9	0	313.26	12			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
52.	Road	Ramagundem - B TPS	62.5	20	1.0	0	16.56	16			
53.	Rail	Rayalaseema TPS	1050.0	25	17.0	0	58.76	3	*	**	Less Receipt
54.	Pithead	Ramagundem STPS	2600.0	15	39.5	0	247 42	6		*	Less Receipt
55.	Rail	Simhadri	1500.0	25	23.9	0	63.26	3		*	higher Generator
56.	Pithead	Kakatiya TPS	500.0	15	8.6	0	233.49	27			
Karnataka											
57.	Rail	Raichur TPS	1720.0	30	25.7	0	4.99	0	*	**	Less Receipt
58.	Rail	Bellary TPS	500.0	20	9.0	0	36.16	4	*		Less Receipt (C.B.)
Tamil Nadu											
59.	Inter Modal	Ennore TPS	450.0	30	7.2	0	75.45	11			
60.	Inter Modal	Mettur TPS	840.0	30	14.0	114	135.06	18			
61.	Inter Modal	North Chennai TPS	630.0	30	10.8	81	124.26	19			
62.	Inter Modal	Tuticorin TPS	1050	30	19.1	38	9.83	2	*	**	Less Receipt
		Total of S.R.	14382.5	23	228.6	233	1387.93	1	7	5	
Eastern											
Bihar											
63.	Rail	Barauni TPS	310.0	20	1.2	0	8.04	7			
64.	Rail	Muzaffarpur TPS	220.0	20	1.8	0	3.31	2	*	**	Coal supp. regulated by TPS
65.	Pithead	Kahalgaon TPS	2340.0	15	41.8	0	97.77	2	*	**	Inadequate coal auocation
Jharkhand											
66.	Rail	Patratu TPS	770.0	20	3.0	0	30.60	10			
67.	Road	Tenughat TPS	420.0	20	4.8	0	85.25	18			
68.	Rail	Bokaro 'B' TPS	630.0	20	9.3	0	0.00	0	*	**	Less Receipt
69.	Rail	Chandrapura (DVC) TPS	890.0	20	8.4	0	22.40	3	*	**	Less Receipt

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
70. Rail	Maithon RB TPP		525.0	20	7.6	0	156.48	21			
71. Rail	Kodarma TPP		500.0	20	7.2	0	0.00	0	*	**	Coal Supp./ Gen. yet to start
Odisha											
72. Pithead	IB Valley TPS		420.0	15	8.1	0	108.19	13			
73. Pithead	Talcher (Old) TPS		4700	15	8.6	0	166.13	19			
74. Pithead	Talcher STPS		3000.0	15	53.5	0	109.48	2	*	*	Less Receipt
75. Rail	Sterlite TPP		1800.0	20	17.9	0	287.77	16			
West Bengal											
76. Rail	Durgapur TPS		340 0	20	4.9	0	192.24	39			
77. Rail	Mejia TPS		2340.0	20	29.9	0	51.74	2	*	**	Higher Trun around time
78. Rail	Bakreswar TPS		1050.0	25	17.9	0	73.30	4	*		Less Receipt
79. Rail	Bandel TPS		450.0	20	5.1	0	3.37	1	*	**	Less Receipt
80. Rail	D.P.L. TPS		690.0	25	8.1	0	60.78	8			
81. Rail	Kolaghat TPS		1260.0	25	18.8	0	62.12	3	*	**	Less Receipt
82. Rail	Sagardighi TPS		600.0	20	8.1	0	26.84	3	*	**	Higher Generation
83. Rail	Santaldih TPS		980.0	20	66	0	15.96	2	*	**	Higher Generation
84. Rail	Budge Budge TPS		750.0	20	9.9	0	226.02	23			
85. Rail	new Cossipore TPS		160.0	20	1.3	0	17.86	13			
86. Rail	Southern REPL. TPS		135.0	20	2.4	0	40.56	17			
87. Rail	Titagarh TPS		240.0	20	3.9	0	38.76	10			
88. Pithead	Farakka STPS		2100.0	15	32.9	0	173.39	5	*		Inadequate coal allocation
89. Rail	Durgapur Steel TPS		500.0	20	7.2	0	0.00	0	*	**	Coal supp. yet to start
	Total of E.R.		23890.0	18	330.2	0	2058.37	0	14	12	
All India Total			89377.0	22	1348	458	11235.5	0	34	25	

(*) Critical i.e. stock less than 7 days in 34 TPSs (Includes super critical also)

(**) Super Critical i.e. stock less than 4 days in 25 TPSs

*[English]***CMD and Directors in CPSUs**

402. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI S. ALAGIRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posting of Chairmen and Managing Directors (CMDs) and Directors made in Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) during the last three years;

(b) the number of IAS/IPS/IFS/IRS officers among the above postings;

(c) whether specialized persons are not posted in CPSUs for using their specialized service;

(d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government for selection of specialized person as CMD/Director, etc.; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The number of persons appointed as Chairmen & Managing Directors (CMDs) and Directors in Schedule 'A' & 'B' Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) during the last three years is as under:

2009-10	:	92
2010-11	:	96
2011-12	:	128

(b) The number of IAS/IPS/IFS/IPS Officers among the above postings:

2009-10	:	2
2010-11	:	1
2011-12	:	3

(c) No Madam, there is a set mechanism for processing of appointment of Board level posts. As per the normal procedure, after the finalization of job description and qualifications required for the post, the post is advertised and the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) calls the eligible candidates for interaction. The PESB, on the basis of qualification, experience in the

relevant field and performance of the candidates in the interview, gives its recommendation for appointment to the post. Only in rare and exceptional cases, when the PESB is unable to find suitable candidate for the post, the post is filled up from organized service on deputation basis.

(d) Since, selection of candidates in PSUs is already being done through set mechanism keeping in view the specialization/experience/qualification required for the post, no change is required in the present procedure.

(e) In view of reply to (c) and (d) above, question does not arise.

*[Translation]***AI Flights and Shortage of Pilots**

403. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of daily Domestic and International flights of Air India and total number of Pilots available to fly the aircrafts;

(b) whether there is a shortage of flying schools in the country to train the pilots;

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

(d) whether any assessment in regard to the requirement of pilots in the future has been made by the Government keeping in view the expansion of the aviation sector and increasing number of air passengers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to open more training institutes to train the pilots alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The total number of daily domestic and international flights operated by Air India is 504 and the total number of pilots available to fly the aircraft is 1533. In addition to the above, 9 pilots in Air India for narrow body and 15 for wide body aircraft have been engaged on contract.

(b) and (c) No, Madam.

(d) to (f) While these all an adequate number of pilots in the country, there is a shortage of Commanders. This category can be filled up only when junior pilots add enough hours of experience to qualify as Commanders.

*[English]***Irregularities in 3G Roaming**

404. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:
SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the private mobile operators have been reported to violate the terms and conditions of their licenses and providing 3G services where they have not been allocated licenses;

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

(c) whether the Government has examined the matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government against defaulting operators and also to recover the losses;

(e) whether the security agencies have also raised their concern as they are unable to intercept the services provided by these operators; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and there action of Department of Telecommunications thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Madam, it came to the

notice of the Government that some telecom service providers who do not have 3G spectrum and whose licences have not been amended for use of 3G spectrum are offering 3G services to their customers by entering into the intra service area roaming agreement with the service providers who have 3G spectrum and whose licences have been amended for use of 3G spectrum. The service area wise details of such telecom service providers is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) The matter has been examined vis-a-vis the terms and conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Unified Access Service (UAS) licence, terms and conditions of the Notice Inviting Application (NIA) issued for auction of 3G spectrum along with queries & responses issued in this regard and the amendment of license for right to use of 3G spectrum issued to the successful bidders. It has been concluded that provisioning of the 3G services in a particular service area by a telecom service provider without having the 3G spectrum, 3G network and amendment for use of 3G spectrum is not permitted. Accordingly instructions were issued on 23.12.2011 to such telecom service providers for stopping 3G services immediately without prejudice to any other remedy available to the licensor and also to any other actions for the breach of any of the conditions of the CMTS/UAS license agreements signed with the telecom service providers. These telecom service providers have filed petitions in Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against the instructions issued on 23.12.2011 and on 24.12.2011, Hon'ble TDSAT has ordered that DoT may not take any coercive action for enforcing the impugned order dated 23.12.2011. The matter is subjudice.

(e) and (f) The information is being collected.

Statement

Company wise list of Access service Licences not holding 3-5 spectrum but providing 3G services updated status up to 7.12.2011

Sl. No.	Name of Licensee Company	Service Area	Providing 3G services through intra-circle roaming
1	2	3	4
1.	Vodafone Essar South Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	yes
2.	Idea Cellular Limited	Assam	yes

1	2	3	4
3.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	Assam	yes
4.	Aditya Birla telecom Limited	Bihar	yes
5.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	Bihar	yes
6.	Idea Cellular Limited	Delhi	yes
7.	Aircel Limited	Gujarat	yes
8.	Bharti Airtel Limited	Gujarat	yes
9.	Bharti Airtel Limited	Haryana	yes
10.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh	yes
11.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir	yes
12.	Spice communications Ltd.*	Karnataka	yes
13.	Vodafone Essar South Ltd.	Karnataka	yes
14.	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	Kerala	yes
15.	Vodafone Essar Cellular Ltd.	Kerala	yes
16.	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	Kolkata	yes
17.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Kolkata	yes
18.	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	yes
19.	Dishnet Wireless Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	yes
20.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	yes
21.	Aircel Ltd.	Maharashtra	yes
22.	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	Maharashtra	yes
23.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Mumbai	yes
24.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	North East	yes
25.	Vodafone Essar Spacetel Ltd.	North East	yes
26.	Aircel Ltd.	Rajasthan	yes
27.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Rajasthan	yes
28.	Vodafone Essar Digilink Ltd.	Rajasthan	yes
29.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai)	yes
30.	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	yes

1	2	3	4
31.	Dishnet Wireless Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	yes
32.	Vodafone Essar South Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	yes
33.	Idea Cellular Limited	West Bengal	yes

Note:

* M/s Spice Communications Limited has been amalgamated with Idea Cellular Limited as per order of High courts but the same has not been taken on records. The matter is subjudice.

Child Care Leave

405. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:
SHRI N. KRISTAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Child Care Leave (CCL) was introduced in the Government Departments for lady employees to take care of their children till the age of 18 years;

(b) if so, whether any cases of reluctance in sanctioning CCL, which is their rightful due, have come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is aware that lady employees have to run from pillar to post for sanctioning their CCL; and

(e) if so, the action taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the sanctity of CCL order issued is implemented uniformly in all departments of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam. Women Employees of the Central Government are granted Child Care Leave as per rule 43-C of the Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules 1972 [CCS (Leave) Rules].

(b) to (e) Child care leave can be availed by women employees only after the prior approval of leave by the competent leave sanctioning authority. It is envisaged in Rule 7 of the CCS (Leave) Rules that leave cannot be claimed as of right. When the exigencies of public service so require leave of any kind may be refused or revoked by the authority competent to grant it.

Variance in Poverty Estimates

406. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:
DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poverty estimate of the Planning Commission for each State has always been at variance with the State list of beneficiaries;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct a new survey to revise the poverty list;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the norms/criteria followed by the Government for allocation of subsidized foodgrains and the basis on which the foodgrains are distributed by the States to the beneficiaries; and

(f) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the number and proportion of persons living below the poverty line (BPL) for states as well as for the country as a whole by using a poverty line that is based on per capita monthly consumption expenditure. The estimates do not identify the beneficiaries for any specific programmes and/or schemes. However, the Ministry of Rural Development conducts the BPL Census through the State Governments and UTs to identify the rural households living Below the Poverty Line who could be assisted under its various programmes. These two estimates are, therefore, not comparable.

(c) and (d) The BPL Census to identify the rural households living Below the Poverty Line is generally conducted at the beginning of a Five Year Plan. The last BPL Census was conducted in 2002 based on the methodology of Score Based Ranking of rural households based on 13 socio-economic parameters. The methodology for identification of BPL families is reviewed from time to time. The Ministry of Rural Development, in August 2008, constituted Saxena Committee to recommend a suitable methodology for conducting next BPL Census for identification of rural households. Based on the Saxena Committee Report pilot studies were carried out and the new methodology for identification of BPL households in rural areas has been finalised.

The Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim to recommend a suitable methodology for identification of BPL families in the urban areas. The Hashim Committee has submitted interim report recommending a questionnaire to be canvassed along with the caste enumeration to collect relevant information on socio-economic indicators in order to determine BPL status of urban households. Accordingly, A Socio-Economic and Caste Census has been launched on 29th June 2011 in the country which would be carried out by the respective State/UT Governments with the financial and technical support of the Government of India. Socio-Economic and Caste Census consist of Census in rural areas for identification of BPL households in rural areas, Census in urban areas in connection with identification of BL households in urban areas and Caste Census throughout the country. As regards the poverty estimates, the Planning Commission is in the process of estimating the poverty ratio for the year 2009-10 on the basis of NSS (2009-10) data on Household Consumer Expenditure, which are now available. The estimates of poverty will be revised from time to time based on recommendations of experts.

(e) and (f) The norms/criteria followed by the Union Government for allocation of subsidized foodgrains and the basis on which the foodgrains are distributed by the States to the beneficiaries are revised from time to time. Presently, for allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1st March 2001 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to

them by States/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes about 2.44 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Allocation of foodgrains to these 6.52 crore families, including AAY families, are made @ 35 kg. per family per month.

The list of beneficiaries will be updated on the basis of Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC), 2011 which is being carried out by the respective State/UT Governments. The eligibility and entitlements of households in the country for different central government programmes and schemes will be determined after the SECC, 2011 survey results are available and have been analysed. The Union Ministry of Rural Development and the Planning Commission will consult the States, Experts and Civil Society Organisations to arrive at a consensus on the methodology by the time the SECC, 2011 is completed. This methodology will seek to ensure that no poor or deprived household will be excluded from coverage under different government programmes and schemes. An Expert Committee will be appointed to ensure that this methodology is consistent with the provisions of the Food Security Bill.

Monitoring of Networking Sites

407. SHRI MANICKA TAGORE:
SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has requested all the State Governments to monitor social networking sites which host objectionable/obscene materials particularly that induces children to sexually explicit acts or crimes;

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

(c) the other measures taken by the Government for preventing such contents on internet and if also to monitor the activities of cyber cafes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has notified Information Technology (Intermediaries guidelines) Rules, 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. These rules provide for the intermediaries which includes social

networking sites to observe due diligence and safeguards for prevention of hosting of obscene, blasphemous, pornographic, paedophilic, defamatory etc. material on their website. Further, sections 67, 67A and 67B of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides stringent punishment and fine for publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form as well as for publishing or transmitting material containing sexually explicit act, or depicting children engaged in sexually explicit act.

Government has also notified Information Technology (Guidelines for cyber cafe) Rules, 2011 under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Rules prescribe the general guidelines and security measures to be observed by the cyber cafe. Rule 7 of the said rules provide for supervision of cyber cafe for the compliance of these guidelines.

[*Translation*]

Vacant Posts of Faculties

408. SHRIMATI SEEMA UPADHYAY:
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:
SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI:
SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

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

(a) whether a large number of posts in different faculties are lying vacant in the higher technical institutes in the country including IITs, IISERs and NITs;

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

(c) the details of the actual and sanctioned strength of faculties in such institutes, institute-wise;

(d) the number of posts lying vacant, faculty/ institute-wise; and

(e) the steps taken / proposed to be taken to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Some of the Centrally Funded institutions have reported to have vacancies in faculty positions.

(b) to (d) The occurrence of vacancies is due to

various reasons including institutes mandate to follow up the policy of recruiting outstanding faculty with strong research and teaching potential. The detail of vacancies, actual and sanctioned strength of faculty in Centrally Funded Technical Institutions is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Arising of vacancies and filling up thereof is a continuous process. Institutes have taken various initiatives for filling up these vacancies including year-round open advertisement, putting in place various incentives, creating an environment supportive to the academic growth of faculty and implementation of attractive pay scales on the basis of 6th CPC recommendations etc.

[*English*]

Attestation of Certificate for Overseas Employment

409. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to engage the help of private institutions for attestation of certificates for overseas employment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Ministry of External Affairs had awarded the outsourcing work relating to the collection/ delivery of documents for attestation on a trial basis for the period of 90 days from 1st March, 2012 to five agencies namely (i) M/s. IVS Global Services, New Delhi; (ii) M/s. VFS Global South Asia, New Delhi; (iii) CKGS Coz & King, New Delhi; (iv) M/s. BLS Internationals Services Ltd., New Delhi, and (v) M/s. Superb Enterprises, New Delhi.

Corruption Cases in Fast Track Courts

410. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes that cases of corruption in high places should be heard by Fast Track Courts, decided in bare minimum time and the quantum of punishment should be such as to act as a deterrent for those abusing power and betraying peoples' confidence;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend the Prevention of Corruption Act and the Indian Penal Code in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Section 3 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 already provides for appointment of as many Special Judges, as may be necessary, for such area or areas or for such case or group of cases, to try offences under the said Act. Further, Section 4(4) of the said Act provides for conduct of day to day trial of such cases before the Special Judge, as far as practicable.

The Central Government has already taken a number of steps to ensure that pending cases involving CBI are tried and decided in a time bound manner, which include, inter alia, drawing up of a scheme for creation of 71 additional Special Courts for trial of CBI cases across the country and reimbursement of both recurring and non-recurring expenditure on the setting up and functioning of such additional Special Courts to the State Government, creation of posts of public prosecutors, Pairvi officers (Inspectors), Naib Courts, etc for those courts and approval of a scheme for engagement of Public Prosecutors, Pairvi Officers etc. on contract basis, pending recruitment of officers on regular basis.

The Lokpal Bill, 2011, as already passed by the Lok Sabha and pending in Rajya Sabha, contains provisions for amendment of Sections 13 and 14 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 to enhance maximum imprisonment for offences under the said section, to ten years. There is no proposal for amending the Indian Penal Code for this purpose.

Appointment of Ombudsman

411. SHRI C. SIVASAMI:
SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided ombudsman for central educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the jurisdiction of the proposed ombudsman;

(d) whether such ombudsman would also be appointed by private institutions and deemed universities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government expects quick redressal of complaints with the appointment of ombudsman;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that there is no conflict of interest in the working of the ombudsman in such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (h) University Grants Commission, All India Council of Technical Education and National Council of Teacher Education have been requested to establish a grievance redressal mechanism for students and applicants for admission in higher educational institutions under their regulatory control.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

412. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes functioning under the Ministry of Human Resource Development completed in each State/ UT at present; and

(b) the funds allocated/ sanctioned and the funds actually utilized during each of the last three years in each State/ UT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) under this Ministry has since been concluded in all the States. The last two States i.e. Rajasthan and Odisha were also concluded on 31-3-2008 and 31-3-2009 respectively. The details of funds sanctioned and actually utilized under the scheme in Rajasthan and Odisha during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011	
		Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized	Released	Utilized
1.	Rajasthan	PC		PC		PC	
2.	Odisha	15.59	37.76	PC		PC	

(PC-Programme closed)

*[Translation]***CBI Enquiry on Airbus and Indian Airlines Deals**

413. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has completed its initial enquiry regarding the deal between Airbus and Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the levels and number of officers of Ministry of Civil Aviation under investigation in this deal;

(d) whether the CBI has started the procedure of taking permission from the Government to register FIR against the officers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether permission from the Government has been obtained in this regard; and

(g) if so, the time by which FIR is likely to be registered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The CBI had registered PE-DAI-2010-A-001 on 14/01/2010 against unknown persons of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the initial enquiry has been completed.

(b) The Preliminary Enquiry was registered in connection with alleged irregularities and illegalities in purchase of 43 aircrafts from M/s. Airbus Industries. The enquiry has revealed that the crucial concessions regarding investment of US Dollar 175 Million as worked out during negotiations by Empowered Group of Ministers with M/s. Airbus Industries were deliberately not made part of the purchase agreement signed between Indian Airlines and M/s. Airbus Industries.

(c) (i) One officer of the level of Additional Secretary (Served as Director then),

(ii) Two officers of the level of Director,

(iii) One officer of the level of Deputy Managing Director,

(iv) One officer of the level of the General Manager and

(v) Two officers of the level of Dy. General Managers

[(Persons mentioned at Sl. No. (ii), (iii) and (iv) have since retired)]

Involvement of others, if any, can be investigated upon disclosure of evidence to that effect during the proposed investigation.

(d) to (g) Yes Madam. As per the law, the CBI has sought permission of the Government for taking up investigation against the officers of the rank of the Joint Secretary and above and the same is under consideration.

*[English]***Formal Education**

414. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision that there would be no formal education below six years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to frame a concrete policy in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The National Policy on Education, 1986/92 recommends that programmes of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) will be child-

oriented, focused around play and the individuality of the child. Formal methods and introduction of the 3-Rs will be discouraged at this stage. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. Section 11 of the RTE Act contains provision that with a view to prepare children above the age of three years for elementary education and to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years, the appropriate Government may make necessary arrangement for providing free pre-school education for such children.

Minimum Service for Voluntary Retirement

415. SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum service required by the Central Government employees for taking voluntary retirement; and

(b) the time by which the employees will be entitled for gratuity and pension, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Central Government employees governed by CCS (Pension) Rules 1972 can apply for Voluntary Retirement after completion of 20 years of service.

(b) In accordance with Rule 49 of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, a retiring Government servant becomes entitled to pension after completing qualifying service of not less than 10 years. A Government servant retiring before completing a qualifying service of 10 years is entitled to 'service gratuity'. In accordance with Rule 50 of the CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972, on his retirement, a Government servant who has completed 5 years' qualifying service and has become eligible for 'service gratuity' or 'pension' under Rule 49, is also granted retirement gratuity.

[Translation]

Book Fairs and Seminars

416. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to

formulate any scheme to organize Book Fairs and Book Seminars for the purpose of enhancing peoples' interests towards books and education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rules framed for selection of locations for organizing the Book Fairs and Book Seminars;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any proposal regarding holding the Book Fair and Book Seminar in various States including Uttar Pradesh;

(e) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise; and

(f) the time by which the above said Fair and Seminar is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Government of India (GOI) is already operating a scheme for granting "Financial assistance to Voluntary / Private Organisations for organizing Seminars / Training courses / Workshop / Annual Conventions etc. connected with Book Promotional Activities" being implemented through National Book Trust (NBT), India, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).

Under the Scheme, grants up to 75% of the total budget expenditure borne by the voluntary organizations / Professional Bodies is given to hold book fairs, seminars and other connected activities to enhance book reading habits all over India. Besides this, NBT also organizes book fairs / seminars across the country, throughout the year, to promote reading habits among the general masses.

NBT regularly receives proposals to hold book fairs from various states, either through the State Government or by the Voluntary / literary organizations / publishers' associations which are duly considered by a Grant - in-Aid Committee (GIAC), keeping in view the necessity of exhibition in specific areas of interests / purpose of the applicants.

(d) to (f) During the current financial year 2011-12, NBT has considered and approved grants to 125 voluntary / private organizations / publishers' associations from various states, including Uttar Pradesh. A list of State / UT - wise grantees is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of NSO's to whom grant approved during the financial year 2011-12	Amount (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	2,25,000.00
2.	Assam	4	3,50,000.00
3.	Bihar	4	2,25,000.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	1	2,00,000.00
5.	Delhi	20	61,15,000.00
6.	Gujarat	7	4,25,000.00
7.	Haryana	7	4,50,000.00
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	75,000.00
9.	Jharkhand	1	50,000.00
10.	Kerala	3	11,00,000.00
11.	Karnataka	1	1,00,000.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8	5,25,000.00
13.	Maharashtra	4	2,00,000.00
14.	Manipur	7	3,50,000.00
15.	Nagaland	2	1,00,000.00
16.	Odisha	6	5,70,000.00
17.	Punjab	1	2,00,000.00
18.	Rajasthan	7	5,00,000.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	24	21,80,000.00
20.	Uttarakhand	10	6,75,000.00
21.	West Bengal	3	6,25,000.00
22.	Goa	1	2,00,000.00
Total		125	1,54,40,000.00

Grant for Literacy

417. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for

providing grant to 13 girl education complexes in the districts having low literacy percentage in Madhya Pradesh in 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be sanctioned and released for the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As reported by the State Project Director, Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission (RGSM), Bhopal, the Society implementing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Madhya Pradesh, its Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) for the year 2011-12 included requirement of funds towards expansion of existing girls hostels (for increase of seats) in the districts of Sheopur, Bhind, Datia, Indore, Hosangabad, Harda, Damoh, Seoni, Reewa, Umaria, Sidhi, Satna and Morena under National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL). The proposal was considered and approved by the Project Approval Board and the recurring grant was released.

[English]

Celebrations of Indian Festivals

418. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the celebrations of Indian festivals in foreign countries during the last few years;

(b) if so, the names of festivals and places where celebrations are organized collectively;

(c) whether Government provides them any help;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether foreign government also provides assistance, if so, the names of the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes. While there has always been as interest shown by the local Indian communities in celebrating Indian festivals abroad, this interest has grown over the last few years.

(b) The overseas Indian communities collectively celebrate many festivals including Diwali, Eid, Holi, Dussehra, Guru Nanak Birthday, Durga Puja, Onam, Janamasthmi, Thaipusam, Buddha Purnima, Pongal, Baisakhi, Maha Shivaratri, Ganesh Chaturthi etc., in conjunction with the local Indian Missions.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations provide assistance through our Missions and Cultural Centres. The assistance provided varies from sponsoring

cultural groups to perform in the festivities, providing grants to local organizations which organize such celebrations, and sending festive materials such as gulas, diyas, crackers, musical instruments etc.

(e) Yes. In some countries such as Netherlands, Greece, Zambia, Australia, Ukraine, Tanzania, Singapore, Mauritius, Reunion Islands, Czechoslovakia and UK, the local governments also provide assistance in organizing these festivals.

[Translation]

EAM's Visit to China

419. SHRI P.C. MOHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of his recent visit to China;

(b) the objective of the visit alongwith the details of dialogue held and agreements signed during the said visit;

(c) whether the Government has raised the matter regarding increasing activities of China in PoK and Presence of Chinese soldiers there during different rounds of dialogue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of China thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) External Affairs Minister visited China on 7-8 February 2012 to inaugurate the new Indian Embassy Complex in Beijing. During his visit he met with Mr. Zhou Yongkang, Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, Mr. Dai Bingguo, State Councillor, Mr. Yang Jeichi, Foreign Minister and Mr. Wang Jiarui, Minister, International Department of the Communist Party of China. The two sides agreed to designate 2012 as the 'Year of India-China Friendship and Cooperation'. The two sides discussed all issues of bilateral, regional and global significance.

(c) and (d) India has raised this issue with the Chinese side on many occasions including at the highest level. Government has clearly conveyed India's consistent position that Pakistan has been in illegal occupation of parts of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir since 1947. Government has conveyed its concerns to China about their activities in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, and asked them to cease such activities. Government keeps a

constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Wives Deserted by NRIs

420. SHRI BADRI RAM JAKHAR: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the Government from various States of the country including Rajasthan in respect of the citizens of Indian origin who after their marriage in the country settle down abroad leaving their wives and children and do not pay attention towards them;

(b) whether the Government intends to bring any bill in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The number of complaints received by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs State-wise, including Rajasthan are given in the enclosed Statement-I. State wise complaints registered with National Commission for Women, the coordinating agency at the national level to receive and process such complaints from Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian husbands are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) and (c) No, Madam.

Statement-I

State-wise details of complaints received in the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs from Indian women about harassment/desertion by their overseas Indian spouses

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of complaints
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36
2.	Assam	4
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	1
5.	Delhi	68
6.	Gujarat	21

1	2	3
7.	Haryana	23
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Jammu and Kashmir (J and K)	8
10.	Karnataka	5
11.	Kerala	19
12.	Maharashtra	19
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6
14.	Odisha	2
15.	Punjab	94
16.	Puducherry (U.T.)	1
17.	Rajasthan	6
18.	Tamil Nadu	25
19.	Uttar Pradesh	20
20.	Uttaranchal	02
21.	West Bengal	16
Total		381

Statement-II

State-wise Complaints registered with National Commission for Women since the inception of the NRI Cell on 24th September, 2009.

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of Complaints
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	121
2.	Uttar Pradesh	62
3.	Haryana	45
4.	Punjab	43
5.	Maharashtra	34
6.	Gujarat	29
7.	Andhra Pradesh	43

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	19
9.	West Bengal	22
10.	Tamil Nadu	24
11.	Rajasthan	23
12.	Madhya Pradesh	16
13.	Uttarakhand	10
14.	Bihar	07
15.	Himachal Pradesh	04
16.	Assam	03
17.	Jharkhand	04
18.	Chhattisgarh	01
19.	Odisha	07
20.	Kerala	07
21.	Goa	02
22.	Tripura	02
23.	Jammu and Kashmir	04
Total		532

[English]

Second Appeal under RTI Act

421. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made a change in the provision of filing second appeal under the Right to Information Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some Information Commissioners have themselves devised the rule for submission of two sets of the copy of appeal in order to file second appeal and have made the sending of the copy of this appeal to the information officer mandatory before submission of the second appeal before the Information Commission at Delhi; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to stop such practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The procedure for filing and deciding of second appeals by Central Information Commission is prescribed in the Central Information Commission (Appeal procedure) Rules, 2005. No change has been made in these provisions.

(c) and (d) As per the prescribed rules and practice adopted by Central Information Commission, it is not mandatory that a copy of the appeal is to be served on the Information Officer before the appeal is submitted to the Information Commission. However, the Central Information Commission, while issuing notice of hearing to the parties, directs the appellant to serve copies of his appeal on the Information Officer and the first Appellate Authority which is in accordance with rule 6 of the aforesaid Rules.

[Translation]

Utilization of Fund under CSR

422. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the funds are earmarked for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries;

(b) the work-wise and location-wise details of funds earmarked and utilized during the last three years and the current year by CIL and its subsidiaries, subsidiary-wise and year-wise;

(c) the details of nodal agencies through which the funds are utilized;

(d) whether some of the officers have arbitrarily utilized the funds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons there for alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) As per the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policy of Coal India Limited, 5% of the retained earnings of previous year subject to minimum of 5 rupees per tonne of coal production of previous year are earmarked for CSR activities.

(b) CSR Policy is being implemented from the year 2010-11 onwards. Prior to that the Community and

Peripheral Development Policy was operational in Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries. The Subsidiary-wise and year-wise details of fund earmarked and utilized for Community and Peripheral Development (for 2009-10)

and CSR (from 2010-11 onwards) along-with works undertaken during the last three years and the current year by CIL and its subsidiaries is given below:

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Company	Funds Earmarked			Funds Utilised		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)
Eastern Coalfields Limited	225.00	500.00	1650.00	249.00	474.80	1301.81
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	275.00	1375.00	1450.00	170.00	315.00	447.46
Central Coalfields Limited	800.00	2569.00	5388.00	786.00	2303.42	1100.00
Western Coalfields Limited	447.00	2300.00	5582.00	288.00	2183.00	51.39
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	1001.00	5400.00	14644.00	743.00	1570.57	1170.27
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	960.00	5204.00	8200.00	1492.00	5345.46	1447.00
Northern Coalfields Limited	623.00	3600.00	9342.00	235.00	425.35	443.46
Coal India Limited	50.00	5260.00	9000.00	51.00	871.00	252.48

(c) CSR activities are being undertaken through implementing agencies as per CSR Policy of CIL. The agencies include:

- (i) Community based organization whether formal or informal.
- (ii) Elected local bodies such as Panchayats.
- (iii) Voluntary Agencies (NGOs)
- (iv) Institutes/Academic Organisations.
- (v) Trusts, Mission etc.
- (vi) Self-help groups.
- (vii) Government, Semi Government and autonomous Organisations.
- (viii) Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE).
- (ix) Mahila Mandals/Samitis and the like.
- (x) Contracted agencies for civil works.
- (xi) Professional Consultancy Organization etc.

(d) As per CSR Policy of CIL, there is a Corporate Social Responsibility Committee (CSRC) at Company level to recommend the allocation/utilization of funds under CSR.

The funds are allocated/utilized as per the recommendations of the Committee. Hence, the question of arbitrarily utilization of fund does not arise.

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

Procedure for Complaints/Inquiry

423. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the orders/laid down procedure/norms of the Governmental/Central Vigilance Commission for taking action/inquiring into the anonymous complaints;

(b) whether the Government Ministries/ Departments can refuse to appoint a candidate recommended and selected by UPSC and cleared by appointing authority on the basis of any anonymous complaints; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Government vide OM dated 29th September, 1992, had issued

instructions dealing with anonymous and pseudonymous complaints. The said OM inter-alia lays down that generally no action is warranted on anonymous/pseudonymous complaints against Government servants and they are to be filed and that selective cognizance of anonymous/pseudonymous complaints, containing verifiable allegations can be taken with specific orders from the head of the Department/Chief Executive.

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has, vide its circular No. 3(v)/99/2 dated 29th June, 1999, ordered that no action should at all be taken on any anonymous or pseudonymous complaints and they must just be filed. In its subsequent circular No. 98/DSP/9 dated 11th October, 2002, while reiterating the earlier instructions, the CVC has further directed that if any department/organization proposed to look into any verifiable facts alleged in such complaints, it may refer the matter to the Commission seeking its concurrence through the Chief Vigilance Officer or head of the organization, irrespective of the level of employees involved therein.

(b) and (c) The UPSC recommends candidates through a merit based selection and it is for the appointing authorities in the Government to take a decision as per recruitment rule. Due diligence is undertaken for verification of antecedents etc. before appointment of any candidate to any public post. Anonymous complaints containing verifiable facts can always be enquired into as per instructions referred to above, to confirm honesty and integrity of the candidate prior to his appointment to a post.

[English]

Closing of Post Offices

424. SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Post and Telegraph Offices in the

country including Karnataka are closed;

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

(c) whether people from all walks of life are facing great hardships as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to reopen the closed Post Offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the closed Post & Telegraph Offices reopened/likely to be reopened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Circle-wise details of Post offices closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Circle-wise details of Telegraph Offices closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 are given in the enclosed Statement-II. Post Offices are generally closed as a result of litigation and poor conditions of buildings etc. The Telegraph Offices are closed because the other efficient modes of communication like Mobile Telephones, Internet, etc. has impacted the Telegraph Services and the Telegraph traffic has reduced drastically.

(c) No, Madam. People are accessing postal services through nearby Post Offices. Telegraph Services are available in the country through state of art WTMS (Web based Telegraph Messaging System). Telegrams can also be booked on phone by dialing 1585 (Phonogram Services) from any BSNL telephone, local or STD/PCOs. Telegrams facility is also available in Customer Service Centres of BSNL in all Circles.

(d) and (e) Closed Post Offices are re-opened on availability of suitable accommodation and fulfillment of stipulated norms. As regard Telegraph Offices, there is no proposal for re-opening due to loss of revenue.

Statement-I

Number of Post Offices Closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11

Sl. No.	Circles	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	4	0
2.	Assam	0	2	0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	0	2	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	2	0
5.	Delhi	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	1	0	0
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
10.	Jharkhand	0	0	0
11.	Karnataka	0	0	0
12.	Kerala	0	0	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
14.	Maharashtra	1	1	0
15.	North East	0	0	0
16.	Odisha	0	0	
17.	Punjab	0	0	0
18.	Rajasthan	1	0	0
19.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
20.	Uttar Pradesh	0	2	0
21.	Uttar akhand	0	0	0
22.	West Bengal	0	0	0
Total		4	14	2

Statement-II*Telegraph Offices Closed during 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11*

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20	00	00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	182	09	00
3.	Assam	270	00	03
4.	Bihar	159	10	00
5.	Chennai Telephone	00	03	01
6.	Chhattisgarh	81	00	00

1	2	3	4	5
7. Gujarat		09	08	00
8. Haryana		04	04	00
9. Himachal Pradesh		361	01	00
10. Jammu and Kashmir		35	01	00
11. Jharkhand		11	00	00
12. Karnataka		1419	83	00
13. Kerala		834	14	35
14. Madhya Pradesh		19	02	00
15. Maharashtra		45	149	03
16. North East-I		10	54	05
17. North East-II		59	05	00
18. Odisha		470	01	03
19. Punjab		15	02	08
20. Rajasthan		99	04	01
21. Tamilnadu		596	171	00
22. U.P. (East)		96	25	00
23. U.P. (West)		10	72	01
24. Uttaranchal		142	00	01
25. West Bengal		1982	26	00
26. NTR - Delhi		03	15	09
Total		6931	659	70

[Translation]

Internet Broadband Facilities

425. SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:
SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Broadband connections provided in the country so far separately in urban and rural areas, State-wise;

(b) whether the country's internet users expected to double to 300 million by 2014;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to increase broadband internet penetration in future particularly in rural areas in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The number of Broadband connections provided by the end of December 2011 are 13.35 million. The State wise break-up of Broadband connections is given in the enclosed Statement-I. Broadband Connections provided by BSNL in urban and rural area, Circle wise as on 31-01-2012 are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(b) and (c) As per the objectives contained in draft National Telecom Policy 2012, it is proposed to Provide affordable and reliable broadband on demand by the year 2015 and to achieve 175 million broadband connections by the year 2017 and 600 million by the year 2020 at minimum 2 Mbps download speed and making available higher speeds of at least 100 Mbps on demand.

(d) Following schemes being implemented under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), will further increase the broadband internet penetration in rural areas:

1. **Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme**

BSNL will provide 8, 88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions over a period of 5-years in this scheme. As on February 2012, a total of 3,54,595 broadband connections have been provided.

2. a) **"Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in ASSAM"**

This OFC Scheme would connect 354 locations in 27 Districts of Assam within 18 months from 12/2/2010. As of February 2012, about 177 nodes have been installed.

b) "Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation

and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-I Circle (comprising states of Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura),"

The States of Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. This OFC Scheme would connect 188 locations in 19 Districts within 24 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

c) **"Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-II Circle (comprising states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland),"**

The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. This OFC Scheme would connect 407 locations in 30 Districts within 30 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

3. **National Optical Fibre Network**

The scheme of National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) is being implemented, for providing Broadband connectivity to Panchayats. The objective is to extend the existing optical fiber network to Panchayats by utilizing the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF).

Statement-I

State-wise Broadband and Internet Subscribers (December, 2011)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Narrow Band (<256 kb)	Broadband (>256 kb)	Total Internet connections
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Maharashtra (Including Goa)	1858387	2355047	4213434
2.	Tamil Nadu (Including Pondicherry)	862725	1662865	2525590
3.	Delhi	1050601	1015588	2066189
4.	Karnataka	548656	1344354	1893010
5.	Andhra Pradesh	507497	1342750	1850247
6.	Kerala	680474	931560	1612034
7.	West Bengal (Including Sikkim)	646483	579975	12264584
8.	Gujarat (Including Dadar and Nagar Haveli)	369414	834250	1203664
9.	Punjab (Including Chandigarh)	388551	657822	1046373

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Uttar Pradesh	385364	612550	997914
11.	Madhya Pradesh	488558	414100	902658
12.	Rajasthan	439993	417687	857680
13.	Haryana	139912	298823	438735
14.	Odisha	124006	215554	339560
15.	Bihar	153181	97603	250784
16.	Nagaland			
	Meghalaya			
	Tripura			
	Arunachal Pradesh [North East]	89563	53399	142962
	Mizoram			
	Manipur			
17.	Assam	61002	90245	151247
18.	Uttranchal	56800	88959	145759
19.	Himachal Pradesh	59428	81480	140908
20.	Jharkhand	43460	93307	136767
21.	Chhattisgarh	35209	95499	130708
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	45530	61622	107152
23.	Andaman and Nicobar	4427	5899	10326
	Total	9039221	13350938	22390159

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Circle	Gross Urban wireline BB Connections as on 31-01-2012	Gross Rural wireline BB Connections as on 31-01-2012	Total Gross wireline BB Connections as on 31-01-2012
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4,632	1309	5,941
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7,92,028	105753	8,97,781
3.	Assam	75,818	7283	83,101
4.	Bihar	88,058	5423	93,481
5.	Chhattisgarh	81,310	5302	86,612
6.	Chennai	5,51,230	32101	5,83,331

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gujarat	5,17,876	52859	5,70,735
8.	Haryana	2,38,936	25582	2,64,518
9.	Himachal Pradesh	63,743	13171	76,914
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	56,294	5420	61,714
11.	Jharkhand	85,172	3502	88,674
12.	Karnataka	9,30,500	54982	9,85,482
13.	Kerala	5,16,874	290434	8,07,308
14.	Kolkatta	3,43,213	354	3,43,567
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2,65,800	10410	2,76,210
16.	Maharashtra	7,66,087	70896	8,36,983
17.	NE-I	31,474	1528	33,002
18.	NE-II	15,874	1582	17,456
19.	Orissa	1,50,328	18734	1,69,062
20.	Punjab	4,11,697	77141	4,88,838
21.	Rajasthan	3,66,411	27804	3,94,215
22.	Tamilnadu	6,66,609	90392	7,57,001
23.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	2,93,417	22196	3,15,613
24.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	2,02,368	8175	2,10,543
25.	Uttaranchal	78,458	4613	83,071
26.	W.B.	1,21,748	19652	1,41,400
Total		77,15,955	956598	86,72,553

Post Offices in Rented Buildings

426. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PATLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Posts and Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas, State-wise;

(b) the details of rent paid by the Government for these offices during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for construction of buildings for post offices in

the country, State-wise including Chhattisgarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) The number of Post Offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas, State wise is enclosed as Statement-I. The information regarding number of Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings is being collected by Department of Telecommunications and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

(b) The details of rent paid by the Government for Post offices operating from private rented buildings during

the last three years and the current year, State-wise is enclosed Statement-II. The information regarding rent paid by the Government for Telegraph offices in the country operating from private rented buildings is being collected by Department of Telecommunications and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

(c) The construction of Departmental Post office buildings all over India including Chhattisgarh is pursued meticulously, within the allotted funds. In the matter of construction, preference is given to the Post offices (i) having manpower of 15 and above; (ii) located in high rented buildings; and (iii) where special circumstances exist.

Statement-I

Number of Post Offices in the country operating from private rented buildings separately in rural and urban areas

Name of Circle	Number of Post Offices operating from private rented buildings in		Total
	Urban areas	Rural areas	
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	818	1205	2023
Assam	200	385	585
Bihar	454	325	779
Chhattisgarh	178	100	278
Delhi	210	0	210
Gujarat	527	530	1057
Haryana	212	142	354
Himachal Pradesh	58	310	368
Jharkhand	116	215	331
Jammu and Kashmir	96	108	204
Karnataka	946	374	1320
Kerala	345	871	1216
Madhya Pradesh	496	269	765
Maharashtra including Goa State	816	987	1803
North East Circle including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States	79	113	192
Orissa	350	597	947
Punjab	267	255	522
Rajasthan	351	576	927
Tamil Nadu including Puducherry State	958	1315	2273

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	1146	911	2057
Uttrakhand	136	160	296
West Bengal including Sikkim State & Andaman Nicobar Islands	788	646	1434
Total	9547	10394	19941

Statement-II

Details of rent paid by the Government for rented post office buildings during the last three years and the current year, State-wise

Name of Circle	Rent paid during the year			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Upto January, 2012)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	48154	48115	53604	44574
Assam	17298	17669	17856	14026
Bihar	8097	21111	16031	9345
Chhattisgarh	6174	4791	7776	7708
Delhi	21020	17995	55052	20562
Gujarat	16616	19044	24055	20811
Haryana	9291	9323	10404	8977
Himachal Pradesh	5747	5550	5999	5242
Jammu and Kashmir	4992	6114	7364	6597
Jharkhand	8089	7816	5801	4853
Karnataka	41223	39042	59960	37448
Kerala	35302	38710	43430	33621
Madhya Pradesh	12828	14013	15381	14458
Maharashtra including Goa State	59807	69564	73954	59568
North East Circle including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States	9335	6819	7810	7035
Odisha	16707	14744	15622	16684
Punjab	12286	12696	13006	9829

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	24938	27868	32119	18546
Tamil Nadu including Puducherry State	61660	180463	122873	59376
Uttar Pradesh	51729	55914	56389	82949
Uttrakhand	8096	8821	10200	10408
West Bengal including Sikkim State	66692	67776	91880	67905
Total	546081	693958	746566	560522

Contribution of Education in GDP

427. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of higher education in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India and other countries, separately;

(b) the comparative figure of expenditure on higher education in India and other countries, during the last three years and the current year, year-wise, country-wise;

(c) the percentage of GDP spent on higher education during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The percentage of GDP spent on higher education during 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 are 1.09%, 1.23% (provisional) and 1.25% (provisional) respectively. The expenditure on higher education in India was Rs.50088.92 crore, Rs.64881.41 crore (RE) and Rs.76288.11 crore (BE) during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively. However, expenditure on higher education for other countries is not maintained.

(d) During XI Plan, a substantial increase was made in Central Plan Allocation to augment the funds for higher education sector. This substantial increase in Central Plan Outlay for higher Education represents a very substantial effort on the part of the Central Government towards raising public spending on higher education.

[English]

India-EU Summit

428. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI R. DHROVANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the senior European Union officials visited our country to deepen bilateral trade and security ties and to work on the India-EU Summit to hold in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details worked out so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Yes. The 12th India-EU Summit was held in New Delhi on February 10, 2012. President of the European Council, H.E. Mr. Herman van Rompuy and President of the European Commission, H.E. Mr. Jose Manuel Barroso visited India for the Summit. During their stay in Delhi, both leaders held discussions with Prime Minister on bilateral relations and regional and global issues. A Joint Statement was issued at the Summit reaffirming commitment on both sides to strengthen bilateral relations across the board including in the trade and security fields. Three other documents were issued at the Summit: Joint Declaration on Enhanced Cooperation on Energy, Joint Declaration on Research & Innovation Cooperation and an MoU on Statistical Cooperation.

Reopening of Closed Coal Projects

429. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to reopen the closed coal projects/mines;

(b) if so, the projects which have been cleared and the States where these are located; and

(c) the reasons for not clearing the other projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PATIL): (a) to (c) There is no such proposal from Government of India to reopen closed coal mines. However, the Coal India Limited (CIL) has proposed to develop a few identified abandoned coal mines under its jurisdiction.

Initially, it was proposed to revive 18 identified abandoned/closed/derelict or disused underground coal mines of different subsidiaries of CIL [(Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)-6, Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)-8 & Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)-4; (West Bengal-6, Jharkhand-12)] through joint venture route with participation of internationally reputed private parties having strong financial resources and technological expertise to deal with the safety issues and appropriate technologies.

However, during the process of tendering, BCCL had taken up action for departmental exploitation of the upper horizons for three abandoned mines out of the eight mines identified in BCCL and proposed to exploit the lower horizons of the said abandoned mines through Joint Venture route. For remaining 15 mines the concerned subsidiaries coal companies of CIL have floated/likely to float open tenders. CIL Board is empowered to clear these projects and there is no need for Government approval.

Research in Social Sciences Sector

430. SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of current scholarships and academic awards given by the Government for excellence in the social sciences sector;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to boost research in the social sciences sector;

(c) if so, whether the Government has identified research methodologies in new and frontier areas in the field of social sciences; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR),

Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) have given a total number of 5584 current scholarships and academic awards for excellence in the Social Sciences sector.

(b) to (d) In order to promote research in Social Sciences during the 12th Five Year Plan period, the above institutions have formulated different types of schemes and programmes like research methodology courses, fellowships, research projects, seminars, workshops, conferences, publications and documentation.

[Translation]

Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan

431. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the mismanagement of 10th Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan held in Jaipur in the beginning of 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to take steps to check the recurrence of such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the 10th Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan held in Jaipur achieved its objectives;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) The Ministry has received copy of a letter addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament on certain deficiencies observed by him during Pravasi Bharatiya Divas-2012. This included Inadequate seating capacity at the main venue, deployment of non-English speaking drivers at the airport to receive the delegates, overcrowding at the Cultural Evening/dinner organized by the Govt. of Rajasthan on 8th January, 2012 etc.

(c) and (d) Yes. The suggestions made by the Hon'ble MP have been noted.

(e) and (f) The 10th Pravasi Bharatiya Sammelan held in Jaipur was successful in its objectives of connecting India to the vast Indian Diaspora and bringing their knowledge and expertise on a common platform. A record number of persons of Indian origin participated in the

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas-2012. The event was acclaimed as a grand success both for its organizational aspects and substantive aspects, as also for the choice of speakers and topicality of the themes chosen for deliberations at its various sessions.

(g) Not Applicable.

[English]

BBC Mocking Indian Culture

432. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) presenter had, allegedly, mocked Indian culture recently;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken up this issue with British authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the responses from these authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) telecast a documentary 'Top Gear' on December 28, 2011 which was filmed in India. The documentary received several complaints.

(c) and (d) The High Commission of India in London strongly took up this matter with the BBC. The producers of the programme in their reply to the High Commission of India, London clarified that the documentary also conveyed the warmth, charm, beauty and the wealth of India and that they never set out to offend.

[Translation]

Funds to NGOs

433. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

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

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided by the Government to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the country including Bihar in the field of education during each of the last three years and the

current year, NGO-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the schemes under which assistance has been provided;

(c) the details of the NGOs found involved in various irregularities alongwith the nature of irregularities committed, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has taken action against such NGOs for the irregularities committed by them;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The details of the financial assistance provided by the Government to various Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for implementing its various schemes, NGO-wise and State-wise have been reflected in the Annual Reports of the Ministry which are uploaded on the Ministry's web-site @ mhrd.gov.in.

(b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development sanctions grants in aid to NGOs under several schemes. These interalia include:

1. Innovative & Experimental (I&E) Programmes for Education at Elementary level.
2. Scheme for construction and running of Girls' hostel for students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools.
3. Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS).
4. Scheme of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) at Schools.
5. Scheme of Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education Skill Development through State Resource Centres (SRCs) and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs).
6. Assistance to Agencies for Strengthening of Education in Human Values.
7. Financial Assistance under Intellectual Property Education, Research and Public Outreach (IPERPO)
8. Strengthening of voluntary organisations engaged in UNESCO's programmes and activities.

9. National Mission on Education through Information & Communication Technology (ICT)

(c) to (e) Under the Scheme of financial assistance for development of Sanskrit education, 55 NGOs have not submitted their accounts and related papers for the last three years. Under the scheme of support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education & Skill Development, ten (10) such cases have been reported under the scheme.

Whenever instances of omission or commission come to the notice of the Government in respect of Adult Education, appropriate action under the relevant scheme, including stoppage of further financial assistance/grants or even cancellation of allotment of Jan Shikshan Sansthan to the defaulting NGO is undertaken.

The State-wise distribution of these NGOs scheme-wise is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of NGOs under the scheme of financial assistance for development of Sanskrit education	No. of NGOs under the scheme of support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education & Skill Development
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	03	01
2.	Bihar	-	01
3.	Haryana	04	-
4.	Himachal Pradesh	01	-
5.	Karnataka	01	01
6.	Kerala	03	01
7.	Madhya Pradesh	03	01
8.	Maharashtra	01	01
9.	Mizoram	-	01
10.	Punjab	02	-
11.	Rajasthan	02	01
12.	Tamil Nadu	07	01
13.	Uttar Pradesh	-	01
14.	West Bengal	28	-
Total		55	10

(f) The grant of funds have been stopped in cases where complaints have been received. The Government is committed to provide financial assistance to only the competent and eligible NGOs. With a view to ensure elimination of all such NGOs which have been found involved in any sort of malpractices, the Government has devised appropriate checks and balances in respective schemes under which the grants are given to the NGOs to ensure that such defaulting NGOs do not get financial assistance/ grants.

[English]

Approach Paper of Twelfth Five Year Plan

434. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the approach paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan has been finalized; and

(b) if so, the thrust areas defined for the plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The Approach to the Twelfth Five Year Plan prepared by the Planning Commission has been approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in its meeting held on October 22, 2011.

(b) The Approach Paper emphasizes the need to intensify efforts to achieve 4 percent average growth in agriculture sector during the Twelfth Plan period. The Approach Paper lays emphasis on health, education & skill development, environment & natural resources, infrastructure development, urban development and renewal energy generation.

Exchange of Nuclear Facilities

435. SHRI R. DHROVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan has exchanged their nuclear facilities list; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) India and Pakistan exchanged on 1 January 2012, through diplomatic channels simultaneously at New Delhi and Islamabad, the list of nuclear installations and facilities covered under the 'Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations between India and Pakistan'.

The Agreement, which was signed on 31 December 1988 and entered into force on 27 January 1991, provides, Inter alia, that the two countries inform each other of nuclear installations and facilities to be covered under the Agreement on the first of January of every calendar year. This was the twenty first of the consecutive exchanges of such lists between the two countries, the first one having taken place on 1 January 1992.

Employees Recruitment

436. SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees recruited on permanent basis and the number of those recruited temporarily on contractual basis during the last three years;

(b) whether reservation policy is followed in contractual employment;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether contractual employment is made directly by inviting applications from the candidates or by hiring through a company or they are engaged on contract by hiring through a company;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether persons who have not got an opportunity of permanent employment till 35 years of their age due to the contractual employment, have been identified;

(g) if so, whether the contractual mode of employment does not infringe upon the fundamental rights of such persons; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Information is not centrally maintained.

(b) and (c) Reservation to SCs and STs in services is provided when the appointments are made by direct recruitment or promotion. If appointments made to any grade have all the ingredients of direct recruitment, policy of reservation would apply even if the appointment is termed as on contract basis.

(d) and (e) The contract appointments can be made after following due process of recruitment against sanctioned/regular posts only if Recruitment Rules of the post provide for such appointment. Further, the Ministries or Departments may hire external professional, consultancy firms or consultants (referred to as consultant hereinafter) for a specific job, which is well defined in terms of content and time frame for its completion or outsource certain services as per the General Financial Rules, 2005.

(f) The information is not centrally maintained. It is, however, stated that the method of recruitment of a post in the Central Government is decided based on several considerations including nature of duties, qualifications and experience required, availability of suitable personnel within a cadre, need for direct intake of personnel with a view to injecting fresh knowledge and experience etc. The upper age limits for recruitment to different posts depend upon the criteria based on Grade Pay of a post. As such, there is no question of denying opportunity to persons of a particular age group for recruitment in Government.

(g) and (h) In view of reply to Part (f) above, the question does not arise.

Mechanism for Air Fare Pricing

437. DR. P. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India has been charging very low fares to show improved aircraft occupancy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether many airlines in private sector have objected to this mechanism adopted by Air India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Fares offered by Air India are market driven and are based on market consideration such as fares offered by the competitors, seasonality, extent of competition and product features like frequency, timings, direct/indirect operations etc. The fares are thus reviewed / revised / rationalised depending on the market conditions. Air India offers multiple levels of fares, starting from a low level advance purchase fares which facilitate early selling to the highest one. The availability of a particular fare on the sector may vary from flight to flight and from sector to sector depending on occupancy and demand. Fares offered by Air India are transparent and are filed with the regulatory authority, DGCA.

- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Chinese Naval Base

438. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has decided to build a naval base at Seychelles Island in Indian ocean;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken any precautionary steps in view of the seriousness of presence of China In Indian ocean;
- (c) whether any efforts are being made by India to increase its naval capacity in view of and building of aircraft carrier and naval fleet in Seychelles by China; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to

(d) Government is aware that the Chinese Ministry of National Defence has stated that ships from the Chinese PLA Navy on anti-piracy duties in the Indian Ocean would make calls at ports in Seychelles for resupply of essential commodities. China participates in international anti-piracy patrols off the coast of Somalia under the Shared Awareness and Deconfliction (Shade) programme along with India, US, EU and other countries of the region. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

[*English*]

China Demolishing Wall in Arunachal Pradesh

439. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China had demolished Indian wall in the border area of Arunachal Pradesh recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had taken up this issue with the Chinese Government; and
- (d) if so, the response received by the Government in this regard from China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) As there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China, there are a few areas along the border where India and China have different perceptions of the LAC. Both sides patrol upto their respective perceptions of the LAC. On 13 July 2011, a People's Liberation Army (PLA) patrol attempted to cross a 200 feet wall of loose stones constructed 250 metres on our side of the LAC in Yangtse area of Tawang which was prevented by our troops. The stone wall was partially damaged and has been reconstructed. As per the established mechanism with China, a strong protest was lodged with the Chinese side on the action of the PLA patrol in a Flag meeting.

Recognition of Languages

440. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many of the languages listed in 1961 census have been eliminated in subsequent census;

(b) if so, the number of languages listed in 1961, 1971 and thereafter; and

(c) the norms laid down for recognition of regional languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India, under the Ministry of Home Affairs conducts decennial Population Census in which data on mother tongues is also collected. As per the information provided by that office the data collected at Census is respondent based. In Census 1961, name of all mother tongue returns were published irrespective of the number of speakers. Accordingly, there were 1652 mother tongues. However, since Census 1971 onwards, in accordance with the decisions of the Government of India, names of only such mother tongues which are returned by 10,000 or more speakers at all India level have been published. The number of mother tongues with 10,000 or more speakers at the all India level returned in different Censuses is as under:

Census*	Number of Mother Tongues with 10,000 or more Speakers at All India Level
1961	208
1971	132
1981	112
1991	216
2001	234

*The provisional results of Census 2011 have only been released so far, which do not include data on mother tongues/languages

Murder of Indian Fishermen

441. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of murder of two fishermen by Italian Marines;

(b) if so, give details thereof and the action taken by the Government to ensure the justice to the deceased fishermen;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to help the deceased's families; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) Yes. Two Italian navy personnel on board an Italian Merchant Vessel "Enrica Lexie" allegedly opened fire on an Indian fishing vessel on February 15, 2012 resulting in the death of two Indian fishermen on board an Indian fishing vessel off the coast of Kerala. The Italian merchant vessel is currently in Kochi. The two Italian navy personnel suspected of shooting at the Indian fishermen have been detained by Kerala police authorities and presented in the court. All matters relating to this incident are currently sub-judice and being heard by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and also the Hon'ble Chief Judicial Magistrate of Kollam.

[Translation]

Arrest on Indo-Pak Border

442. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan have illegally arrested many innocent Indians on Indo-Pak border and confined them into jail;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to get such innocent persons released from the jails of Pakistan and bring them back to India;

(c) whether the Government is aware that Shri Bhanudas Vitthal Karale, a mentally challenged Indian, was confined into jail by the Government of Pakistan, while he was roaming on Indo-Pak border and his relatives have made utmost efforts to request the Union Government to take action to get him released; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) According to information available, there are 255 civilian prisoners and 428 fishermen believed to be Indian, who are in various Pakistani jails. These prisoners have been detained on various charges, which are naturally contested by these persons.

(b) Government of India has been consistently taking up the issue concerning all Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails with the Government of Pakistan at all appropriate levels. The matter was taken up at the Foreign Secretary level talks in February 2010, June 2010 and June 2011; in the Home/Interior Secretary level talks in March 2011

and Foreign Minister level talks in July 2010 and July 2011. Home Minister also raised the issue during his visit to Islamabad in June 2010. An India-Pakistan Judicial Committee has also been set up consisting of retired judges of superior judiciary from India and Pakistan to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of prisoners, including fishermen, who have completed their prison term. The Committee has held five meetings so far and given several recommendations. High Commission of India, Islamabad, on a continuing basis, monitors the status of Indians prisoners in Pakistani jails and requests for consular access for these prisoners. Once the consular access is granted by the Government of Pakistan, the verification papers are sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Ministry of External Affairs for nationality status verification of these prisoners. High Commission of India, on a continuing basis, takes up the matter with the Government of Pakistan for the release of all those Indian prisoners who have completed their sentences.

(c) and (d) Government is aware about the case of Shri Bhanudas Vithal Karale. High Commission of India, Islamabad has been taking up Shri Karale's case at regular intervals with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan. Consular Access was provided to him on 15.7.2011 at Central Jail, Lahore, Pakistan and his verification papers were forwarded to Ministry of Home Affairs for nationality status verification. Government is committed to secure the early release and repatriation of Shri Bhanudas Vithal Karale.

[English]

Vacant Posts in CIC

443. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Information Commission (CIC) is yet to fill up many of its vacant posts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the lack of adequate number of staff in the CIC has affected the performance of the organization in terms of responding to various RTIs;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government views the increasing number of RTI applications as a practical difficulty for various departments; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) At the time of the constitution of the Central Information Commission do posis were created in 2005. In 2007, the posts were enhanced to 106 and later to 116 in 2008. The Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of the Department of Expenditure in 2010 assessed the requirement of posts as 154 and after detailed consultation with the Department of Expenditure, keeping in view the recommendations of the SIU, 160 posts have been sanctioned in 2011. At present 133 posts of CIC are filled against the sanctioned strength of 160.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. However, it has been decided in consultation with Chief Information Commissioner that Central Information Commission should be granted autonomy in recruitment of staff.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise.

Data in Aadhaar Enrolment

444. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of people who have been registered under the project Aadhaar till date, State-wise including Bihar;
- (b) whether a large number of duplicate and fake identities in Government and private databases have been detected;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/UT-wise; and
- (d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) As on 1st March' 2012, 13,68,82,913 people have been issued Aadhaar under the Aadhaar project, State-wise details including Bihar are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) to (d) Aadhaar project provides for uniquely identifying a resident after de-duplicating the demographic and biometric information. It is not the mandate of the Aadhaar project to identify duplicate and fake identities in the Government and private databases. It is for the

Government and private agencies concerned to leverage this unique identity infrastructure to detect duplicate and fake identities and accordingly, take remedial steps.

Statement

*State-wise Aadhaar Generated Count upto
1st March, 2012*

State Name	Count
1	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	94330
Andhra Pradesh	36931680
Arunachal Pradesh	356
Assam	12795
Bihar	1278404
Chandigarh	505725
Chhattisgarh	170863
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15094
Daman and Diu	98898
Delhi	9347481
Goa	518040
Gujarat	2985404
Haryana	1490560
Himachal Pradesh	2198347
Jammu and Kashmir	33869
Jharkhand	5460000
Karnataka	10504513
Kerala	3301009
Lakshadweep	95
Madhya Pradesh	5128242
Maharashtra	26211648
Manipur	43796
Meghalaya	567
Mizoram	5388

1	2
Nagaland	8537
Odisha	2371423
Pondicherry	706466
Punjab	7628174
Rajasthan	5589719
Sikkim	268394
Tamil Nadu	2303028
Tripura	2722710
Uttar Pradesh	7006731
Uttarakhand	859735
West Bengal	1080892

[Translation]

Funds for SSA/RTE Act

445. PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of funds allocated to various States for implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and UT-wise;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has raised its objection in releasing the said funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Framework of Implementation for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) have been revised to conform to the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The details of Central funds released to States/Union Territories for implementation of the SSA programme during the last three years and current year (as on 29.02.2012) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Statement

*Central funds released to States/Union Territories under SSA-RTE during
the last three years and current years*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Release			Release (as on 29.02.2012)
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	71031.78	38569.90	81000.00	183551.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13683.64	11427.95	20401.77	8880.10
3.	Assam	42740.91	47480.00	76854.35	106921.15
4.	Bihar	186158.47	121739.06	204789.63	165908.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	51853.86	55592.82	87863.00	58940.22
6.	Goa	804.41	550.58	671.27	1079.14
7.	Gujarat	25432.47	20031.73	44065.01	74350.79
8.	Haryana	20546.87	27600.00	32786.11	40461.41
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8552.99	8608.00	13786.66	14192.78
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	20532.59	37363.27	40348.79	30070.50
11.	Jharkhand	69041.09	70940.22	89562.26	57903.46
12.	Karnataka	51578.19	44220.60	66903.00	62788.35
13.	Kerala	10854.04	11989.50	19660.73	17021.85
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85569.35	113249.00	176783.00	190427.12
15.	Maharashtra	67386.02	56432.00	85537.00	117962.58
16.	Manipur	321.21	1500.00	13253.77	2940.55
17.	Meghalaya	9440.36	9383.00	18540.90	14410.60
18.	Mizoram	5112.59	6617.75	10115.31	9314.05
19.	Nagaland	2867.87	4913.00	8636.83	4798.33
20.	Odisha	49080.90	63061.60	73177.85	92719.98
21.	Punjab	13808.10	20044.00	39612.74	48112.44
22.	Rajasthan	108326.80	127124.00	146182.29	139838.43
23.	Sikkim	1075.31	1736.00	4469.19	3022.84
24.	Tamil Nadu	45414.47	48366.00	69068.57	66937.15

1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Tripura		6464.12	7473.00	17121.48	17309.23
26. Uttar Pradesh		212884.89	196011.90	310462.88	245268.64
27. Uttarakhand		11444.45	16006.29	25793.94	20092.49
28. West Bengal		65169.37	104142.00	174703.17	167952.74
29. A and N Islands		780.54	412.44	357.78	907.36
30. Chandigarh		820.52	1100.72	2155.89	1311.21
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		104.63	350.18	413.78	564.35
32. Daman and Diu		0.00	169.00	162.99	230.06
33. Delhi		1529.01	3088.62	3552.71	2135.08
34. Lakshadweep		70.00	143.80	127.39	127.86
35. Puducherry		638.59	669.96	485.38	557.62
Total		1261120.41	1278107.89	1959407.42	1969010.38

[English]

Road Map for Development of Civil Aviation Sector

446. SHRI M.VENUGOPALA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of series of infirmities/problems faced by Civil Aviation Sector, both private and national carrier;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared a road map for the development of civil aviation sector as a whole in the country;

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

(e) the steps taken to make air travel affordable and hassle-free for the passengers; and

(f) the details of other measures taken to improve the efficiency of the aviation sector with a view to meeting the global standards and competition?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The main factors causing stress in Civil Aviation Sector, as identified by the Government are as under:

Cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) which contributes 40-45% of operational cost; high tax regime in aviation sector; inadequate fares thereby not able to cover the gap between revenue realized and cost of operations; higher percentage of operational cost being dollar denominated hence very sensitive to Foreign Exchange rate fluctuations etc. Almost all airlines have reported high operational losses. The crisis in the sector has deepened/accentuated due to the recent devaluation of the Rupee and increasing of Prime Lending Rates by Banks from 12.5% to 14%.

A Working Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation with Finance Secretary, Secretary, Financial Services, Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas; Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and Joint Secretary (Civil Aviation) to discuss the factors causing stress in civil aviation and to suggest solutions to the same.

(c) to (f) To have a sustainable orderly growth of the aviation sector, the ministry has felt the need to spell out a long term Civil Aviation Policy addressing various issues related to the sector. Accordingly on 22.12.2011, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation to formulate a Civil Aviation Policy to address the long term issues of the sector and provide a road map for development. Government has identified focus areas and a consultation paper has been

placed on the website of the Ministry (www.civilaviation.nic.in) inviting comments from all stakeholders by 10.3.2012.

[*Translation*]

Attack on Israeli Diplomat

447. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the situation in regard to India's relations with other countries after the attack on Israeli diplomat's car in New Delhi recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Government has strongly condemned the recent attack on Israeli diplomat's car on February 13, 2012. While the incident is under investigation, Government continuously monitors all developments having a bearing on national security and takes all necessary steps to safeguard it.

Encroachment of Airport Areas

448. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of encroachment in the airport areas have been reported from different 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;

(c) whether difficulties are being faced in the removal of the said illegal encroachments;

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

(e) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Lands belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) are under encroachment at various airports/Aeronautical Communications Stations in the country. Details of such encroachments are given in the enclosed Statement-I to IV.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. AAI some time faces difficulty in removal of encroachments. Mainly these relate to legal cases and getting police protection/support for eviction of encroachments from the AAI lands. AAI is in constant touch with various authorities of State Government for removal of encroachments.

(e) AAI has erected fencing and constructed boundary wall for protecting its land from encroachment. AAI has also initiated eviction proceedings against the encroachers for removal of encroachments.

Statement-I

Encroachment at AAI Airports in India

As on 31.03.2010

Sl. No.	Airport Name	State	Encroachment (in Acres)	Airport/Region
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	276.00	Mumbai*
2.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	150.00	Northern Region
3.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	97.00	Southern Region
4.	Amritsar	Punjab	83.00	Northern Region
5.	Kolkata	West Bengal	75.70	Kolkata
6.	Kota	Rajasthan	49.54	Northern Region

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Juhu	Maharashtra	29.00	Western Region
8.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	21.23	Western Region
9.	Vadodara	Gujarat	17.30	Western Region
10.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	13.00	Western Region
11.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	10.66	Western Region
12.	Ranchi	Jharkhand	9.00	Eastern Region
13.	Rajamundry	Andhra Pradesh	8.00	Southern Region
14.	Gaya	Bihar	5.58	Eastern Region
15.	Silchar	Assam	4.01	North East Region
16.	Trichi	Tamilnadu	3.40	Southern Region
17.	Dibrugarh		2.50	North East Region
18.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	1.92	Southern Region
19.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1.70	Northern Region
20.	Port Blair	UT	1.50	Eastern Region
21.	Safdarjung	Delhi	1.50	Northern Region
22.	Belgaum	Karnataka	1.00	Western Region
23.	Rajkot	Gujarat	1.00	Western Region
24.	Malda	West Bengal	1.00	Eastern Region
25.	Guwahati	Assam	0.55	North East Region
26.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	0.30	North East Region
Total			865.39	

* CSI Airport since then handed over to M/s. Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd. On 03.05.06 on restructuring.

Statement-II

Encroachment at AAI Airport in India

As on 31.03.2009

Sl. No.	Airport Name	State	Total land (in acres)	Encroachment (in Acres)	Airport/Region
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	917.51	10.66	Western Region
2.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	115.46	1.905	Northern Region
3.	Amritsar	Punjab	1008.00	79.00	Northern Region

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Belgaum	Karnataka	360.18	1.00	Western Region
5.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	1021.85	21.23	Western Region
6.	Cooch Behar	West Bengal	173.77	0.30	Eastern Region
7.	Dibrugarh	Assam	355.00	2.50	North East Region
8.	Gaya	Bihar	718.54	25.46	Eastern Region
9.	Guwahati	Assam	580.25	0.33	North East Region
10.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	846.02	97.00	Southern Region
11.	Jharsuguda	Odisha	909.00	0.68	Eastern Region
12.	Juhu	Maharashtra	384.50	29.00	Western Region
13.	Kolkata	West Bengal	1573.33	34.28	Kolkata
14.	Kota	Rajasthan	441.41	49.54	Northern Region
15.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1229.95	1.70	Northern Region
16.	Malda	West Bengal	155.00	1.68	Eastern Region
17.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	2001.00	276.00	Mumbai*
18.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	1460.09	13.00	Western Region
19.	Nilgunj	West Bengal		8.00	Eastern Region
20.	Pondicherry	UT	157.47	0.098	Southern Region
21.	Port Blair	UT	49.46	0.18	Eastern Region
22.	Rajamundry	Andhra Pradesh	365.49	8.00	Southern Region
23.	Rajkot	Gujarat	250.00	1.00	Western Region
	Ranchi	Jharkhand	546.25	0.00	Eastern Region
24.	Reengus	Rajasthan	1.18	0.44	Northern Region
25.	Safdarjung	Delhi	313.72	1.50	Northern Region
26.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	451.93	150.00	Northern Region
27.	Silchar	Assam	265.00	0.63	North East Region
28.	Trichy	Tamilnadu	702.02	3.46	Southern Region
29.	Vadodara	Gujarat	1024.86	17.30	Western Region
30.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	349.39	1.92	Southern Region
		Total	18727.63	837.793	

Statement-III*Encroachment at AAI Airport/Communication Station*

As on 31.03.2011

Sl. No.	Airport Name	State	Total land (in acres)	Encroachment (in Acres)	Airport/Region
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	928.59	11.08	Western Region
2.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	1128.32	141.6	Western Region
3.	Dahisar	Maharashtra	64	12	Western Region
4.	Dibrugarh	Assam	355	0.5	North East Region
5.	Gaya	Bihar	718.54	25.46	Eastern Region
6.	Guwahati	Assam	580.25	0.33	North East Region
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	711.27	96.84	Southern Region
8.	Juhu	Maharashtra	384.5	26	Western Region
9.	Kolkata	West Bengal	1573.33	11.28	Kolkata
10.	Kota	Rajasthan	441.41	49.54	Northern Region
11.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1229.95	1.65	Northern Region
12.	Malda	West Bengal	155	1,33	Eastern Region
13.	Nadirgul	Andhra Pradesh	271.15	5.38	Southern Region
14.	Nilgunj	West Bengal	9.05	8.5	Eastern Region
15.	Port Blair	UT	49.46	0.25	Eastern Region
16.	Reengus	Rajasthan	1.18	0.44	Northern Region
17.	Safdarjung	Delhi	313.72	0.925	Northern Region
18.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	451.93	40	Northern Region
19.	Silchar	Assam	265	0.633	North East Region
20.	Trichy	Tamilnadu	702.02	3.46	Southern Region
21.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	349.39	1.92	Southern Region
22.	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh	748.12	11	Southern Region
				450.118	
23.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	2001	276	Mumbai*
Total				726.118	

Statement-IV*Encroachment at AAI Airport/Communication Station*

(As on 29.02.2012)

Sl. No.	Airport Name	State	Total land (in acres)	Encroachment (in Acres)	Airport/Region
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	928.59	11.66	Western Region
2.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	115.46	3.69	Northern Region
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	1128.32	127.37	Western Region
4.	Dahisar	Maharashtra	64	12	Western Region
5.	Gaya	Bihar	718.54	30.23	Eastern Region
6.	Guwahati	Assam	580.25	0.03	North East Region
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	711.27	119.82	Southern Region
8.	Juhu	Maharashtra	384.5	38.15	Western Region
9.	Khajuraho	Madhya Pradesh	590.59	0.247	Northern Region
10.	Kolkata	West Bengal	1573.33	11.07	Kolkata
11.	Kota	Rajasthan	441.41	49.25	Northern Region
12.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	1229.95	1.65	Northern Region
13.	Malda	West Bengal	155	1.79	Eastern Region
14.	Nadirgul	Andhra Pradesh	271.15	5.7S	Southern Region
15.	Nilgunj	West Bengal	9.05	8.5	Eastern Region
16.	Pondicherry	UT	157.47	2.035	Southern Region
17.	Port Blair	UT	49.46	0.52	Eastern Region
18.	Reengus	Rajasthan	1.18	0.44	Northern Region
19.	Safdarjung	Delhi	313.72	0.925	Northern Region
20.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	451.93	40	Northern Region
21.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	88.88	0.005	Northern Region
22.	Silchar	Assam	265	0.3	North East Region
23.	Trichy	Tamilnadu	702.02	1.53	Southern Region

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	349.39	1.92	Southern Region
25.	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh	748.12	11	Southern Region
				479.922	
26.	Mumbai	Maharashtra	2001	308	Mumbai*
		Total		787.922	

* CSI Airport since then handed over to M/s. Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd. On on 03.05.2006 on restructuring.

Report on Bureaucracy

449. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the report of a renowned Hongkong based consultancy company, Indian bureaucracy is the worst in Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the major points reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the number of cases of graft by bureaucrats that have come to the knowledge of the Government during the last two years; and

(e) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Government has seen media reports to the effect that a Hong-Kong based business consultancy firm, Political and Economic Risk Consultancy Limited, has, inter-alia, ranked India compared to other countries in Asia Pacific Region on the basis of perceived corruption. The report represents a point of view.

(d) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a total of 1399 cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 against various public servants during last 2 years and current year i.e. 2010, 2011 & 2012 (upto 29.02.2012) as per following year-wise break-up:

Year	No. of cases Registered under PC Act, 1988.
2010	650
2011	600
2012 (upto 29.2.2012)	149
Total	1399

(e) Corruption thrives where transparency is lacking, procedures are complicated, discretion of a high order is permitted and where there is a demand supply gap. The Central Government is tackling these situations by encouraging greater transparency, introducing simplified procedures and reducing scope for discretion. The Central Government is fully alive and committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and has taken several steps, in the recent past, to combat corruption. These include:

- (i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004 and introduction of the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosure Bill, 2010 in the Lok Sabha on 26th August, 2010. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 27th December, 2011.
- (ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;
- (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;
- (v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities; State

Governments have also been advised to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;

- (vi) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
- (vii) Issue of Citizen Charters.
- (viii) Acceptance of the First Report of the Group of Ministers to consider measures that can be taken by the Government to tackle corruption;
- (ix) Introduction of the Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill, 2011 in the Parliament;
- (x) Ratification of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2011;
- (xi) Introduction of the Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organizations Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha;
- (xii) Introduction of the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, 2010 in the Parliament;
- (xiii) Placing of details of immovable property returns of all Members of the All India Services and other Group 'A' officers of the Central Government in the public domain;

(xiv) Introduction of Citizens for Time Bound Delivery of Goods and Services and Redressal of the Grievances Bill, 2010 in the Lok Sabha on 20.12.2011.

[English]

SC and ST in IFS

450. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officers working in various missions abroad, mission-wise;

(b) the number of such officers who belong to Schedule Caste (SC) and Schedule Tribe (ST) categories, mission-wise;

(c) whether the officers belonging to SC/ST categories are considered for posting in the missions;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the norms laid down in this regard;

(e) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to post IFS officers belonging to SC and ST categories in the missions abroad as per the norms; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Some 386 Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officers are currently deployed in 124 Indian Missions abroad. Mission-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The posts in Indian Missions are not earmarked based on categories.

(c) Yes.

(d) IFS officers belonging to the SC and ST categories are considered for postings abroad in the same manner as other officers, primarily based on overall availability, suitability and seniority.

(e) and (f) IFS officers belonging to the SC and ST categories are regularly posted to Missions abroad.

Statement

Sl. No.	Mission	No. of IFS Officers -including HOMs
1	2	3
1.	Abidjan	1
2.	Abu Dhabi	4
3.	Abuja	2
4.	Accra	2
5.	Addis Ababa	1
6.	Algiers	2
7.	Amman	3
8.	Ankara	3
9.	Antananarivo	0
10.	Ashgabat	2
11.	Astana	3
12.	Athens	2
13.	Baghdad	1
14.	Bahrain	3
15.	Baku	2

1	2	3	1	2	3
16.	Bamako	0	47.	Georgetown	2
17.	Bandar Seri Begawan	2	48.	Hanoi	4
18.	Bangkok	4	49.	Harare	2
19.	Beijing	14	50.	Havana	1
20.	Beirut	2	51.	Helsinki	2
21.	Belgrade	2	52.	Islamabad	5
22.	Berlin	5	53.	Jakarta	6
23.	Berne	3	54.	Kabul	5
24.	Bishkek	0	55.	Kampala	2
25.	Bogota	3	56.	Kathmandu	8
26.	Brasilia	3	57.	Khartoum	3
27.	Bratislava	1	58.	Kingston	1
28.	Brussels	5	59.	Kinshasa	1
29.	Bucharest	1	60.	Kuala Lumpur	4
30.	Budapest	3	61.	Kuwait	4
31.	Buenos Aires	2	62.	Kyiv	2
32.	Cairo	13	63.	Lima	2
33.	Canberra	2	64.	Lilongwe	0
34.	Caracas	3	65.	Lisbon	3
35.	Colombo	7	66.	Ljubljana	2
36.	Copenhagen	3	67.	London	12
37.	Dakar	1	68.	Luanda	2
38.	Damascus	3	69.	Lusaka	3
39.	Dar es Salaam	2	70.	Madrid	8
40.	Dhaka	7	71.	Male	3
41.	Doha	3	72.	Manila	1
42.	Dublin	2	73.	Maputo	1
43.	Dushanbe	2	74.	Mexico D.F.	4
44.	Gaborone	2	75.	Minsk	2
45.	Guatemala City	0	76.	Moscow	11
46.	Geneva [PMI]	11	77.	Muscat	3

1	2	3
78.	Nairobi	4
79.	New York [PMI]	10
80.	Niamey	1
81.	Nicosia	2
82.	Oslo	2
83.	Ottawa	3
84.	Panama City	3
85.	Paramaribo	1
86.	Paris	5
87.	Paris [PDI]	2
88.	Phnom Penh	1
89.	Port Louis	4
90.	Port Moresby	2
91.	Port of Spain	2
92.	Prague	3
93.	Pretoria	3
94.	Pyongyang	1
95.	Rabat	3
96.	Reykjavik	0
97.	Riyadh	6
98.	Rome	5
99.	Sanaia	1
100.	Santiago	3
101.	Seoul	5
102.	Singapore	3
103.	Sofia	2
104.	Stockholm	3
105.	Suva	2
106.	Tashkent	2
107.	Tehran	4
108.	Tel Aviv	5

1	2	3
109.	The Hague	4
110.	Thimphu	3
111.	Tokyo	6
112.	Tripoli	1
113.	Tunis	1
114.	Ulaanbaatar	1
115.	Victoria	2
116.	Vienna	4
117.	Vientiane	0
118.	Warsaw	3
119.	Washington	8
120.	Wellington	0
121.	Windhoek	1
122.	Yangon	4
123.	Yerevan	2
124.	Zagreb	2

Working Group for Troubled Aviation Sector

451. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:
SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to constitute a Working Group to examine the problems being faced by the troubled aviation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Working Group will submit its report to the Government;

(d) whether the employees of troubled airlines have not been paid salaries for quite some time;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the aviation sector's financial condition?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) and (f) Yes, Madam. A Working Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation to identify the factors causing stress in civil aviation sector and suggest solution to them. Finance Secretary; Secretary; M/o Petroleum and Natural Gas; Director General of Foreign Trade and Joint Secretary (Civil Aviation) are members of this Working Group. The Working Group held its first meeting on 21.12.2011. The issues relating to supply of ATF by Oil Marketing companies, FDI in the air transport passenger undertakings, availability of Working Capital to the airlines, and relaxation in the credit-facility extended by OMCs to the airlines were discussed by the Working Group. The recommendations of the Working Group were finalized on 3.1.2012 and were considered in the GoM on Civil Aviation held on 7.2.2012.

(d) and (e) Payment of salaries to the employees is internal administrative matter of airlines. Ministry do not interfere in the internal administrative matters of airlines.

International Flying Rights

452. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:
SHRI AMBICA BANERJEE:
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether private airlines are proposed to be allowed or permitted to fly on new international routes thereby eroding the monopoly of Air India over International flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the provisions laid down to start air services in foreign sectors by private airlines alongwith the details of the sanctioning authority;

(c) whether the Government has accorded approval to any private airline to start air services in foreign countries, despite failure to attain the prescribed approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The guidelines for grant of permission for Indian carriers to operate scheduled international air

transport services are governed by AIC No. 8 of 2009. As per this AIC any Indian Carrier shall be eligible to apply for operation of international scheduled air transport services if it has a minimum of five years' experience of continuous operation on domestic scheduled air transport services and at least 20 aircraft in its fleet. Before allocation of traffic rights to other eligible applicants, due consideration shall be given to the operational plans of Air India and Air India Express. The Central Government may at its discretion grant or deny allocation of traffic rights to any air transport undertaking having regard to its preparedness to undertake such operations, viability of the operations on a particular route, overall interests of the civil aviation sector etc.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

Indians in UN Peacekeeping Mission

453. SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians in UN peace keeping mission have suffered the largest number of casualties;

(b) if so, the details thereof as compared to personnel from developed countries; and

(c) the number, out of them, that have been awarded with bravery award by Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) Yes. Since 1950, the total number of Indian casualties in UN peacekeeping missions is 142.

The details of casualties suffered by other developed countries are as under:

Sl. No.	Country	No. of fatalities
1	2	3
1.	Canada	121
2.	France	108
3.	United Kingdom	103
4.	Ireland	90
5.	USA	70

(c) Out of the 142 Indian casualties during UN peacekeeping duties, 7 have been awarded with bravery awards by the Government of India.

Impact of US Sanctions on Iran

454. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has assessed the impact of fresh US and western countries sanctions on Iran on December 31, 2011;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India is finding it difficult to pay its oil bill to Iran;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Indian foreign secretary visited US to seek waivers on sanctions;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) the present position in regard to oil supplies and payments to Iran; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to continue friendly relations with Iran to meet its energy needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (h) India implements UN sanctions on Iran. However, unilateral sanctions by countries or group of countries have an impact on the bilateral trade with Iran, including on the settlement of our trade payments to Iran. Foreign Secretary visited United States from 6-8 February 2012 for the annual India-US Foreign Office Consultations and other bilateral meetings. During his visit, the two sides discussed bilateral cooperation and regional and global issues of mutual interest. The question of waiver is a matter of domestic US law and it is for the United States to determine how it chooses to apply provisions of its domestic law. In this context we are in close consultations with the Iranian authorities to ensure prompt settlement of payments.

[*Translation*]

Release of Sarabjit Singh from Pakistan

455. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister off EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of initiatives taken by the Government and Indian diplomats for the release of the innocent Sarabjit Singh who is languishing in a Pakistani jail;

(b) the reasons for him not being released from jail so far;

(c) whether the Government has intervened in the matter; and

(d) if so, the action plan for ensuring the release of the said individual?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) to (d) Government has consistently urged the Government of Pakistan, on several occasions, to take a sympathetic and humanitarian view in the case of Shri Sarabjit Singh. Prime Minister was assured by President Musharraf during their meeting in New York in 2005, on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly that he would look at the question of clemency to Sarabjit Singh in a humanitarian way.

According to available reports, Shri Sarabjit Singh is in Pakistani Jail since 30.08.1990. The Anti-Terrorism Court, Lahore awarded him capital punishment on 03.10.1991. The Supreme Court of Pakistan upheld the sentence on 18.08.2005. A mercy petition to the President of Pakistan, filed in 2008, was dismissed on 19.02.2008. According to Shri Sarabjit Singh's lawyer, Shri Sarabjit Singh alias Manjit Singh had filed a fresh mercy petition before the President of Pakistan on 19.02.2010. Another mercy petition was also filed by his lawyer before the President of Pakistan on 18.06.2010. According to the lawyer, the decision of the President of Pakistan on both of these petitions is still pending.

Arbitrary Increase in Fares by Airlines

456. SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON:
SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:
SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Low Cost Carriers (LCC) are charging unrealistic fares for travel, particularly during festival and season timings and the resultant problems being faced by the air travellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to restrict airlines from arbitrarily increasing fares;

(d) whether the Government is considering an independent ombudsman to monitor the airlines on the consumer services that they are supposed to provide; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government does not categories any airline as low cost. Air fares applicable for domestic passengers are determined by market forces and therefore are not fixed by Government. With a view to maintain transparency in tariff publication, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has taken following steps:

- Scheduled domestic airlines have been directed to display established tariff route-wise and fare category-wise in their websites, on monthly basis and also to notify any significant and noticeable changes to DGCA within 24 hrs of effecting such a change.
- A Tariff Analysis Unit has been set up in DGCA to monitor tariff on regular basis at periodic intervals.

DGCA has not noted any significant hike in fares beyond fare band communicated to it by airlines.

(d) and (e) A Working Group has been constituted to examine feasibility of setting up Ombudsperson for Civil Aviation Sector.

Secondary Education

457. DR. RATNA DE:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

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

(a) whether the Government has initiated action to universalize the secondary education in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of such action taken during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) With the objective to universalize access to secondary education and improve its quality, a new centrally sponsored scheme called "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan" was launched in March, 2009. Since inception of the scheme, opening of new 9676 secondary schools (Classes IX-X) and strengthening of existing 35547 secondary schools has been approved. Further, several centrally sponsored

schemes including Model School, Girls' Hostel, National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship and Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education have also been launched during the 11th Plan.

Passport Seva Kendra

458. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
DR. M. THAMBIDURAI:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the detail of the Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) in the country which have been made operational location-wise;

(b) the time by which the remaining PSKs would be made operational, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open more Passport Offices and PSKs in the country, including the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Rajasthan;

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

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to cut down the delays in issuing of the passports and mitigate the hardships being faced by the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) The details of Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) are as follows:

(i) No. of Operational PSKs: 50

Location: Bengaluru (2), Hubli, Mangalore, Chandigarh, Ambala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar (2), Hoshiarpur, Amritsar, Chennai (3), Madurai, Tirunelveli, Trichy, Thanjavur, Coimbatore, Hyderabad (3), Nizamabad, Tirupati, Vijaywada, Visakhapatnam, Gurgaon, Delhi (2), Ahmedabad (2), Rajkot, Vadodara, Surat, Trivandrum, Trivandrum Rural, Kollam, Cochin, Ernakulam Rural, Alapuzha, Kottayam, Malappuram, Kozhikode (2), Thane, Jaipur, Patna, Bareilly, Ghaziabad and Kolkata.

(ii) To be operationalised by 20 March 2012: 10

Location: Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Jodhpur, Sikar, Mumbai I & II, Nasik and Panaji.

- (iii) To be ready for trial run by 31 March 2012: 10
Location: Mumbai III, Thrissur, Kannur (2), Pune, Nagpur, Jammu, Raipur, Berhampore & Guwahati.
- (iv) To be readied for trial run in April 2012: 7
Location: Delhi (Bhikaji Cama Place), Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Ranchi, Shimla, Dehradun, and Srinagar.

(c) and (d) There is no plan at present to open more Passport Offices and PSKs in the country.

(e) The PSP is one of the 27 Mission Mode Projects under the National e-Governance Plan. The Project aims at delivering all passport related services to the citizens in a timely, more transparent, accessible, comfortable and reliable manner. The verification of the applicants' personal particulars will be expedited through electronic linkage of the Project's portal with the police authorities in the Districts and State capitals, to reduce the delay in verification process. Regular contact with police and State authorities is also maintained at appropriate levels to reduce delay in police verification. The benefits to the citizens would be service provisioning within defined service levels, closer and larger number of access points for services, availability of a portfolio of on-line services with real-time status tracking and enquiry, 24 x 7 call centre with facility to obtain information in vernacular language, an effective system of grievance redressal, adherence to the 'First in-First out' principle in rendering the services and facility of child care and refreshments at the PSKs. The number of public dealing counters will go up from the erstwhile 350 to 1610 in the new system and public dealing hours will go up from 4 hours to 7 hours. Infrastructural facilities at the Passport Offices are being upgraded. Passport Offices also conduct passport adalats for speedy clearance of pending cases.

HIV Infected Children in Schools

459. SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

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

(a) whether instances of ill-treatment of children afflicted by HIV/AIDS virus denial of admission to such children in various schools have been reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that such incidents do not take place in schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per information available with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), 61 children infected by HIV were removed from the schools in various instances, during the last three years (2008 to 2011) & current year in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. State/UT wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) As far as Central board of Secondary Education is concerned, advocacy programmes are conducted to sensitize Principals and teachers to ensure that students with HIV/AIDS are treated with dignity and respect. National AIDS control Organization (NACO) and State AIDS Control Societies alongwith their State/District level networks also conduct advocacy programmes with various stake holders including school principals and teachers.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of children infected by HIV who were removed from the schools during 2008 to 2011 & current year.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27
2.	Gujarat	4
3.	Haryana	9
4.	Kerala	4
5.	Maharashtra	1
6.	Uttar Pradesh	3
7.	West Bengal	13
Total		61

ICT Based Services in Rural Areas

460. SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for promotion of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) based service in the rural and backward areas in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government is giving priority to the establishment of ICT-based service centres in rural and backward areas in each State;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the XI Five Year Plan;

(e) the funds released and spent so far during the above period, State-wise; and

(f) the demands still pending from each State and backward areas in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (e) Under the National e-Governance Plan, the Government has approved the Common Services Center Scheme (CSC) which envisages setting up 1 CSC center for each cluster of 6 villages in all the States / UTs of the country. The State-wise number of CSCs planned and rolled out is enclosed herewith as Statement-I. The list showing state-wise release of funds and funds spent is enclosed as Statement-II.

(f) CSC Scheme has been approved for 33 States / UTs. UTs of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have been requested to submit their proposals for funding.

Statement-I

Rollout status for the CSC Scheme - January 2012

Sl. No.	State	CSCs to be Setup	CSCs Operational
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	45	21
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5452	2238
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	200	200
4.	Assam	4375	3881
5.	Bihar	8463	6301
6.	Chandigarh	13	13
7.	Chhattisgarh	3385	1230
8.	Delhi	520	0
9.	Goa	160	29
10.	Gujarat	13695	13695
11.	Haryana	1159	0
12.	Himachal Pradesh	3366	2884
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1109	655
14.	Jharkhand	4562	3543
15.	Karnataka	5713	800
16.	Kerala	2694	2694

1	2	3	4
17.	Lakshadweep	10	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	9232	9228
19.	Maharashtra	10484	8780
20.	Manipur	399	399
21.	Meghalaya	225	214
22.	Mizoram	136	118
23.	Nagaland	220	198
24.	Odisha	8558	5804
25.	Puducherry	44	44
26.	Punjab	2112	674
27.	Rajasthan	6626	3720
28.	Sikkim	45	45
29.	Tamil Nadu	5440	1976
30.	Tripura	145	145
31.	Uttar Pradesh	18745	9941
32.	Uttarakhand	2804	2329
33.	West Bengal	6797	5938
Grand Total		126933	87737*

* Of the 97159 CSCs rolled out, around 9422 CSCs have become non operational due to termination of contracts of SCAs by State Governments. Hence only 87737 CSCs are operational.

Statement-II

Funds Status - CSC Scheme

		Rs. in Crore	
Sl. No.	States	Fund Released	Funds spent
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.18	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9.29	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.34	0
4.	Assam	39.64	25.63
5.	Bihar	14.90	0
6.	Chandigarh	0	0

1	2	3	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	6.71	0.49
8.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0
10.	Goa	0	0
11.	Gujarat	6.13	0
12.	Haryana	2.30	0.22
13.	Himachal Pradesh	6.66	1.50
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.99	0
15.	Jharkhand	10.78	0.95
16.	Karnataka	9.74	0
17.	Kerala	0.90	0.45
18.	Lakshadweep	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	18.30	1.60
20.	Maharashtra	14.44	0
21.	Manipur	3.44	1.43
22.	Meghalaya	1.99	0.16
23.	Mizoram	1.19	0.40
24.	Nagaland	0.99	0.99
25.	NCT-Delhi	0	0
26.	Odisha	16.97	3.36
27.	Pondicherry	0.88	0.02
28.	Punjab	4.19	0
29.	Rajasthan	13.14	1.07
30.	Sikkim	0.63	0.62
31.	Tamil Nadu	5.39	0.09
32.	Tripura	0.58	0.29
33.	Uttar Pradesh	35.50	0.31
34.	Uttarakhand	5.56	0
35.	West Bengal	13.47	0
Total		250.22	39.58

MADAM SPEAKER: The house stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Twelve of the Clock.

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Administrative Tribunals (Procedure for appointment of Members) Rules, 2011 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 923(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th December, 2011 under sub-section (1) of Section 37 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6167/15/12]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2009-2010, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, for the year 2009-2010.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6168/15/12]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada, for the year 2009-2010, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada, for the year 2009-2010.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6169/15/12]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal, for the year 2010-2011.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6170/15/12]

- (7) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central University of Kerala, Kasargod, for the year 2010-2011, together with Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6171/15/12]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Minister of External Affairs has requested me to permit him to make the statement regarding 'the situation in Sri Lanka' immediately after lunch break today. I have accepted his request.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): He is making a statement in the Rajya Sabha at this point. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: We are taking it. It is being taken.

...(Interruptions)

12.02 hrs.

MOTION RE: THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT OF
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND
MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN
KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, before I move the motion for
adoption of the 34th Report of Business Advisory
Committee, I have to submit that there is a printing error
in the Report wherein 12 hours have been shown against
both the Budget (Railways) and the Budget (General)
whereas it should have been 12 hours each for both, the
Budget (Railways) and the Budget (General). I request that
the Report be taken as amended accordingly. Now, I beg
to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-fourth Report
of the Business Advisory Committee presented
to the House on 13th March, 2012."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-fourth Report
of the Business Advisory Committee presented to
the House on 13th March, 2012."

The motion was adopted.

12.03 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 2012-2013

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH
TRIVEDI): Madam Speaker, I rise to present the Railway
Budget for 2012-13.

I consider it a great privilege for me to head the
strong and vibrant railway family and present my maiden
Railway Budget which is also the first year of the 12th Five
Year Plan. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Prime Minister for
his inspiring guidance and support in formulating the
Budget.

I am also grateful to the Hon'ble Finance Minister
and the UPA Chairperson, Smt. Sonia Gandhi for their
support. Madam, I am also thankful to the Leader of the
Opposition. I am thankful to all Members of Parliament for
having supported me and having shown me the direction.
It would not have been possible for me to present this
budget had I not received the support and confidence of
my party, All India Trinamool Congress, and its
chairperson, Mamata Banerjee, to whom I shall always

remain grateful. Above all, I am grateful to माँ माटी मानुष as
it is only because of their blessings that I have been able
to make it to this Parliament.

[Translation]

Aami maa maati manush ke amaar shraddha,
o amaar pranaam janaai,
Aami shab shamoy apnader
kacche kritagya thakbo.

[English]

Madam Speaker, when I look at the list of illustrious
leaders of this country who had donned the mantle of
Indian Railways right from Sh. Asaf Ali to Sh. Lal Bahadur
Shastri, to Sh. Jagjivan Ram ji, to Sh. Gulzari Lal Nanda,
Sh. Kamalapati Tripathi, Sh. Madhu Dandavate to Mamata
Banerjee, I find myself nowhere near their stature.
...(Interruptions) Of course, Laluji and Pawanji are there
...(Interruptions) I also know and in all humility I must say
that I have always received the blessings of Laluji.
...(Interruptions) When I look at this illustrious list, I find
myself nowhere near their stature and nowhere near the
stature of Laluji also. But I have certainly tried to take
lessons from the pages of history and from their contribution
to this great institution. I am grateful to Mamata Banerjee
for giving vision to railways in her Vision 2020 document,
which has guided me immensely in framing the roadmap
for carrying forward the task.

I am grateful to each and every member of 14 lakh
strong Rail Parivar which has not only given confidence
to me but has also shown the direction. It is through their
dedication, hard work, loyalty and sacrifice that the railways
have scaled great heights. No other organization can
perhaps draw a parallel with Indian Railways. Right from
the Board Members to the gangmen, it is only this unity
which has overcome various challenges and has made
the country proud. Therefore, I dedicate to them all the
achievements of the railways so far.

[Translation]

Ab tak ki kaamyabiyan tumhare naam karte hun
Har ek ki lagan ko, jhuk kar salaam karta hun.

[English]

Madam, when I took oath on 12th July 2011 as
Minister of Railways, the railways had just been overtaken
by an unfortunate rail accident at Fatehpur Malwa near

Kanpur on 10th July, 2011. I had rushed to the accident site instead of going to Rail Mantralaya. The intensity of pain and misery experienced by the passengers and their relatives continues to haunt me and I have spent sleepless nights. At that very moment, I took a vow to eliminate recurrence of such painful happenings and decided that my entire emphasis is going to be on **strengthening Safety, Safety and Safety**. The death on rail tracks just can never be tolerated and it is not acceptable.

[*Translation*]

"Jaan hai to jahaan hai"

[*English*]

I would like to reiterate my strong conviction and belief in the phrase, "Safety Never Sleeps" as emphasized by Mamata Banerjee all along. I believe that safety on Indian Railways has to be benchmarked against other modern railway systems in the world, be it in Europe or Japan. Safety standards have been remarkable in these systems, with no deaths due to rail accidents for decades together on high speed routes.

Although I am not at all satisfied with the safety standards at the present moment, I must inform the august House that the entire railway family is equally concerned and has been making concerted efforts in this direction. The commitment made in 2001 to reduce accidents per million train km from 0.55 to 0.17 has been achieved. However, our target should be zero death.

I would like to inform the august House that more than 40% of the consequential train accidents, involving 60% to 70% of the total casualties occur at unmanned level crossings. However, funding is an issue which needs to be collectively addressed. To fast track elimination of level crossings in the next five years, I have decided to set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) named Rail-Road Grade Separation Corporation of India.

In order to achieve even higher safety standards, I decided to set up a committee to examine the current standards of safety on Indian Railways and to suggest suitable benchmarks and safety protocols. Considering the zero tolerance approach in the areas of nuclear science and aerospace, I felt that the best people to guide railways in determining appropriate safety protocols should be from these two fields. My dear friend, Dr. Kasturi Rangan who himself is an eminent space scientist, and to whom I am grateful, suggested the name of Dr. Anil Kakodkar to head this this 'High Level Railway Safety Committee'. I am also

grateful to Dr. Kakodkar and his team for readily accepting my request despite their extremely busy schedule. This gesture underlines the fact that interests of people and the nation are close to their hearts. The Committee has submitted its Report on 17th February, 2012 and recommended far reaching measures and safety protocols.

Madam Speaker, I assure the august House that the recommendations of the Committee will receive focussed attention as required. By way of initiating a long term approach to safety and in line with recommendations of the Committee, I propose to set up an independent **Railway Safety Authority** as a statutory regulatory body. The functions of the Authority would be worked out in greater details in line with international practices in the best interests of passenger safety. Since research and development activities are central to any tangible results in the area of safety enhancement, I also propose to set up a **Railway Research and Development Council** at the apex level to spearhead such efforts. This would also be in line with recommendations of Kakodkar Committee.

Madam, you will agree that in today's world, safety is driven by improved technology. Hence safety standards cannot be achieved without modernization, as safety and modernization are two sides of the same coin. At the same time, modernization cannot take place without financial resources and professionalization of manpower. Therefore, I had set up yet another **expert Group headed by Mr. Sam Pitroda on modernization and resource mobilization**. The Group has submitted its report on 27th February, 2012 and has provided a blueprint for the next five years for modernisation of Indian Railways. **The recommendations of the Group entail an estimated investment of Rs.5.60 lakh crore.**

There has been considerable criticism of Indian Railways in regard to only partial implementation or sometimes no implementation of recommendations of several committees set up in the past. In this context, the Safety Committee has also observed that Indian Railways suffers from an **'implementation bug'**.

The Expert Group for Modernisation of Indian Railways has recommended implementation of the modernization programmes following a **'Mission Mode'** approach, with clear objectives, measurable milestones, tangible deliverables and well defined timelines. I have decided to create Missions headed by Mission Directors in each of the identified areas for a three year term. The Directors will directly report to the Railway Board. Each Mission would be provided with appropriate budget and

operational autonomy. In addition, a High Level Committee will be set up to facilitate coordination amongst the Missions, fast-track implementation, and address bottlenecks coming in the way. With this, I expect that action on recommendations of the two committees would take place in a time-bound and need-based manner.

The Approach Paper of the Planning Commission to the 12th Plan, which is yet to be approved, envisages an investment of US\$1 trillion in the infrastructure sector with half the investment or Rs.25 lakh crore expected from private sector, and remaining Rs.25 lakh crore being planned by the government from its own resources. I believe that Railways, being a key transport and big infrastructure sector for the nation, must attract at least 10% of the government share of investment i.e. about Rs.2.50 lakh crore during the 12th Plan period.

Madam, I intend to align Indian Railways' investment in the 12th Plan period keeping in mind the recommendations of the two committees that I have set up. I am happy to inform the Hon'ble Members that the 12th Plan investment proposed by Railways at **Rs.7.35 lakh crore** represents a quantum jump over the investment during XI Plan of Rs.1.92 lakh crore. The required resources for the plan are proposed to be met by:-

1. Gross Budgetary Support of Rs.2.5 lakh crore;
2. Government support for national projects of Rs.30,000 crore;
3. Ploughing back of dividend of Rs.20,000 crore
4. Internal Resources of Rs.1,99,805 crore
5. Extra Budgetary Resources of Rs.2,18,775 crore
6. Railway Safety Fund of Rs.16,842 crore.

The national concern of safeguarding our borders also needs to be adequately addressed. The geo-political situation on borders arising out of building of state-of-art road and rail network by neighbouring countries requires a matching response. The railways must remain in a state of preparedness to move men and machines to border areas. It is therefore, necessary to undertake such projects on priority and to ensure adequate government funding. There is also an emergent need to connect the remote and backward areas through socially desirable rail connectivity schemes to foster growth. Besides, there are projects of national importance in NE region and Kashmir which are crucial to inclusive growth. **The Pradhan Mantri Rail Vikas Yojana** as conceptualized by my leader Mamata

Banerjee with the blessings of Hon'ble Prime Minister is under formulation. The additional funding assistance required is assessed to be about Rs.5 lakh crore under the PMRVY from the government. Madam, there are lot of projects, which require special status in Kashmir. For example, I can say that the Kathua-Kishtwar via Basoli, Bani, Bhadarwah has to be a part of the National project, which is one of the important projects.

The railways have a **large basket of pending projects and I am very** much concerned about it. A total of 487 projects of new lines, gauge conversion, doubling and railway electrification with a throw-forward liability of over one lakh crore have already been approved by this august House in the past and are at various stages of execution. With a grossly inadequate level of budgetary support, I can frankly and honestly admit that most of these projects cannot be completed in a time bound manner unless and until supported by the Government. The collective challenge before us is to formulate viable funding mechanisms for these projects which reflect the unfulfilled aspirations of the people, and I would request the indulgence of my colleagues in this House to show me a way forward.

Madam Speaker, a Budget is not just numbers in the form of estimates of receipts and expenditure. More importantly, it involves policy pronouncements and defining goals along with a credible roadmap to achieve the goals. The choice before me was either just to keep the system dragging or build a new, safe and modern, passenger and freight transportation system which **would contribute at least 2 to 2.5% to the GDP of the nation as against less than 1% at present**, and provide much needed employment opportunity to our people. I am glad to inform this august House, through you Madam, that I have chosen the latter. With this, Indian Railways would become an even more powerful engine of growth for the national economy. This would require a multi-pronged approach. Therefore, in this budget I have focussed on

1. Safety;
2. Consolidation;
3. Decongestion & Capacity Augmentation. Page 6, after point (iii), add "Our lines are so congested that even if I want to introduce new lines, sometimes, it becomes impossible.
4. Modernization;
5. To bring down the Operating Ratio from 95% to

84.9% in 2012-13 and to 74% in the terminal year of 12th Plan which would be an improvement over the best ever achieved by Indian Railways.

These would need to be supported by a sustainable financial model.

There cannot be a more opportune moment to formulate a long term plan, now that we are at the threshold of finalisation of the 12th Five Year Plan. My budget, therefore, looks at a time horizon much beyond a single year, as I intend to follow a carefully thought out plan for at least five years, within the overall perspective of Vision 2020. The budget for 2012-13 would be a link in the chain and would seamlessly integrate with the 12th Plan and Vision 2020 document of Mamata Banerjee.

Madam Speaker, after taking into account the spoken and written words of experts and people who understand railways better than the reports of Kakodkar and Pitroda Committees, and within the overall parameters set out in Vision 2020 document, I realise that a huge sum of Rs.14 lakh crore is required in the next ten years. Given the serious constraint of funds even to meet the day to day operational expenditure, I have a Himalayan task of running the Indian Railways safely. I had two very clear yet contrasting options before me - either to keep the railways in *status quo* mode with just incremental annual changes, or as the phrase goes, '**bite the bullet**'. The second option would involve going for a generational change with a focus on safety and inclusive growth to meet the aspirations of this great country in the next decade. I chose the generational change. Page 6, at the end of para 21, add "inspired by Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore - 'Where the man is without fear and the head is held high...'"

[*Translation*]

Haath ki lakiron se
Zindagi nahi banati,
Azm hamara bhi kuchh hissa hai
Zindagi banane me.

[*English*]

Madam Speaker, with a view to understanding the real aspirations of the people, I have visited several states along with the Board Members, starting with the far flung State of Nagaland in the northeast to Kerala in the south; Maharashtra in the west and Chhattisgarh in Centre, besides Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka etc. I interacted with the Chief Ministers and the Members

of both Houses of Parliament from those states, cutting across party lines. I believe that perhaps there is not a single Member of Parliament with whom I did not have the privilege to interact. I am grateful to all the Hon'ble Members and the Chief Ministers whom I met collectively, and also individually, and from whom I have truly learnt a lot about the aspirations of the common man.
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Madam Speaker, in the last eight months of my working as Railway Minister, I have received as many as 5741 requests. These include (i) 476 requests for projects of newlines, doubling and gauge conversion or expediting their completion; (ii) 273 requests for construction of ROB/RUBs, (iii) 41 for electrification, (iv) 48 for setting of manufacturing facilities, (v) 646 requests for new trains, (vi) 303 for extension of trains, (vii) 214 for increasing the frequency of trains, (viii) another 811 for train stoppages and (ix) about 3000 requests for miscellaneous areas such as transfers & postings of railway employees and passenger amenities etc. I, as a Member of Parliament, do understand and realise the expectations of people of the constituencies which each member represents. All their demands are genuine aspirations. "I can truly feel it. When the Members of Parliament come to me with so much of anguish, I just feel that it is all because of the people they represent, the common man."

I am glad to state that in this Budget, I have tried to provide something to meet the aspirations of the people across the length and breadth of the country and to meet these demands within the available resources. I am sure when the members go through the Annexures which are appended at the end of my budget speech, they will appreciate that I have made sincere efforts. "I have tried my best to fulfil at least some demand of each and every Members of Parliament."

I also have a clearer perspective of what railways mean to the common man and how the railways have been a true catalyst of integration. Just as we cannot imagine India without Himalayas or "**we cannot imagine an India...**" without the holy river Ganga, similarly we cannot imagine India without Indian Railways.

[*Translation*]

Desh ke rago me daudti hai rail

*Not recorded.

Desh ke har ang ko jodti hai rail

Dharm, jati-paanti nahi janti hai rail

Chote-bade sabhi ko apna maanti hai rail.

[English]

"The Railways are the symbol and substance of India's unity. Railways have their wheels (रेलवे का चक्का जमीन पर होता है आसमान में नहीं होता है।) on earth and not in the sky or in urban cities. If we do not strengthen the Indian Railways, Madam, I am afraid we weaken our country. That is why I truly believe that it is the collective responsibility of Parliament to make the Indian Railways into a sparkling service which is amongst the best in the world which we can do. This means, Madam, national investment. So, the time has come to think of a national policy for the Railways, just as we have one national policy for defence and external affairs."

I have no doubt that infrastructure creation helps alleviate poverty. Railways being the most important segment of infrastructure, there is a strong case for the government to significantly enhance financial support to Indian Railways, facilitating the development process being taken to the underdeveloped regions.

This will result in mainstreaming the people of these regions, so that they can reap the fruits of economic development.

Madam, this Budget is unique in many ways. I have already mentioned about my consultations with Chief Ministers and Members of Parliament. Besides, I have also had detailed discussions with various Committees of Parliament including the Consultative Committee and Standing Committee; Railway Staff Federations; Chambers of Commerce & Industry and many other stakeholders. I have made efforts to seek the views of media and general public through an industrious consultation process.

My budget has been prepared with the full realisation that Indian Railways stand at a crossroads and the present moment offers an opportunity to signal a new dawn for the organization. While the world is grappling with the problem of dealing with a flat economy, India has remained in a healthy growth mode all through the economic downturn. The world is looking towards India and the huge potential it possesses to act as the Engine of Growth. On a somewhat smaller scale, what India is to the world, Indian Railways are to the Indian economy. Therefore, if I may be permitted some immodesty, Indian Railways has a very critical role in catalysing growth for the world economy. I am conscious

that Indian cannot sustain its present GDP growth unless its lead basic infrastructure, Indian Railways, modernizes and grows at least 10% annually.

Drawing from the recommendations of Kakodkar and Pitroda Committees, I have chosen five focus areas. This would lead to strengthening of the basic infrastructure of Indian Railways resulting in safety, decongestion, capacity augmentation and modernization of system, creating a more efficient, faster and safer railways. The areas are:

- a. Track;
- b. Bridges;
- c. Signalling & Telecommunication;
- d. Rolling Stock; and
- e. Stations & Freight Terminals

"Madam, I will come to my Annual Plan for 2012-13."

Annual Plan, 2012-13

Madam Speaker, I would now like to discuss briefly each of these areas and the proposed investment in the Annual Plan, 2012-13. Within the constraints of funds, the Annual Plan outlay for the year 2012-13 has been targeted at Rs.60,100 crore, which is highest ever plan investment. The plan would be financed through:-

1. Gross Budgetary Support of 24,000 crore;
2. Railway Safety Fund of 2,000 crore;
3. Internal Resources generation of 18,050 crore; and
4. Extra Budgetary Resources of 16,050 crore, which includes market borrowing of 15,000 crore through IRFC.

"If I talk about tracks..." Track and Bridges

With almost 80% of the traffic carried on 40% of the rail network, the high density network (HDN) routes are over-saturated and there is a crying need to upgrade and expand capacity to reduce congestion, provide time for maintenance and improve productivity and safety. This would include progressive shift to flash butt technology for welding of rails, progressive use of 60 kg rails instead of 52 kg, provision of thick web switches at points & crossings, mechanised maintenance with the latest track machines and increased frequency of ultrasonic testing of tracks. During the next 5 years, I plan to modernize nearly 19000 km track through renewals, upgradation of track, replacement and strengthening of 11,250 bridges to run

heavier freight trains of 25 tonne axle load and to achieve passenger train speeds of 160 kmph and over, with an estimated expenditure of '63,212 crore. An allocation of Rs.6,467 crore has been made in the Annual Plan, 2012-13, which forms about 11% of the total plan outlay. "Madam, I talked about that 19,000 kilometres, which is the dense use of the line. Almost 80 per cent of the entire traffic is on these 19,000 kms. I had to start somewhere. So, I decided to start with these 19,000 kms. which represents 80 per cent of the traffic. So, signalling, track or whatever I am doing, I am starting with these 19,000 kms, which runs throughout the length and breadth of the country. There is no State which does not receive the benefit of this.

Signalling Systems

Signalling system on Indian Railways will be modernized with the provisioning of advanced technological features. These would include Panel/Route Relay Interlocking **"There is a lot of technical data. Perhaps, the Members of Parliament would like to listen to it. I will just go through it briefly."** covering 700 more stations by 2014 thereby completing 5500 out of the required 6200 stations; Interlocking of more than 1500 level crossing gates in addition to the 10000 already interlocked, leaving a balance of 350; complete track circuiting at 1250 out of 6200 identified stations, installation of axle counters at 3000 more stations and provision of isolation at the remaining 625 stations. One of the significant advancement would be the provisioning of Train Protection & Warning System (TPWS), which ensures automatic application of brakes whenever a driver over-shoots a signal at danger, thereby eliminating chances of collision of trains. To begin with, TPWS is proposed to be installed on more than 3,000 route kms. which would cover the entire automatic signalling territory on Indian Railways. "Which I personally feel is a big achievement." We are taking necessary action to ensure that TPWS technology is suitably adapted to Indian conditions. Besides the efforts to develop TCAS (Train Collision Avoidance System) integrating features of different technologies will be continued by RDSO. These would also be a pre-requisite to increase speed of passenger trains to 160 kmph. The total cost of various signalling and telecom works has been estimated to be 39,110 crore in the next 5 years. Towards this end, I propose to provide 2,002 crore in 2012-13, which is more than double the allocation of the current year and the

highest ever.

Modernisation of Rolling Stock

Upgradation of coaches including EMU coaches, locomotives and wagons will be one of the key areas of modernization during the next 5 years for improving safety and convenience & comfort of passengers. Following measures are proposed:-

1. To increase manufacture of crash-worthy LHB coaches with proven anti-climb feature of not toppling during accidents;
2. To procure new generation electric locomotives of 9000 and 12000 HP and diesel locomotives of 5500 HP & 6000 HP to facilitate running of heavier and longer freight trains at higher speeds;
3. To introduce new wagons with capability of 25 tonne axle load and higher payload to tare ratio to improve productivity;
4. Introduction of new Auto Car Wagon capable of carrying 318 cars per rake, presently undergoing oscillation trials; and
5. With successful validation of running of double-stack container trains, proliferation of such trains is also planned.

The investment in rolling stock in the next 5 years is estimated to be Rs.1,70,751 crore. I propose highest ever allocation of Rs.18,193 crore for the next year which represents more than 30% of the Annual Plan outlay.

A combination of prudent investment decisions in the areas of track & bridges, signalling, doubling and train-sets is proposed to be adopted to enable train running at speed of 160 kmph and above. While this would significantly reduce travel time for passenger trains by 20-25%, the freight trains would be able to carry enhanced quantum of cargo with attendant revenue gains. Such infrastructure would also enable Indian Railways to run Shatabdi trains on long distance trunk routes and between metros. In fact, the travel time between New Delhi and Kolkata would get reduced from almost 17 hours to 14 hours.

Stations & Freight Terminals

Stations and Freight Terminals are our business centres. Indian Railways have often drawn flak for not providing an enabling ambience to these business centres

which are used by customers. As normal doses of incremental improvement and maintenance will not be able to refurbish the external look and ambience at the stations, and this is a big initiative. I have set up a separate organisation namely Indian Railway Station Development Corporation, which will redevelop the stations and maintain them on the pattern of airports. The SPV will draw upon the success stories the world over, adopt a suitable revenue model and target redevelopment of 100 stations in the next five years. Being funded through PPP route, these efforts will be cost neutral for Indian Railways. It has been estimated that development of major stations in metro cities has the potential to create employment for about 50000 persons.

Similarly, to undertake upgradation of our goods sheds as also to provide last mile servicing for freight traffic, I propose to create a **Logistics Corporation** for development and management of existing railway goods sheds and multimodal logistics parks. This Corporation would aim to provide total logistics solutions to the rail-users, thereby cutting down on their operating costs.

In the last year's budget speech, it was proposed to improve passenger amenities by developing 4 new coaching terminals at Nemam and Kottayam in Kerala, Mau in Uttar Pradesh and Dankuni in West Bengal. I propose to undertake surveys and feasibility studies for developing coaching terminals at these four stations during 2012-13, besides undertaking a pre-feasibility study for development of Roypuram station in Tamil Nadu for which many representations have been received.

Development of a new coaching complex in Navi Mumbai at Panvel and coach maintenance complex at Kalamboli in partnership with Government of Maharashtra through CIDCO are also planned. This will facilitate direct connectivity of Navi Mumbai to other parts of the country.

Next year will be the 175th Birth Anniversary of one of the greatest patriotic sons of India, Rishi Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay who gave the country "Vande Matram". In his memory, I propose to set up a Coaching Terminal to be named after him at Naihati, his Birth Place, and also a Museum. We will run a Special Train across the country to disseminate his legacy to the young generation.

Within the limited resources available, thrust is also being given to capacity augmentation works. The projects of doubling and traffic facilities are extremely important from operational point of view. I propose to allocate about Rs.4,410 crore to capacity augmentation works. To continue

Indian Railways' drive towards improving passenger amenities, an allocation of 1,102 crore has been provided compared to 762 crore in 2011-12. **I strongly feel that valuable services rendered by dedicated workforce of Indian Railways need to be recognised by providing improved amenities to them.** This would be in the form of improvements at work places, better housing facilities, improved service at hospitals and other facilities. Accordingly, allocation of 717 crore in the current year has been almost doubled to 1,388 crore in 2012-13. This is for the staff.

Capacity Augmentation

The Budgetary Support to Indian Railways has been pegged at a modest level of 24,000 crore as against a projected requirement of 45,000 crore. The national projects in Kashmir and northeast region have also to be funded out of this. These projects alone need more than 4,000 crore for the current year and may get delayed for want of adequate funding. I have already informed the august House of my detailed plans of investment on safety, modernization and capacity enhancement during the 12th Plan. With lower budgetary support, the deployment of capital would be lower to that extent. I am sure realizing the benefits of safety and modernization, the government will enhance the allocation of GBS to Railways next year.

I am sure the House will join me in complimenting the Indian Railways and this is a great achievement and I am sure the House will applaud that Indian Railways for the great achievement of completing **11 km long tunnel through Pir Panjal Mountain Range, which would provide connectivity to the Kashmir valley.** When commissioned, this will be the longest transportation tunnel. So, I say to them.

[Translation]

Fauladi hai seene apne

Fauladi hai baahen

Hum chahe to paida kar dein

Chattanon me raahen

[English]

New Lines

Madam, Railways continue to accord priority to **construction of new lines** in the underdeveloped parts of the country and I personally feel that we need to hasten

the process of developing new lines to the tribal areas, to the areas which are underdeveloped. The pace of construction has registered impressive growth, and we are confident of completing 725 km. of new lines in the current year (list of projects appended as Annexure 1), which is almost equal to last year achievement of 709 km and far exceeds the average of about 200 km. only since independence. In other words, we are jumping from 200 km which was earlier to 725 km. I propose to take up completion of 45 new line works covering 700 km. during 2012-13. A list of these projects is at Annexure 2.

I have received many requests for taking up new line projects. All such requests have been duly considered and wherever surveys have been completed, **the proposals have been referred to the Planning Commission for appraisal and 'in principle' approval.** Whatever suggestions were given by hon'ble Members of Parliament, I have sent all such proposals to Planning Commission. To my mind, not a single thing is pending. A list of such 85 new line projects is at Annexure 3. I also propose to undertake a further 111 new line surveys during 2012-13 (listed at Annexure 4). State Governments have also been requested to come forward for sharing the cost of the respective projects and to provide land free of cost to facilitate early construction of projects. Despite constraints, I have included **all the 11 new line projects which have been cleared by the Planning Commission 'in principle' for construction in 2012-13.** In other words, Madam, all the lines which the Planning Commission has given me the approval, I have included in the project. An allocation of 6,872 crore has been made under the new lines planhead. A list of these projects is appended at Annexure 5.

Gauge Conversion

Funding constraints are likely to cause slippage in the target of 1017 km for **Gauge Conversion for 2011-12.** It is expected that 825 km. of gauge conversion projects will be completed (list appended as Annexure 6). A target of 800 km has been fixed for next year with an allocation of Rs.1,950 crore. Seventeen gauge conversion projects are proposed to be completed in 2012-13 and are listed at Annexure 7. With my emphasis on completion of ongoing gauge conversion works, I have included only two new projects in the Budget, 2012-13 and the list of these projects is at Annexure 8. I have also sent four projects of gauge conversion **to the Planning Commission for appraisal and 'in principle' approval.** A list of such 4 gauge conversion projects is at Annexure 9. New surveys for converting seven narrow gauge lines are also proposed to be taken up in 2012-13 (Annexure 10).

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please stay quiet.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: The Unigauge Policy was adopted by Indian Railways in 1992. Since then, about 19,000 km have already been converted into broad gauge, covering the major routes, leaving isolated sections of only about 7,500 km on metre gauge/narrow gauge. I am happy to inform this august house that with the present pace of conversion of about 800 to 900 kms. every year, we will be able to convert most of the MG/NG lines, except "World Heritage Lines" into broad gauge during the 12st Plan period.

Doubling

Doubling projects of 750 kms. are expected to be completed in 2011-12 against the target of 867 kms (list at Annexure 11). A target of 700 km. covering 67 projects of doubling (list at Annexure 12) has been fixed for 2012-13 with a budget allotment of 3,393 crore as against 2,640 cr in RE, 2011-12.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: What are you all doing?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I also propose to take up in 2012-13, a further of 23 new projects of doubling/third line for which approvals of Planning Commission have been obtained. I am going to read all the annexures. After the speech, I am going to read all of them. A list of these projects is at Annexure 13. I have also sent four projects of doubling **to the Planning Commission for appraisal and 'in principle' approval.** A list of such 4 projects is at Annexure 14. A total of 21 surveys for doubling are also being taken up during 2012-13. A list is appended at Annexure 15.

Railway Electrification

Madam, It is my proud privilege to apprise the House that during the 11th Plan, we are poised to achieve 4,500 route kilometers of electrification. Encouraged by this success, I propose to electrify 6,500 route kilometers during the 12th Plan period. This would include electrification of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla line and hence provide

pollution free traction to the pristine Kashmir Valley. An allocation of Rs. 828 crore has been provided in 2012-13 for electrification which will enable completion of 1100 kms (listed at Annexure 16). The details of electrification of 10 new sections being included in the current year budget, as also 20 surveys for electrification of additional sections, are reflected in the list placed at Annexure 17.

Electrification on Indian Railways had its advent with the introduction of 1500 volt DC traction system in Mumbai area during 1925 to 1929 for running of suburban services. The system had outlived its utility and required replacement to the modern 25000 volt AC system. It is my proud privilege to share with the august House that the challenging task of conversion from DC to AC has been successfully achieved on the entire Western Railway portion. Similar conversions will be completed during 2012-13 on the Central Railway portion which extends to Pune. This will give significant benefits by way of higher speeds, reduced journey time and substantial savings in operational costs.

Metropolitan Transport Projects

Kolkata Metro is the only metro system under Indian Railways. I am therefore happy to share with the Hon'ble Members that the following works announced by Mamata Banerjee in previous two budgets, are progressing satisfactorily:-

1. Extension from Dum Dum to Baranagar;
2. Extension from Noapara to Airport (for running a shuttle metro service between Noapara and airport);
3. Noapara to Barasat via Bimanbandar;
4. Baranagar to Barrackpore and Dakshineswar;
5. Airport to New Garia via Rajarhat;
6. Joka to BBD Bagh via Majerhat.

Joka-IIM-Diamond Park Metro extension as the first leg of Joka-Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Metro link is proposed to be taken up. Survey report for extension of metro railway from Barrackpore to Kalyani is being finalised and the work will be taken up in due course. Besides, extension of circular railway from Remount Road to Santoshpur via Garden Reach, Metiabruz has also been taken up. I am sure that with the completion of all these metro projects, metro transport needs of the residents of Kolkata will be addressed to a large extent.

The MMTS Phase-I has already been commissioned and is providing excellent services to the people of

Hyderabad and Secunderabad. To further augment rail transport services in the twin cities, MMTS Phase II project announced in the last year budget has now been sanctioned after obtaining the requisite clearances. Railways also propose to set up a SPV with State Government of Andhra Pradesh for commercial management of the MMTS. While leaving the train operations with the railways, this will provide the required focus and flexibility for addressing the infrastructural and business needs of the organization as also a much needed platform for its rapid growth and development to meet public aspirations. Feasibility of setting up similar SPVs for other suburban systems will also be explored.

The work on extension of MRTS from Velachery to St. Thomas Mount in Chennai is progressing smoothly and I am hopeful of completing and commissioning this project during 2013.

I am extremely happy to inform the august House that Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC) has successfully completed its flagship project of MUTP Phase I costing Rs.4,500 crore with the cooperation of Government of Maharashtra and other stakeholders. Rail users in Mumbai have immensely benefitted with the induction of 1500 EMU coaches, thus increasing the carrying capacity by 35% and thereby reducing the congestion and overcrowding during peak hours. The work on MUTP Phase II at a cost of Rs.5,300 crore is also progressing well and its completion will further boost the suburban transport services in Mumbai. A road map for MUTP III has been prepared to further strengthen and augment the suburban rail infrastructure and MRVC would carry out feasibility study for construction of faster corridors on CSTM-Panvel and Virar-Vasai-Diva-Panvel sections through innovative financing mechanisms. The proposed 72 km. link between Virar-Panvel 3rd line in the PPP mode will open new avenues for development of northern part of Mumbai and facilitate commuters to transit between eastern and western parts of the city. Feasibility of a spur from Panvel to Navi Mumbai airport will also be examined.

Madam, in order to address the transport needs in Navi Mumbai area, I am happy to announce that works will be taken up to facilitate running of 12-car rakes on Harbour line. A new double line work of Belapur-Seawood-Uran is in progress, which will provide direct passenger connectivity to JNPT.

Elevated Suburban Corridor in Mumbai

The financial modelling of an elevated rail corridor

from Churchgate to Virar to be executed through PPP mode in coordination with the Government of Maharashtra is being firmed up. The proposed project will enable introduction of premium AC suburban rail services. A prefeasibility survey for a similar corridor between CST and Kalyan (55 km.) is also proposed to be taken up in due course.

I wish to highlight that the investment outlined above in capacity augmentation projects would be grossly inadequate keeping in view the large shelf of projects. Therefore, in order to optimally utilize the available resources and obtain returns at the earliest, it is proposed to prioritise funding towards completion of last mile projects and ensure sustained allocation during the 12th Plan.

Railways are playing a significant role in social development of the country by providing rail connectivity to the remote, backward and tribal regions on considerations other than financial viability. I believe that Indian Railways has a strong case for the government to consider ploughing its dividend payment back into the railway system for augmenting funding of critical socially desirable projects. Recommendations to this effect have been made in Railway Sector report for the 12th Plan.

Cooperation with State Governments

I am pleased to inform the august House that as a new PPP initiative, Railways in partnership with Government of Chhattisgarh and user industries in the region will develop three rail corridors in the northern part of the state for movement of passengers and freight, with the active participation of all stakeholders. A Memorandum of Understanding has recently been signed and the initiative would now be taken forward in consultation with the State Government.

In view of the declaration of the Kakinada-Vishakhapatnam Coastal Corridor as the PCPI Region consequent to discovery of considerable oil and gas reserves, as also development of a deep water port and SEZ at Kakinada, rail connectivity is now being provided from Pithapuram to Kakinada on cost sharing basis with the Government of Andhra Pradesh. It will be our endeavour to develop similar partnership for development of much needed rail infrastructure with other willing states also.

To augment resources for execution of projects, Railway requested State Governments to come forward for sharing cost of new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects which are considered important by them for development of the State but could not be taken up or

progressed at desired pace. I am happy to announce that response from state governments has been quite encouraging. As of now, 31 projects covering a length of more than 5000 km. in 10 states are being executed with contribution from state governments (list is appended as Annexure 18). Continuing with this policy, I propose to take up following four projects on cost sharing basis with state governments:

- a. Rohtak-Hansi via Meham (Cost Sharing by Haryana Govt.)
- b. Akkanapet-Medak (Cost Sharing by Andhra Pradesh Govt.)
- c. Bhadrachalam-Kovvur (Cost Sharing by Andhra Pradesh Govt.)
- d. Rajabhatkhowa-Jainti (Cost Sharing by West Bengal Govt.)

State Governments have come forward to share cost of some more projects in their states. Those include Governments of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. These projects will be given special attention and processed on priority for obtaining requisite clearances. Following new line projects with cost sharing by state government have been sent to Planning Commission for appraisal and 'in principle' approval:

- a. Gadag-Haveri
- b. Gadag-Wadi
- c. Kandra-Namkom (Ranchi)
- d. Kondapalli-Kathagudem
- e. Manmad-Indore via Malegaon & Dhule
- f. Manugur-Ramagundam stn.
- g. Pirpainti-Jasidih
- h. Pune-Nasik
- i. Thiyat Hamira - Sanu
- j. Kadiri - Puttaparthi
- k. Chickballapur - Puttaparthi
- l. Srinivasapura - Madanapalli

Public Private Partnerships

Hon'ble Members are aware that the railways have been making efforts to attract funding in rail projects through

PPP initiatives. In the light of limitations of funding support from the government and constraints in regard to internal generation and market borrowing, the 12th Plan projections of Indian Railways seek to rely on PPP route in a significant manner. This would be in line with the Approach Paper of Planning Commission for the 12th Plan.

However, the results of the PPP efforts of the railways have not been encouraging. I have, therefore, had the existing marketing schemes reviewed thoroughly to give them greater market focus, provide greater control to the rail-user by making him a stakeholder and to engage him in the planning process for tailoring a total logistics solution. The existing schemes for Wagons Leasing, Sidings, Private Freight Terminals, Container Train Operations, rail-connectivity projects (R3-i and R2C-i) are being made more attractive to PPP partners.

In appreciation of the need to facilitate the first and last mile connectivity proactively, Ministries of Coal, Power, Shipping and Steel were approached for identification of appropriate rail connectivity projects. A total of 17 such projects have been sanctioned and another 28 projects have been identified. Railways will interact with concerned utility stakeholders to take the process of provisioning of first and last mile connectivity forward, largely through the PPP route.

Mumbai Suburban Railway System has sound potential for mobilizing additional resources from commercial utilization of land and air space, thus providing funds for infrastructure development. I have asked MRVC to initiate a pilot project for commercial development.

Dedicated Freight Corridor

Madam Speaker, we have taken up the iconic infrastructure project of construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors from Ludhiana to Dankuni and Dadri to Jawaharlal Nehru Port, for efficient freight transportation to and from ports and to facilitate decongestion of the HDN routes. This is one of the biggest infrastructure projects under execution spread over 3300 kms, covering eastern, northern and western part of the country. Funding assistance from World Bank and JICA has been tied up. A total of 6500 hectares of land, out of 10700 hectares required, has been acquired so far. The bidding process for the civil and track works has commenced. It is expected that the contract for civil and track works for about 1000 route kilometers on Eastern and Western DFCs would be awarded during 2012-13.

Progress of rail based Industries

Several initiatives have been taken in the recent past to set up rail based industries. Madam, I am glad to inform the Hon'ble Members that the Rail Wheel Plant at Chhapra has successfully produced 78 wheels during 2011-12 and the Plant would be ready for full commissioning in 2012-13.

Similarly, the Rae Bareilly Coach Factory is now ready for rolling out coaches and 10 coaches have already been manufactured. The phase-II of this factory would be commissioned in 2012-13.

Healthy progress has been made in the Diesel Component Factory at Dankuni with the commencement of trial production of underframes for high horsepower locomotives. The factory will be fully commissioned in 2012-13.

The wagon manufacturing factory at Kulti and fiat bogey frame unit at Budge Budge are likely to commence production during 2012-13.

As per a budget announcement made earlier by Mamata Ji, a wagon factory was to be located at a suitable location in Odisha. In view of the request received from State Govt. of Odisha, wagon factory is being located at Sitapali (Ganjam District).

Keeping in view the increased requirement of passenger coaches, a rail coach factory at Palakkad with the support of Government of Kerala is proposed to be set up. Similarly, two additional new manufacturing units for coaches are also proposed to be established in the Kutch area in Gujarat and at Kolar in Karnataka, the latter with the active participation of the state government.

Further, it is proposed to establish a plant for manufacture of traction alternators for high horse power diesel locomotives at Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Minister, please continue your speech.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Lалуji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saaran): You haven't said anything about Madhepura, loco and Madhora.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I said that ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Minister, please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I state with pride that a sick unit for wagon manufacture - 'Braithwaite' taken over by railways has been conferred with 'Turn Around Award' by the Board of Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises. Burn Standard, another unit taken over is also on its way to recovery.

In addition I propose to set up a factory at Shyamnagar in West Bengal on PPP basis for manufacture of next generation technology Propulsion System for use in high power electric locomotive, which will enable enhancing of production capacity of CLW.

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I also propose to utilize and augment the electric loco Ancillaries Unit of CLW being set up at Dankuni for fabrication of locomotive shells and assembly of three phase locomotives for manufacturing of new generation 9000 HP locomotives under transfer of technology from Japan. This unit will be a modern facility with capacity to assemble 100 electric locomotives per year.

Connectivity to Neighbouring Countries

In our effort to have cordial and improved relations with neighbouring countries, Indian Railways is taking up projects to provide rail connectivity to such countries. In 2011-12, we had taken up two projects namely, Jogbani-Biratnagar new line and Jaynagar-Bijalpura-Bardibas to provide connectivity to Nepal. Continuing with the approach, I propose to take up a project to connect Agartala with Akhaura in Bangladesh. This rail link will not only improve bilateral ties but will also help in establishing connectivity with inaccessible areas in northeast as journey from Kolkata to Tripura via Bangladesh will result in significant savings in time and distance travelled.

Passenger Amenities

Madam, I have already mentioned about formation of an Indian Railway Station Development Corporation to redevelop 100 stations in the next five years. Indian Railways however have more than 8000 stations and it is necessary that efforts towards improved availability of amenities like waiting halls, benches, adequate lighting, drinking waters, toilets, proper platform services etc. are made in a concerted manner. With this concern, I propose to raise the allocation under passenger amenities from Rs.762 crore in 2011 -12 to Rs.1,102 crore in 2012-13.

Some of the passenger and other user friendly measures introduced or being proposed during 2012-13 are:

1. To facilitate easy movement of passengers, installation of 321 escalators at important stations of which 50 will be commissioned during 2012-13;
2. 12 State of Art mechanized laundries already set up and 6 more to become functional during 2012-13;
3. SMS on passenger mobile phone in case of e-ticket along with an ID proof to be accepted as proof of valid reservation;
4. Introduction of regional cuisine at affordable rates through catering service to cater to local palate;
5. To meet the needs of changing times and customer demand, launching of "Book-a-meal" scheme to provide multiple choice of meals, like low cost meal, diabetic meal etc. through SMS or email;
6. To set up AC Executive lounges at important stations to provide value added services at a charge, offering facilities such as wifi internet, buffet services, wash and change, concierge services for pre-departure and post-arrival assistance to passengers;
7. Setting up of new Rail Neer Plants at Palur in Tamilnadu and Ambernath in Maharashtra to facilitate smooth supply of water at stations;
8. Expansion of housekeeping schemes for trains such as Clean Train Station, On Board Housekeeping Services for cleaning en route and mechanized cleaning at originating/terminating stations;
9. Introduction of 'Rail Bandhu' on-board magazine on Rajdhani, Shatabdis and Duronto Trains;
10. Introduction of coin/currency operated ticket vending machines as a pilot project;

*Not recorded.

11. Introduction of Alternate Train Accommodation System (ATAS) as a pilot project to accommodate waitlisted passenger on alternate trains;
12. Introduction of first model rake with world class interiors;
13. Upgradation of 929 stations as Adarsh Stations including 84 stations proposed in 2012-13 (Annexure 19). 490 stations have been completed so far;
14. Construction of Multi-functional Complexes at 24 locations completed;
15. Sale of PRS tickets through 151 post offices;
16. Implementation of electronic transmission of Railway Receipts for freight traffic direct to the customers.

Madam, I am also happy to inform the august House that Railways have recently introduced satellite based Real Time Train Information System (RTIS), also called SIMRAN, to provide accurate train running information to passengers through SMS, internet etc. The system has already been activated on 36 trains covering Rajdhani, Shatabdis and Durontos and it will be introduced in all mail/express trains in the next 18 months. On-board passenger displays with indication of next halt station and expected arrival time to passengers in running trains through inputs from RTIS will also be introduced in all mail/express trains progressively.

Security of Passengers

Madam Speaker, security of our passengers has been of prime concern to us. I am pleased to inform that I intend to complete the unfinished task of installation of Integrated Security System at all 202 identified stations during 2012-13. Additionally, escorting of trains by RPF/GRP has been extended to almost 3500 trains. It is also now proposed to integrate the RPF Helpline with the All India Passenger Helpline to facilitate much faster response to the security needs of passengers.

Disaster Management

Madam, Railways must possess modern, well-trained and equipped disaster management machinery. The rescue and relief teams for the accident sites need specialized training where they can be engaged in hands on drills. I plan to set up three training centres named as "safety villages" at Bengaluru, Kharagpur and Lucknow.

Cooperation with NID

The National Institute of Design (NID) at Ahmedabad is internationally acclaimed as one of the foremost multi-disciplinary institutions in the field of design, education and research. I had occasion to visit this Institute with a view to harnessing their expertise in design so as to leverage it for bringing out design related improvisations in the facilities available to passengers and other rail-users. A dedicated Railway Design Centre is proposed to be set up in the NID campus with an endowment fund of 10 crore to be utilised for developing concepts in various areas such as station architecture, coach layouts, luggage storage in coaches, toilets, ticketing kiosks and online services, freight service systems etc.

Specialised House-keeping Body

Madam, this is one of the very important suggestions and announcements.

I am concerned and I am sure that so is the country that the standards of hygiene and cleanliness need to be improved substantially. I am not prepared to accept the situation as it is now and all out efforts would be made to improve the standards of cleanliness and hygiene on trains and at the stations within the next six months. This is a very specialised activity which comes under the core area of House-keeping. Indian Railways is duty bound to provide high standards in both, as this is giving a bad name to the otherwise efficient rail system. I propose to set up a specialised House-keeping body to take care of both, i.e. stations and the trains.

Initiatives for differently-abled persons

Indian Railways has always been alive to its social responsibility towards ensuring comfortable train journey for differently-abled persons. Besides providing several travel concessions to such persons, Indian Railways has taken initiative to start manufacturing especially designed coaches having earmarked compartments and toilets adapted to the needs of wheel chair borne/differently-abled person. Each differently-abled friendly compartment provided in specified coaches has a berthing capacity for 4 passengers including two attendants along with toilet and other amenities. Indian Railways has so far manufactured about 2,100 specially designed coaches. It will be our endeavour to have one such coach in each mail/express train. Besides, all Garib Rath rakes are provided with AC compartments for differently-abled persons in the power cars. Efforts are being made to

ensure ease of access to platforms and other areas at stations for differently-abled persons.

Catering Policy

Given the fact that catering is a passenger service, there is an urgent need to redefine railways' approach towards catering and to address demands of the entire spectrum of passengers. The need for visible improvements in the service through pantry cars and base kitchens is a priority since expectations of young India are high and they expect services especially on premium trains, to be of international standards.

I therefore propose that reputed professional agencies which are providing such services internationally be engaged through global tenders for pantry cars and base kitchens under departmental supervision and management. By engaging such specialised international professionals, a benchmark shall be set for modernisation and upgradation. A pilot project will be launched on a few premium trains to introduce international expertise on Indian Railways for catering services.

High Speed Initiatives

Madam, we had decided to construct High Speed Passenger Rail corridors in the country for running trains at speed of 250-350 kmph. As decided earlier, pre-feasibility studies on six corridors have already been taken up. One more corridor to be studied this year is Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur. Study of Pune-Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor has been completed and we are working on finalisation of financing of this project. Government of Kerala is also pursuing a high speed corridor between Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargod. National High Speed Rail Authority is under formation. However, the high speed corridors are highly capital intensive and resource issues need to be addressed with innovative funding mechanism and significant government support to make them a reality. The cooperation of state governments is a precondition to the success of high speed rail initiatives.

Green Initiatives

There are a lot of green initiatives, Madam, which we have taken. The list runs very long and I am sure hon. Members would be more interested in what is happening in their constituencies. So, with your permission, I would skip the list and request that it may be taken as read. But I will talk about the Green Toilets.

*Madam, it is well known that railways are extremely

environment friendly and we are committed to protect our environment. The year 2011-12 was declared as the "Year of Green Energy" by Railways. Several measures initiated/proposed to be initiated to promote clean environment are:-

1. Setting up of 72 MW capacity windmill plants in the wind rich areas of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal;
2. Setting up of 200 remote railway stations as "Green Energy Stations" powered entirely by solar energy;
3. Providing solar lighting system at 1000 manned level crossing gates in non-electrified territory to improve illumination and enhance safety of road users.
4. Introduction of mobile emission test car to measure pollution level of diesel locomotives;
5. Commissioning of two bio-diesel plants in 2012-13 at Raipur and Tondiarpet;
6. Acceptance of SMS on mobile phones as proof of valid reservation, thus saving paper; and
7. Introduction of a 'Green Train' (with low emissions diesel locomotive and coaching stock with bio-toilets) to run through the pristine forests of north Bengal.*

Green Toilets

Madam, the problem of environmental degradation and corrosion of tracks due to night soil has been engaging the attention of the railways for a long time. The rail corrosion costs railways more than Rs.350 crore every year. As also pointed out by both Kakodkar and Pitroda Committees, there is an urgent need to replace the conventional open-discharge toilets with 'Green Toilets' with a view to having cleaner, hygienic and safer railway ecosystem. The DRDO developed bio-toilets are currently under extended trial to test their efficacy and suitability. In the next year, 2,500 coaches will be equipped with these bio-toilets. Trials with retention-evacuation type toilets such as vacuum toilets are also planned on a few premium trains. Based on experience, more number of coaches would be equipped with such green toilets.

Sports

Madam, Indian Railways has been a leading patron

* * This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

of sports in the country. It provides employment to more than a thousand eminent sports-persons every year; participates in 55 national championships and is presently the holder of 29 national titles. Seven of our sportspersons have been honoured with Arjuna Award and Major Dhyan Chand Award in 2011. I am proud to inform the Hon'ble Members that five railway sport-persons have also qualified for Olympics 2012. Sports has now come to acquire the status of a mainstream activity, its soft power being recognised universally considering that it impacts national mood, affects wellness and contributes to the prestige and honour of the nation. I propose to develop a road map for Railway Sports that facilitates creation of an atmosphere that nurtures excellence, provides the sports-persons the right leverage to excel and equips them with the necessary tools to achieve success. The Railway Sports Promotion Board would be provided the necessary wherewithal to administer promotion of sports in a highly professional manner for ensuring even better performance by railway sports-persons. I also intend to review the entire systems, governance structures and policies relating to sports so that the dominant leadership position of Railways is further enhanced. To begin with, I intend to institute a *Rail Khel Ratna* Award that would be given to 10 sports-persons every year, based on their current performance. The awardees would be provided world class training to hone their skills further.

Staff Amenities

I have already informed the House about quantum jump in the allocation for activities related to staff welfare. Railway is a 24x7 service available to the rail-users. To run services at this scale, the employees have to put in long hours of duty without any respite round the year and the compulsion of job creates high stress levels. I therefore intend to introduce a wellness programme for them at their work places for early detection of risk factors, prevention and early treatment of diseases caused due to high blood pressure and sugar levels, obesity and other lifestyle related ailments.

We need to recognise the dedication, hard work and sacrifice of the staff at all levels. To minimise incidence of human error especially amongst the skilled and technical staff including loco pilots, cabin men and gangmen, it is important to ensure proper rest period for them. I am also conscious of the importance of periodic training and creation of a general environment to provide them enhanced dignity. I have also requested NID to design appropriate outfits for various categories of workforce.

Industrial Relations

Madam, I have a firm belief in democratic process of decision making and have had regular consultations with the staff federations on several organisational issues. The railway federations are extremely responsible and work in the best interests of the railways. I assign highest importance to continuance of healthy and harmonious tradition of industrial relations across length and breadth of Indian Railways. In recognition of the commitment of the employees to the organisation and their contribution to increasing the productivity, Indian Railways paid the Productivity Linked Bonus equivalent to wages of 78 days for 2010-11.

Recruitment

This is one of the very important areas and several questions were posed to me during the Question Hour. Madam Speaker, over the years, Railways had come to have large number of vacancies in various categories of staff, including in technical and safety related areas. These have an adverse impact on operational and safety performance of the organisation. I am happy to inform that during the year 2011-12 we have recruited over 80,000 persons to fill up some of such vacancies. During 2012-13, more than one lakh persons are proposed to be recruited. With these recruitments, Indian Railways will also be wiping out the backlog vacancies of SC/ST/OBC and physically challenged persons and complying with the instructions of DOP&T.

Railway PSUs

Madam, I feel extremely happy to inform the House that all the 11 Public Sector Undertakings of the Railways performed extremely well with a healthy growth in total dividend paid by them. Various important contracts have been bagged by the Railways PSUs in the neighbouring countries for constructions/rehabilitation of railway lines and for supply of rolling stock. The dividend paid in 2010-11 amounted to 429 crore which was more by 31% than the previous fiscal.

Production Units

Madam, Railways' Production Units provide this organisation a sustained supply of rolling stock. I propose to modernise production units with state-of-art technology. Through continued innovations and improvisations, it has been possible to induct latest technologies like IGBT based 3-phase engines for locomotives, Stainless Steel Coaches,

air conditioned Metro Cars etc. DLW has been able to manufacture the prototype of the next generation WDG-5 locomotives with a 5500 High Horsepower Power pack with indigenous design efforts.

Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala, through its efforts has been able to develop non-AC version of such coaches to benefit the common man by providing him better interiors, improved riding comfort and significantly enhanced safety features. It is further proposed to manufacture two AC Double Decker rakes comprising LHB coaches. I intend to streamline the production process further through a long term production plan that would lead to better inventory management and facilitate induction of more energy efficient and cutting edge technology in a planned manner.

E-procurement and e-auction

Indian Railways have a highly professional procurement protocol and a codified and transparent system of decision making to procure the required products at reasonable prices. Yet there is scope for further improvement. To provide further transparency and efficiency to the procurement process, the system of e-procurement has been implemented for purchase of stores in the Zonal Railways Headquarters and production units. These initiatives are being expanded further for including the field units within the ambit of this process. Feasibility of including works tenders also within the ambit of e-procurement is being explored. In addition to this, a pilot project for e-auction of sale of scrap has been successfully conducted on Northern Railway and this would be expanded and rolled out on other units during 2012-13, thereby considerably improving transparency, efficiency and wider reach for this important activity. I propose to have in future e-procurement and e-auction of all the scraps.

Restructuring of Railway Board

This again is a very important item which deals with restructuring of Railway Board. Madam, I take immense pride in informing the august House that my railway family is extremely committed, professional and fully capable of delivering the desired results. It is a dream organisation to work for the young generation and provides excellent job satisfaction. This talent-rich organisation of almost 14 lakh employees includes the best brains from IITs, IIMs, Medical Colleges and other professional institutes. While it has made outstanding contribution in nation building, I feel the current structure needs to be altered to meet the challenges of changing times. This vast organisation has pockets of

both excellence and anachronism. The Board should be structured along business lines rather than on functional lines in sync with corporate objectives.

I have to fortify the Indian Railways to make it responsive to the changing economic scenario and equip it to leverage upon the new opportunities. There is also a need to infuse larger accountability and its structure must be aligned with organisational objectives. We need a system that delivers. The issue needs to be debated and discussed with Board and Rail Parivar.

My challenge is to make a Railway system which is Safe, Modern and Efficient. Madam, the requirement of resources for rail infrastructure is extremely high and in order to provide a thrust to Railways efforts at mobilising additional revenues, I have decided to induct 2 new Board Members viz. PPP/Marketing and Safety/Research. The new Members will be charged with the responsibility of finding ways and means of augmenting resources and providing further focus on safety.

New Passenger Services

With augmentation of infrastructure in the form of completion of more new lines, doubling, gauge conversion projects, and induction of higher number of locomotives and coaches, I am happy to announce a number of new passenger services keeping in view the needs and aspirations of the people. I propose to introduce 75 new Express trains, 21 Passenger trains, 8 new MEMU services and 9 DEMU services. Besides I also propose to extend the run of 39 trains and increase the frequency of 23 trains. These have been listed at Annexure 20. I am going to give a detailed list afterwards. If the hon. Members have patience, I promise to give a detailed list. If hon. Members are ready to sit, there are about 820 new items which I am going to announce. I am willing to sit the whole day.

This is very important. I just seek your silence for one minute. Lalu ji, this is very important.

Additionally, as an endeavour to facilitate rail travel to important places of Sikh pilgrimage, "*Guru Parikrama*" special trains are proposed to be run on Amritsar-Patna-Nanded routes, where also a large number of people from all sects visit. I am sure I have the blessings of all the *Gurus*.

With a view to further enhancing the carrying capacity of suburban services in Mumbai area, 75 new services in the Churchgate-Virar, Virar-Dahanu Road, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus-Kalyan-Kasara and Chhatrapati Shivaji

Terminus-Kalyan-Karjat sections, Harbour and Trans-Harbour line will be run.

In Chennai area, it is proposed to run 18 additional services on Chennai Beach-Tambaram, Chennai Beach-Chengalpattu, Chennai Beach-Avadi, Chennai Beach-Tiruttani, Chennai Beach- Gummidipundi/Sullurupetta and Chennai Beach-Velachery sections.

To strengthen the suburban services in Kolkata area, 44 new services will be introduced including from Sealdah-Ranaghat, Ranaghat-Naihati, Ranaghat-Shantipur, Ranaghat-Krishnanagar, Ranaghat-Gede, Ranaghat-Bangaon, Bangaon-Barasat, Barasat-Hasnabad, Bandel-Barddhaman, Bandel-Howrah, Bandel-Naihati, Seoraphuli-Tarkeswar, Santragachi-Bagnan, Santragachi-Amta, Santragachi-Mecheda, Santragachi-Panskura, Howrah-Haldia, Howrah -Kharagpur and Mecheda-Digha.

It is also proposed to introduce 50 new services in Kolkata Metro in the coming year.

Stoppages of trains

There are innumerable requests from Hon'ble Members for providing stoppages of trains. While I appreciate the concerns of the Members for convenience of the people, I should inform the House that providing additional stoppages to trains reduces speed and slows down trains, causing congestion in the route. In some cases, operational constraints do not permit any stoppage at the requested stations. I am sure the Hon'ble Members will reconsider their requests. Otherwise the very propose and character of trains like Shatabdis/Rajdhani will be lost.

Financial Performance

Madam, now I come to the financial performance and before I proceed further, let me cite this poetry.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen to him.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI:

Kandhe Jhuk Gaye Hain,

Kamar Lachak Gaye Hai,

Bojha Utha-Uthakar Bechari

Rail Thak Gaye Hai,

Railgadi ko Naye Dava Chhahiye,

Naya Asar Chhahiye Aur Thode

Paise Chhahiye,

Is Safar Mein Mujhko

Aapsa Humsafar Chhahiye

[English]

Madam, I now come to the financial position of the Indian Railways and have no hesitation in informing this august House that Indian Railways are passing through a difficult phase. In the current year, although there were no arrears of Pay Commission to be paid, the impact of allowances and several post-budgetary factors has been very stressful for the finances of the Railways.

On the loading side, the continued ban on export of iron ore by Karnataka and Odisha state governments led to scaling down of loading target from 993 MT to 970 MT in the revised estimates. However, the earnings target for goods has been retained in view of freight rationalization implemented from 6th March, 2012. The rationalization seeks to better align the freight tariff with cost of rendering service and ease the pressure on railway finances.

In view of the lower growth in number of passengers i.e. 5.1% to end of January 2012, as against the budgeted target of 5.9%, the earnings target has been scaled down by Rs.1,656 crore to Rs.28,800 crore in the revised estimates. Taking into account the lower growth in Other Coaching and Sundry earnings, the Gross Traffic Receipts have been kept at Rs.1,03,917 crore in the RE, short of the budget target by Rs.2,322 crore. On the other hand, higher provision of Rs.3,000 crore is required for Ordinary Working Expenses and Pensions to meet post-budgetary requirements. Thus, provision has been enhanced to Rs.75,650 crore for Ordinary Working Expenses and to Rs.16,800 crore for appropriation to the Pension Fund in the revised estimates.

I am extremely grateful to the Railway Convention Committee for reducing the rate of dividend from 6% to 5% for 2011-12, thereby providing a relief of about Rs.650 crore. However, I would like to state with pride that Railways have not defaulted on the payment of dividend despite the financial crunch in the last two years.

After meeting the full dividend liability of Rs.5,652 crore, the 'Excess' remaining is only Rs.1,492 crore as against the budgeted amount of Rs.5,258 crore. The

'Excess' being inadequate to meet requirements of safety related works financed through Development Fund, a loan of Rs.3,000 crore has been extended by Ministry of Finance. The Operating Ratio of the railways is also estimated now to be 95.0% as against the budgeted target of 91.1%.

[*Translation*]

Manzil Abhi Dur Hain,
 Aur Raasta Jatil Hain,
 Kandha Mila Ke Saath Chalein
 To Kuch Nahi Mushkil Hai,
 Saath Milkar Jo Hum
 Patria Bichayenge,
 To Dekhte Hi Dekhte,
 Sab Raaste Khul Jayenge

[*English*]

Revamping the Accounting System

Railways have initiated an accounting reforms project that would enable it to move over gradually to an accrual based accounting system as also envisaged in the Vision 2020. An action plan has been drawn to complete the work within the broad framework as envisaged by GASAB (Government Accounting Standards Advisory Board).

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: What about Bihar?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: The entire Bihar is here.
 ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing except what the hon. Minister says will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Budget Estimates 2012-13. Madam, I shall now deal with the Budget Estimates for 2012-13.

The railways is targeting to carry 1025 MT of revenue earning originating traffic during 2012-13, which is 55 MT more than the revised estimate target of 970 MT. The freight earnings target has been kept at 89,339 crore,

indicating a growth of 30.2% over the current year revised target. The number of passengers is expected to increase by 5.4% in the year 2012-13 with the increase in number of trains and higher occupancy. The passenger earnings have been kept at 36,073 crore, an increase of 7,273 crore over the revised estimates of the current year. The Other Coaching and Sundry earnings are expected to grow by 8.9% and 10.7% in 2012-13 to 2,994 crore and 4,096 crore respectively and Gross Traffic Receipts are expected to be 1,32,552 crore, i.e. an increase of 28,635 crore over the Revised Estimates of 2011-12.

Ordinary Working Expenses are estimated at 84,400 crore i.e. 11.6% higher than the current year to meet additional liabilities along with an appropriation of 18,500 crore to Pension Fund. In order to step up investments in safety, the Appropriation to Depreciation Reserve Fund has been enhanced to 9,500 crore, signifying an increase of about 54% over the RE of the current year.

The railways have budgeted to discharge full dividend liability of 6,676 crore to the general exchequer for the year 2012-13 calculated on the basis of applicable rate for the current year.

Madam, all organizations face highs and lows during their life and Indian Railways has also witnessed periods of affluence and shortfalls. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Finance Minister for extending a loan of 3,000 crore to meet the urgent needs of safety related investment in 2011-12. The loan is repayable in two equal instalments and carries an interest of 8.55%. **I am delighted to inform the august House and I am sure the hon. Finance Minister would also like this, that I propose to return the full loan amount of 3,000 crore along with interest in the year 2012-13 itself.**

The best ever Operating Ratio of Indian Railways, this is a very ambitious target and I am sure that we are going to fulfil it, was 74.7% in the year 1963-64. In consultation with the Railway Board, I am targeting to improve the Operating Ratio from 95% to less than 80% by the end of 12th Plan. This landmark improvement in railway finances would enable building up of a strong base to meet the challenges ahead and bring back the confidence of people in Railways, thereby dispelling all apprehensions that Indian Railways is going downhill. **I expect to achieve an Operating Ratio of 84.9% in 2012-13 as compared to 95% in the current year. If this trend continues, I have no doubt that my Operating Ratio will improve upon even the best ever of 74.7% within the 12th Plan.**

* Not recorded.

Madam, all the Hon'ble Members are fully aware of the financial difficulties which Indian Railways is passing through. The factors contributing to such situations are also quite well known. The Railways have been facing considerable criticism, much of it unwarranted, for its present financial situation.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Please have some water.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I do not need water.

[English]

The budgetary support from the government has not been at the levels required by the railways. Yet it is my duty to address the issues before us and take this great organization forward. While balancing my budget this year and formulating the Rail Budget for the next fiscal, I have had a hard look at the revenue model available to us and have realized the true import of the dictum - "**one who does not help himself is helped by none**".

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You may recite a couplet.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I have to convey something more important than a couplet.

[English]

I have been under tremendous pressure for the last few months from all quarters of society, be it staff federations, various parliamentary committees including the Public Accounts, Consultative and Standing Committees, C&AG, Members of Parliament cutting across party lines, media and even rail users to address the issue of inadequate resource generation by the Railways. Collectively and individually, they have time and again questioned as to what is restraining the Indian Railways from raising financial resources internally which are much needed not only for improving passenger amenities but also for safety and development.

As a measure of social welfare, Indian Railways extends travel concessions to more than 50 categories of travellers which include students, sportspersons, scouts & guides, farmers, senior citizens, teachers, girls, youth, patients etc. The value of concessions granted to travellers is more than 800 crore per year. Continuing this contribution of Indian Railways to the society, **I propose to**

extend 50% concession in fare in AC 2, AC 3, Chair Car and Sleeper Classes to patients suffering from 'Aplastic Anaemia' and 'Sickle Cell Anaemia diseases'.

This is important and I am sure that the House will recognise this. In recognition of the laurels which the winners of Arjuna Awards have brought to the country through their outstanding performance in their respective sports, **I propose to extend the facility of travel by Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains to them.**

Madam, I have had wide consultations with various stakeholders. The input costs of railways have been going up. The impact of the 6th Pay Commission on the staff costs is well known to the Hon'ble Members. Fuel prices have increased by more than 50% during the last decade. The movement of Wholesale Price Index and Consumer Price Index has followed similar pattern. During this period, the cost of passenger transportation by road has increased manifold. Consequently, a large chunk of short distance passenger traffic has got diverted from road to rail, creating additional pressure on rail infrastructure.

[Translation]

Kandhe Jhuk Gaye Hain,
Kamar Lachak Gaye Hain,
Bojhe Utha-Utha Kar,
Bechari Rail Thak Gaye Hai
Railgadi ko Naye Dava,
Naya Asar Chhahiye,
Is Safar Mein Mujhko
Apsa Humsafar Chhahiye.

[English]

Therefore, I have been counselled to go for a steep increase in passenger fare as there has been no increase for last almost 8 years. However, guided by an overriding concern for the aam admi, 'Maa Mati Manush' I have desisted from any steep increase.

The Izzat Scheme was introduced by Mamata Banerjee to enable the underprivileged citizens to travel with pride. Any person with less than Rs.1,500 monthly income can avail benefit of this scheme with a monthly pass for Rs.25 only. To give relief to the poorest sections of the society, **I propose to extend the travel distance from 100 km. to 150 kms under Izzat Scheme,** thus

covering all designated suburban sections keeping the rate of Rs.25 unchanged.

As Hon'ble Members are aware, so far the earnings from the freight traffic have been subsidising the passenger traffic. This model of heavy cross subsidy is not sustainable over a long period. If this continues, then I am afraid railways may lose freight traffic to road.

Madam, there has been a demand from several quarters for setting up of an **independent Railway Tariff Regulatory Authority** that will suggest the level of tariffs both for freight and fares. However, I feel this is an important area and needs a serious debate. The pros and cons of the decision are required to be considered carefully. There is no exclusive body to advise whether an independent regulatory body is desirable. I am therefore, appointing a body of Experts with representatives of customers, passengers, trade/industry, and public representatives etc. to examine this important issue. On receipt of the report and after debating in Parliament a suitable decision will be taken after discussion in Parliament not before that.

I propose to rationalise the fares to cause minimal impact on the common man and to keep the burden within tolerance limits in general. I am asking for an extra only 2 paise per km for suburban and ordinary second class.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Please do not wipe out the identity of Railways. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Similarly, increase for mail express second class will be by only 3 paise per km; for sleeper class by only 5 paise per km; for AC Chair Car, AC 3 tier & First Class by only 10 paise per km; AC 2 Tier by only 15 paise per km; and AC 1 by only 30 paise per km. Corresponding rationalisation in minimum distance and fare chargeable in various classes has also been proposed.

I am aware that a large number of passengers face problems at ticket windows because of non-availability of loose change. This causes a lot of hardship and delays the ticket dispensing process leading to longer queues. Incidences of passengers having to forego the change due towards them are also not uncommon. In order to address this problem, I have decided to incorporate a rounding off mechanism in the fare structure. For all ordinary and mail/express trains, rounding off will be to the next nearest five rupees. However, for the suburban

passengers, I propose to permit a limited exception in the form of downward rounding off also in a few cases. By way of example, a fare of Rs.11 will become Rs.10 and Rs.6 will become Rs.5. The minimum fare chargeable and the platform ticket will now be Rs.5.

The proposed revisions will have marginal impact on the fares. The increase in fares for suburban second class passengers travelling 35 km will be only 2. For non-suburban second class ordinary passenger travelling a distance of 135 km, increase will be 4 only. For second class mail/express passenger travelling a distance of 375 km, the addition to the fare will be only 12 and that for a 750 km journey by sleeper class on mail/express train will be only 40. An AC 3 tier passenger travelling a distance of 530 km will be required to pay an additional 57. The increase for AC 2 tier and AC 1 passenger travelling over same distance will be 84 and 163 respectively.

The proposed adjustments do not even cover fully the impact of increase in fuel prices during the last eight years. I am keeping the valuable passengers of Indian Railways insulated from the burden of increase in staff costs.

I wish to share with the august House that I am contemplating a system of segregating fuel component in the cost associated with passenger services and call it **FAC (fuel adjustment component)**, which I am not doing now. This is something for the future. It will be known as the Fuel Adjustment Component. The FAC will be dynamic in nature and will change in either direction with the change of fuel cost. I must also be forthright and take the House into confidence in mentioning that in the event of any further increase in input costs of railways, it will not be possible for us to keep the passengers cushioned from the impact of such increases.

Through the above proposals, I seek to create a partnership with my passengers and I assure the august House that the additional revenue will help the railways provide better, cleaner and safer services to them. I am sure that the people at large would welcome it.

Madam, before I end my speech, I would just wish to say:

[Translation]

Railgadi Ki Chuk-Chuk Mein Hi,

Aam Admi Ki Dhak Dhak Hai,

Railgadi Ki Barrakat Mein Hi,

Desh Ki Barrakat Hai,
 Railgadi Ko Kuch Dular
 Ki Zaroorat Hai,
 Thodi Rahat, Thodi Chahat, Thode Pyaar Ki
 Zaroorat Hai
 Railgadi Ki Chuk-Chuk Mein Hi
 Aam Aadmi Ki Dhak Dhak Hai.

[English]

Madam, I have got 820 Annexures. I can tell you that I have considered the requests of most of the hon. Members of Parliament. When they look at the Annexures, I am sure that they will come and thank me. With these words Madam, I commend the Railway Budget for 2012-13 to the august House.

[Placed in library. See No. L.T. 6173/15/12]

13.48 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS
 (RAILWAYS), 2011-2012

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 7.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2011-12.

[Placed in library. See No. L.T. 6174/15/12]

13.48 ½ hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 2009-2010

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No.8.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2009-10.

[Placed in library. See No. L.T. 6175/15/12]

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.50 pm.

13.49 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fifty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.50 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Sir, where is the Minister?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): He is coming. ...(Interruptions)

14.52 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. The Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House within twenty minutes.

Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

(i) **Need to establish a Common Facilitation Centre for farmers cultivating Rubber at Devarappali and a Rubber Research Institute in Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (Rajahmundry): The Rubber Plantation drive took place from early 1985 in my Constituency i.e. Rajahmundry. During 2009, the rubber yielding was 40 tonnes from 75 hectares of land and last year the production was 55 tonnes from 98 hectares. The

* Treated as laid on the Table.

existing Rubber Board office in Rampachodavaram is procuring the natural Rubber in the form of smoked sheets and the buyers are from out of the State only as there is no single small scale industry working on Rubber in this region.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take some urgent steps for the development of Rubber plantation and industry in the Region. There is an urgent need to establish a "Common Facilitation Centre" (CFC) at Devarapalli nearby Ramapachodavaram, for registering all the Rubber crop farmers, price fixation as per the demand from the CFC and to carry out marketing activities by farmers through CFC, which will be under the control of Rubber Board, Government of India.

As the climatic condition of this region is friendly for Rubber crop, there is need to establish a Rubber Research Institute in Rajahmundry for developing new breeds of crop for high-yielding and there is also a need to establish one Educational Institute on Rubber technology under the aegis of Central Government to meet the requirement of skilled manpower.

I would also like to request through this august House that there is an urgent need to provide tax sops for the development of the industry for creating Rubber City near Rajahmundry to create employment opportunities and to provide benefit to the farmers in long run especially to the primitive Tribes who are cultivating Rubber.

(ii) Need to address the problem of shortage of LPG in Kerala

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): I would like to raise a very important matter affecting every household in Kerala. Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is supplied to Kerala by the Tamil Nadu-based bullet tanker lobby. This lobby is very strong and has a membership of 4000. Because of their strike, the supply of Liquefied Petroleum Gas to Kerala has dwindled, which has caused cooking gas shortage in Kerala. The LPG supply in Kerala is in a critical position. As per rule, LPG cylinders are to be supplied to the consumers within 20-30 days. But, now-a-days, consumers have to wait for 60-70 days to get LPG supplies which creates difficulties for the consumers. The Indane consumers are the worst affected in Kerala since the consumers of Indane get their supplies only after two months. The shortage of LPG Cylinders encourages black-marketeers who fleece innocent consumers.

Also, the LPG bottling plant of India Oil Corporation in Kochi stopped production in one of its units which

further aggravated the shortage of LPG. There is a shortage of around 7,500 cylinders a day following the stoppage of operation in one of its units. People have to wait for months to get LPG refill. It is learnt that the bullet tankers from Mangalore were not arriving in Kerala for the last quite some time. However, 50 per cent of the supply is from Kochi Refineries and the production is continuing with the limited supply. Though, the operations at the Kozhikode and Parippally plants were not much affected, these plants are unable to meet the entire requirement of LPG in Kerala.

The LPG shortage in Kerala could only be solved with the completion of the interim LPG unloading facility at Cochin till the multi-user liquid terminal of the Cochin Port trust comes up. It is learnt that this proposal is yet to get the clearance from the Centre.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take immediate steps to clear the proposal of setting up multi-user liquid terminal of the Cochin Port Trust and till this is cleared, complete the interim LPG unloading facility at Kochi immediately so that the problem of LPG shortage in Kerala is taken care of. I have been raising the demand for setting up of a Bottling Plant at Chengannur for a long time. If a Bottling Plant is set up at Chengannur, the shortage of LPG in Central Travancore will be eased. I request that immediate steps be taken in this direction.

(iii) Need to ensure the safety of lady passengers in trains

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): I would like to bring the attention of the Government towards the increasing incidents of atrocities against lady passengers in trains. Several measures to enhance the security in trains have been assured after the brutal incident of killing a lady passenger in Kerala last year. But the harassment and violence against women are still reporting. The robbery in passenger trains is also increasing. A number of such incidents are reported recently from the long distance trains bound to Kerala. In many such cases the railway authorities and the Railway Protection Force are reluctant to register the complaint. The instruction for keeping FIR copy in all the trains is not adhered to. I request the attention of the Government to this matter and take necessary actions with immediate effect. I also request the Government to direct the railways to ensure cleanliness of train compartments especially in this summer vacation.

(iv) Need to provide basic civic facilities in Hoshiarpur Parliamentary Constituency, Punjab

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Hoshiarpur): My Parliamentary Constituency is Hoshiarpur which is adjacent to the hilly areas of Himachal Pradesh. 75 percent area is known as Kandi which includes villages of Mukerian, Dasuha, Tanda, Sham Chaurasi and Chabbewal as well as certain areas of Hoshiarpur Assembly Constituency. People of these Assembly Constituencies are still deprived of basic civic amenities. Development works are not being carried out there. As a result, facilities such as roads, medical care, schools, colleges, drinking water, toilet etc. have not been provided there. Children have to walk 3-4 km. to go to school everyday. Similarly, sick person have to cover 30-40 km. to reach the city to get medical treatment. Even buses don't ply on this route. Pregnant women are unable to receive benefits to government schemes in absence of any hospital there. Many types of wild animals are found in this area in abundance. These wild animals not only affect the ready crops but also make the lives of people uncomfortable. I urge upon the Minister of Rural Development to provide basic civic facilities to the people of Kandi by providing special package there so that people of Kandi could understand the actual meaning of freedom.

- (v) **Need to take up the issue of re-definition of 'war zone area' in international waters of the Arabian Sea by London based Joint War Committee**

[English]

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (Chalakyud): Recently in two incidents involving international ships five fishermen were killed and other two were missing near the Kerala Coastal area in the Arabian Sea. There are three baseline points along the Kerala coast at Kochi, Alappuzha, and Vivekanadappara at Kanyakumari, 12 nautical miles from these baseline points are domestic sea area and 200 nautical miles from the baseline points are Indian Economic Zone where the free fishing is allowed. In the last one year, there are no incidents of pirate attacks in this area. This is because of the active presence of the Indian Navy and the Coast Guard. Even then, the London based Joint War Committee has declared the area as "War Zone" and ships will not get insurance converge sailing in the war zone if any attack takes place. Therefore, the ships are moving within the 12 nautical mile area for safe passage. This is causing serious threat to the life of fishermen.

Hence, I request that the Government may kindly intervene in this and pressurize the international agencies

to redefine the "War Zone" area so that the ships can navigate at a specified distance from the Indian coastal areas. Government should also take adequate measures to protect the lives of fishermen in the area.

- (vi) **Need for more LPG Agencies in Lohardaga Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand to ensure adequate supply of LPG cylinders to consumers**

[Translation]

SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT (Lohardaga): Lohardaga parliamentary Constituency of Jharkhand is tribal dominant rural area which covers two districts i.e. Gumla and Lohardaga including Mandar Assembly constituency in Ranchi district. There are only five LPG gas agencies in entire Parliamentary Constituency which is quite inadequate in comparison to the demand of the area. The people here are dependent on natural resources such as wood, coal or kerosene oil in absence of LPG, Which is not only adversely affecting the environment but it is every expensive and a health hazard also. There is unrest among people of the area due to the absence of adequate number of LPG agencies in the area and short supply of gas cylinders by the operational gas agencies. People are staging Dharna in the area almost everyday due to unavailability of gas cylinders.

I urge upon the hon'ble Minister that there is an urgent need to take same concrete steps to address the said enormous problem at the earliest keeping in view the hardships faced by people of this area in this regard. Hence, I urge upon the Government to ensure opening of atleast one gas agency in all blocks of my Parliamentary Constituency in order to facilitate supply of LPG cylinders to common people of the area.

- (vii) **Need to create a new Railway Division and office of D.R.M. in Surat, Gujarat**

SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH (Surat): Surat Railway Station in Gujarat has been declared as World Class Stations by the Ministry of Railway. Surat Railway Station is one of the five largest revenue generating station of Western Railway. Railways earn more than Rs. 60 lakh daily from Surat Railway Station. The population of Surat city is more than 50 lakh. It is known as textile hub of the country since there are more than 200 textile markets and hundreds of traders from the country and abroad visit the city for business purposes.

Apart from textile industry, there are more than 5000 small diamond factories in Surat due to which lakhs of

traders visit Surat. Tapti line connects Udhna Station in Surat City to Jalgaon and Bhusawal and the same line goes upto Madras and Jagganath Puri.

In absence of Division Office at Surat railway station each petty issue has to be referred to Mumbai Central Division which is 250 Km. away from Surat and it took months and even a year to meet certain demands as a result passengers suffers a lot of inconvenience. More than 1,20,000 passengers commute from Surat city and more than 35000 current tickets and 8000 Reserved tickets are sold there every day.

There are Division Offices in small station for the past many years which are far lagging behind Surat in terms of revenue, population and development. Apart from this, there is ample space available in Surat city required to open DRM office.

Therefore, DRM office should be set up there while making Surat Station as Division Office keeping in view revenue, population and development of Surat city.

(viii) Need to create a separate time zone for North Eastern State

[English]

SHRI RAMEN DEKA (Mangaldoi): The North Eastern States remain under developed in comparison to other states due to so many factors. One major factor is time management. Two hours early sunrise and sunset has a major impact on working system of people of North Eastern States. If this early two hours is utilized scientifically it will increase the efficiency of Human Resources, it will benefit Aviation sector also which will give North Eastern States a good connectivity. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy on 2007 also opined that the separate time zone will be able to save energy. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture also observed that a separate time zone will help increase the pace of development in the region.

People of Assam also have been demanding a separate time zone for North East. It is not out of context to mention that in British era there was a local time zone for Assam. British used separate time to boost the tea cultivation. A separate time zone will bring new pace to this region.

In view of this, I urge the Government to think over this matter and grant a separate time zone to North Eastern States.

(ix) Need to accord Central University status to the Gorakhpur University

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Gorakhpur is a major trade and vacation hub besides being important religious spiritual and cultural centre of eastern Uttar Pradesh. There is only one university in Gorakhpur for the population of more than 3 crores. Gorakhpur University was established in the year 1956-57. This university is the only centre which caters to the need to higher education of only eastern Uttar Pradesh but also Bihar and Terai region of Nepal. Due to the limited resources of the State Government, the role of university in cultural, social and economic development of the entire region has been restricted to great extent.

Therefore, Gorakhpur University should be accorded status of Central University in view of religious, cultural importance of Gorakhpur.

(x) Need to ensure availability of iodized salt to all the people in the country

SHRI RAM KISHUN (Chandauli): It has been stated in the UNICEE report that 49 per cent families in India do not use iodized salt. It has an adverse effect on mental growth of children. It has been seen that there is an adverse effect on mental growth of children due to low or no consumption of iodized salt. 43 percent children in India are born underweight. As per the statement of all Indian Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, iodized salt has been seen as an alternate for growth of mentally retarded children. Even underweight children are not consuming iodized salt. It is a double blow for children. I demand that the Government should ensure availability of iodized salt to all the people in the country.

(xi) Need to appoint staff to man the level crossing near Futa Atta in Bulandshahar, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR (Gautam Budh Nagar): There are 4-5 villages near Futa Atta railway crossing near Bulandshahar under Gautam Budh Nagar Parliamentary Constituency and people of these villages have to pass through the said level crossing for commuting from one side to another. But frequent accidents took place there due to absence of manned level crossing. Recently, two villagers died after being hit by Meerut-Khurja passenger train at this level crossing on 12th March, 2012. A number of people have lost their lives at this unmanned level crossing in the past also.

I urge upon the Government to appoint a guard at other unmanned level crossings including Futa Atta level

crossing under my Parliamentary Constituency and provide proper compensation to deceased and injured persons in such accidents at the earliest.

(xii) Need to construct a road overbridge at 'Saharsa Bengali Bazar Railway Dhala' level crossing No. 31 falling between Saharsa and Pachgachia in district Saharsa, Bihar

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Khagadia): The construction of a Railway Overbridge (R.O.B) was sanctioned in the Railway Budget during the year 1997-98 at Saharsa Bengali Bazar Railway Dhala level crossing No. 31 Saharsa-Pachgachiya under East Central Railway in Saharsa district of Bihar. It is located on NH. 107. The Ministry of Surface Transport and National Highways, Government of India has not even fixed the alignment of R.O.B in a bid to start its construction after the sanction.

Saharsa is a divisional headquarter. The general public face a lot of inconvenience and normal life is thrown out of year owing to heavy to and fro traffic on either side because of the closure of the said Railway Dhala owing to heavy vehicular traffic like truck, bus, maxi, taxi, tempo, rickshaw and motor cycles alongwith burgeoning population.

So, the Ministry of Surface Transport and Highways should start the construction process of the R.O.B. sanctioned at Saharsa Railway Dhala level crossing No. 31 in Bihar after fixing its alignment in public interest at the earliest.

(xiii) Need to release a commemorative postal stamp on the occasion of 50th anniversary of the Palode Agri Fair held at Palode in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

[English]

SHRI A. SAMPATH (Attingal): Palode Agri Fair, situated in Thiruvananthapuram District of Kerala State is going to celebrate its Golden Jubilee in Year 2013. Started as an ordinary Cattle fair, it has risen to the level of Agricultural form. People of Kerala and neighbouring Tamil Nadu are being benefited very much with the development of this form.

January 2013 is the Golden Jubilee anniversary of Palode Cattle fair. This Fair promotes Culture of Agrarian Sector among the new generation. Hence it needs urgent recognition and consideration from the Union Government.

I urge upon the Government of India to give

necessary financial assistance to the Palode Agri Fair and also release a Postal Stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Palode Agri Fair.

(xiv) Need to declare policy for export of cotton and to declare MSP of cotton to benefit cotton growers

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAV (Buldhana): I belong to Buldhana district which is a part of Vidharbha region in Maharashtra. The farmer families residing in the area are completely dependent on Cotton farming, however, the farmers suffer huge losses owing to cotton policies of the Union Government. The Government does not formulate any cotton policy during the time of the crop which causes unnecessary delay in the export of cotton and determining minimum support price of cotton and traders take undue advantage of this time. The Government brings cotton policy when it is not required because by then the cotton passes in the hands of traders from the farmers.

The Government is requested to declare policy for export of cotton at the time of its harvest and storage and determine minimum support price of cotton after adding the cost and the profit of farmers.

(xv) Need to undertake expansion of Golden rock Railway Workshop in Tiruchirappalli and set up a new Coach Manufacturing Factory at Golden Rock, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI P. KUMAR (Tiruchirappalli): Golden Rock Railway workshop and 3200 staff quarters of Railways are situated in 225 acres of land in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. The Golden Rock workshop is one of the primary railway workshops in India which was started in the year 1918. This famous workshop is situated in the heart of Tiruchirappalli District in Tamil Nadu. Now, the Golden Rock Railway Workshop is involved in Wagon production. Periodical overhauling of wagons, diesel locomotives and steam locomotives are done here. There is huge land available for the expansion of the Railway Workshop. For the expansion of the Railway workshop nearly 70 percent of the Employees staff quarters were demolished but the said land is still vacant. By the expansion of Golden Rock Workshop as Coach manufacturing Unit, lot of employment opportunities will be generated and the Indian Railways will also get sufficient new and modern coaches to meet the present needs of Railways. Now there is only one

Coach Factory at Perambur in Tamil Nadu. While expanding the activities in Golden Rock Workshop, the Railways can start a Coach Manufacturing unit equivalent to Integral Coach Factory (ICF) at Perambur, Chennai.

I request that action may be taken to undertake expansion of Golden Rock Railway Workshop in Tiruchirappalli and set up a new Coach Manufacturing Factory at Golden Rock, Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

(xvi) Need to develop Buxar in Bihar as a tourist place a national importance and conserve the historical monuments at the site

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH (Buxar): Buxar has been a centre of national knowledge since ancient times. The ashram is Vishvamitra earned its reputation as Gurukul where Lord Rama himself acquired education. The struggle against atrocities and misconduct began in Buxar and culminated into the Lanka war.

Buxar which one earned the reputation of religious and cultural knowledge centre is currently facing neglect. Prince 'Rama' whose personality was cast in such a mould by gaining experience of places and through means that earned him the status of 'God' is currently trying to find its history in its present.

If the history of Buxar is a matter of national pride then it is the duty of the Union and the State Government to restore its lost glory by developing it and bringing it on the tourist map of the world. Even today, Buxar, the western border area of Bihar located along the banks of the Ganga is awaiting the sense of duty of the State and the Union Government.

If Shri Ram is an identity of the country's renovated culture then Buxar is also a cultural centre of the nation. The department of tourism of the Union Government started a light and sound programme in Buxar which was discontinued due to persistent neglect. Buxar has not only nourished the heritage of our history but has kept the culture alive by organising several festivals which are thronged by millions.

I request the Union Government to recognize Ram-Janaki Circuit as the main tourist centre in Buxar and conserve the historical monuments through Archaeological Department so as to maintain the identity of Buxar which has secured our ancient heritage. The cultural centre of a

nation are its heritage and today I have tried to awaken this sense of duty through the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Where is the Minister?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, the hon. Minister is just coming. He is on his way. In the meanwhile, we may start any other speech which is on and then you may permit him to make the Statement *...(Interruptions)*. He is just coming. He is on his way. *...(Interruptions)*

14.53 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS - *Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 10.

Hon. Members whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips at the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move.

...(Interruptions)

14.55 hrs.

At this stage, Shri P. Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only those amendments, in respect of which slips are received at the Table within the stipulated time, will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Now, Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the hon. Minister for External Affairs is coming shortly.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, the hon. Minister is coming. He is on his way. This is a simple accommodation that we are seeking from the hon. Members.

14.56 hrs.

At this stage, Shri O.S.Manian and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I express my gratitude to you and our party leader Shrimati Sushma Swaraj for providing me an opportunity to speak.

The first policy document given by this Government through the address of the Hon. President is nothing but an attempt to pat its own back on the completion of its three years. The address of the Hon. President appears to be like a song which has a different lyricist, composer and a singer. Similarly, we all had the expectation from the Congress, its Government and through their cabinet from the President's Address that the Government would awake from sleep because we never left any stone unturned in this effort. We continue to do so but they never listened. They have a very sound sleep and can even surpass Kumbhakarna's record. There were sweets and kettledrums (Nagadas) were played to awaken Kumbhakarna but the opposition has resounded every kind of drum, the general public has also resounded drums in the general elections but in vain. ...(Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am dumb founded when I see Congress leaders I feel there is no dearth of confidence. They are recalcitrant that they will not improve. The result of elections in Uttar Pradesh are also not very encouraging for us, however, their reputation was at stake, rather the reputation of a dynasty was at stake.

15.00 hrs.

I am the spokesperson for my party. I had made this forecast and I had thought, without any astrological calculations, that if they won it would be said that the Yuvraaj won and if not, some politico would be made the scapegoat. We had hopes from the President's Address. They were over confident for a long time. They got 206 votes but they act as if they have the authority of 412 votes behind them. When Rajiv Gandhiji had got unprecedented majority, the opposition was quite weak and it was largely ignored. After 1984, their time came in 1989, if you recall

history. Nowadays, they compare themselves only with the NDA government in the name of history. Whenever, the question of 2G licence arises they quote the rates prevalent at the time of the NDA government. Why do they not recall the rates at the time of Nehruji, Indiraji? Why didn't they give at that rate? They remember only our actions. You don't remember the Jeep scam at the time of Nehruji. At that time decisions were taken on the basis of moral values. You put up his portraits but do not remember his moral integrity.

Rajnath Singhji had given a heavy dose regarding this government. I have come to give a smaller dose of homeopathy treatment. But it has no effect. We are also concerned about this large party which has a rich heritage and whose flag resembles the national flag. People have started recognising your real face. I will not repeat what my leader Rajnathji has said. I regret to say that the government should have addressed the issue of inflation in the President's Address. The government should have vowed and given assurance that it would not compromise with corruption under any circumstances. But the government has failed to do any such thing. I have checked the Address but where did the need arise for them to get a certificate of honesty from the hon. President Everyone knows who took the certificate. I have also served as a Cabinet Minister. Baluji, you were also with me. After the entire discussion on the President's Address the first para says, 'My government is honest', which means that you are singing your own praises. Kirti Azadji is right in saying that you are being, 'Apne muh miya mitthu'. A few words were said on the issue of black money and said that white paper would be brought but nothing was done. The issues regarding which steps should have been taken to curb corruption were left untouched.

Shri Kapil Sibal ji is very knowledgeable. When I was not a part of politics and not in the Parliament, I had come to see the parliamentary proceedings. At that time, I had seen Kapil Sibalji. Ramaswamyji was very honest. The Congress had considered him to be a symbol and impeachment proceedings were conducted against him. At that time Kapil Sibalji did not have the permission to enter these doors. He had come as an advocate for the corrupt party which means that his first step inside the doors of the Parliament was to defend corruption.

That is how he made a name for himself. Today Congress badly needs advocates. There are many politicians who are lawyers. Even our leader Smt. Sushma Swaraj is a lawyer ...(Interruptions) We have lawyers but

no liars. Pawanji is also a good lawyer. Lawyers are quite sought-after nowadays. Pawanji and our leader has studied together. Pawanji used to be quite co-operative during the first few years but now his attitude has become coloured with the company he keeps. The varrogance level of the Congress party members is on the rise. The arrogance of the government is making its members feel as if they will be occupying their seats forever. But these seats are not permanent. When I look from my perspective, I recall that I also have sat there. We would be able to earn that seat only when we remember our stint on the Opposition benches. But Kapil Sibal has a major portfolio. The bigger the lawyer the bigger the portfolio. Shri Salman Khurshid ji is also a lawyer and has been given the Minority Affairs Ministry. I will come to that later on. He had no work so he had to be given one more Ministry. Sibal Sahab has a lot of work. He had seen zero loss in the 2G spectrum and now he has the HRD Ministry. Whenever he talks of education we can see that he has the perfect plan to destroy the Indian education system. People come to the Members of Parliament to request for their help in getting admission. I see today that the children of the common man are not able to get admission. The parliamentary secretary of the Congress government, whose name I do not want to take, his daughter was given admission in Delhi on the basis of fake certificate obtained with his influence and he sent a written recommendation for the admission of two persons. Delhi University does not come under the Delhi government. This comes under Shri Kapil Sibal's Ministry, it is a Central University. Now that the Congress parliamentary secretary is securing his daughter's admission on the basis of fake certificate what would be the feelings of the students. A court case should be filed against him in Delhi. But no such case is being filed. The certificate of his child was sent to Odisha University for being checked for authenticity but it was found to be fake. Still they have got the President to say that they are honest. At least don't propagate such untruths from the seat of the President. They should stand up themselves and say such things. Their speakers are going to give speeches - let them reiterate their contention of honesty. You may flauht this but the public knows the truth. I want to say in all seriousness that they have completely destroyed the education system. They saw zero loss in the 2G scam but actually the education sector is becoming zero. Nothing good can come for the education sector if it is in the hands of Shri Kapil Sibal.

Sir, a Central University was set-up in Bihar. The

Chief Minister, Shri Nitish Kumar asked for it to be set-up in Motihari. But they did not agree. They are dictating from here that it Would not be set-up in Motihari. In fact, whatever Sibal Sahab says becomes the gospel truth, 'Na khataa na bahi, jo Sibal kahe wahi sahi. This cannot go on. If this University named after Mahatma Gandhi is to be built in Champaran then problems would be created. They want to takeover military land in Gaya. But I want to say with great respect that this injustice to Bihar should be prevented.

Apart from this there is another petty issue which I would like to add with it. The government has formulated several large schemes. When UPA-1 government was in power, it would take a loan of 200 crore rupees daily and spend it but now this government is taking a loan of 1200 crore rupees and spending it. The government expenditure has been rising. It is said that the country is going through economic slowdown. Yesterday Shri Tharur Ji was saying that our Prime Minister has a very good reputation in foreign countries. I have also great respect for him. But you people are happy that he is respected abroad. I think he commands no respect in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Goa. What is respect? A politician gets respect if he gets votes. The people have voted against the government in this mini election and you are asking us to take care of ourselves. Shri Pawan Bansal has to do double duty. Shri Rawat Ji, the State Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has raised the voice of revolt in Uttarakhand. You were very happy after winning one more seat. Your 18 to 20 Members are sitting here, none of them has gone to Uttarakhand. Now go to Manipur and enjoy there as much as you can. You share a great relationship with money. Your party has become money-minded. Go to Manipur as the people of Manipur have voted in your favour. Congtatulations! But you have got majority only in Manipur.

I would like to say two things. You are so much worried about the minorities that you are losing your weight. You are giving even those things to the minorities which they have q not asked for. Sixty-three years have passed after independence. You constituted Sachar committee just before elections in Uttar Pradesh because you seem to be concerned about the minorities just before the elections in Uttar Pradesh. How much work should you do? How much water should you give? The congress party is like a pitcher turned upside down for the minorities. Whatever water you pour into that, not a single drop of water is going into that pitcher. Now your party is exposed to the public. You were under the impression that the public of Uttar Pradesh does not get angry. Now see how

much angry they are. Their anger has been reflected in their votes.

On one hand you say that you want to get Lokpal Bill passed but on the other hand you are not sure about the support of 272 Members in this House. Whenever I look at your side, the seats appear vacant. Several times I feel that we are more in number than how are you in power? You have realized this once so don't be more happy. You may probably have to face such test on President's Address. So, one should be as much happy as one can sustain. You could not get support of 272 Members in case of Lokpal Bill though that was a big dream for you. You could not ensure support of 272 Members here and have come up with a weakened Lokpal Bill and fled away at night from Rajya Sabha. We saw the leaders fleeing away at night for the first time in the world. There was one day when we got independence at midnight people started rejoicing at midnight. Now we saw one day that democracy was being killed at midnight. It was done by you people. You have looted democracy in a dark night. The manner in which Rajya Sabha was adjourned, the people of this country would not forgive you. You do not think that the public do not understand anything. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing except Shri Shah Nawaz Ji's speech will go on record.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, please deduct the time lost due to disturbances from time allotted to the Congress Party. ...*(Interruptions)* You are a new Member, you have to learn few things. I am speaking on the President's Address. Punia Ji I have been elected as Member of Parliament for the third time. Do not go by my age. I am not much old but I have a lot of experience.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please keep quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member please address the Chair. Do not look at other side.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: But the problem is that whenever there are elections all of sudden you start paying attention to our community. No doubt the Muslims of India are poor, backward, unemployed as stated in Sachchar committee report. As on date in case of the Muslims the literacy ratio is below than average, the dropout ratio is the maximum, six percent and four percent

Muslims are graduate and postgraduate respectively in India. How can 8 percent Muslims become IAS? Less than 2 percent Muslims reach IITs. What is the reason for such condition of the Muslims? The reason is that after independence when you got the opportunity of governing the country, you have always offered only lollipops to the Muslims.

When Rajiv Gandhi headed the government with two-third or three-fourth majority, you did not do anything for us. As on date nobody knows on which issue you have got the majority and on which issue you have not got majority. I leave the issue of NCTC as our leader would be speaking on that issue tomorrow but it is not known to anyone whether you have got majority on federal structure and other issues. You are providing for reservation within reservation. We provided for their education. Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee Ji decided to give an opportunity of education to the minorities in India and during the 10th five year plan we provided for education for all. We introduced Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan. We did not work like you as you made a cut in the main budget and provided for Minorities Education Campaign. We ensured that all the children go to school. When we constructed roads, we provided for the population of 500 or 1000 knowing that the minorities live together but we did not formulate any minority road scheme. We cared for all. Today you are talking of providing reservation within reservation. You are not at all concerned about the minorities but when elections are near you do such things deliberately which is likely to be stayed by the court.

Sir, I would like to tell very sincerely that the minorities are now well aware of true colour of this government. Even when you hug the minorities they are concerned about their pockets thinking that they might lose something in the process of hugging. The minorities still remember that Uttar Pradesh, when you talk about 22 years old regime, they remember Meerut and Maliyana. They remember the firing at Idgah. They recall how the youth belonging to the minorities were killed in the firing on the bank of Hindon river when Shri Rajiv Gandhi Ji and Veer Bahadur Singh headed the governments respectively in the centre and the state. They have not got justice till date. Was milk flowing in the rivers 22 years ago?

I am an elected Member of Parliament from Bhagalpur. There was large scale riots in Bhagalpur during your regime. Today, I am elected from there and we have sowed seeds of love there, whereas, during your regime there was hatred among people. Around 37 thousand riots

have taken place in India during your regime and you claim to be a secular party. You have not done anything for the welfare of minority communities. You have not made any provision for them. You have created such a situation in the country wherein you are distorting the social structure by creating confusion among the backward and minority communities for your own interests. We are all aware of your policy. You always highlight the issue of Gujarat riot as if riots had never taken place in Gujarat during your regime. You always highlight this issue. How many times will you highlight the riots that took place in the year 2002? Rather, you should appreciate the Government that no such incident has taken place since 2002. You should also remember that during the British rule riots took place in Gujarat every year. You blame the BJP for occurrence of any such riots and pat your back for maintaining law and order situation. Today people of Hindu and Muslims communities have decided that they will not fight in the name of caste and religion. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record except the speech of Shehnawaz Ji.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to them. They have sharpened my memory. Let me remind you of the incident of Gopalgarh, Rajasthan. During the region of Congress Government under the leadership of Ashok Gehlot in Gopalgarh, Rajasthan. *...(Interruptions)* 12 young persons belonging to the minority community were killed in police firing. Even Rahul Gandhi visited the place but justice has not been provided to them so far. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All of you please take your seats. Nothing is going on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are getting out of control as they are under the influence of power. *...(Interruptions)* We will again defeat you in Gujarat. Please take your seat. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record except the speech of Shahnawaz Ji.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please cut short the time allotted to them. *...(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have visited there to experience the plight of the minority community. When young persons belonging to the minority community were killed in Gopalgarh then our leader Shrimati Sushma Swaraj Ji had sent first parliamentary delegation under my leadership and Shri Rajendra Agrawal Ji and Shri Meghwal Ji were part of that delegation. *...(Interruptions)* Now, I narrate the incident that took place in Gopalgarh. *...(Interruptions)* Owaisi Saheb could not visit the place but you make sure to visit the place. *...(Interruptions)* It is the same thing. We had visited the place on behalf of you people.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not going to make long speech. I had promised to speak for only twenty minutes. We comply with the order of our leader. We are unlike Congress which is facing a rebellion in Uttarakhand. We comply with the order of our leader. What happened in Uttarakhand? *...(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs is sitting here. *...(Interruptions)* He will not appoint you as Minister then why do you stand and speak unnecessarily. They appoint only two Ministers from the minority community. You will not be appointed minister then why are you raising hue and cry here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we had visited the place as part of delegation. We had visited the Madaras. Shri Meghwal Ji and Shri Rajendra Ji were part of the delegation. We had visited the place and shared their plight. We had also visited the Mosque. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am a Hazi, hence I speak the truth. When we had visited the Mosque then Shri Rajendra Agrawal said that Rajasthan Police had entered the Mosque without removing their shoes. I salute Shri Rajendra Agrawal Ji that he immediately asked the police personnel to move out from the holy place hence you should not enter the Mosque without removing the shoes. He let them out of the Mosque. For the first time, I have seen such a bloodshed, but under Congress rule when the party is in power in state as well as at Centre, Shri Shanti Dhariwal is the Minister of state in the Ministry of Home Affairs. I have seen bloodshed inside the Mosque during the rule of Shri Ashok Gehlot Ji. Today, I would like to say that the Minister of Home Affairs had put such a pressure that you changed his department but could not remove him. Now you talk of secularism. *...(Interruptions)* No matter how many big leader you have arrested in Western Uttar Pradesh, and one of the senior Samajwadi Party leaders

has joined your party after resigning from Rajya Sabha but people of Western Uttar Pradesh still remember that the Congress Party is responsible for Maliana incident. The same Congress party is responsible for Gopalganj and Bhagalpur incidents. Further, the Congress party is responsible for the pitiable condition of Muslims in India even after 63 years of independence. *...(Interruptions)* hence, your real face. *...(Interruptions)* If you continue to interrupt then I will further expose your. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak, you will raise your points when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will also get a chance to speak. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will get a chance to speak. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, there should be a training programme for them. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your people are interrupting a lot. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will raise your points when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: The more you interrupt. The more I will speak and totally expose them *...(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will expose in proportion to their interruption *...(Interruptions)* the more they interrupt, the more I will speak. Please do not interrupt. *...(Interruptions)* You are harming yourself. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will not say much. Such a nice speech is being delivered. Please enlighten yourself *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, actually he can smell defeat in the ensuing elections. That is why he is upset. *...(Interruptions)* The BJP will win there again and that also with huge margin. Please do not worry *...(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will conclude. If you have a lot of problem, I brought enough material, but I leave it for now and next time I will expose you on some other issue *...(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I raised the issue of WAKE property last time. You talk of welfare of minority while concluding I would submit that you are bringing a new Wakf Act but you are not distributing Wakf property in minority. You are not lifting Government's control on the property. Stop obliging the minorities. When the Bhartiya Janata Party works for the minorities, it works with a sense of duty and responsibility and not as an act of obligation. You may take example of any NDA ruling state be it Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh or Jharkhand. What we have done for minorities, take our report card, not directly from us, you may feel bad, and also embarrassed. So you can download our achievements from the internet. YOU may imitate us on this matter. At least stop taking the minorities for a ride. I am from Bhagalpur and there is a majority of weavers population is being harassed by you. Bhagalpur riots took place in the year 1989 during hon. Rajiv Gandhi's government. It was country's biggest riot. The weaver's population suffered the most during those riots and there was no resurgence. Today, the weavers across the country have been wiped out. When hon. Vajpayee ji was the Prime Minister I was the Minister of Textile. We issued weaver credit card at that time but even that is in a pitiable state today. You are announcing clusters for weavers however, you are selectively announcing these schemes in the areas of leaders who are close you. You should announce it across all weaver community irrespective of elections in an area. You are now worried about U.P..

*Not recorded.

Weavers also live in Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh and even Karnataka. You should worry about all weaver clusters and work for them.

I will conclude in two minutes by making submission on transport only. You have raised rail fare just now. You think that we cannot understand it. There was already 20 percent hike. We will raise our point during discussion on Rail budget, but stop deceiving the people for now. Rail fare has been increased through minimal hikes like five paise, ten paise per kilometre.

Today, the condition of roads is such that the matter regarding roads will be raised in the same manner in which coal linkage has been raised. Injustice is being meted out to NDA governed states. Like we do not have coal linkage in Bihar. The Union Government is not disbursing Rs. 1000 crore spent by Bihar on national highways. The funds under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are not being given to Bihar. You are not disbursing funds in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh. The country's people will not spare you if you meet out this discrimination.

You expressed your concern over tiger project His Excellency President's Address. If there is still River Dolphin in the country it is in my constituency, Bhagalpur. You are not paying attention to the projects to save river dolphin because it is in the constituency represented by Shahnawaj Hussain. If you envy Shahnawaj Hussain you will also envy River Dolphin, I cannot understand it. Try and become more generous.

We repeatedly raise the issue of Vikramshila. I went to Pakistan recently. I visited Takshashila there. They have done a lot of work there. We exhort the Government to upgrade Vikramshila. Narayanasamy Ji's portfolio was changed but you did nothing to develop Vikramshila. There is Nalanda, Takshshila, similarly there is Vikramshila. Now if you envy me, naturally you would also envy Vikramshila. If you envy N.D.A you would also envy Bihar. This will not go on. So I would request not to make such reference in President's address. It is time to awaken yourself otherwise your allies are there to help you but you have left them in a pitiable state. You are seeking DMS' support and also troubling them. NCP is your ally and you are also troubling them. Trinamool Congress is supporting you but you are not providing them budgetary funds in West Bengal. The federal structure is under attack. So after the heavy dose of Rajnath Singh Ji, my homeopathy dose may at least awaken you. With this hope, I express my gratitude to you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Members who wish to lay their speech may do so.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that National Intelligence Grid and the National Counter Terrorism Centre have been set up without any consultation with the Chief Ministers of the States and the provisions of these two institutions encroach upon the federal structure of the country and violate the rights of the states."

[*English*]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to increase recruitment in the Armed Forces from Odisha." (76)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any rime-bound scheme to root out the increasing terrorism from the country." (77)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete measures to deal with natural calamities." (78)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any steps to check the increasing cases of suicides by farmers in the country." (79)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about streamlining the Public Distribution System and making it more effective." (80)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about declaring the State of Odisha as a special category state." (81)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time bound action plan to root out maoist violence from the country." (82)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete action plan to check the population growth." (83)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to check the religious conversions allegedly being carried out by allurements." (84)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check the rising incidents of female foeticide in the country." (85)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about powers of the Central Government under the National Counter Terrorism Centre." (1177)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about more than 100 low power unmanned T.V. relay centres being run in different States including "Soro" in the State of Odisha." (1178)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about giving remunerative prices to the farmers for their

crops in order to stop the cases of suicides by farmers in the country." (140)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the increasing prices of Petroleum products in the country." (141)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of the slogan of Shri Ram Manohar Lohia i. e. 'Daam Bandho Neetf in order to check inflation, black marketing and hoarding in the country.'" (142)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing employment or payment of Rs. 2000/- per month as unemployment allowance to the educated unemployed." (143)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of Saachar Committee Report and providing 18% reservation to the Muslims in proposition to their population in order to improve their educational, social and economic conditions." (144)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to increase coordination between union and States for development works and to strengthen the Federal structure." (145)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing proper developmental facilities in newly formed districts to remove backwardness in such districts." (146)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about raising of Pasi Regiment in Armed Forces so that

they can contribute to strengthen the security of the country." (147)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about giving employment to the people belonging to Pasi community for their overall development." (148)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing pension of rupees five thousand per month to the labourers, particularly the agricultural labourers, to improve their socio-economic condition."

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating any concrete effective plan to eradicate child labour in the country."

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the increasing incidents of atrocities including rape on the women and girls belonging to poor scheduled castes and scheduled tribes families."

[*English*]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according the status of a special category state to the state of Odisha." (277)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any special economic package for special category States to enable them to overcome the regional disparities." (278)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about any scheme for employment of unemployed youth of economically backward States." (279)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about special economic package to the Maoists affected States including Odisha in order to create infrastructure and improve economic condition of people in these States." (280)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the specific actions to be taken on the findings of the Supreme Court in its recent judgment on 2G spectrum case." (281)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to check incidents of suicides by the farmers due to distress sale of their products and inability to repay their loans." (282)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a policy for the extension of reservation in employment in favour of person belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Castes in the private sector." (283)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to check illegal mining of various valuable minerals in different parts of the country." (284)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reasons for decrease in the growth rate of Indian economy to 7 percent and the steps being taken in this regard." (426)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures for checking price rise which is a major cause of concern for the country." (427)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the time limit within which black money in foreign banks is likely to be brought back to the country and white paper to be issued by the Central Government in this regard." (428)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about serious issues before the country such as price rise, unemployment, incidents of suicides by farmers due to losses suffered by them in Agriculture." (429)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps being taken to ensure justice to the people belonging to other backward classes who have been deprived of 4.5 percent reservation out of their reservation quota which has now been given to the minorities." (430)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inclusion of Chitrakoot, Satna, Mehar, Bansagar, Bandhavgarh, Amarkantak, Kanha in national circuit to promote tourism." (431)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing assistance to the farmers in Madhya Pradesh whose crops have been affected by frost." (432)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing the ceiling of Rs. 26 for rural areas and Rs. 32 for urban areas in regard to survey for new poverty line." (433)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for a time-bound scheme to provide housing facility to each of the homeless family of the country." (434)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing full compensation for the loss to the farmers of the country under National Crop Insurance Scheme." (435)

SHRI RAJU SHETTI (Hat Kanangle): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken to prevent suicides being committed by farmers, particularly in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra." (614)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making available diesel, petrol and pesticides to the farmers at cheaper rates." (615)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to check the corruption prevailing in implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme." (616)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to check black-marketing of food grains in the country." (617)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about framing any concrete policy to prevent female foeticide." (618)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to tackle the problem of increasing malnutrition in the country." (619)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulating more welfare schemes for the workers." (620)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about new schemes for dealing with the damage caused due to drought and floods in the country." (621)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to improve the condition of agriculture sector." (622)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about allocation of more funds to Maharashtra under the Prime Minister Water Harvesting Scheme." (637)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound action plan for inter-linking of rivers in the country." (638)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps for introducing compulsory voting system." (639)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about bringing down the increasing prices of chemical fertilizers like Urea, D.A.P. and complex fertilizers in the country." (640)

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the National Intelligence Grid and the National Counter Terrorism Centre have been constituted without consultations with the Chief Ministers of the States and the provisions of these two bodies encroach upon the federal structure of the country and dilute the rights of the States." (1165)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about not taking serious note of the growing incidents of farmers suicides in the country." (1166)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about not taking note of the growing contractualisation of work of permanent/perennial nature where contract workers are denied the wages and other benefits given to the regular workers." (1167)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to amend the Minimum Wages Act to ensure universal coverage irrespective of the schedules and fixation of the statutory minimum wage at not less than Rs. 10,000 per month." (1168)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to introduce compulsory registration of trade unions within a period of 45 days and immediate ratification of the ILO Convention Nos. 87 and 98." (1169)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to stop disinvestment of government equity in the profit making central public sector undertakings." (1170)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for strict enforcement of labour laws without any exception or exemption and stringent punitive measures for violation of labour laws." (1171)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide universal social security cover for the unorganized sector workers without any restriction and creation of a National Security Fund with adequate resources in line with the recommendations of NCEUS and parliamentary standing committee on labour." (1172)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to move:

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any effective strategy to curb the unprecedented rise in prices of all essential commodities." (1215)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a strategy to curb the high level corruption." (1216)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about guidelines regarding liberalization of the Foreign Direct Investment." (1217)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about non availability of food under Public Distribution System to a vast majority of the poor people in the country." (1218)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to completely identify the BPL section of the population." (1219)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to re-define poverty line." (1220)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to tackle the huge unemployment problem in the country." (1221)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about arriving at a consensus with the political parties to pass Women Reservation Bill." (1222)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to continue with the time tested independent foreign policy of the country." (1223)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about tackling the effects of global economic recession on Indian industries consequent loss of jobs of lakhs of workers and employees." (1224)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to make effective contribution in strengthening the Non-aligned Movement." (1225)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to play an effective role in the United Nations." (1226)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the diplomatic steps taken by the Government to 58 protect Indian citizens from racial attacks in various countries." (1227)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about diplomatic steps taken by the Government to release Indians languishing in jails in various countries." (1228)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about loss of jobs of lakhs of people in India during the last two years." (1229)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to review the Centre-State relations as demanded by certain State Governments." (1230)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to allot six per cent of GDP to education." (1231)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need, to increase investment in public sector and social sector to deal with the ongoing economic melt down." (1231 A)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking the procurement of obsolete ammunitions." (1232)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about need to redefine the official definition of 'poverty line' which has become obsolete." (1233)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the irregularities in granting 2G spectrum that resulted in huge financial loss to the Government exchequer." (1234)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the to take effective steps to check the impact of global slow down on millions of workers who have lost their jobs, livelihood and earnings due to closure, lay off, wage-cuts, retrenchment, etc. across various sectors." (1235)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government's attempt to redefine India's fundamental principle of 'per capita emission' norm while negotiating green-house gases emission." (1236)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any package for the special category States to enable them to narrow down regional disparities." (1237)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a one-time debt relief package to North-Eastern States by writing off their all the outstanding Central Government loans including interest thereon." (1238)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret' that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for employment of unemployed youth of the Special Category States." (1239)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers in the country." (1240)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete steps to control unabated suicides being committed by the farmers in the country." (1241)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to expedite land reforms in the country." (1242)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about universalisation of the Integrated Child Development Scheme." (1243)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making diplomatic effects for realignment of the proposed Trans-Asian Highways and Trans-Asian railways to pass through Tripura." (1244)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reservation expressed by agriculture experts, economists and various political parties on the Government's decision to decontrol the prices of all fertilizers, except nitrogen based urea." (1245)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to ensure availability of food at affordable prices to 78 per cent of 'AAM AADMI' whose daily income is less than Rs. 20 as mentioned in a Government appointed Committee Report." (1246)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to tackle the Maoist menace in various parts of the country." (1247)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps for the development of under-developed remote villages." (1248)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to blacklist the US multinational Monsanto." (1249)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing role of US and NATO forces in Indian sub-continent." (1250)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to bridge the gap of demand and supply

of electricity." (1251)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to supply sufficient coal to all the power plants in the country." (1252)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about delay in achieving target of constructing 20 kilometer road per day." (1253)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to make Air India economically viable." (1254)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps for smooth navigation in Haldia-Kolkata Port by ensuring regular dredging activities." (1255)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps to provide at least 35 kg. of food grains at two rupees a kilo to all." (1256)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to make to in all the: educational institutions 'tobacco-free'." (1257)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps to stop crimes against women and children." (1258)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective measures to check the

malnutrition among women and children." (1259)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address, about the demand of universalisation of public distributions system and a complete ban on speculation and futures trading in the commodity market." (1260)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the strict enforcement of labour laws without any: exception or exemption and stringent punishment to violation of labour laws." (1261)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about introducing a universal social security for the unorganized sector workers and creation of a National Social Security Fund with adequate resources as per the recommendations of the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers." (1262)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about discontinuing disinvestment of shares of central public sector units." (1263)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to enact the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill." (1264)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address I about the need to tackle the menace of black money, its generation and also to assess the quantum of black money both inside and outside in the country." (1265)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to safeguard and promote the livelihood of street vendors." (1266)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret tat there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective measures to eradicate child labour in the country." (1267)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to liberalize the educational policy so that higher education is accessible to all irrespective of their paying capacity." (1268)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the emergence of 'paid news' which is a dangerous phenomenon and a distorting parliamentary democracy." (1269)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to develop on efficient water transport system in the country." (1270)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take effective steps to provide life saving medicines at subsidized rate." (1271)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to ensure universal coverage of minimum wages act and fix statutory minimum wage at not less than Rs. 10000 per month." (1272)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about removing all ceilings on payment of and eligibility for bonus and provident fund and also increasing the quantum of gratuity." (1273)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about formulating of a pension scheme for all citizens of the country." (1274)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the compulsory registration of trade unions within a period of 45 days and immediate ratification of the ILO Convention Nos. 87 and 98." (1275)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely: —

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the adverse impact of the present economic policy on various social security and pensioners schemes available to the workers." (1276)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to identify causes of economic slow down." (1277)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the decision of the Government for non-implementing the recommendations of Justice Ranganath Misra Commission Report which recommends 10 per cent, reservation for Muslims and 5 per cent, for other minorities on the criteria of social and economic backwardness." (1278)

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, namely:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about that the National Intelligence Grid and the National Counter Terrorism Centre have been constituted without consultations with the Chief Ministers of the States and the provisions of these two bodies encroach upon the federal structure of the country and dilute the rights of the States." (1279)

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Chennai North): Thank you, hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for permitting me to speak on the Motion of Thanks to Her Excellency President's Address moved by Dr. Girija Vyas. The Address mentions about the achievement and the comments on the part of the Government for this year. There are many achievements. We are with them, in support of them, in

working with them in such achievements. There are many commitments made by the Government, for which, we have the duty to support the Government. But there are certain issues which the President's Address has not addressed.

The 15-point programme of the President's Address talks about - to strive for livelihood security for the vast majority of our population and continue to work for removal of poverty, hunger and illiteracy from our land. On this livelihood security, on 29th February, 2011, there was an All India Strike called by various labour unions.

I do not know whether the Government had held a discussion with them after the strike. The major demands of the unions are that there should not be any contract system of work either permanent or of perennial nature, there should be an amendment to the Minimum Wages Act, there should be assured pension for all and there should be compulsory registration of trade unions etc. These are genuine demands. But I do not know whether the Government is addressing these demands or calling the trade unions to hold a discussion with them to resolve these issues.

There is another major demand with respect to the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995. The employees who are receiving pension under this scheme are drawing a pension of only Rs. 500. This Government has increased the old age pension to Rs. 1,000 whereas under the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, the employees are drawing only a minimum pension of Rs. 500. Their demand is that this pension should be increased to Rs. 2,000. On a comparison, I would like to mention that in defence services, there are 23 lakh pensioners and the total amount of pension disbursed to them is Rs. 34,000 crore whereas the pensioners who are receiving pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are about 35,25,000 and the total amount of pension disbursed to them is only Rs. 3,839 crore. On a comparison, you will see that this is not an amount which will help in their subsistence.

Sir, even an old age pensioner is now drawing Rs. 1,000, but a pensioner under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is drawing only Rs. 500 which is not fair. So, the Government should come forward to increase the minimum pension under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 to Rs. 3,000 so that it will help them. In fact, when Shri Narasimha Rao was the Prime Minister, he gave an assurance that a comprehensive review of the scheme will be taken up once in 10 years, but no review of this scheme has been taken up so far and whatever annual increase

which they received during 1996, 1998 and 1999 has also stopped now. There is no increase since 1999 to these people. This is one major issue which the Government should take up and resolve.

Secondly, I congratulate Her Excellency for announcing a Department for Disability Affairs. In Tamil Nadu, our former Chief Minister has created a department for physically handicapped people, but the department is called as the Department for Differently Abled. So, when such a department is created here, I would request that it should be named as the Department for Differently Abled and not as the Department for Disability Affairs. This is my request.

Thirdly, I would now like to come to the issue of food inflation. Our food production has increased, but distribution has failed. Many of the parties in this House have been demanding for a Universal Public Distribution System which will help in solving the problem of food inflation. But there is no mention about the Universal Public Distribution System in the President's Address. So, I would request the Government to implement the Universal Public Distribution System immediately so that distribution of food articles is uniform which will help the poor people.

Fourth is power shortage. Power shortage is the major crisis and Tamil Nadu is reeling under crisis, half of Tamil Nadu is getting power only for four hours a day and we are without power for 20 hours. The Koodankulam Project is yet to start. I do not know whether the agitators are in coalition with the State Government or not, we do not know, but the State Government is not taking action against the agitators. That is a different issue, but the State Government and the Government of India are not dealing severely against the agitators.

Hon. Minister, Mr. Narayansamy is here. He is the spokesperson for the Koodankulam Project. Whenever he comes, he says something. It has become a war of words between the agitators and the Government of India. The Government of India should take stem steps, firm steps to see that the Project starts. It is the demand of our Leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi that the Project should immediately start functioning and the State of Tamil Nadu should get power; at least 1000 MW of power should be given to the State of Tamil Nadu where the Project is situated.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Sir, we associate with this. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Sir, another major issue

is the Sri Lankan issue. The President's Address, until 2010, was talking about a political settlement in Sri Lanka, but last year and this year, that word was conveniently forgotten. They talk only about rehabilitation in Sri Lanka. What happened to the Government's wish for a political settlement in the Island? Why has the Government withdrawn from that stand? In 2010, the President had talked about a political settlement in the Island. Why have they withdrawn this year? We do not know. India should work for a political settlement in the Island and work towards the progress in the State.

We were told that 50,000 houses were to be built in the Island for the internally displaced people. But I do not know whether at least 50 houses have been built or not. They are still languishing in the open air camps. The Government should help them. They should speed up the process. If we want to help somebody, we should help in time. Timely help is the need of the hour. When we are not helping them in time, what is the use? So, the Government should also consider that.

Sir, Tamil Nadu recently suffered by the attack of a massive cyclone called Thane. The Government of India has not helped the State with the requisite money. Thousands of families have lost their livelihood because they depend on plants and trees like cashew, jackfruit, etc. These trees take time, at least, three to four years or even ten years sometimes to grow. So, up to that time they have to suffer. They will have no other income. So, the Government should come forward to help the people affected by Thane. The Government of India should fund and whatever they have promised has not come so far.

The other issue is water. The Cauvery Delta in Tamil Nadu was once called the granary of the South. They say that it is the granary of the South. But it is drying because of the dispute between the neighbouring States, the inter-State river dispute. The only way to overcome that is linking of rivers, linking of all national rivers. The Supreme Court has also stated that the linking of rivers should be taken up immediately. There is no announcement in that regard by H.E. The President. So, the Government should also consider or immediately take action on the linking of rivers on priority and allocate sufficient funds for that in the ensuing Budget.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mahesana): UPA-2 Government has somehow completed half of its

tenure. But it has not lived upto most the expectations of the year 2009.

In the first President's Address of the year 2009 it was said that price rise will be controlled within 100 days but so far no progress is seen in this regard till date. The Government has not followed the 'Rajdharna' and is not committed to provide effective administration. Corruption involving Rupees ten lakh crore has taken place during the last two years. The Government has miserably failed in checking corruption. Setting up of facilitation centers does not mean that public service will be provided to the citizens.

A unique scheme called "Aadhar" has become baseless. Hence it would not be wrong to say that the scheme has shipped into uncertainly.

No will power of the Government is visible to achieve the target of 9 per cent growth rate and 4 per cent agricultural growth rate under "sustainable and inclusive growth" stipulated as the target of 12th Five Year Plan.

The Government will work to deal with 5 main challenges before the country which incorporate providing livelihood security to the poor, eradicating hunger and illiteracy. But the food security Act has not been passed during the last two and half years. The children are starving and malnourishe done hand and foodgrains are rotting on the other.

The challenges of economic security, energy security, environment security, internal and external security have remained only as challenges. None of these challenges has been fully addressed till date.

HRJD considers teachers as focal point in higher education but we should think about National Commission for higher education and Research, Women University, Medical University, Children University.

There is no quality in education despite heavy expenditure. The quality of education is declining continuously. It has been politicised.

Governance of education has totally failed in the country and its education system has become an examination system.

We have checked child polio virus successfully. Similarly a fund of Rs. 5 lakh (MP fund) should be provided for schemes discontinued since 2007 for Beti Bachao

Abhiyan in districts having low sex ratio with a view to check female foeticide.

The facilities for tele medicine facility should be increased in each district, Medical colleges should be recognised and the number of seats should be increased (especially in Gujarat). Importance should be accorded to homeopathy and Ayurvedic system of medicine on the lines of Allopathy and budget provisions should be made for this purpose.

So far as malnutrition is concerned, multi-sectoral nutrition programme, constitution of National Council for Senior Citizen is commendable.

The decision of the Government to provide 4-5 per cent sub-quota within 27 per cent reservation to ensure empowerment of the minority is purely political haste in Parliament and no benefit of this decision has accrued in this election.

In agriculture equal opportunity should be provided to the rural indigenous agriculture alongwith corporate sector in the subsidised process.

Equal opportunity should be provided to agro products to rectify the demand and supply under food security Bill. The cooperative activities should be exempted from income tax Dairy industry should also be encouraged.

The support price of foodgrains and other agricultural products should be increased.

As per the directions of the Supreme Court all rivers of the country should be interlinked. The distribution of urea fertilizer should be carried out properly. Proper changes should be effected in MNREGA.

The farmers should be awarded proper compensation for acquisition of land by ONGC company Uniform rate policy should be introduced.

India resides in villages and infrastructure facilities in villages should not be ignored.

Scheme of Gujarat like Nirmal Gaon, Samras Gaon, Pawan Gaon should be given proper attention.

Gandhinagar and Karamsed should be included under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission.

The proposal of metro rail project is commendable but quick decision should be taken in this regard.

So far as textile industry is concerned, Surat, which is a textile city, should be provided a textile park.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

To address the problem of price rise petrol and diesel should be fully exempted from central taxes.

An increase of 20-25 per cent in rail freight will lead to the reduction of income of the middle class and the poor and increase in their expenses.

Mobile bank facilities should be provided in villages.

So far as the development of roads is concerned the target for the construction of 20 K.m. roads per day should be achieved. After removing Maharaja (Logo) Air India has become a pauper from king. Air India has become a picture of 'Late-Left-Lost'.

The Government should prepare a scheme of WLN (Wireless Network) in BSNL for information technology. To encourage solar energy, projects on the lines of Gujarat, should be prepared.

Overlooking Gujarat and Western zone regarding increasing the capacity of ports is deplorable because Gujarat has 1663 K.m. long sea coast and it is grappling with marine terror.

Any decision regarding the National counter terrorism Centre should be taken in consultation with the states because all decisions of the UPA II government are taken unilaterally such as FDI. No consultation was held with allies and with the Opposition before introducing the Lokpal Bill in the House. The government takes unilateral decisions and then gets hurt by its own actions. The parliamentary procedure is ignored and the government takes up each issue, be it education, security or finance, with a political perspective.

No mention of the National Committee formulated by the Prime Minister for celebration of the birth anniversary of Yug Pravartak Swami Vivekanand in 2012 was made in the Address.

The youth makes up 55 percent of the population of the country. No action plan has been formulated for the education, employment and empowerment of the youth.

I suggest that the year 2012 should be celebrated as the year of development of youth power and an effective action plan on the lines of the plan formulated by the Gujarat government should be prepared for the said purpose.

The human index should be promoted and the gap between the rich and the poor should be bridged. The government should take effective steps to prevent suicides by farmers.

Namak Satyagrah was started by Gandhi Babu on 12 March. The Prime Minister had made certain promises about the Sabarmati Dandi Heritage Road in 2005 which have not been fulfilled till now. The government should make some concrete policy and take effective steps to fulfil the said assurance and promote overseas tourism.

If the government proposes to implement its intention of passing 30 bills during the current session then it should adopt a streamlined parliamentary procedure, keep only the national interest in mind and stay away from political expediency. If the government acts without self interest only then would it be able to retain the faith of the people.

*SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH (Dhanbad): The Hon. President has said in para 4 that his government is honest and committed to providing a more effective governance.

The question rises in my mind whether this commitment stands true for the past as well or only for the future. Had the government been honest then it would have resolved to take strict action against the perpetrators of the 2G spectrum scam, Adarsh scam, Commonwealth Games scam, Defence land scam and stringent steps would have been taken to punish all the culprits. The failure to take action regarding the scams unearthed during its previous tenure shows that the UPA government wants to prove itself to be innocent of any blame although the fact is that many of the leaders of the ruling party have been held to be the primary offenders.

More than 200 projects worth more than 15000 crore rupees are lying pending for five years and more. The government is not taking any action thereon although the project cost is rising by leaps and bounds.

I would like to draw the attention of the government towards the imbalance in the development of the states. Jharkhand is an example of such a state which has an abundance of resources but the people of which are poor. The per capita income of the state is much lower than the rest of the states in the country. The government has failed to give consideration to the matter of providing growth incentives to such states to enable equal development of states.

Jharkhand is grappling with shortage of power. There is shortage of water due to it being a rocky plateau region. The highways are not in a good state. There is a need to strengthen technical education. The state government has

* Speech was laid on the Table

sent a proposal and sought central assistance. The Central Government does not want to grant any assistance to a backward state such as Jharkhand. I request the government to provide special financial assistance to Jharkhand.

The entire production area of DVC lies in Jharkhand. BCCL, CCL, Rajmahal coal projects are situated in Jharkhand. Bokaro Steel Plant of SAIL, HEC factory are situated in Jharkhand but the state is deriving no benefits in terms of development from the said projects. The expansion plan of Bokaro Steel Plant is lying unimplemented.

The fertilizer factory of Sindari is lying closed. There is good basic infrastructure but it is not being utilised.

Most of Jharkhand is affected by insurgency. But it is not getting adequate assistance to fight it. In fact the Tudi area, Tapewachi area of Dhanbad are also affected by insurgency but they have not been included amongst the districts selected for development for eliminating terrorism.

Hence I demand that the Dhanbad district in Jharkhand should also be included in the list of insurgency affected areas earmarked for development.

*SHRI NARANBHAI BHIKHABHAI KACHHADIA (Amreli): There is a need to take serious steps to address the problem of poverty and unemployment in urban areas on the lines of a scheme such as MGNREGS for providing employment security and generation of employment-oriented work therein. There is a need to start a National Urban Employment Mission to fulfil this objective so that the urban poor families are also afforded opportunities for getting continuous employment.

The Government should make efforts to increase the number of MBBS/Medical Seats to address the shortage of human resources in health sector and there is a need to take serious steps to ensure their availability in rural areas. It appears compulsory to take big steps to make generic medicines available in place of expensive branded medicines in urban and rural areas as doctors in collusion with medical agents, medicine shopkeepers prescribe expensive and useless medicines in tribal areas of the country especially the rural areas of Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and other states at present and thus the poor are exploited. There should be an impartial inquiry agency to conduct weekly inquiry in this regard. It is quite necessary for the Government to pay attention towards providing health insurance cover to the labourers and

* Speech was laid on the Table

domestic servants working in the unorganized sector alongwith street vendors.

Today the situation of mineral mining states is quite bad. Problems related to education, health, poverty, unemployment are persisting at present whereas due to these mineral property our country is known as a golden bird. Therefore, overall development of mineral rich states should be taken seriously.

The Government should ensure such dispensation for providing fertilizer to the farmers on time so that illiterate and poor farmers may get familiar with the availability easily. Efforts should be made at ground level to make small farmers aware of the quality of soil, seed, fertilizer by arranging site visit respite of agriculture scientists on regular basis so that they may contribute to increase their and national income by increasing agricultural production. Apart from this measures should be taken to bridge the gap between installed capacity of irrigation and capacity-in-use in the country at the earliest and a separate budget should be prepared for such a huge sector like agriculture and the problem of farmers should viewed closely.

The Government should provide the facility of broad gauge rail line connectivity to all the villages and towns having population of more than 10 lakh and frequency of trains should be such that the passengers and the business do not face any kind of difficulty. But the Amreli district of Gujarat has been kept out of this facility and continuous efforts should be made to address this problem.

Alonwith this, efforts should be made to strengthen the public transport system by preparing feasibility reports of mono rail or other projects for all the cities having population of more than 10 lakh.

* SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (East-Champaran): The steps taken to eliminate corruption has figured prominently in the Hon. President's Address. It has been said that the Central Government is committed to provide more effective and honest administrative system and the Government has taken several important steps in this direction.

The Government has put forward certain times regarding the last two years of its tenure President's Address is not in keeping with the dignity of the President. When the common man of this country would have listened this how much pain they would have suffered. Some of the persons running this Government must have imagined

* Speech was laid on the Table.

this. The people of India are shaken by corruption and scams. The beginning of the first decade of the 21st century had provided a kind of shining on the forehead of every Indian but the last year of this decade is like a jolt.

For the first time in the history of India more than a dozen ministers of this Government bureaucrats, corporate are behind the bar in Tihar jail. The two most notorious scams namely telecom 2G and commonwealth games scams has pushed this country down from 72nd spot to 95 the spot in the list of transparency International. The transparency International Report describing the misdeeds of the Government says that India has stepped down to the 95th position in the world map of transparency. It means corruption has increased rapidly during the last two years. The misdeed of the Government during the last two years has pushed this country into the group of corrupt nations. The common man of this country are feeling this.

What was our condition in the first decade of 21st century i.e. in the year 2001? India was the crown of the world? The people of 184 countries of the world and each Indian not only accepted the potential of India but also started to see it as the most developing and dynamic country. People have started feeling that 21st century would be the century of India but if we talk about the year 2011-12 that we may term 2011 as scam year and 2012 as year.

The people of this country are surprised and aggrieved that the country has lost 10 lakh crore in various scams. The prestige of this country has received a blow:

- Swiss Bank/Black Money scam
- Telecom scam involving Rs. 1,76,000 crore.
- Commonwealth Games scam involving Rs.70 thousand crore.
- Rotten grain scam involving Rs.58 thousand crore.
- ISRO Dewas scam
- Inflation scam
- K.G. Basin scam
- Rice Export scam
- Satyam Scam
- PDS/Ration Scam
- Irregularity in the appointment of Chief Vigilance Commission

- IPE cricket scam
- Air India Plan procurement scam
- Telecom fine scam
- Coal scam of Congress
- Hydel power project scam
- Hasan Ali money laundering scam
- Defence Land scam
- Rajiv Gandhi Trust Land scam

There are various other such incidents apart from the said scams due to which the country has suffered huge losses. In such circumstances, it came as a surprise for every Indian when the most corrupt government of the post independence period has been described as an honest government. The other issues which have been raised through the President's Address appeared to be unreliable. It has been submitted that target of 9 percent growth rate and 4 percent agriculture growth rate has been fixed in Approach Paper of the 12th Plan. The year 2012-2013 will be the first year of 12th Five year Plan. There is a need to make large capital investment to end poverty, hunger and illiteracy and to ensure energy conservation. Now, the Government particularly the Prime Minister should state as to how long he will remain silent when a number of scams are taking place in the country. When the Government is busy protecting the persons involved in such scams then how will the growth rate increase? If you do not make a stringent law to bring back black money deposited in foreign banks in post independence period and continue to protect corrupt politicians, traders and bureaucrats, do not disclose their names and take action against them then how will poverty, hunger and illiteracy be eliminated? How will the funds be generated for energy conservation? I hope that the hon'ble Prime Minister will answer all these questions but I am confident that he will not be able to answer these questions.

The issues regarding holistic development and to provide financial security while creating livelihood oriented works for the people have been covered in the Address, but we have to consider the status of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Health Mission and MNREGA. There is widespread corruption prevalent in these schemes. These problems could not be addressed through MNREGA or providing food security or cash subsidy. These schemes

could be vote bank for politicians and a source of illegal income for corrupt persons but could not guarantee dignified and respectful life as in case of employment.

The target of 4 percent agriculture growth rate mentioned in the Address. 75 percent population of the country dependent on agriculture. Everyone is aware that farmers in various states of Eastern India have not been provided even minimum support price. Agriculture is continue to be a loss making venture. Agriculture policy of the Union Government is merely a formality.

I hail from Bihar where NDA Government is in power. We are fast moving on the path of development. The Union Government makes efforts to hinder the pace of development there. A number of development schemes are lying pending. As far as agriculture is concerned the Government of Bihar has prepared a Roadmap for ten years while constituting an Agriculture Cabinet for 'Indradhanush Kranti' moving a step beyond second Green Revolution. An amount of 1 lakh 50 thousand rupees will be incurred on this scheme. There is a need to make special provision in National Development Scheme or developing 247 agriculture farms of Bihar as model farms so as to produce high quality seeds but, the Union Government discriminate between states. Will there be a holistic development in the country or will we achieve 9 percent growth rate and 4 percent agriculture growth rate?

It is clean from the Address that it is an effort for makeover of the Government after suffering defeat in Assembly elections, but whether the government did during the last two years and caused harm to the country, it is not possible for the country to recover in near future.

*DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Sambhal): Hon'ble Madam Speaker, the President of India has delivered his Address on 12th March, 2012 in joint sitting of Parliament for which I am thankful to him. Different aspect regarding development of the country have been highlighted in the said Address. But it is unfortunate that pitiable condition and backwardness of Muslim community has not been mentioned. Whereas as per the report of Sachar Committee. Muslim community in the most backward in the country. Even the condition of Muslim is worse than that of Dalits. The recommendations made by the Sachar Committee for development of Muslims have not been implemented so far. The report of Rangnath Mishra Committee has not been presented in the Parliament so far wherein it has been submitted that it is necessary to provide 10 percent reservation to Muslim community in view of their backwardness. If the Union Government is serious about

* Speech was laid on the Table.

the welfare of Muslim then it should implement the recommendations of the said committee without any delay in order to remove backwardness among Muslim community so that they could move ahead in the field of commercial education and social growth. Aligarh Muslim University in purely a Muslim minority institute which has been established by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan through public donations for the educational and social growth of Muslim community but it is unfortunate that it has not been accorded minority status for which I have made several demands in the House. If the Government does not intend to provide due rights to Muslim, how can it be considered as well wisher of Muslim community?

The issue of price rise and poverty has not been addressed which is the major hurdle in the progress of the country and the Government has not taken any steps to eliminate poverty in the country and failed to put a check on corruption and black money. Hatred and communalism is prevalent in the country. The people of Muslim community killed in Gujarat but the guilty persons have not been punished and Muslim community has not been provided justice.

The people of Muslim community are trapped in fake cases and put behind bars. Young Muslim persons are killed in Batla House like fake encounters. Thousands of communal riots are a stigma for the country.

It is deeply regretted that Babri Mosque the place of worship of Muslims was demolished. Its protection was the constitutional duty of the Government. But instead of protecting the mosque it was demolished under an insidious conspiracy which was criticised by foreign countries and our head hung in shame the country got engulfed in communal frenzy and atmosphere full of hate. It is such a disgraceful plot that can never be washed out. But the persons who did the crime of Babri Masjid is demolished have not been awarded any punishment as on date. It is regretted that no mention has been made in this regard. Health is an important issue of the country. On one hand the Government is promoting Allopathic and Ayurvedic system of medicine, it is trying to destroy the Unani system of medicine. Because a major section of the society is associated with it. So, it is my demand that Unani system of medicine should also be awarded status at par with other pathics. The poor street vendors should also be allotted permanent place to enable them to earn their livelihood.

Education is of foremost importance. However, appropriate arrangement for the poor children has not

been made. It is my honest and sincere advice that no discrimination should be made is education so that every child across the country could become educated contributing to country's development.

It is regretted that the 15 point programme enunciated by the Government for the Muslim community is not being implemented fully. It should be fully implemented. A minimum of more than 10 per cent share should be provided to the Muslim Community under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) Scheme and the National Rural Livelihood Mission launched by the Government.

On one hand the Government is promoting the Railways, it is ignoring my constituency Sambhal in Western Uttar Pradesh. Sambhal is a historical place and also a district but is deprived of the railway facilities. I have raised the demand during Rail Budget in the House several times that Sambhal should be connected with a broad gauge and only survey is done time and again. Sambhal is not connected to Gajraula via Hasanpur. So, it is my strong demand that Sambhal should be connected with the main line upto Gajraula via Hasanpur.

[English]

*SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN (Nowgong): The Hon'ble President of India in her speech to the Parliament on 12th March stated that the Government will work on five important challenges. Unexpectedly, she has not mentioned anything about employment opportunity to the educated unemployed youth of the country which is a serious problem of the country at this hour.

Again she is happy with record production of foodgrains of 241.56 million tones during 2010-11. She also informed the House about rising of minimum support price of agricultural commodities by 10 to 40%. But the bitter truth is that the farmers of North Eastern region had to make hue & cry to sell rice and price of rice is still far below the level of minimum support price.

The Hon'ble President mentioned in her speech about inclusion of a few cities in the map of metro rail. Guwahati city is the gateway to the seven states of the North East and the communication system of the city becomes uncontrollable. But, name of Guwahati city had not been included although it should have a place at the top of the list.

Reason for inflation of food articles was stated as rising global prices of commodities, industrial materials

and fuels. But, most of the food articles of common people are produced by our own farmer and they are deprived from their own share. The price of food items paid to the farmers are almost half of the price that priced by the traders. So, the actual reason of inflation is failure of the Government in monitoring the stocklist and traders, not the global price rise.

Steps to improve the financial health of the banks by recapitalization of the public sector banks cannot be accepted as proper. Due to poor management and rampant corruption in granting loan etc. at high level, the financial health of the PSB deteriorated. It is necessary to recapitalize the development banking institutions like SFCs, SIDCs and SIDBI etc. for industrial growth in micro, small and medium sector which creates greater avenue of employment with minimum investment.

The Hon'ble President deserves thanks for mentioning exploration of possibilities to take up more inland water transport projects in the North East. Since the Brahmaputra is the only major water way for the water transport project. But, there are every possibility to dry up the bed of the mighty Brahmaputra within couple of years since the life line of the North East has been attacked by both insiders and outsiders. The main source of the Brahmaputra is the Shyang River which has already been reported to be blocked by our neighbouring China. Other tributaries of the river are also going to be blocked within couple of years by constructing big dam by our own Government. The stepmotherly attitude of the Government reflects from the fact that they have taken steps to clean the Ganga at an investment 2600 crores while they least bother about existence of the Brahmaputra. It is true that the country needs enough power for its all round development. But in the name of development of the country, a part of the same should not be sacrificed forcibly. The power hungry attitude of the Government will convert the entire North East to a big desert. To meet the increasing demand of power, the Government should consider setting up a nuclear power plant at a North Eastern State as mentioned in the speech of the Hon'ble President, since storage of uranium is there in Meghalaya.

Regarding modernization of railways, nothing has been mentioned about the poor infrastructure as well as service of rail communication in a backward area like North East. To bring prosperity to the country, it is essential to consider all round development including infrastructure development of the under developed areas. The geographical character of North Eastern region deserves

* Speech was laid on the Table.

special attention for communication development with rest of the country.

The Hon'ble President mentioned about revised package of 1200 crores for "Project Tiger Scheme" in her speech. It is pertinent to mention here that mere sanctioning of big budget cannot save the wild animals. Whether the Government is aware that the Guwahati city becoming the dwelling place of tiger and the people have been killing tiger like street dogs during last month. Again, the President has not mentioned a single word about regular poaching of world heritage rhinoceroses in the Kaziranga National Park. The Kaziranga National Park has been reducing by erosion by the Brahmaputra (about 60,000 hectares during the last 10 years) and encroaching the forest land by some people of doubtful origin at the patronage of the State Government. To save the wild lives, proper steps to be taken to protect the forest area from encroachers.

Signing of Memorandum of settlement with Unite Peoples Democratic Solidarity in Assam has rightly mentioned in the speech while she was silent on the during insurgency problem with ULFA, peace talk with Naga etc., without which there will be no permanent solution to bring peace in the North Eastern Region.

Briefing the diplomatic achievement of the Government, the Hon'ble President mentioned about high priority in developing strategic and cooperative partnership with China. But, nothing has been mentioned in the speech about building of war infrastructure bordering Arunachal Pradesh, criticism of the visit of the Indian Prime Minister and Defence Minister to Arunachal Pradesh etc. by the Chinese Government. Due to the recent development reported to be taken up by China near the international border with Arunachal Pradesh, the people of North Eastern region have been feeling insecure since they have bitter past experience of the situation. The Government should react to the recent development and reciprocate the action of the China Government immediately.

*SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar): It is a matter of satisfaction that we are the citizens of the biggest democracy of the world. In the democratic framework of the country, following the norm Mahamahim Rastrapati addressed the joint session of both the Houses on the beginning of the Budget Session of the Parliament on the 12th March, 2012.

The Address of the President is the real picture of

the intention of the Government. The Address broadly states what really the Government propose to do and what it had done for the development of the country and the people.

In the Presidential Address many points have been raised. As regards economic development, it is said that the economy grew in a handsome rate and it will grow to 8% to 9%. But what in the real picture? It is totally opposite.

It is said that the Government is committed to providing an honest and more efficient Government and for the purpose, further important steps are taken. But actually this is the most corrupt Government ever seen by the people of India.

It is mentioned that the Government has initiated action on various fronts to tackle the menace of black money. In this connection, I am constrained to say that in spite of announcement by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, why 'White Paper' regarding black money is not published. At least this would prove the honest wish of the Government.

Through the address of the President, the Government tried to depict a very bright picture, in most cases the picture is very gloomy. In case of security of the country, the effort of the Government is not praiseworthy. It is unbelievable that China protest against the visit of our Defence Minister in Arunachal Pradesh. China is not ready to accept that Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India. Otherwise, China would not behave like this.

It is astonishing that the Presidential Address did not touch upon the burning problems of the country particularly the North Eastern States. Only thing found place regarding North-East was tackling of terrorist groups. But nothing is mentioned regarding development of the North East region, the most undeveloped area of the country. The most critical situation is created due to the totally broken communication system. Over and above, the half done condition of the broad gauge conversion from Lumding to Silchar and super express highway (East West Corridor) from Silchar to West Bengal border. Both these are declared National Projects. In spite of this, it is said that the main hurdle is the transport lobby and lacking in co-ordination between the State and the Central Government. This need to be rectified in the interest of the people of the whole north east.

Besides this, the problem of electricity is acute. No visible effort is adopted by the Government to remove this *very serious problem*. In the field of infrastructure, nothing is being done. On the whole, the situation in the North

* *Speech was laid on the Table.*

East is beyond description. Unfortunately, there is not mention of those adversaries. This is not the case only with the North East. There is a longstanding movement for creation of Telengana State. This demand is out of regional aspiration and genuine. The Government has failed to tackle this problem.

National Counter Terrorism Center creation has been opposed by the ten Chief Ministers of the country. They feel that the Government of India encroaches upon the jurisdiction of the state and this is really a threat to the federal structure of the Constitution. Such an attempt on behalf of the Government should be given up. Everybody is in favour of removal of terrorism but the method should be acceptable to all.

The Presidential Address dealt with all the matters relating to the activities of the Government in respect of the present situation in all spheres of the society. This has shown only light and there is no darkness. But we should be realistic. One who thinks in right perspective will certainly agree that the Government failed on all fronts. There should be clear vision before us for sorting out the anti-social activities from the social life and making the country economically strong and sound.

*DR. RATNA DE (Hooghly): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address today.

On behalf of my party, Trinamool Congress and my leader, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I would like to highlight a few of the important points in this august House.

In the President's Address there is a mention of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration, which is the success story of UPA of which we are very much a major contributory. In fact, it is the brainchild of our leader and West Bengal Chief Minister, Kumari Mamata Banerjee. West Bengal Government after ending the 34 years reins of Left Front Government, ventured on a path of recovery in every sense. And one of the success stories of our Government in West Bengal in such a short time is enforcing peace in Naxal affected Janglemahal area. There cannot be two opinions about that.

We, in West Bengal, are making great strides in every conceivable front in spite of financial difficulties we have been facing since we took over.

Coming back to the Motion of Thanks to the

President's Address, though the UPA-II Government has highlighted as to what it had achieved and as to what it proposes to achieve, on the one hand, we can say that we are moving in the right direction, and on the other hand, we can say that we have failed in stalling the hike in the prices of essential commodities. Hike in petroleum products, which has a cascading effect, looms large on poor and downtrodden. Government of the day is yet to find a lasting solution so that hike in petroleum products at regular intervals is stopped. With spiraling prices of essential commodities, how can one lead a normal life?

Though we are the partners of the UPA-II Government, I would not hesitate to add that we witness corruption everywhere, in every sector. Corruption is all pervasive. When you open the newspapers in the morning, one can witness corruption in the front page, and page after page. The Government is making all out efforts to stem this rot. I strongly urge the Government not to compromise on corruption.

There is an issue of black money stashed in foreign banks. Is Government doing enough to get back the black money, which is usurped by the wealthy from the people of this country? In her Address, the President has stated as to what Government is thinking of doing to tackle the menace of black money. We welcome it. In the last session, Government has promised to bring out a 'White Paper' on Black Money. I would strongly urge the Government to come out with White Paper immediately.

There are many contentious issues on which our leader, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, and our Party, Trinamool Congress, have apprehensions. For example, FDI on retail trade, Lokpal, NCTC, water treaty with Bangladesh. At the same time, we believe in constructive criticism.

Our Government in West Bengal wants more funds. Just to quote an example - we pay Rs.22,000 crore every year by way of paying interest, whereas our yearly revenue stands at Rs.21,000 crore. We need generous financial help from the Centre to tide over the financial crunch situation in the State.

The President's Address has highlighted achievements made during the last nearly 3 years. No doubt, the UPA II government is making great strides in fulfilling its promises. But there are certain hiccups on our path to fulfilling certain more pending promises. We are making efforts to fulfil them too.

We are in the midst of economic slowdown, which has an impact on our growth. No right thinking person can

* Speech was laid on the Table.

deny this fact. In such a scenario, this UPA II Government, of which, we are the alliance partners, is taking measures and initiatives to tide over the fallouts being faced in the economy and country.

Due to prevailing situation, there is a fear of increase in the fertilizer prices, petroleum prices, essential commodities prices, etc. making. We are for the common man. How would he cope with the impact of rising food prices and other commodities in the market, every now and then? I strongly urge the Government to act against those indulging in malpractices, blackmarketeers, corruption, etc.

Of course, there is no denying of the fact that we also face the problems of shortage of drinking water, population explosion, inadequate health care, shortage of power particular during summer, ritual of floods, droughts every year et al. Government cannot take the plea that with such a huge population and diversity, it cannot have control and is not in a position to ensure that basic amenities could not be made available to everyone.

I would like to suggest to the Government that we should try to resolve the problem of water. Earlier, solution offered was the linking of rivers, which is a stupendous and arduous task which can be implemented only by pooling enormous money. We are no where now. We do not know where we stand vis-a-vis linking of rivers. I do not actually know whether it is feasible at all. But I am all the more certain that it would take long years to complete the linking of rivers. The more we delay implementation; the more cost escalation will be. But if we complete this unthinkable task, our future generations would heave a sigh of relief. Here, I would like to request the Central Government to keep the regional interests in mind while implementing the linking of rivers. Government has to study afresh the problems being faced in the implementation of linking of rivers. Environmental costs too should be studied in depth. We are not supposed to go against environment for linking of rivers as that would be detrimental to our growth, economy and our existence itself. Here, I would like to know from the Government the status on the linking of rivers or the Task Force that has been formed long back.

The farmers receive loans from commercial banks but they could not repay the loan back to the banks due to poor and volatile climatic conditions, droughts, cyclones. They have to go through a lot of formalities for getting the loan. When they are not able to repay the loan to the banks due to the above mentioned reasons, they are

deprived of getting fresh loans. They are in a Catch 22 situation. Under such circumstances, they are forced to approach the moneylenders who take advantage of their helplessness and charge hefty amount of interest which farmers of our country could not pain and they are well fall into the debt trap. I would like to strongly suggest that banks should make the terms and conditions simple so as to enable the farmers to get the loans without any difficulty. Because of stringent formalities followed by banks, farmers are keeping away from banks and going after the moneylenders who take advantage of their ignorance and cheats them by charging high rate of interest.

Agriculture is in the State List, my plea is that it should be brought under the Concurrent List so that the Central Government can extend the helping hand to the States in solving the problems of farmers. Central Government with the funds at its disposal can help the funds-starve States in saving the lives of farmers.

There is no proper understanding between the General Insurance Company and the Agriculture Department and the banks. Farmers are depositing the premium amount in banks and the General Insurance Company is collecting the premium from banks. At present, Government is not having a monitoring mechanism in this respect. Sometimes, the premiums deposited by the farmers are wrongly accounted with the result farmers are losing the benefits. I would request the Government to make earnest efforts to release the above amount immediately to the farmers who are in a very pitiable condition in West Bengal. Due to paucity of time, I would not like to speak further on this issue.

A number of farmers have committed suicide all because they could not repay the debts as they face the natural calamity in the form of droughts or cyclones which result in bad crop. I am of the firm conviction that as long as we depend on monsoon, we are bound to face such problems. When a State is facing drought continuously for four consecutive years, Central and the State Government has to come to the rescue of the farmers by way of giving loans at a cheap rate of interest or by waiving off the loans which would help the farmers from committing suicide.

I am of the firm opinion that population explosion is one of the main reasons for all our ills. If we can stop population explosion, we can easily take care of our people with the resources available with us. According to a report one child is born every 1.26 second in India. This is the highest in the world. 25 million children are born in India every year. It is also estimated that India would overtake

China in a span of ten years. How to stop population explosion should be the immediate task of the Central Government?

Health is one area in which India's position is not worthy of mention. Though we have made great strides in the field of health, according to a report, more than 26 crore people cannot afford healthcare and the Government hospitals cater to only a quarter of the people who approach the Government hospitals desperately without any source of treatment. We often come across cases of malnutrition across the country. Government hospitals should be upgraded in par with the state of the art private hospitals. I would urge the Government to move in this direction. Good and expensive treatment should be given to those who cannot afford due to poverty.

Education is another area, where we have to lay more emphasis in the years to come. Dropouts from schools have not reduced over the years. Innovative and effective steps should be made to ensure that each and every child, particularly from the underprivileged sections of the society and people living in despicable conditions attend the school. If we provide education to one and all, there is no doubt that our country would become a developed country sooner rather than later.

Tourism is another area where we can bring in more foreign exchange. Maintenance of historical sites along with improvement of infrastructure with low-budget hotels, airports facilities and other services would undoubtedly improve the inflow of foreigners.

Power is another subject which is to be treated with utmost seriousness. Power thefts should be stopped lock stock and barrel. All out efforts should be made to use the renewable sources of energy like wind and solar energy to tide over the huge shortage of electricity in various parts of the country.

This Government has stood the test of time nearly 8 years. This Government has solved many of the impending problems of the country with aplomb and great finesse. I hope and trust this Government would solve in future too the problems that may crop up from time to time.

About mention of Government's resolve to form the National Counter-Terrorism Centre (NCTC) in the President's Address, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, our leader and West Bengal Chief Minister, and our party, Trinamool Congress is of the firm opinion that the National Counter-Terrorism Centre (NCTC) severely hurts the very basic federal structure of the Constitution and infringes on the

powers of the States. Hence, we vehemently oppose this setting up of NCTC as it destroys the autonomy of the States like West Bengal. States like Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have all opposed coming into being of NCTC.

Trinamool Congress is of the firm opinion that the NCTC will become another inefficient intelligence centre under Intelligence Bureau which would have sweeping powers. Hence, we consider this is the latest ploy to take away the legitimate rights of the States. We in the Trinamool Congress will not allow the Government to sacrifice federalism.

Another important point I would like to raise is that in the US, the NCTC has no powers to arrest, interrogate, investigate and prosecute. The responsibility in these matters lie with the FBI. Here, in India, NCTC is given powers to arrest and carry out searches under Section 43 (A) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, which we object. Is it a crime to raise the genuine concerns of out State Government of West Bengal? Will the Centre give an undertaking that all the contentious provisions of NCTC and all those powers of arrest and carrying out searches by NCTC are addressed?

Even when we accede that countering terrorism is a shared responsibility of both Centre and the States, how would the Centre justifying this draconian power of arresting and searching provisions of NCTC, overlooking the powers of State Police? Under such a situation, we, strongly demand the UPA Government to delete this paragraph of forming the NCTC.

*SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dhubri): Hon'ble President of India has emphasized on agriculture. It is sorry to note that the agricultural growth of Assam is not up to the mark.

My priority is to bring home the points in the field of agriculture, water resources, big dams., minority related issues and price rise and corruption. I am representing Dhubri constituency in the state of Assam as it appears to me from the Address given by Hon'ble President to the Parliament, that the figures, data and other statements are unfounded with regard to the state of Assam.

Assam agriculture department suffers the negligence causing much havoc to the farmers.

Jute production plays vital role in the agriculture

* Speech was laid on the Table.

sector in Assam. In the districts Dhubri, Darrang, Marigoan state of Assam, a large number of farmers are involved in the just production and they are bound to burn their products because of no market. Both the state Government as well as the Government of India never paid attention to them, rather the middle man's interference, recovery agents of the loan granted with the financial agencies, negligence meted out with them by the concerned Government force them on the street or on the path of suicide.

Giving the example of recent brutal killings of farmers, I would like to draw the kind attention of UPA Government to the four farmers namely Mr. Syed Ali, Mr. Billal Hussain, Mr. Moinul Haque and Mr. Akbar Ali of Bechimari, Darrang district of Assam, who were killed by the police firing in the gathering of farmers while protesting against lower jute prices on the Black Day of 10th October, 2011. I fervently request the Government to kindly let us know whether any compensation is provided to these martyrs and the initiatives taken not to repeat the same incident in future as well as for the price hike of jute for the greater interest of the farmers of India.

It has come to notice that Arunachal Government is constructing a large number small and big dams on Siang river. The actual number is not known. Due to construction of these dams, a great danger is looming large on the people and land of Assam. Due to construction of these dams by Arunachal Government, Brahmaputra river is facing threat of drying. Thousands of people/farmers of Brahmaputra basin in Assam and other North Eastern states are dependent on Brahmaputra water. It is understood from various surveys, expert reports that these dams are not suitable and will harm the environment and lives of the people of Assam. All over Assam, the people are feared and they are organizing dharna, agitation against the construction of these dams. They feel that if these big dams burst any time in future, the people of Assam will die due to flood. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take up the matter with the Arunachal Government urgently and see that big dams are not constructed on river Siang to save the life of people of Assam.

1. People of Assam are confused about the number of dams constructed in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
2. People are also confused about the various reports of experts study about the dams in Assam.
3. At least there should be some public hearing regarding the constructions of the dams.

4. If China construct some dams, it may affect the natural flow of the river Brahmaputra.
5. From Arunachal to Dhubri, the natural flow of Brahmaputra should not be affected (around 600 kilometers).
6. There should be immediate interference of Central Government to stop the construction of big dams (lower subansiri) which may affect 25 lakhs people of Assam mainly who live their livelihood on river Brahmaputra.
7. The construction should stop till there is experts reports clearly in favour of the big dam because it can affect the bio-diversity through fisherman, agriculture and others.

Flood and erosion are the most inevitable natural calamities that the people of Assam are affected by. It damages the cultivation area and other public properties and also hampers the overall development of the State.

Assam state has a total flood prone area of 31.60 lakh hectares. Average area affected in a year is 9.31 lakh hectares and Average total damages in a year Rs. 124.28 crores.

Most importantly, on an average 8,000 hectares of land is eroded in Assam every year due to flood. The reason is that 74% of the dykes in Assam have already lived their lives has not been taken into consideration seriously by the government.

Since 1954, total area eroded is 3.86 lakh hectares. 7% of the total land area of the state has been eroded so far. Present value of the eroded land will be almost Rs.20000 crore. Number of villages eroded is 2,534 affecting 90,700 people. It may be mentioned that many towns like Fakirganj, South Salmara have been submerged. Currently entire Mancachar sub division is under the threat of extinction.

In case of flood, the affected people can at least start their normal life after the flood abates. But in case of erosion they become landless and totally helpless.

I would also like to apprise that besides Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts, other districts viz. Dhubri, Barpeta, Goalpara, Darrang, Nagaon, Morigaon and Barak valley which face flood and erosion are incidentally minority dominated.

The Prime Minister's 15 Points Programme, the MSDP programme, ensuring empowerment of minorities

through proposed 4.5% reservation, are the complete failure in the state of Assam. Rampant corruption is taking place in £ implementation of aforesaid programmers in the state of Assam.

I am very specific to provide 10% population or should reflect the population pattern of the country and have strong objection to provide sub-quota of 4.5% within 27% reservation for OBC. Minority education specially in lower primary and primary education have not been supported by any Government schemes of India.

Level of corruption and unemployment and price rise are the issues I am concerned with and strict measures need to be adopted of by the Government to face the menace.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH (Surat): The country had many expectations from the Address of H.E. President at the commencement of this session which have not been met. The Address has also failed to spell out guidelines to meet the expectations of the people as to the direction in which the Union Government is spearheading the country taking the entire House in confidence in order to address the problems and challenges before the country at large.

Several problems have been ignored in this Address. Besides, the stance of the Union Government towards the states exposes its arrogance and its intention to run the federal structure in an undemocratic way. The country has witnessed the tyrannical manner in which the Government intends to run the country be it the structuring the NCTC or amendment to the Railway Protection Force Act. It has ignored the Chief Ministers elected by majority. Several Chief Ministers of the country opposed the decisions of the Government. I believe that the constitution of NCTC despite the assurance of the hon. Prime Minister is a step in the direction of disintegrating the federal structure of the country. The Union Government is politicising even the state level issues like law and order in a struggle against terrorism. On one hand it expresses its intention to fight terrorism by setting up NCTC on the other hand it is not approving the Gujarat Control of Terrorism and Organised Crime (Gujcoc) law since the state is governed by BJP under the leadership of hon. Narendra Modi. The double standard on an issue like terrorism could be dangerous for the country. The Government is unable to hang the culprit

of the attack on Parliament even after the lapse of so many years. What kind of attitude is it to struggle against terrorism, the people of the country cannot understand it. It is not a healthy attitude. Discriminatory Treatment is meted out to the State Government of the Opposition party. MACOCA can be enforced in Maharashtra but GUJCOC cannot be enforced in Gujarat which was separated from this very Maharashtra. The Union Government is sitting in silence over several bills passed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly and causing hindrance in the implementation of bills passed by legislative Assemblies elected by the general public through majority vote. In the same way Gujarat local Authority Laws (Amendment) Bill 2001 could bring major changes. Similarly, Kutch (Bombay) Inani Area Bill passed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly has also been blocked. If this bill is sanctioned then the State Government would be able to check the scams relating to landless labourers in an area like Kutch. However, the Government which itself is knee deep in corruption is stalling the State Government to check corruption.

The rate of economic growth has plummeted over the last few years which raises an alarm and in the wake of which a Government led by an economist is making false promise to the Government. This growth rate is targetted at 8 or 9 per cent. But the roadmap to strengthen the economy is not visible in this address. If the problem of agriculture is to be addressed in the country one should follow the Gujarat model. It is regretted that it is not being done, only because that model has been implemented by Hon. Narendrabhai Modi Ji. However, the country's agriculture sector is suffering heavy losses. Owing to that arrogance.

[English]

*SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE (Raver): First of all, I want to express my gratefulness and sincere Thanks to Hon'ble Her Excellency Smt. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil, Hon'ble President of India for new initiative taken in agricultural reform sectors.

The country have suffered from a un-repairable loss in the music and cultural life by the void left behind by Jagjit Singh and Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi.

As specified the Government's top priority is to reduce the rate of inflation and in particular to protect common man from the impact of rising food prices, this is only possible after the Government will boost farmers by

* Speech was laid on the Table.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

providing them the required infrastructure for time and cost saving to put maximum efforts for the cultivation activity. There should be separate agriculture budget to be presented as like the one we are presenting for Railway. Then and only then we can achieve the control over the economy and can reduce the rate of inflation. The following heads can be considered in presenting the separate agriculture budget.

Infrastructure development of internal farming approach roads should be developed on top priority to protect the agricultural produce in turn minimizing losses hence increasing the financial position of farmers with round the year availability of foodgrains and all perishable and durable agriculture produce.

Green revolution can be worked out with water conservation through scientifically and technologically developed drip irrigation system for watering the crops to consider and provide the subsidy once in every five years block.

As the farmers are taking utmost care to preserve water for their plantation and predominantly using drip irrigation system. Because of the high usage of the scientific way of watering system the farmers are bound to use the water soluble fertilizers. In the speech, there is no mention of the provision of subsidy as like the one provided with the traditional fertilizers. Also the usage of water soluble fertilizers means assuring of 80% efficiency for the usage which fetch the national saving.

Farmers are facing the problems of storage of their agriculture produce, hence as and when the crop reaches at the finished stages, farmer has to sale the produce at the price he is realizing at that time. But if there is a provision to store the agricultural produce, farmer will store the same in the storage space available for him and will sale out the same after realizing the better price. Also, if there is proper storage, the perishables and durable commodities wastage will get minimized, hence we can utilize whatever we produce. There is no mention of storage facilities provided at least for each block level. Actually speaking, the storage facilities can be created as per the needs of the farmers to again minimize the cost of transportation thus further savings on it.

Once the agriculture produce are stored in safe storage by the farmers where the life of it can be prolonged and the quality of the produce maintained at natural level which are under the lock and key and full control of Government authority. Bank can also provide finance

against hypothecation of the produce very easily which in turn can be utilized for further activity in cultivation, thus increasing the economical growth. There is no mention of this in the speech for upliftment of farmers by providing proper storage facilities and provision of finance through NABARD like Government's authority. This will certainly help to reduce rate of inflation and increase overall economy in true sense as mentioned and highlighted in the speech.

No assurance has been discussed for providing 24 hour of electrical power supply used for agriculture purposes by the farmers to achieve the proper and quality agriculture produce.

To consider introduction of Crop-Insurance, weather based scheme to minimize the revenue losses arise due to natural calamities which farmers are facing because of global warming effect and sudden changes observed during recent time.

As the water table is deepening day by day there is stiff depleting of water table, introduction of Mega Recharge scheme particularly in the alluvial zone (Bazada Zone) should be taken on top priority to save the future scarcity of water, such recharge has proved to be feasible technically by the Central Ground Water Board.

To consider the effective project scheme for linking of rivers to avoid drought and flood disasters for which farmers are really worried forever.

As agriculture plays very vital role in the Indian economy, the above mentioned issues can be taken up in consideration for presenting the budget including the other issues like fertilizers, timely availability, the prices of fertilizers, the subsidy provision on fertilizers, strict control on monitoring system for fertilizer control, pesticides, seeds, etc.

The other issues on which Government failed to find the remedial causes are as under:

- a) There are many areas of tribal in our countries still lacking for the life-leaving facilities. There is no proper mention of the scheme to take care of starvation for these tribal areas.
- b) The sugar, cotton and onion prices have suddenly collapsed in the market because of ban imposed on exports. This has created severe damages to the farmers and plenty of such agriculture produce has gone in waste. No proper handling and monitoring

on public distribution for essential commodities has been discussed.

- c) For the farmers no proper and effective incentive scheme is mentioned in the speech. Farmers have suffered losses in the onion, cotton, crop, there are no effective steps considered in speech for these farmers.
- d) Food security law has not been keenly monitored for whom it was meant. No corrective measures have been discussed to make available the foodgrains at subsidized rates for the families below BPL under Food Security Law.
- e) In recent times, Government have totally failed in controlling various scams and monitoring the corrupt practices which have been initiated by Government's own Ministries. No proper drive to control the corrupt practices has been discussed and mentioned,
- f) A new initiative like horticulture train must be run on daily basis to transport all horticulture products towards a market.

I accept the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

15.45 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Situation in Sri Lanka

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No.4 on the Agenda. Hon. Minister of External Affairs may make a statement.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Sir, I am on a point of order. It seems my friends are totally in a confused state. Yesterday, the Government had promised that the matter would be explained through a statement by the hon. External Affairs Minister. What is that matter? The matter pertains to the support to the Resolution of The United States of America ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him make the statement first.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: No Sir. I need your indulgence. The subject matter today is to make a statement regarding 'The situation in Sri Lanka'. What I wanted is to go to a place named Pattukottai near Mannargudi in Thanjavur District, whereas the hon. Minister is showing the betel

nuts. In Tamil the proverb is called "*Pattukottaikku vazhi ketta kotta paaku enna vilai enru sollugirar!*"

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Baalu, let him make the statement first.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We wanted to have a statement from the hon. Minister pertaining to the support of US Resolution in the United Nations Human Rights Council. ...(Interruptions) He is coming forward with a statement on rehabilitation and resettlement in Sri Lanka, like supply of cement, steel, tartar, etc. We have heard this so many times. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. No point of order, please.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): Sir, the problem is the same, so the situation is the same. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (Mayiladuthurai): Sir, tomorrow ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go in record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Sir, at the outset, allow me to convey that I fully share the concerns and sentiments raised by the hon. Members of this august House regarding the Sri Lankan situation.

The end of the long period of armed conflict in Sri Lanka in May 2009, left around 3,00,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) living in camps in Northern Sri Lanka and general devastation of infrastructure in the affected areas.

Since the end of the conflict in Sri Lanka, the focus of Government of India has been on the welfare and well being of the Tamils citizens of Sri Lanka. Their resettlement and rehabilitation have been of the highest and most immediate priority for this Government.

The Prime Minister, in June 2009 immediately after the conflict, announced a grant of Rs. 500 crore for relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Tamil speaking Sri Lankans. The Government of India has implemented and continues to implement a wide range of projects covering assistance projects for IDPs in the areas of housing, de-mining, education, connectivity, livelihood restoration, economic revival, etc. We have been informed by

*Not recorded.

representatives of Sri Lankan Tamils that the tractors, seeds and agricultural implements gifted by the Government of India have greatly benefited the people in the area, who depend on agriculture.

India also announced the construction of 50,000 houses, mainly for IDPs in Sri Lanka. During my visit to Sri Lanka in January 2012, I handed over the first lot of completed houses to the beneficiaries at Ariyalai, Jaffna and Kilinochchi. These houses have been constructed under a pilot project for construction of 1000 houses. As of end-February 2012, a total of 365 houses have been completed, another 370 houses completed up to roof level and around 232 houses completed up to lintel level ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt. Please sit down.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: It may also be kept in mind that construction is taking place in largely inaccessible areas, which in many cases has to be freed of mines and other explosive ordinance and cleared of jungle.

In December 2011, the Cabinet approved the modalities for construction and repair of the remaining 49,000 houses. A Memorandum of Understanding for construction of these houses was signed between India and Sri Lanka on 17th January 2012 in Colombo. The project is expected to be completed within three years of commencement of work on the ground.

In addition to houses, India also gifted bicycles to IDPs and handed over hospitals and schools rehabilitated under the assistance of the Government of India in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.

I would like to underline that it is mainly as a result of our constructive engagement with the Government of Sri Lanka and our considerable assistance programme that a modicum of normalcy is beginning to return to the Tamil areas in Sri Lanka. There has also been progress given the withdrawal of emergency regulations by the Government of Sri Lanka and the conduct of elections to local bodies in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, our primary objective in all that we are doing in Sri Lanka is to ensure the welfare and wellbeing of Sri Lankan Tamils, including the Internally Displaced Persons, and to assist in the reconstruction and development of areas affected by the conflict.

Several Hon. Members of the House have raised the issue of alleged human rights violations during the

protracted conflict in Sri Lanka and on the US-initiated draft resolution on 'Promoting Reconciliation and Accountability in Sri Lanka' at the ongoing 19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Concerns have been expressed by various quarters on allegations of human rights violations, including as shown in the Channel 4 documentaries; it is the responsibility of the Sri Lankan Government, in the first instance to investigate and inquire into them through a transparent process.

We understand that the Government of Sri Lanka has initiated a series of measures, including appointment of a Cabinet Sub-committee to monitor implementation of the proposals in the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) and reactivating the National Police Commission, in line with the recommendations of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) report. Separately, the Sri Lankan defence authorities are reported to have appointed a Court of Inquiry to look into allegations of human rights violations as required by the LLRC report.

The Government of India has, nonetheless, emphasised to the Government of Sri Lanka the importance of a genuine process of reconciliation to address the grievances of the Tamil community. In this connection, we have called for implementation of the recommendations in the Report of the LLRC that has been tabled before the Sri Lankan Parliament. These include various constructive measures for healing the wounds of the conflict and fostering a process of lasting peace and reconciliation in Sri Lanka.

We have been assured by the Government of Sri Lanka, including during my visit to Sri Lanka in January this year, of its commitment towards pursuit of a political process, through a broader dialogue with all parties, including the Tamil National Alliance, leading to the full implementation of the 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution, so as to achieve meaningful devolution of powers and genuine national reconciliation.

We hope that the Government of Sri Lanka recognizing the critical importance of this issue acts decisively and with vision in this regard. We will remain engaged with them through this process and in the spirit of partnership encourage them to take forward the dialogue with the elected representatives of the Sri Lankan Tamils.

Hon'ble Members may be aware that the Sri Lankan authorities had said they would be happy to receive an all party delegation of Members of both Houses of our

Parliament. We are working to undertake such a visit at the earliest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, several Members have raised the issue of a draft resolution initiated by USA at the ongoing 19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council at Geneva on the issue of reconciliation and accountability in Sri Lanka.

I would like to highlight here that on such sensitive issues we will need to consider the implications of our actions carefully. Any assertions on our part may have implications on our historically friendly relations with a neighbouring country. We would also need to examine whether our actions will actually assist in the process of reconciliation in Sri Lanka, and enhance the current dialogue between the Government of Sri Lanka and Tamil parties, including the Tamil National Alliance.

As far as our position on the resolution is concerned, we are engaged with all parties in an effort to achieve a forward looking outcome that is based on reconciliation and accountability rather than deepening confrontation and mistrust between the concerned parties. I may mention that the issue of human rights allegations against Sri Lanka is yet to come up for formal discussion at the 19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. A view on this issue will be taken as and when the time is finalized for consideration of the draft resolution on Sri Lanka in the UN Human Rights Council.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I, therefore, would like to inform this august House that our objectives, as always, continue to remain the achievement of a future for the Tamil community in Sri Lanka that is marked by equality, dignity, justice and self-respect.

I may assure the House that the Government will bear in mind the views and sentiments expressed in this august House, and once a final view is taken Government will keep the this august Parliament informed.

Thank you, Sir *...(Interruptions)*

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 6172/15/12]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I am sorry that the Government is not serious about the human rights violations against Tamils in Sri Lanka. *...(Interruptions)* We are walking out *...(Interruptions)*

15.58 hrs.

At this stage, Shri T. R. Baalu and some other hon. Members left the House

...(Interruptions)

15.59 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...(Interruptions)

15.59 ½ hrs.

At this stage, Shri C. Sivasami and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

16.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

16.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan left the House

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

16.03 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan came and stood on the floor near the Table

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 4.30 p.m.

16.04 hrs.

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

16.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty-Two Minutes past Sixteen of the Clock.

(DR. GIRIJA VYAS in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Madam Chairperson, I wish to place on record the views of my party ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Just a moment.

Madam, the practice in this House is that there is no clarification sought on the statement. When the statement has been made, thereafter we must proceed with the normal business of the House.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: This is not the tradition. But it is also the rule.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing anybody to seek clarification.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Sorry, Madam. Please allow me to place on record the views of my party ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Madam, this is not an ordinary issue.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Neither it is a tradition nor is it in the rule.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Nothing is coming on record.

...(Interruptions)*

16.33 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—Contd.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, we will proceed with the discussion on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): Madam, on the President's Address, the hon. President of India had addressed both the Houses of Parliament.

At the very outset, I would like to say that the Address makes only a passing reference to the resettlement and rehabilitation of Sri Lankan Tamils in that island nation. The Address says that the Government initiated steps for resettlement and rehabilitation of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). I would like to remind the august House that the Government had extended a financial package of Rs. 500 crore a few years back for the welfare of the IDPs. But we do not know how that money was spent. On the other hand, there are reports showing that even now there are thousands of Tamilians, who are yet to be resettled; and they are living a miserable life in that nation.

We feel that it is the responsibility of the Indian Government to see that all of them are resettled and returned to their own homes. During the war in that nation, the Sri Lankan Government indulged in excesses and killed more than 50,000 innocent civilians. The Report of the United Nations quotes that the number is more than 40,000. It is a misfortune that the Sri Lankan Government is planning to wipe out the entire Tamil race from their country by undertaking such ethnic killings.

In this regard, as soon as our Party Leader, hon. Amma took over as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, a Resolution was passed in the Tamil Nadu Assembly in June last year urging the Centre to take this issue to the UN to declare those found guilty of war crimes as war criminals and also to impose an economic embargo against Sri Lankan Government till the Sri Lankan Tamils are resettled entirely.

*Not recorded.

Currently, this issue is being discussed in the Human Rights Council in Geneva. There is a US-backed Resolution for taking action against the Sri Lankan Government. I urge the Centre that India should support that Resolution when it comes up for voting to strongly condemn the Sri Lankan Government. Sri Lankan Tamils have a right to live with dignity, self-respect and equal Constitutional rights.

Fishermen issue is the next important issue concerning Tamil Nadu. Innocent fishermen from Tamil Nadu venture out into the sea to catch fishes to earn their livelihood. That is their traditional profession, without which they cannot live. While catching fishes, they are being caught by the Sri Lankan Navy and brutally attacked. Their boats, nets and other fishing equipments are thrown into the sea. They are being captured and taken to Sri Lanka and tortured. Even if they do not cross the boundary, they are attacked in the Indian Waters. Such incidents are occurring frequently, causing grave danger to their lives.

Retrieval of Kachchatheevu could be the only permanent solution to this issue. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had said many times in the past that handing over of Kachchatheevu was unconstitutional and the Centre must take efforts to retrieve it. I request the Government to take adequate steps in this regard for the welfare of the Tamil fisherman and also to find out a permanent solution to this problem.

The next major concern with respect to Tamil Nadu is the power situation. Most of the States are facing severe shortage of power. Even though the President's Address states that the Government had made achievements in power generation, the reality is to the contrary. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had written many letters to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard, requesting him to allocate around 1,000 MW additional power to Tamil Nadu to tide over this crisis, and also to give power transmission corridor to transmit power from other States. Hence, I request the Central Government to consider the request and allocate 1,000 MW of additional power to Tamil Nadu.

Coming to the Centre-State relations, in a federal set up, powers, duties and responsibilities are given separately for Centre and the States but of late, the trend is that the Centre is taking away all the powers of the States unilaterally. The Centre is not even consulting the States before taking such decisions. The States do not have even the financial autonomy. The recent case is that of the office memorandum from the Union Home Ministry about the establishment of the National Counter-Terrorism Centre under the Intelligence Bureau from 1st March 2012.

The Centre did not consult the States before taking this initiative. Only after the State Chief Ministers started objecting, the Centre started consulting the States and holding meetings. Many States are objecting to the provision with regard to the power to arrest and the power to search under Section 43A of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act. This is infringing upon the rights, duties and powers of the State Government. There is an apprehension that this power could be misused for reasons other than tackling terror. 'Law and order, and police' are State subjects and the States also have equal responsibility. We are not against taking strong action against terror but the States' power and duties must be restored. Hence, there is an urgent need to consult the State Chief Ministers before going ahead with this subject.

After assuming power in Tamil Nadu, our hon. Chief Minister had written a letter to the Prime Minister, requesting him to grant special financial package to Tamil Nadu because the State was under huge financial crisis. Added to this, recently, Thane cyclone had hit Tamil Nadu and devastated most parts of Tamil Nadu. To give proper relief to the victims of this cyclone and to have proper rehabilitation measures, the State needs some special financial assistance. I request the Centre to consider this issue in its seriousness and grant special financial assistance to Tamil Nadu.

To give equal status to women and to protect the rights of women, our leader, hon. Dr. Amma had given reservation of one-third of seats in local bodies and Panchayats during her earlier term as the Chief Minister to Tamil Nadu. But, the Centre is not able to bring the Women's Reservation Bill to give reservation of one-third of seats in Legislatures. I request the Central Government to bring in this Bill and pass it.

Next one is about the Global Hunger Index of the International Food Policy Research Institute, which states that 21 per cent of Indian population is under-nourished; 44 per cent of under-five children are underweight and 7 per cent of them are dying before they reach five years. India was firmly established among the world's most hunger-ridden countries. United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisation puts the figure of hungry and malnourished people at around 230 million. This is almost confirmed by the National Family Health Survey statistics which says that a large number of Indian families are caught in slow-starvation. This is a worrisome aspect and the Government should take note of this.

About infant mortality and maternal mortality, the

figures are shocking. The World Bank's World Development Indicators say that over 55,000 women die in India due to child birth every year. Of the total children born in a year, about 13 lakh die before they reach their first birth day. Even if they survive this, about 16 lakh children die before they are five years old.

There is extreme poverty, hunger, disease, lack of education among Indians. The Government does nothing about all this. There is an overall failure of the Government to tackle all these issues. Requesting the Government to pay immediate attention to all these issues, I conclude and I thank the Chair for giving me an opportunity.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you, Madam. I rise here today to discuss a few things arising out of the Motion of Thanks on President's Address that has been moved in this House. It is no doubt customary to pass that Motion without any amendments. But, many of us have moved amendments. Some are identical also. These amendments reflect the mood of the nation and it displays the disappointment that is very much there throughout the country.

At the outset, I would say that there is nothing inspirational about it, nor does it excite the imagination of either the Members or the people whom we represent. If any purpose is served by this Address prepared by the Government, it is an endless list of great things which need to be achieved. I would say there is more of reassuring oneself to complete the pending works within next two years and three months time, which were or could not be done during the last two years and nine months.

I may be excused, Madam, if I say that hon. President's speech revealed precious little on the thinking of the Government on how it intends to move forward on crucial economic reforms, the growing chasm between the Union and the States on federalism and the way forward on the stalled Lokpal Bill.

Considering the economic growth, which had slowed down from 8.4 per cent in 2010-11 to seven per cent this year, it is mentioned that it would be the endeavour of the Government to put the economy back on the high growth trajectory of eight to nine per cent. It does not, however, spell out how the Government would reach this goal. Economic growth is slowing down. If this continues, my apprehension is that all the social programmes will be hit. If growth does not take place, no progress will happen elsewhere in terms of roads, education and healthcare spending.

When UPA Government took over in 2004, India had high growth, low inflation and fairly consolidated public finances. The NDA Government had enacted the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act and there was expectation that the revenue would rise by the years. We have fallen back. Fiscal deficit is already high at 5.6 per cent of the GDP. Energy subsidies are ballooning. This Government has to really restore confidence. But, that is the last agenda perhaps in this Government's list. Unfortunately, the Government's ability to execute domestic energy and infrastructure projects is diminishing because its functioning is wrong.

How would we expect that this Government is prepared to face the five challenges that have been listed by the hon. President in her speech? How would one strive for livelihood security, achieve economic security, ensure energy security, realise a balance between development and ecology/environment? When we recognise the challenge about internal and external security, one is reminded of the manner in which this Government has tried to bulldoze the National Counter Terrorism Centre idea arbitrarily by an executive order without consulting the States. We believe that it is wrong in principle to vest the Intelligence Bureau with power of arrest. It seems this Government can barely resist the temptation to encroach on the State's powers. The Congress of today seems to be particularly afflicted with the malaise. The challenges that the Republic faces from terrorism and other threats require the Union Government to be more sensitive to powers of the States. Many State Governments face such challenges on their own turf. Unfortunately, the anti federalist tendencies of this Government seem to be getting worse over time. Terrorism is a major threat and the States have as much concern to tackle it as the Centre. To assume that it is a matter that concerns only the Centre is to have a very narrow view of the challenges to fight. Otherwise, why would one say that the Chief Secretaries, Home Secretaries of the States, DG Police of States should not be CM's stenographers in a meeting convened very recently in Delhi by the Union Home Secretary? Such ill conceived ideas sow avoidable seeds of conflict between the Union and the States. This is certainly no way to foster national integration either.

In a large a diverse country like ours it would be foolish to think that Central agencies can be a substitute for State agencies. NCTC or no NCTC, counter terrorism strategy cannot succeed without close and continuous coordination between the Union and the States. Ham-handed attempts to set up the NCTC has only weakened

the fight against terrorism. I am reminded that our Chief Minister Shri Navin Patnaik wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister and subsequently also he sent a reminder. The Prime Minister responded assuring him that a meeting of all the Chief Ministers will be convened and the Home Ministry will be in consultation with the Chief Ministers. But, till date no such thing has happened. An attitude of one-upmanship would not help.

Hon. President has mentioned about eradication of corruption. I would not mention about 2G, KG and other Gs! But I would like to refer to a recent High Court remark, which has hit out at the Central Bureau of Investigation for not arresting those accused in the Adarsh Housing Society scam. The Court had asked why the agency was not arresting powerful people involved in the scandal despite having evidence. I quote: "Why have you not arrested any of the accused yet? Are you feeling shy or are you just protecting the accused?" Does this remark not demonstrate the actual state of affairs?

I would like to draw the attention of this House to the matter relating to appropriation of States' powers and responsibilities. It is not NCTC alone where police's powers are proposed to be taken away but also construction of minor and medium ports where responsibilities are to be taken away by the Union Government. Why is the Government doing this? If this is not trampling into the powers of the States, then what is?

I have already expressed myself about the Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill during the last Winter Session that it was a weak Bill. I believe that this was deliberately made controversial. We all remember that night when the other House was adjourned amidst din. If they are actually serious to drive out corruption, make governance transparent, bring a fresh Bill on Lokpal only and prepare a model draft on Lokayukta and send it to the respective States to be made into an Act.

This Government, it seems, is suffering from creeping paralysis. I will give you one example. In order to check trading of illicit liquor in Odisha, the State Government evolved a policy and subsequently the Orissa Excise Bill, 2008 was passed by the Odisha Legislative Assembly unanimously in the 14th Session of 13th Assembly to replace the Bihar-Orissa Excise Act of 1915. This Bill, though passed since 2008, is still awaiting the assent of hon. President of India. Sometimes it is the Ministry of Finance, sometimes it is the Ministry of Home Affairs and sometimes it is the Ministry of Law which is putting spoke into it and the Bill is getting delayed to become an Act.

Every year people die taking spurious liquor and adequate punishment is unable to be meted out to the culprits in Odisha.

We are reminded that the year 2012-13 will be the first year of the 12th Five Year Plan which sets the goal of "faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth". When the Government is suffering from creeping paralysis, how would tinkering with the names of programmes help to curb corruption when the Union Government's programmes have inherent problems for which corruption takes place? In the case of NRHM, it is not only UP, but you can go to any other nearby State - I need not mention about Rajasthan - and you will find that it is inherent in the policy itself which breeds corruption. It is not only in the case of NRHM but also MGNREGA. How does one expect from this that the system will change for the better just by changing the nomenclature? The Government has seldom tried to accept the wise advice of the Opposition nor has it attempted to bring in consensus on national issues, but it always says that they have the numbers. In this regard, I would like to remind the Members, who are in the Government, that the nation is not built on numbers. They should remember to be aware that such arrogance at times and boastfulness will never cover up inefficiency.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: I would like to say my suggestions on some of the points mentioned in the President's Address with respect to the vote of thanks of Shrimati Girija Vyas presented in the Lok Sabha on the President's Address.

1. Hon. President has mentioned in the Paragraph 2 of his speech that instability and uncertainty has grown in the international economy. Since, the said sentence has been read out before the President of India, it seems that political instability and uncertainty has also grown in India. On the other hand, the decline in the rate of GDP has also been pointed out in the Address. The rate of GDP going up from 8 to 9 per cent has also been mentioned, however it has not been explained as to how will it increase. Therefore, the instability and uncertainty with regard to the rate of GDP has also grown besides the uncertainty and instability prevailing in political system, which needs to be rectified well in time.
2. Hon. President has mentioned in his Address about the pendency of very important Bills before the

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Parliament and in the end of his speech has expected from the Members to work for passing the pending Bills with the intention of constructive cooperation but is has not been mentioned as to how the ruling party will lead the process of passing these pending bills. It seems to be giving the impression that the Members of Parliament from opposition parties are not allowing the bills to pass. This sentiment is not good. In any parliamentary system, it is the responsibility of the ruling party to make provision to present Bill in the Parliament and get it passed. Thus, not giving any guidance in the President's Address for the ruling party appears to be a lopsided approach.

3. Importance has been given to the skill training in the President's Address which is an auspicious indication. But it would not be in the interest of the country to work on merely a PPP mode regarding the target of achieving skill training. The Government should certainly mention adequate funds in the plan head by taking a new initiative so as to achieve the important aim like skill training.
4. It is a good indication that the National Rural Health Mission will now be implemented in urban areas also but it is not appropriate from any angle to make no mention in the President's Address regarding the way to check the scams in NRHM happened in the country. Hence, complete investigation should be carried out regarding the NRHM scams and NRHM should be implemented in the urban areas taking into account the findings to the said investigation.
5. President's Address has mentioned about abolishing the practice of manual scavenging. It is a good thing, but law in this regard is already in place in the country. However, non stoppage of manual scavenging is really sad. Hence, the practice of manual scavenging should be stopped and an alternative provision should be made for rehabilitating the sweepers. Until some concrete provision is made in this regard it would be difficult to get rid of this tragic ailment of manual scavenging.
6. It has been mentioned in the President Address that Child Labour Act has been amended but it would be necessary to make a provision of providing education besides rehabilitating the families after identifying the families engaged in the industries where child labour is necessary and where there is

no pollution. So that this problem can be addressed as per the situation of handicraft existing in the country.

7. In President's Address, it has been mentioned to provide assistance for metro project. There is mention for providing assistance to other cities whereas there is no mention of Jaipur of Rajasthan for this purpose which is not justifiable with regard to a bigger state like Rajasthan from any point of view.

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Madam Chairperson, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak a few words about the Motion of Thanks to be given to the hon. President of India.

The Address contains meritorious activities / achievements of the UPA Government and also the programmes to be taken up this year. Under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and able guidance of Madam Sonia, our Government is continuing its journey for the better future of our country.

Thousands of people have lost their home / property; agriculturists have lost their crops; and most of the roads were badly damaged during the recent havoc created in Tamil Nadu by Cyclone Thane. I urge upon the Government of India to come to the rescue of Tamil Nadu by allotting more funds to withstand this calamity.

Madam, at this juncture, I would like to make a very serious point. Tamil Nadu is gravely affected by power shortage. We are not able to get even ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI O.S. MANIAN (Mayiladuthurai): The Government of India ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI O.S. MANIAN: The Government of India ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Your Party has already spoken. Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Madam, I am talking about the real situation in Tamil Nadu. Everybody knows that Tamil Nadu is in darkness due to severe power-cut. *...(Interruptions)* We are not able to get even 4-8 hours of continuous power supply. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGOVA: What was your policy during elections? *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Chitthan speaks.

*...(Interruptions)**

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Please do not discuss among yourselves.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. You have already spoken.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Madam, I have not said anything against the Parliamentary principles. I am stating the real position in Tamil Nadu. It is a known secret all over India that Tamil Nadu is in grave situation due to power shortage. We are getting 6-8 hours of power supply in a day, and we do not know when the power supply will be cut. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI O.S. MANIAN: Madam, he is giving wrong information to the House.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: The agriculturists are not able to grow their produce; thousands of small-scale industries have shut down; and lakhs and lakhs of labourers are on the streets without work. So, I wish to say this here. The Kudankulam Atomic Power Project was started by the Government of India in the year 1989; more than Rs. 14,000 crore have been spent on this project; and if the first unit of this plant is started, then Tamil Nadu will get 1,000 MW of power. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: If the project is started, then Tamil Nadu will get 1,000 MW of electricity. So, our efforts should be to commission this plant as quickly as possible. I urge upon the Government of India that only a very few people are against this project. But everybody in Tamil Nadu - whether they are teachers, labourers or agriculturists - want this project to be started at the earliest. So, I urge upon the Government to take urgent concrete steps so that the project is started as quickly as possible.

17.00 hrs.

Madam, the hon. Minister for External Affairs has given a suo moto Statement regarding the situation in Sri Lanka. Madam, I wish to record the views of my Party here. It is the considered view of all political parties in Tamil Nadu that the Government of India should support the Resolution to be tabled at the Human Rights Conference in Geneva. This is the view of the Tamil Nadu Congress Party. Yesterday, we the Parliamentarians of the Tamil Nadu Congress Party called on the hon. Prime Minister and stressed that our Government should support the motion being moved regarding the human rights violations in Sri Lanka.

[Translation]

*SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHN (Sabarkantha): Agricultural Development has been talked about in the Hon. President's Address. In the year 2010-11 6.6 per cent growth in agricultural sector has been mentioned but the farmer is finding himself helpless in sustaining his family even after toiling hard and putting in hard labour. Agriculture is continuously turning out to be a loss making activity and still the farmer has not come out from the clutches of money lenders. Farmers are committing suicides even today in various areas of the country due to their pitiable condition. The Government provided agricultural loan amounting to Rs. 4 lakh 60 thousand crore during the year 2010-11 but even today the process of providing loans to the small farmers is very complicated. Farmers are unable to get the loans in the end even after approaching banks again and again and the Bank Officers cancel the loan application of farmers. All these reasons break the morale of the farmer who is Annadata (food provider) of the country. With the increase in the use of machines in agricultural sector, the cost of farming is going up whereas the value recovered through selling crops is not increasing at par. For example tractors which used to be considered a sign of prosperity at one time have become an indication of suicides today.

Today, the Hon. Prime Minister has reflected serious concern about malnutrition considering it a national curse and has talked about taking concrete steps for its total abolition. This is a welcome approach but 42 per cent children of the country are still malnourished. Thus, there is an urgent need on the part of the Government to take nationwide concrete and transparent steps for making the mothers and their children malnutrition free. Today when all the store houses with foodgrains and several occasions it is heard that sacs of foodgrains are rotting in open at harbours, the common man of the country is facing a lot of difficulties in managing even a single meal a day for the common man. Starvation and malnutrition are still a matter of serious concern after so many years of independence. This is an issue requiring serious analytical thinking by the policy makers of the country. With these words, I would like to thank supporting the Hon. President's Address.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Madam Chairperson, discussion is being held on the Address of Hon. President. We have learnt it from the beginning that the Government has an annual policy and statement is heard in the form of Governor's Address in the Assembly and President's Address in the Centre. I leafed through the pages of the Address and even heard attentively in the Central hall but there was no mention of the Government's annual programme in the offering. I am not surprised. When the Government began its second innings two and a half-three years back they did not have any common minimum programme. Common Minimum Programme existed during U.P.A-I Government's tenure. It was also reviewed. However, this Government is running without any programme. Initially 100 days programme was launched. It was called copy of America. I wondered the Government which enjoys mandate for 1800 days, has come up with 100 day's programme, what will it do for the remaining 1700 days? This Government is victim of this gross mismanagement. Why so many irregularities are being committed?

It is a coalition Government. But they behave like a majority Government. So that remaining coalition parties are constantly in a flurry. The bigger party should safeguard the interests of smaller parties in coalition.

There are so many challenges before the country. What do we expect from this Government? What problems do we enumerate without the Common Minimum Programme?

Advani ji raised the issue of black money. This Government has announced its multipronged action to

tackle the problem of black money. It means that you have initiated action quite late. K.N. Wangchoo Committee was set up during the Government of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The problem of black money persists in the country for a long time. And this Government says that they have initiated action. What action have you initiated? I read it also in the Address that they have set up several agencies over black money. Some C.B.I Director has evaluated this amount to the time of Rs. 40 crore, Rs. 50 lakh crore or even Rs. 500 lakh crore. They are saying that it is deposited in Switzerland, German banks etc. There is no account. There is much buzz around in people. What system is this? Where is the law to check its taxation and tax evasion? How so much black money was transferred in foreign banks? Whatever be the estimates, or even inflated figures, why was the black money siphoned off? What system is this? All this system is a mockery, it is meant to cheat the poor man, else how these deposits are being made? There is talk about black money within the country and outside. The list of billionaires is not exhaustive if we talk of India. What will be the fate of the common man, farmers.

They do not have any strong will power. They do not have long time bound programme. They make so many calculations about the cause and state of poverty. There is poverty because of unemployment. If we address unemployment, poverty will be taken care of. Unemployment means taking into account below poverty line population, how many years have lapsed, yet they have not been able to determine the BPL list. Committees after committees were set up but how the Government which has not been able to identify the BPL population will be able to remove poverty. No, this is a fallacy, the Government would neither mitigate poverty nor, would it be diminished, it would rather continue to increase. Why have they created this confusion, you are not able to identify the poor. There is Saxena committee, Arjun Sengupta's Committee, although he has expired, but there is his Committee report. Tendulkar Committee's report is also there. Their NSSO is showing different figures, there are several learned persons in the Planning Commission, but why no estimate of poverty has been taken? It is true of black money also. The Government talks of weeding out corruption, how will you weed out corruption. When you are cornered by the Supreme Court of India or CBI etc. then you spring into action. Why do not you take immediate action. When you come across cases of corruption. If you address the issue of only mine mafia, we will appreciate that some action is being taken. You only talk of making laws. The mine mafia has looted the country but no law has been made in this regard. There is no system. We tell

the main simple people that we will work as per law and for the poor we will help them.

Madam, the situation is critical in the country, the condition of the Government is critical. Be it any Government, State or the Union Government, what is the rapport between them. Madam, you will be present in the House tomorrow, the hon. Speaker has directed that discussion will be held separately on the issue of farmers. What is the amount to be given to the sugarcane farmers, the Government should give a date, why there has been an outstanding of Rs. 5000 crore? How poor farmer who has given his sugarcane yield in the mill will be able to grow more crops if he does not get paid? What action have you taken? Have you taken cognizance of this fact? Why the sugarcane farmers are facing this problem, please tell the House the sugar mills will start functioning in sugarcane producing states where these have been closed, nobody knows, but where these are functioning. ...(*Interruptions*) Sugarcane is being sold at throwaway prices, that is a separate issue, however the main issue is that the payment has not been effected to the sugarcane farmers. This is an important subject. Please give us reply as to what action has been taken by you?

Madam, I visited my constituency recently. The farmers are praying with folded hands, that they do not need any assistance. They request that their life be saved from monitor lizard (Ghorpad), antelope (nilgai), boar, monkey etc. Now there is environment law, hon. Members would be visiting their constituencies, they may tell if it is a problem or not.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Whether antelope, monkeys, monitor lizard, boars are a menace or not in the country. They destroy crops. It eats out the entire crops and cause havoc wherever they enter. The farmer invests his capital, takes loans, rows seeds and faces this legal hassle in the shape of law that no one can kill them.

The case will go in the Supreme Court and penalty will be imposed. There is no compensation, no penalty and no action to protect from the terror of animals. Why is the Government unaware in this regard? There is a saying in my constituency "Tu Kehta Kagad Ki Lekhi, Main Kahta Ankhin Ki Dekhi". When we visit villages, the farmer prays to us to protect him from Neelgais, pigs and other animals who uproot potatoes and destroy crops in the farms. The farmer cannot kill them because as a result he will have to face a case and penalty. The Government should tell

whether it has any knowledge regarding all this. ...(*Interruptions*) The pig has terrible teeth and he can strike the people down to death. Let the Government tell whether it is not aware of all this. I have written to many State Governments. Various other members would have also written. People in Buxar area, Vaishali, Muzzarfarpur and those living near the Gandak river have told me about this. The entire House is talking about this and the Government is also aware. The Government should give a statement as to what measures are in place for this problem. We have made the law but Supreme Court and the environmentalists are taking recourse to it, and the farmers are becoming the victims. His crop ready for harvesting is getting destroyed. Trees have been planted but they destroy these as well. What should the farmer do? There is fear of law on the one hand and on the other there is destruction by animals.

Madam, sometimes the farmer gets destroyed due to floods, sometimes due to drought and sometimes because of the Government. He gets ruined due to these three elements. And then he faces difficulties because of animals. Fertilizers are not available, so black-marketing of fertilizers is taking place and he gets spurious fertilizers. He is not getting seeds. Let the Government tell whether the farmers are resorting to distress sale or not. Are the farmers getting remunerative prices for the items they are producing? Let all the Members tell whether distress sale is there or not in their constituencies. Are the farmers being forced to sell their products under helplessness through middlemen or not. So, I would not like to speak more on the farmers. When the chair allows discussion on farmers, I will let the Government know as to what are the difficulties of the farmers. Today sugarcane producers are getting ruined.

Education is facing the same situation. There is no mention of Primary education. In which direction are they taking the higher education? Where should the name of the small children be enrolled in schools? People from villages will be approaching each member with the request of recommending their children's name for a Central school or some university. This is a huge problem where would the children study? A good situation has emerged in the country that even a poor person wants his children to study as far as possible by making sacrifices for him, but let the Government tell as to where the institutions are in which the poor children can get their names enrolled? Where would they study? People are moving from one place to another to get their children enrolled whether it is primary education, secondary education or university education. If we observe the cut off percentage, even the

children getting very higher percentage of marks are unable to get enrolled in the university. Where has Kapil Sibal ji gone? He was saying that the Government is bringing bigger reforms. Several commissions were constituted for education-Mudliar Commission, Dr. Radhakrishnan Commission, Hartley Commission, Robinson Commission, Kothari Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Raghuvansh Babu, you please finish your point.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Madam, a new education policy was formulated during Rajiv Gandhi's time and a lot of other education policies are there but the situation of education is very poor. Let the hon. member tell whether there are teachers in the schools? There are 700 students but only two teachers to teach them. At least one teacher is required for 40 students but it is not so. Whether it is high school, lower or middle school or even college, only 50% teachers are available. When teachers are not available, how will new colleges and schools come up? Even, there are difficulties in enrolling the students in these schools and colleges. There are no teachers and no buildings. 8000 schools are in Bihar itself which have no buildings. Primary schools are there but there are no buildings. Studies are going on in the shade of trees. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, you finish your point.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Madam, I am briefly putting my point.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: You are harping on one topic only.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Madam, that is why education is in a very poor condition.

Madam, I want to speak about health. Hon. members are sitting here. Several people come in a week and ask to get themselves admitted in AIIMS. What has happened? Some have kidney problem, some others have heart problem. But when there is no money in Prime Minister Relief Fund to assist them, what will be the country's situation, what will happen to this country. The poor used to get assistance from the Prime Minister Relief Fund. They are saying that there is no money, where will the poor man go? Where will the poor man go in a state where no money is available in the Prime Minister's Relief Fund? I am raising this question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Please, conclude your point. You are speaking for the last fifteen minutes.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Someone is a victim of cancer, some other is having AIDS. Someone is suffering from Diabetes, some other from heart problem. We have Kala Azar here. Disease is causing discrimination. I have heard that Dr. Farooq Abdullah was a doctor also. Has any single rich person has fallen victim to Kala Azar? Only the poor suffer. Kala Azar will attack only the poor because they sleep on the ground and are surrounded by sandflies. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: You please conclude now.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The poor man sleeps on a mat, so naturally, he will be bitten by sandfly. It doesn't bite the one sleeping on bed. The incidence of Kala Azar is maximum in Bihar. It is there in Bengal and Eastern UP also. What measures have been taken by the Government to check it? When a patient approaches some doctor in Bihar in AIIMS Patna he is asked to come in the year 2013. He comes to me and tells me about the disease and says that he will die in two-three days and the Doctors are asking him to come in the year 2013. It has been published at two places in Jansatta. What a poor plight? How much difficulty is there in admitting poor people in AIIMS. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): AIIMS doctor does not even speak what to speak of admitting them in the hospital.

MADAM CHAIRPERSON: You people don't discuss among yourselves.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: That is why I am saying all this. What is the state of the poor and what is the point of setting up hospitals? The Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana seeks to award AIIMS like status to hospitals in various parts of the country after upgrading them. Where is that Scheme? Four-five hospitals on the lines of AIIMS should be opened in Bihar given the situation there.

Similarly, the policy for constructing a four laned national highway is based on 15,000 passenger car unit (PCU) traffic in 24 hours. It crossed 15,000 PCU from Barauni to Muzaffarpur, Muzaffarpur to Barauni however it was not four laned. It was proposed to construct 71,000 km national highway. We are 12th part which means 12 multiplied by six; and the resultant number is 72, we need 6000 km but only 3400 km has been sanctioned. It is just half of the required length. What is your policy for constructing four lane? The Members barged into the well on issues of power and coal linkage. There is electricity

crisis the people of Bihar are facing electricity crisis. ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Thermal power plant is closed in Kanti. ...(*Interruptions*) Barauni power plant is facing power crisis. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: It is OK now. You will get more time next time.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I will conclude in one line.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude only in one line.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It was said, we made huge progress in Commerce. Today, it is seen that 'Made in China' statues of Ganesha are being sold in the country. Chinese goods have pervaded Indian market. Where is our commerce department? What arrangements have you made? Are small items not produced in the country? But the entire country has become dumping ground for Chinese goods and our Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Commerce is sitting idle. What are they doing?

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Dr. Mehboob, please start your submission.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Madam, I am making final submission. We have been hearing about border dispute with China for a fairly long time and even disturbances on the border. What is our policy regarding Tibet? We have given asylum to Dalai Lama in India. Tibetans are protesting and committing suicide by adopting the method of self-immolation. Why are you silent? We are the largest democracy of the world. India might be occupying 2.4 percent of land but we are 16 per cent in terms of population. Out of seven billion world population we are 1.2 billion. We are sixth part of the world. Where is our voice? The popular leader of Myanmar, Aung San Suu Kyi is fighting for democracy. We are sitting silently. The people of Tibet are also fighting for their freedom and we are silent. Tibet is adjoining our border. China on the contrary, claims its territorial rights on some or the other part of our country, at times it blocks our road routes. Why are you self satisfied? ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Mehboob Saheb, please make your submission if you wish to do so.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Where are you cooling you heals? China is consolidating its strength

on the border. Where is our foreign policy? What kind of a relation do India and China have under the Non Alignment policy that at times it is checking our water and at times causing some other problem?

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude in one line.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Madam, now I will come to the issues of my constituency. When Kanishka invaded India in the first century A.D. he took Ashwaghosh, a highly learned person from Patliputra. Lord Buddha on his final journey announced from there that he would have (Mahanirwana) leave the world on the ninth day. The people of Vaishali were not prepared to leave him, they were following him. Lord Buddha gave them his begging bowl (Bhiksha patra). It was worshipped for 600 years in Vaishali. When Kanishka invaded India and took Pt. Ashwaghosh with him, he also carried the bowl with him to Peshawar, Bestewar. Peshawar was called Purushpur in those days. It was the capital of Kanishka. He took it to Kandahar. When I raised the question the, Embassy of India clicked its photograph and showed us that the 'bhiksha patra' of Lord Buddha was preserved in the museum of Kabul during the regime of President Najib-ul-lah of Afghanistan. Where is the 'bhiksha patra' of Lord Buddha? We are enjoying good relations with Afghanistan right now. It is requested that the bhiksha patra of our Lord Buddha should be brought back. It is our consistent desire.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Alright. You have spoken the ten lines. Please conclude now.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This source of origin has been quoted in writing by several historians like Romila Thapar of the Jawaharlal Nehru University and Shri Rajendra Ram of Patna University. The Bhiksha patra of Lord Buddha should be brought back.

Madam, so many paints of my speech are remaining.

[*English*]

*SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad): I would like to express my views about Motion of Thanks on President's Address and propose amendments to it accordingly.

In my view the President's speech is most disappointing as it does not contain any encouraging aspects in reducing poverty and narrowing the gap between rich and the poor.

My area of thrust is naturally agriculture which provides employment to about two-third of our population without the Government's involvement in it. Though there is a mention about agriculture in para 31 of the speech, it has not expressed any assurance to make Indian

*Speech was laid on the Table.

agriculture viable and profitable to farmers. It speaks much about the agriculture growth achieved in 2010-11 but not hinted anything about the current fiscal. The President has not made any mention nor spelled any definite proposals regarding reform agenda for Indian agriculture.

In fact agriculture has to be kept at the centre of any reform agenda or planning process to alleviate poverty and malnutrition and to ensure food security. This sector calls for major reforms from marketing to investment and institutional change especially in water management, new technologies, land markets and creation of efficient value chains. This Government is aware that despite a very high projected growth of 4% in 11th Plan, we achieved only 2.4% of agricultural growth in terms of GDP.

The non agriculture sectors are receiving higher investment as compared to farm sector and there is need for substantial increase in the investment instead of providing subsidies for long term growth. Because the investment option is much better than subsidies for sustaining long term growth in agriculture production which can reduce poverty faster.

But there is no such hint in the address, I am constrained to say. The advanced projection of agricultural growth in the economic survey was 4.7% for 2011-12 but according to some sources it may not even touch 2% mark and the Government has not found out any reasons for this low growth.

Though para 31 contains some reference to Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism and its growth for some crops, there is no mention about the rationalization of MSP system.

CACP (commission on agri costs and prices) was constituted by Government for recommendations on the subject. The factors considered by formulating the MSP system by CACP has to be incorporated in MSP system by Government. These factors are most of production, changes in input prices trends in market prices etc.

There is no mention about the rationalization of fertilizer subsidies and price decontrol. Very important para 18 of the speech mentions about health sector. It is quite disappointing to note that in 12th Plan, Government intends to spend only 2.5% of GDP on this, whereas the WHO has recommended for minimum 6.5% allocation for health. It mentions about 26% increase in MBBS and 62% in post graduate seats. But irony of the situation is that still we do not have sufficient doctors in rural areas. In this regard, I propose a guaranteed service in rural area should be

spelt out precisely and the speech needs amendment to this effect.

India is perennially short of electric power. The generating capacity in 1997 was 76,700 MW which it was estimated would have to be doubled in the next 10-15 years requiring an addition of some 7,000 MW of new capacity per annum. Given the gaping disparity between demand and supply, the Indian power sector is being chased by the world's most prominent independent power project developers, generation equipment suppliers and project financiers from all over the world. Coal is the most important fuel for India's power sector. It is the source of more than 70% of generating capacity. But, coal shortages, delays in coal transportation and the low thermal quality of coal supplies cause disruptions in power generation and result in lower plant load factors.

Transmission and distribution losses in India are high, in the range of 20-23 percent. State Electricity Boards (SEBs) generate and distribute power, set tariffs and collect revenues. However, they suffer from chronic financial problems because of rising generating costs accompanied by eroding revenues due to pilferage, bad debts and supply of power at subsidized rates for the agriculture sector.

When such is the situation, the President Address does not contain any specific package or way out for this. It simply mentions about the statistics of the future agenda, in power generation for the 12th Plan.

One more problem I like to relate with this issue is supply of coal to power generation agencies including state government undertakings. This Government is fully aware that there has always been delay in providing coal linkages. This is very important aspect so far as solving the power problems in the country which does not figure in the President speech. I propose amendment to this effect so as to address this problem effectively by which my state Karnataka is also severely suffering.

I am disappointed and constrained to say that President address has no constructive proposals with regard to fighting terrorism. This Government even at the cost of demolishing the federal fabric of our Constitution is much enthusiastic to bring in NCTC but has no political will to bring to books those who are involved in many terrorist acts against our nation. For example, the President's Speech does not reflect any resolve of the Government to execute the sentence pronounced by our courts against such terrorists, at least against those committed against Parliament House and Mumbai Hotel.

Railway is not one of the effective vehicles of developments but also an important national symbol of unity and integrity besides being cheap and economic mode of transport for people. But there is no mention in the President's Address to make this organizational network enlarged so as to increase per thousand population density train facility in some states including Karnataka.

[*Translation*]

*DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA (Karnal): In the year 2012 economic and political uncertainty and instability are adversely affecting the world. In the challenging circumstances of the entire world our economy is growing at an attractive growth rate of 8.4 per cent which is quite good vis-a-vis other countries keeping in view the current prevailing trends and our UPA Government, in the efficient leadership of hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji and Chairperson Sonia Gandhi ji, is making efforts to increase this growth rate up to 8 to 9 per cent. During this Budget Session hon'ble President made us both the Houses of the Parliament familiar about the achievements and policies of the present government after considering all the internal and external, economic, social and political aspects of the country. I support the President's Address whole heartedly.

Our Government has introduced several important Bills in both the Houses of the Parliament in the public interest of provide effective, honest and high quality administrative system e.g. Public Interest Disclosure Act (Whistle blower Protection) Bill. Whistle blower Bill, prevention of bribery of foreign public official Bill for tackling corruption. Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill, Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill Food Security Bill. Constitution of National Mission for providing justice and legal reforms and the enactment of tackling of Benami Conduct and Money Laundering Acts are themselves effective measures to check the growth of black money. I hope that our Government will introduce more Bills in the public interest and create good law and security environment and strictly implement these Bills also.

The UPA Government is committed to strengthen internal and external security alongwith economic security and taking effective steps to make this country free from hunger, poverty and illiteracy and for creating livelihood opportunity. Even during the period of global recession our Government is fighting against prices rise and corruption alongwith ensuring 8 to 9 per cent growth rate and leaving no stone unturned to materialise the Welfare schemes in the public interest. For example, e-governance project is

being introduced to provide education, health, public distribution and postal services to the lakhs of deprived people of the country and a unique scheme namely 'Aadhar' has been introduced for the common man.

Our Government is committed to start Livelihood Mission in cities for the overall development of people, farmers, agricultural labourers, women, the unemployed and business houses and traders of each class and category our government is committed to the proper development of the minorities with right being of intention for example our government has decided to provide 4.5 sub-quota for the minorities in the 27 percentage reservation for OBC. Alongwith this, efforts has fructified in improving the social-economic infrastructure by investing 3500 crore rupees in 90 minority centric districts and our Government is trying to increase its scope.

Our UPA government is committed to fulfill the needs of the urban poor. It is the first priority of our Government to fulfill the needs of the poor and our Government is determined to do it. Alongwith this our government is going to introduce such Bill through which the urban shelterless persons will be provided accommodation and food. Further in the interest of street vendors and their security and development, to end the manual scavenging and unclean toilets the attempt to introduce a new Bill is itself a meaningful effort. The Government has tried to provide coverage to 7 crore people by expanding National Health Insurance Scheme. I hope that the UPA government will try to make National Health Insurance Scheme more effective by setting up more primary health centers for the poor in rural and urban areas. The Government will try to carry out important amendment in the Child Labour Act to prevent the employment of children below the age of 14 years and efforts are being made to bring 7 crore people under National Health Insurance Scheme by expanding it. The government will provide free health and compulsory education to children below the age of 14 years and provide employment to the youth.

I support Hon'ble Presidents call to develop friendly relationship with the neighbouring countries and proper resolution of issues like terrorism and other foreign issues with bilateral mutual cooperation and hope that the UPA Government will try to further strengthen friendly relationship with China, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Srilanka and Islamic countries apart from countries like Russia, America and European countries. Terrorism and naxalism should be condemned at each and every level. I strongly support the decision of the Government to expand the integrated

scheme involving Rs. 3300/ crore for the inhabitants of naxal affected areas from 60 to 78 districts. The Schemes launched by the UPA Government as mentioned through the Hon. President's Address in the House like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (National Agriculture Development Scheme). Public investment in the Agricultural sector through the National Food Security Mission and the National Horticulture Mission and increase in agricultural production, Record production of foodgrains and oilseeds, increasing the agricultural loan to Rupees 4 lakh 60 thousand crores, increase in minimum support price of agricultural products, irrigation facility under National Water Mission, ensure availability of fertilizers to farmers, computerised expansion of Public Distribution System, Employment in rural areas under MGNREGA, effort for quick enactment of land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement Bill and provision of giving appropriate compensation on time, creation of additional one crore hectare irrigational land under Bharat Nirman, providing electricity to approximately 2 crore poor families and reformation of about 2 lakh kilometre rural roads, development of middle category towns under national urban mission, provision for starting metro phase-III in National Capital region providing houses to destitutes living in the cities, announcement of financial package and loans amounting to crores of rupees for the welfare of handloom weavers, concrete financial policies of public sector banks and reserve bank, setting up of power transmission board, encouraging micro and small enterprises, modernization of railways, modernization of production and storage facility for crops, comprehensive modernization of railways and roads, making the common people aware of new policies related to information and electronics, setting up nuclear plants for power generation, taking proactive measures for modernization of the three wings of the armed forces and making all round development of each citizen and every area of the country is the foremost agenda of the UPA Government and the Government is working on this agenda. I hope that the UPA Government will effectively implement the welfare policies while formulating them in the interest of the common people in future. I welcome the Address presented by the Hon. President in the Parliament and Support the outline of the welfare schemes and programmes implemented by UPA Government at the national level in the interest of the country presented before the country.

DR. MIRJA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag): Madam, the Hon. President's Address was delivered before both the Houses of Parliament in the Session commenced on 12

March, 2012. It contains 21 pages and the Hon. President covered 106 points in his Address.

17.25 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will confine myself to the page 18 because points 89, 90 and 91 on page 18 are related to my state. Hon. President has rightly said that he has addressed Jammu and Kashmir with a human approach. Hon. President has addressed about Jammu and Kashmir which has been a unique problem in our country. Hon. President has rightly said that the UPA Government instead of using firmness adopted a human and political approach to address the issue of Jammu Kashmir. Two important things happened in this process. One is that the Prime Minister nominated committees. The Committees made the recommendations. It was a good approach but these recommendations are not being implemented. The approach adopted to address alienation of Jammu-Kashmir was a good one. But until it is implemented, I fear that this alienation may increase. Not only this, when in the year 2010 our young dynamic Chief Minister was facing the situation in Jammu and Kashmir which was very critical and which no one had expected, the UPA II Government sent three interlocutors taking it into account. The whole Kashmir was burning and the protest was taking place throughout the state. Three well reputed interlocutors were sent to address this alienation. They toured all the three regions of Jammu, Kashmir and Laddakh and other districts of Jammu-Kashmir and submitted a full-fledged report to the Government of India in October, 2011. But unfortunately the report has not been made public so far so that a debate and discussion could take place on it. You should redress this issue of Jammu-Kashmir which is hanging fire.

Mr. Chairman Sir, BJP has found a new love for federalism since 2011 but they campaign and advocate this federalism only in Gujarat. But the federal structure of Jammu-Kashmir was arrived at after detailed negotiation as to what should be the relationship of Jammu-Kashmir with the Union. Undisputed leader of Jammu-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah through Mirza Afjal Beg carried out Delhi Agreement, 1952 and presented a very fine map of federal system before the world. That federal system was Republic within Republic, Constitution within Constitution. BJP does not talk about it and it talks about federalism. But it does not talk about that federal structure of Jammu-Kashmir which was decided by Shekh Muhammad Abdullah.

I want to know from Rajnath Singhji, Arun Jaitleyji and Shahnawaz Hussain ji as they are talking about strong federalism and federal structure. I want to know from them as to whether they will take the initiative of restoring the federal structure started by Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji to its final conclusion which was drafted after detailed negotiations for Jammu-Kashmir. Because until this federal structure is restored which is the political commitment of my party Jammu-Kashmir National Conference, this issue cannot be resolved.

The hon. President spoke about Panchayat elections. The Omar Abdullah government held Panchayat elections after a long gap of thirty years in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. I salute the people of Jammu and Kashmir that 80 percent people turned out for voting despite the call for boycott and the government was formed through the electoral process. This is a big achievement of the Omar Abdullah government and the UPA II government in Jammu and Kashmir. The hon. President mentioned that one crore people had undertaken the Mata Vaishno Devi yatra and lakhs had gone for Amarnath Yatra. A lot of people tell me that they want to visit Kashmir and ask about the situation there. I would like to request the Government of India to ask the tourism department to run a campaign in this regard. Lakhs of Amarnath Yatis entered the cave and had darshan without any incident. No untoward incident occurred. I want to remind you that at the time when the entire nation was bathed in blood in the name of religion it was the state of Jammu and Kashmir which had proclaimed, *Shere Kashmir me kya Irshad, Hindu-Muslim-Sikh Etihad*". Not a single Hindu was hurt ...(*Interruptions*) Secularism need not be taught to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Not a single Pundit brother got hurt. We can say with pride that Mahatma Gandhi, whom we call the Father of the Nation, said, 'in this dark hour I see a ray of light only in Kashmir, the rest of Hindustan is burning'. We have to keep it safe, we have to respect this peace. Now peace has been re-established there. Lakhs and crores of tourists have visited the state without incident. Panchayat elections were held which witnessed 80 percent turnout. People say that the state could not have got out of the abnormal situation under the abnormal laws such as Armed Forces Special Powers Act. At that time only militants ruled the state. Today there is peace in the state. The common man wants that the benefits of peace should reach the common men. It would happen when the abnormal laws needed to control an abnormal situation are now withdrawn slowly, as our hon. Chief Minister has said, only then the common man would be able to breathe freely and avail the benefits of a democratic atmosphere. This is not an

anti-national sentiment. Thousands of persons have borne the brunt of this law. No one can teach nationalism to the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference.

I would like to remind you that when Jinnah ji had come there, Shaikh Mohammad had shaken hands with a secular democratic country. This was Shaikh Mohammad Abdullah and our party the National Conference which had dealt with fire and made a pact with it keeping the vision of a secular democratic nation in mind. If the people want, if there is peace, then the people should get the benefit of peace and strengthen the position of the Chief Minister. This is not taking the matter to international forums. The hon. President has said that talks should be held and they should be held. There should be talks with all the stakeholders. Even those people who are not in the national mainstream should be included in the talks. They also want to talk. There is a faction of moderates in the Hurriyat who have laid down arms. There should be dialogue with them. They resent being left out. The protests should not be termed merely stone throwing and ignored. Talks should be held with the youth. Unconditional talks should be held with them so that a permanent solution is found for the problem of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sir, I would like to reiterate the recommendations of the committee and the report of the interlocutors. This issue needs to be highlighted to find a solution to this problem. Sir, the hon. President has talked about certain schemes for removing unemployment. I would like to tell you there are more than five lakh unemployed youth who have registered their names for getting employment. This number may be higher. There are no avenues for employment in Kashmir, Jammu and Ladakh. There are no sectors for employment as there are in the rest of the country. The youth there look towards the government for jobs. Schemes for providing jobs to the lakhs of educated and uneducated youth would have to be floated because this is a problem unique to this region. There is no public or private sector there except for government jobs. This needs to be given serious consideration. With this I would like to thank you for giving me the time to speak.

I would also like to request you that there are certain schemes - MGNREGS, NRHM, Food Security Bill in which coordination and cooperation amongst states is required. It is not as if nothing has been done but some states have availed a lot of benefits and others have availed less benefits. This scheme is quite good in principle but there are problems and lacunae in their implementation which should be plugged so that the benefits of these schemes are availed by the common man.

*SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH (Araria): I would like to throw light on some points in the Address by the Hon. President. 65 years have passed since independence. If we talk of development then we seem to be a model nation on the international stage. But almost half of the country's population has no idea of this honour neither does it feel any glory because even today they have no part in the wave of economic growth sweeping across the country.

I belong to Araria district in Bihar which is adjacent to Nepal's border. It is an extremely backward area. Bihar is a historically important state, it has a distinct identity but it is utterly neglected in the matter of development.

Sir, there is a crying need for industries in the Kosi belt including Araria district and in fact across Bihar since people are forced to migrate to other parts of the country for work. Despite the fact that Jute is produced in abundance in my region, what to talk of setting-up a big factory, the government has not even taken any initiative in this regard in the 65 years of independence of the country.

Bihar has been facing the problem of flood. Bihar suffers a loss of life and property and crops worth crores of rupees get destroyed every year. Even if anything is constructed, that is swept away by the flood and the process of reconstruction is started every year. Rivers like Kosi, Ghaghra, Mahananda, Bakra, Kankai Nuna, Pawan cause a heavy loss. But we do not have any permanent solution or plan. The Advisory Committee on Flood Control had accorded in principle approval to the work of Mahananda basin in the year 2007. Through the said work has been started but there are not any visible results due to slow process of the work.

Power is a big problem due to which we have to face public anger. Bihar is getting lesser quantum of power than its prescribed quota of power from the centre. Even out of that quantum of power maximum power is used by Nepal, Railways, Defence, Airport and other essential services. As a result remaining quantum of power is not sufficient enough for meeting the requirements of the state. Several power plants of NTPC are closed. Power production is almost stopped in Farakka on account of releasing greater quantum of water to Bangladesh as a result of Bangladesh agreement.

Even Kahalgaon unit has not been utilising its total capacity of power production due to acute shortage of coal

linkage. There is large scale irregularity and corruption in Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. On one hand work is not completed in time due to connivance of the officers of the department and private companies getting contract and on other hand the material being used is not as per the laid down norms. A case of corruption by the company namely S.P.M.L has come to light in my district and a inquiry in this case is going on.

Even today there is only one health research institute in Patna in Bihar. People from far-flung areas come to Delhi for treatment and they have to face a lot of problems. The government should provide financial package to the State government for setting up medical college and increasing other medical facilities.

My constituency Araria is adjoining Nepal due to which a large number of tourists cross the borders People have to go to Patna airport or Bagdogra airport in West Bengal for going to Delhi and other cities by air route which causes problem in travelling a large distance. There is Chunapir air strip in Purnea which was earlier used for commercial flights but that air strip has been closed for the last few years. Therefore, it would be very convenient if the said air strip is reopened.

ABMC road in our district goes directly to Nepal which is 35 kilometers long and very important from strategic point of view. Construction of this road by Ministry of Defence of Government of India is very urgent and important in public interest and for security reasons.

There is shortage of infrastructure in education sector in Bihar. On one hand the people in the rural areas have no charm for education due to financial constraints resulting from poverty and backwardness while on the other hand people are indifferent towards education due to lack of resources. Schemes like Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day Meal are not implemented properly due to corruption which cause hindrance in promotion of education.

The students have to go to other states in the country for want of employment oriented education in Bihar as there are no management or technical institutes and the rural people are not able to bear the cost of such studies.

The government should take concrete steps to ensure equal development and proper timely benefits of the schemes to each and every person in the country and some financial package should be provided for progress of backward states like Bihar so that steps are taken to resolve all the problems and all may cooperate in building a prosperous and strong India. I support this Motion of thanks in this context.

[*English*]

SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO (Purulia): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the President's Address delivered on 12th March, 2012. I would, first of all, like to thank the hon. President for delivering her Address to both the Houses of Parliament and would also like to draw the attention of the Government on five major points that the hon. President had mentioned in her Address.

Firstly, the hon. President made a mention of five points which are a major challenge to the country. Seventy-five per cent of our population lives in the villages whose main source of livelihood is agriculture. But what is the position of agriculture today? The farmers are committing suicide. From the inception of the UPA -II Government, the subsidy on fertilizers have been withdrawn in phases and the farmers are feeling suffocated by this.

Sir, the Government is aimless today and it is like a rudderless ship. The prices of commodities are increasing by leaps and bounds and the growth rate is declining. Sir, the wrong policy of the Government has taken the farmers to the verge of destruction throughout the country. The policies are not implemented properly in all respects which could result in the benefits of the farmers of our country. No symptoms of remedy are seen in the Address of the hon. President of India. It is said that only steps are going to be taken about it. The subsidy on fertilisers is not being given to the farmers and the farmers are not getting fertilisers on time.

[*Translation*]

The farmers are not getting adequate supply of fertilizers.

[*English*]

On the other hand, the Address of the President mentions about providing employment to lakhs of people. But what about the educated youths who fail to get employment even after passing their productive age? Many hon. Members in this august House, from time to time, have been saying that issues relating to employment generation should be discussed. What is the position of unemployed youth today? What is the policy of the Government on employment? About 15 days ago, we have seen, on 28th February, a massive strike called by all the trade unions and the country came to a standstill.

Sir, regarding this issue, measures should be taken to check the exploitation of farmers to prevent the incidents

of suicides. Now, the situation has worsened more in the past 65 years since Independence of our country. All successive Governments are responsible for this situation. Since Independence, the people in the villages have been suffering day in and day out. This situation has been prevailing even today. It should be looked into and the Government should take it up as their responsibility for the betterment of those people.

Thirdly, in the President's Address, a mention has been made about corruption and black money. I think, we need to evolve several effective measures to deal with the problem. The measures to prevent corruption and black money should not only remain in writing but also practised on ground. What have we seen since the inception of the UPA-II Government? There is corruption in all areas. We are hanging down our heads due to shame. What have we seen in this democratic country? We are Members of Parliament and we have been discussing it in Parliament.

There is a need for the Government to think over it. This shows that the credibility of the Government has completely vanished in the country. I think, there is a need to restore it and if the Government is unable to do it, then it does not have any moral right to continue to be in power.

[*Translation*]

The Government has no moral right to rule unless it wipes out corruption and black money.

[*English*]

Today, the biggest problem of our country is the increasing population. The President's Address is silent on this issue as to how we can stop this increasing population, even though it should have been stated very clearly here. Unless we check this increasing population, we cannot progress. I have earlier stated about the scam worth crores of rupees in the National Rural Health Mission which is being investigated by the CBI. Several irregularities have taken place in the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and in the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA. These large-scale irregularities should be investigated. We are providing crores of rupees and we would like to know where this money is going.

I belong to a remote district, Jangalmahal, in Purulia from West Bengal, which is surrounded 99 per cent by villages. There we have seen the utilisation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA funds through various policies and steps.

Regarding the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, I would like to say that people come to us asking for financial

assistance for the treatment of various diseases, like heart disease and bone disease. They are unable to meet the expenditure. When we recommend their cases for financial assistance from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, we get a reply that our quota is over and that this particular recommendation is not being accepted. This ceiling should be removed.

[*Translation*]

The Government should given the poor people of villages the various means needed for his treatment.

[*English*]

The Government will have to take strong steps for streamlining and strengthening the democracy. We will have to rise above political lines and we will have to take hard decisions to eliminate terrorism and to deal with external threat to our security.

Many hon. Members, while speaking on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, have raised issues relating to health, education, agriculture, corruption, scams, black money, etc. These issues should be discussed in the House. The Government should take strong policy decisions to tackle these issues effectively in order to save the poor people and our villages. After 65 years of our Independence, the people in the villages are not getting adequate drinking water, educational facilities, and shelter in order to save them from rain and Sun.

With these words, I conclude by extending my support to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI DUTTA MEGHE (Wardha): I would like to draw attention of the Government to the fact that there is great potential for tourism in Nagpur and Vidarbha. But Vidarbha has been lagging behind in tourism for want of proper facilities and due to negligence of the central as well as State Government.

I regret to say that Nagpur and Vidarbha have not been promoted in the manner in which other states and cities have been promoted. We have been a victim of injustice. That is why domestic as well as international tourists have not been visiting Nagpur and Vidarbha. Nagpur and Vidarbha are full of tourist spots. There are several important spots having connections with great personalities like Mahatma Gandhi's Sevagram Ashram in

Vardha district, Vinoba Bhave's Ashram in Pavnar, Diksha bhoomi in Nagpur. Vidarbha is also rich in wildlife. It has national parks like Tadoba and Navegaon where tigers can be seen easily. I would like to request the government to promote ancient heritage, great temples, rich wildlife and tribal culture of Vidarbha all over the world as other tourist spots have been promoted so as to facilitate employment for thousands of unemployed youth of this region.

*SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): The President's Address is an official document which contain achievements and future action plan of the Government. The target of 8 to 9 per cent growth rate during the 12th Five Year Plan is very encouraging. But the question is as to what would be the measures to achieve the said target. The Government has said that they will take action at different fronts to deal with the problem of black money for which widespread agitation took place and a number of times discussions were also held in the House in this regard, but what was the outcome? The Government should enact stringent law in this regard. The intention of the Government should be clear. The Government intends to root out corruption and proposes to take strict measures for the purpose but the truth is far from such claim. Moral values are deteriorating nowadays, as everyone is capitalizing on the opportunities coming their way. Hence, there is a need to enact a stringent law in this regard. But the said document appeared to be a manifesto of a directionless Government. The issue of employment has not been emphasised upon. There is large scale unemployment in the country. MNRGEA could not address the problem of unemployment. It is a fact that certain people have been provided employment through MNREGA but there is large scale corruption prevalent in MNREGA. This scheme should be linked with farmers, agriculture, rural industry etc. while reviewing the same. The status of farmers is deteriorating day by day. The farmers are not even getting production cost of their produces and are forced to sale their produces at throwaway prices. The Government proposes to bring Food Security Bill, but how would the farmers be provided benefits in case of low production? The Government is not providing any relief to the farmers. Farmers are left at the mercy of the God. Crops of black gram-mustard-wheat have been destroyed in Rajasthan due to cold wave and hailstorm. Farmers are not being provided any relief. The Government of Rajasthan is saying that farmers could not be provided compensation as cold wave has not been

covered under CRF. It is my submission that cold wave should be covered under natural calamity like famine and excess rainfall. The farmers are not being provided fertilizers, irrigation facility and electricity on time then how will they survive? The farmers should be provided loan at one percent interest rate and compensation should be provided for loss of crops. The Government should not evade from its responsibility under the shield of laws. It has been submitted in Swaminathan Report that unless we increase production cost of per acre land upto 1½ times the condition of farmers could not be improved. As per agreement signed in 1981 between Punjab-Haryana-Rajasthan, Rajasthan was to be provided 8.6 MAF water, but Punjab is still not providing 460 MAF water to Rajasthan due to which work of Indira Gandhi canal project is lying incomplete. Complete canal system is ready but irrigated land has been reduced to a great extent due to absence of water. Dharna and agitations are taking place there. Besides, Haryana is not providing due water share of Siddhmukh canal. Despite making repeated requests to the Union Government, the problem is not being resolved. The common man is suffering badly due to price rise in the country. Hence, the Government should take stringent action to control the said price rise.

Around one-third states have opposed setting up of NCTC. The hon'ble Prime Minister has given assurance but the said issue has not been covered in the President's Address. Why does the Government not wish to take state governments and the opposition parties into confidence before taking any decision on the serious issue like terrorism? The Government should not fiddle with the federal structure. The intention of the Government is to intervene in state matters under the shield of terrorism. There is competition between the Union and the State Governments. The Government is not making sincere efforts to curb terrorism. The Government should prepare a strategy to counter terrorism by taking all the states into confidence.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Guwahati): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, President's Address reflects the policies of the Government for the ensuring year. The people expect that problems and issues before the country will be mentioned in the Address. But President's Address appeared to be a mixture of various things from different Ministries and it has been prepared in such a manner as women gets makeover in a beauty parlour. ...(*Interruptions*) I said-what I felt. There are a number of castes-sub-castes-tribe communities in our country. All these tribal communities are eager for recognition of their distinct identity, therefore,

some of them are making demand for a separate country and some are demanding sixth schedule, but these issues have not reflected in the Address. It is very disappointing that since I have been elected from such a Parliamentary Constituency where there are various tribal communities and there are 70 lakh tea gardens and tea garden workers in Assam but nothing has been said about the welfare measures for these workers which is a matter of great concern for me. Today, poor have remained poor in the country. I am raising the issue of internal security, since, I hail from Assam i.e. North East. Incidents of bomb explosions are taking place there on a regular basis. The Minister of Home Affairs repeatedly submit that law and order situation in Assam and North Eastern states has been maintained. One of the Ministers Shri Pawanji is sitting here. But the incidents of kidnapping are frequently taking place in Assam. The rich people such as doctors, teachers or businessmen are being kidnapped there. The people are being killed there as cow-buffalo or dogs are being slaughtered. There is no need to explain the condition of the North Eastern states since an incident of bomb explosion took place in front of the residence of hon'ble Prime Minister. Secondly, I would like to raise the snooping incidents at Home Minister's office. I would like to ask the Minister of Home Affairs that if his office is not safe then how the common people and rest of the Ministers would feel secured. Only two Ministers are present here and I am not aware about whether their houses have been put under surveillance or not.

I just want to say one thing about Maldives. The earlier Government of Maldives had good relations with India. The government in Maldives has changed recently, there is no mention regarding the status of India and its relation with it after this change. In my view it is quite necessary not only for diplomatic relations but also for the security of the country. But there is no mention of it in the Address. Perhaps there is no need for the government to worry about it. Some of the Congressmen are present here, their leaders make rhetoric speech and talk of common man, farmers, farmers are the soul of India, the country resides in villages, but the condition of the people is quite miserable, perhaps these people are ignorant of this fact. At present farmers are selling their land and in Assam the government is forcing the farmers to sell their land because the government wants to give that land to businessmen and the farmers want to sell their land across the country because they do not get remunerative price of their produce whether it is rice or wheat. When they fail to recover the cost of their produce they sell their land to

sustain their families and farmers have abandoned cultivation. Several hon'ble Members have mentioned it. Several thousand crore rupees are provided to each state under Accelerated Irrigation Development Project. A big amount is provided to each state under AIBP, but how this amount is spent? Some of the amount goes into the pocket of some Ministers, some into the pockets of officers and some amount to the contractors but it does not reach to the farm of the farmers. It is regrettable. In addition to this I want to say one more thing. In Assam construction of Dam on a river is being opposed. It is being opposed because the mountains of Arunachal are soft. Secondly, it is earthquake prone region, earthquakes occur here regularly. Therefore there is a lot of hazard there, There are one-two dams there, the name of one dam is - Ranga river dam. It had caved in and it had caused such flood that the farmers and houses etc of people had been destroyed. So the big dams being constructed on rivers without scientific analysis serve what kind of purpose. It seems that they are being constructed for big contractors or for wealthy persons having big farms. It is a matter of concern.

I am talking of farmers. In states where non-congress government are in power, like in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh where our party is in power, loans are provided to the farmers at 1 percent rate of interest. If the Congress ruled states also follow the suit then the farmers will progress a lot and they will not be forced to sell their land.

There is rampant corruption in Assam and I shall not go into much detail but I would to talk about Arunachal Pradesh. As many as 148 MOUs of power projects have been signed in Arunachal Pradesh in the recent past. Out of these 120 projects have been awarded to private players. I myself have seen and ex-Member of Parliament Kirit Somaya ji was also with me. We saw that there was farming only in name, they do not even have an office. So many Memoranda of Understanding have been signed, people fear lest the public toilets and water used by them should be privatized to please the contractors. The government of Arunachal Pradesh follows Delhi government i.e. the Central Government so corruption is also there. Nobody cares what would happen to the people. Only MOUs are being signed, whether electricity is provided or not, development takes place or not, nobody is concerned about that.

The condition of the urban poor is quite miserable. Harijans used to do sewage related work there and also carry out the work related to solid waste management. But this job is not with them now because state government

is awarding this work to big contractors. These people bring workers from their region and carryout the work. Thus the poor who were doing sewage related work earlier have now been rendered jobless. I myself have seen these people begging in my constituency. That is why I mentioned it here.

Relief for weavers has been mentioned in the President's Address. But I just want to say that weavers have not received any relief so far. Weaving is like a culture in Assam and there it is believed that every woman should know weaving. I myself know this work. It is said that a girl or woman who does not know how to weave, will find it difficult to get married. But now some change has taken place, nevertheless it is essential because it is a cottage industry and is found in each house. A family member does not go outside to seek service, they weave clothes to wear and sell and thus earn their livelihood. That is why this industry is quite popular. But today even this industry is on the verge of collapse. There is nothing but loot in the entire north-east.

Today youth in crores are unemployed. There is no mention in this regard, what would be their future. One of the hon'ble Members mentioned that an amount of Rs. 25 lakh crore is stashed abroad as black money. How that money can be brought back and utilized, there is no mention of it in the Address, it is a matter of regret, the prestige of India is decreasing in the world in this regard. The people of this country want to know when such a huge amount of black money is stashed in abroad, why it is not being brought back, what is the reason behind it, who is benefitted by this? I want to request hon'ble Prime Minister and the Ministers present here to pay attention to bring back the black money to the tune of Rs. 25 lakh crore stashed abroad and use it in the development of the country.

18.00 hrs.

The extremism, extortion and kidnapping I am talking about, are hampering the economic growth. This is also the case with the North-East, the earlier it is addressed better it would be.

[English]

The force of extremism is still going on. You had seen the picture in the recently concluded elections in the North Eastern Region. I would like to mention about China, which is knowing at the border in North-Eastern Region, Arunachal Pradesh, and other parts also.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, time should be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON'BLE MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: I don't know as to how prepared we are. China has constructed connecting road along the border. They have every facility there including good air strip.

[English]

But in our side, in Arunachal Pradesh, I have been there.

[Translation]

There is nothing. It is a matter of great concern. Besides, I would also like to mention that the China is going to divert the course of the Brahmaputra river. It is not mentioned here. If the Brahmaputra is diverted then entire North Eastern region will face scarcity of water. We are in a way gifting the Assam portion of land area to Bangladesh.

[English]

Jawaharlal Nehru, when he was the Prime Minister, had donated the beautiful Kabaw Valley of Manipur to U Nu, the then Prime Minister of Burma, now, Myanmar. So, in this way, I would like to know whether this Government is going to give the entire Assam, North-Eastern Region, to any foreign country. It is a matter of great worry because Parliament has not been consulted.

Infiltration is still going on unabated. Bangladeshis are still coming. On 9th of this month, 10 Bangladeshis are arrested. All the border forces and CRPF are not at all in a position to control the infiltration of Bangladeshis, who are crossing over to our country.

[Translation]

Now I would like to submit in respect of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and NRHM. These schemes are not being implemented properly. All are aware that NRHM funds have been diverted to purchase bamboos in Assam. If there are hospitals, there is no doctor and if there are doctors, then medicines are not available. Such medicines are available there which would worsen your health. For example, if you take medicine to treat fever then your fever will be converted into typhoid and if you take medicine for upset stomach then it will be converted into Cholera. Such is the condition of medicines. People had high expectations from the President's Address which have not been fulfilled. With these words, I conclude.

*SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL (Jalore): President's Address is a document of the Government which contains programmes and a road map for next year. There is no mention regarding the poor, the dis-interest of farmers in agriculture, the labourers and the unemployed youth in the Address. There are gross irregularities in MNREGA, NRHM, National Literacy Mission and National Rural Drinking Water Programme. Today, the Government of Aam Aadmi' is playing with happiness of farmers. India is an agriculture based country. It is not merely a proverb but a fact. There are large areas of cultivable land and reasons that are favourable for farming and dedicated farmers who perform their duties in an unselfish manner who cannot be found anywhere in the world except India. The Government takes various aspects into account while determining minimum support price of agriculture produce which include (a) production cost, (b) charges in input prices, (c) input-output price parity, (d) trends in market prices, (e) demand and supply situation, (f) inter crop price parity, (g) impact on industrial cost structure, (i) impact on general price level, (j) impact on cost of living, (k) international price situation, (l) parity between prices paid and received by the farmers. All these factors are considered for determining minimum support price. If any other producer in the world is told to consider let alone accept all these aspects for determining price of his produce then either he would revolt or stop production. On the other hand, farmer are dissatisfied with minimum support price and its implementation is an important but painful issue for them due to which farmers have to sell their produce at throwaway prices. Minimum Support Price is not actually assurance of remunerative prices but merely a relief measure for the farmers and depriving 60 percent population of the country from such a benefit is like blocking the prosperity of farmers and the country. Agriculture sector is full of risks which start from sowing of seed to storage of crop. A policy should be prepared which aims to ensure minimum Rs. 5000 monthly income for farmers. There is need to fix labour of farmers while excluding them from the categories of unskilled and part-time labourers. Emphasis should be given to promote indigenous seed and organic farming and it should be made mandatory to provide agriculture land to farmers in proportion to the total land being acquired in national interest.

The discriminatory attitude of this Government towards farmers is quite unfortunate and agriculture based areas of Jalore and Sirohi are examples of such treatment. In para 32, there is mention about achieving targets of agriculture loan to farmers but this year castor (Arandi),

*Speech was laid on the Table.

mustard, cumin and fennel etc. crops have been damaged badly due to cold wave and frost and as a result farmers of this area have suffered heavy losses. Farmers have procured fertilizers, therefore, farmers are facing financial crisis. Farmers have themselves made arrangement at different levels to obtain loan and other equipment and repayment of loan seems difficult due to damage of crops. The Government and the insurance company do not consider cold wave and frost as natural calamity. In such circumstances, farmers are unable to repay the loan amount, hence, they are committing suicide. In para 34 of the President's Address, it has been submitted to provide information regarding availability of fertilizers through SMS, internet and telephone but farmers are suffering due to black-marketing of urea and they are being forced to pay double the printed price. Despite the farmers sitting on 'Dharna' for 40 days, action was not taken against guilty officers and dealers. These black-marketers are looting the farmers and the Government is acting as mute spectator. In para 33, the Government talks of increasing created capacity of irrigation but, on the other hand people of Jalore Sirohi Parliamentary Constituency are waiting to reap benefits of Narmada Canal Project for the past five years. This project was started in the year 2004 but the project has been stalled due to negligence of the Government. Since the project has not been completed, additional water is released in Luni river as a result water is wasted and crops of farmers damaged due to flood. On the other hand, the work on Salegaon Dam project has been stopped since the land proposed to be acquired belongs to certain powerful persons of the area. As a result, there is scarcity of drinking water in Mount Abu and farmers are facing problems in irrigating their fields. In para 14, the Government talks of teacher training and faculty development, but there is only one teacher in Government schools in Jalore Sirohi districts which is backward in terms of education and 43 government primary and upper primary schools in Jalore district do not have proper school building.

Several schools are being run under open sky in absence of building. Six schools in Ahore do not have a building of their own, nine schools in Bhinmal, three schools in Raviwada and fifteen schools in Sanchor are waiting for a building of their own. In such a situation how would a farmer's son study and retrieve information through internet or MMS. Para 20 provides for Health Insurance Scheme whereas Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi was set up under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. However, in my constituency there are not even half the number of doctors

against sanctioned post in a hospital. In such a situation to what an extent the contention of the Ministry of Health is justified. The Government should think over it. Only Rs. 7 crore 51 lakh have been sanctioned to the BPL families under this scheme during the last 10 years. I conclude by supporting the Motion of thanks.

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Kaiserganj):
Mr. Chairman, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the President's Address. I am also in a hurry and less time allotted to my party is not much. So I will try to summarise the matter what which I have to say. I have been listening to the views of all the hon. Members since yesterday and I have also tried to go through and understand the President's Address. However, this Address which reflects the destiny and intention of the Government does not send out any good message for any section of the country. Once I had read out an Urdu couplet -

"Dard hota hai magar jane kahan hota hai. Aap mat poochiya dard ki halat mujhse, ek jagah ho to bata dun ki yehan hota hai".

18.05 hrs.

(SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN in the Chair)

We are pained when I observe closely the borders of our country. I am pained, when I observe the internal security. I am pained when I look at the corruption scenario. When I think over the condition of farmers, it pains. I am pained to look at the education scenario, health services and youth. There is pain all over. That is why I said that it pains, but where it pains, if it was at one place I could have told about it. My Government wanted to send out some message to the country through President's Address, but I feel that it has been a failure. If I talk of all the schemes it will take a lot of time, so I will only discuss MNREGA. This scheme has tried to corrupt even the most simple person in rural areas. The intention of the Government is not malafide, but it should contemplate. Elections were held in U.P. and also of Gram Panchayat. The elections of Gram Panchayat have become so costly due to MNREGA. The rural people have also become corrupt. He has been scarified on the altar of corruption. We have a large population of unemployed youth, but when one looks at Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana. One can find that if the youth in rural areas wish to start their own enterprise after doing engineering, the laws made by the Government prevent them from doing so. Big companies take contract of entire region. I would like to ask what kind of technology is required for the

electrification of village. Pillars, wire, transformers are required. The rural youth who has done electronic engineering is not able to work. And they talk of unemployment. My Government and the officials in the Government have worked to increase unemployment. They have applied similar methods in roads construction. The youth are roaming unemployed after doing engineering. The qualifying requirement for big companies is the previous work done amounting to Rs. 50 crore. How can a student contribute so much in the turnover? They are not given an opportunity. Today, that well read student IIT engineer is compelled to work as a labourer. The country has plethora of problems.

However, I would like to refer to the problem of burgeoning population towards which no one has shown any concern. I want to salute Shri Sanjay Gandhi who is no more. During emergency days in the year 1976 he launched two programmes - one was Sterilisation programme another was afforestation programme. However, when elections were held in 1977 followed by emergency the Congress Party lost elections and the people attributed this defeat to the sterilisation programme of the Congress Party. I would like to say that life is not evading problems or running away from them. Life is a struggle. Burgeoning population is the country's problem which has given rise to so many other problems. There is no use running away from them. There is a need to fight these problems and I would again like to salute the person who is not with us anymore. He was fighting, struggling and the people blamed for losing the elections. We were discussing Uttar Pradesh's elections right now. I would urge something to the Members from the Congress Party and even the Members of opposition. Both the Congress Party and the opposition used to tell me that they would form the Government. ...(*Interruptions*) I am not criticising. I am just referring to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already there is not plenty of time left for the discussion. Please conclude.

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: The Members from the ruling side and the opposition used to say that it will form the Government. But where did the Samajwadi Party go? It approached the Youth, Rickshaw pullers, students with the promise that it would help all of them. And the public has refused all of them. I am not here to eulogise anyone but I appeal to all parties to feel the nerve of the country. Let us feel the anguish of the country. What does the country want? The Public has refuted the ruling party and the opposition. All of you tried your best

to woo the people. The country is distressed today so are the youth.

One day I had gone to a village. A game of cricket was going on. There was a 5000 strong crowd there. A Minister was also present. He addressed me Netaji, and told me that game of the cricket was very popular. I said, 'hon. Minister, it is not the game that is popular, This is a crowd of the unemployed'. When I stood to give my speech I said, 'Friends, the Minister was saying that cricket is a popular game but I told him that this is a crowd formed of the unemployed. I said those who have closed their shops to come here, those who have stopped farm work to come here should raise their hands. Not a single hand was raised. I would like to say that the youth of the country has no work. The government needs to consider how to create employment. How could it make the youth have faith and only then would the scenario change in the country. This country has not moved backwards due to any one reason or moved forward in one day. It has moved considerably ahead but today the villages and the farmers need to be given reasons to have faith in the system. If I speak my mind fully it will take a long time. But the people occupying the grass-roots in the country are not in a good situation. The government should take this mandate as an order from the people and it is to be accepted that the programmes of the government are causing dissatisfaction at some level. The government should come to the conclusion that if the people wish to come back then this programme should be given reconsideration and the leakages should be plugged.

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Madam Speaker, the Address of the hon. President is regarding the views of the government. Every intention of the government regarding the issues facing the country have been outlined in the Address. The government has accepted five challenges through the President's Address viz. Livelihood security, elimination of poverty, hunger and illiteracy, achieving economic security, ensuring power security, achieving growth rate without endangering environment and ensuring internal and external security.

There are three types of people in this country. One is a person who earns through his wits, secondly one who earns through his pen and the third who earns through his tools. The government wants to eliminate poverty, hunger and illiteracy. When we were young our elders used to say no one dies of hunger. Only the foolish and the uneducated die of hunger. An intelligent person need not die of hunger. This is a saying in Bhojpuri. If it is true then why have we

not been able to end illiteracy in 65 years of independence. Does this not show the intentions of the government clearly. On the one hand, poverty is symbolically beaten away on the day of Ekadashi in the country when the women of the village beat the winnow and say - Dalidra bhago Lakshmi aao. I would like to describe the condition of the poor person who earns through his labour. He takes loan at high rate of interest to marry-off his daughter. He is not able to construct a home. His young son dies of lack of treatment because he has no money. This is the situation of the labour class. The people who earn through their pen and their wits have arrested population growth. No programmes have been made for them. They have got rid of illiteracy and superstition. They do not suffer from contagious diseases. The highest rate of growth in population is amongst the labour class. The highest rate of illiteracy and superstition is prevalent amongst the labour class. I would like to tell the government that if its intentions are pure then all the programmes formulated by the government should be linked to skill development programmes so that people do not die of hunger.

Casteism and communalism are the prevalent issues in the country. All this is pretence. There are only two isms in the country viz. non-empiricism and empiricism. Those people who took the side of empiricism moved ahead and those who did not were left behind. I noticed one thing in the Address. The first census in the country was held by the Britishers. There are a number of castes which have still not come to the notice of the government. These castes came into notice after 65 years of independence are still deprived of caste certification. There are a number of castes in the country whose financial situation is much more precarious than the SCs and STs. There is no mention in the address about the category in which these castes are to be included. There are castes such as Rajbhar, Nishad, Chauhan etc. which are dying of starvation. They are not able to marry-off their daughters due to lack of funds. They have no way to earn through labour. There is no arrangement to improve their financial situation. Farmers are committing suicide.

Black money is talked about. There has been a discussion regarding the fact that black money worth 25 lakh crore rupees is stashed abroad. But what about our national capital deposited in the religious institutions in the country. Is the government going to do anything to turn it into working capital? We talk of corruption. We want to eliminate corruption. There is a village head, member of BDC, member of district Panchayat, member of regional Panchayat and there is a Kotedar. What does he get? Will

he not indulge in corruption? What does a government give a Kotedar? Hence, although we talk of education for the children but do not think of children who work in brick kilns. On the one hand, exams under ICSE and CBSE boards are held in March and April but on the other hand, we give admission to children in villages in July. In this way, a large section of the children in the country are put back by three months. We have not even been able to finalise a BPL list so far.

Madam, the issue of agriculture is discussed these days. Turmeric is produced in Bhatmar Legislative constituency of my Parliamentary constituency. In addition to this, Sikanderpur in my constituency is famous for perfume across the world but presently the factories of perfume are lying closed there.

Apart from this, we have been demanding repeatedly to confer proper respect to Bhojपुरi language. There was a fertilizer factory in Gorakhpur of Purwanchal in our area, but that factory could not become functional till date. In the address measures have been put forward to check corruption by minimising human interference. There is lack of employees in our country but at the same time large number of youths are unemployed. But if we want to tackle corruption by rendering youths unemployed and decreasing the number of employees, then it is not possible to do so. We cannot tackle corruption if the persons involved in corruption outnumber the watchdogs.

Madam, you allowed me to speak on Hon'ble President's Address, thank you, very much.

[English]

DR. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR (Barasat): Madam, Chairman, Her Excellency, the *Rashtrapati Mahodaya* followed convention and addressed the Joint Houses of Parliament, but it appears that the multiple shortcomings of this present Government were overlooked.

In her speech, she requested the Houses to be productive. We have seen this morning how the House had to be again adjourned because certain hon. Members were demanding that the coal supply be made normal. Now, I agree with them because this country is facing an acute shortage of coal and the electricity that is being produced from coal is going to be disturbed; the supply is going to be disturbed.

It is known that some States have coal storage for coming two days and some have no coal in their stores at all. A country, which is being thought to be thriving

forward and going ahead in leaps and bounds, has to take care of the power sector. So, this possibly has been overlooked. The State like West Bengal, from where the coal is distributed to the rest of the nation and outside, is not being paid the royalty over the coal. So, we in West Bengal, have been facing a dire shortage of fund.

When this Government took over, we had a debt-trap of Rs. 2,03,000 crore on us which is like a death-trap to the people. Every person, even the little child, the little infant born today, would have Rs. 21,000 debt on his head. This has been allowed to happen by the Union Government because every time loan was allowed, debt was allowed since 2001 to 2010 when the previous Government was there. During that time, the debt accumulated along with the interest. Now, every year Rs. 22,000 crore has to be paid back to the Union Government. The FRBM was also not imposed, it was not passed. It was only passed in June, 2010, so that we cannot even take any borrowing in the present State Government to meet our requirements.

This State is now facing a problem like an economic blockade. Our country being in a federal structure, like a mother or father figure taking care of all the States must have taken this into consideration. But in spite of multiple appeals, this has not been brought forward and it has not been given a thought. So, we have a request to the Government that the interest and repayment moratorium in the form of an annual grant for a period of three consecutive years be made and also a long-term financial debt restructuring programme be taken care of. We would like to request the Government of India to restore in full the CST compensation to the States.

Our State has seven districts which have international borders. Certain more funds are required to take care of these international borders because of security reasons. The Government is taking care of external and internal security as we hear but again without considering the federal structure the anti-terrorism body is being formed. This has to be given a second thought, and in its present form we would like it to be scrapped altogether.

We also would like to point out that this money shortage that is always being given as an excuse to bring about projects which are of benefit to the common man can always be done away with if we take into consideration that nearly a sum of Rs.48 lakh crore is lying in foreign banks as far as black money is concerned, and we have requested the Government to bring back this money to our country time and again. The names have been made

known by these foreign banks, and these names should be made known to the public because the public has a right to know the names. If we have that money back, we can give one lakh rupees to each BPL cardholder or for one whole year without collecting taxes the country can be run or also we can electrify all our villages which have no electricity. Nobody has spoken about this in seriousness or thought about it in seriousness.

As far as our State Government is concerned, we have the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund. This Fund was made in 1995-96. The interest rate was 6.5 per cent. This has been brought up, and at the moment we would have to pay about 10 per cent which is absolutely impossible for the State Government to pay. So, I would request, on behalf of the State Government of West Bengal, to keep the interest rate at six per cent for the loans available for RIDF, and that is essential for the growth of the rural infrastructure. The rural infrastructure has been talked about in the President's Address but we do not see any measure by which we can actually form the rural infrastructure, since there are no roads and interest is being raised. So, when a person is sick, the ambulance cannot reach or if the ambulance reaches, the patient is taken to a subsidiary health centre where there is no electricity. So, a very important injection of methergine is getting rotten in the fridge, in the storeroom because there is no electricity, and we are losing mothers. So, unless we take care of the Maternal Mortality Rate and the Infant Mortality Rate, we are cheating ourselves when we say that we are taking care of the health system. The health system is totally being neglected. We will never meet MDG like this. Though we can clap ourselves on the back saying that we have done away with polio, there are other diseases like chikungunya, malaria, dengue, which we have to take care.

This Address has also talked about irrigation. Madam, I would like to bring to your notice that as far as irrigation is concerned, the West Bengal Government is facing a serious challenge because our source of water in the Bhagirathi River has been flowing down the drain literally. Our Farakka barrage has been intentionally or unintentionally made breaches into, for which 80 per cent of our water is draining away and the farmers there are suffering. The quantity of water that flows in these months down the Bhagirathi River has decreased; silting will take place by which the farmer is going to lose more, and irrigation will be a big problem. We request that this matter

be investigated into. The Gate Nos. 13 and 16 have collapsed in June 2011 but till date nothing has been done to repair them properly.

To keep the Kolkata and Haldia Ports functional, these gates will have to be repaired immediately in all seriousness so that water for irrigation and the ports can be saved.

Besides this, Madam, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the fact that as the elections came near, suddenly the empowerment of minorities was given a thought of giving them 4.5 per cent quota. This seems to be like a gimmick since among the minorities, the Muslims form 73 per cent; and they are very much underrepresented and sometimes wholly unrepresented in the Government jobs. In this respect, we need to increase their numbers. The word 'backward' is being used for them. We should also include the words 'socially and educationally' and reserve posts for them in all cadres and grades in the Central and State Governments. We also want that the NCTC should be scrapped altogether.

As far as the infrastructure like roads and highways are concerned, the Government of India has allotted Rs. 50 crore for a distance of 452 kilometre of the National Highway starting from Koklata-34 going up to Dalkhola. I think, this is a big joke. Madam, Rs. 50 crore cannot be sufficient even for 50 kilometres. For 452 kilometres, there has been an allotment only Rs. 50 crore, which seems like a joke. Then, there is National Highway-2 in Bengal having a very important military base in Panagarh. That is also to be taken care of. Then, there is a National Highway-35, which is also in a dilapidated condition. It forms a good international connection. This should also to be properly taken care of.

Madam, I have drawn the attention of this august House to some of the facts with the request that they should be taken care of in all respects.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please keep in mind the time constraint while making your speeches.

[Translation]

*SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (Jalgaon): Hon'ble President's Address is boring, it lacks transparency and farsightedness. And if we consider what the people of this country got during the tenure of UPA Government, we find that they got nothing but inflation, unemployment and corruption. It would not be wrong if we say that this government has broken all the records.

We have not been able to strike a proper coordination between the Central Government and the State Governments till date in our country. Terrorist activities and naxal activities and attacks are continuously going on in our country. The Government has failed to check such activities and to provide security to the citizens of the country.

The Government is applying the method of getting appreciation just by making announcements. It announced the waiver of loan for farmers but the real beneficiaries of this scheme are not the farmers but banks. Even today the condition of farmers, especially farmers of Maharashtra is miserable. As the news is coming through newspapers that the farmers of 25-30 villages are deprived of this package. Nothing has been mentioned in this regard.

Even today the condition of farmers in the country is not good. The farmers of this country are celebrating even 'crop holiday'. It implies that the condition of farmers have worsened. The farmers of this country are not getting even the production cost of their crops. The Government declares the minimum support price but makes lame excuses while buying the product and because of that farmers are forced to sell their produce at cheaper rates. To rectify this no mention of any concrete steps have been made in the Address. What is the condition of Railways in the country? After making announcement in the Rail Budget, no work has been started on them even after five to six years. I belong to Jalgaon in Maharashtra. AS many as 7 years have passed since the announcement of making Jalgaon station a model station was made but even the master plan has not been prepared in this regard. Is Railway playing with the emotions of the people? Every year big announcement are made in the budget but no plan is made to implement them. Keeping this in mind, no mention in this regard has been made in the President's Address.

The incidents of suicide by farmers is continuously increasing in our country. But no measure has been taken by the Government to check such suicides. The condition of farmers is miserable and India is a leading country so far as hunger is concerned. If the same situation continues and farmers get any alternative means of livelihood only then he can survive. Therefore, I request you to prepare a budget which is beneficial for agriculture and provide relief to the farmers. The Government should prepare a scheme and resolve the issues of farmers. With this I thank Hon'ble President.

[English]

*SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): I would like to express my views on Presidential Address and also on the motion moved by Girija Vyas ji from the Treasury Bench. It is sad to state that many of the burning issues of our country are not touched or reflected in the speech made by our Hon'ble President, Pratiba ji.

The suicide of farmers has become an acute problem on which the President speech is silent. It is reported that more than 2,58,000 farmers have committed suicide in the last 10 years in India. We have the reports still now that large numbers of farmers are committing suicide in various states. The main reason for this tragic episode is the neo-liberal policy which caused the farmers bankrupt.

India witnessed a historic national strike of workers on 28th of February and all trade unions including INTUC & BMS have participated in the strike. It is against the anti labour policy persuaded by the UPA Government. Inflation and price rise are the common slogans raised by the workers. They are denied employment and wage cut is going on.

We have a Federal set up where Centre and States should have better coordination and understanding. The duties and responsibilities of Centre and States are clearly defined in our Constitution. But now-a-days Central Government takes an authoritarian approach towards many issues where the role of the states are fully neglected. When the expenditure of states are increasing, the tax share in between Centre and States have to be reviewed. At present, the majority of the share goes to the Centre. States should get due share since they have to undertake large number of functions. The recent decision taken the Government for the information of NCTC is another example for the concentration of power by the Centre. In the implementation of the centrally sponsored schemes, states have to pay huge amount as their own share.

The President's speech is silent on the most important reports of Justice Sachar Commission as well as Justice Narendran Commission. It deals with uplifting of the socially backward communities especially minorities.

Government could not control the price rise and inflation since they have already decontrolled the prices of petroleum products. Even the prices of kerosene has gone up. The decision of the decontrolling should be reviewed and should retain the earlier status.

Widespread corruption charges are mounting against UPA Government. The issues of 2G Spectrum, Commonwealth Games, Aadarsh Flats, Black money etc. have already diminished the image and status of UPA Government. Government is unable to take any action on such issues. The election results of five states where Congress has weakened is really the direct reflection of the anti people measures of this Government and also the direct protest against the increasing corruption charges. The burning issues such as price rise, inflation, farmers suicide etc. can be solved only if the Government change the neo-liberal policy.

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER (Ponnani): Madam Chairperson, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity.

I stand here to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. The policies and programmes announced in the Address of the hon. Rashtrapatiji is the reflection of the vision and determination of this Government in leading this country towards the right direction. I express my heartfelt congratulations for such a novel effort.

As far as our country is concerned, we are in the first year of the 12th Plan. Our goal set for the 12th Plan is fast, sustainable and inclusive growth.

I would like to say that the most appreciating part in the Address of the hon. Rashtrapatiji is in respect of the Skill Development Plan for the youth. Today, over 35 per cent of our population is below the age of 20. By 2020, it is expected that 325 million people in India will reach working age, which will be the largest in the world. This will come at a time when the rest of the developed world will be faced with an aging population. It is estimated that by 2020, the United States will be short of 17 million people of working age; China will be short of 10 million people of working age; Japan will be short of 9 million people of working age; and Russia will be short of 6 million people of working age. At the same time, India will have a surplus of 47 million working people. While comparing the developing countries, Brazil's working population is set to grow by 12 per cent; China's working population is set to grow by one per cent; Russia will be declined by 18 per cent in terms of working population whereas India's working population will grow by 30 per cent. We are having such a favoured situation.

Considering all these things, under the Skill Development Plan, we have now made a plan for training 85 lakh people during 2012-13 and 800 lakh people during

*Speech was laid on the Table.

the 12th Plan by spending Rs. 13,000 crore. That is a novel effort being taken by them.

Coming to reservation for minorities, as correctly pointed out by my previous speaker, I would like to say that in the President's Address, adequate emphasis has not been given in the case of minorities. Of course, I have no doubt about the honesty of this Government in doing something favourable for the minorities. But as correctly said by my previous speaker, this kind of 4.5 per cent quota taking from 27 per cent quota will not have that much of impact on the conditions of the minorities.

I would like to say that it is a kind of cosmetic touch only. We have to do something substantially for that. We all know that in 1984 Gopal Singh panel had categorically stated that Muslims and Neo-Buddhists are the most socially backward communities in the country. So, as far as our country is concerned, we have to give adequate consideration for this section of the society.

We were all saying about Sachar Commission and Ranganath Mishra Commission. We have made threadbare discussion on Sachar Commission. Sachar Commission is like a doctor's diagnostic chart. The doctor does the ECG, X-ray, scan and everything. Then, he diagnoses and says this is the disease. Then, treatment comes. Treatment is what? That is in the prescription chart. The real prescription chart is Ranganath Mishra Commission.

Ranganath Mishra Commission says that we must give 10 per cent reservation for Muslims and five per cent for other sections. Unfortunately, we have discussed a lot of things about Sachar Commission but at the same time, we have not even discussed Ranganath Mishra Commission. So, I would like to say that we have to take a very, very active step to implement the recommendations of the Sachar Commission. Unfortunately, there is a trend. As far as the minorities are concerned, they are treated as an 'election urgent stuff'. It should not be so. You have to do justice to them. That is what I would like to say on this.

Coming to another point, that is, physically handicapped persons, Madam, in the President's speech we have given emphasis to them. We are going to start a Department for that. They are a neglected section. We have to do the maximum possible in their case also.

Similarly, about higher education, there is some specific recommendation. It should be made reachable to everybody, irrespective of their financial capacity. Similarly, as far as the physically handicapped section is concerned,

I am told that certain adequate steps are going to be taken for their employment, and even for amending the existing PWD Act, in that way. It is my humble submission that there is an omission in the President's speech. We were saying about patients, cancer patients and all kinds of other patients. The issue of kidney patients is really a burning problem in our country. Even in tender age, people become kidney patients. It is a very expensive treatment. I urge upon the Government and I humbly request the Government to make a national kind of programme for the treatment of the kidney patients, and that is an urgent necessity.

Similarly, about drug price policy, it is also a very important point. Let me just make that point also. Yesterday there was a news.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: I am coming towards the end.

Yesterday, there was a news that one packet of 120 tablets for cancer treatment costing Rs.2.48 lakh, is going to be made available for Rs.8,880. This is because of a policy decision by the Controller General of Patents Designs and Trade Marks. They granted compulsory licence to a Hyderabad-based institution. I would like to say that, that is the most welcome step. I humbly request the Government to make these kinds of things under the control of the Government because drugs are sold at very exorbitant rates. How can the ordinary people, aam aadmi, poor people afford it? They cannot afford it. So, I would like to request the Government that some effective steps should be taken in respect of controlling the prices of these kinds of drugs.

With these few words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY (Alipurduar): Madam Chairperson, I would like to extend my gratitude to you for giving me the time to put across my viewpoint on the Vote of Thanks on the Hon. President's Address. I observed that the concern of the Government, its sentiments, the programmes to be implemented by the Government in the coming year all are reflected in the President's Address. I am surprised that the Government gets pretty good things mentioned in the President's Address but goes against the same and does just the opposite. The Government talks about honesty and removing unemployment and price rise but it is increasing the prices of everything. It is a matter

of surprise. People are thinking that prices will come down. But our economy is in the doldrums. Political system is also in a big mess. We are borrowing money from World Bank and IMF and also other institutions and the budget is being prepared on their terms and conditions. If the country is to run on their terms, it will run like this. Our economy is being manipulated. We are unable to progress.

So far as scams are concerned, we have adopted the policy of economic liberalisation, under which we have allowed concessions in COFEPOSA Act and Foreign Exchange Management Act, so that the money can go out from here. Here people are having a serious discussion that the money of our country is going to foreign countries. Black money is piling up. The poor are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer in our country. The name of the rich people of our country is coming in the list of the richest people of the world. It is a matter of pride. But disparity is also rising. The Government should take concrete steps and formulate new policy for removing this disparity. This Government is not a new one, it is ruling from the beginning. This is a bad economic policy that the Government wants to bring foreign investment in the banks and insurance companies. Economic condition of those countries worsened which believed in economic Liberalisation and their banks went bankrupt. We are moving on the same path. This needs to be taken care of.

Madam, the area I hail from is the northern region of West Bengal. I hail from the tea garden area. All the people sip tea with a lot of interest. But the condition of the labourers engaged in tea gardens is very poor. Almost 20-25 lakh labourers work in the tea gardens and the number of female labourers is more among them. All of them are tribals. The tea business is indeed growing but the labourers are not getting proper wages. News papers have reported that the labourers of tea gardens are dying of starvation. Therefore, I would like a wage board to be constituted for the labourers of tea gardens who give foreign exchange to the country.

Madam, there is a mention of forests in the President's Address. My constituency has forest area. You will be hearing that the elephants are getting killed by the trains. Trains do not pass through the forests but the elephants reach the railway tracks as they wander to that area because they are not getting food in the Jungle. Now a days, forest policy has gone commercial. Earlier, mixed trees used to be planted but due to commercial policy trees of teak and other varieties having commercial potential are planted. This policy is causing trouble for the animals and the people living there.

Tourism has also been talked about in the Budget. We have tourism spots in our state like Darjeeling. Hon. President has made announcement about Gorkhaland territorial administration in his Address. It is welcomed by all of us. We wish that Gorkhas may progress and peace may prevail there. But our demand is that it should be done in the areas where they have equal numbers but we will oppose it in the areas where mixed castes exist. It was prevailing from the time of Subhash Gheising. I would like the Government to pay attention to it. With this, I conclude my speech.

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO (Tezpur): Madam, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the President's Address.

In this President's Address, the Government on the whole has not done anything else except praising itself. There is nothing in this whole Address which deserves any special comment. Overall, this is like the announcements of earlier Addresses in which a lot of things have been mentioned but which are deprived of any truth. Its outcome has been reflected in the elections in the five states of the country.

Besides, the most pathetic part of the whole Address is that no attention has been paid to the development of the North Eastern region of India which houses seven states and the economic and social development of mostly backward and tribal people living here. And the regrettable fact is that the Prime Minister of the country repeatedly gets elected from here but this Address mentions no plan for the unemployed youth of the North Eastern states. The Union Government has constituted a North Eastern Council namely NLCPR under a scheme. But such stringent rules have been framed in NLCPR that getting funds from here is a very difficult task. The Government officers frame such rules that it becomes very difficult to get funds. Our Minister is sitting here and the Minister for Development of North Eastern Region is also here but the rules are so stringent that it is difficult to get funds from here. These people show so many rules that it is almost impossible to get funds from there. Big claims were made but the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has not done anything concrete till date. If the Government is concerned about the development of North Eastern Region, it should desist from making pretensions and stop giving false promises to the North Eastern states. Only then something will happen. Big dreams are shown about providing huge amounts and doing a lot but nothing happens in the end.

The organisation named ULFA and other such

several groups are active in Assam and North Eastern states which have surfaced because of socio-economic non-development. However, the Government's initiative to have peace talks with a particular group will not help in solving all the problems. If open talks are held with all the groups in an organised manner, some solution will definitely come out. It is the biggest problem there. But there is no mention of ULFA which is the most active among these groups for most of the time. Our BJP Member has stated in this regard that daylight killings of people are taking place there. But there is no mention of it.

The Government has provided information through the President's Address about the record foodgrain production in the country. But, despite that people are dying of hunger in various parts of the country. The development of farmers is much talked about but farmers, under the burden of excessive indebtedness, are embracing death in various parts of the country. Even today the condition of poor and backward farmers in north-eastern states is worse than the condition of farmers in other states of the country. There is no mention of the economic and social development of these farmers in the Address.

Assam is the biggest producer of tea in the country. More than 80 lakh workers of the un-organised sector are working there and the government has not mentioned anything about their development, if we are getting highest foreign exchange it is only due to tea. When we talk of Assam we are reminded of tea, but their standard of life is not talked about.

Madam, the UPA government is taking our foreign policy in no direction. The government is more concerned about strengthening ties with the African countries but China, our neighbour repeatedly refuses to accept Arunachal Pradesh as part of India. If our Minister of Defence visits Arunachal Pradesh, China opposes it openly and considers it a violation of border talks. This government only plays the role of mute spectator. The government has no reply in this regard. After all in which direction our foreign policy is heading, the government should review it.

Madam, through you I would like to say that the government through the President's Address has informed that pulses are being supplied through Public Distribution System at concessional rate and the prices of rice and wheat under Public Distribution System has not been increased during the last eight years. In this regard I would like to draw the attention of the government to the fact that

it is right that the prices of rice and wheat have not been increased, but it is an open secret that common man are facing a lot of difficulties.

In the end, I would like to request the government to ensure that all the states in the country get equal share and the development of North Eastern states, where the highest number of tribals and people belonging to backward class reside, and which is far away from social and economic development, should be paid special attention and that part should be considered a part of India.

[English]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Madam, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I will come directly to the issues which I would like to raise over here.

The President's Address talked about the Prime Minister's 15-point programme for the minorities. If you have a look at the Ministry of Minority Affairs' website, it clearly says and contradicts what the President's Address talked about. There is a huge difference between what the hon. President had said in her Address and the data which is given at the website of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

In Indira Awas Yojana, the target for 2010 was not achieved. We are way behind the target for this year also. The same thing is there in respect of the financial achievement under IAY. We are way behind the target for this year.

18.53 hrs.

(Dr. M. THAMBIDURAI in the Chair)

The President's Address has talked about the priority sector lending. It says that the Government is striving for 15 per cent in priority sector lending. In this regard also, I would like to point out that in 2010-11, there was a huge difference in the target and what was achieved. It was the same for the year 2011-12. Again, we are way behind the targets for 2011-12, which have been notified in the website of the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The important point over here is that in the priority sector lending and Indira Awas Yojana, there is nothing in the website to show what benefit has actually accrued to the Muslims. In priority sector lending, I can say with all the responsibility that not even 40 per cent priority sector loans have been given to Muslims in the minority sector. Still the Government claims that they will strive for 15 per cent.

Another issue over here is that of education in 15-point programme. In 2011, the target for primary schools to be constructed was 4,969 but the achievement was 3,573. For this year, the target is 1,522 for construction of schools, but we have achieved only 797. In regard to construction of upper primary schools, for 2010-11, the target was 1,147 and the achievement was 1,103 only. For this year, the target was 67, but we have achieved only 23.

For Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the number of teachers targeted to be appointed last year was 48,000, but the achievement was only 34,941. This year, again we are lagging way behind. These are the realities.

I am really surprised that once in a year the whole Cabinet sits and reviews the 15-point programme. These figures are there for the Cabinet to see. The Cabinet should pull up all the bureaucrats and ask them this question. Why is it that the Government is claiming something and in reality, it is completely different? This will really hurt the credibility of the Government.

Then, in respect of ICDS figures also, we are again lagging behind. The target in 2010-2011 was 15,322, and we have achieved only 6,934. The same is with this year. I hope that the Cabinet will take serious review of this, and the Prime Minister will take action on it.

As regards 4.5 per cent reservation, I do not know what was the calculation for it, and which smart check had advised the Government to go for 4.5 per cent. The Ranganath Mishra Commission had given three recommendations. One was to give 10 per cent reservation to Muslims. It is a Commission and the Government is duty-bound under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1950 to file the recommendations of a Commission, which they had established. It said 10 per cent to Muslims and five per cent to other minorities. If that is not possible, it said to give six per cent to Muslims and two per cent to other minorities. You have arrived at 4.5 per cent.

The Terms of Reference of the Ranganath Mishra Commission were clear whether reservation can be given to Muslims. The answer was given to you and the Government has done the opposite. The Ranganath Mishra Commission also talked about giving Dalit status to Muslims and Christians. The Government does not talk about it. A case was filed in the Supreme Court in January 2010, and the Supreme Court asked three questions. Does Article 341 contravene Articles 14, 15 and 16, which are fundamental rights of our Constitution? The Government is yet to give answer on this clarification. Is it not true that

Article 341 is a blot on our Constitution, which only says that in this country of ours a Dalit can only be a Hindu, a Sikh and a Buddhist? Is this not a reservation based on religion? This answers the question, which has been put over here that reservation cannot be given to Muslims on the grounds of religion. We are saying no, not on the grounds of religion, but on our socio-educational backwardness, which has been amply proven by the empirical data given by the Ranganath Mishra Commission and Sachar Commission. Despite this, the Government does not want to act upon it. Why do you not answer the Supreme Court? Let the Supreme Court decide on the issue. Moreover, the BJP says that you cannot give on religion. If that is the case, why is reservation being given to Muslims in Bihar and Karnataka, which are BJP ruled or NDA supported? This is a contradiction over here.

We are saying give reservation, and when the Constitution was being framed and when it came to the question of backwardness it was none other than Sardar Patel who said that backwardness includes Minorities. This was part of the Constituent Assembly debates.

Now, I am coming to another question about Equal Opportunity Commission, the biggest recommendation of the Sachar Commission. We do not know as to what is the fate of the Equal Opportunity Commission. How can justice be done to all the backward sections of the society unless and until you establish the Equal Opportunity Commission whether they are Muslims, Backward Classes, Dalits? You do not want to establish the Equal Opportunity Commission.

As regards the National Databank, what is the fate of the National Databank? How do you know that the benefits of the schemes that are earmarked for SCs, STs, BCs and Minorities are really accruing to them? You cannot do it unless and until you have the National Databank.

As regards the National Commission of Minority Education Institutes, why has the Government taken away the administrative and financial powers of the Chairman? What was the reason for doing this? Kindly restore it as it sends a wrong signal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up your speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI: Sir, I am concluding in another three minutes. I would like to talk about the issue of IPC 377. I am surprised with this Government. Why is the Government quiet on decriminalization of homosexuality? I am of the opinion that it should not be decriminalized as we will be destroying the social, moral and family life of our society.

The Government of the day over here says that we are going to make a Presidential reference. It is because the 2G judgement has come. This Government has rightly formed an opinion that the Supreme Court can cancel the license, but the Supreme Court cannot encroach in the domain of policy, which is of the Government of the day. You want to give a Presidential reference, but when it comes to decriminalization of homosexuality, you want to keep quiet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up your speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Please give me three minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please try to wind up your speech in one minute.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: My request to the Government is to file an Affidavit. The Ministry of Health says that sex between men there are 25 lakh and 10 per cent of them are at risk of getting HIV. Why does not the Government file an Affidavit? I demand that the Government file an Affidavit in the Supreme Court.

Once again, our feelings have been hurt. Why does not this Government declare Mr. Salman Rushdie a persona non grata? Why does this person have to come over here and threaten the unity and secular fabric of our country? What is the utility of Mr. Salman Rushdie? He is hell bent on destroying communal amity that is existing in our country.

On the question of terrorism, 11 modules have been ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, please let me conclude. I am coming to the important point. Nearly, 11 modules have been busted. Why was the journalist Mr. Kazmi been arrested who has a pass for Parliament? I demand that the Government release Mr. Kazmi on bail.

What happened to the Interlocutor's Report of Kashmir? It has not been tabled in this House even after the passage of six months. What about the un-marked graves issue? Why does not the Government take a strong stand on the Palestine issue? The Government must take a strong stand on the Palestine issue and condemn the behaviour of the Israeli Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. The next speaker is Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan. He is the last speaker today.

...*(Interruptions)*

19.00 hrs.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Lastly, I would like to conclude by talking about Zakia Jaffri. Nearly, 10 years have passed since the Gujarat riots. How can there be sadbhavna without justice and fair play? Hence, I demand that the Government to look into these issues and take strong steps.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan, and he is the last speaker. You have two minutes to speak because it is already 7 o'clock and we have to take Zero Hour also. So, please be very brief while speaking.

*SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA (Khajuraho): I am expressing my views on the motion of thanks on President's Address. The achievements of the government have been mentioned in the Address but all these things are baseless. MNREGA, an ambitious scheme of the government is proving a failure in the absence of proper implementation. While discussing the growth rate it was said with confidence in President's Address that the growth rate would be 9 percent but on which ground it has been said is beyond comprehension. Almost, all the economists in the country and the figures of the government themselves are indicating that growth rate would be around 6 percent. Even then by taking growth rate of 9 percent, the government is trying to mislead the country. By drawing a baseless picture of development, the country is being misled. The present UPA government has proved to be the most unsuccessful government of the country so far. The initiative taken by the UPA government to set up National Anti Terrorism Centre is being opposed by their coalition partners. The government is unable to carry out its responsibilities properly due to opposition from within. The government is already meting out step motherly treatment to non-Congress states. The allocation of funds under Public Distribution System and other projects of the government is not being carried out properly and Madhya Pradesh is not getting its due. Several Public Welfare Bills passed by the government of Madhya Pradesh are lying pending with the government for sanction. The works related to public welfare have got stuck in the absence of clearance from the government. It is badly affecting the Centre-State coordination. This government is giving Madhya Pradesh a step motherly treatment. By giving police powers to Railway protection force the government has encroached upon the powers of the states to maintain law and order. It is an interference of the government in

*Speech was laid on the Table

the internal matters of the state which is not acceptable to any state. Similarly how can anybody say that Anti Terrorism Centre will not encroach upon the rights of the states. The government has been a failure in matters of terrorism and internal security. The cities like Mumbai and Delhi are living in a state of insecurity. The Naxalism is expanding its influence. On the border of the country China in complicity with Pakistan is trying to register its presence in Arunachal. The United States of America has registered its presence in India through its Defence Office Pentagon, this statement is an attack on our sovereignty. But the government is maintaining silence regarding all these matters. No agreement can be signed by anyone compromising the security and sovereignty of the country. We will not allow to this to happen. The second failure of the government is on the front of corruption. The Supreme Court casting aspiration in 2G spectrum case have cancelled all 122 applications and asked TRAI to auction it once again. But the government instead of accepting it, is trying to stick to the allocations by filing review petition. Corruption has also come into light in Antrix-Devas case but the prestige of the scientists has been hurt as a result of putting the senior scientists in the black list. It should also be considered. The price rise is scaling new heights. The government is trying to negate price rise by referring to the rate of inflation. The prices may further go up if the rates of petrol, diesel and railway freight are further increased.

Public Sector oil companies talking about increasing prices of petrol and diesel which will result in rise in prices of commodities. People of the country are in great trouble due to rise in prices and unemployment. Employment creation is possible through tourism. There is an immense possibility of tourism in Madhya Pradesh but the assistance of the Union Government is necessary in the State Government's efforts to boost tourism. And it is unfortunate that the Union Government is not providing proper assistance even now. I, myself, hail from Khajuraho and there are enormous possibilities of increasing employment through tourism there. However, the Union Government should allocate adequate funds for building proper infrastructure. Railway network should be set up for linking the whole country but this tourism centre is getting neglected in the absence of any action. There is a huge gap between the statements made and action taken by the Government. This Government which has come to power in the name of common man is making the lives of the common man miserable. People have become fed up with this Government. This has become visible in the five state

elections held recently. People have a deep resentment against the policies of the present government.

[English]

*SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL (Chidambaram): Hon. Chairman, let me thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address to both the Houses of Parliament. The achievements of this Government, the policy formulations of this Government and the performance-assessment of this Government have all been spelt out in this Address. At this juncture, I would like to point out that the Address does not indicate any further measures to be taken to ensure the upliftment of the Dalits and the people of the depressed sections of the society. As this Address is not specifying any move to ensure the implementation of the reservation policy pertaining to the Dalits, I cannot but express my disappointment. Even though the President in her Address that went on for an hour and more, touching upon here and there certain things pertaining to the deprived sections of the society like the Dalits, the other backward classes and the minorities, nothing concrete has been emphatically put forth towards their empowerment and upliftment. It is disappointing to note that no constructive action plan has been spelt out.

The United Progressive Alliance in its Election Manifesto had stated that this Government would endeavour to bring about reservation in the private sector also. More than two and a half years have elapsed and there is no mention about the steps taken to introduce reservation in the private sector. It is a matter of great concern. Unless and otherwise, we ensure reservation in the private sector we may not be able to improve the lot of the marginalized sections of the society like the Dalits, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and more specifically the women. Hence, I urge upon the UPA Government to go in for legislate a suitable law to provide for reservation in the private sector.

This Government makes announcements often and on about its handling of external affairs highlighting the foreign policies. It is reflected in this year's President's Address. Unfortunately, there is just a single-line mention about Sri Lanka in the twenty-one page Address of the President. That sentence refers only to the steps taken by this Government after what had happened in Mullivaikkal. The present stand and the current situation has not been

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

adequately indicated. The Tamils there are still suppressed and oppressed. The encroachment by the Sri Lankan Army of the Tamil areas are continuing unabated. Young women, girls and students are being ravished and the incidents of rapes are on the increase. It is said that more than twenty five thousand school-going and college-going girls are pregnant and the Army men are on the prowl. It is astounding that we are mute spectators still. More than ninety thousand women who have lost their husbands are struggling to eke out a living. It is also reported that Sri Lankan Army men are forcing them to flesh trade. Systematic genocidal attack on the cultural identity of the Tamils has been let loose. Young Tamils are also introduced to drugs and pornographic materials in the form of CDs and Diskettes. Through Cell phones and blue-tooth-technology, these things are spread as an attack on the cultural traditions of Tamils. There is a state-sponsored Terrorism that seeks to wipe out the Tamil race leading to genocide. We are pained to note that our Government seeks to ignore the real problem there under the plea that we might not interfere in the affairs of other countries.

Now, in Geneva an important meeting of the UN HCR is in progress. Nearly about 47 countries are its members. India is also a member of that body. An important resolution is there before that Council as proposed by the US. The world Tamils believe that the current Sri Lankan regime can be tried for war crimes by way of passing this resolution. At a time when many countries including the US have come forward to vote against the Sri Lankan Government, the stand of the Government of India has not been spelt out as yet.

Even in the statement placed before this House by the External Affairs Minister, it is stated that India might not go into the internal affairs of the other countries. I would like to point out that India had taken resolute stand against the apartheid policies of the erstwhile South African regime. India had also taken a stand in support of the Palestinians. It is only with our intervention Bangladesh was carved out of Pakistan. India had also taken a stand to extend asylum to Dalai Lama which is definitely against the stand taken by China. I would like to point out that we have enough of precedence to show that we have taken stands deviating from the claimed-stand that we do not take a stand against any country. Only in Sri Lankan Tamil issue, the Indian Government tries to seek umbrage under the plea that we may not interfere in the affairs of other countries. Let me point out that this is an anti-Tamil stand.

Almost everyday Tamil fishermen are being attacked in the high seas. They are attacked, injured and killed and their fishing nets are torn and destroyed. Be it the problem faced by the Tamil fishermen, be it Mullaiperiar Dam or Cauvery river Water dispute, be it an attempt by a neighbouring state to build a check dam across the Palar river, the Centre is not at all taking a stand to benefit the Tamils and it is saddening us. The Centre is continuously failing to take a stand to benefit the Tamils and always takes a stand against the Sri Lankan Tamils. Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi strongly condemns the attitude of this Government. I would like to draw the attention of this Government to state that the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi would be forced to take a stand, if the Indian Government fails to vote against Sri Lanka in the on going UN HCR meeting in Geneva. We may have to take a decision even if the Government fails to cast its vote taking a neutral stand. With this, let me conclude, thanking the Chair again for giving me this opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The discussion will continue tomorrow.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up 'Zero Hour' matters. Shri Jagdambika Pal, you have to be very brief, as I am giving you the first opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the permission to raise this important issue of urgent public importance in this House. You are aware that there are three important wings to run the democracy of the country under this parliamentary tradition namely - legislative, executive and judiciary. Whatever decisions we take or resolve or make laws or formulate welfare schemes for protecting the rights and interests of the people through legislative methods are implemented by the executive with commitment. But it is tragic and unfortunate today that the manner in which the Government in the states are to work as a custodian is not happening rather the State Governments are themselves engaged in patronising those people who are involved in illegal mining or illegally exploiting the assets of the state and if some officer devotedly tries to stop this illegal mining, he is made to pay the price and we have not forgotten that incident of Karnataka which is still fresh in our minds. It is tragic that the said incident has recurred in Madhya Pradesh. The

IPS officer from Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh who was deployed in the said sub-division in Madhya Pradesh merely 45 days back got murdered on the day of Holi. His wife is on maternity leave and he could not even see the face of his new born child. On the day of Holi.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please mention about what you want.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I want to say as to how an IPS officer had to pay with his life as a consequence of the illegal mining taking place under the patronage of the Government of the State and an MLA from ruling side ... (Interruptions) effort was made to protect him. Earlier it was announced that judicial probe will take place. When the whole Madhya Pradesh Congress called for a bandh, it was discussed in the House. ... (Interruptions) but despite this his wife still says today that no honest officer serving under the Government is safe in Madhya Pradesh. She does not want to stay there anymore. Obviously, the responsibility of protecting the officers of Indian Administrative service lies with the Union Government. ... (Interruptions) Shrimati Madhurani Tevatiya is herself feeling insecured even today. ... (Interruptions) she is feeling insecured. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat, Shri Jagdambika Pal. Nothing will go on record. Shri K.P. Dhanapalan, you may please continue.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (Chalakyud): I am raising a very serious issue. Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana is a saving scheme targeting the poor and the deprived. It was launched in the 1970s by the then Prime Minister late Shrimati Indira Gandhi to develop the habit of small savings among the housewives and the weaker

sections of the society. Mostly unemployed ladies from the deprived classes of the society were involved in the scheme. So far, the scheme has provided employment to lakhs of unemployed women among the weaker sections of the society.

So far, the scheme had been successful since it could develop a habit of small saving among the rural and unprivileged and could collect a huge amount of money for the Government as small deposits and savings. However, it is understood that the Government has recently received a Report of the Committee headed by Ms Shyamala Gopinath which recommends a number of reforms including slashing the Commission of the Mahila Pradhan Agents. The recommendations, if accepted, is likely to defeat the object and purpose of the scheme and will seriously affect the success of the scheme.

Under these circumstances, I would urge the Government to review the recommendations of the Shyamala Gopinath Committee and reject the proposals against the spirit of the scheme.

[Translation]

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to speak about my parliamentary constituency Nawada of Bihar in the Zero Hour. It has a population of 30 lakhs. Several rivers like Upper Sakriya river, Rukhi river, Dhadhar river plays havoc in the rainy season and run-dry in Chaitra Baisakha and Jyeshtha. It is unfortunate that the Kovakol, Pakribarvar, Kashichak, Nawada, Hisua, Govindpur etc. blocks in Nawada district ground water level does not exist. The rivers carry out destruction there in the rainy season. There is no irrigation scheme and the ground water level does not exist there. Due to the same, we can neither use ground water for irrigation purpose nor the water of rivers can be used for the same.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of Bihar has recently sent a DPR report of Bhaksoti river project which is a Rupees 700 crore project and which is lying stuck in Ganga Flood Control Board. Through you and the Chair, I would like to tell the hon. Minister of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Union Government about Nawada which is located in the hills, where even clouds fear to tread, where there is no ground and the rivers have gone dry here. I wonder as to how 30 lakh people there eke out their living. The representatives who have come here in this House for the last 45 years have raised this issue again and again but this Parliament like old mother listens to the plight of the people and understands it also but

does not make any provision in this regard. Through you, I would like to express their plight before this House.

[English]

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): Sir, I would like to raise two important matters here affecting the fishermen community of Kerala.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can raise only one matter.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: On February 15, 2012 around 04:30 pm, shots were fired from an Italian Ship, Enrica Rexie at a fishing trawler, Saint Antony off Kollam coast near Kerala. Two fishermen, Ajesh Binki (25) from Tamil Nadu and Jalastein (45) from Kerala were killed. After the two Italian marines who allegedly fired shots that killed the unarmed fishermen were arrested, there have been attempts by the Italian Government to pressurize the Indian Government to release these Guards. The concerned country says that it is a law which make it clear that its citizens are immune to the jurisdiction of foreign countries. This is a mockery of our law. Since these killings took place inside the Indian waters, it is my demand that these Italian Guards be tried as per the Indian Laws.

Sir, another incident happened in Kerala sea. I would briefly tell about this. In this incident, five fishermen were killed when MV Prabhu Daya, a Singapore flagged merchant vessel owned by an Indian shipping firm, collided with their boat off Alappuzha coast in the early hours on 1st March, 2012, the second incident involving fishermen in the Kerala coast in the last fortnight. Sir, it is a matter of great concern that collision between ships in the Indian waters have increased causing loss to human lives and property. This matter needs to be looked into seriously by the Government of India.

I have come to know that certain instructions have been given to all ports in the country to avoid such incidents. It has come to my notice that very old ships are being allowed to enter into Indian ports which is violative of the instructions. The Government needs to look into the matter with the seriousness that it deserves and action against those responsible should be taken at the earliest.

I demand that the Government of India should make a statement in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Bhakta Charan Das.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: I would request the Government to make a statement in this regard. It is a

serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Please do not make any speech like that. You have already raised two matters. You have already raised the issue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: You are always talking about the fishermen community. I am also talking about the fishermen community. In Kerala coast, the fishermen community is facing a serious problem. The two important incidents happened recently. That is why, the Government of India should make a statement in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhakta Charan Das ji, please do not make any allegations. Allegations cannot be recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman Sir, during the zero hour I would like to draw the attention of the House, through you, to the illegal mining scandal which took place in Odisha.

'The Economic Time' and the 'The Times of India' have published the news regarding the said illegal mining scandal in detail respectively in their editions of yesterday and today. One outsider came to Odisha as a contractor in the year 2001 and when working as a contractor for two to three years he does not make any progress in life he works out the said mining scandal worth 900 crore rupees by violating the mining policy, rules and Rule 37 of Mineral Concession rules in Kyanjhar district, Joda, Barbil and Badarsi areas of Odisha in connivance with some influential persons and companies. It is not a new thing you know that I have raised this issue earlier two to three times as to how mining scam of iron and manganase worth lakhs and crores of rupees has taken place in the state which was also investigated by the government of India. Would such mining scams continue and these scams continue to be published and discussed in the newspapers? When action can be taken in Karnataka and all other states, why is CBI inquiry not being conducted in Odisha in this regard? Mr. Chairman Sir, through you, I would like to request the Union Government to get this mining scam investigated by CBI. Thank you.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWRDURY (Bahrapur): Sir, I have to raise a very serious issue. It is very shameful, painful and terrible. The sterilization programme being carried out

by Madhya Pradesh government to check rising population is affecting the tribals the most. Madhya Pradesh government had decided to sterilize seven lakh persons till 3rd March. More than 3.5 lakh persons have been sterilized so far and more and more tribals and poor people are being sterilized because the tribals and BPL population are dependant on Antyodaya and Annapurna Scheme for their food. They are threatened that if they do not go through sterilization their BPL cards, Antyodaya cards and Annapurna cards would be withdrawn. This proves that the tribals are most affected by the autocracy of Madhya Pradesh government. A well known magazine namely "Outlook" has written. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not quote from that. It is not allowed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHAUDHARY: Sir, an anganwadi worker is asked to get six persons sterilized if he or she wants to get the job. Most of the people living here are tribals. The second thing is that the decadal growth in population of the tribals is lower than the average population growth of Madhya Pradesh. But despite this these tribals are forced to get themselves sterilized. Thus Madhya Pradesh government is becoming autocratic in the name of governance. I would like to request the Union Government to look into this.

SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL (Jalaur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I had raised the issue of highways in Rajasthan earlier when you were in the Chair. The distance between Sanchore my constituency area in Rajasthan and Ahmedabad is 300 kilometers. If we have to go to Ahmedabad from Rajasthan border, we cover a distance of 250 kilometers within three hours. But it takes one and a half hour to cover the distance of 45 kilometres on national highway from Sanchore to Gadhav as the road is in very poor condition and several accidents take place on the said stretch. I have asked earlier also for repairing the said stretch of highway. I have personally talked to the Chairman three to four times in this regard but there has been no improvement in the condition of the road. The potholes are still there. All the highways in the State are in a similar condition. The roads constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are also in very poor condition. I have raised this issue here several times. I have also raised this issue in the meeting of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee constituted under the Chairmanship

of Member of Parliament. I have inspected several such roads and pointed out the shortcomings to the concerned officers. But for the last three years it is being said that inquiry team is being constituted. It is said that first the SDM will make the inquiry, then D.M will make inquiry and then Chief Secretary and so on. But the roads have not been improved till date. Almost all the roads in my constituency Jalore and Sirohi are in a similar condition. I would like to request the Union Government, through you either to get these roads repaired or to make clear that no roads will be repaired. Then we will tell the public that these roads are not going to be repaired and you have to adjust with these roads. If the government provides some help, the roads will be improved.

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Hoshangabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, 7,31,000 metric tonne of wheat was purchased by the district and administration through 141 procurement centres in Hoshangabad district in Hoshangabad constituency during the year 2011. As per the administration a total of 5,02,180 metric tonnes of wheat was collected and stored in warehouses, cover godowns, temporary camps and camps of permanent Mandi Boards. A large scale corruption has taken place in transportation of the said wheat. About 200 trucks of the said wheat have gone missing in Hoshangabad.

The managers of committee have also registered F.I.Rs in this regard. The District administration has caused a direct loss worth seven crore rupees to the Union Government. When R.T.Os were acquiring the vehicles for the said transportation, they did not verify the documents and the blacklisted transporters got the job again and succeeded in working out such a scam.

The administration has affirmed that this year double quantum of wheat has been procured as against five lakh metric tonne of wheat procured last year. Wheat was not stored properly for want of proper storage facility. When there was no storage capacity, why was 7,31,000 metric tonnes of wheat purchased? The Union Government had also issued directives to be State Government in this regard that wheat is to be procured at the rate of support price only when there is proper arrangement price only when there is proper arrangement for storage of wheat.

Mr. Chairman Sir, through you, I would like to submit in the House that thousands of quintals of wheat got spoiled in camps constructed on fields due to negligence of the State government because sub-standard polythene bag were procured by spending lakhs of rupees to store wheat. The facilities required for farmers at wheat sale

centres have not been provided. There are hundreds of farmers who have not been paid the value of their produce. Farmers are making a number of trips to banks to get payment for their crops. Through you, I urge upon the Government to initiate enquiry into the matter and this year wheat procurement system should be made transparent and such provision should be made therein which will be helpful for farmers.

[English]

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (Vizianagaram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the recent episode of an American mother abandoning her two months old surrogate baby at the Hyderabad Passport Office. This has brought into focus the urgent need for enacting a clear law on the issuance of identity certificates or passports to surrogate babies. The episode also raises the following important questions. Is it legal for an Indian woman to rent her womb to a foreigner? Is the whole process transparent? Are there any middle men involved? Has it become a business now? What about the health of the surrogate mother?

I would request the Government, through you, that there is an urgent need to have a clear law on the identity of the surrogate babies. The Government should clarify this issue and make stringent law so that such episodes are not repeated in future.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam): Thank you, Chairman, Sir. I would like to raise an important issue concerning the National Highway in my Khammam districts having a population of about 30 lakh. We had raised the issue a number of times in the House and I have also written letters to the concerned Minister and also the Chairman, National Highways. Once again I wish to bring this issue, through you, to the attention of the Government. Actually, my district is an extremist affected district. Initially, all over India 33 districts were listed as extremist affected districts which included my district also. Now the number of extremist affected districts has risen to 60 which again include our district. The Government is giving money for the development of our district but it is not being utilized properly. I would like to tell the House that this is a totally backward and Scheduled Tribe district. NH-9 is to connect Suryapet to Khammam, which is the headquarter, and Khammam to Aswaraopeta to Kovvuru. This is a link between NH-9 and NH-5. This link is very important and it should be taken up by the NHAI immediately.

Another important National Highway runs from

Vijayawada-Penuballi-Chandragonda-Kothagudem-Bhadrachalam. Bhadrachalam is a temple city which is also a backward city. I would request the Government, through you, to immediately take up the work on this National Highway also.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (Pathanamathitta): I would request the Government to kindly waive off interests on the education loans that had been borrowed before 2009. Interest subsidy scheme being implemented by the Union Government is helpful to lakhs of economically weaker students pursuing technical and professional courses in approved institutes in the country. The Scheme provides a moratorium period which is one year from completion of the course or six months from joining a job whichever is earlier. During the period of moratorium, the Government is paying interest to the bankers. However, the scheme is applicable from the academic year 2009-10 only. As a result most of the deserving students are out of the coverage of the Scheme. Therefore, I would request the Government to kindly extend the coverage with retrospective effect.

Another concern regarding the education loan is its interest rates. It is the highest in the country as the bankers are imposing 14 to 18 per cent of interest on education loans. Spending on education is considered to be the best investment for the future generation. Therefore, all parents in the country wish to avail best education to their children at any cost. This is the rationale behind the borrowings in this regard. High interest rate will adversely affect the education and job prospects of the economically weaker students in the country. Therefore, I would request the Government to kindly reduce the interest rate on education loans.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi and Dr. Prabha Kishor Taviad are allowed to associate themselves with the matter raised by Shri Antony.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has made recommendation to deposit transfer salary and pension of rural teachers, Aanganwadi workers and ASHA workers as well as all kind of subsidy provided to poor directly in their bank account through electronic mode. It is an excellent suggestion to put a check on corruption.

But there is a contradiction. Although this will benefit the poor, but NPR registration work has been started instead of Unique Identification registration in backward

states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal where population of poor is fifty percent of the total population. This will adversely affect the rights of the poor. The combined population of these three states is four hundred million which is around forty percent of the current population of the country. If fifty percent population is poor then these people could be provided benefits through the said suggestion. Registration of NPR has been started in these three states and UIDAI has not been permitted to start 'Aadhar Card' registration there. I would like to reiterate that Bihar is the first state in the country where registration of such card has been started on the lines of Aadhar Card.

Through the House, I urge upon the Government that UIDAI should be permitted to start registration of 'Aadhar Card' in these states so as to provide maximum benefits to the poor.

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): Mr. Chairman Sir, crops like wheat, mustard, black gram etc. have been destroyed due to cold wave and frost particularly in my Parliamentary constituency, Chum. Repeated requests were made to the Government of Rajasthan, the farmers have staged Dharna and the matter has been raised in State Assembly. The Government of Rajasthan has submitted that relief could not be provided under CRF for the loss of crops due to frost and cold wave. I urge upon the Government that cold wave and frost should be included in CRF on the lines of drought and excess rainfall should be declared as natural calamity.

I humbly request that my constituency has suffered a number of times due to drought. Sometimes there are good crops also but farmers have to bear heavy loss due to destroy of crops in such natural calamities. I urge upon the Government of India that this natural calamity should be included in CRF for which the Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal. I have also submitted a memorandum in this regard and farmers organisations have been raising such demands repeatedly. This is a big issue for Rajasthan. The hon'ble Minister is present in the House. He should take into consideration the welfare of farmers and farmer should not be deprived of any benefits on the basis of false excuses.

Thank you.

[English]

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (Wayanad): I would like to draw the attention of this august House on a very important matter considering the fishermen of Kerala. My hon. colleague Shri Kodikkunni Suresh has already raised this

issue. So, I do not want to make a prolonged speech.

Now, the fishermen in Kerala are going in the sea for their livelihood in the most terrified condition. An Italian ship - just like hunting a wild animal - has shot down two fishermen in cold blood. They have died on the spot. After that, so many similar incidents have taken place. Now, how the fishermen of Kerala would go to the deep sea for fishing. This not only concerns the fishermen of Kerala but of Tamil Nadu and of all over India. These maritime rules are being disobeyed by all these foreign vessels, which are coming into our seas. So, I urge upon this Government to take stringent measures so that these kinds of activities will not happen again.

A hit and run case was also reported. So many fishing vessels are being hit and drowned. In a recent case, five fishermen died. How the fishermen will go there? So, the Navy, the Coast Guards, the Government of India and State Governments will have to be active to save the lives of the fishermen. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE (Latur): Mr. Chairman Sir, lakhs of rural students appeared in Trade Test for IIT, ITC after every six months. This examination is conducted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment of the Government of India. There is no revaluation system under this Test, due to which various students are declared as having failed owing to wrong evaluation. Even revaluation facility is not provided to the students forget about their being shown answer sheets. When answer sheet of all types of examination are being considered to be made public then why revaluation facility is not provided in ITI examination? I urge upon that such system should be started at the earliest for satisfaction of the students. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI K. SUGUMAR (Pollachi): Sir, my Parliamentary Constituency, Pollachi in Tamil Nadu is a place where most of the people are engaged in agricultural activities. Most of the agriculturists are involved in coconut cultivation. The agriculturists have to spend more money for the production of coconut whereas the prices of coconut and coconut copra are very low compared to the cultivation expenses. So, the agriculturists are facing huge losses and severe financial crisis. The price of coconut copra was Rs.75 last year in the open market but now the price came down to Rs.40 per kilo, i.e., Rs.35 less than last year. But the prices of fertilizers and wages for agricultural labour

have doubled compared to last year. The prices of cultivable land have also increased in comparison to previous year. Due to the fall in the prices of coconut copra, the cultivable lands are being converted into residential plots. If the situation continues the total agricultural activities will be heavily spoiled.

On the advice of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchialavi Amma, the same issue has been raised by me in this House earlier also and in the meetings of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Government at the Centre announced Rs.51 as the Minimum Support Price for coconut copra. But the Minimum Support Price announced by the Government of India is not sufficient to meet the expenses incurred by the farmers.

Therefore, I, on behalf of the poor coconut growers of my Constituency, once again appeal to the Government to announce a Minimum Support Price of Rs.70 for coconut copra and to prevent the agricultural land being converted into the residential flats.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhaman - Durgapur): Sir, the Ranganath Mishra Commission submitted its Report to the Government on 10th May, 2007 and the Government tabled it in December 2009, two and a half years after its submission, surprisingly without any action taken report.

The Ranganath Mishra Commission made recommendations for all religious minorities. According to the Commission, the minorities, especially the Muslims, are very much under-represented and sometimes wholly unrepresented in Government employment. So, that Commission recommended to regard the Muslims as backward and also recommended 15 per cent reservation for the backward minorities and particularly earmarking 10 per cent for Muslims and five per cent for other minorities. On the basis of that, the then Left Front Government in West Bengal had made 10 per cent reservation for the Muslims in the Government jobs. But now what the Union Government has done is that they have given only 4.5 per cent reservation for the Muslims. This is nothing but a gimmick. It shows that this Government has no political will for the upliftment of the Muslim community. So, this Government should implement the recommendation of 10 per cent reservation for socially and educationally backward Muslims without any delay and extend the SC status to that kinds of Muslims and Christians who deserve to come into that category as per the commission's recommendation. It should be irrespective of any religion. In order to implement that without disturbing the present quota fixed

for OBCs and Scheduled Castes, additional allocation should be made from the open quota. Since the Supreme Court has ruled that the quota for reservation should not be increased beyond 50 per cent, an amendment to the Constitution would be necessary to provide reservation above 50 per cent.

Hence I urge upon the Union Government to initiate the process for this Constitutional amendment.

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Ministry of Surface Transport and the National Highways Authority, Government of India a painful matter. Several correspondences have been made in respect of maintenance and repair works of the dilapidated NH-31D between Siliguri and Maynaguri including two main bridges, namely, Teesta bridge and Jal Dhaka bridge which is between Maynaguri and Dhupguri. This highway is in a very bad condition. As a result, the total traffic movement has been jeopardized and several accidents occur there. But no fruitful action has been taken by the Ministry and the Authority so far. This is the only road that connects the North-Eastern region to the rest of India. The condition of the 31D National Highway and the Teesta bridge and the Jaldanga bridge are in a dilapidated state with potholes in them and there has been no action either from the Ministry of Surface Transport, or from the National Highway Authority, Government of India towards repairing these roads and bridges.

I would, therefore, like to urge upon the Ministry of Surface Transport, Government of India to take suitable action so that substantial funds are released immediately for the repair of the aforesaid road and the bridges.

SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP (Kollam): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise this issue. The recent killings of our poor fishermen in the territorial waters of India has not only sent shock waves in the minds of the fishing community but also brought pain and distress to our minds. Poor unarmed fishermen were brutally shot and killed by the crew of the ship of Italy on the plea that they were pirates. Similarly, another ship called Prabhudaya, without any daya, trampled on the boat of our fishermen and killed them, who were on their way to earn bread for their families. Some of the dead bodies of the fishermen are still trapped in the destroyed boat entangled by the fishing net underneath the sea bed.

I earnestly request the Government of India to bring in stringent laws to protect the lives of the poor fishermen

in the sea and to punish those who attack them on one pretext or the other. I would also like to request the Government of India to render necessary help and financial assistance to the families of the deceased and injured in the mishaps.

[Translation]

SHRI LALUBHAI BABUBHAI PATEL (Daman & Diu): Sir I, through you, would like to bring to the notice of the House and hon'ble Minister of External Affairs that about 500 fisherman have been put behind bar in Pakistan during the last 12 months. Out of these there are 40 boats of fisherman of DIV. I was said that the fishermen were caught catching fish in the waters adjacent to the border but I know that it is not correct, they were caught catching fish in international territory. I also want to inform the House that about 640 boats alongwith fishermen have been captured by Pakistan. It takes lot of money to make a boat and they have taken loans for this purpose. Pakistan is not giving back these boats due to which fishermen have to suffer dual loss. They have to make new boats and they have also to repay their loans. NDA Government had been successful in taking back those boats during its tenure. I would like to ask hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, through you, if there is any concrete policy to bring the fishermen and captured boats back. The fishermen will go to the sea to catch fish still now. They are being arrested in this way in Pakistan due to which they are facing economic crisis, they are being pushed towards poverty and unemployment. I request to take concrete measures to prevent such arrests otherwise fishery industry may come to an end in Diu.

You gave me an opportunity to express my views and I thank you for this.

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (Thane): Sir, Maharashtra Assembly has passed a bill on a very important subject. It is Maharashtra Education Institution Regulation of Fee Bill 2011 and has been sent to the President. Now, it is being examined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The comments of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Human Resource Development, Law and Justice, Ministry of Home Affairs and Judicial Cell are especially required in this regard. Now-a-days getting education has become a costly affair in Mumbai. That is why confrontation between parents and school management is taking place regularly. Therefore, a Special Bill has been sent for sanction of the Central Government.

I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the government to sanction this Bill at the earliest.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I through you, would like to draw the attention of the government towards the encroachment taking place in Damodar River. The Central Coal Field Limited is encroaching upon this river. Specially the Charahi area of CCL, slurry is being flown in Konar river around Kedalavasari area which is making it the most polluted river.

I, through you, would like to request the Government to rectify it at the earliest.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Sir, the Ministry of Agriculture started a grant scheme for pasture development and invited applications from cultivators by making Department of a animal husbandry of every state the nodal agency for that purpose. It was told that if they develop pastures on agricultural land they would get grants. For this, there was the condition that 20 bighas of land should be earmarked for developing pastures. About 700 applications from my Parliamentary Constituency, Bikaner were sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India with the recommendation of the Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Rajasthan through local department of animal husbandry. But even after two years any type of grant has not been sanctioned by the Government for the cattle rearers of my Constituency. Here I think it is relevant to consider that Bikaner is in the middle of Thar desert and it suffers drought and famine from time to time only through the development of Animal Husbandry. Migration of people will get checked and avenues of progress in milk production will be available. Since the subject is directly connected with the farmers and the cattle rearers, therefore, all the pending files in the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India be cleared immediately so that the cattle rearers and farmers may get the benefit of the scheme.

SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE (Rajgarh): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, the Parliament created the section 498 (A) of Indian Panel Code by enacting law to punish the perpetrators of atrocities like dowry harassment against the married women in our country and such crimes have been put under the category of non-bailable and cognizable offence.

I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the government that after the filing of such dowry harassment cases in about 75 percent cases both families try to live

together with mutual agreement but in such situation cases are filed under section 498 (A) of IPC. It is not filed under section 320 (2) of IPC due to which under judicial process the Court may not allow them to settle the matter through agreement and it becomes necessary to penalise them under section 498 (A) as a result the mutual agreement of two families once again turn into differences.

Sir, I request that the cases of dowry harassment may be taken under section 320 (2) of IPC instead of section 498 (A) in the interest of the people and justice so that the Court may allow to arrive at mutual agreement.

You gave me an opportunity to speak, so I thank you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.a.m. on 15th March, 2012.

19.48 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of
the Clock on Thursday March 15, 2012/
Phalguna 25, 1933 (Saka).*

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